

Environmental Policy of CWIN-Nepal

Revised 2024



Vision

To ensure a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment for all children, recognizing that environmental degradation and climate crisis disproportionately affects the youngest and most vulnerable members of society.

Core Principles

1. Policy Advocacy:

- Advocate for policies that reduce environmental hazards impacting children's environment and climate change resulting in climate crisis in local, national and international levels.
- Promote awareness of the impact of climate change on children's rights, including access to clean air, water, and a safe living environment.
- Ensure representation and agency of children in climate action and advocacy.
- Advocate for climate justice for children focusing on inter-sectional issues

2. Education and Awareness:

- Raise awareness and continually improve environmental education amongst children that CWIN engages with and in the communities CWIN works with.
- Train and educate CWIN staff on best practices to protect environmental and climate change justice advocacy.
- Develop specific educational programs focused on climate change, its impacts, and adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Collaborate with educational institutions to integrate climate change education into the curriculum.

3. Community Engagement:

- Engage community groups in environmental stewardship initiatives.
- Introduce concept of green school in all the schools CWIN engages with/works with.
- Provide resources and support to communities affected by environmental degradation, focusing on the needs of children.

4. Children and Young People's Participation:

- Provide orientation and education to children and young people on environment protection, climate change and 7 Rs of sustainability.
- Encourage children and youth to lead and participate in environment protection and climate justice campaigns.
- Strengthen GREEN CHAKRA, the platform of children and adolescents to voice their concerns and suggestions regarding environmental issues at all levels and demand climate justice.
- Facilitate and support young people and Green Chakra platform to work in partnership with local governments

5. Partnership, Collaboration, and Support:

- Support children's and youth groups active in environmental advocacy and help amplify their voices.

- Collaborate with NGOs, government agencies, and international bodies to strengthen child-focused environmental initiatives.

6. Sustainable Practices in Operations:

- Use office resources, energy, and water as efficiently as possible.
- Focus on reducing waste, encouraging re-use and recycling.
- Procure materials required for programs and office operations responsibly.
- Install solar power and water harvesting in office buildings and shelter homes
- Use local materials and recycled materials whenever possible in any construction work of the organization
- Procure e-vehicles whenever there is an opportunity to procure new vehicles
- Work towards sensible carbon footprint
- Carry out projects with young people where there are opportunities for environmentally sustainable initiatives such as (Banners to Bags) which include upcycling/recycling

Implementation Strategies

- Environmental /Climate Change Focal Person: Assign a dedicated focal person to oversee the implementation of this policy.
- Regular Audits: Conduct environmental audits to measure and improve CWIN's ecological footprint.
- Staff Training: Provide ongoing training for staff in sustainable practices and environmental awareness.
- Community Programs: Develop community-based programs that involve children in environmental conservation.
- Sustainable Funding: Secure funding sources that align with our environmental values and goals.
- Ethical considerations: Not accepting funding from donor organisations with regressive climate change views.
- Communications: Use CWIN's communications and media in favour of climate justice for children.

Monitoring and Reporting

- Performance Matrics: Develop and track key performance indicators related to environmental impact.
- Regular Reporting: Produce periodical reports detailing our environmental performance and progress.

Policy Review

- This policy will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect new developments in environmental science and changes in societal needs and expectations.
- Include views and perspectives of Child Rights Forum (CWIN-Nepal's Child Advisory Board) in policy review.
- It is a living document, adaptable to the specific needs and circumstances of the organization and the children it serves.