

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

NIRAS-LTS International (hereafter NIRAS-LTS) is committed to providing best practice in our work on international development through our implementation and evaluation work. This environmental policy reflects our core company values for sustainability. NIRAS-LTS respects the local and global environment and is committed to and responsible for the environmental performance of the company. This policy is communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of the company.

NIRAS-LTS has a dedicated sustainability task team that is responsible for researching environmental policy and sustainability options for the company in order to continuously improve our environmental and sustainability performance, to influence behaviour of staff and project partners and to continue to communicate progress to NIRAS-LTS staff.

## 1 Responsibilities

The NIRAS-LTS Environment Manager has the responsibility for delivering this policy. The Environment Manager reports to the Managing Director, who is responsible for providing adequate resources for implementation of the policy.

## 2 Principles

### 2.1 Project work

We are committed to best practice through sharing knowledge gained on project assignments with staff members;

Our decentralised structure, with offices and permanent staff based in the countries and regions in which we work, reduces our transport emissions.

NIRAS-LTS manages projects around the world. We use the latest audio and video communication technology on our projects to minimise travel where at all possible.

Where travel is unavoidable on our projects, we strive to use the least carbon intensive transport in the UK and other European countries, where time and budgets permit. This is not often possible in developing countries, where public transport options may not be realistic given time and security constraints.

We seek to measure and maximise the environmental and sustainability impacts of our projects, sharing lessons and experience amongst our staff and wider stakeholders through project and lesson learning meetings and internal and external communications.

### 2.2 Operations

We are committed to carbon offsetting on an annual basis. We calculate our carbon footprint on annual basis. The scope includes, NIRAS-LTS building energy use, and employee air travel, provided through our travel agent. The results of this carbon accounting and offsetting are communicated to the staff to raise awareness of our impact.

Staff are encouraged to use the most sustainable transport feasible for daily office commutes including public transport and cycling and to share car rides as much as possible. NIRAS-LTS is a member of the cycle to work scheme and is advocating for improved cycle paths from the council.

NIRAS-LTS has remote workers in the UK. We use the latest audio and video communication technology to minimise travel related emissions where possible.

We reduce energy consumption at the NIRAS-LTS Edinburgh office by adopting energy efficient technology.

We are committed to reducing waste. All of our recyclable waste is sorted and recycled through Changeworks, which includes food waste, plastic, cardboard, glass and tins.

We communicate the impact of plastic waste to NIRAS-LTS staff and reflect on office use through plastic collections and knowledge sharing.

We aim to purchase and consume sustainably sourced food, either locally or from a reputable sustainable provider. This includes our choice of tea and coffee and other catering needs.

We recognise that these environmental commitments can also help the company operate more cost-effectively, set positive examples to others and encourage healthier lifestyles for our staff.

Patrick Abbot

*Managing Director, NIRAS-LTS International*

5<sup>th</sup> November 2020