



UMEÅ UNIVERSITET

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Type of document:	Policy
Date:	12 December 2019
Ref. no.:	FS 1.1-2187-19
Adopted by:	The University Board
Period of validity:	1 January 2020 until further notice
Area:	Premises, IT, environment and safety
Responsible administrative unit:	Building Office
Replaces document:	Environmental Policy at Umeå University (UMU 102-949-03) adopted by the University Board on 7 April 2003 Policy for Business Travel at Umeå University (FS 1.1.2-778-14) adopted by the Vice-Chancellor on 23 September 2014 in respect of environmental aspects associated with meetings and travel. The provisions on safety, cost, responsibility, etc. are specified in a separate regulation.



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1. Description

This environmental policy describes the main focus for the University's employees and students with regard to consideration of the environment and sustainable development in the University's activities. Through this policy, the University ultimately aims to contribute to achieving the global sustainable development goals in Agenda 2030.

2. Background

The University's environmental policy was last revised in 2003. The policy has now been revised so that it is in line with the expectations and requirements of the world at large and the University's vision, where responsibility for the future and Agenda 2030 play an important role. The need for a revision was also highlighted in the Internal Audit Office's review of the University's environmental work based on the requirements of the Environmental Management Ordinance 2009:907 (FS 1.4-636-18). The updated policy also takes into account all significant environmental aspects of the University, both positive and negative (Environmental Investigation 2019 FS. 1.6.2-1565-19). The policy shall also provide guidance with regard to environmental and sustainability work.

This policy replaces the Environmental Policy at Umeå University (UMU 102-949-03) adopted by the University Board on 7 April 2003 and the Policy for Business Travel at Umeå University (FS 1.1.2-778-

14) adopted by the Vice-Chancellor on 23 September 2014 in respect of environmental aspects associated with meetings and travel. The provisions on safety, cost, responsibility, etc. in connection with travel and meetings are specified in a separate regulation.

3. Environmental Policy

Umeå University shall adopt a proactive approach and innovative work method in striving to achieve a sustainable society and the goals set out in Agenda 2030 by means of:

- Providing *education* in a sustainable way that gives students skills and competences that are relevant to their future working lives and future roles as decision-makers in respect of sustainable development and make sure that the teachers who teach them have the knowledge and ability to put their subject into a sustainability perspective.
- Conducting *research and education at doctoral level* that contributes to increased knowledge of, and for, sustainable development.
- *Collaborating* with actors in society, taking part in public debate and disseminating knowledge and good examples about, and for, sustainable development.

Our work for sustainable development also includes working in those other areas where the University has a significant environmental impact. This means that wherever possible we specify environmental requirements in connection with *purchasing and procurement*. This also means that we apply innovative, climate-smart solutions and sharing services to rationalise *energy consumption* and increase the utilisation of premises and other areas. We also try at all times to strive for travel-free *meetings*, and when a *journey* does take place, it is primarily by means of public transport and in the safest, most cost-efficient and environment-friendly way possible. By phasing out and substituting *chemicals* that are harmful to the environment and health, and by reusing equipment and sorting *waste* at source, we strive to achieve toxin-free cycles and reduced utilisation of natural resources.



4. Follow-up

Follow-up takes place using the annual environmental management report for government agencies compiled by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency to report the status regarding the environmental impact and implementation of meetings and business trips, waste management, energy consumption and environmental requirements in procurement and purchasing. The University also follows up on the level of sustainable development in its study programmes as well as the number of teachers who have completed the University's CPD course: Educating for Sustainable Development.