

POLICY ON IDENTIFICATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS EXTERNAL TO THE UNIVERSITY

Policy Statement

O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) is committed to fostering strong, mutually beneficial relationships with local stakeholders external to the university. This policy establishes a structured framework for identifying, engaging, and collaborating with diverse community members, organizations, and institutions surrounding the university, outlining principles to ensure that all partnerships promote sustainable development, social responsibility, and positive community impact.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- I. To build strong, transparent, and respectful relationships with key local stakeholders.
- II. To enhance JGU's positive social, economic, and environmental impact in the local community and region.
- III. To incorporate community voices and concerns into decision-making processes.
- IV. To promote sustainable practices and social responsibility among all partners and university operations.
- V. To create platforms for student and faculty involvement in community development and research projects.

Scope

This policy applies to all JGU affiliates including employees, faculty, researchers, contractors, suppliers, and partners engaged in external community and stakeholder activities. Also, all university operations, programs, initiatives, and collaborations impacting or involving local external stakeholders.

Definition of Local Stakeholders

Local stakeholders comprise:

- I. Residents and community members living near the university.
- II. Local businesses and entrepreneurs.
- III. Governmental organizations at local, regional, and national levels.
- IV. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working on social, environmental, or educational causes.
- V. Educational institutions (schools, colleges, and universities).

- VI. Civic associations and interest groups within the community.
- VII. Media organizations covering local news and university events.
- VIII. Health, welfare, and social service agencies collaborating with the university.

Identification of Stakeholders

- I. JGU will conduct a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise to identify key individuals, groups, and organizations based on geographic proximity, relevance to academic programs, research interests, and potential for collaboration.
- II. Stakeholder influence, interests, and impacts on university objectives will be analyzed to prioritize engagement efforts.

Engagement Framework

I. Internal Engagement

- a) Promote awareness among faculty, staff, and students of the importance and benefits of local stakeholder engagement.
- b) Integrate community engagement goals into academic and research program objectives.
- c) Facilitate training on sustainable and ethical stakeholder engagement practices.
- d) Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration to address local community issues effectively.

II. External Engagement

- a) Regular communication channels such as town halls, workshops, newsletters, and digital platforms to maintain open dialogue with local stakeholders.
- b) Establish partnerships for joint programs, community-based research, social impact projects, and internships for students.
- c) Engage with local government and authorities for policy alignment, public welfare programs, and capacity building.
- d) Collaborate with NGOs and civic groups focusing on social inclusion, environmental conservation, and education.

Sustainability and Ethical Practices of Partners

- I. JGU requires all external partners to adhere to sustainable and ethical practices that reflect respect for human rights, environmental stewardship, and social responsibility.
- II. Partners must comply with applicable national laws and university policies on ethical conduct, anti-slavery, inclusion, and non-discrimination.
- III. The university will require sustainability certifications or documented practices from vendors, suppliers, and collaborators wherever relevant.
- IV. Periodic audits and assessments will be conducted to review partner compliance with sustainability and ethical standards.
- V. Non-compliance may result in corrective action or termination of collaboration/contractual relationships.

Roles and Responsibilities

I. University Administration and Offices

- a) Lead policy implementation for identification and engagement with all internal and external stakeholders.

- b) Establish protocols for annual feedback, ensure mechanisms for participatory governance, and oversee holistic stakeholder engagement.
- c) Monitor effectiveness through feedback analysis and adjust strategies in consultation with all major offices.

II. Human Resources

- a) Design and conduct training sessions for staff/partners in community engagement, ethics, well-being, professional growth, and sustainability.
- b) Maintain a culture of inclusivity, supporting faculty and staff with resources for personal and professional development across all levels.

III. Office of Sustainability

- a) Conduct sustainability assessments for all partners and external collaborations to ensure alignment with university standards and SDG commitments.
- b) Provide sustainability guidance for projects, monitor environmental impact, and champion best practices institution-wide.

IV. Faculty and School Leadership

- a) Engage actively with local, national, and global community stakeholders, embedding their input in curriculum design, program assessment, and research collaborations.
- b) Ensure representation of students, alumni, and industry in curriculum bodies, advisory boards, and program review.
- c) Mentor junior faculty and foster collaborative, interdisciplinary research and professional development activities.

V. Office of International Affairs & Global Initiatives (IAGI)

- a) Manage and expand international university partnerships for student and faculty exchanges, joint/double degree programs, and collaborative research.
- b) Oversee global accreditation and participation in international rankings, ensuring programs meet worldwide standards.
- c) Actively coordinate international conferences, joint publications, cultural exchange, and embassy/diplomatic outreach to keep programs globally relevant.

VI. Students and Researchers

- a) Participate in feedback mechanisms, program review committees, and curriculum co-creation, ensuring student and research voices are represented in governance.
- b) Pursue research opportunities, capstone projects, internships, service-learning, and innovation projects within local, national, and international contexts.
- c) Engage in community outreach, policy and action research, legal and health clinics, and sustainability projects, fostering civic responsibility and leadership.

VII. Alumni Relations and Industry Engagement

- a) Liaise with the Alumni Cell for coordinated mentorship, internships, and philanthropic/sponsorship initiatives.
- b) Engage with employers via the Office of Career Services to support campus recruitment, curriculum alignment with industry needs, and innovation partnerships.

- c) Facilitate alumni and employer input in curriculum review, program advisory, and career readiness initiatives.

VIII. Local Community and NGOs

- a) Coordinate with community partners and NGOs for social outreach, legal aid, public health, environmental conservation, and education/empowerment projects.
- b) Share research outcomes and best practices, ensuring community feedback informs new initiatives and mutual capacity-building.

IX. Regional Institutions and Local Industry

- a) Support local colleges, universities, and industry through resource sharing, pedagogy training, collaborative research, and innovation support.
- b) Facilitate inter-institutional seminars, joint academic programs, and community-based research for regional development.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting

- I. Engagement activities and outcomes will be regularly monitored and assessed against the policy objectives.
- II. Feedback from local stakeholders will be systematically collected and incorporated to refine engagement strategies.
- III. Periodic reports on stakeholder engagement and sustainability compliance will be presented to university leadership to maintain transparency and accountability.

Reporting Concerns and Non-Retaliation

- I. Any concerns related to partner practices, stakeholder engagement, or policy implementation should be reported to designated authorities within JGU, including the Head of Human Resources and the Office of Sustainability.
- II. The university upholds a strict non-retaliation policy to protect individuals reporting concerns in good faith, ensuring all reports are treated confidentially and addressed promptly.

Awareness and Training

- I. Conduct continuous awareness programs highlighting the university's commitment to ethical community engagement and sustainability.
- II. Organize training sessions and workshops for university personnel and partners on stakeholder engagement best practices and sustainable development goals.
- III. Encourage interdisciplinary forums on community challenges and innovative engagement models.
- IV. Promote student-led initiatives and service-learning programs that strengthen ties with local stakeholders.