

# **WORLD LAND TRUST ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

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World Land Trust's Environment Policy is established as a public statement of the Trust's intent to improve our environmental stewardship and demonstrate our commitment to helping to combat climate change.

## **Policy**

World Land Trust's mission is to protect and sustainably manage natural ecosystems of the world, and to conserve their biodiversity. We work by developing partnerships with local organisations, communities and individuals to create new protected areas and engage support and commitment among the people who live in project areas. World Land Trust also works to help meet the challenge of climate change through projects that quantifiably offset carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and conserve biodiversity through our Carbon Balanced program.

Although World Land Trust is a relatively small organisation, employing 23 FTE staff in 2018, we recognise that fulfilling our mission inevitably has some adverse effects on the environment. We are committed to reducing and mitigating this effect as far as possible while continuing our work of preserving threatened habitats worldwide and ensuring donor funding is used as efficiently as possible to support our charitable objectives.

## **WLT actively:**

- Attempts to quantify the impacts of our operations on the environment and takes practical steps to reduce our emissions, waste and overall contribution to global climate change and biodiversity loss.
- Seeks to improve the office's energy, water and other resource efficiencies.
- Engages in reusing and recycling as many materials as possible both in-house and via credible third parties e.g. TerraCycle.
- Makes all staff aware of the environmental policy and engages the commitment of staff in developing and implementing our practices through a dedicated "Green Team".
- Follows a catering policy and avoids, where feasible, the inclusion of any meat, fish or unsustainable foodstuffs (e.g. unsustainable palm oil, intensively farmed animal products) during WLT catered events and/or meetings.
- Seeks to support local suppliers and businesses in order to minimise unnecessary transportation costs and considers suppliers' ethical and environmental practices when making purchasing decisions.
- Undertakes annual reviews of this policy to continually assess and enhance its effectiveness.
- Communicates the Environmental Policy to all stakeholders including staff, board members, volunteers, supporters, appropriate authorities, local communities and other organisations.

## **Practical steps to implement the policy**

- We minimise our use of resources using the universal concept of 'reduce, re-use, recycle' by
  - reducing consumption and waste of resources (including energy, water and paper).
  - reducing: WLT pledges to always contract its electricity from suppliers deriving energy from 100% renewable sources
  - reducing: WLT is making efforts to switch office equipment & appliances to more energy-efficient technologies and to improve insulation within the office in order to further reduce energy consumption
  - re-using resources where possible (especially paper and packaging)
  - recycling: all staff participate in our in-house recycling scheme, and any waste which cannot be recycled is disposed of responsibly
- Where possible communications are electronic (e-mail, electronic conferencing etc.).

- We continue to streamline and update working practices in all departments in order to phase out departmental printing and paper communications where feasible.
- We encourage staff to reduce their own impacts by influencing behaviour within their working remit and providing training to ensure effective management of this policy.
- Business travel is restricted to essential meetings and events, and appointments are scheduled to reduce travel to a minimum. Where practical, public transport is always chosen.

World Land Trust continually seeks to improve our practices and welcomes any comments and suggestions on this Environmental Policy.