

Environmental Responsibility Policy

Approved by:	Greenpeace Australia Pacific Board
Date of Approval	May 8, 2024
Date of Commencement	Approval + 1 Business Day
Policy Owner	Chief Operating Officer
Date of Next Review	Approval + 3 Years

Purpose

1. Greenpeace Australia Pacific (GPAP) is committed to reducing its carbon footprint wherever possible, while maintaining and increasing its effectiveness as a campaigning organisation.
2. Subject to 3, the purpose of this policy is to orientate GPAP Operations to be specifically mindful of and minimise the environmental impact of our actions.
3. GPAP's mission is to secure an earth capable of securing life in all of its magnificent diversity. We acknowledge that as well as seeking to minimise our climate footprint and environmental impact, we also need to campaign as effectively as possible to achieve our mission and strategic objectives at scale and with urgency, have regard to financial and operational considerations, maintain our integrity and work within the confines of the carbon economy that we seek to transform. As such, this policy provides general guidance rather than specific directions and is not intended to supplant our theory of change. Putting this another way, we consider the reasonable environmental impact of effective and proportionate Operations carried out in pursuit of our mission are justified. The small quantity of greenhouse gases that are emitted in order to achieve the far greater gain of shutting down the gas industry's expansion plans, for example, are on balance acceptable. Conversely, to limit necessary operations (and achievement of our mission) to achieve short term immediate reductions in environmental impact would be both irresponsible and inconsistent with our theory of change. We seek an appropriate balance, consistent with our mission and values.

Scope

4. This policy applies to all People who are acting under the direction of Greenpeace Australia Pacific and extends to activities and transactions in all countries in which Greenpeace Australia Pacific operates permanently, periodically or occasionally.

Definitions

5. The following words have the following meaning in this policy:
 - a. **Employee (Employees)** means a salaried employee of Greenpeace Australia Pacific (or of another entity within the Greenpeace network seconded to work in Australia or the Pacific) whether full time, part time, permanent, contracted or casual, but does not include a third party contractor or Volunteer.
 - b. **Energy Efficiency** is the goal of reducing the amount of energy required to provide GPAP Operations including (but not limited to) business travel, premises, equipment including vehicles and actions.
 - c. **GPAP Operations** means any activities carried on by, for or on behalf of Greenpeace Pacific Limited.
 - d. **People** means Employees and Volunteers under the direction of (deployed by) Greenpeace Australia Pacific and members of the Board of Directors.
 - e. **Volunteer** means a person who gives their time to Greenpeace Australia Pacific willingly in support of its Objects without expectation of pay or the creation of an employment relationship.

Policy

6. Greenpeace Australia Pacific commits to:
 - a. Providing a safe and healthy workplace environment wherever possible;
 - b. Meeting all applicable legislative and other environmental requirements and where appropriate, exceeding or supplementing these by setting our own standards;
 - c. In consultation with GPI and subject to group reporting requirements, publishing details of our environmental performance in our annual report to GPI;
 - d. Conserving energy by improving energy efficiency, minimising wastage and giving preference to renewable over non-renewable energy sources when available;
 - e. Seeking to reduce consumption of materials in our operations, reusing rather than disposing whenever possible, promoting recycling, using recycled materials, and disposing of waste safely and responsibly;
 - f. Where it is necessary to dispose of equipment, exploring options for reuse outside of our organisation, recycling or responsible disposal;

- g. Wherever possible, adopting energy efficient design in our premises, purchasing energy efficient equipment and managing energy wisely;
 - h. Prioritising public transport accessibility in determining the location of offices and other working places;
 - i. Reducing the level of harmful emissions wherever practical;
 - j. Working in partnership with and stimulating our supporters to minimise the impact of their operations on the environment;
 - k. Working with suppliers who promote sound environmental practices and purchase products that meet or exceed environmental guidelines, where possible; and
 - l. Contributing to decreased meat and fish consumption and supporting sustainable and low environmental impact practices with respect to the sourcing, delivery and consumption of food.
7. This policy is an Integrity Policy.

Procedures

Travel

8. People are expected to consider the environment and financial impact of any travel they undertake. This means that every journey should be essential and arranged as economically as possible.
9. Where possible public transport should be used, rather than taxis and hire cars etc especially in major cities. This may not be practical or desirable in which case taxis, hire cars and private cars may be used where:
- a. There would be significant savings in time and/or money;
 - b. Several people are travelling together and using public transport is more expensive per head;
 - c. When carrying large amounts of luggage that would be cumbersome to take on public transport;
 - d. to ensure personal safety or well being;
 - e. physical incapacity or unsuitable weather conditions;
 - f. there is another valid reason for which you have sought approval.
10. People are supported to walk, cycle or use public transport from their residence to and from work (in particular the office).

11. Flights should be minimised by using rail, bus or car for transport between locations where that is a reasonable option having regard to the duration of the trip (for example, between Sydney and Canberra). Staff should plan, if possible, to spend longer periods of time in destination cities so as to maximise travel and campaign efficiencies and to make road/rail transport more realistic.
12. Specifically, short haul flights between Canberra and Sydney, and Nadi and Suva should be avoided except if combined with an onward flight.
13. International travel needs to be minimised except for essential planning meetings, skill shares and campaign activities and other high gain activities consistent with our mission and strategy.
14. Greenpeace does not acquire carbon offsets.

Food

15. These procedures apply to all foods that are purchased by the organisation, including at any event or meeting that is paid for by Greenpeace Australia Pacific.
16. While People are encouraged to follow these procedures, they do not apply to individual food purchases made by Greenpeace Australia Pacific People using their own money, whether that money be destined for reimbursement (including by means of per diem) or not.
17. We purchase foods that are ecologically-grown, local and seasonal, unless these are not available.
18. We will prioritise food that has the lowest environmental impact.
19. We will avoid purchasing animal products for consumption.
20. We will minimise food waste, and only purchase necessary quantities of food.
21. Exceptions to this policy will be made in rare circumstances, including the following:
 - a. The catering includes specific needs to accommodate individual staff member(s) specific medical condition (eg allergies, anaemia, diabetes); and
 - b. Options for purchasing foods subject to this policy do not exist. This exception is to be understood in the context of our regional operating environment where availability of food varies widely from country to country and region to region.
 - c. Specifically in light of cultural sensibilities where conformity to this policy may cause offence or impact on social licence.

Other Relevant Resources

22. [GP EDM Environmental Policy Statement](#)

23. [GPAP Expense Management Policy](#)
24. [GPI Sustainable Food Policy](#)
25. [Global Textile Procurement Standard](#)