

SDG report 2020

Goal 17: Partnerships for the goal



Summary of Improvements

Cooperation is a powerful way to leverage the impact of activities on the populations most in need. Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has made extensive efforts since its inception, to develop strong and multi-disciplinary partnerships with institutions all around the world in order to enhance its outreach and explore new directions to better achieve the UN SDGS. For this academic year, these partnerships have explored how to better understand and plan actions with regards to Water (SDG 6), Education (SDG 4), Sustainable communities (SDG 11) and Climate change (SDG 13).

- Project 1 - was an Indo-Italian cooperation in Science and Technology, that collected data with the aim of better understanding and predict rainfall induced landslides in vulnerable and isolated mountain communities

- Project 2 - was an Indo-Canadian partnership that aimed at developing the capacity building of local communities to improve their governance with respect to water
- project 3 - was yet another Indo-Canadian project, but this time looking at how natural disasters disrupt the education of young children, in order to enhance the capacity to cope with these challenges.

Projects Highlights

Indo-Italian cooperation in science and technology to develop predictability of natural disasters



Year: 2019

Heavier rainfalls have disastrous consequences in mountain areas, causing floods and landslides that claim many lives. The Idukki district, in the state of Kerala, reported 278 landslides till 2018, and 12 landslides during the 2018 monsoon alone.

This collaborative initiative between Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (India) and the University of Trento (Italy) aimed at developing the knowledge on landslides. The project team stayed in the community for a week, and analysed the slope, terrain, as well as 4 critical past landslides and floods that have marked the community in recent years. A flood risk mapping to assess the vulnerability of landslides and floods of the wider community area was carried out. This allowed us to enhance information and communication technology use for implementing early warning systems in mountainous communities.

Indo-Canadian cooperation for capacity building in water wise governance in rural Kerala



Year: 2019

Depleting water resources and growingly irregular rainfall patterns are not only affecting the direct livelihood of agriculture based rural communities, it poses important challenges in terms of governance. In communities that have been following the same routine organisation for

generations, an increased stress on the food and water supply often reveals the lack of awareness and readiness of village institutions, and of the people that constitutes them.

This collaborative project between Ryerson University (Toronto, Canada) and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (India) aimed at understanding what are the key parameters needed to build up water wise communities, and what are the capacities that need to be built up for them to be able to address such multi-disciplinary challenges that also pertain to SDG 6 and 11. Field study in several villages of central Kerala was conducted. It identified the key areas to focus on to build up better capacity at both people and institutional level in rural areas in order to develop effective, accountable and transparent local institutions and systems.

International partnership for SDG capacity building in order to address the adverse effects of natural disasters



Year:2020

Natural disasters have long term adverse effects that go beyond the material disasters that can be observed at first. Fragile populations like children and women are usually the most affected. This project aimed at understanding the impact of the 2018 Kerala floods on school children and their families. It collected reliable data on these understudied populations.

Through a North-South Cooperation with Ryerson University (Toronto, Canada) the understanding of social and physical impact of natural disasters allowed us to reach the objective of enhancing the SDG capacity with regards to SDG Goals 4, 11 and 13 in this area.

Indo-Italian collaboration for collecting landslide related data at Munnar, Kerala



Year:2019

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and the University of Trento signed an agreement towards education and research mobility on November 12th, 2016 in Busto Arsizio, Italy.

The agreement also extends to participation in Amrita's Live-in-Labs® program, an experiential learning initiative in rural India. As per this agreement, in September 2019, a team from the University of Trento, consisting of both students and faculty members visited India and collaborated with a team from Amrita in a landslide related data collection project.

This Indo-Italian collaboration Addressed UN SDGs 13 (Climate action) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and communities). The aim of the project was to collect data on the landslides & Flood effects that happened recently and to analyse the impact on affected areas.

The Project team consisted of B Tech III year Civil Engineering students, Sai Tarun, Kapil Raj, and Pavan along with international students from the University of Trento. They were guided by Mr. Balmukund Singh and Mr. Nitin Kumar, faculties from Amrita WNA (Amritapuri Campus), along with Dr Guido Zolezzi and Dr Marco Toffolon from the University of Trento. The first phase of the project, which involved collecting the required information about the study area was

completed. The second phase of the project will focus on the study of soil properties collected from the site.