



ST. XAVIER'S INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION THE ECOLOGY POLICY

Foreword

The Ecology Committee of St. Xavier's Institute of Education (SXIE) drafted an Ecology Policy to articulate the philosophy and action of SXIE towards ecology, energy conservation and waste management. The Institute has endorsed the principle of harmonious living with self, nature, and society as an underlying current for its policy. The mission statement of SXIE focuses on creating a just and humane society reflecting its ecological consciousness over 6 decades of its establishment.

The SXIE Ecology Committee dedicated to St. Ignatius' contribution of Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP) bases its policy on understanding the context of the society, experience, reflection, action and evaluation of the action. The stages are not linear but an interplay of experience, reflection and action. On the basis of reflective evaluation of the actions there is an evolution of the action to meet the new needs and context of the society and the stakeholders. Thus, the SXIE Ecological Policy is a living document as it is modified and enriched by our reflection and action over the years.

The main objective of the Ecology Policy is to:-

1. Understand the ecological context: The stakeholders are made aware of their ecosystem. The changing situations of the ecology and the environment can be a concern or challenge. The policy promotes the awareness and understanding of the ecological experience, reflect on it so as to take an action to improve it.
2. Promote the ecology policy as a mindset, a mindfulness, a way of reflective activity
3. Educate the stakeholders about the ways and means to sustain the ecology in effective way. Build a system of waste management which with succeeding years can accentuate to higher levels and reach wider circles from self to community at large.
4. Initiate the process of empowerment towards ecological sustainability through the steps like
 - I. Awareness
 - II. Initiation
 - III. Mobilization
 - IV. Organisation
 - V. Action

Mapping the Objectives into Action

With these objectives as the purpose of ecological sustenance and well-being, SXIE mapped the path to make the Institute and its surrounding greener, cleaner and a better place for its stakeholders.

1. **Integrating the ecological policy in the B.Ed. Program** and all the other endeavors of the Institute. The Institute has included Environmental Education Course as a part of its elective array. The daily value based assemblies focuses on the promotion of concern and care for surrounding nature, a harmonious existence with the natural beings. The co-curricular events like organizing activities, competitions are also connected to environment and its care. The students are made responsible through the induction into the Institute's vision, mission and theme of the year and code of conduct towards the care for earth. Nurturing through its explicit and hidden curriculum, promoting the inter-dependence and cooperation of humans with nature.
2. **Mindful energy consumption and energy saving thoughts and actions** - The Student Council, Student Marshalls and all the students at the Institute are accountable for monitoring the judicious use of the energy in the Institute . This habit of energy conservation is then disseminated to the student teachers to internship schools, community centers, their residential places and even public places. Thus, the policy is based on the reaching out to the society
3. **A collaborative effort** -The Institute plans street plays, various competitions in form of poster making, poetry writing, slogan writing, creating socially useful products from the waste. The awareness campaigns and activities promotes each one as accountable for the betterment of the society, from school children to the pre-service teachers. It is a collaborative effort and not just duty of the support staff.
4. **Maintaining cleanliness and hygiene** in the Institutional spaces and educating the others about it. The maintenance of cleanliness and sanitation is an important requirement of the Institute. Each floor and the compound surrounding the Institute is kept clean and hygienic for better environment.
5. **Awareness and promotion** of significance of greenery and care for environment is done, through proactive steps and respecting the themes like reflective harmony and waste management. The digital world also brings with it the e-waste and toxic elements, the disposable of the toxic e-waste is carried out with the help of concerned organisations.
6. **Care for ecology:** Being care-giver of the ecosystem rather than mere consumers of the nature is consciously instilled in the minds of the stakeholders so that they feel like organization citizens, rather than self-centric people who believe that the ecosystem is meant for their convenience and use.

7. Following the **4 Rs of reduce, reuse, recycle and renew** for effective use of ecological energy. One more very indispensable R for SXIE is reflect and repurpose for the conscious and mindful assurance of the ecological principles. The Institute maintains its compost recycle machinery to take small steps towards the ecological sustenance.
8. Investment in conserving and **utilization of energy resources** is focused upon, for example purchasing energy savers like LED bulbs, installing solar panels. Annual environment , water and green audits are to be conducted.

Waste Management

Waste Management as an important element of the ecological policy. SXIE has been advocating well-planned waste management approach for decades. The waste handling from waste reduction, waste segregation to sustainable waste disposal follows the ecological policy.

At SXIE , the waste management refers to

1. Waste segregation into e-waste, wet waste and dry waste is maintained for effective waste management.
2. The system of waste management will be updated as per newer and better techniques and technologies.
3. The physical equipment required for waste management and physical spaces will be maintained. The physical placement of the waste management equipment will be indicated clearly as well as placed in the apt places.
4. Framing the waste management as one of the best practice of the Institute.
5. Collaborating with NGOs and Governmental organization for sustaining waste management as a conscious and serious endeavour of the Institute .
6. Education and dissemination of education about waste management to the stakeholders esp. the internship schools, community centres and local communities.

The purpose of the ecology policy is to make the stakeholders of the Institute more connected and less alienated from the ecology and ecosystem. The policy of the harmonious and connected community is to strengthen the care for environment.

The Ecology Committee

Fr Blaise D souza SJ – Manager

Dr Sosamma Samuel - Principal

Dr Elvina Pereira - Member of the Committee

Dr Shadab Paloji - Member of the Committee

Ms Kalpana Chavan - Member of the Committee