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SGT University
Budhera, Gurugram

SGT UNIVERSITY

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**Policy on Procurement of Local/ Organic Food
Products in Alignment with
SDG 2: Zero Hunger**



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Shree Guru Gobind Singh Tricentenary (SGT) University

Policy on Procurement of Local/ Organic Food Products in Alignment with SDG 2: Zero Hunger

1. Policy Statement

SGT University is committed to achieving food security and promoting sustainable food systems by giving preference to locally produced, organic, and ethically sourced food items in all its food procurement decisions. The University seeks to strengthen local food economies, support small farmers and women-led self-help groups, and encourage environmentally responsible procurement.

This policy aims to:

- Reduce dependency on distant and non-sustainable supply chains.
- Promote the purchase of locally sourced and organically produced food items.
- Enhance food safety, ensure high quality standards and encourage practices that protects the environment.

2. Purpose and Scope

This policy aims to align the University's food procurement practices with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) by prioritizing the sourcing of local and organic food products. The goal is to ensure access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food on campus, support the regional economy, reduce the university's environmental footprint, and promote sustainable agriculture.

This policy applies to all food-related procurement activities of the University, including canteens, hostels, cafeterias, event catering, and any food supply agreements with external vendors or contractors.

3. Key Objectives

- To ensure that a significant portion of food consumed within the University is locally and/or organically sourced.
- Promote sustainable agriculture: Encourage farming practices that are eco-friendly, reduce relying on synthetic chemicals and promote biodiversity (e.g., organic, agroecological methods).
- Reduce environmental impact: Minimize transportation-related emissions ("food miles") and the overall carbon footprint of the food supply chain.
- To support local farmers, cooperatives, and small-scale producers through direct and fair procurement.
- To encourage sustainable agricultural practices that promote soil health and biodiversity.


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- To enhance transparency, accountability, and community engagement in procurement operations.

4. Guiding Principles

- **Sustainability:** All procurement decisions shall consider environmental, economic, and social sustainability.
- **Transparency:** The process shall follow open and documented procedures with preference given to local and certified organic vendors.
- **Community Impact:** The University shall prioritize partnerships that benefit local producers, cooperatives, and women's self-help groups.
- **Quality Assurance:** All procured food products must comply with applicable FSSAI standards and organic certification guidelines.

5. Sustainable Food Procurement Framework

Local and Organic Preference

The University will give purchase priority to suppliers located within a **100 km radius** of the campus and to **certified organic producers**.

6. Vendor Requirements

- Procurement tenders shall include sustainability clauses that give additional weightage to vendors who:
- Possess valid organic certifications (FSSAI, APEDA).
- Follow ethical and environmentally responsible practices.
- Belong to local farming cooperatives or community-based producer groups.

7. Verification

The Procurement Committee shall verify supplier credentials and maintain records of certifications. Vendor audits may be conducted annually to ensure authenticity of claims.


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8. Targets

The University commits to achieving the following targets:

- By **2027** At least **20%** of total food procured shall be locally sourced from certified organic producers.
- By **2030**: The University shall aim to source **50%** of its food from local and/or organic suppliers.

9. Reporting

The Procurement Committee, in coordination with the IQAC, shall prepare an **Annual Sustainable Procurement Report** highlighting:

- Percentage of local and organic purchases.
- Key suppliers and community partnerships.
- Progress against institutional targets.

10. Monitoring and Accountability

- The **Procurement Committee** shall maintain quarterly records of food purchases, categorized by source and certification type.
- The **IQAC** will conduct an annual audit of procurement practices and assess alignment with SDG 2 indicators.
- Progress toward these targets shall be reviewed annually by the IQAC and Sustainability Cell. Findings and recommendations will be shared with the Vice Chancellor for review and further action.
- IQAC will prepare annual report where this data will be utilized by IQAC under the **Sustainability and SDG 2 Initiatives** of the University

11. Review and Revision

This policy shall be reviewed every two years by procurement committee and other relevant stakeholders. Updates will reflect new sustainability standards, regulatory changes, and best practices in responsible procurement.


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