



## **Christian Aid Environmental Policy**

As a leading UK International NGO working globally to eradicate poverty and injustice, our essential purpose, faith background and values mean that we take our environmental stewardship responsibilities seriously. We recognise the impact our direct and indirect activities have on the global climate, and the natural environment. We are proud to have measured and managed our greenhouse gas and carbon emissions since 2006. Between April 2011 and March 2020 we reduced our carbon footprint by more than half. We want to build on this success, and get our Greenhouse Gas emissions as close to zero as possible between now and 2030, reducing our 2019/20 baseline emissions by at least 50% by 2030. We commit to further reductions from 2030 and to mitigate our residual emissions with the most practical and meaningful ways available to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest.

The Christian Aid Board is accountable for delivery of this policy. The Executive team is responsible for ensuring that our humanitarian and development operations and programmes, advocacy and campaigning, church and supporter engagement align with the organisation's strategy and values to minimise our environmental impact. This policy encompasses local and global impacts, including avoiding or minimizing environmental harms such as climate change; air, water and soil pollution; and biodiversity degradation and loss, from genetic to ecosystem levels.

We commit to comply with local environmental legislation and international standards and meet our legal, stakeholder and supplier requirements, to avoid adverse environmental impacts as far as is possible ('do no harm' principle) and mitigate, where possible and sustainable, those environmental impacts that cannot be reasonably avoided. We commit to embracing environmental opportunities and moving towards a zero-carbon future. We will review this annually as policies, technologies and investment become more available. We commit to support continual environmental improvement.

Our key commitments to manage environmental impacts are to:

- Continue to measure & reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) & carbon footprint, using renewable energy solutions in offices, managing national & international travel, & digitising our work, including our engagement with churches and supporters
- Work to ensure that our programmes and advocacy conform to a 'do no harm' principle, through minimizing harm and minimizing any needed mitigation actions, and promote environmental sustainability across all its dimensions.
- Work to ensure that our financial investments and service providers meet sector leading Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards
- Work to minimise the impact of resource consumption in our operations (paper, wood and forest products, electrical and IT equipment, food and beverages)
- Develop and deliver training to enhance our colleagues' knowledge and skills, appropriate to their role, in programs, procurement and advocacy to improve Christian Aid's, our partners' and suppliers' environmental performance.

Staff, Partner, Subcontractor and Supplier engagement is crucial to delivering our environmental policy. We will continue to manage our supplier relationships via our

procurement policy. We will continue to help our staff and partners increase efficiency and demonstrate environmental sustainability in all programmes.

We will continue to monitor & communicate our environmental performance to our stakeholders & supporters, producing accurate and transparent reports.

This environmental policy will be reviewed annually.

CEO/COO

**Agreed 13 February 2023**

Reviewed Annually