



University– Farmer Resource Sharing and Sustainable Agriculture Support Policy

BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY



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398, Ramkrishnapur Road, Barasat, North 24 Parganas, Kolkata - 700 125

Document Control

Document Title	University–Farmer Resource Sharing and Sustainable Agriculture Support Policy
Document Number	BWU/POL/THE/SDG 2/06
Version	1.0
Approving Authority	Vice Chancellor
Approval Reference	NA
Date of Approval	04 June 2024
Effective Date	04 June 2024

Revision History

Version	Date	Description of change	Approved by
1.0	04 June 2024	First issue of consolidated policy	Vice Chancellor



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1. Preamble

Brainware University recognises that universities have an important role in transferring scientific knowledge, technological expertise and institutional resources to the local community. Sustainable agriculture and responsible food production require access to appropriate technologies, scientific information, testing facilities, plant resources, environmental data and technical guidance.

In accordance with its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 2 – Zero Hunger, the University seeks to facilitate appropriate access to its available academic, laboratory, technological and knowledge resources for local farmers, agricultural practitioners, food producers, community organisations and other relevant stakeholders.

This Policy establishes a structured framework through which University facilities and expertise may be made available, subject to institutional rules, safety requirements, resource availability and applicable laws, to support sustainable farming, climate-resilient agriculture, efficient resource utilisation, crop productivity, soil and water management, food quality and responsible food production.

2. Policy Statement

Brainware University shall promote and facilitate community access to appropriate University facilities, technologies, laboratories, plant resources, technical expertise and knowledge resources for activities that contribute to sustainable farming and food production.

- laboratory facilities;
- scientific instruments and testing facilities;
- agricultural and environmental technologies;
- soil, water and environmental testing support;
- plant materials and demonstration resources, where available;
- digital and information resources;
- technology demonstrations;
- faculty expertise and technical consultation;
- student-supported field projects; and
- training and capacity-building programmes.



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Access shall be provided on a non-discriminatory and need-based basis, subject to availability, safety, technical suitability, institutional approval and applicable regulations.

3. Objectives

- Facilitate the transfer of university-generated knowledge and technology to local farming communities.
- Support farmers in adopting sustainable agricultural practices.
- Improve awareness of efficient utilisation of water, energy, soil and other natural resources.
- Promote technology-enabled and data-driven farming practices.
- Provide access to appropriate laboratory and testing facilities where feasible.
- Encourage environmentally responsible food production.
- Support climate-resilient and resource-efficient agriculture.
- Facilitate collaboration between farmers, food producers, faculty members and students.
- Encourage interdisciplinary research addressing local agricultural challenges.
- Support community-based demonstrations and pilot projects.
- Strengthen the University's contribution to SDG 2 – Zero Hunger and related SDGs.

4. Scope

4.1 Beneficiaries

- Local farmers
- Small and marginal farmers
- Farmer groups
- Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
- Agricultural cooperatives
- Local food producers
- Community organisations
- Self-help groups engaged in food production
- Rural entrepreneurs
- Agricultural start-ups
- Other eligible community stakeholders

4.2 University Resources



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Sl. No.	University Resource	Possible Community Application
1	Laboratories	Soil, water, environmental and related testing/support
2	Scientific instruments	Measurement, monitoring and demonstration
3	IoT and sensor technologies	Soil moisture, environmental and crop monitoring
4	Digital technologies	Data-based farming and resource management
5	GIS/remote sensing resources	Land-use and agricultural analysis
6	Plant resources	Demonstration, propagation and educational activities, where available
7	Water-management technologies	Efficient irrigation and water conservation
8	Renewable-energy technologies	Demonstration of sustainable energy applications
9	Faculty expertise	Technical advice and knowledge transfer
10	Student projects	Field-based technological and agricultural solutions
11	Library/digital resources	Access to relevant knowledge and literature
12	Training facilities	Workshops, demonstrations and capacity building

5. Sustainable Farming Areas Supported

5.1 Sustainable Soil Management

- Soil health awareness
- Soil testing and interpretation, where facilities permit
- Nutrient management
- Reduction of excessive chemical inputs
- Organic matter management
- Soil conservation

5.2 Sustainable Water Management

- Efficient irrigation
- Water-use monitoring
- Rainwater harvesting
- Soil-moisture monitoring
- Water conservation technologies



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- Reduction of agricultural water wastage

5.3 Smart and Precision Agriculture

- IoT-based agricultural monitoring
- Soil-moisture sensors
- Automated irrigation
- Environmental sensors
- Data analytics
- Remote monitoring
- GIS applications
- Other appropriate digital technologies

5.4 Climate-Resilient Agriculture

- Climate-smart agricultural practices
- Drought-resilient practices
- Efficient resource utilisation
- Sustainable crop management
- Adaptation to changing environmental conditions
- Low-carbon agricultural practices

5.5 Sustainable Food Production

- Food-quality awareness
- Hygienic food-production practices
- Sustainable processing technologies
- Food-loss and food-waste reduction
- Appropriate packaging and storage practices
- Resource-efficient production methods

6. Access to University Laboratories and Facilities

Brainware University may provide controlled access to relevant laboratories and facilities for approved community activities. Such access may be provided through supervised laboratory visits, demonstration sessions, sample-testing support, technology demonstrations, training programmes, faculty consultation and collaborative research projects.



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Community members shall not independently operate restricted equipment or enter controlled laboratory areas without appropriate authorisation and supervision. All laboratory access shall comply with laboratory safety procedures, equipment operating procedures, environmental requirements, biosafety requirements where applicable, and applicable statutory regulations.

7. Access to Plant Resources and Demonstration Materials

Where appropriate plant resources, demonstration plots, nursery facilities or other relevant resources are available, the University may facilitate controlled access for demonstration of sustainable cultivation practices, plant propagation awareness, educational activities, community training, crop-management demonstrations and biodiversity awareness. Any distribution or transfer of plant material shall comply with applicable laws, institutional procedures and intellectual-property or biodiversity-related requirements.

8. Technology Transfer and Demonstration

The University shall encourage the transfer of appropriate technologies developed or demonstrated through its academic and research activities. Priority may be given to technologies supporting water conservation, sustainable irrigation, soil monitoring, renewable energy, waste reduction, food processing, agricultural automation, environmental monitoring, climate resilience and efficient resource utilisation.

Technology demonstrations may be conducted through farmer training programmes, field demonstrations, workshops, exhibitions, student projects and community engagement programmes.

9. Faculty and Student Participation

Faculty members may provide technical and academic support through expert lectures, technical consultations, training programmes, demonstrations, field visits, problem identification and collaborative research. Students may participate through approved project work, internships, field studies, community engagement activities, innovation projects and capstone projects. Such activities shall be academically supervised and appropriately documented.

10. Community Request and Access Procedure

A farmer, farmer group or food producer seeking access to university resources may submit a request to the designated University authority. The request may include the applicant's name



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and contact details, nature of agricultural activity, problem or requirement, facility/technology requested, number of beneficiaries, proposed date and expected outcome.

The designated authority shall evaluate the request based on relevance to sustainable agriculture or food production, availability of the requested facility, technical feasibility, safety requirements, availability of faculty/technical personnel, resource requirements and applicable institutional and legal requirements.

11. Priority Areas for Community Support

- Small and marginal farmers
- Resource-constrained farming communities
- Water-stressed agricultural areas
- Climate-related agricultural challenges
- Sustainable food production
- Food-loss reduction
- Technology access gaps
- Environmentally sustainable agricultural practices
- Projects with demonstrable community benefits

12. Financial Provisions

The University may provide access to facilities free of cost, at subsidised cost, or on a cost-recovery basis, depending upon the nature of the facility and activity. Community outreach and SDG-related programmes may be supported through university funds, research projects, consultancy projects, CSR-supported initiatives, sponsored projects, government schemes, community engagement programmes and other permissible funding sources.

13. Safety and Ethical Requirements

- Prior permission
- Registration of participants
- Safety briefing
- Personal protective equipment where required
- Supervised operation of equipment
- Proper handling of samples and materials
- Responsible use of laboratory resources
- Compliance with applicable environmental and statutory regulations



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The University reserves the right to suspend access where safety, security, environmental or ethical requirements are not followed.

14. Intellectual Property and Data

Any intellectual property generated through collaborative activities shall be governed by the University's applicable intellectual-property policy and mutually agreed terms. Community-provided agricultural data, farm information or confidential information shall be handled responsibly and used only for the approved purpose, subject to applicable policies and law.

15. Institutional Responsibilities

15.1 IQAC

- Coordinate quality-related documentation
- Monitor implementation
- Maintain SDG-related evidence
- Facilitate impact assessment
- Integrate outcomes into institutional quality reports

15.2 Office of Research & Development

- Facilitate technology transfer
- Identify relevant research outputs
- Promote community-oriented research
- Facilitate research collaboration

15.3 Concerned Academic Departments

- Identify appropriate expertise and facilities
- Nominate faculty coordinators
- Support training and demonstrations
- Maintain activity records

15.4 Community Engagement Cell

- Identify local community requirements
- Coordinate outreach programmes
- Maintain beneficiary records



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- Facilitate interaction with farmers and food producers

15.5 Faculty and Students

Faculty members and students shall participate in approved activities in accordance with university rules and safety requirements.

16. Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals

This Policy primarily contributes to SDG 2 – Zero Hunger by supporting sustainable agriculture, agricultural knowledge transfer, technology adoption and food-production capacity.

- ❖ SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation: efficient water management
- ❖ SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy: renewable-energy applications
- ❖ SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: technology transfer and innovation
- ❖ SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production: resource efficiency and food-waste reduction
- ❖ SDG 13 – Climate Action: climate-resilient and low-resource agricultural practices
- ❖ SDG 15 – Life on Land: sustainable land and biodiversity practices

17. Expected Outcomes

- Improved access to agricultural knowledge and technologies
- Increased awareness of sustainable farming
- Improved resource-use efficiency
- Enhanced farmer capacity
- Increased adoption of appropriate technologies
- Stronger university–community collaboration
- Greater student engagement with real-world agricultural challenges
- Increased application of university research for community benefit
- Contribution to sustainable food production and food security

18. Review of the Policy

This Policy shall be reviewed periodically by the designated University authority in consultation with relevant Departments, IQAC, Research & Development and Community Engagement representatives. The Policy may be revised in response to changes in statutory requirements, technological developments, community needs, institutional priorities, SDG reporting requirements or recommendations arising from implementation reviews.