

Sustainable procurement policy

Aarya Village Travel is devoted to positive social and environmental impact with an aim for sustainability in all aspects of our operations, including sourcing and procurement department. The objective of this policy is to consider environment, social, and economic factors along with price, product quality, and delivery of goods which not only achieves value for money but also benefits environment and economy of society. Wherever feasible, all employees including directors, management and employees responsible for procurement should adhere to following policy:

Sustainable Purchasing Principles

Our Sustainable Procurement Policy has the following core principles:

- **Minimal and bulk purchasing:** Purchasing shall only be made once it has been determined that the product or service is necessary. Purchase decisions shall be made in the context of the waste hierarchy to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle. Regularly used products are purchased in bulk in order to reduce the amount of packaging materials.
- **Fair products:** We will prefer locally produced, organic and where possible fair-trade products. We will ensure that the producer follows fair business practices, including transparency and adherence to law, human rights and economic/social equity, and environmental and animal protection. Fair Trade labeling may help identify such products. Whenever possible, suppliers should be asked to disclose ethical information regarding production and labor outsourcing.
- **Sustainable option:** When buying new equipment (computers, printers, vehicles and the like) our company gives preference to newer, low energy models based on highest local available standards.

General Sustainability Considerations

The following considerations should also be made in the procurement of all products and services:

- **Use of resources:** Running costs are often overlooked when purchasing. This is a short-term view as often the running costs are the most expensive part of the life cycle. Products that are energy efficient should be favored. Care should also be taken to ensure that products using water are efficient and that minimums of raw materials are used.
- **Biodegradability:** Consideration should be given when purchasing products as to whether these products can be biodegraded. If not, consideration should be given to an alternative product.
- **Locality:** Think about the transportation of the product. Sourcing from local suppliers means local investment and economic sustainability.
- **Waste management:** Ensure that the product purchased does not have any "hidden" costs associated with its disposal.
- **Minimum toxicity:** Purchase material and products that are free of toxic or polluting materials and chemicals. Purchase products and material that will not release toxic substances that can affect human health and pollute water, land or air at any stage of the lifecycle.
- **Minimum habitat destruction:** Purchase paper and wood products obtained from recycled, plantation, salvages or renewable resources. Purchase green cleaning products that don't result in discharges of toxic chemicals to waterways
- **Maximum water efficiency:** Purchase products that conserve water or use water in an efficient way.

- **Minimum greenhouse gas emissions:** Our company will purchase energy efficient products and materials by checking that the energy rating and efficiency features are the best available for the cost over the lifetime of the product. Purchase renewable energy and reduce the consumption of fossil fuels. Purchase goods that have not been transported long distances.
- **Minimum soil degradation:** Purchase products, material and services that will not degrade or pollute the soils, or result in erosion through their use.
- **Packaging:** Ensure that the minimum packaging is used and that any that is used is reused, or if that is impossible, recycled by the distributor or manufacturer.

Our locally manufactured giveaways are:

- 1) Nepali Dhaka Topi
- 2) Nepali Dhaka made muffler
- 3) Locally manufactured corn husk doll of sister's creation: <https://sisterscreations.altervista.org/>
- 4) Locally manufactured notebook made out of Lokta paper: <https://mahaguthi.com.np/>

Aarya Village Travel will review this policy from time to time as appropriate, and in any event, once every