

Nusatenggara Association, Inc.

Environmental Sustainability Policy

v2.0 July 2018

Preamble

The mission of the Nusatenggara Association, Inc (NTA) is to alleviate the worst poverty in the province of Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia. The NTA sponsors economic and social development activities selected by our sponsored communities, ranging from building water tanks and wells, through providing farming equipment and training to local farmers, to supplying books for schools and training local teachers. We employ and provide training to over twenty Indonesian staff in West Timor and Flores.

Purpose and Guiding Principles of this policy

The NTA is strongly committed to conducting its activities in an environmentally sustainable manner, to limiting any potential environmental impacts of its activities and to strengthening environmental resilience in NTT. As the NTA works with rural communities, largely dependent on subsistence agriculture, a commitment to environmental sustainability and resilience is especially important. In this context, environmental sustainability is considered to be the maintenance of natural capital including:

- Healthy soils;
- Water quantity and quality;
- Groundcover;
- Marine resources; and
- Timber resources.

Scope of this Policy

This policy applies to NTA staff (Indonesia and Australia-based), NTA Board members, volunteers and consultants retained by NTA, and NTA Indonesia.

NTA's commitment to environmentally sustainable practices

NTA will promote the use of environmentally sustainable practices amongst its staff and local partners by:

- Considering maintenance of the above natural resources in project planning, monitoring and evaluation;
- Close liaison with the Indonesian Food Security and Extension Agency *Badan Ketahanan Pangan dan Penyuluhan* (BPTP) to understand and manage any potential environmental risks of NTA projects;
- Designing agricultural activities and infrastructure projects to suit local biophysical conditions, including soil type and availability of water;
- Ongoing research to better understand the long term environmental impacts of current and proposed NTA activities;
- Promoting composting rather than use of chemical fertilisers;
- Making use of local materials wherever possible and where it is cost-effective to so;
- Engaging local practitioners to disseminate best environmental management practice with regards to agricultural and infrastructure projects;

- Sharing transport and other resources wherever possible to minimise our environmental footprint;
- During monitoring visits considering offsets for air travel where necessary and minimising waste such as food packaging;
- Promoting terracing and growing of ground cover to minimise soil loss and erosion; and
- Promoting biological pest control techniques, where feasible, rather than chemical pesticides.

Educating on the NTA environmental sustainability policy

NTA staff (Indonesia and Australia-based), NTA Board members, and staff of partner organisations of the NTA will all be provided with a copy of the NTA environment policy on commencing their association with NTA and on updating of this document. The NTA environmental sustainability policy will be made available on the NTA website.

Reviewing this policy

This policy will be reviewed annually to assess its effectiveness and appropriateness.

Version control

Version	Date	Approved by Board	Details
1.0	2016	2016	Policy developed and published
2.0	July 2018	31 July 2018	Policy updated. No substantive changes.