

What is Traidcraft's policy on the environment?

The environment has always played a central role in fair trade, and one of Traidcraft's foundation principles is to "respect all people and the environment". We therefore pay great attention to the environmental impact of our activities.

We recognise that there can be tensions between social and environmental objectives: for example, fair trade by its very nature involves shipping goods around the world.

In everything we do Traidcraft strives to:

- reduce and off-set negative environmental impacts
- promote high environmental standards (and, of course, comply with all relevant legislative requirements)

In December 2005 the Traidcraft boards approved a new environmental policy, which covers the following areas:

- Carbon emissions - from energy use, staff travel and freight transport
- Carbon compensation
- Energy efficiency
- Waste and recycling
- Procurement of products and services
- Staff awareness of environmental issues
- Encouraging supporters, customers and business partners to be environmentally aware
- The environmental sustainability of producer groups

Our main site in Gateshead is supplied by [Good Energy](#), whose electricity is entirely from renewable sources. We also support local environmental initiatives, particularly within the River Team catchment area.

More on the environment

- [Read our full Social Accounts to see how Traidcraft is performing against our environmental targets.](#)
- [Read our environment policy \(166kb\)](#)
- [Back to index](#)
- [Next: I am concerned about food miles and carbon emissions. What about the impact of international transportation on the environment?](#)