

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM**

### *Purpose of the Environmental Program*

The student organization (hereafter also referred to as the association) is committed to environmental responsibility and adheres to its environmental program. The main principles of the environmental program include waste prevention and recycling, as well as acting as a responsible and environmentally conscious consumer. The association aims to reduce environmental impact to the best of its ability and operate according to the principles of sustainable development. The implementation and updating of the program are the responsibility of the board and executives.

### *Celebrations & Events*

In the association's events, efforts are made to use either our own or rented tableware whenever possible. Students are encouraged to acquire reusable mugs and dishes, or equivalents, which can be used instead of disposable tableware in the guild room and events. Outdoor event venues are always cleaned by the organizers after the event, and trash is disposed of in designated bins. Vegetarian food is served at the association's events. If the event is organized in collaboration with other student associations, we strive to adhere to these principles as closely as possible. Waste at events is recycled to the best of the venue's capabilities. Reusable bags are used to transport refreshments and food purchases, which are kept in the guild room. Event programs should include activities that avoid unnecessary littering and waste. Recycling bins for different types of waste have been provided in the guild room. Facility managers are responsible for emptying and maintaining these bins.

### *Travel Practices*

When traveling, we rely on public transportation and cycling whenever possible. For larger trips, such as to the geographers' cabin (mantsamökki), an appropriately sized bus is chartered. Members are encouraged to use non-motorized transportation, for example, through a cycling mileage competition overseen by the sports representative.

### *Procurements and Energy Use*

When facing new purchases, a necessity assessment is always carried out by the board. Before making new purchases, the possibility of repair is explored, and when facing a purchase, consideration is given to whether the product could be obtained second-hand. The association seeks to collaborate closely with other organizations, which also allows for borrowing goods. The association regularly takes inventory of its assets to avoid unnecessary purchases. Inventories are conducted as often as possible, but at least once a year in the spring. Facility managers are responsible

for the inventory of the guild room, and the cultural representative is responsible for the inventory of patches. Oat milk is offered as a coffee creamer. Fair trade options or locally produced goods are also preferred in other products. The association avoids unnecessary printing; communication is managed electronically. Event posters are printed on ecologically sustainable domestic paper. The association's publication, Mantsalehti, aims to be printed on ecologically sustainable domestic paper and is also published electronically. Students are also instructed on energy conservation on campus; lights should be turned off when leaving classrooms or guild room.

### *Feedback and Goals*

Through the association's anonymous feedback channel, all members have the opportunity to provide development suggestions for the environmental program and practices. The association aims to increase the visibility of the environmental program to its members. Tutors inform freshmen about it in the autumn, key points are published on social media, and reminders of the environmental program are included in event announcements alongside other programs and rules. The environmental program is also shared in the Telegram Mantsa group.

