

FEE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



Introduction

The FEE Secretariat and International Programme Coordinations as well as the FEE member organisations will ensure compliance with the FEE Environmental Policy as a part of their engagement in the organisation and in respect with the principles and values of FEE.

The benefits

The benefits of an environmental policy include:

- Assuring partners and stakeholders of our commitment to demonstrable good environmental performance
- Limiting costs by monitoring and thus reducing consumption
- Measuring progress
- Sharing knowledge about environmental solutions with other organisations
- Ensuring a safe and healthy work environment

The FEE Environmental Policy is a commitment to improve environmental performance, minimising the environmental impact of its activities and making resource efficiency a core requirement of all FEE operations.

FEE initiatives

Waste

FEE will strive to reduce the amount of waste produced by their activities by focusing on reuse, recycling and limiting consumption in general.

Water

FEE will work to reduce the consumption of water relating to its activities.

Energy

FEE will regularly monitor the use of energy and will strive to reduce its consumption. When possible, alternative or renewable energy sources will be used.

Transport

FEE will actively work to minimise environmental emissions deriving from travel related to FEE activities. FEE will strive to make use of environmentally friendlier means of transportation (public transportation, bicycles, etc.). When travelling by air, the CO₂ compensation scheme will be applied.

Meetings

FEE plans and takes part in a lot of meetings and will therefore choose environmentally friendly providers when booking accommodation and other related services.

FEE will promote the use of modern technology such as telephone and virtual meetings as much as possible to reduce the adverse effects of travelling.

Communication and education

FEE will ensure that the environmental policy is disseminated to all staff and will involve them in the decision-making process regarding what actions to take. FEE will educate the staff in environmental matters and provide appropriate support to actions suggested to improve the organisations' environmental performance.

FEE will also disseminate good environmental practices within its network of stakeholders. Exchange of ideas and participation in projects related to environmental performance with other organisations is strongly encouraged.

The purchase of products and services

FEE will whenever possible purchase goods and services locally to minimise adverse environmental effects of transportation. FEE will also choose products and suppliers committed to environmental performance and fair trade.

Likewise, FEE will require of their sponsors that they are committed to environmental performance.

Implementing the FEE Environmental Policy

Steps to be taken in each FEE organisation (Secretariat, International Coordination, national member organisation):

- 1) If applicable, establishment of a working party composed of representatives from management as well as the different departments and work areas
- 2) Making annual status reports based on the FEE Environmental Checklist (starting with a "zero situation" report for reference)
- 3) Discussing the results within the organisation
- 4) Defining the short and long term targets, describing what actions should be taken and when
- 5) Sending the status and changes made in the organisation to the FEE Secretariat
 - a. Internationally: in connection with hosting agreements for the FEE Secretariat and International Programme Coordinations
 - b. Nationally: in connection with the membership review

There are 3 levels of ambition for environmental performance:

1. The active level: the organisation complies with national environmental legislation.
2. The progressive level: the organisation not only complies with national environmental legislation but also applies environmentally friendly initiatives beyond legislative demands.
3. The innovative level: the organisation works actively with the FEE Environmental Policy such that it becomes a strategic management tool applied through out the organisation and its development.

Compliance with the FEE Environmental Policy requires that environmental performance reaches level 2 and that the organisation strives towards the innovative level. Environmental management should therefore be an integral part of the strategic development of each FEE organisation.