



Environmental policy

We, Umeå association of international affairs (UAIA), are aware that the anthropogenic climate change is one of the challenges the world is facing today. As an association of international affairs we take responsibility over our operation to minimize our carbon footprint and understand the urgent importance of the problem. Since UAIA is apart of SAIA (Sweden Association of International Affairs) we agree to follow their general environmental policy. UAIA's operations shall always stay within the environmental laws of European Union, and Swedish laws.

Transport

Vision

UAIA aims to have a sustainable travel standard to minimize negative emissions as long as it does not interfere with our goal to spread knowledge on international affairs. When emissions can't be avoided we shall take responsibility over the negative emissions, and therefore UAIA aims to make environmental compensations through fitting means and in consideration of our budget. To avoid unnecessary trips, we shall aim to work with local speakers and use the local knowledge.

In practice

- The members and invited guests should always aim to take the train instead of flying.
- When train is not a reasonable alternative, we will climate compensate through environmental organizations.
- We climate compensate through organizations such as Naturskyddsföreningen, Atmosfair, Myclimate, Climatecare, Tricorona, Greenseat and the Carbon Neutral Company.



Purchases

Vision

UAIA aims to secure that all purchases are made with the environment in consideration. By choosing the most sustainable products we minimize the impact of our consumption. This goes hand in hand with avoiding disposable goods and other types of exaggerated consumption. UpF will aim to buy reused products and vegetarian/vegan options to minimize our global footprint.

In practice

- We strive to make sure all food and beverages bought or consumed at UpF Umeå's event are organic. We ask the producers of the goods we purchase about the environmental impact in the production and take this into consideration when choosing which product to buy.
- We strive to buy and serve only vegetarian, preferably vegan, food at our events and meetings to lower the carbon dioxide emission.
- We encourage all attendants at our events to bring their own cups/water bottles etc. If we provide coffee mugs, these should be reusable or if there is no other alternative, we choose environmentally marked disposable paper mugs.

Environmental awareness

Vision

A society that is in touch with nature, where everyone acts responsibly regarding their emissions, where there is a widespread consciousness about what climate change is and the consequences of it, and where the environment is an obvious part of international politics. Therefore UAIA should encourage and inform our members by inviting speakers or by creating events based on the topic.

In practice

- We will aim to have one event based on the topic during our business year. This could be workshops, speakers or environmental theme weeks.
- We aim to raise environmental awareness on events non related to the topic, if possible.



Other

Vision

During UAIA-events the environmental impact should be minimal and all venues should therefore be chosen accordingly. Encouraging all attendants at our events to act with respect towards the environment individually, during the event as well as after it, is also a part of our environmental commitment.

In practice

- If we or our speakers are staying at a hotel/hostel we will aim to choose those that have an environmental commitment.
- We encourage all attendants at our events to make individual everyday actions that contribute to reducing our environmental impact such as turning off lights and electronics when leaving a room and removing chargers from outlets when not charging, etc.
- UAIA shall strive to sell thermo mugs to our members and encourage them to use it on our events, but also to use it as an alternative to the paper mugs the cafes use to serve coffee in.
- We shall aim to recycle at our events and meeting and therefore choose event location where this is possible and keep recycling options in our room.
- We do not print agendas, posters or other documents if not necessary, and we should use more environmental friendly options if possible.