



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Division of Buildings
Environment, Safety and Security

Lund University Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy

The Higher Education Act (SFS 1992:1434) requires universities and university colleges to conduct their operations in such a way that they promote sustainable development so as to ensure that present and future generations will be able to enjoy a healthy and good environment as well as economic and social welfare and justice. The Higher Education Act and Lund University's Strategic Plan form the basis of the Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy outlined below:

Lund University has a crucial role to play in society as a driver of sustainable development. Through education, research and cooperation with the community, it will provide reliable knowledge today and in the future.

In particular, Lund University will strive to initiate and implement interdisciplinary research to build new knowledge and contribute to sustainable development.

During their studies, students at Lund University will gain insight and knowledge about aspects of their subjects which are relevant to sustainable development. Once they enter the world of work, they will take on the role of spearheads in practical efforts to create sustainable development.

The principle of 'practising what we preach' will characterise day-to-day activities at the University. This is an issue of credibility, and it requires active participation on the part of University employees and students alike. The Vice-Chancellor and managers at all levels will actively support and strive for constant improvement to our work on sustainable development. University management will ensure through systematic monitoring that the University's environmental and sustainability objectives are attained and that formal requirements imposed on the University, including by applicable legislation, are complied with.

Objectives and Strategy for Lund University's environmental and sustainability work in 2006–2008

Contacts with the Community

'Reliable knowledge'

Lund University is seen as a reliable source of knowledge in the field – evaluation method to be developed.

Responsibility of: Corporate Communications and Office of Evaluation

Information to be disseminated about work on the environment and sustainable development:

- to be integrated in public events;
- to be included in printed and web-based information materials.

Responsibility of: Faculty Boards and Corporate Communications

Education

'students will gain insight and knowledge about aspects of their subjects which are relevant to sustainable development'

Dialogue-based processes

- inspirational group to be appointed.

Responsibility of: Vice-Chancellor

The aims of dialogue-based processes are to:

- develop and disseminate methods to ensure that, during their studies, all students will encounter and relate to ethical and societal aspects of the environmental and sustainable-development field which are relevant to their subject;
- identify needs for skills development of Lund University teaching staff to ensure their ability to promote sustainable development as part of their professional role;
- make use of the qualified diversity of Lund University to reinforce the profile of undergraduate education and enable students to obtain a qualified specialisation in the field of sustainable development;
- ensure that information on sustainable-development specialisation is clear and accessible.

Research

'be a driver of sustainable development'

'interdisciplinary research'

Dialogue-based processes

- inspirational group to be appointed.

Responsibility of: Vice-Chancellor

The aims of the dialogue-based processes are to:

- ensure a strategic focus on interdisciplinary research projects and the development of forms of cooperation;
- ensure that interdisciplinary projects focusing on sustainable development are initiated;
- develop methods to evaluate the relevance of research and postgraduate education to sustainable development.

Internal Work

'practising what we preach'

Responsibility of: Vice-Chancellor. Faculty Boards and the Division of Buildings have overall responsibility. Each unit concerned is responsible for implementation in its own operations.

We will ensure that we have the organisation and the division of responsibilities required to obtain a good environment and good occupational safety and health by:

- ensuring that the division of responsibility for issues of the environment and occupational safety and health is clear and familiar to those concerned, with relevant tasks allocated to specific parts of the organisation;
- making departments' internal environmental work more visible through environmental certification;

- ensuring that information about our environmental work is accessible, inspirational and up to date;

- carrying out annual monitoring of internal work on the environment and occupational safety and health, with reporting to the Vice-Chancellor by the individual faculties according to a report template provided by the administrative services.

We will reduce our use of materials and ensure the re-use of resources by:

- maintaining good opportunities for waste separation on our premises;
- enhancing knowledge and use of modern technologies to reduce our consumption of office paper relative to the number of staff;

- taking account of environmental concerns in procurement and contracts for selected product groups (volumes/seriousness of problems). The Purchasing and Procurement Function possesses knowledge about environmental procurement which it will pass on as part of training in procurement.

Our handling of chemicals, biological material and hazardous waste will be ensured by:

- documentation of the requisite safety procedures (Swedish & English);

- familiarity and compliance with the procedures by the staff and students concerned;

- systematic monitoring and progressive introduction of new methods to reduce handling of chemicals;

- introduction of a joint system for recording and risk assessment of chemicals and their use.

We will reduce our transports by:

- continuing our efforts in the field of web-based teaching;

- encouraging staff to use public transport, trains, bicycles, etc.;

- making use of widely available technologies for video and telephone conferencing; trends for use are rising.

We will enhance energy efficiency by:

- making it clear to consumers how much energy they use and what this costs, as a minimum at building level;

- introducing incentives to save energy;

- carrying out energy-saving projects as part of the construction of new buildings or the rebuilding of existing ones as well as campaigns at building level or equivalent. At least three explicit energy-saving projects will be initiated over the period;

- communicating and monitoring co-operation to save energy between building managements (or equivalent), the Division of Buildings and landlords.

Background

Lund University's Environmental and Sustainable Development Policy and the strategy and objectives for work in 2006–2008 focus on our core operations – education, research and cooperation with the community.

Our objectives in research and education will be attained through dialogue-based processes involving faculty boards, people in charge of education, directors of studies, teaching staff and other key groups. The strategy is based on an 'open method of coordination' for policy development and internal change processes. Active dialogues within the organisation will facilitate the use of internal strengths and creativity. The organisation will search for common values and guidelines, efficient working methods, examples of good practice and durable, positive change. Driving these dialogues requires a knowledgeable core group of process leaders whose task will be to inspire others.

'Practising what we preach' is the motto of our internal environmental work. The objectives control and communicate our methods to reduce our impact on the

environment. We will systematically strive to have good control over our environmental impact, monitor opportunities for progressive improvement through the development of technologies and methods, and inspire and encourage staff and students to make their own positive efforts in favour of the environment and sustainable development. The Vice-Chancellor, faculty boards and the administrative services will have overall responsibility for meeting the objectives. Each work unit will be responsible for implementing and monitoring relevant objectives in their own operations.

The policy, objectives and strategy for Lund University's environmental and sustainability work were adopted by the University Board on 16 June 2006.

Points of contact

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