



Sustainability Policy

Category:	Governance
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Approved By:	Executive Committee
Contact Person:	The President

1. PURPOSE

The object of this policy is to provide clear direction for the University of Canterbury Students' Association (the UCSA) in its efforts to become environmentally, ethically and socially sustainable.

2. POLICY STATEMENT:

The UCSA will continue to strive to improve its social, ethical and environmental performance, with the objective of ensuring that its activities contribute to the sustainable development of the communities in which it operates.

3. PARTNERSHIP WITH MĀORI:

The UCSA will work in partnership with Māori under Te Tiriti o Waitangi to recognize values such as kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, mahinga kai, and tauutuutu. Our environmental decisions will be made in accordance with Te Ao Māori knowledge systems and partnership with Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Ngāi Tahu and the University of Canterbury.

4. PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY:

The UCSA will endeavor to work in partnership with the University of Canterbury to achieve sustainable practices campus-wide. This will include providing representation on relevant University of Canterbury committees to promote environmental and social sustainability practices through an internal sustainability committee.

5. SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION:

The UCSA will recognise its unique role to educate students and promote environmental, ethical and social sustainability messages in its communications and through its events.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

All aspects of sustainability should be considered in the processes and practices within which the UCSA operates. The UCSA will strive towards the following goals; including but not limited to:

- 6.1. Operate in the interest of conserving our natural resources and the mitigating waste and pollution.
 - 6.1.1. Establishing a commitment on the part of all UCSA staff, students, suppliers and the Executive to reduce the quantity of waste produced by the organization.
 - 6.1.2. The reduction of the use of toxic and non-biodegradable substances.
 - 6.1.3. The UCSA is committed to transitioning to renewable energy where feasible, and officially supports the University of Canterbury's endeavor to become carbon net neutral by 2030.
 - 6.1.4. Help maintain and restore natural processes and indigenous biodiversity.
 - 6.1.5. Supporting the principles outlined in New Zealand's Sustainable Development Goals

- 6.2. Make ethical business decisions and promote the wellbeing and belonging of the students.
 - 6.2.1. Actively try to understand the wide range of students' needs and desires.
 - 6.2.2. Supporting the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - 6.2.3. Supply of ethically sourced products
 - 6.2.4. Supporting the minimum requirements for a Fair-Trade University, as determined by the Fairtrade Association of Australia and New Zealand

- 6.3. Operate in a financial manner which ensures the current and continuing benefit of students.
 - 6.3.1. The initial cost of the other aspects of sustainability must be recognised as a part of a long-term strategy for cost efficiency.
 - 6.3.2. Sustainability should be considered as a part of all procurement processes.