

# Environmental Policy

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This Policy sets out the process to measure, understand, and act to reduce the operational, ecological, and carbon footprint of ClientEarth.

ClientEarth commits to continually improving its environmental performance. We intend to halve our carbon emissions from our operations by 2030 and to achieve net zero by 2050.<sup>1</sup>

This requires us to reduce our emissions, consumption of resources, and waste by ensuring that, where relevant, environmental impacts are considered as fundamental in our decision-making, including in the planning, development, and implementation of our work. This also requires us to guide, recommend, and encourage staff, management, and governance boards to adopt sustainable working practices and behaviours in the office, at home, or elsewhere and consider the environmental impact of their decisions. This contributes to creating an organisational culture that pursues the lowest possible (negative) environmental impact option.

This Policy has been approved by ClientEarth’s Executive Team, and reflects our values.

Values	Application in this Policy
Acting courageously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We will set ambitious targets to reduce and eliminate emissions from our operations</li></ul>
Prizing diverse experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We value diverse experience and seek advice on best practices when implementing this policy</li></ul>
Embracing collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We will work collaboratively with our partners, suppliers and other stakeholders to take action of environmental sustainability</li></ul>
Learning continuously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We are committed to improving our environmental performance and will review progress against targets annually</li></ul>
Opposing injustice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We have zero tolerance for illegal or unethical activity negatively impacting the environment</li></ul>
Focusing on impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We use resources effectively to minimise emissions and wasted resources</li></ul>

## What is the Scope of this Policy?

This Policy applies to all ClientEarth entities and staff worldwide, including governance and management board members of all ClientEarth entities, who are expected to use best judgment in applying this Policy, and to play an active part in preventing non-compliance and in promoting best practices.

This Policy also applies to activities within the control of ClientEarth, and we encourage other organisations and our Partners to adopt ambitious environmental policies and behaviours. This Policy is thereby publicly accessible on our [Transparency | ClientEarth](#) webpage.

## ClientEarth’s Principles-Based Approach to Promoting Sustainable Practices and Reducing its Environmental Impact

ClientEarth has a collective responsibility to adopt and promote sustainable practices and reduce its environmental impact. It is nonetheless recognised that not all best practices recommended in this Environmental Policy can be implemented in all locations where ClientEarth has offices or where staff,

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<sup>1</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, offsets will not be used to meet these targets.

management or governance board members work. E.g., it is not always possible to elect our energy provider when renting offices.

ClientEarth will thereby set environmental targets where possible, and take actions to monitor and report on the performance against those targets. As an organisation, we will act in a way that reduces our ecological and climate footprint and reinforces and enhances our organisational mission and programmatic work.

Accordingly, we will take all necessary steps to:

- Reduce energy consumption through, e.g., the systematic turning off of lights and electronic equipment including computers, screens, and plugs when leaving the office or a room; and, where possible with the agreement of the building owner, install motion sensors;
- Reduce water consumption by ensuring the efficient use of water, that taps are closed properly, dishwashers are turned on only when full, etc.;
- Only undertake travel that is necessary to carry out work;
- Prioritise walking, cycling, public transport, and have zero emission vehicles as preferred modes of transport pending the situation;
- Procure energy from renewable and clean energy sources wherever possible;
- Choose financial and professional services, including banks, insurance, and pension providers, without connections to carbon or polluting industries wherever possible and give priority to those that are making positive contributions;
- Avoid, or minimise, the use of harmful chemicals;
- Reduce the procurement and use of single-use items or packaging, including single-use plastics, coffee cups, and office equipment;
- Only procure products that are necessary, to minimise consumption;
- Procure consumable products and services that are local and from sustainable supply chains;
- Reduce digital carbon footprint by implementing technologies and championing practices that have a lower impact;
- Refuse any funding, e.g., reimbursement for travel costs or sponsorships of events, from fossil fuel companies and other industry actors who are known to engage in environmental harm.

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