SDG Education Across the University

1. Purpose and commitment

SRM University-AP's Strategic Plan 2023–2028 lists institutional sustainability as a goal, and the University has set up an SDG Cell to integrate the SDGs into its academic, operational and research frameworks. In 2025 its whole course catalogue was mapped to the SDGs, it offered 62 dedicated sustainability and environment courses across engineering, science, social science and business, and it ran conferences, exhibitions and student projects that took SDG learning outside the classroom.

Item	Figure
Courses in the University catalogue mapped to at least one SDG	997 of 1,035 unique courses (96.3%)
Dedicated sustainability and environment courses	62, covering 15 of the 17 SDGs
Schools whose courses are mapped to the SDGs	All four: SEAS Engineering, SEAS Sciences, ESLA and PSB
Full degrees in the field	M.Sc. Environmental Science, M. Tech Environmental and Sustainable Engineering, Ph.D. Environmental Science and Engineering
Student SDG projects in the Department of Management	10 projects, each mapped to one or more SDGs

2. Institutional framework

The **SDG Cell** aligns University initiatives with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Its vision is to make SRM University-AP a leader in advancing the SDGs through education, research, campus sustainability and community engagement, and its mission is to integrate the SDGs into academic, operational and research frameworks. Its objectives are:

- Systematic data collection, documentation and reporting of SDG initiatives.
- Aligning University policies and initiatives with the SDGs.
- Facilitating interdisciplinary sustainability research and projects.
- Organising SDG workshops, training programmes and awareness campaigns.
- Collaborating with national and international organisations.

A **Sustainability Committee** with faculty, administrative staff and student representatives guides policy and implementation and meets quarterly. The

University publishes an SDG Mapping Report together with its Green Campus, Sustainable Procurement and Energy Conservation policies. Students can take up capstone projects and theses on sustainability themes, and the campus itself, with rooftop solar, rainwater harvesting, recycled water for irrigation, waste handling and battery-powered vehicles, is used as a living example.

3. SDGs in the curriculum

Every course is mapped to the SDGs. The University has mapped its whole course catalogue to the SDGs. Of 1,035 unique courses, 997 (96.3 per cent) are mapped to at least one SDG, so almost every course a student takes can be linked to the goals, whatever the programme.

School	Unique courses	Mapped to at least one SDG	% mapped
SEAS Engineering	417	401	96.2%
SEAS Sciences	271	258	95.2%
ESLA (Easwari School of Liberal Arts)	291	282	96.9%
PSB (Paari School of Business)	96	95	99.0%
All schools (unique overall)	1,035	997	96.3%

Dedicated sustainability courses reach every school. The 62 sustainability and environment courses in the SDG mapping are taught as part of degree programmes, as electives and as value-added courses, and are offered through engineering, science, social science and business programmes. They are grouped into seven themes, and 23 of them address three or more SDGs. SDG 13 (Climate Action) is the most common, with 31 courses, followed by SDG 6 and SDG 15 with 18 each.

Theme	Number of Courses	Examples
Climate and carbon	6	Carbon Sequestration; Climate Finance; Net-Zero Emission and Targets; The Politics of Climate Change
Energy and environment	3	Renewable Energy Sources; Biomass Energy; Food-Water-Energy Nexus
Environment	25	Environmental Economics; Environmental Anthropology; Ecology and Biodiversity; Environmental Science (VAC101)
Pollution and remediation	3	Air and Noise Pollution Engineering; Soil Pollution and Remediation; Water Contaminants

Theme	Number of Courses	Examples
Sustainability	16	Circular Supply Chains and Sustainability; Sustainable Cities and Urban Planning; Sustainable Manufacturing; Nature-Based Solutions
Waste and circular economy	5	Solid Waste Management; Industrial Waste Utilization and Management
Water resources	4	Freshwater Resources; Availability and Management of Groundwater Resources

A course open to all undergraduates. Undergraduate students can take the value-added course Environmental Science (VAC101), which is mapped to 12 SDGs (SDG 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16), as well as open electives and minors, whatever their major. Courses in economics, political science, sociology, liberal arts, business, civil, mechanical and manufacturing engineering carry SDG mappings alongside the environmental science courses, which shows that the goals are taught across disciplines and not in one department.

Degrees. The Department of Environmental Science and Engineering runs the M.Sc. in Environmental Science, the M. Tech in Environmental and Sustainable Engineering and the Ph.D. programme. In the M.Sc., the first-semester core course Environmental Issues, Climate Change and Sustainable Development teaches the concept and principles of sustainable development, the Sustainable Development Goals, the triple bottom line and the Brundtland Commission report. One of the programme's outcomes is to develop sustainable solutions for natural resource use in line with the SDGs. The curriculum has a mandatory summer internship, and the department supports teaching with eight laboratories, including the Net-Zero Lab.

4. SDG learning beyond the classroom in 2025

Month (2025)	Activity	What students took part in
February–March	Water Elixir Meet (WE Meet 2025)	International conference on water sustainability and security, with keynote speakers from Singapore, Taiwan, Italy and South Korea, over 150 research abstracts, and oral and poster awards
March	Environmental Sustainability Exhibition 2025 (second edition)	207 participants from institutions in 11 states, over 50 exhibits, poster presentations and hands-on training

Month (2025)	Activity	What students took part in
April–November	Outreach education activities	12 school, farmer and community activities, with 1,142 participants, mapped to SDG 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16
July	Green Hydrogen Summit 2025	Two-day summit on green hydrogen with over 600 delegates, policymakers and industry leaders, and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh as Chief Guest
September	SDG projects in the Department of Management	10 student projects, each mapped to SDGs and run through initiation, planning, execution and closure
December	50th All India Sociological Conference	Three-day conference on mobilities and inequalities, tagged to SDG 1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16 and 17

Student SDG projects. In September 2025, Department of Management students worked in teams on SDG projects as a project management assignment, each following the project life cycle and each mapped to the goals: UPI and digital banking (SDG 8, 9), mindful living and consuming (SDG 3, 12), clay water bottles (SDG 8, 12), carpooling on campus (SDG 13), dragon fruit surplus (SDG 8, 12), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), zero plastic (SDG 13), connecting farmers and markets (SDG 2, 8, 9, 12), financial inclusion for the urban poor (SDG 1, 8) and sustainability in the handloom industry (SDG 12). The teams surveyed and interviewed farmers, consumers and residents, and held awareness sessions, so the goals were applied to real problems.



Figure 1. Students on a field visit with farmers for the Agri-Link SDG project (September 2025).



Figure 2. Students running the Zero Plastic awareness campaign (September 2025).

Conferences. The Green Hydrogen Summit (18–19 July 2025) covered hydrogen production, storage, safety and regulation, applications and artificial intelligence for clean hydrogen, and set out targets that include a Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen Technologies at the University. The Water Elixir Meet (27 February to 1 March 2025) and the Environmental Sustainability Exhibition gave students a platform to present and learn about water, waste and sustainability. The 50th All India Sociological Conference (28–30 December 2025) took the goals into the social sciences, with the theme "Mobilities and Inequalities".



Figure 3. Green Hydrogen Summit 2025, inauguration (18 July 2025).



Figure 4. 50th All India Sociological Conference, inauguration (28 December 2025).

5. Conclusion

SRM University-AP has an institutional commitment to SDG education across the University. All four schools have mapped their courses to the goals, with 96.3 per cent of the catalogue mapped. Dedicated sustainability courses, a value-added course open to all undergraduates, and degrees in environmental science and sustainable engineering give students at every level a route to study the SDGs. The SDG Cell, the Sustainability Committee and a year of conferences, exhibitions and student projects in 2025 support this in practice.