

## *Environmental and Sustainability Policy*

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### **Record of changes**

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# Principles

The principles upon which The Outdoors Group Ltd have built this policy are the three environmental principles from the [Global Green](#) movement, listed below:

## Ecological Wisdom

We acknowledge that human beings are part of the natural world, and we respect the specific values of all forms of life, including non-human species.

We acknowledge the wisdom of the indigenous peoples of the world, as custodians of the land and its resources.

We acknowledge that human society depends on the ecological resources of the planet and must ensure the integrity of ecosystems and preserve biodiversity and the resilience of life supporting systems.

This requires:

- that we learn to live within the ecological and resource limits of the planet
- that we protect animal and plant life, and life itself that is sustained by the natural elements: earth, water, air, and sun.
- where knowledge is limited, that we take the path of caution, in order to secure the continued abundance of the resources of the planet for present and future generations.

## Sustainability

We recognise the limited scope for the material expansion of human society within the biosphere, and the need to maintain biodiversity through sustainable use of renewable resources and responsible use of non-renewable resources.

We believe that to achieve sustainability, and in order to provide for the needs of present and future generations within the finite resources of the earth, continuing growth in global consumption, population and material inequity must be halted and reversed.

We recognise that sustainability will not be possible as long as poverty persists.

This requires:

- redefining the concept of wealth, to focus on quality of life rather than capacity for over-consumption.
- ensuring that market prices of goods and services fully incorporate the environmental costs of their production and consumption.

- achieving greater resource and energy efficiency and development and use of environmentally sustainable technologies
- encouraging local self-reliance to the greatest practical extent to create worthwhile, satisfying communities.
- recognising the key role of youth culture and encouraging an ethic of sustainability within that culture.

## *Respect for Diversity*

We honour cultural, linguistic, ethnic, sexual, religious, and spiritual diversity within the context of individual responsibility toward all beings.

We defend the right of all persons, without discrimination, to an environment supportive of their dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being.

We promote the building of respectful, positive, and responsible relationships across lines of division in the spirit of a multi-cultural society.

This requires:

- recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to the basic means of their survival, both economic and cultural, including rights to land and to self-determination; and acknowledgment of their contribution to the common heritage of national and global culture.
- recognition of the rights of ethnic minorities to develop their culture, religion, and language without discrimination, and to full legal, social and cultural participation in the democratic process.
- recognition of and respect for sexual minorities
- equality between women, men, and transgender in all spheres of social, economic, political, and cultural life.
- significant involvement of youth culture as a valuable contribution to our Green vision, and recognition that young people have distinct needs and modes of expression.

## *Content*

The Outdoors Group Ltd is committed to Environment's Sustainability and Ecological Preservation, the Company has been built with this as a core philosophy. In practical terms this means:

- The Outdoors Group Ltd actively encourages alternative modes of transport, especially bike and on foot travel to our sites both by clients and by staff.

- The Outdoors Group Ltd looks to minimise the impact of its activities on site by creating areas free from footfall where the land can recover from intensive activities.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd actively promotes its philosophy within its courses and hopes to educate participants to have a positive environmental effect in their communities.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd operates a leave no trace policy where we attempt to have a minimal impact on the long-term landscape of the sites we use, this means;
  - Ensuring structures are temporary.
  - Ensuring a minimal infrastructure wherever possible.
  - Ensuring careful management of the sites as living landscapes.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd ensures that wherever possible its vehicles are powered by the greenest fuels available and practicable.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd ensures minimal use of chemicals or other substances in its work.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd actively encourages recycling wherever possible.
- The Outdoors Group Ltd seeks to minimise the waste production on all its sites.