Sustainability Development Report

2024-25

SDG 17

Partnerships for the Goals

Executive summary

The Institute of Engineering and Management (IEM), Kolkata, advances SDG 17 through robust partnerships across academia, industry, government, and civil society for the 2024-25 reporting year. Key highlights include 27 active MoUs, 2809 research/exchange activities, incubation of 219 startups, and collaborations with entities like Reliance, IBM, and global universities such as Harvard and Columbia. Achievements feature top global rankings (1001st worldwide, 1st in West Bengal), funded projects from ICSSR/UNFCCC, and extensive community outreach engaging over 5500 participants, fostering innovation, capacity-building, and sustainable impact.

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Preamble

IEM Kolkata fully embraces Sustainable Development Goal 17 by strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing global partnerships for sustainable development. The institute actively fosters collaborations across academia, government, industry, and civil society to accelerate transformative action, innovation, and capacity-building for all SDGs.

Vision and Mission

- **Vision:** To be a hub for multi-sectoral partnerships advancing research, education, and sustainable development outcomes.
- **Mission:** To build strong domestic and international linkages that catalyze innovation, knowledge exchange, resource mobilization, and social impact.

Program and Initiatives

- Collaborated with Reliance Industries, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Akashvani, LTIMindtree, Capgemini, IBM, CSIR-NEERI, and global universities for internships, consultancy, research, teaching, and incubation programs.
- Supported 219 startups incubated through Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centers.
- Signed multiple MoUs including with S.N. Bose Centre and international universities for joint sustainability research, curriculum development, and conferences.
- Secured national and international sustainability research grants (ICSSR, UNFCCC funding).
- Published SDG 17 progress in global rankings, achieving position 1001 globally and 1st in West Bengal.
- Engaged students and faculty through Rotary, Lions, IEEE, Entrepreneurship Cell, and student clubs in outreach, innovation projects, and community welfare.
- Enabled multi-institutional study-abroad programs and international academic exchanges.
- Strengthened community health, environment, and social welfare projects through partnerships and student outreach (482 students engaged in community programs).

Research and Innovation Partnerships

- MoUs signed with Harvard Business School, Columbia University, University of British Columbia, and Iwate Prefectural University for joint research and exchanges.
- IBM Centre for Advanced Studies was established for fostering innovation and technology transfer.
- 219 student ventures launched and more than 144 patents filed recently, indicating strong entrepreneurship development.

- Hosted and participated in global conferences, including IEEE IEMCON, UEMCON, and EIRTM.

Capacity Building and Community Engagement

- Frequent community outreach programs organized via student clubs such as Lions, Rotary, Inner Wheel involving food distribution, vaccination, blood donation, tree plantation, and educational support for underprivileged groups.
- Students actively participate in leadership and awareness activities through platforms like Model United Nations, Toastmasters, and international conferences.
- Wide range of workshops, training, and skill development programs including LaTeX paper-writing, robotics, cybersecurity, and entrepreneurship.
- Study abroad programs and international collaborations provide cross-cultural learning and research exposure tied to SDG challenges.

Data and Metrics

Category and Metric/Indicator	Value/Number
Partnerships (MoUs)	27 functional MoUs with academic, industrial, international partners
Research & Exchange Activities	2809 research and exchange activities during the year
Startups Incubated	219 startups supported through incubation
Funded Research Projects	Funded projects via ICSSR, UNFCCC, and Ministry of Environment and different government and private bodies
Student Community Outreach Participants	Over 5500 participants through nearly 50 outreach programs
Global Ranking (Times Higher Education)	Ranked 1001 worldwide for SDG 17, 1st in West Bengal

Challenges and Opportunities

- Securing adequate external funding for sustainability projects remains a challenge; internal grant management ensures fund efficiency.
- Rapid industry changes require continuous faculty training and curriculum updates to align with evolving sustainability and professional demands.
- Expanding deeper collaborations and joint initiatives with varied sectors enhance the knowledge transfer and AI-driven innovation impact.

- Increasing scale and diversity of community outreach and inclusive partnerships demand more resource mobilization and coordination.

Annual Goals (2025-26)

- Expand joint research projects with global and local partners to develop innovative, sustainable solutions aligned with SDG targets.
- Launch additional international academic exchange fellowships and joint degree programs to enhance global knowledge exchange and capacity-building.
- Extend rural development and sustainability incubation initiatives focused on underserved communities.
- Foster public-private partnerships dedicated to innovations in energy, water, climate, and digital technologies addressing environmental and societal challenges.
- Develop digital repositories and collaborative platforms for open access to SDG-related research and multi-stakeholder dialogue enhancing transparency and impact.
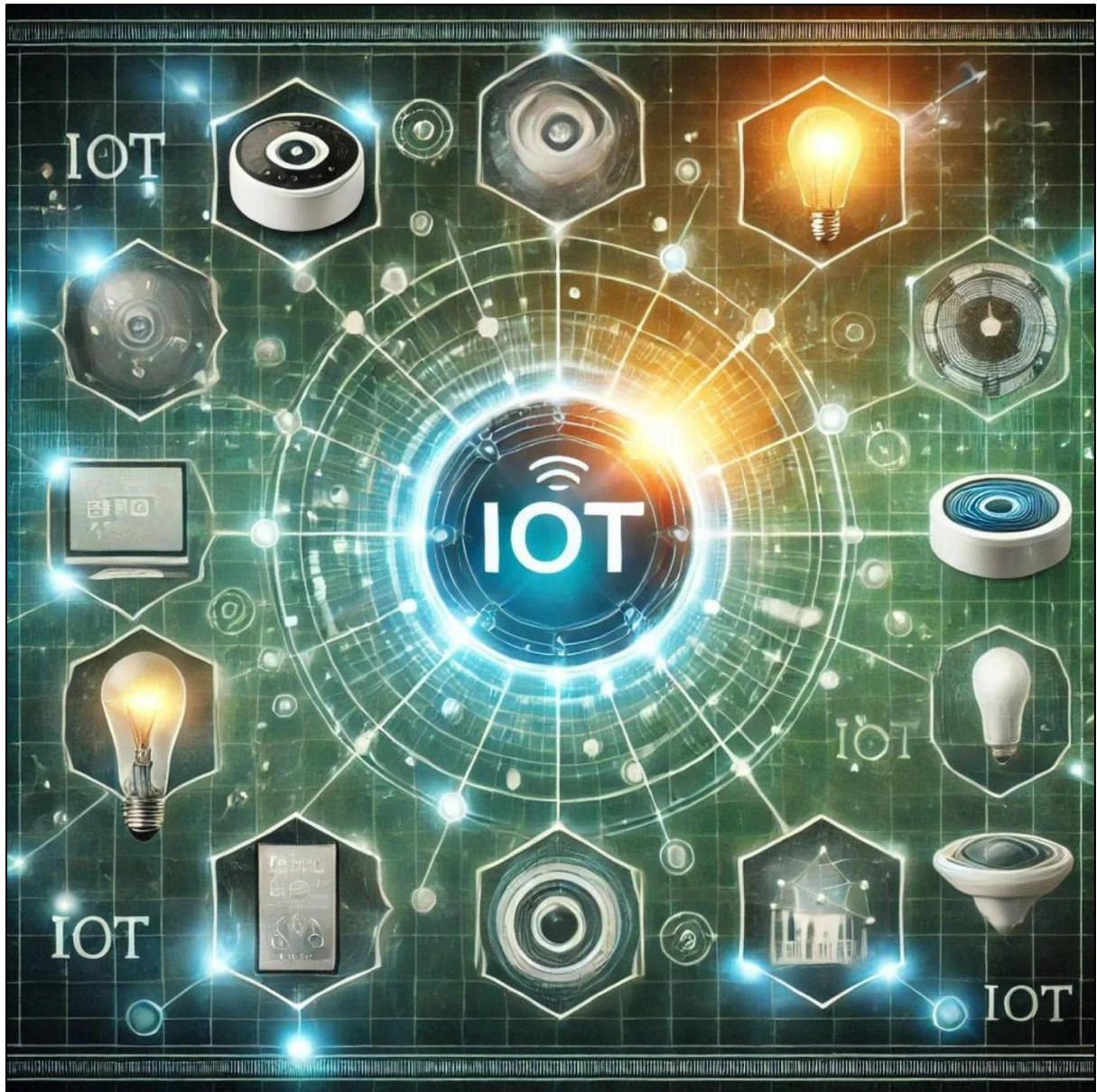
Photo Gallery

MoU Signed between CSIR-NEERI and IEM-UEM Group

MOU with IBM to establish India's first IBM CAS (Centre for Advanced Studies)

Collaboration between TATA Group and the corporate division of IEM-UEM group in co-developing cutting-edge Industrial IoT products

MoU with Algebra University Zagreb, Croatia

Agreement with Google to onboard all 12500 faculty and students on Google Campus 2.0 on Google Cloud