

Gokulram Azhaguvel (he/him)

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PROFILE

Mechanical Engineer specialising in industrial ecology. Experienced in on-campus sustainability initiatives. Managed projects on industrial symbiosis, community sensitisation workshops, and climate education. Passionate about leading greener transitions in organisations that are socially responsible.

EDUCATION

Leiden University and TU Delft Netherlands
MSc in Industrial Ecology 2025-27

Anant National University India
Fellowship in Sustainability and Built Environment 2017-18
Dissertation: Industrial symbiosis - exploring the challenges in India.

Anna University India
BE Mechanical Engineering (CGPA: 7.22/10) 2013-17
Dissertation: Performance of aluminium anode with zinc addition in seawater for corrosion resistance.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Anant National University India
Manager Operations and Applied Research, School for Climate Action 09/2018-07/2025

- Spearheaded a key research study on industrial symbiosis at Naroda Industrial Estate, resulting in the publication of "Industrial Symbiosis in India - Challenge or Opportunity? Learnings from a Study of Naroda Industrial Estate".
- Designed and delivered applied research in industrial ecology to undergraduate engineering students. Delivered theory courses on social innovation, climate heritage and design, technology and society to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Managed the Anant Fellowship for Climate Action, a global immersive programme that attracted over 5,000 overseas applicants from 78 countries within four years.
- Budgeted and managed academic and operational activities, ensuring smooth execution for the BTEch in Climate Change, Anant Fellowship for Climate Action and Centre for Sustainability.
- Managed the establishment of 27 COVID-19 recovery facilities across six states, including critical services like temporary beds, emergency autorickshaws, and oxygen ambulances.
- Managed decision making meetings and coached team members to drive operational excellence and effective project execution. Coordinated with external stakeholders for partnerships to integrate academic initiatives. Led campus sustainability, including waste management.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Anant National University** **India**
Researcher, Centre for Sustainability 2018-21
1. Industrial symbiosis in India - A study at Naroda Industrial Estate 2018-21
 - Devised survey questionnaire and gathered primary data on resources from 65 manufacturing companies, a cluster of informal waste recovery markets, and statutory authorities in Naroda Industrial Estate, GIDC-Ahmedabad. Analysed the data to develop frameworks for industrial symbiosis implementation in India. Presented the research findings at several platforms including the World Resources Institute India and University of Surrey, UK.
 2. Investigating the carbon savings of traditional lime masonry building techniques in India 2018
 - Conducted an exhaustive literature review for the research team and managed the project.

Fellowship in Sustainability and Built Environment **India**
Fellow, Anant National University 2017-18

1. Industrial symbiosis - exploring the challenges in India
 - Valorised of iron oxide and lime sludge from a steel manufacturing company into sustainable building blocks using the rammed earth method.

Anna University **India**
Undergraduate student, BE in Mechanical Engineering 2013-17

1. Cathodic protection to prevent corrosion in marine vessels 2017
 - Developed an aluminium anode composition to enhance corrosion resistance in a ship's hull. Conducted electrochemical polarisation test to study corrosion development.
2. Traction mechanism in automobile 2016
 - Designed an affordable locking differential system for Indian autorickshaws and built a working prototype. Examined the existing locking differential mechanisms, their benefits, and limitations.

PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES

Publications

- Gokulram A, Shaping tomorrow – Climate engineers as catalysts for a sustainable future, The Times of India, 2023. (view [article](#))
- Gokulram A and Dr Abhishek Kumar, Industrial symbiosis in India - Challenge or Opportunity? Learnings from a study of Naroda Industrial Estate, Gujarat, Anant Centre for Sustainability, Anant National University, 06/2021. (view [report](#))
- Performance of aluminium anode by addition of zinc in sea water - A Review, Journal of latest engineering research and application, volume 03, issue 05, 05/2018. (view [article](#))
- A study of the performance of aluminium anode by addition of zinc in sea water, SSRG International Journal of Mechanical Engineering, 04/2017. (view [article](#))

Conference

- Gokulram A, Industrial symbiosis in India - an exploration of an Indian industrial estate, International Conference on Resource Sustainability, University of Surrey, 08/2023.
- Gokulram and Akhil Reddy, Industrial symbiosis model and coping traditional sustainable practice with the circular economy, International conference on multi-disciplinary approach towards sustainable development, 02/2019.

Chapters in book publication

- Gokulram and Akhil Reddy, Industrial symbiosis model and coping traditional sustainable practice with circular economy, chapter publication in an edited book titled “Multi-Disciplinary approach towards sustainable development”, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bookwell publisher, New Delhi, 02/2020.

Documentary

- Circular Economy in India: Exploring the challenges, Disruptive Innovation Festival – Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 11/2018. (view [article](#))

SHORT TERM COURSES COMPLETED

- Climatebase fellowship (Cohort VI), 06/2024 – 08/2024.
- Creating sustainable organisation: Role of marketing, finance and operations management, Indian Institute of Forest Management, 05/2024.
- Climate models, Divecha Centre for Climate Change, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, 07/2023.
- Designing leadership for impact in changing context, University of Pennsylvania, 05/2023.
- Financial management, Loyola Institute of Business Administration, 07/2017-09/2017.

Technical skills: Lifecycle assessment, MATLAB, sustainable materials analysis, waste to wealth management, circular economy strategies, financial planning and policy analysis.

Soft skills: Interdisciplinary collaboration, critical thinking and problem-solving, analytical and presentation skills, adaptability.