

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



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STATEMENT OF POLICY

LiteHaus International recognises that ecological sustainability is the responsibility of the whole organisation and endeavours to embed ecological principles in all aspects of decision making as they pertain to the individual, collective and systematic practices of the organisation. LiteHaus International (LHI) is committed to maintaining an open and honest dialogue with staff, volunteers, stakeholders and the community about the environmental sustainability performance of its operations, services and products.

INTRODUCTION

LiteHaus International recognises its responsibility to achieve environmental sustainability through effective management of its organisation, distribution of products and services, and the review and renewal of practices pertaining to sustained changes in human decisions, actions and behaviours. The organisation's commitment to future generations ensures its stewardship and governance processes are responsibly sustainable and attentive to the needs of the environment.

RATIONALE

This policy will better enable LiteHaus International to apply a sustainability lens to its activities and operations in order to minimise its impact on the environment. It will also assist the organisation to consider, find and implement meaningful ways to minimise its impact on the environment and contribute to solutions that seek to limit climate change.

The purpose of this policy and its procedures is to guide LiteHaus International in:

- responding to the challenges of climate change
- integrating a philosophy of sustainability in its activities and standards
- embedding and promoting sound environmental practices in all operations, services and products
- fostering responsible, sustainable and climate-conscious decisions and behaviours at an organisational level, including among management, staff, volunteers, stakeholders, suppliers, the clients we serve and the people we work with.

POLICY

LiteHaus International is committed to minimising its impact on the environment, fostering sustainability, repairing past harms and seeking improved future outcomes by:

- i. acknowledging and learning from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' ways of knowing, being and doing in caring for country
- ii. fostering an organisational culture of sustainability, where responsibility to the environment, climate, climate system and ecosystems is understood and put into practice
- iii. supporting and allowing management, staff, volunteers, stakeholders, suppliers, the clients we serve and the people we work with to:
- iv. better understand the interrelationship between their roles or activities and climate change impacts
- v. engage meaningfully with their emotional responses to climate change and its impacts
- vi. applying a social justice lens when considering the impacts of climate change on different or vulnerable sectors of the community
- vii. identifying, analysing, evaluating, prioritising and addressing the physical, transitional, adaptation and liability risks associated with climate change and establishing board and management-level mandates for climate risk oversight, monitoring and reporting
- viii. avoiding the use of products and practices that contribute to climate change, while promoting and favouring the use of products and practices that are at a minimum climate-neutral or, as a preference, have positive impacts on the environment
- ix. enhancing awareness within LHI and among stakeholders, suppliers, the clients we serve and the people we work with, and the wider community, about our actions in seeking to operate in an environmentally responsible manner
- x. using reasonable endeavours to conduct audits and self-assessments of LHI's compliance with this policy, in order to continually improve our environmental management systems and responses to climate change; and
- xi. maintaining an open and honest dialogue with stakeholders, suppliers, the clients we serve and the people we work with and the wider community about LiteHaus International's performance against this policy.

DEFINITIONS

- **Sustainability** encompasses sustainability of the environment, ecology, people and economy
- **Social justice lens** encompasses the impacts of climate change on different or vulnerable sectors of the community

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of **the Board** (through the Policy and Risk Committee) to establish and maintain policies and procedures and to bring these procedures to the Environmental Sustainability Policy into effect.

It is the responsibility of **the CEO and other executive officers** to ensure the implementation and ongoing observation of these procedures to the Environmental Sustainability Policy.

It is the responsibility of **staff, volunteers and suppliers** to report any environmental concerns to management. Management will use reasonable endeavours to consider any reported concerns and take appropriate action as it sees fit.

PROCEDURES

LiteHaus International will use reasonable endeavours to:

- incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' perspectives on climate change, including through:
 - inviting elders or representatives to share their wisdom at training sessions, functions or events
 - encouraging staff to attend relevant workshops
 - promoting the reading of relevant research, books and reports.
- develop guidelines for management, staff, volunteers, stakeholders, suppliers, the clients we serve and the people we work with staff, volunteers (as the context requires) to adopt sound environmental work practices that incorporate:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' perspectives
 - a social justice lens that considers the impacts of climate change on different or vulnerable sectors of the community
 - the latest in research on the causes, impacts and solutions to climate change
- conserve energy, including by improving energy efficiency
- ensure that its operations, events, services and products are efficient in their use of energy and protective of the environment
- avoid the unnecessary purchase of materials
- reuse and recycle materials, purchase recycled materials and use recyclable packaging or other similar materials
- prevent air, water or other pollution and dispose of waste safely and responsibly
- monitor, consider and reduce supply chain emissions
- give preference to renewable over non-renewable energy sources when feasible

- to contribute to the maintenance and increase of biodiversity through its management of its property
- consider any carbon-offsetting opportunities that may be available
- utilise its knowledge and experience to contribute to environmentally sustainable techniques, technology, knowledge and methods
- meet or exceed all applicable government requirements and voluntary requirements generally observed in its field
- conduct audits and self-assessments of its compliance with the Environmental Sustainability policy and these procedures in order to continually improve its environmental management system
- ensure that staff, volunteers and suppliers are informed of and expected to follow (as the context requires) the Environmental Sustainability Policy and procedures
- ensure:
 - appropriate and relevant training is provided
 - appropriate time, funds or resources are allocated
 - best practice psychological and behavioural change approaches are adopted
 - sustainability practices are embraced and embedded across all areas of the organisation
 - Board, Management and Volunteers are appropriately inducted and trained in their responsibilities for climate risk oversight, monitoring and reporting
 - Board and Management are cognisant of their ongoing responsibilities to identify, analyse, evaluate, prioritise and address the physical, transitional, adaptation and liability risks associated with climate change
 - LHI's banking and finance providers do not invest in fossil fuel industries
 - LHI's investments are not in fossil fuel industries.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- LiteHaus International – Standard Operating Manual
- LiteHaus International – Code of Conduct
- LiteHaus International – Cultural Sensitivity Program (Papua New Guinea)
- LiteHaus International – Sustainable Procurement Guidelines