

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

This policy applies to all IHFA offices in Australia and abroad.

International Help Fund Australia is a non governmental not for profit development aid organisation focusing on the sustainable development of the Pacific Islands. We seek to collaborate with Pacific Islanders, governments, and businesses to improve the quality of life by developing practical environmental management initiatives as well as economic, cultural, health and education programs and projects that promote sustainable development and self reliance"

Our vision is a sustainable Pacific community living in dignity and in harmony with our environment, culture, economies and our neighbours'.

We Value: quality, sustainability, cooperation between government, business, international bodies and the community, practical responsiveness, empowerment of the individual and community access to education, good health services and a clean environment.

We seek to provide assistance for:

- Waste management/recycling
- Waste water treatment and access to safe drinking water
- Soil fertility and reforestation
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Capacity building in environmental management
- Cultural sustainability
- Economic opportunity
- Information dissemination

We recognise the expectations of our own staff, suppliers, customers and the Australian, Pacific Islander and international community in relation to environmental protection and we endeavour to put into practice what we believe in.

We commit to managing our environmental effects and wastes not just in compliance with our legal obligations but wherever possible, in accordance with best ecologically sustainable practice. Furthermore, we will strive to continually improve all our operations and specifically commit to:

- Working to achieve the environmental expectations of our staff, customers, suppliers and the Australian, Pacific Island and International Community.
- Identifying, implementing and promoting best practice environmental management systems and operations.

- Operating in an ecologically sustainable manner by reducing waste and the use of energy and resources, especially non renewable resources.
- Improving efficiency of operations to minimise water and raw material use, energy consumption, waste and pollution generation by purchasing energy saving devices and purchasing energy efficient office equipment.
- Minimising waste by first rethinking, reducing, reusing, repairing and recycling.
- Providing an environmentally sound workplace, and implementing environmentally sound work practices.
- Education and training of staff and volunteers for a wider understanding for implementation.
- Continuing to conduct regular monitoring and reporting on our environmental performance to identify potential areas for improvement and to follow through with programs to achieve these improvements. We will communicate our environmental management through annual reports distributed to stakeholders and made available via the website.
- We will annually, or when required, review environmental management action plans and assess whether the objectives and targets are being met such as reducing paper and energy use in our offices.
- International Help Fund Australia will comply in its Australian operations with all relevant government policy and environmental legislation and with the Commonwealth Government's environmental policies and initiatives. In overseas programs, we will comply with local government policy and environmental legislation.

Approved by The Board
21 November 2007

Petra Campbell
Chairman

Claire Hanley
Director