

ENVIRONMENTAL - SOCIAL SAFEGUARD POLICY

2023

J S MURARKA MULTIPLE CAMPUS LAHAN, SIRAHA

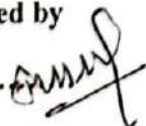
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ACCREDITED BY UGC, NEPAL

Email; jsmmc2012@gmail.com

Contact; 033-563252

Approved by

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CMC Chairperson



Campus Seal

Approved by

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Campus Chief

Environmental - Social Safeguard policy

J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus

1. Introduction

The Environmental-Social Safeguard policy (ESSP) of J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus strengthens the capacity of the campus to provide quality education, labor market relevance, enhance equitable access for the underprivileged, and is a major component of the 'Nurturing Excellence in Higher Education Program (NEHEP) which is currently running on the campus. To align with the goals of NEHEP, it's essential that all stakeholders, particularly at J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus, grasp the importance of Environmental and Social Safeguards. This campus must establish and implement policies to address these concerns in campus everyday activities. These safeguards will serve as a framework for community engagement and public disclosure. Key provisions include conducting impact assessments for campus activities and projects, consulting with affected communities, assessing environmental risks, setting labor and safety standards, and ensuring community health measures.

In today's rapidly changing world, addressing environmental and social issues has become imperative and cannot be overstated. It is within this context that the Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy of the campus takes on paramount significance. This policy is not merely a set of rules and regulations; rather, it is a visionary framework that underpins the institution's unwavering commitment to environmental sustainability and social responsibility. It serves as the bedrock upon which ethical practices and responsible behavior are nurtured and cultivated within the academic community.

This Campus holds a unique and influential position in society. They are not only centers of learning and knowledge dissemination but also crucibles for molding the minds of future leaders, thinkers, and innovators. As such, they have a profound responsibility to imbue their students with the values, principles, and skills necessary to address the complex challenges that our world faces today.

One of the most pressing challenges of current time is climate change. The consequences of rising global temperatures, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation are already manifesting in myriad ways. To combat this existential threat, J.S. Murarka Multiple

Campus must play an active role in mitigating its environmental impact and instilling sustainability as a core value. The Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy provides the roadmap for achieving these goals.

Environmental sustainability within the academic sphere encompasses a range of initiatives, from reducing energy consumption and waste generation to promoting biodiversity and sustainable transportation options. By integrating these practices into daily operations, J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus not only reduces its ecological footprint but also sets a powerful example for its students, inspiring them to become environmentally conscious citizens and future leaders.

Similarly, the policy places a strong emphasis on social responsibility. It recognizes that the pursuit of knowledge and the fostering of a just and inclusive society are intrinsically linked. By prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion, J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus creates an environment where all individuals, regardless of their background or identity, can thrive and contribute their unique perspectives to the academic community. Furthermore, fair labor practices and ethical treatment of employees and students are essential components of social responsibility, ensuring that the institution upholds the highest ethical standards.

Central to the policy's success is its integration into education and research. J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus has a vital role to play in advancing the understanding of environmental and social issues. By incorporating sustainability and social responsibility into their academic programs and research endeavors, they equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to tackle global challenges. Moreover, research conducted within the institution through the Research Management Cell (RMC) can contribute to groundbreaking solutions and policy recommendations that have far-reaching implications.

The Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy is not static; it is a dynamic commitment to continuous improvement. It calls for regular assessments and transparent reporting to track progress and hold the institution accountable for its commitments. This accountability ensures that the institution remains aligned with evolving best practices and adapts to emerging challenges.

The Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy of the campus is more than a document; it is a moral and ethical compass guiding the institution toward a brighter, more sustainable, and

equitable future. By embracing this policy and actively implementing its principles, J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus not only fulfills its responsibility to society but also nurtures the next generation of responsible global citizens. They are not just shaping minds; they are shaping a better world.

2. Objectives

- To protect the environment from the potential negative impacts of campus activities
- To promote social responsibility and ethical conduct in all aspects of campus operations.
- To engage with the surrounding community and build mutually beneficial relationships
- To continuously improve the campus's environmental and social performance.
- To demonstrate the campus's commitment to sustainability and social responsibility to the public.
- Establish transparent mechanisms to track and report progress toward environmental sustainability goals.
- To inspire other campuses to adopt environmental and social safeguard policies

3. Environmental Safeguard

Environmental safeguards for this campus are essential to ensure that institutions operate in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. Campus has a significant impact on the environment through its energy consumption, waste generation, transportation, and land use. Implementing environmental safeguards can help reduce this impact and promote sustainability. Here are some key environmental safeguards that can be considered:

- a. **Resource management:** This campus has promoted environmental sustainability by managing its resources responsibly through setting goals, developing a plan, and monitoring progress. The campus has implemented recycling and composting programs, reduced the use of disposable products, encouraged sustainable transportation options, and sourced locally grown food. By managing its resources and educating the community, the campus has made a significant contribution to environmental sustainability.

b. socially responsible procurement: This campus has promoted environmental sustainability by purchasing goods and services that have a reduced environmental impact. It also involves developing policies and procedures, educating staff and students, and working with suppliers. This procurement can help this campus to reduce its environmental impact, save money, and enhance its reputation.

4. Sustainable Campus Operation

- a. Energy efficiency:** The campus has Implemented energy-efficient technologies like solar panels and the use of low-electricity consumption devices. Also, conduct regular energy audits, and set energy reduction targets.
- b. Renewable Energy:** The campus is going to allocate a big budget to invest in renewable energy sources such as solar panels or wind turbines to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Campus buses will be replaced by electric vehicles.
- c. Water conservation:** The Campus has implemented water-saving measures, such as low-flow fixtures, clean drinking water stations, rainwater harvesting, and efficient irrigation systems.
- d. Waste Reduction:** The campus has Promoted waste reduction techniques during everyday activities carried by students by keeping big dustbins at different places on campus Also following safeguard techniques while constructing buildings. Mainly focused on recycling programs on campus, minimizing single-use plastics and non-recyclable materials and announced "Plastic Free Zone".

5. Green Building Practice:

- a. Government Act:** The Campus follows new construction and renovations Government to ensure sustainable building design and operations.
- b. Local sustainable material Used:** Use eco-friendly building materials, including recycled and locally sourced materials
- c. Natural Lighting and Ventilation:** Maximize the use of natural lighting and ventilation to reduce energy consumption.

6. Sustainable Disposal of Basic Science Laboratory:

- a. Inventory and Documentation:** The lab assistant maintains an up-to-date inventory of all chemicals, equipment, and materials in the laboratory.
- b. Chemical Management:** The teachers and students are mainly focused on the use of environmentally friendly chemicals and reagents whenever possible with the implementation of a chemical inventory management system to track usage, identify expired chemicals, and reduce unnecessary purchases. Always pay attention to disposing

of expired or unwanted chemicals in big pit fairways area of campus and village premises and Segregate hazardous and non-hazardous waste and store them in appropriate containers.

c. **Waste Management:** The campus has implemented a waste segregation and recycling program to divert recyclable materials away from landfills and dispose of hazardous waste through Lahan Municipality waste disposal services, ensuring compliance with hazardous waste regulations. Minimize single-use plastics and promote recycling within the laboratory.

d. **Equipment disposal and e-waste management:** The campus has prioritized the repair and reuse of equipment over disposal. When equipment reaches the end of its usable life, explore recycling or donation options. Also, ensure the proper disposal of electronic waste (e-waste) in compliance with electronic waste recycling regulations.

e. **Regular Audit and Compliance:** The Campus administration conducts regular audits of the laboratory's disposal practices to ensure compliance with the policy, address any non-compliance issues promptly, and take corrective actions so that society does not get harmed by disposal practices.

7. **Sustainable Transportation:**

a. **Use of public transportation:** Students are encouraged the use public transportation, cycling, and walking while coming to campus.

b. **Use of electric and fuel-efficient vehicle:** The campus Promote the use of electric and fuel-efficient vehicles on campus.

8. **Environmental Education and Outreach:**

a. **Advice to revised Curriculum:** This campus is affiliated with Tribhuvan University following the curriculum designed by the university but this campus is also involved in designing the curriculum related to environmental education and sustainability to raise awareness and promote sustainable practices among students.

b. **Workshop and Seminar:** RMC this campus organizeworkshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns on environmental issues and solutions in collaboration with UGC.

9. **Biodiversity Conservation:**

a. **Natural Landscaping:** The JSMMC campus has established a botanical garden to maintain the landscape that promotes biodiversity. That botanical garden contains a variety of plant species. A big mango garden on the back side of the campus building also maintains the outstanding biodiversity of the campus. The campus has planned to

construct a greenhouse to grow some primitive plants and is ready to provide some natural habitat for some declining animals in the coming days.

- b. Nature Club:** Perform environmentally oriented activities to maintain a green environment on the campus.

10. Monitoring and Reporting:

- a. Environmental impact assessments:** The campus has planned to conduct regular assessments on environmental impact, including the release of greenhouse gases, ozone layer depletion, and resource consumption with this protection.
- b. Sustainability Report:** The campus has planned to allocate some budget to publish annual sustainability reports to track progress and communicate environmental initiatives to stakeholders.
- c. Environmental Policy:** This policy will be an official environmental policy that outlines the institution's commitment to sustainability.
- d. Specific Policy for COVID-19 and similar other pandemics:** To enhance community health resilience during pandemics like COVID-19, J.S. Murarka Multiple Campus will integrate specific procedures into our Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy. These procedures will encompass a comprehensive pandemic response plan, encompassing roles and responsibilities, health and safety measures, the transition to remote learning and work, testing and contact tracing, community education and awareness, support for affected individuals, regular updates and monitoring, environmental considerations, and robust community engagement. These measures will collectively prioritize the health and well-being of our campus community and surrounding areas, enabling us to effectively address health challenges proactively and systematically.

11. Research and Innovation

- a. Workshop and seminar:** The campus has encouraged and supported research projects related to environmental sustainability and green technologies. The campus also organizes different workshops and seminars related to environmental sustainability through RMC. Innovation centre.
- b. Innovation Center:** The Campus has planned to establish an innovation center focused on developing sustainable solutions and technologies.

12. Community Engagement

- a. **Partnership:** The campus has collaborated with local communities, environmental organizations, and government agencies on sustainability initiatives and community projects.
- b. **Stakeholder Engagement:** The college management committee (CMC) of campus is organized by different political bodies, local bodies, and stockholders where the campus has to share different issues related to environmental sustainability.