Student Union Malmö´s Environmental policy

Background

The issue of environmental degradation and climate change is one of the greatest threats in the world. Thus the Student Union Malmö should have its own environmental policy, that is implemented, revised and updated if needed. This policy aims to clarify the principles and goals of the Student Union Malmö regarding the environment. It is important that this policy is communicated within, and is available to, everyone who works in or is active within the organisation and its associations.

The vision of the environmental policy promotes activities that are aimed at reducing environmental impact of all sectors of the Student Union Malmö's operations. The goal is to promote progressive environmental friendliness throughout the university and to promote individual actions among students as well.

The purpose of the Student Union Malmö's environmental policy is to determine that the operation of the Student Union Malmö functions in a way that tries to limit its negative environmental impact. Universities and student unions should always try to work for a better tomorrow. The policy is divided in two: sustainable sourcing and raising awareness.

Sustainable sourcing

In all its activities, Student Union Malmö should strive for sustainable consumption. This means consumption which minimizes the use of resources, and whenever possible, they should come from sustainable sources. The Student Union should critically discuss the climate effects of new procurements and actions taken, if there is an environmental concern.

- Water, paper and energy consumption should be at a sustainable level. Documents needed for meetings should be available in an electronic form and only in paper form if a member asks for it or if it is necessary for other reasons. Usage of plastic should be minimised, and plastic should always be recycled properly if possible.
- All purchases should be made bearing in mind sustainability - prevention, reducing, recycling and reusing of products. The longevity and quality, price and environmental friendliness should be discussed when making new purchases.
- Student Union Malmö should always work towards a so-called 'vego-norm', which means that we presume that everyone is vegetarian and that there are always

vegans present until proven otherwise. That means that any eventual meat-consumption is opt-in rather than opt-out, we always choose restaurants that have good vegetarian options and that all events are to furthest point vegetarian. Whenever possible, food purchases should favour foods that are produced locally and/or fair trade.

- Student Union Malmö should always use the greenest possible energy available that is within the budget. Should the Student Union Malmö invest money, the investments must be consistent with the objectives of this policy.
- Waste should be recycled and sorted properly, and single-use and disposable goods should be used as little as possible.
- Student Union Malmö should always try to opt for the least polluting option when it comes to travelling - domestic trips should never be made by flying.

Raising awareness

In its activities, Student Union Malmö should strive for raising awareness of environmental issues in different sectors.

- The Student Union board is responsible for implementing the environmental policy. Student Union should appoint someone on the board as a contact person for environmental issues.
- All Student Union Malmö's associations should be made aware of the policy, and they should be able to seek help and support in implementing it from the Student Union board. Associations are encouraged to be as environmentally friendly as possible and are encouraged to promote environmental awareness among their members as well.
- Student Union Malmö should take political stances towards the university, the city and the Swedish National Union of Students´(SFS) if they take decisions or promote decisions that are not in line with environmental friendliness, and whenever there is a chance and a capacity, the Student Union Malmö should also cooperate with different sectors to promote environmental friendliness. Student Union Malmö should encourage and support different sectors striving for more environmentally friendliness.
- Student Union Malmö should promote environmental friendliness among students as well as, whenever possible, support the students in making more environmentally friendly decisions.