



PROGRAM FOR ACCESSIBLE HEALTH COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION (PACE)

Policy Title	Policy on Environmental Sustainability
Policy Objective	To outline PACEs approach to promotion, protection and enhancement of the environment and to educate staff environmental issues.
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1.0 Foreword

Dear Colleagues

I am pleased to release the Policy on Environmental Sustainability. A policy that ensures that PACE operates its programs in a manner that is safe to the environment by providing guidance to its staff on the minimum standards.

I urge all of us to familiarize ourselves with the policy, internalize every aspect of it, and abide with its general principles. If you have questions about anything in this policy, feel free to speak with the Executive Director, or the HR & Admin Manager.

Best wishes,



Phyllister Nakamya

Executive Director



2.0 Introduction

PACE approaches environmental sustainability from two perspectives:

- (i) the work that we do, particularly in social marketing.
- (ii) and the sustainability of our own operations.

As an employer and social business manager, PACE has a responsibility to undertake its work in an environmentally sustainable fashion whenever possible.

Rapid environmental changes and instabilities bring risk of disrupting the markets people depend on, leaving critical health services and products out of reach, essentially upending the critical work PACE has been doing to make it easier for people to lead healthier lives.

PACE recognizes the threat posed by climate change by adopting it into our organizational risk management framework, ensuring that it is addressed alongside every other external risk factor facing our organization. This move reinforces the importance of our policy to be a good environmental steward.

PACE progressively takes action at all operational levels to reduce our environmental footprint, increase our contributions to sustainability and mitigate climate change.

3.0 Our commitment is to

- (i) minimise the short and long-term impact of our activities on the environment and local communities through responsible environmentally sustainable management within design, planning, delivery, construction, manufacturing and operation
- (ii) promote a positive culture through implementing initiatives that foster sustainable innovation.
- (iii) optimise our products and services to relentlessly improve our environmental sustainability performance and improve the sustainable use of natural resources.



- (iv) comply with relevant environmental legislation, appropriate guidelines and standards, customers, and regulatory agency requirements
- (v) implement responsible resilient work practices that minimise the impact on local communities
- (vi) establish, monitor, and review environmental sustainability objectives and targets and identify opportunities to improve our environmental sustainability
- (vii) evaluate the performance, effectiveness, and compliance of our environmental management systems through regular audits and reviews
- (viii) drive innovation to identify sustainable supply chains; reduce and manage energy, waste, and water consumption.
- (ix) provide education, training and encouragement to our staff of any planned action, and partners to understand their responsibilities for the implementation of environmental sustainability principles and practices.
- (x) display this policy, making it publicly available on the website and sharing it with interested parties.

4.0 Best Practices

4.1 At PACE Offices:

- (i) Embracing digitalisation to reduce on use of papers for environment sustainability. All programs and support functions shall utilise the digital storage.
- (ii) Staff are prohibited from photocopying and/or printing any documents that are readily available on PACE online storage platform unless approved by the Executive Management Team with an acceptable justification.

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- (iii) Segregate different types of waste wherever possible to facilitate the recycling of materials wherever possible and reduce the amount of waste being disposed of in landfill sites
- (iv) A reduction in the amount of energy used by:
 - a) Encouraging staff to switch off their computer monitors when not in use, including when they are away from their desks for meetings or breaks.
 - b) Encouraging staff to make sure all lights are switched off when the office isn't in use, making use of natural lighting where possible, and switching to compact florescent bulbs.
 - c) Fitting energy saving plugs that will automatically switch off peripherals when the PC is switched off.
 - d) Photocopiers and printers that are not the responsibility of any one person can be fitted with a timer to ensure that they are always switched off when the office is closed.
- (v) A reduction in the amount of water used
- (vi) A reduction in the amount of plastic used and promotion of reuse/recycle initiatives where possible. Use of refillable water bottles shall be promoted.

4.2 At the community level:

- (i) All project plans shall include an environment impact assessment and plan to recycle or collect any waste products from the communities that result from PACE's implementation.
- (ii) We integrate principles of environmental sustainability by taking steps to ensure proper management of waste generated by our programs.
- (iii) In the programs we implement, we assess capacity of collaborating health facilities to appropriately dispose of increased clinical waste due to the impact of the program prior



to project start up. Discussions are held with local authorities to implement action plans and improvements for waste disposal.

- (iv) PACE complies with the required Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans for projects by assessing perceived risks to the environment before a project begins.

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