

The Africa Educational Trust (AET) Environmental Policy

AET believes that organisations are responsible for achieving good environmental practice and operating in a sustainable manner. We are therefore committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral and fundamental part of our operations.

Our policy is to:

- Wholly support and comply with or exceed the requirements of current environmental legislation and codes of practice in UK, Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Somaliland, Puntland and Southern Somalia
- Ensure environmentally sound development through identifying activities in education which pollute and degrade the environment
- Identify educational interventions that promote discussion about conserving the natural environment
- Be aware of all international environmental initiatives and put into national context where we are working
- Minimise our waste in office environments and then use or recycle it as much as possible. This includes use of recycled products in first instance e.g. paper
- Minimize energy and water usage in our buildings, vehicles and processes in order to conserve supplies, and minimise our consumption of natural resources, especially where they are non-renewable e.g. all vehicles handed over to partner governments to be in good condition and maintenance package provided where possible to reduce emissions
- Use rented cars and shared cars rather than company vehicles where possible
- Use bicycles rather than motor bikes for community activities where terrain allows, and encourage staff to cycle to work where feasible and safe
- Minimise the environmental impacts from travel through planning travel at the beginning of each year, and consolidating different aspects of AET's work in order to take fewer trips. Book direct flights to minimise carbon emissions unless cost is prohibitive
- In the absence of a global cap on carbon emissions, AET does not offset its carbon emissions. This is because we believe the effectiveness of offsetting schemes remains uncertain
- AET will continue to develop its range of remote meeting and conferencing technology including video, web and audio conferencing. Staff members are asked to always consider the use of this technology to avoid travel
- Apply the principles of continuous improvement in respect of air, water, noise and light pollution from our premises and reduce any impacts from our operations on the environment and local community
- As far as possible purchase products (e.g. recycled office paper) and services that do the least damage to the environment and encourage partners to do the same
- Ensure that all employees understand our environmental policy and conform to the high standards it requires
- Address complaints about any breach of policy through the Senior Management Team
- Review our Environmental Policy on regular basis