

## Environment and climate policy

*This document is a translation of the “Miljö- och klimatpolicy” in Swedish, last revised by the Union Council 2020-04-14.*

### Introduction

This document applies to the Uppsala union of engineering and science students (UTN), including the organisation's committees, working groups, standing committees and sections. This also includes internal and external activities that are linked to UTN as an organisation. The document should also be seen as a recommendation to external organisers whose activities are aimed towards UTN members.

### Purpose and definitions

The environment and climate policy aims to give the organization a tangible picture of what is expected of them and act as support for those who, within an event or other involvement linked to UTN, have environmental and sustainability responsibility. The policy is a part of UTN's long-term work for a climate-neutral union with minimal environmental impact. It is in line with the goal plan established by the union council 190514. In addition to being an internal document, the policy aims to promote UTN's investments in the environment and climate and maintain students' interests in environmental and climate issues.

### Basic principles

UTN works actively to keep this and other policy documents up to date, as well as to ensure that the organisation follows them and that organisers understand the meaning of the policy documents affecting their activities. UTN strives for everyone who is involved in the union's activities to gain an increased and in-depth understanding of how their participation and decisions can affect the environment and the climate. The basic principle of a more sustainable society should be the focus in each event. Therefore, an analysis of potential risks and opportunities in terms of the following should be done: changed regulatory requirements; significant environmental and climate impact aspects; new and changed conditions; life cycle perspective and minimising emissions. In every event where a large environmental and/or climate impact is predicted to be of a significant nature, the chain must be to plan, implement, follow up and act to ensure high quality work.

### Work methods and follow-ups

UTN's activities shall, to the extent that it is considered reasonable, be characterised by an environmental, climate and sustainable thinking. It is desirable to compile an environmental and climate analysis within the union's events with the aim of identifying, preventing and evaluating any environmental and climate consequences that the activity has. Conducting an active environmental and climate work and

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reducing the organisation's environmental and climate impact is an ongoing process that is facilitated by evaluations and implementation of improvement measures. The policy should be updated after an evaluation and control of UTN's prevailing environmental and climate impact as well as general environmental and climate aspects. The work on self-inspections is an ongoing process within the organisation. Its main task is to ensure the implementation of measures and improvement as well as to call attention to how the organisation can improve. The board is responsible for reporting the union's environmental and sustainability work in the annual report and to report the union's internal climate work to the union council. If major deficiencies in the business's environment and climate work is discovered and in the event of risking an environmental and/or climate impact of a more serious nature, affected parties are convened to identify, within a reasonable time, where the deficiencies may occur/have occurred and how to prevent future similar cases.

#### **UTN shall work**

*for* environmental aspects to always be considered and integrated in the planning, implementation and follow-up of events, strategies and efforts.

*for* choosing products and provisions that have low environmental and climate impact as well as, to the largest reasonable extent, products with eco-labelling.

*for* actively decreasing the amount of food waste and other waste that is generated and to increase the proportion of recycled waste.

*for* no encouragement of consumption to exist within the organisation.

*for* environmental and climate aspects to be considered when choosing new associates and for current associates to actively works in line with the Paris agreement.

*for* prioritising collaborations with companies that are considered good in environmental and climate aspects.

*for* give-aways handed out by companies or the union themselves to be justifiable from an environmental and climate perspective.

*for* that companies we promote are transparent about how much they affect the environment and climate, and are not allowed to use our platforms for greenwashing.

*for* the environment and climate work as well as the emission reductions to not cause lower quality in business or an unsustainable workload for UTN's involved.

*for* the union to participate in the society's strive to reach net zero emissions by 2045.

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