

Cooperation on Water Security

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER), Mysuru, plays an active and strategic role in strengthening **water security** at the local, regional, national, and international levels through sustained cooperation with government agencies, public authorities, research institutions, and international organisations. These collaborations focus on sustainable water management, river and lake conservation, pollution control, community education, and long-term water resource protection.

The University's initiatives contribute directly to **SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)**, **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)** and are integrated into its academic, research, NSS and community outreach activities.

1. Cooperation with Local Government Bodies and Municipal Authorities

a) Collaboration with Mysuru City Corporation

JSS AHER regularly works in coordination with the **Mysuru City Corporation** for activities related to:

- Community cleanliness drives
- Lake and drain protection
- Solid waste management
- Prevention of water pollution

Examples include:

- Active participation in **Swachhatha Sarvekshan programmes**
- Handing over collected waste to municipal vehicles for scientific disposal
- Joint awareness drives at Kukkarahalli Lake, hostels, and surrounding residential areas

These initiatives directly contribute to:

- Protection of urban water bodies
- Prevention of drainage contamination
- Improvement of surface and groundwater quality

2. Cooperation with State Government Agencies

a) Collaboration with Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute (EMPRI), Government of Karnataka

One of JSS AHER's most impactful collaborations is with **EMPRI (Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute), Karnataka**, through the State-sponsored **Environment Education Programme (EEP)**.

Key cooperative initiatives include:

- **Cauvery River Cleaning Drive at Srirangapatna**
 - Organised jointly by JSS AHER and EMPRI
 - Removal of plastic waste, fabrics, and religious offerings left by pilgrims
 - Restoration of riverbank ecology
 - Contribution to improved water quality
- **“Swachhata Savaari” Campaign under LiFE Mission**
 - Conducted in association with EMPRI
 - Promotes sustainable lifestyles and water conservation practices
 - Included psychological and behavioural interventions for communities
- **Nature Walk & Water Conservation Awareness at Kukkarahalli Lake**
 - Jointly organised for students from different institutions
 - Focused on lake conservation and urban water security
 - Involved over 300 participants including the local community

These programmes are part of Karnataka Government’s larger mission on environmental sustainability, and JSS AHER acts as a **key academic implementing partner**.

3. Cooperation with Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB)

JSS AHER has cooperative engagement with the **Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB)** for:

- Water conservation awareness programmes
- Pollution control education
- Safe disposal awareness
- Protection of water bodies from industrial and domestic pollution

This cooperation strengthens student capacity and community-level understanding of water regulation, compliance and environmental responsibility.

4. Cooperation with National-Level Government Programmes

JSS AHER aligns and actively participates in national water and sanitation programmes such as:

- **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan**
- **Swachhata Hi Seva**
- **Jal Shakti Abhiyan**
- **LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) Mission**

Through its **NSS, NCC, Department of Environmental Sciences and Department of Community Medicine**, the institution supports national objectives by:

- Organising river and lake cleaning drives
- Educating communities on water conservation

- Preventing contamination of surface and groundwater
- Promoting water-efficient and sustainable practices

These are implemented in coordination with **local administration, health departments, and educational authorities.**

5. Cooperation with Health and Water Authorities through Public Health Programmes

JSS AHER, through:

- **JSS Urban Health Centre**
- **Department of Community Medicine**
- **JSS Jan Shikshan Sansthan**

works with government health systems to address water-related public health issues, including:

- **Dengue & Malaria prevention programmes**
- **Cholera awareness and prevention campaigns**
- **Water-borne disease control education**

These programmes focus on:

- Eliminating stagnant water
- Safe water storage
- Proper drainage
- Community-level water sanitation management

By linking water security to disease prevention, JSS AHER strengthens the government's public health and water safety agenda.

6. Cooperation with Global and International Organisations

JSS AHER extends its cooperation on water security beyond national borders through academic and research partnerships with international organisations such as:

a) **SCOPE, Netherlands**

(Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment)

- Collaborative research and exchange in environmental protection
- Sustainable water governance and conservation studies
- Capacity building for global water challenges

b) **NAM S&T Centre**

(Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries)

- Joint focus on sustainable development technologies
- Research in **water resource management and conservation**

- Support to water-stressed developing countries

These cooperative efforts contribute to the global water security discourse and technology-sharing.

7. Academic Cooperation through Field Visits to Government Water Institutions

Students and faculty regularly engage with government water infrastructure through structured visits to:

- **Vani Vilas Water Treatment Plant, Mysuru (Government facility)**
- **Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Mysuru (Municipal facility)**
- **Solid Waste Management Plants**

These visits strengthen academic–government linkages by:

- Providing technical exposure to water treatment operations
- Building human resource capacity in sustainable water management
- Supporting the government with informed and trained professionals

8. Community-Level Cooperation in Adopted Villages, Lakes and Ponds

JSS AHER formally adopts nearby communities and water bodies through:

- National Service Scheme (NSS)
- Environmental programmes
- Community extension activities

In coordination with local Panchayats and district authorities, the University:

- Conducts restoration drives
- Promotes protection of ponds, wells and lakes
- Educates villagers on sustainable water extraction and conservation
- Prevents contamination at the source

This supports **local governance structures** in achieving water security goals.

Conclusion

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research demonstrates **strong, multi-level cooperation with government and global agencies on water security** through:

- Partnerships with **Mysuru City Corporation**
- Collaboration with **EMPRI (Govt. of Karnataka)**
- Engagement with **Karnataka State Pollution Control Board**
- Participation in national missions like **Swachh Bharat and Jal Shakti**
- Cooperation with **SCOPE (Netherlands)** and **NAM S&T Centre**
- Joint activities with **health, municipal and environmental authorities**

These efforts strengthen water security by:

- Protecting major water bodies (Cauvery River, Kukkarahalli Lake)
- Preventing pollution
- Supporting sustainable extraction
- Promoting community resilience
- Building capacity for future water governance

Through its integrated and collaborative model, JSS AHER plays an active and recognised role in advancing **local, regional, national and global water security initiatives**, clearly fulfilling the criteria for “**Cooperation on Water Security**” as required by international ranking frameworks.