

# University Vision and Action Plan for Sustainable Development Goals



Life Below Water – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development

## 1. Relevance and Significance

Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) focuses on conserving and sustainably using aquatic resources. Although Gorakhpur is inland, DDUGU contributes to SDG 14 by protecting freshwater ecosystems like rivers, lakes, and ponds. The university promotes water conservation, pollution control, and sustainable aquatic management through research, education, and community outreach.

# 2. Sustainable Practices

DDUGU supports SDG 14 through water conservation initiatives, such as restoring local ponds and wetlands. The university conducts awareness campaigns and research on reducing water pollution and promotes eco-friendly materials and sustainable fishing practices. Student and faculty-led projects on water quality monitoring help protect aquatic biodiversity and support sustainable water management.

#### 3. Policies and Guidelines

DDUGU has institutionalized its commitment to SDG 14 through policies on sustainable water management and pollution control. The university enforces strict wastewater disposal regulations and promotes plastic waste reduction and recycling. Academic programs include modules on aquatic ecology and sustainability, while collaborations with environmental agencies enhance conservation efforts. These initiatives are supported by the Waste Management Policy and the Sustainability and Climate Action Policy, reinforcing DDUGU's dedication to protecting aquatic ecosystems.

#### 4. Outcomes

DDUGU's efforts have led to significant improvements in water conservation and pollution control. The restoration of ponds and wetlands has boosted biodiversity and water availability. University research has informed local water management policies, while awareness campaigns have increased community involvement in reducing plastic waste and protecting freshwater sources. These initiatives position DDUGU as a model for sustainable freshwater management in non-coastal regions.

## 5. Future Roadmap

Looking ahead, DDUGU plans to advance its water conservation and ecosystem protection efforts by developing improved treatment systems and promoting sustainable water use. Expanded research on climate impacts on freshwater ecosystems and stronger collaborations with government and NGOs will support effective conservation. Through these initiatives, DDUGU aims to significantly contribute to SDG 14 and set a benchmark for sustainable water management in inland regions.