

# Sustainability Policy of Linnaeus Union



Approved at the member meeting 23 February, 2024

## Background

The issue of environmental degradation and climate change is one of the greatest threats of our time. This policy regulates the principles and goals of the Linnaeus Union's environmental and social responsibilities. This document should be available to and communicated with everyone who is working and is active within the organization. A vision of the sustainability policy is to promote behaviors and activities aimed at reducing the negative environmental and social impacts of the Linnaeus Union. This document determines that the operation of the Linnaeus Union functions in a way that tries to limit its negative environmental and social impact, and that works for a better tomorrow. The policy is divided into two parts: sustainable sourcing and raising awareness.

## Sustainable sourcing

In all its activities, Linnaeus Union should strive for sustainable consumption. This means consumption which minimizes the use of resources, and whenever possible, should come from sustainable sources. The Linnaeus Union should critically discuss the climate effects and social effects of new procurements and actions.

- Linnaeus Union should stop using disposable plastics, and minimize its use of paper and ink to the greatest extent possible.
- All purchases should be made with a sustainable mindset- Longevity, quality, and environmental impact, in relation to the price and financial responsibility, should be taken into consideration when making new purchases.
- Whenever food is consumed, Linnaeus Union should always work towards being sustainable in terms of food make environmentally responsible choices. This means that any eventual meat-consumption is opt-in rather than opt-out, and that the choice of restaurants depend on good vegan options and that all events include vegan options. The food that is consumed in Linnaeus Union's offices should to the greatest extent consist of organic and fair trade products.
- Linnaeus Union should always use the greenest possible energy available that is within the budget. Should the Linnaeus Union invest money, the investments must be consistent with the objectives of this policy.
- Waste should be recycled and sorted properly.
- Linnaeus Union should always try to opt for the least polluting option when it comes to travelling - domestic trips should not be made by flying.

## Raising awareness

In its events and activities, Linnaeus Union should raise awareness of environmental and social issues in different sectors.

- The Linnaeus Union's board is responsible for implementing the sustainability policy into the organization's regular business.
- All associations that cooperate with Linnaeus Union should be made aware of the policy, and ought to be able to seek help and support in implementing it to their organizations from members of the Linnaeus Union's board. Associations are encouraged to be as environmentally and socially friendly as possible and to promote environmental and social awareness among their members.
- Linnaeus Union should take political stances towards Linnaeus University, the cities in which it operates, as well as within the Swedish National Union of Students (SFS) if they make or promote decisions that are not in line with environmental and social friendliness. Whenever there is chance and capacity, Linnaeus Union should cooperate with different sectors to promote environmental and social friendliness.
- Linnaeus Union should promote environmental and social friendliness among students and support the students in making more environmentally and socially friendly decisions.