

# Environmental Policy

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## Board and Management Commitment to Compliance

This Policy sets out the process to measure, understand and act to reduce the operational ecological and carbon footprint of ClientEarth.

ClientEarth commits to continually improving its environmental performance. We intend to halve our carbon emissions from our operations by 2030 and to achieve net zero by 2050.<sup>1</sup> As a baseline we will use emissions from 2023 Carbon Report. This requires us to reduce our emissions, consumption of resources, and waste by ensuring that, where relevant, environmental impacts are considered as fundamental in our decision-making, including in the planning, development and implementation of our work. This also requires us to guide, recommend and encourage staff, trustees and board members to adopt sustainable working practices and behaviours in the office, at home or elsewhere and consider the environmental impact of their decisions. This contributes to creating an organisational culture that pursues the lowest possible environmental (negative) impact option.

This Policy has been approved by ClientEarth's Board and Executive Team and reflects our values.

| Values                     | Application in this Policy                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acting courageously        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We will set ambitious targets to reduce and eliminate emissions from our operations</li></ul>                                             |
| Prizing diverse experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We value diverse experience and seek advice on best practices when implementing this policy</li></ul>                                     |
| Embracing collaboration    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We will work collaboratively with our partners, suppliers and other stakeholders to take action of environmental sustainability</li></ul> |
| Learning continuously      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are committed to improving our environmental performance and will review progress against targets annually</li></ul>                   |
| Opposing injustice         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have zero tolerance for illegal or unethical activity negatively impacting the environment</li></ul>                                   |
| Focusing on impact         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We use resources effectively to minimise emissions and wasted resources</li></ul>                                                         |

## Principles

### What is the Scope of this Policy?

This Policy applies to all ClientEarth entities and staff worldwide, including governance and management board members of all ClientEarth entities, who are expected to use best judgement in applying this Policy, and to play an active part in preventing non-compliance and in promoting best practices.

This policy must be used as guide to other ClientEarth policies and procedures and influence the way we operate in all locations and offices. All ClientEarth policies should be reviewed and adopted in light of this Environmental Policy.

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<sup>1</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, offsets will not be used to meet these targets.

This Policy also applies to activities within the control of ClientEarth, and we encourage other organisations and our Partners to adopt ambitious environmental policies and behaviours. This Policy is thereby publicly accessible on our [Transparency | ClientEarth](#) webpage.

## ClientEarth's Principles-Based Approach to Promoting Sustainable Practices and Reducing its Environmental Impact

ClientEarth has a collective responsibility to adopt and promote sustainable practices and reduce its environmental impact. It is nonetheless recognised that not all best practices recommended in this Environmental Policy can be implemented in all locations where ClientEarth has offices or where staff, trustees or board members work (e.g., it is not always possible to elect our energy provider when renting offices).

ClientEarth will thereby set environmental targets where possible, take actions to monitor, and report on the performance against those targets. As an organisation we will act in a way that reduces our ecological and climate footprint and reinforces and enhances our organisational mission and programmatic work.

Accordingly, we will take all necessary steps to:

1. Reduce energy consumption, (e.g., turning off lights and electronic equipment, including computers, screens and AV systems when leaving the office or a room; and where possible with the agreement of the building owner, install motion sensor lighting);
2. Reduce water consumption by ensuring the efficient use of water: that taps are closed properly, dishwashers are turned on only when full, and that any leaks are repaired as a matter of urgency, etc.;
3. Only undertake travel that is necessary to carry out work;
4. Prioritise walking, cycling, public transport and choose zero emission vehicles as preferred modes of transport pending the situation;
5. Procure energy from renewable and clean energy sources wherever possible;
6. Choose financial and professional services, including banks, insurance, pension and retirement funds providers, without connections to carbon or polluting industries wherever possible and give priority to those that are making positive contributions;
7. Avoid the use of chemicals harmful to the environment and/or human health this includes cleaning products, building and decorating materials, and any other products;
8. Avoid the procurement and use of single-use items or packaging, including single-use plastics, coffee cups and office equipment;
9. Only procure products that are necessary, to minimise consumption
10. Procure consumable products and services that are local and from sustainable supply chains as much as possible;
11. Reduce digital carbon footprint by implementing technologies and championing practices that have a lower impact;

12. Refuse funding (e.g. reimbursement for travel costs or sponsorship of events) from fossil fuel companies and other industry actors who are known to engage in environmental harm. In accordance with our Funder Due Diligence Policy, we undertake checks on all income above £25,000 per annum, or where we have concerns, to ensure that funding is in line with our mission and values.
13. Ensure waste is reduced. Where waste is created, that this is recycled as a priority, eliminating all business waste sent to landfill. Where waste is not under our control (i.e. managed by landlords), we will encourage them to consider such arrangements or look to implement our own waste management system (if and where feasible). Waste electrical equipment will be recycled in accordance with local regulations for reuse or recycling.