CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY

NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID

actalliance

Climate change and environmental degradation are among some of the most significant and growing challenges to NCA's global goal to save lives and seek justice. NCA strives to create an enabling environment to mitigate environmental impacts and increase resilience to climate change.

The climate crisis is of a structural nature and first and foremost needs political action. However, all individuals, companies and organisations will need to act to combat climate change, including NCA. Our climate and environmental footprints matter, and therefore, we have identified key focus areas. An initial mapping of NCA's carbon footprint across all the areas identified will function as a baseline against annual targets. All specific guidelines for implementation are available in NCA's Operation Manual.

NCA's climate and environmental footprint is the responsibility of all staff. Annual plans for implementing this policy will be prioritised according to greatest environmental impact.

1) Air travel

Air travels represents NCA's biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, NCA staff must fly in order to do their work. Measures are being implemented to reduce the number of flights taken annually. Carbon credits will be purchased in order to compensate for the emissions of flights that must be taken.

Initiatives:

1. Air travel budgets and prioritisation, based on needs analysis, are made for each department and division.
2. Travel approval forms include criteria and assessment for air travel.
3. Carbon credits and costs for offsetting are automatically calculated and added to all flights booked.
4. All NCA offices are equipped for and prioritise the use of digital meetings and webinars.

2) Internal operations in our offices

NCA's offices are a consumer of energy and producer of waste. These are two ways, among others, where our offices have a climate and environmental footprint. NCA aims to reduce the footprint of our offices to a minimum; at head office, country offices and field offices.

Initiatives:

1. Reduction of energy consumption.
2. Renewable energy solutions replace current non-renewable energy sources in all offices where this is feasible.
3. Reduction of water, plastic, electronic and other waste in all offices and minimize the environmental footprint of our fleet.
4. Increase all staff's knowledge and awareness of the carbon footprints of NCA's offices and programmes and encourage personal responsibility.

3) Long-term programming and humanitarian response

As certified towards the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS), NCA commits to implementing the CHS commitments and other sustainability standards in all aspects of our work. To facilitate adherence, harmonisation and mainstreaming of the sustainability standard on environmental sustainability, all NCA supported interventions must report on identified markers for this area.

Initiatives:

1. NCA's Sustainability Standard on environmental sustainability is ensured in all NCA programmes.
2. NCA's programmes and initiatives with an environmental or climatic focus are implemented, scaled-up and broadly communicated through the programme framework period.

3. Environmental impact assessments conducted systematically in order to identify potential negative impacts and mitigate them.
4. Need assessments conducted systematically in order to ensure that NCA only procures items that are needed, and plan for post-project closure of storage units and responsible disposal of equipment.

4) Logistics

The main objective of NCA green logistics is to coordinate the activities within the supply chain in such a way that beneficiary needs are met at "least cost" to the environment.

Initiatives:

1. Minimizing negative environmental impact through better Fleet Management.
2. Source from contractors who address issues related to proper waste management, ensuring recycling, conservation of scarce resources, and efficient energy use. Localisation of procurement when possible, adapted to local standards to allow for maintenance.
3. Good management of resources throughout the supply chain; products and services of good quality, proper transportation and storage, durable installations and planned maintenance to ensure sustainability. Reverse logistics if applicable.
4. Monitoring of delivered projects to ensure continued functionality and evaluation of supplier performance.