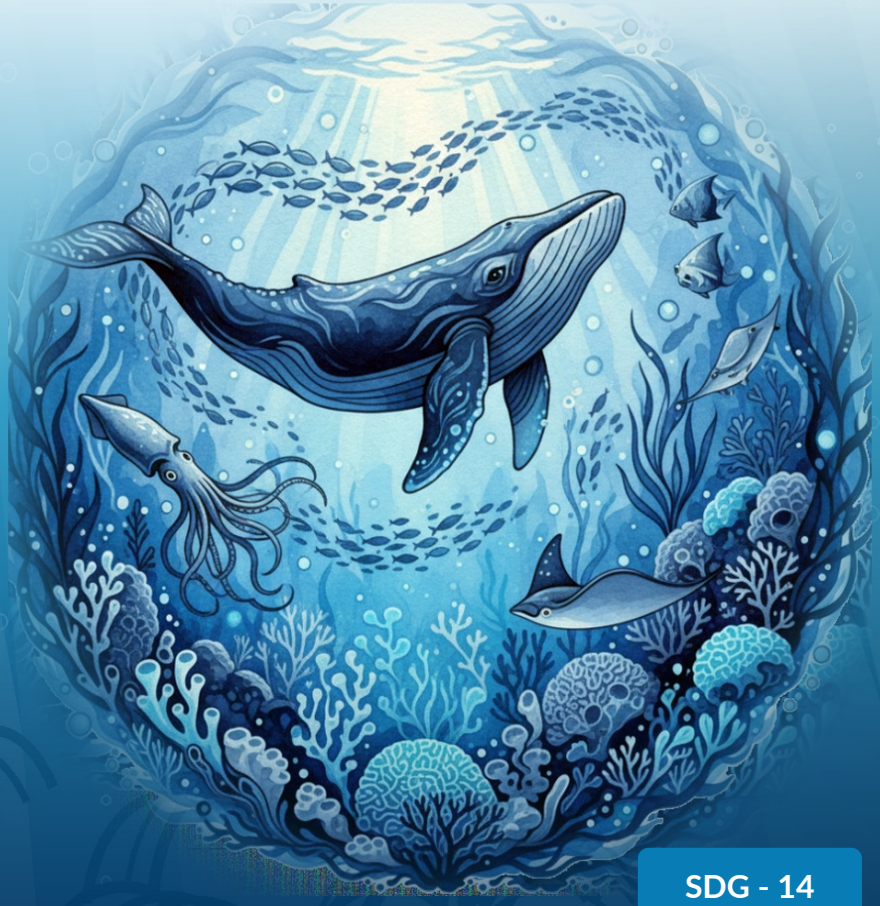
GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.



SDG - 14

Galgotias University Sustainability Report

2025–26



LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

SDG 14 | INTRODUCTION

Life below water is essential for maintaining ecological balance, supporting biodiversity, regulating the global climate, and sustaining livelihoods across the world. At Galgotias University, the commitment towards environmental sustainability extends beyond terrestrial ecosystems to the conservation and sustainable management of aquatic resources under Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) – Life Below Water. Through academic initiatives, research activities, environmental awareness programmes, and interdisciplinary learning, the university promotes an understanding of the importance of oceans, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and other aquatic ecosystems. Emphasis is placed on creating awareness about aquatic biodiversity, marine ecosystem conservation, water pollution, and the sustainable utilization of natural water resources.

The university recognizes the growing environmental challenges affecting aquatic ecosystems, including plastic pollution, industrial discharge, chemical contamination, overexploitation of aquatic resources, and biodiversity loss. By integrating education, research, innovation, and environmental responsibility, Galgotias University strives to contribute towards the objectives of SDG 14 and promote the sustainable conservation of aquatic resources. The university encourages interdisciplinary approaches and innovative solutions to address environmental challenges while highlighting the interconnectedness of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Through continuous efforts to strengthen environmental awareness, promote responsible resource utilization, and support biodiversity conservation, Galgotias University remains committed to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals and contributing to a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable environment for present and future generations.

ACTIVITY INDEX | 2025–26

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01 Sun-Powered Preservation, Healthier Oceans: Expert Talk on Solar-Assisted Hybrid Drying Technologies



The Department of Food Technology, School of Biosciences and Technology, Galgotias University, organized an expert talk on "Solar-Assisted Hybrid Drying Technologies for Sustainable Processing and Preservation of Foods" on 29 November 2025. The programme aimed to enhance students' understanding of sustainable drying technologies and their role in improving food processing and preservation, in line with SDG 14.

Conventional drying depends largely on fossil fuels, and the resulting carbon dioxide emissions contribute to ocean warming and acidification. Solar-assisted drying therefore supports healthier aquatic ecosystems by reducing the climate burden of food processing.

During the session, the importance of alternative drying technologies, the limitations of conventional drying systems, and the application of solar-assisted hybrid drying methods for improving energy efficiency and maintaining food product quality were discussed. Students gained insights into innovative hybrid drying systems, recent research developments, and their practical applications in the food industry. The session also highlighted the potential of advanced drying technologies in reducing post-harvest losses and promoting sustainable food processing practices. Such technologies can help preserve perishable products like fish, seafood and seaweed, reducing wastage and the pressure to harvest more from marine resources.

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02 Navigating Troubled Waters: How West Asian Geopolitics Is Reshaping Global Supply Chains



The School of Aviation, Logistics and Tourism Management (SALTM) organized an engaging guest lecture on “Impact of West Asian Geopolitics on Global Supply Chains” on 4 May 2026. The session gave students a clear understanding of how political developments in West Asia influence global trade, transportation, energy markets and logistics networks.

As a hub for energy resources, maritime routes and international commerce, West Asia plays a pivotal role in the global economy, which made the topic highly relevant for future professionals in aviation, logistics and tourism.

The expert covered the strategic importance of the region in global trade, the effects of regional conflicts, sanctions and security concerns on the movement of goods, and the challenges faced by airlines, shipping companies and logistics providers. The session also discussed risk management and resilience strategies used by global organizations, along with emerging opportunities and future trends in international logistics. Students interacted directly with the industry expert and gained practical perspectives on real-world supply chain challenges.

A large share of the world’s seaborne trade, including oil and gas, passes through West Asian waters. Conflict or insecurity along these routes can cause ship rerouting, longer voyages, higher fuel use and greater emissions. The session encouraged students to see sustainable and resilient supply chains as part of protecting marine environments, through cleaner shipping practices, efficient route planning, safer cargo handling and responsible maritime governance. This supports the sustainable use and conservation of oceans, seas and marine resources.

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03 Designing for Clean Waters: Design Thinking Project Expo on Sustainable Engineering Solutions



The Design Thinking Project Expo brought together creativity, engineering and sustainability on one platform, inspiring students to design solutions that protect our water bodies and the life they support. The projects addressed real-world challenges in infrastructure, sustainability, technology and industrial applications.

The expo encouraged experiential learning and interdisciplinary collaboration, helping students move beyond theory and apply engineering concepts in practical situations. Students contributed ideas on sustainable infrastructure, environmental management and smart construction practices and interacted with faculty members, industry representatives and peers, received feedback on their work, and improved their communication, presentation, teamwork, leadership and critical-thinking skills.

Most pollution that damages aquatic ecosystems starts on land, through untreated wastewater, plastic waste, construction runoff and industrial effluents that flow through drains and rivers into the sea. Sustainable infrastructure, better drainage and wastewater management, responsible waste handling and eco-friendly construction can reduce this land-based pollution. By encouraging user-centred, environmentally responsible solutions, the expo motivated students to see engineering design as a way to protect water bodies and marine life. This supports the sustainable use and conservation of oceans, seas and marine resources.

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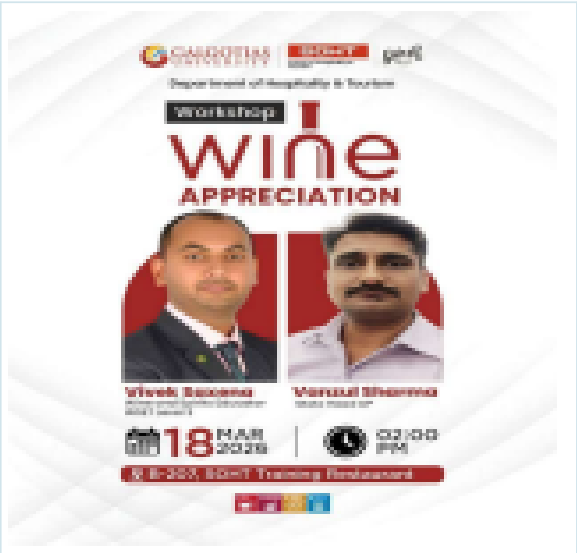
04 From Vineyard to Glass: Wine Appreciation Workshop on Sustainable Hospitality and Healthier Waters



The Wine Appreciation Workshop brought the journey of wine to life, from the vineyard to the glass, giving students a rare chance to learn directly from industry experts. Vivek Saxena, a certified Wine and Spirits Educator (WSET Level 3), and Vanzul Sharma, State Head UP of Grovers Vineyards, guided students through wine types, grape regions, the production process and classification.

Students learned professional tasting techniques, including visual inspection, aroma identification and palate evaluation. The speakers explained how terroir, the combined effect of soil, climate and water, shapes the character of a wine. The interactive discussion covered careers, certifications such as WSET, and opportunities in the beverage industry. The speakers also stressed responsible consumption and ethical service practices.

Vineyards sit within river basins and coastal catchments, so fertilizers, pesticides and soil runoff from grape-growing land can reach streams, rivers and eventually the sea. This causes nutrient pollution that harms aquatic life. Water-efficient irrigation, careful use of agricultural inputs, soil conservation and responsible packaging and waste handling help keep this pollution out of water bodies. This supports the sustainable use and conservation of oceans, seas and marine resources. The workshop gave students knowledge of wine, exposure to industry practice and a clearer sense of how responsible choices in hospitality can support a healthier planet.

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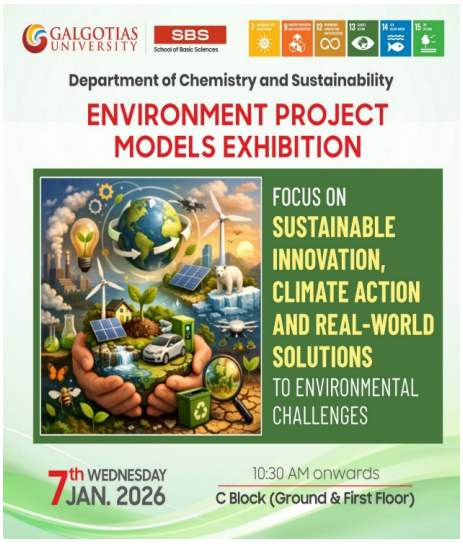
05 Small Models, Big Impact: Environment Project Models Exhibition for Sustainable Innovation and Cleaner Waters



The Environment Project Models Exhibition, held on 13 January 2026 as part of the internal evaluation for Environmental Impact Analysis, turned the classroom into a showcase of student creativity. The theme was sustainable innovation, climate action and real-world solutions to environmental challenges.

The exhibition displayed innovative working models designed and developed by students on renewable energy technologies, effective waste management systems, water conservation methods and sustainable urban planning concepts.

Much of the pollution that harms rivers, seas and marine life begins on land, through plastic waste, untreated wastewater, solid waste and careless disposal. Models on waste management and water conservation showed how pollution can be reduced and resources used wisely before waste ever reaches water bodies. Sustainable urban planning and renewable energy ideas further lower the emissions and runoff that contribute to ocean warming, acidification and declining water quality. By encouraging students to turn environmental awareness into practical solutions, the exhibition supported the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources.

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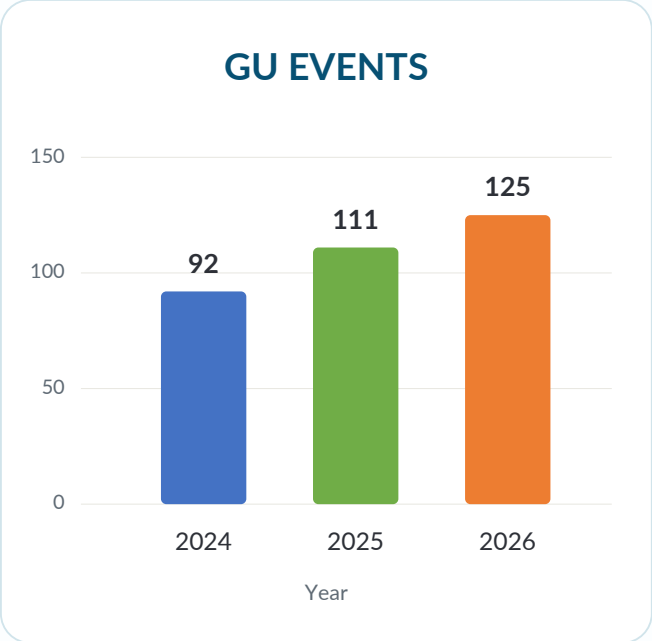
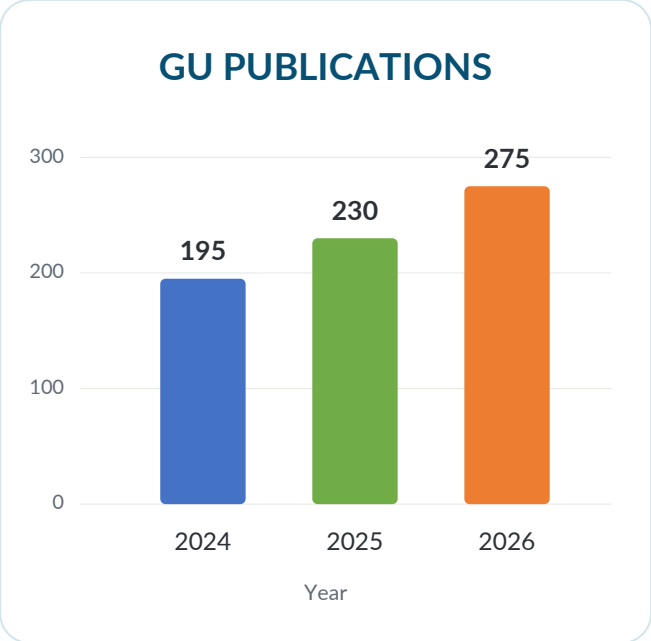
YEAR-ON-YEAR PERFORMANCE | 2024–2026

GU Events and GU Publications, as reported in the attached annual report.





METRIC	2024	2025	2026
GU Events	92	111	125
GU Publications	195	230	275

Source: SDG 14 Annual Report, source charts headed "GU Events" and "GU Publications".