## Kristu Jayanti's Policy for Advancing Sustainable Development Goals

**Preamble:**

Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous recognized as the United Nations Academic Impact Hub for SDG 1 commits to actively contribute to the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations. This policy provides a comprehensive framework for integrating the SDGs into all aspects of the institution's operations, fostering a culture of sustainability and promoting responsible citizenship among our community.

**Core Principles:**

- **Holistic & Interconnected Approach:** We acknowledge the interconnected nature of the SDGs, recognizing that progress in one area can contribute to or hinder progress in others. Our efforts will be guided by an understanding of these interconnectedness, promoting synergistic solutions and tackling root causes.

- **Sustainability & Equity:** We are committed to promoting sustainable development that prioritizes equity, leaving no one behind. We aim to ensure that all members of our community and the surrounding society have equal opportunities to benefit from sustainable progress.

- **Collaboration & Partnerships:** We believe that collaboration is essential for achieving the SDGs. We will foster partnerships with local communities, NGOs, government agencies, academic institutions, and private sector organisations to leverage diverse expertise and amplify our impact.

- **Research & Innovation:** We will leverage research and innovation to identify context-specific solutions and develop effective interventions to address the challenges presented by the SDGs. This includes promoting interdisciplinary research,

encouraging applied research, and supporting the development of innovative technologies.

- **Education for Change:** We are committed to integrating the SDGs into our curriculum, fostering critical thinking, ethical decision-making, and promoting responsible citizenship among students. We aim to equip them with the knowledge, skills, and values to become agents of positive change in their communities.

**Policy Objectives:**

**1. SDG 1: No Poverty**

- **Prioritize Research Grants for Poverty-Focused Projects:** The institution will prioritize research funding for projects that directly address poverty-related issues.

- **Community Engagement Programme:** This programme will be established to create a meaningful and sustained impact on communities facing poverty.

- **Microfinance and Income-Generating Initiatives:** The institution will support and promote microfinance initiatives and other income-generating programmes.

- **Promoting Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security:** The institution will work towards addressing food insecurity and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

- **Awareness and Skill Development Workshops:** Conduct workshops aimed at enhancing skills related to financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and job readiness, empowering individuals to break the cycle of poverty

**2. SDG 2: Zero Hunger**

- **Food Waste Reduction Initiatives:** The institution will implement food waste reduction initiatives within its campus dining facilities, promoting composting and sustainable food consumption practices.

- **Support for Local Food Systems:** The institution will support local food systems by sourcing food from local farmers and promoting the use of locally grown produce.

- **Nutrition Education:** The institution will integrate nutrition education into its curriculum and extracurricular activities, promoting healthy eating habits and food literacy.

- **Garden Projects**: Initiate Garden projects that teach students sustainable farming practices while also providing fresh produce for local communities.

- **Free mid-day meals scheme:** The institution will introduce a free meal scheme for the students who are in need without disclosing their identity to protect the self-esteem and safe guard their dignity.

## 3. SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

- **Health Awareness Programmes:** The Institution will organize health awareness programmes for students and staff, focusing on issues such as mental health, sexual health, and preventive healthcare.
- **Access to Healthcare:** The Institution will explore partnerships with local healthcare providers to enhance access to quality healthcare services for students, faculty, and staff.
- **Health Research:** The Institution will encourage research related to public health, disease prevention, and healthcare access in underserved communities.

## 4. SDG 4: Quality Education

- **Curriculum Integration:** The Institution will integrate the SDGs into its curriculum, ensuring that students across all disciplines are equipped to address global challenges.
- **Specialized Courses:** The Institution will offer specialized courses on sustainable development, climate change, and global challenges.
- **Lifelong Learning Opportunities:** The Institution will provide lifelong learning opportunities for students, faculty, and staff, promoting continuous learning and development related to the SDGs.
- **Student-led Initiatives:** The Institution will actively support and encourage student-led initiatives that promote quality education and access to education for all.
- **Bhavishyajyothi**: The institution will provide educational support to rural school children.

## 5. SDG 5: Gender Equality

- **Gender Equity in Curriculum:** The Institution will ensure that its curriculum reflects gender equality and promotes gender-responsive approaches to teaching and learning.

- **Women's Leadership Initiatives:** The Institution will promote women's leadership within the institution and in the wider community through mentorship programmes, leadership training, and support for women's organisations.
- **Ending Gender-Based Violence:** The Institution will implement policies and programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence on campus and in the surrounding community.
- **Awareness Campaigns on Gender Issues:** Conduct campaigns to raise awareness about gender equality issues and promote women's rights within the institution and local communities.
- **Partnerships with Women's Organisations:** Establish partnerships with women's organisations to enhance support networks and resources for women and girls.

- **Gender Equity in Curriculum:** The Institution will ensure that its curriculum reflects gender equality and promotes gender-responsive approaches to teaching and learning.
- **Women's Leadership Initiatives:** The Institution will promote women's leadership within the institution and in the wider community through mentorship programmes, leadership training, and support for women's organisations.
- **Ending Gender-Based Violence:** The Institution will implement policies and programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence on campus and in the surrounding community.

## 6. SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

- **Water Conservation Practices:** The Institution will implement water conservation practices on campus, reducing water usage and promoting responsible water management.
- **Sanitation and Hygiene Education:** The Institution will provide sanitation and hygiene education for students, staff, and the wider community.
- **Wastewater Treatment:** The Institution will explore sustainable wastewater treatment solutions, minimizing the environmental impact of its operations.

## 7. SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

- **Renewable Energy Sources:** The Institution will explore the use of renewable energy sources on campus, such as solar power, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

- **Energy Efficiency Initiatives:** The Institution will implement energy efficiency initiatives, reducing energy consumption through building upgrades and awareness campaigns.
- **Research on Clean Energy:** The Institution will encourage research on clean energy technologies and solutions.

## 8. SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

- **Job Creation Programmes:** The Institution will work with local businesses and organisations to develop job creation programmes and promote economic growth in the surrounding community with specific focus on the migrant labourers in Bengaluru.
- **Entrepreneurship Education:** The Institution will integrate entrepreneurship education into its curriculum, encouraging students to pursue innovative and sustainable business ventures.
- **Fair Labour Practices:** The Institution will ensure that its own operations adhere to fair labour practices and promote ethical sourcing of goods and services.

## 9. SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- **Innovation Hub:** The Institution will establish an innovation hub to promote research, development, and the application of innovative technologies for sustainable development.
- **Infrastructure Development:** The Institution will invest in sustainable infrastructure development, promoting energy efficiency, waste management, and green transportation on campus.
- **Partnerships with Industry:** The Institution will establish partnerships with local businesses and industries to promote innovation and sustainable development practices.

## 10. SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

- **Social Inclusion Programmes:** The Institution will implement programmes to promote social inclusion and reduce inequalities based on socioeconomic background, caste, gender, and other factors.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** The Institution will strive to create a diverse and inclusive campus environment that values diversity of thought and background.

- **Fair Access to Opportunities:** The Institution will ensure fair access to opportunities for all students, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

## 11. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

- **Sustainable Urban Planning:** The Institution will engage with local government and stakeholders to promote sustainable urban planning and development in the surrounding area.
- **Green Transportation:** The Institution will promote the use of public transportation, cycling, and walking on campus and in the surrounding community, reducing dependence on private vehicles.
- **Waste Management:** The Institution will implement a comprehensive waste management system on campus, promoting recycling, composting, and reducing waste generation.

## 12. SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

- **Sustainable Consumption:** The Institution will promote sustainable consumption practices within its operations and encourage students and staff to adopt responsible consumption habits.
- **Circular Economy:** The Institution will explore the principles of a circular economy, reducing waste generation, reusing materials, and promoting sustainable production processes.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** The Institution will prioritize the procurement of goods and services that are ethically produced and environmentally friendly.

## 13. SDG 13: Climate Action

- **Climate Change Education:** The Institution will integrate climate change education into its curriculum and extracurricular activities, promoting awareness of climate change and its impacts.
- **Climate Action Plan:** The Institution will develop a climate action plan, setting targets for reducing its carbon footprint and implementing measures to mitigate climate change.

- **Research on Climate Change:** The Institution will encourage research related to climate change adaptation and mitigation, contributing to the development of solutions.

## 14. SDG 14: Life below Water

- **Marine Conservation Awareness:** The Institution will promote awareness of marine conservation issues through educational programmes, campaigns, and research.
- **Sustainable Seafood Consumption:** The Institution will encourage sustainable seafood consumption practices within its dining facilities and promote awareness of the importance of marine ecosystems.
- **Partnerships with Marine Conservation Organisations:** The Institution will establish partnerships with local and international marine conservation organisations to support their efforts.

## 15. SDG 15: Life on Land

- **Biodiversity Conservation:** The Institution will promote biodiversity conservation on campus and in the surrounding community through habitat restoration, planting native trees, and promoting awareness of the importance of biodiversity.
- **Sustainable Land Management:** The Institution will implement sustainable land management practices on its campus, minimizing the environmental impact of its operations.
- **Partnerships with Conservation Organisations:** The Institution will establish partnerships with conservation organisations to support their efforts to protect and restore biodiversity.

## 16. SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

- **Promoting Peace and Non-violence:** The Institution will promote peace, non-violence, and conflict resolution through its curriculum, student activities, and community engagement initiatives.
- **Rule of Law and Good Governance:** The Institution will advocate for the rule of law, good governance, and respect for human rights within its operations and in the surrounding community.

- **Combating Corruption:** The Institution will promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct within its operations and encourage students to be responsible citizens.

## 17. SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

- **Collaboration and Networking:** The Institution will actively seek opportunities to collaborate with other institutions, organisations, and individuals to advance the SDGs.
- **Resource Mobilization:** The Institution will explore avenues for resource mobilization to support its SDG initiatives, including seeking grants, donations, and investments.
- **Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building:** The Institution will share knowledge and best practices with other institutions and organisations, contributing to the global effort to achieve the SDGs.

## Implementation and Monitoring:

- **Dedicated Task Force for SDGs:** A dedicated task force will be established to oversee the implementation of this policy, monitor progress, and provide strategic direction for the Institution's SDG initiatives.
- **Annual Review and Evaluation:** A comprehensive annual review and evaluation will be conducted to assess the impact of the Institution's SDG initiatives, measure progress towards objectives, and identify areas for improvement.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** The Institution will ensure transparency in resource allocation and reporting on the outcomes of its SDG initiatives. Regular reports will be publicly available, detailing activities, achievements, challenges, and future plans.
- **Continuous Improvement:** The Institution will continuously seek to improve and strengthen its efforts to achieve the SDGs. This will involve regular reflection, evaluation, and adaptation of the policy based on feedback from stakeholders, research findings, and ongoing learning.

### Rationale for Special Focus on SDG 1, 2, and 5

While the institution is committed to advancing all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we place particular emphasis on SDGs 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), and 5 (Gender

Equality). The following points outline the specific needs and rationale behind this targeted focus:

- **Addressing Poverty and Hunger:** India is grappling with significant challenges related to poverty alleviation and food security. A considerable portion of the population lives below the poverty line, while millions suffer from hunger. Therefore, urgent action is required to address SDGs 1 and 2. The negative impacts of poverty and food insecurity are particularly severe for vulnerable groups, including women and children, perpetuating cycles of disadvantage across generations.

- **Combating Gender Inequality:** Gender inequality remains a major obstacle to social and economic progress in India. Women frequently encounter discrimination in areas such as education, workforce participation, and decision-making roles. By prioritizing SDG 5, we aim to foster a more inclusive society that provides equal opportunities for women, allowing them to actively contribute to sustainable development.

- **Institutional Responsibility and Commitment:** Kristu Jayanti College recognizes its duty to tackle these urgent issues through initiatives aligned with SDGs 1, 2, and 5. By focusing on education, community engagement, and strategic partnerships, we aspire to develop transformative solutions that create lasting change and inspire our students to take action.

**Kristu Jayanti College, through its commitment to this policy, aspires to be a leading institution in the global movement for sustainable development, creating a more just, equitable, and sustainable future for all.**