



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

A. Purpose

Samarthan-Centre for Development Support is committed to operate in an eco-friendly manner with abiding concern for the environment and society as a whole. Being a social change organisation, we consider climate change to be one of the greatest threats affecting economic stability of countries, vulnerability of communities, and the society at large. Thus, through our policy mandate and our work, we intend to encourage use of green technologies and environment friendly systems while pursuing business aspirations and enhancement of shareholder value.

B. Environment Impacts

Samarthan is a capacity building and an implementation organisation at the grassroots as well as a district and state level. Our environmental impacts result from the projects implemented, trainings conducted and solutions identified with the communities and local civil society organisations. We regard climate change mitigation and environmental improvement as essential elements not only as a part of our programs but also as workplace ethics being a part of our sustainable business philosophy.

C. Commitment

We are committed to continuously benchmarking and enhancing our own environmental performance through the reduction of our carbon and ecological footprints with the involvement of our communities, their institutions, village Panchayats and local civil society organisations. Through our programs and services, we endeavour to help communities and their institutions improve their environmental performance towards their sustainability objectives.

D. Environment Management Protocols (EMP)

Samarthan has an effective EMP in place to ensure that the projects do not in any way causes harm or damage of any kind to the environment through any of its intervention processes or procedures.

E. Centre for Environment Water, Sanitation and Health (CEWASH)

The CEWASH is committed to contribute in reducing the carbon footprint by promoting sustainable water use, natural resource management, agriculture, bio-diversity etc. The team of this center will have additional responsibility of identifying ways for the organisation to improve its environmental performance, setting objectives and targets and monitoring and evaluating environmental impacts of our programs. This includes:

- Assessing and reducing the Organisation's impact on the environment.
- Encouraging and training/ educating staff on Eco-Friendly process and procedures.
- Comparing current practice with best practice.
- Reducing financial costs and liabilities.
- Improving the Organisation's efficiency.
- Setting clear, specific objectives and targets.
- For help with establishing environmental objectives.