

Quality and environmental policy

OUR MISSION STATEMENT


“PLACING PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF DEVELOPMENT”

Our objectives are:

1. to deliver high quality services in order to contribute towards achieving worldwide sustainable development in accordance with the overall concept of democratic equality of opportunities and personal responsibility;
2. to be an attractive employer for qualified, motivated and committed employees in the field of development cooperation;
3. to ensure the long-term existence of the company by providing a healthy environment and showing responsible entrepreneurship covering equally social, environmental and economic dimensions;
4. to continuously improve our environmental performance, to sustainably use resources and increase energy efficiency in all business areas.

We are committed to:

- \ high-level consciousness concerning quality in the provision of services;
- \ professional and human integrity in external and internal relations;
- \ efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of services, and profit-oriented use of all resources;
- \ partnership, independence and self-responsibility at all levels of the company;
- \ promotion of teamwork (also interdisciplinary and inter-departmental) in project acquisition and implementation;
- \ promotion of professional development for employees, and opportunities for long-term development prospects.



Our people-centred approach ensures that the projects we implement deliver the best possible outcome and have a sustainable and measurable impact on peoples' lives.

OUR SCOPE OF SERVICES - SIX CORE SECTORS OF EXPERTISE



Education and Employment Promotion: fosters education for all, inclusively, so that no one is left behind. This approach forms the basis of our actions and our consulting approach.



Governance and Economic Development: dedicated to developing and implementing technical assistance approaches that underpin sustainable, and just, socio-economic and human development.



Health and Social Development: together with our partners, we foster health and social development for all, through innovative, effective, sustainable solutions based on multi-sectoral approaches.



Rural Development and Environment: a leader in enabling solutions for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources at local, regional and national levels.



Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: provides innovative data collection methodologies to enhance the social impact of development.



Statistics: provides better capacity to generate data in support of evidence-based decision making and by promoting institutional development and change management.

Environmental guidelines

We are committed to providing quality services in a manner that ensures a safe and healthy workplace for our employees while minimising potentially harmful environmental impacts.

CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

Realising that the world's natural resources are limited and fragile, GOPA Worldwide Consultants GmbH (GOPA) considers environmental protection to be an important component of its corporate responsibility and consistent with its overall goals and values. We are committed to providing quality services in a manner that ensures a safe and healthy workplace for our employees while minimising potentially harmful environmental impacts. In this regard, in the context of the Agenda 2030 we contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) formulated for post-2015 development.

We recognise the existence of climate change and that preventing environmental degradation is essential to alleviate poverty and ensure sustainable development. In this regard, we are committed to avoiding or reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) to mitigate climate change. GOPA acknowledges that a healthy environment benefits everyone.

As a consultancy company, we also use natural resources and thus have an impact on the environment and the climate: whether through our energy use and paper consumption, or our business trips to clients and our commuting. We see it as our duty to continuously improve our environmental performance, to sustainably use resources and increase energy efficiency in all business areas.

IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION

It is essential that employees are involved and understand the implementation of this environmental policy. Every employee of GOPA is required to comply with and implement the environmental policy. Employees at all levels of the company are actively invited to participate in shaping our environmental efforts, and thus to continuously enhance our environmental performance.













GOPA will operate in compliance with all relevant German federal, state and municipal environmental legislation and the relevant guidance of our clients. In doing so, GOPA provides a mechanism for self-monitoring to ensure compliance with current legal requirements.

The environmental policy and the status of implementation are reviewed regularly (at least annually) as part of the management review. The Environmental Management Officer (UMB) and Managing Directors are responsible for initiating adjustments subsequent to the audit. The environmental policy and its continuous improvement is communicated regularly to employees and interested parties.

Environmental guidelines

We are committed to providing quality services in a manner that ensures a safe and healthy workplace for our employees while minimising potentially harmful environmental impacts.

We are committed to:

-  integrating the consideration of environmental concerns and impacts into all of our decision making, workflows and activities;
-  promoting environmental awareness among our employees by training, sensitising and informing them about environmental issues, and encouraging them to work in an environmentally responsible manner;
-  promoting responsible and efficient use of office materials and resources throughout our facilities, including paper, water, electricity, and other resources – particularly those that are non-renewable. We purchase electricity mainly from renewable energy sources;
-  handling and disposing of all waste through safe and responsible methods (including waste separation and recycling). This will be done, inter alia, by purchasing recycled, recyclable or refurbished products and materials; and upcycling outdated products, e.g. laptops or furniture;
-  avoiding and reducing business trips to minimise GHG emissions, by using online tools and by combining visits to multiple projects in the same region;
-  regularly communicating our environmental policy to our clients and customers, and encouraging them to support it;
-  strictly avoiding domestic flights (Brussels and Paris) and flying in economy class only; we check if there are direct flights available in order to avoid high emissions during multiple take-offs and landings;
-  company carbon neutrality by compensating CO₂ emissions (including flights) stemming from our activities in Bad Homburg;
-  encouraging employees to use the most environmentally-friendly transport by providing incentives to use alternative options such as public transport or bicycle;
-  purchasing and using energy-saving appliances (LCD screens with the 'Energy Star', compact fluorescent lamps, intelligent heating/cooling control systems, etc.);
-  minimising the environmental risks to our employees and the countries in which we operate, and providing a safe and healthy workplace;
-  being environmentally responsible wherever we operate, and acting promptly and responsibly to correct incidents or conditions that endanger health, safety or the environment.