

Sustainability Policy August 2013

Reference: Sustainability Policy V1.0



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1 Introduction

This Sustainability policy outlines Environmental Ethos's commitments to sustainability, and our approach to achieving a sustainable business.

Environmental Ethos provides consultancy service in a number of specialist areas including: landscape architectural services, landscape planning, visual impact assessment, project management, stakeholder and community consultation, contract administration, landscape management and monitoring, climate risk and adaptation, sustainability advice and expert testimony.

Our Vision and Mission Statements are as follows:

1.1 Vision Statement

To be a leading landscape planning and sustainability consultancy integrating creativity and sustainability with the aim of restoring balance and nurturing enduring connections between communities, landscapes and cultures.

1.2 Mission Statement

- Through combining exceptional design capability and reputable sustainability credentials become a market leader in the delivery of sustainable landscape planning and design outcomes.
- Deliver to clients value for money and long term solutions
- Bring unique expertise to the collaborative design process
- Become a carbon neutral business

2 Our Commitment

Sustainability is at the core of our business and, as such, is embedded into all our activities. We aim to demonstrate our commitment to sustainability through example and service to our clients. As a landscape planning and sustainability consultancy we are in a position to advise and contribute towards sustainability through the services we provide to our clients. We aim to facilitate this process by including sustainability into all our decisions making, by apply innovative yet practical thinking to projects, and by considering the wider and long term outcomes of our work.

We aim to embed the following core sustainability principles into all our work:

- The principle of intergenerational and intra-generational equity
- The protection and conservation of biodiversity
- The precautionary principle
- The mitigation and adaptation of climate change risks

3 Strategies and Objectives

3.1 Business Operations

Sustainability begins with 'keeping our own house in order', Environmental Ethos operates in accordance with the following key sustainable business practices:

3.1.1 Triple Bottom Line approach

Environmental Ethos is pursuing a Triple Bottom Line approach to measuring business value and performance. Performance is managed, measured and monitored across the following criteria:

- Client service and project sustainability outcomes
- Business management and processes
- Suppliers and subcontractors
- Community and social outcomes

3.1.2 Carbon neutral business

Environmental Ethos is working towards becoming Carbon Neutral through Low Carbon Australia. We are currently preparing our carbon footprint, emissions management plan, which in the future will be audited and certified.

3.1.3 Resource reduction, reuse and recycling

We are committed to achieving the following environmental objectives.

- 100% water collection and reuse
- 100% carbon offset (Carbon neutral through energy efficiency measures and offsets)
- Minimize waste in our operations through reduction at the source, reuse and recycling.

3.1.4 Communication

We aim to communicate our sustainability policy to our employees, clients, contractors, suppliers and the public, in order to enhance the awareness of these activities and our commitment to responsible environmental management.

Advisory and design role 3.2

As a specialized landscape planning and sustainability consultancy our biggest contribution to achieving a more sustainable future is through our contribution as professionals and designers to the sustainable outcomes of our clients and their projects. We are therefore committed to including the following considerations into all our projects and client services:

- Consideration of the 'whole of life impacts' in our design decisions and material selections;
- Incorporation of climate change risk, mitigation and adaptation in our approach;
- Conservation and enhancement of ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Enhancement of social and cultural values and connection with 'Place';
- Protection and conservation of the environmental values of water including ground water, creeks, rivers and marine environments;

- Enhancement of the quality and values of our soils including their contribution towards carbon capture and storage;
- Facilitate the design of sustainable settlements and green infrastructure;
- Promote healthy and cohesive communities; and
- Conduct all matters in accordance with the AILA Code of Conduct.

4 Responsibility

The Director is responsible for implementation, management and performance monitoring of this sustainability policy.

Monitoring and improvements

The performance of this sustainability policy will be monitored annually and improvements identified to meet the targets set by the policy.