

# Seed Climate Change and Biodiversity Statement of Policy and declaration



## 1 Introduction

As trustees, consortium members and staff of Seed Sedgemoor we intend to ensure that the activities of the organisation are produced and delivered in as environmentally sustainable a manner as possible. We also seek to add our combined voice to those calling on the global community to recognise and address the current climate and biodiversity emergencies.

## 2 Climate change and biodiversity loss

We recognise that environmental sustainability is threatened and destroyed by the twin challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss. We recognise that these processes are inherently connected. This document

- notes the key principles and imperatives which need to be urgently addressed to mitigate already unavoidable impacts and adapt to this accelerating emergency.
- outlines our commitment to action

## 3 Cultural practice in an emergency

We will ensure that Seed Sedgemoor's strategies and activities are informed by the principles and imperatives outlined below:

## 4 Key Principles

- Transformation. Mitigation at the scale needed to keep the rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C, or to reverse global biodiversity decline, requires a transformative change in the way our societies consume and produce resources.
- Collaboration. Governments alone cannot achieve the transformations needed – coordinated climate and biodiversity actions from multiple stakeholders, including businesses, communities and local organisations are essential.

## 5 Key imperatives for the global community

- Stop extracting and using fossil-based fuels and rapidly increase use of renewable energy systems.
- Reduce rates of natural ecosystem loss and degradation, protect, restore and expand natural ecosystems, and increase landscape connectivity.
- Build a sustainable food system with climate- and biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices, responsible food trade, and equitable food distribution.
- Discourage ecosystem-based approaches to climate mitigation that have negative outcomes for biodiversity, such as tree planting in inappropriate ecosystems, monocultures, and unsustainable energy crops.

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## 6 Our declaration

1. We call on governments and media institutions to tell the truth about the climate and ecological emergency
2. We call on governments to act now to reverse biodiversity loss and reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by no later than 2030
3. We acknowledge the environmental impact of arts and cultural industry practices and commit to taking urgent action
4. We commit to:
  - Including projects that directly address issues of climate change and biodiversity loss in our programme.
  - controlling the acquisition and dissemination of all company resources to ensure that we are as energy efficient as possible. Local sourcing encouraged wherever practicable. Second-hand equipment considered where possible.
  - adhering to the principles of 'restore, reuse, recycle and reduce' wherever possible.
  - prioritising use of sustainable materials.
  - ensuring that creative commissions address sustainability in their proposals.
  - requiring all contracted third parties to work sustainably.
  - applying sustainability criteria in all assessments of proposals and quotations.
  - minimising unnecessary travel. Use of carpooling, public transport, cycling and other carbon minimising strategies encouraged where possible. Meetings to be held online as needed.
  - recycling office and general waste wherever practicable.
  - recycling equipment and production project items wherever possible.
  - offering staff flexible working conditions, including opportunities to work from home.
  - enabling trustees, consortium members, volunteers and staff to undertake Carbon Awareness training.
  - providing staff, volunteers and contractors with procedures and tools as needed to enable compliance with this policy.
  - sourcing and sharing relevant training and information as appropriate to further this awareness and inform action.
  - meeting and where possible exceeding any minimum, relevant legal requirements related to climate change and biodiversity loss.
  - **sharing this document** with contributors and participants and encourage debate on its implications, as well as signposting to further information as required.
  - **nurturing a culture of environmental awareness.**

## 7 Dissemination, implantation and access

This policy will be made available to all members of staff, CIO trustees, consortium representatives and volunteers via the Seed cloud storage drive and/or email. It will be made available to the general public via the Seed Website.

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## **8 Review**

This policy will be reviewed every three years at both a meeting of the CIO trustees and the consortium members. The Next review date is June 2025