

# POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

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The Olof Palme International Center (Palme Center) works for democracy, human rights, peace, and social justice, in the spirit of Olof Palme. We are the Swedish labour movement's umbrella organisation for international cooperation and advocacy.

This policy governs the Palme Center's work for the environment and climate and applies to all activities – nationally and internationally. The policy guides the concrete goals we set in the Environment and Climate Action Plan.

## **PALME CENTER'S APPROACH TO THE CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS**

The climate crisis and the destruction of the world's ecosystems have crucial consequences for people around the world. This is the greatest challenge of our time, and it is fundamentally about justice. Richer countries and groups account for the greatest use of the earth's resources and the largest greenhouse gas emissions, while the climate and environmental crisis hits people hardest in poorer countries that have contributed the least to the problem. If we do not succeed in reversing this trend in time, it will be impossible to achieve all other progressive objectives. Over the next few years, we face the global challenge of quickly changing course and starting to transition to sustainable societies within the earth's limits. At the same time, we must eradicate poverty and create equal and good living conditions for all. The transition needs to be fair in order to gain popular support. The extensive change that is needed also means a great opportunity to create a society that is better to live in. The Palme Center's main input in this work is to build the broad alliances that are required and to push for the trade union plan called just transition. We will also highlight how the work for climate and the environment is closely linked to gender equality, democracy and peace.

## **WORKING METHODS**

Specifically, the Palme Center works with climate and the environment in three areas:

**1) Climate and environmental integration in programmes and projects.**

Supporting partner and member organisations for them to increase their operations for Just Transition. We integrate the climate and environmental perspective into all programme-related documents and processes and develop methods, materials, and tools.

**2) Outreach activities for just transition.** Alliance building internationally and nationally to increase the focus on Just Transition; popular education (folkbildning) within the labour movement and its networks, as well as advocacy work.

**3) Internal environmental work.** Focusing on the Palme Center's own climate and environmental footprint, in the areas that are considered to be of the greatest importance to us. On the one hand, we strengthen our competence in the field of environment and sustainability, and on the other hand, we work to prevent climate emissions, pollution, and other negative environmental impacts in the following areas: travel and transport, suppliers and purchases, energy use, chemicals, and waste. We strive for continuous improvements and must comply with current environmental legislation.

**OWNERSHIP AND FOLLOW-UP**

The content of this policy is revised and adopted annually by the Palme Center's Board. The Secretary-General is responsible for ensuring that the policy is known and complied with within the organisation and that follow-up of compliance with the policy takes place annually.