SDG 14: Life Below Water

Annual Report 2024-25

Executive Summary

Annamacharya University's contribution to SDG 14 - Life Below Water during Academic Year 2024-25 is presented through documented river-conservation activity, campus water and waste-management provisions, community cleanliness initiatives, student field-learning opportunities, faculty development, environmental education and relevant academic infrastructure.

The most direct aquatic-environment activity identified for the reporting period is the NCC riverbank cleanup at the Cheyyeru River near Nanduluru on World Rivers Day in September 2024. Other initiatives contribute mainly through prevention of land-based pollution, environmental awareness and the development of water-related knowledge and skills.

Reporting Scope and Evidence Approach

Reporting period: 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

- The NSS Special Camp held from 08-14 December 2025 is listed separately as a subsequent-period activity and is not counted in 2024-25.
- Public website descriptions establish the existence of listed programmes, curriculum topics, facilities or research structures. Operational performance and outcomes require activity registers, test reports, photographs, certificates or other primary records.
- No direct marine habitat restoration or coastal conservation activity has been verified in the evidence reviewed. The report therefore emphasises inland river protection and prevention of land-based pollution.

Institutional Overview and Approach to SDG 14

Annamacharya University recognises that the protection of aquatic ecosystems is connected with responsible water use, pollution prevention, waste management, environmental education and community participation. Although the University is located inland at Rajampet, activities undertaken on campus and in neighbouring communities can help prevent pollutants and plastics from entering drainage channels, streams, rivers and wider aquatic systems.

The University's published information describes environmental outreach through NSS, including cleanliness activities, plastic-free awareness, water-saving and tree-planting themes. The University also publishes information on Environmental Science curriculum content, Agriculture College soil-and-water testing facilities and Civil Engineering laboratories relevant to environmental and water systems.

SDG 14 target 14.1 addresses marine pollution, particularly pollution arising from land-based activities. The University's documented activities are therefore framed primarily as upstream pollution prevention, riverbank cleanliness, responsible waste practices and environmental

literacy. Water conservation and sanitation measures also complement SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation.

Summary of Activities and Institutional Evidence

Date / Period	Activity	Relevance
06 July 2024	Environmental Policy and Water Management Framework submissions.	Water-use tracking, leak prevention, rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, water-body inspection and maintenance provisions.
24 September 2024	World Rivers Day - NCC cleanup at Cheyyeru River near Nanduluru.	Direct riverbank cleanup and pollution-prevention activity.
02 October 2024	Swachh Bharat Mission - NCC rally and cleanliness activity at Thallapaka.	Community cleanliness and responsible waste-disposal awareness; indirect SDG 14 relevance.
Academic Year 2024-25	Civil Engineering community internship themes: Water Conservation and Harvesting Projects; Sanitation and Waste Management Survey.	Student field learning and community-oriented capacity development.
07-12 April 2025	Faculty development programme on eco-friendly innovation for water, energy and environmental sustainability.	Faculty capacity development in sustainability themes.
Published curriculum / facilities	Environmental Science curriculum; Agriculture College soil and water testing facilities; Environmental Engineering, Fluid Mechanics and Hydraulics laboratories.	Formal learning and practical infrastructure relevant to water and environmental protection.

World Rivers Day - Cheyyeru River Cleanup

Date: 24 September 2024 | Location: Cheyyeru River near Nanduluru

NCC students of Annamacharya University participated in a river cleanup drive at the Cheyyeru River near Nanduluru on the occasion of World Rivers Day. The University's July-October 2024 newsletter records that students removed waste and pollutants from the riverbank

and raised awareness about preserving water bodies and maintaining the cleanliness of the local environment.

This is the report's clearest direct SDG 14 contribution. Removing litter from a riverbank helps prevent waste from being carried downstream and contributes to pollution prevention in the wider aquatic environment. The report does not quantify the amount or type of waste removed because no such measurement has been supplied.

Primary public evidence - July-October 2024 University newsletter:
https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/July-2024-Oct-2024.pdf



Responsible Campus Water Management

Campus water and wastewater practices recorded in July 2024

The July 2024 institutional Self Study Report describes water-conservation facilities covering rainwater harvesting, recharge, storage, recycling and maintenance of water bodies and distribution systems. The report indicates the presence of four or more categories of water-conservation facilities.

These records describe campus-level arrangements relevant to treatment capacity, treated-water volume and reuse quantity should be supported by Estate/Maintenance or engineering records before being stated as measured performance.



Environmental Policy and Water Management Framework

The Environmental Policy submission signed on 06 July 2024 includes provisions for tracking water consumption, preventing leakage, ensuring prompt repairs, harvesting rainwater, supporting groundwater recharge and using water efficiently for gardening.

The Water Management submission signed on 06 July 2024 includes guidance for inspecting water bodies, checking water quality, managing sediment and erosion and maintaining pipes, valves, pumps and storage tanks. These are documented institutional maintenance provisions. They should be distinguished from evidence that a specific water body was tested or restored during the reporting year.

Connection with SDG 14: responsible wastewater handling, runoff control and waste prevention address potential pollution at source. Water conservation and groundwater recharge also support SDG 6.

Reducing Plastic and Managing Campus Waste

The July 2024 Self Study Report describes separate dry- and wet-waste bins, segregation of waste and transfer of collected waste to the Rajampet Municipal Office. It also records a prohibition on plastic carry bags, cups and laminated paper plates, while encouraging cloth bags and refillable bottles. Biodegradable waste is used in a vermicompost unit for campus gardening.

The Environmental Policy submission dated 06 July 2024 includes provisions for reducing plastic use, providing waste bins, segregating waste, composting organic materials and

recovering reusable resources. It also addresses careful handling of hazardous waste and electronic waste.

Preventing litter and separating waste at source are relevant to SDG 14 pollution prevention because improperly managed plastic and other solid waste can enter drains, streams and rivers.





Swachh Bharat Mission - Thallapaka Community Activity

Date: 02 October 2024 | Location: Thallapaka village

The University's NCC unit conducted a rally from the campus to Thallapaka village under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Cadets cleaned the temple premises and promoted civic responsibility and cleanliness. The programme was led by NCC Coordinator Dr. B. Nagamuni, NCC Caretaker Officer N. Deepthi and Physical Education Director Saifulla.

This community activity complements river protection by promoting responsible waste disposal and clean surroundings. Although the event was not recorded as a river or waterbody cleanup, it contributes indirectly to the pollution-prevention message of SDG 14.

Official event webpage: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/portfolio/annamacharya-university-ncc-cadets-participate-in-swachh-bharat-mission/

Official gallery image 1: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/WhatsApp-Image-2024-10-02-at-6.02.18-PM.jpeg

Official gallery image 2: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/WhatsApp-Image-2024-10-02-at-6.02.18-PM-2.jpeg





Environmental Science curriculum

The University's published Environmental Science course material includes environmental pollution topics covering water pollution and marine pollution, together with social issues and the environment, sustainable development, rainwater harvesting, environmental ethics and relevant legislation, including the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act and Environment Protection Act.

This curriculum provides a formal teaching pathway for students to understand pollution sources, impacts and control measures. The inclusion of marine pollution and water protection topics is directly relevant to SDG 14 awareness, even though the University is not located on a coast. To claim delivery during 2024-25, retain the approved syllabus, course structure, Board of Studies minutes, lesson plans, course delivery records, student assignments/projects and assessment evidence.

Board of Studies / Environmental Science course material:
https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2nd-BoS-MoM.pdf

NSS environmental activity framework

Published NSS information describes environmental and community-service activity areas such as tree plantation, campus clean-up, water-saving, waste reduction and anti-plastic

campaigns. NSS material also refers to awareness on rainwater harvesting, mass tree plantation and community participation in adopted villages.

These programme descriptions demonstrate an institutional framework for environmental outreach. They should be distinguished from completed-event evidence: each activity claimed as conducted during 2024-25 should be supported by a dated report, photographs, attendance records and, where applicable, community acknowledgement.







Faculty Development in Water, Energy and Environmental Sustainability

Date: 07-12 April 2025 | Participant: C. Vijaya Shanthi, Freshman Engineering Department

C. Vijaya Shanthi participated online in a national-level faculty development programme on eco-friendly innovation for water, energy and environmental sustainability from 07 to 12 April 2025. The University's record identifies SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Ramapuram, Chennai, as the organising institution.

The programme strengthened faculty exposure to sustainability themes, including water and environmental management. This is reported as faculty capacity development and not as a direct water-conservation intervention carried out on campus.

Academic and Research Infrastructure Relevant to Water Resources

Agriculture College - soil and water testing facilities

The College of Agriculture website describes specialised agricultural laboratories, including facilities and equipment for soil and water testing. It also lists soil, plant and water testing among academic areas and identifies Water Management as a course area. The Department of Soil Science describes practical training in soil-health analysis, fertility assessment and scientific resource-management practices.

These facilities provide an academic and practical basis for understanding water quality and responsible use of soil and water resources. The public pages establish the presence of relevant facilities and teaching areas; they do not establish the number of water samples tested, frequency of testing, beneficiaries served or measured improvements in water quality.

College of Agriculture - laboratories and soil-water testing equipment: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/courses/b-schons-agriculture-college-building/

College of Agriculture - Department of Soil Science: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/courses/b-schons-agriculture-department-of-soil-science/

Environmental Engineering and water-related laboratories

The University's Laboratories webpage lists an Environmental Engineering Laboratory, Fluid Mechanics Laboratory and Hydraulics and Hydraulic Machinery Laboratory under Civil Engineering academic laboratories. These facilities can support teaching and practical exposure to water systems, environmental engineering and water-related processes.

The website listing is evidence of named laboratory facilities. To demonstrate operational use and SDG 14 outcomes, append laboratory photographs, equipment lists, experiment manuals, student practical records and details of relevant projects or outreach activities.

University Laboratories: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/laboratories/

Civil Engineering Faculty List: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/courses/civil-engineering-faculty-list/





Research, collaboration and innovation

The University Research webpage provides institutional pathways for research and development, sponsored research projects, central research laboratories, collaboration, consultancy and multidisciplinary research. These mechanisms may support work on water quality, wastewater treatment, pollution prevention, aquatic ecosystems and sustainable water-resource management.

The pages reviewed establish the existence of research structures and categories, but do not identify a specific SDG 14 research project or quantified research outcome. Only projects whose objectives, outputs or publications specifically relate to water quality, aquatic pollution or aquatic ecosystems should be included as SDG 14 research evidence.

Research - Annamacharya University: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/research/

R&D Publications: https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/r-d-publication/

A groundwater-resource assessment publication dated 2022 was identified in the earlier review. Since it predates the University's establishment in 2024, it should be treated as a legacy research record and not counted as a 2024-25 University-period research output unless the reporting rules and institutional continuity documentation justify its inclusion.

Supplementary Environmental Activity Outside the 2024-25 Reporting Period

The University's NSS Special Camp at Hastavaram Cherlopalle took place from 08 to 14 December 2025 at Zilla Parishad High School, Hastavaram Cherlopalle. The public event page records cleanliness activities in the school campus, classrooms and surrounding areas; plastic-free environment awareness through posters and slogans; and tree plantation. The page identifies Dr. K. Janardhan, NSS Coordinator and Mr. Raghunath, NSS Programme Officer, as coordinators.

These activities are relevant to pollution-prevention awareness and community engagement. However, they took place after June 2025 and therefore must not be counted as 2024-25 outcomes. They may be reported in the next relevant reporting cycle, with dated photographs, attendance and NSS records.

NSS Special Camp - 08-14 December 2025:
https://annamacharyauniversity.edu.in/portfolio/nss-special-camp-and-community-service-activities-at-hastavaram-cherlopalle-village/

Institutional Contribution to SDG 14 - Evidence-Based Interpretation

The evidence currently available supports a cautious institutional narrative: Annamacharya University contributes to the broader protection of water environments through a documented riverbank cleanup, campus water and waste-management provisions, community cleanliness and anti-plastic awareness, student learning and internships, Environmental Science education, faculty capacity development and academic facilities related to soil and water testing.

As an inland institution, the most defensible SDG 14 framing is prevention of land-based pollution and development of water/environmental literacy, alongside any direct aquatic ecosystem work that can be substantiated. General environmental activities should not be presented as direct marine conservation.