



# WWF-UK 2030

# ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS



# WWF-UK ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS TO 2030

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**In this publication we outline our strategy for managing our environmental impacts. We list the environmental objectives and targets we've set ourselves to 2030. Our environmental performance is published annually in our Environmental Report.**

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## ABOUT OUR ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS

Our mission is to create a world where people and wildlife can thrive together. We know that as we work to achieve our mission, our business has an impact on the environment. We recognise the importance of ‘walking the talk’. Our responsibility does not end with influencing others to safeguard the natural world through their key decisions – we must also play our part, reducing our own impacts as well as inspiring others to do the same.

Our Environmental Management System (EMS) provides a framework for managing and reducing our impacts. We’ve been certified to the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standard since 2008. Through this framework we identify the main areas of our operations that have an environmental impact. They are: business travel, energy consumption, working from home, waste production, single-use plastic, water use, and the procurement of goods and services. Our environmental policy states our commitment to measuring our negative impacts and striving to reduce them.

We know that environmental impacts do not happen in isolation, they also come with social and economic impacts too. We include social and economic considerations in our EMS and ensure that our development as an organisation is sustainable, in-line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs recognise that “ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests”.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

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- 1989 We create our first environmental policy and establish our EMS
- 1991 We first publish our environmental performance in our annual report
- 2000 We publish our first annual Environmental Report
- 2008 Our EMS is certified to the ISO 14001 standard
- 2013 We move the WWF-UK HQ to a new building, the Living Planet Centre
- 2014 The Living Planet Centre achieves a BREEAM rating of 'Outstanding'
- 2019 We receive the CIPS Ethical Procurement Award for our Facilities Management tender
- 2020 We publish a standalone Single-use Plastic Report
- 2022 We publish our first Sustainability Report



*The Living Planet Centre © Ben Blossom*

We have a number of offices around the UK, each is listed in the table below, highlighting what we are able to measure at each office:

	Office area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Business travel	Commuting	Electricity	Waste	Water	Gas	Paper and timber purchasing
Living Planet Centre, Surrey (from October 2013)	3,675	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	No gas supply to building	✓
Edinburgh, Scotland (from May 2014)	256	✓	✓	✓	✓*	Tenant within office with no current means to measure these aspects		✓
Cardiff, Wales (from December 2015)	190	✓	✓	✓	✓*			✓
Somerset House, London (from September 2019)	115	✓	✓	Tenant within satellite office with no means to measure these aspects				✓

\* Although we are tenants within rented office space in Scotland and Wales, we regularly weigh our waste output

## AN UPDATE TO OUR TARGETS

During the coronavirus pandemic we experienced the benefits of flexible working, greater use of digital conferencing and reduced travel demand. Since then, we've adopted a more flexible approach to the use of our office spaces, which we've realised is incompatible with some of our previous environmental targets – some would not be achievable, while others would not be ambitious enough. We've decided to update our environmental goals in 2023, to ensure we continuously improve our performance and aim for best practice.

## OUR FOOTPRINT

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At WWF-UK we monitor our scope 2 and scope 3 CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions (we have no direct scope 1 emissions to record). CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions are a way of accounting for the impact of different greenhouse gases, expressed as the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that would produce the equivalent amount of warming. Emissions are categorised as Scope 1, 2 or 3, as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. We calculate these emissions by applying the UK government's carbon conversion factors. All CO<sub>2</sub> figures referenced in this document are CO<sub>2</sub>e figures.

Scope	Source
Scope 1	No scope 1 emissions
Scope 2	Electricity
Scope 3	Business travel
	Courier deliveries
	Food
	Hotel stays
	Paper and timber purchases
	Plastic consumption
	Procurement
	Waste and recycling
	Water
	Working from home

We use the UK government's conversion factors for greenhouse gas reporting to calculate our emissions. We apply a radiative forcing factor of 1.9 to our air travel emissions, to account for the effect of releasing greenhouse gases at altitude.

We report our environmental performance annually. Reports dating back 10 years are available on our website ([wwf.org.uk/who-we-are/walking-the-talk](http://wwf.org.uk/who-we-are/walking-the-talk)). Each year, our report is verified by a third party and reviewed by our Executive Group and Trustees before we publish it on our website.

## OUR ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS

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REDUCE OUR ROAD AND RAIL BUSINESS TRAVEL EMISSIONS BY 46.2% BY FY30  
USING 56 TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>e AS OUR BASELINE



REDUCE OUR BUSINESS AIR TRAVEL EMISSIONS BY 46.2% BY FY30 USING 309  
TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>e AS OUR BASELINE



REDUCE OUR ENERGY EMISSIONS BY 46.2% BY FY30 USING 171 TONNES OF CO<sub>2</sub>e  
AS OUR BASELINE

USE ≤160 kWh ENERGY PER M<sup>2</sup> PER YEAR



RECYCLE AT LEAST 84% OF OUR WASTE PER YEAR



PRODUCE ≤17KG OF FOOD WASTE PER PERSON PER YEAR



ERADICATE ALL AVOIDABLE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC IN OUR PRODUCTS, OPERATIONS  
AND SUPPLY CHAIN



USE ≤400 LITRES OF WATER PER M<sup>2</sup> PER YEAR



USE 100% RECYCLED OR FSC CERTIFIED MATERIAL FOR ALL PAPER AND TIMBER

REDUCE OUR PAPER AND PRINT EMISSIONS BY 46.2% BY FY30 USING 121 TONNES  
OF CO<sub>2</sub>e AS OUR BASELINE



USE ≤0.5 SHEETS PER EMPLOYEE PER WORKING DAY



## BUSINESS TRAVEL

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Greenhouse gas emissions are increasing, causing global temperatures to rise beyond what our planet can sustain. We must take action to limit this rise to 1.5°C to protect people and the planet from further harm (SDG 13).

Business travel produces our most significant environmental impact. It accounts for approximately 60% of our measured CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions. Roughly 85% of our business travel emissions are produced by air travel, making this a high priority for us to monitor and manage.

As an international organisation, working to achieve our global objectives, reducing our air travel emissions to zero is not a realistic option. Instead, we've worked hard since 2000 to monitor business travel emissions and put strategies in place to manage and reduce them.

In addition to the environmental impacts, travel also has financial costs and can affect people's work-life balance. We consider all of these factors before making travel bookings.

### TARGET

On 1 July 2018 we began our new strategy, under which we're determined to change hearts and minds to make it politically, socially and economically unacceptable to degrade our planet's precious natural resources. We're tackling the underlying causes that are driving nature's decline – notably the food system and climate change - and fighting to ensure future generations have a world with thriving habitats and species.

We have set a science-based target, consistent with a 1.5°C level of global warming, to reduce our carbon emissions from travel by 46.2% by 2030, using 2019 as a baseline. Our target is therefore to reduce our air travel emissions from 309 tonnes to 166 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030, and our road and rail travel emissions from 56 tonnes to 30 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030.

### OUR APPROACH

To achieve our targets, we have a Sustainable Travel Policy that first and foremost challenges the need to travel: could the objective of the meeting be achieved virtually? If not, the policy advises travel using the most sustainable means practical. Our policy prohibits flying to destinations in mainland Great Britain or to Eurostar destinations. All staff must travel by train to European destinations within six hours' journey time. If the journey time is within 10 hours, then staff must take the train at least one way.

Allocating a carbon budget for air travel to our teams and getting them to plan their flights for the year ahead at the same time they're carrying out financial planning, means they must prioritise travel, taking only the most important journeys. We've had a carbon budgeting system in place since 2005 and it's proved a useful way to manage air travel.

We do not currently set targets to reduce our emissions from hotel stays, as some areas of the world do not offer staff many options to choose from. We do however encourage staff to plan

their trips carefully, reducing the need for hotel stays where possible, and choosing the lowest carbon option where this is available.

## TRAVELLING TO WORK

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Staff travel to and from work has an environmental impact. The choices we make can ultimately impact our health and wellbeing (SDG 3) so we want to provide facilities to enable staff to choose low-carbon options whilst enabling them to stay healthy and well.



### TARGET

The way we commute involves personal choices, so we do not set targets to reduce this. However, it's important to us that we advocate environmentally responsible travel to our staff and our objective is to positively influence commuting choices by providing information and support schemes to keep the commuting footprint of our staff as low as possible.

### OUR APPROACH

We understand that not everyone can cycle to work, but we offer a range of programmes to support people commuting in the most sustainable way possible for them. We have a cycle to work scheme which means staff can make savings by purchasing a bike through a salary sacrifice scheme, including electric bicycles. Staff can also become members of the CTC (the National Cycling Charity) at a reduced cost. We run an event called 'Bike Week', which highlights the benefits of cycling to work and often includes an opportunity for people to learn bike maintenance skills.

At our headquarters, the Living Planet Centre, we have a secure bike shed, showers and a drying room to facilitate walking, running or cycling to work. We also offer season ticket loans for trains and buses, so staff can take advantage of better value tickets with repayment through their salaries. Finally, we host a lift-sharing page so staff can find others to share their journey to work with. We do not offer free car parking at any of our offices. We also carry out annual travel surveys to gather feedback and find improvements to promote safe and sustainable ways to commute.

## WORKING FROM HOME

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The global pandemic has demonstrated that working from home can achieve environmental and social benefits, reducing pollution from commuting and achieving a better work-life balance (SDG 3). However, working from home still has an emissions footprint so we want to encourage staff to reduce this as much as possible (SDG 13).



### TARGET

How we run our homes is a personal choice, so we cannot set a target to reduce this area of our footprint. Instead, we can positively influence staff to make informed decisions by providing advice and guidance. We also ensure that the emissions from working from home are captured in our annual environmental reporting.

### OUR APPROACH

All staff have access to our company intranet which contains a section dedicated to 'Walking the Talk'. There we provide information and guidance, including 26 tips to reduce our impact when working from home. We also have a shared Slack channel for 'eco-tips' where staff can share ideas and interesting information, as well as make recommendations for improving sustainability at WWF-UK.

As part of our emissions footprint comes from the technology we use and provide to staff when working from home, we ensure that we choose devices that are as efficient as possible.



## ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Powering our computers as well as heating and cooling the buildings we work in uses energy. Energy consumption accounts for roughly 25% of our carbon footprint. We're committed to running our buildings as efficiently as possible, ensuring we minimise our energy use without negatively affecting our operations, and supporting the transition to clean, renewable energy where possible (SDGs 7 and 13).



### TARGET

We have set a science-based target to reduce our emissions from energy by 46.2% by 2030 using 2019 as a baseline. This is a reduction from 171 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e to 92 tonnes by 2030.

We monitor energy use regularly at all office locations, allowing us to work towards this target. At the Living Planet Centre, we have an energy consumption target of 160 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year, which is within the good practice benchmark for offices as recommended by the Better Building Partnership (2020)<sup>i</sup>.

We also measure electricity consumption in our Edinburgh and Cardiff offices but do not have a target for energy consumption in these locations as we are currently reviewing our estates.

### OUR APPROACH

At our offices in Edinburgh and Cardiff we purchase 100% renewable energy tariffs and have taken measures to improve energy consumption by installing LED lighting and energy efficient devices. We also participate in joint tenants' meetings held with other organisations in the office buildings, sharing knowledge and ideas about how to make operations more environmentally friendly.

The Living Planet Centre produces nearly 25% less CO<sub>2</sub> per square metre than our previous HQ did. At the Living Planet Centre we have 410 solar panels on the roof which provide us with up to 20% of our energy needs each year. For our remaining electricity supply, we're connected to a local combined heat and power (CHP) network which produces electricity using a natural gas-fired generator. In 2017 we began purchasing REGO (Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin) certificates from our electricity provider for the LPC. This means that, whilst the power that they generate, and which we consume, does not come directly from renewables, they are purchasing power elsewhere which is renewable. This means that we are, in effect, helping offset the impact of our non-renewable power by ensuring that equivalent power is supplied elsewhere in the UK electricity market that is generated from renewables.

Instead of sourcing heat from an external source and using a traditional air conditioning system, we use a more energy efficient, on-site ground source heat pump system to heat and cool our building. We draw on heat stored in the ground to heat the building during winter,

and transfer heat to the ground in summer. We also use natural ventilation during warmer months, in addition to mechanical cooling.

To stay on top of energy consumption and meet our targets, we have a Building Management System in the Living Planet Centre which gives meter readings at 15-minute intervals, allowing us to monitor and manage different zones of the building. We have also converted all the lighting in the building to LEDs, reducing energy consumption from lighting by over 60%.

## MANAGING OUR WASTE

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Managing our waste is important to us because of our mission to reduce pollution and wasteful consumption (SDG 12). Our planet has finite resources available and the depletion of these resources is leading to habitat destruction. Ensuring we are responsible consumers and dispose of our waste in the least environmentally damaging way possible is essential.



### TARGET

An office that has an effective recycling system for paper, card, cans, glass and toner cartridges can recycle 60-70% of its waste and produce less than 200kg of waste per person each year<sup>ii</sup>.

Currently, we send approximately 70-80% of our waste for recycling. The remainder (general waste) is sent for energy recovery as we are a zero-waste-to-landfill organisation. Our target is to recycle at least 84% of our waste across all of our office locations.

### OUR APPROACH


To achieve our target we induct all new staff with a “recycling quiz” during their environmental induction, provide regular updates on our recycling performance, and encourage the purchase of reusable and recyclable products over disposables. Our Environmental Procurement Policy focuses on life-cycle analysis, ensuring staff purchase the most environmentally and socially sustainable goods and services.

At the Living Planet Centre we have a waste management plan that outlines all the different types of waste we produce. It details how the waste can be disposed and who can remove it. Waste arrangements at our other offices are managed by the respective building management companies, and we try to positively influence the way waste is managed. There are clearly labelled waste and recycling bins at all our offices and for each of our offices we have purchased an additional recycling bin for crisp packets and sweet wrappers to save these from going to incineration. At the Living Planet Centre we have two bins that monitor single-use plastic recycling and waste which encourage staff to think about their plastic consumption.

We’re mindful of the three Rs – reduce, reuse, recycle. We apply this waste hierarchy by encouraging staff to firstly reduce consumption of resources to avoid generating waste. Where this isn’t possible, we aim to reuse whatever items we can. If we can’t reuse, we recycle as much material as we can and only treat it as waste as a last resort.

An example of this hierarchy in practice is our stationery cupboard: all offices have a stationery cupboard for supplies and staff can also donate items for reuse. For example, if they receive extra pens or notepads at a conference these can be left in the cupboard. This helps us avoid over-ordering and unnecessary waste.

### Our application of the waste hierarchy

	Most favoured	Prevention	Avoid consumption of resources
		Minimisation	Carefully manage the amount of resources needed
		Reuse	Reuse resources for the purpose they were intended e.g. stationery
		Recycling	Remanufacture products using raw materials: plastic, paper, cans, electrical waste
		Energy recovery	Convert non-recyclable products into recoverable energy: compost, general non-recyclable waste
	Least favoured	Disposal	Send waste to landfill or incineration without energy recovery (not used by WWF-UK)



## SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

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The impact of plastic, particularly on our oceans (SDG 14), is a fast-growing global issue. Nearly all plastic is derived from fossil fuels and its production contributes to climate change. Plastic poses substantial hazards to wildlife in both its product state and once broken down into microplastics. We must act responsibly as an organisation and as consumers to reduce the effects of single-use plastics on the environment (SDG 12).



### TARGET

We acknowledge that certain types of plastic will be unavoidable for legislative or operational reasons and therefore our target is to eradicate all avoidable single-use plastic in our products, communications and supply chain.

### OUR APPROACH

We want to avoid using any plastic that is disposable, including recyclable plastics, where they have been designed to be used only once or for a short time. To reduce our plastic use we have a Single-Use Plastic Policy which sets out a hierarchy of alternatives to plastic, making natural, renewable materials the priority. Where plastic cannot be avoided, our policy is to prioritise recycled plastics over bioplastics as this utilises a waste product and supports global recycling efforts. Bioplastics are avoided as there is not currently sufficient infrastructure in the UK to process this type of waste.

All suppliers are notified of our environmental requirements, including removing plastic in products and packaging, and work with us to meet our targets. We capture our plastic consumption in the annual environmental report and have made good progress removing plastics from our operations, such as switching to glass bottled milk and teabags in paper sacks. We have some sources of unavoidable plastics such as our coffee packaging, and windowed envelopes at our fulfilment warehouse but we continue to work with suppliers to reduce these.

In our offices we guide staff to reduce their own personal plastic consumption by providing reusable coffee cups, lunch containers and reusable bags. We have also purchased recycling boxes for soft plastics which allow staff to recycle crisp packets and sweet wrappers that would otherwise end up in general waste. The preference is still to reduce waste rather than recycle it.

## FOOD

Food is one of the primary goals in our strategy: we want to increase understanding of the links between food choices and environmental impacts (SDGs 12 and 13). We must walk the talk, taking action to reduce food waste and ensuring that food is sourced sustainably.



## TARGETS

Prior to the pandemic our target was to reduce our food waste by 50%, from 7.56 tonnes in 2018 to 3.78 tonnes of food waste by July 2023. By July 2019 we had already reduced food waste by 37%, to 4.8 tonnes, and prior to the pandemic we were on track to achieve roughly 2.8 tonnes of food waste by July 2020.

Many factors that influence our food waste have changed. Staff numbers have increased, many are working from both home and the office, and we are also reintroducing private hire events into our headquarters, the Living Planet Centre. The Waste Resources Action Partnership (WRAP) plan to reduce food waste in the UK from 130kg to 66kg per person per year by 2030<sup>iii</sup>. Most food waste is produced at lunchtime in our buildings, so we have taken WRAP's 66kg per person per year target, and allocated a target of  $\leq 17$ kg per person per year for our office food waste.

## OUR APPROACH

We have a Meetings & Events Catering Policy that focuses on healthy, sustainable produce and supports certification labels that benefit people and the environment (SDG 2), such as Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and RSPO-Certified Sustainable Palm Oil. Food for catered meetings and events must be vegan and vegetarian, or it may contain minimal amounts of seafood if requested. Caught seafood must be Marine Stewardship Council certified, and farmed seafood should be Aquaculture Stewardship Council certified. By exceeding our LiveWell principles and serving vegan and vegetarian catering, we can demonstrate that it's possible to have healthy, tasty food that has a lower impact on the environment, while reducing our meat consumption.

Holding events is an important part of helping to spread our message and engage and share information with others. We have Environmental Events Guidelines which advise our staff to reduce the environmental impact of events as much as possible. Catering is a key part of many events and an important area where we can minimise our impact. We take conscious steps to minimise waste from events by advising on catering numbers to prevent leftover food and ensuring that all items used are reusable (such as crockery) or have recyclable packaging. Any leftover food is quickly consumed by staff, and we keep containers in our offices to encourage staff to take food home or give to others. We work closely with our approved catering providers to help them support our goals on single-use plastic. We have already eradicated clingfilm by switching to reusable plastic covers for food trays.

## WATER

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Water is an important and finite natural resource, so we try to use as little as possible in our offices (SDGs 6 and 12). In our previous head office, between 2008 (when we started recording our water use) and 2013, our average water consumption per person was lower than the benchmark of good water use for an office at that time; i.e. less than 26 litres per person per day).



Our water use per person at the Living Planet Centre is more difficult to measure: in addition to our staff, lots of visitors and groups use the building for varying amounts of time, with varied water consumption. Instead, we report water consumption per m<sup>2</sup> as this variable remains constant.

## TARGETS

Due to the unique function and use of our Living Planet Centre, we have taken the best practice benchmark set by the Better Building Partnership<sup>ii</sup>, 450 litres per m<sup>2</sup> per year, and reduced this to 400 litres per m<sup>2</sup>.

## OUR APPROACH

The Living Planet Centre has rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling systems that reduce the amount of mains water we use. We collect rainwater and recycle water from hand basins and showers, using this to flush toilets and water the plants. We have dual flush toilets that allow people to use a smaller amount of water to flush when possible.

A leak detection system within the building management system at the Living Planet Centre means we can find out about any leaks quickly, so they can be repaired. This limits the amount of water lost. We also have an irrigation system which collects rainwater and passes it round the perimeter of our building, helping the plants to thrive without becoming a burden on our mains water consumption.

We have dishwashers in our kitchens at the Living Planet Centre and in our office in Edinburgh. We make sure they're full before we use them. We have hot and chilled 'zip' taps in the Living Planet Centre and hot water boilers in Edinburgh and Cardiff. These devices prevent overfilling kettles and thus heating more water than necessary. Zip taps also provide instant cold drinking water, so people don't have to run the tap and wait for it to get cold.

## PAPER, TIMBER & PRINT

Paper is our most tangible consumable. Most of the paper we print on is for fundraising purposes and despite developing digital means of fundraising, printed media remains an important part of our fundraising activities.



It is part of our mission to stop unsustainable consumption of natural resources (SDG 12) and preserve natural habitats (SDG 15) so we're conscious of reducing the volume of paper, wood products, and printing we purchase.

### TARGETS

We have set a science-based target to reduce our emissions from paper, timber and print products by 2030, using 2019 as a baseline. This is a reduction from 121 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e to 65 tonnes by 2030.

As sustainable sourcing of paper and timber is essential to us, we also have a target to only procure 100% recycled or FSC-certified paper and wood materials, which includes all printed communications and office paper.

For internal printing, our target is to use ≤0.5 sheets per person per day. We will be working with the staff who repeatedly print the highest volumes to try and find solutions to encourage them to cut down.

### OUR APPROACH

We're committed to buying FSC-certified or 100% recycled paper for all our paper, board and wood purchases, including stationery and fundraising communications. These requirements are set out in our Paper, Timber and Print Products Purchasing Policy, which also specifies that all of our printed communications must be produced by printers with ISO 14001 certification. This demonstrates they are working to manage and reduce their environmental impacts. They must also hold FSC Chain of Custody certification. FSC Chain of Custody tracks FSC-certified material from production all the way through to the final product. We measure all our timber and paper purchases that we're practically able to – the quantity, weights, and what they're made from. A summary is included in our annual Environmental Report.

We monitor our internal printing and share the results through internal communications to encourage people to print less. We use multifunctional devices in all our offices (double-sided and black and white as standard) to print, copy and scan, thereby reducing the number of separate devices we have. We currently have just four printers in our Living Planet Centre and one in each of our devolved offices. Staff must use a fob when they visit the printer, to activate the printing process (or to photocopy) which encourages them to think twice before printing. Once logged in, they must select which documents to print which allows staff to



change their minds after sending documents to the printer and it automatically clears all jobs by the end of the day so if they forget to visit the machine, it will not print next time the fob is activated.

## PROCUREMENT

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All goods and services have an impact on people and the planet. To ensure that our consumption and production is responsible (SDG 12) we consider sustainability throughout the procurement process. This means that procurement focuses not only on reducing the environmental impact of what we buy, but also the impact on people and societies (SDG 10).



## TARGETS

Our most frequently procured items, excluding paper and print, are fundraising materials such as soft toys, and technology. We seek to reduce the environmental footprint of all goods and services that we purchase as much as possible, however there are some situations where we cannot choose alternative items or materials. We therefore do not have an exact emissions reduction target for procurement but, as sustainable items and materials become more widely available, this may change in future.

## OUR APPROACH

Our Environmental Procurement Policy directs staff to purchase the most sustainable option, giving clear guidance on what can and cannot be purchased, and what staff should look for, separated by different types of products, materials and services. We want to be sure that the things we buy have been produced in an environmentally and socially responsible way. For goods which we purchase in significant quantities (i.e. soft toys), or items with high environmental impact (i.e. laptops), we calculate the emissions footprint from these and try to reduce this as much as possible.

To help us understand where goods have been made and who by, we have a Sustainable Product Questionnaire. This questionnaire asks suppliers to provide details about the manufacturing and supply of products, along with copies of any certifications and valid factory audit reports. All suppliers are also asked to sign our Code of Conduct

We have developed a Supplier Questionnaire which asks suppliers a variety of economic, social and environmental questions, scoring their sustainability progress. We use this questionnaire when selecting suppliers of goods and services, particularly those which are subject to our tender and quotes threshold. We can use the results to collaborate with our supply chain, setting targets and providing guidance to help them improve their business as part of our contract. We've put together a Supplier Toolkit which contains ideas for making businesses more sustainable, as well as tips for engaging employees to encourage them to reduce their footprint too.

## CARBON OFFSETTING

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There are several different types of projects that can deliver reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, from renewable energy to natural resource conservation. For example, improved cook stoves in developing areas can leave trees standing that would otherwise be cut down for use as cooking fuel. Businesses, organisations or individuals can invest in these projects to compensate for, or offset, their emissions.

It's important to take steps to reduce emissions before offsetting; WWF-UK views carbon offsetting as the last step in a mitigation hierarchy of avoid, reduce and offset. We support the Gold Standard accredited offsetting scheme, and we purchase Gold Standard offsets equal to our annual emissions footprint. We ensure that the projects we invest in via offsetting meet our values as an organisation and meet as many Sustainable Development Goals as possible.

This publication refers to our financial years, which run from 1 July to 30 June. For example, FY19 ends on 30 June 2019.

To find out more, please visit [wwf.org.uk/walking-the-talk](http://wwf.org.uk/walking-the-talk)

or contact Lauren Wiseman, Environmental Manager, [lwiseman@wwf.org.uk](mailto:lwiseman@wwf.org.uk)

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- iii. [Wrap \(October 2021\) Food Surplus and Waste in the UK Key Facts](#)

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