

SDG 1: No Poverty

Progress Report

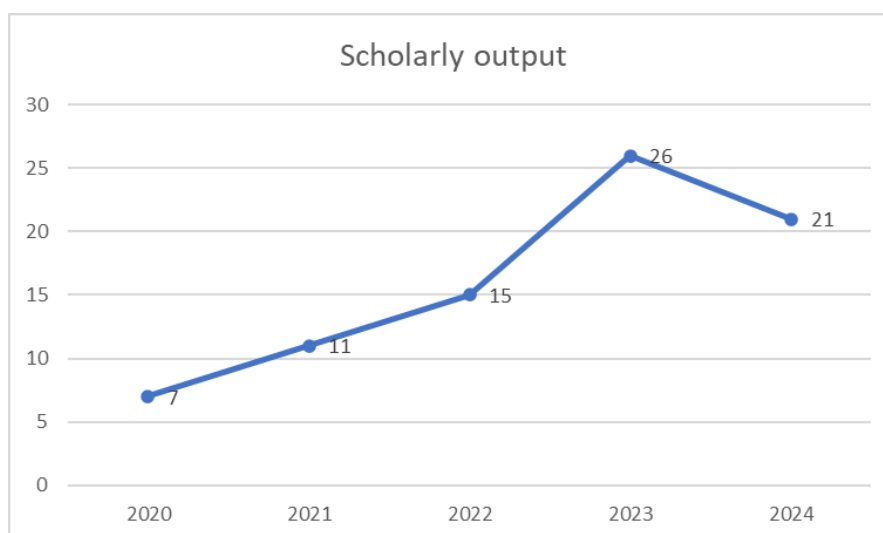
2024 - 25

Introduction

JGU recognises poverty eradication as a fundamental condition for sustainable development. The JGU Sustainable Development Report highlights that global progress on many SDGs, including poverty reduction, remains slow. This reflects the broader systemic challenges the world faces and underscores the importance of institutional leadership in addressing priorities that directly reinforce SDG 1.

1. Scholarly Output

The trend in scholarly output shows a consistent rise from 2020 to 2023, reflecting JGU's growing commitment to sustainability-related research. Although there is a slight decline in 2024, the overall trajectory remains significantly higher than previous years, demonstrating strengthened academic engagement with SDG-aligned themes.



2. Institutional Commitment to Poverty Eradication

The university's sustainability philosophy identifies multidimensional poverty as a barrier to social justice and equitable development. JGU embeds the fight against poverty within its academic mission and community programmes, emphasising that responsible development must protect human dignity and avoid harmful practices. The institution positions education, research, and community engagement as core pathways for addressing inequalities.

The Annual Social Impact Award recognises alumni whose work focuses on alleviating poverty, improving access to essential services, and addressing socioeconomic marginalisation. Poverty alleviation is formally identified as one of the evaluation categories for the award. Through this initiative, JGU amplifies social leadership and

encourages alumni-led interventions in community upliftment and support for vulnerable populations.

The award also includes community well-being as a major focus area. This category highlights efforts directed towards improving living standards, supporting the underprivileged, and addressing social vulnerabilities — all critical dimensions of SDG 1. These programmes reinforce JGU's commitment to fostering initiatives that uplift economically disadvantaged groups.

3. Research Contributions Aligned with SDG 1

The Sustainable Development Report records a 41% increase in SDG-linked scholarly publications, which includes research intersecting with poverty eradication, economic systems, inequality, and public policy. This growth reflects JGU's expanding academic commitment to addressing global development challenges.

Expert perspectives in the report highlight the importance of sustainable approaches to poverty eradication. Discussions emphasise the need to uphold human dignity and avoid extractive or environmentally harmful practices in development — reinforcing SDG 1's requirement for systemic and ethical solutions.

4. Academic Integration Supporting SDG 1

JGU offers over 350 SDG-aligned elective courses, many of which address themes connected to poverty, inequality, welfare systems, social development, and economic empowerment. These courses equip students with analytical and practical skills to understand and respond to the drivers of poverty.

Programmes such as the Millennium Fellowship encourage students to design and implement social impact projects. Many projects generated under these programmes tackle issues of economic hardship, community resilience, and local development — contributing indirectly but meaningfully to SDG 1.

5. Partnerships and Community Outreach Addressing Poverty

JGU maintains partnerships with NGOs and community organisations working on local development and social welfare. These collaborations support community-centred sustainability initiatives, improve access to essential services, and enhance livelihoods — all critical components of SDG 1. Through these partnerships, JGU reinforces its institutional responsibility to uplift vulnerable populations.

JGU's sustainability model integrates social equity, environmental justice, and responsible development — all of which intersect with poverty reduction. The report emphasises that human development requires more than income-building; it involves dignity, community empowerment, ecological safety, and inclusive governance. By aligning its sustainability strategy with these principles, JGU strengthens its contribution to SDG 1.

6. Employment Generation and Welfare Support for Local Communities

JGU's contribution to SDG 1 also extends beyond academic and research initiatives. One of the university's consistent priorities has been to create stable and dignified employment opportunities for the communities living in and around the Sonipat region. By actively hiring from nearby villages and peri-urban settlements, the university supports local households with reliable income streams that directly reduce economic vulnerability. This approach not only strengthens community resilience but also builds long-term socio-economic stability in areas where employment opportunities can be limited.

The university further reinforces this commitment by ensuring that all employees, regardless of their position, have access to key resources and institutional benefits. Staff members across levels: including housekeeping teams, security personnel, horticulture workers, administrative executives, faculty, and senior leadership, are provided with essential facilities on campus. These include access to health services, learning resources, transportation, recreational spaces, and welfare support mechanisms. By reducing the financial burdens associated with these necessities, JGU enables its workforce to redirect income toward long-term well-being and family development.

This inclusive model demonstrates that poverty alleviation is not limited to external outreach; it is also embedded within institutional culture. By integrating local employment and comprehensive employee welfare into its sustainability strategy, JGU advances SDG 1 through everyday operations that prioritise dignity, equity, and economic empowerment.

Conclusion

JGU demonstrates a comprehensive commitment to SDG 1 through academic initiatives, social impact awards, research contributions, community-based partnerships, and student-driven engagement. The university's integrated approach — combining knowledge creation, practical interventions, and collaborative action — positions it as a leading institution contributing to poverty eradication within India's higher education sector.