



Climate and Environment Policy

The vision of Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) is "solidarity in practice" and all programs and activities are implemented in accordance with the NPA Principles Program. As a proactive civil society actor, the entire organization will contribute towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Climate change and environmental degradation are among the biggest challenges facing humanity today, and their consequences will hit many of the people NPA work with and for. Environmental degradation and climate change threaten people's rights to quality of life, equality and dignity. In this regard, NPA recognizes that we need to reduce our own burden on climate and the environment as much as possible. This is important for protecting life and health and ensuring a just distribution of power and resources. NPA shall maintain its legal obligations for responsible environmental management in the contexts in which we work, and shall support national and international sustainability goals that deal with climate and the environment. Where and when possible, NPA will also go beyond these obligations.

Objectives

1. Norwegian People's Aid shall reduce its negative impact on the climate and environment, including greenhouse gas emissions, pollution to air, water and soil, and degradation of nature and natural resources.
2. Norwegian People's Aid shall analyze the effects of climate change and environmental damage for people and partners we work for, and work based on these analyzes.

To achieve these Norwegian People's Aid will:

1. Continuously assess and analyze potential positive and negative effects of projects and activities on climate and the environment, including how climate change and environmental degradation affect the people we work for and with.
2. Work systematically for continuous reduction of our own climate and environmental footprint, by identifying clear objectives in a separate climate and environmental strategy, establishing a system for monitoring and documenting changes, and maintaining the current environmental certification of NPA Head Office.

3. Implement damage reduction measures where they are most effective in reducing negative and strengthening our positive effect on climate and environment.
4. Actively influence authorities and suppliers to reduce their negative impact on climate and the environment and support partners in their fight for climate adaptation, environmental justice and the right to protect their environment and living conditions.

Scope

All employees of NPA in Norway and in international programs are bound by this climate and environment policy. Members of NPA are encouraged to support the goals of this policy.

Management's responsibility

The NPA Senior Management Team (SMT) is responsible for ensuring that the measures in the environmental action plan meet the objectives of this policy, and that they are implemented. This includes the responsibility to facilitate resources to create and maintain an environmental management system in the organization.

Monitoring and reporting

The SMT gives the Environmental Working Group, based at NPA Head Office, a mandate to review and update this environmental policy and the environmental action plan on an annual basis. The Environmental Working Group is responsible for monitoring and reporting on NPA's annual compliance with this policy, as well as progress in measures taken. It is expected that each department will submit data on related measures to the Environmental Working Group annually. In addition, the Environmental Working Group shall arrange for at least one external evaluation per strategic period to validate the data and make improvements. A copy of this policy shall be publicly available on NPA's website. Employees of NPA will be asked to provide feedback on the implementation and degree of achievement of this policy, and audits will be approved by the SMT.

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Definitions

- **Climate** is a typical weather pattern in a certain area over a certain period of time, often measured as the average of weather and temperature over a 30-year period
- **Climate change** refers to the human induced impact on the climate, escalating after 1850 (for example through deforestation and increased consumption of fossil fuels)
- **Environment** in this context refers specifically to nature including animals, plants, forests, water, soil and air
- **Environmental justice** applies to the social distribution aspects around the use of nature and natural resources
- **Environmental management** is the processes and routines that enable an organization to map its impact on the climate and the environment and reduce its negative impact
- **Greenhouse gas emissions** are emissions into the air of gases that affect the climate and contributes to global warming, for example carbon dioxide (CO₂)