



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

Shaping Lives...

Empowering Communities...

**POLICY TO
ENSURE
SUSTAINABLY
HARVESTED
AQUATIC FOOD
2024**

POLICY TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLY HARVESTED AQUATIC FOOD 2024



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CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT
ODISHA

FOREWORD



At Centurion University of Technology and Management, our commitment to sustainability extends to every aspect of our operations, including our responsibility to promote environmentally conscious food practices. The *Aquatic Food Sustainability Policy* is a reflection of our dedication to protecting aquatic ecosystems while ensuring the responsible sourcing and consumption of aquatic food products within our campus community.

This policy outlines our approach to sustainable practices in the procurement and use of aquatic resources, emphasizing the importance of supporting fisheries and suppliers that adhere to sustainable harvesting practices. By doing so, we not only contribute to the preservation of marine and freshwater ecosystems but also foster a culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship among our students, faculty, and staff.

The *Aquatic Food Sustainability Policy* reinforces our mission to lead by example, demonstrating how responsible choices can make a meaningful difference in protecting natural resources for future generations. I encourage all members of the university to actively engage with this policy and to consider the environmental impact of their choices in daily life.

Together, we can ensure that Centurion University remains at the forefront of sustainability, promoting practices that benefit both our community and the planet.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Supriya Pattanayak".

Prof. (Dr.) Supriya Pattanayak
Vice-Chancellor
Centurion University of Technology and Management

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Policy to Ensure Sustainably Harvested Aquatic Food

Preamble

The Aquatic Food Sustainability Policy of the university reflects our commitment to fostering responsible and sustainable practices in the sourcing, consumption, and management of aquatic food resources. This policy aims to promote environmental stewardship by encouraging the use of sustainable fisheries and suppliers while minimizing the impact on marine and freshwater ecosystems. Through this initiative, we seek to ensure that our university community contributes to the preservation of aquatic biodiversity and natural resources while supporting long-term sustainability in food practices that benefit both current and future generations.

1. Objective:

The objective of this policy is to source, utilize and manage the aquatic food procured from aquatic bodies in and around the university in a sustainable way without affecting the environment.

2. Policy Guidelines:

2.1. Local and Responsible Fish Seed Suppliers:

The university prioritizes the source of the fish seeds for stocking of ponds and aquatic bodies belonging to the university from the suppliers adhering to sustainable management.

The university partners with local suppliers who follow responsible hatchery management. In addition to these suppliers, seeds are also produced from in-house hatcheries by following good management practices. In addition, the stocking is done in the nearby community ponds and managed to increase the production of fish for the locals. The seed quality will be checked before stocking into the aquatic systems.

2.2. Aquaculture practices:

The university follows sustainable aquaculture practices without involving harmful antibiotics and synthetic growth promoters. The feed required for the aquaculture is

produced in the in-house fish feed mill. Locally sourced organic ingredients are used for fish feed production. The water quality used for the aquaculture practices is maintained in a responsible manner without affecting the environment.

2.3. Sustainable Harvesting of Aquatic Animals:

The university will work to form associations with regional vendors who use ethical and sustainable harvesting practices. To guarantee adherence to the guidelines, suppliers will have to furnish documentation and proof of their sustainable practices.

2.4. Selection of regional species:

The meal selections at CUTM will be based on regional fisheries patterns and seasonal availability. The focus will be on promoting seafood options that are in season and locally sourced to lessen the environmental impact of transportation.

2.5. Exclusion of Endangered or Threatened Species:

The university is committed to strictly prohibit procuring aquatic food involving endangered or threatened species. In this way, the policy will help in the conservation of species from the aquatic environment which is on the verge of extinction. Also, the policy aims to avoid the introduction of invasive species which threaten the survival of commercially important species.

2.6. Waste Reduction:

The people in the university consuming the food from aquatic sources are encouraged for responsible consumption to reduce the food waste. The portion size is controlled to minimize food waste associated with the aquatic ecosystem. In addition, proper storage practices are followed to reduce unnecessary waste and promote efficient resource use. There is also an organic waste management facility in the university to convert any food waste generated into organic manure to be used in agriculture or gardening practices.

2.7. Awareness:

The university conducts seminars, webinars, educational campaigns, and awareness programs to enlighten students, faculty, and staff about the importance of sustainable seafood choices and the impact of their food choices on aquatic ecosystems. This will

include information on sustainable fishing practices, responsible aquaculture, and the significance of maintaining healthy aquatic environment.

2.8. Being updated:

The university will regularly review and update the policy to align with the newest developments in sustainable fishing and aquaculture practices. Feedback from stakeholders and industry experts within the country will be considered in the continuous improvement process.

2.9. Implementation:

The university will appoint a Sustainability Committee responsible for overseeing the implementation and monitoring of this policy. The committee will collaborate with campus dining services, suppliers, and relevant stakeholders to ensure compliance with the sustainable harvesting practices outlined in this policy.

By adhering to this policy, the university aims to contribute to the preservation of aquatic ecosystems, support sustainable fishing communities in the country, and foster a culture of responsible consumption and environmental conservation on campus.

3. Approval and Review

This policy has been approved by the university administration and will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with current laws and best practices. Any amendments to the policy will be communicated to the university community.



Dr. Anita Patra
Registrar
Centurion University of Technology and Management





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CAMPUSES:

Paralakhemundi Campus

Village Alluri Nagar
P.O. – R Sitapur, Via- Uppalada
Paralakhemundi, Dist.- Gajapati
Odisha, India. PIN– 761211

Bhubaneswar Campus

Ramchandrapur
P.O. – Jatni, Bhubaneswar
Dist.- Khurda, Odisha,
India, PIN– 752050

Balangir Campus

Behind BSNL Office
IDCO land, Rajib Nagar
Dist.- Balangir, Odisha
India, PIN-767001

Rayagada Campus

IDCO Industrial Area
Pitamahal, Rayagada
Dist.-Rayagada, Odisha
India, PIN-765001

Balasore Campus

Gopalpur,
P.O.-Balasore
Dist.-Balasore, Odisha
India, PIN-756044

Chatrapur Campus

Ramchandrapur,
Kaliabali Chhak,
P.O-Chatrapur, Dist.-Ganjam
Odisha, India, PIN-761020