



### Contact Information

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### Basic Information

\* **Title of practice**

To create awareness about SDG 2030 through webinars and projects

\* **Lead entity name**

**Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College**

**\* Lead entity type**

**Academic institution**

**\* Region**

**Asia and Pacific**

**\* Country**

**India**

**Geographical coverage**

Please, reply here if your practice is implemented in more than one country. Please, also indicate if your practice is implemented at sub-national level and where.

It is implemented at local level in Mumbai, India.

**\* Is this a multi-stakeholder partnership?**

No

**\* Sustainable Development Goals** the initiative is working towards

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger.

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being.

GOAL 4: Quality Education

GOAL 5: Gender Equality

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

GOAL15:Life on Land

**\* Dates of the practice** - Start Date & Date of Completion

Start Date :20.07.2020, Date of Completion :21/02/2021



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**Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College**

NAAC Reaccreditation A+ grade 3.70 CGPA

Empowered Autonomous Status awarded by University of Mumbai

College of Excellence

by the UGC, New Delhi

Estd. 1937

## Details

### \* Introduction

Being first year as member of SDG Accord, the College focused on awareness of SDGs, so webinars were conducted on topics like, SDG, Conservation of Forest and Mangrove Ecosystem, Energy generation from biological sources, Sustainable Agriculture, Organic farming, Gender Issues, Impact of Bathing Space on Lives of Rural Women.

Online survey and few experiment based projects were conducted on topics like, Digital detox, Perspective on happiness, water pollution, plastic and e-Waste, consumer behaviour towards e-Vehicles, menstrual products and disposal methods, preparation of eco bricks, ethanol, fertilizer, paper from household waste.

The beneficiaries were students, faculty and participants.

### \* Objective of the practice

To spread awareness of mangrove forests, flora, fauna, threats, challenges, inculcate tree consciousness. Make students realise how sustainability can be achieved in routine activities, about sanitation in rural areas, create empathy for each other, provide research orientation, selecting research topic related to needs of society. Address issue of waste, look for alternatives like gel based edible water balls to eliminate need for plastic, recycling plastic by converting it to bricks, reduce carbon emissions from cement. Raise awareness about composting of wet waste, switching to e-vehicles to lower environmental impact. Find simpler method for fermentation of biomass to make bioethanol for transport fuels, prepare bio-fertilizer using household waste, paper from fibrous waste, replace toxic acid base indicators with plant based ones.

### \* Contribution to SDG Implementation

Creating awareness about SDGs was our prime focus and activities were adapted to support 2030 Agenda. Awareness is the first step towards bringing about change in the society.

Webinars related to gender sensitization, forest ecosystems, sustainable farming and clean energy were conducted. Projects were based on waste management, sustainable cities, responsible consumption and health and well-being. This helped in reaching out to many stakeholders and making them aware about various issues dealt with in the activities.

### \* Implementation of the Project/Activity

Students were involved in planning and executing the activities. Webinars were conducted online.

Speaker for Mangroves-Mr. Hemant Karkhanis, Associate Manager in Mangrove Department, Construction Business Unit of Godrej and Boyce. For Van Mahotsav - Dr. Shashirekha Suresh Kumar. For SDG-Dr M.N.V.Prasad.

Dr. Aditya Sarnaik, Postdoc Research Associate, Arizona State University, USA 'Fundamentals and Scope of Sustainable Bioenergy Research'. Ms Vaishnavi Pawar, B.A. Eco, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College, MSc Agribusiness Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, 'Bathing Spaces'. Dr Geetali V.M. (Retd. Faculty, Department of Chemistry, Fergusson College, Pune, Founder Member and Advisor of Nari Samata Manch since 1985 and Ms Meena Seshu (Master in Social Works, TISS, General Secretary of Sampada Grameen Mahila Sanstha, (Health and Human Rights NGO)- 'Gender issues'.

For survey based projects, Google forms were created, circulated amongst groups. Data analysed and interpreted. Public awareness was raised by means of online surveys and infographics. Data was provided to local municipal bodies to decide a plan of action.

Eco-bricks were made by compressing single-use plastics waste. Bagasse was collected, acid-breakdown step was avoided, baker's yeast was used for fermenting.

Fertilizer prepared from finely divided household waste, suspended in rice water, added culture, left undisturbed for two weeks. Resulting slurry was centrifuged, centrifugate used as fertilizer. Fibres were blended, digested in alkali, neutralized with acid and set into paper moulds. Beetroot extract was prepared, results compared with conventional acid base indicators.

Financial resources were obtained from College Management to remunerate resource persons and for project requirements.

### \* Results/Outputs/Impacts

Students learnt about flora, fauna of mangrove ecosystem, composting, sustainable agriculture practices, carbon valorization, use of computer simulation, softwares Python, MatLab to analyze functional pathways, challenges faced by sex workers and transgenders, importance of making them part of the mainstream activities.

Digital Detox survey-Responders having high scores of digital dependency were suggested interventions, after following them, they were resurveyed, then they showed ( $p < 0.05$ ) significantly lower scores.

The survey projects increased public awareness, deterred disposal of solid wastes in rivers. They were made aware of segregating wastes, composting of wet wastes. Eco-brick product made was as strong as conventional bricks, used 500 g of plastic per brick. Biofuel process was optimized.

It was noted that the youth is willing to switchover to biodegradable alternatives, to purchase e-vehicles, is aware of sanitary napkin waste crisis, is willing to use menstrual cups.

**\* Beneficiaries, Key stakeholders and partnerships**

No partnerships yet.

Beneficiaries-250-300 students, 100-120 Faculty of College attended webinars. The survey projects were each conducted by group of 2-3 students, (35-50 overall). The number of responders per survey project were 60-200, thus these surveys helped raise awareness amongst them about various aspects undertaken in the project.

Stakeholders- Faculty, UG, PG students of our College, Public surveyed by students, local municipal bodies.

**\* Enabling factors and constraints**

This was the first year after becoming member of SDG Accord in June 2020. Due to lockdown, online webinars were conducted, no constraints were encountered, larger audience could be involved. The talks pointed out innovative activities and research projects which can be developed in the coming year.

Very few experiment based projects were performed, hence limited cost was involved. Due to lockdown there were constraints of actual experiment based research projects.

New ideas have taken roots and better plans for coming year. For scaling up and widening the scope of the projects, funding will then become a constraint.

**\* Sustainability and replicability**

Elements that are in place to sustain outcomes of the practice. Explain if/how the practice could be replicated to support SDG implementation in other places. Present any plans for extending the practice more widely or encouraging its adoption in other contexts.

College has installed 50 kW solar panel that accounts for about 14.3 % of the campus' power requirement. A biogas plant has been set up in campus fed by organic waste from College canteen with regular feeding and maintenance undertaken by students. The biogas harnessed is provided to the canteen. College plans to do energy audit.

College intends to explore dimensions of human health and well- being through survey and activities. Production of Eco-bricks, Biofuel, Biofertilizer, Paper can be further scaled up, plans to do more such projects.

Continue to raise public awareness about waste management, segregation at source and widen its scope by Infographics. Promotion of thrifting as opposed to constant buying and disposing. Successful projects may be published, presented in conference or demonstrated in nearby colleges, societies so that they can be replicated elsewhere. Videos can be made and shared too. College has planned to embed SDG in curriculum at the First Year for students.

#### \* **COVID-19 Impact and Support in building back better**

Webinars were conducted using online platform hence COVID-19 has not impacted their organization.

Very few practical experiment based research projects could be done because of the lockdown, mostly online survey based studies were undertaken. Good participation of stakeholders was received in these surveys. Through them College could reach out to people and bring about a lot of awareness of various aspects studied in the survey.

College intends to utilize physical infrastructure for wider dissemination and awareness about SDG, embed SDG in curriculum, scale up successful projects, encourage more participation of students and other stakeholders, work in partnerships, put in focused efforts unanimously thus bringing about a meaningful contribution to the targets of 2030 Agenda.

#### \* **Other sources of information**

Results of Digital detox project are not published yet but the student participated in Students` Research Congress on 29 Sept 2020 and International Web Conference on ‘The Pandemic Turn’, Mumbai, India on 25 and 26 Feb 2021 by presenting an E-poster, thus disseminating the findings and perspectives gained through this project to a wider audience.

Film made by College on World Environment Day

<https://youtu.be/1zyAfwPAIDA>

Recorded talk

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mOVliB4m2BcpBwId91m-tXab29KJRwzp/view?ts=60156488>

Google forms for some of the projects:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1szV3nW1OB246hIbO9atFVwvdjPD-1ANRcALhrooH81U/edit?usp=drivesdk>

<https://forms.gle/RbKHTcT2rpLE1fo87>

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdChZPd6gkxGTKhov7l2ulo57WU-L431K1SgGGZxouNeVobLg/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdChZPd6gkxGTKhov7l2ulo57WU-L431K1SgGGZxouNeVobLg/viewform?usp=pp_url)

Link of lecture on Terrace Gardening

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17FceXKzT7hCD8zeS6eYBMyigvWzqINSg/view?usp=sharing>

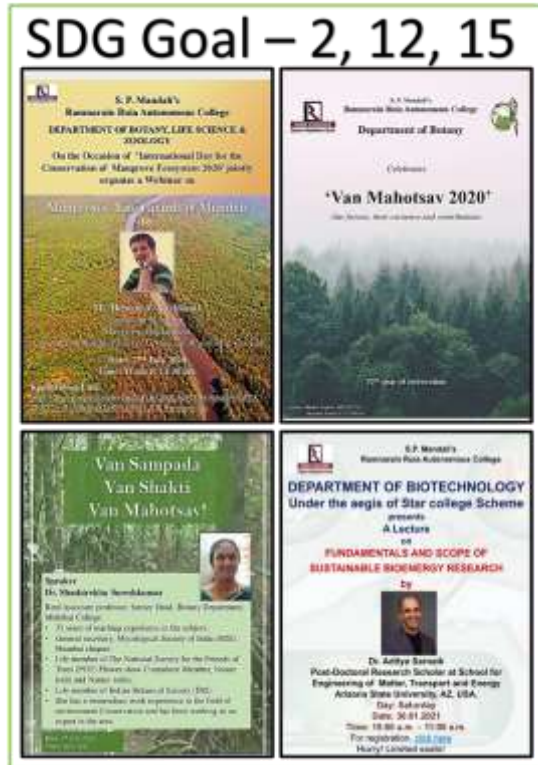
Link for SDG talk feedback

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LqbxFiDL-wlhHbBk8GmZNEGfGZefPOCnXj6H4kaz7go/edit?usp=sharing>

Link of the webinar feedback response:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OymnJBjB7jKtUhGXjdnoghlXeIClHv6siDx-OZHTyU/edit?usp=sharing>

Photos that illustrate the good practice



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