



ACORD UGANDA

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

AGENCY FOR COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (ACORD-U)

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1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL BACKGROUND

ACORD Uganda recognizes environmental protection as one of our guiding principles and a key component of sound programme delivery and performance. We are committed to providing quality service delivery and project implementation in a manner that ensures a safe and healthy workplace for our employees and minimizes the impact of our work on the environment. We will operate in compliance with relevant government environmental legislation, and we will strive to use environmental best practices in all we do. ACORD Uganda will also endeavour to work with the community and like-minded entities to implement interventions that directly ensure environmental protection, mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

This policy statement is aimed at unifying the ACORD environmental vision with all key stakeholders like: employees, management, partners, beneficiaries, service providers and suppliers among others. It provides a policy framework and is one of the first steps to reducing ACORD Uganda's Environmental footprint.

2. TEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ACORD ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

ACORD Uganda will promote environmental stewardship and human well-being in all aspects of its operations. The Organisation will seek to partner with all relevant institutions and entities to ensure high level of compliance and foster progressive learning and improvement. We will be guided by the following principles:

1. **Environmental Education and Awareness** – ACORD Uganda will provide ongoing education for all employees, governance team, contractors and visitors concerning the importance of environmental responsibility in all organisational operations. Furthermore, we will share relevant and accurate information on our environmental performance with the public whenever possible.
2. **Environmentally Responsible Facilities Operations** – ACORD Uganda will assess environmental implications in the design, construction and operation of infrastructure and buildings constructed as part of its service delivery. To the extent practical, facilities development and maintenance will promote environmental sustainability through resource conservation, ecologically-sound landscaping practices, sustainable building design and operation, and transportation that minimizes environmental impact.
3. **Conservation of Energy, Water and Other Resources** – ACORD Uganda will reduce resource consumption by eliminating wasteful practices and promoting efficient use, and by evaluating and implementing feasible and practical conservation measures in all its offices, existing building projects, renovations, and new construction work.
4. **Compliance with Environmental Requirements** – ACORD Uganda will comply with all applicable Government and local environmental laws, statutes, regulations and other environmental requirements. When environmental quality improvements are feasible, we will establish and maintain our own standards that exceed existing laws and regulations.
5. **Environmentally Responsible Acquisition** – ACORD Uganda will promote environmental responsibility through its contracting and purchasing choices. When purchasing products and services, we will strive to obtain the best value by

considering life cycle environmental impacts along with cost and functional performance.

6. **Healthy Built Environment** – ACORD Uganda will promote public health, workforce wellness, and quality of work-life by integrating the development of buildings and grounds with the natural environment and by promoting indoor environmental quality.
7. **Pollution Prevention** – ACORD Uganda will minimize solid waste generation and the potential release of pollutants into the environment first through conservation, source reduction, secondarily through reuse and recycling, and finally through treatment and disposal.
8. **Minimize Hazardous Waste and Toxic Materials** – ACORD Uganda will minimize the generation of hazardous wastes. The Organisation will maintain policies and processes for the safe and efficient use, tracking, storage and disposal of hazardous and toxic materials if ever generated.
9. **Green Technology** – ACORD Uganda will recognize the significant impacts of computing, communication, refrigeration and other technologies on human health and the environment. We will actively promote the efficient and sustainable use of technology.
10. **Undertaking Projects and Initiatives that promote the protection** and enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystems through employee awareness programs and stakeholder engagement

Signed;

Ellen K Bajenja
Country Director
ACORD Uganda

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This policy statement will be reviewed on a regular basis to evaluate continued relevance to monitor compliance and update it when need arises.