



## *Sustainable Purchasing Policy*

At **Adventure International Trekking**, we are dedicated to creating a positive social and environmental impact by integrating sustainability into every aspect of our operations—including our sourcing and purchasing practices. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that environmental, social, and economic considerations are taken into account alongside price, quality, and delivery of goods. By doing so, we strive to achieve not only the best value for money but also to support the well-being of communities and protect the environment.

**Wherever possible, all staff involved in purchasing—directors, managers, and employees—should adhere to the following principles:**

### **Sustainable Purchasing Principles**

Our policy is based on several key principles:

- **Minimal and bulk purchasing:** Before making any purchase, we ensure that it is absolutely necessary. We follow the waste hierarchy—avoid, reduce, reuse, and recycle—to guide our decisions. Frequently used items are purchased in bulk to cut down on packaging waste.
- **Fair products:** We prioritize local, organic, and where possible, fair-trade goods. We ensure that producers follow ethical business practices, uphold human rights, and respect social equity and environmental protection. Fair Trade certification can help us identify these suppliers. Whenever possible, suppliers are asked to provide information about their labor practices and ethical standards.
- **Sustainable options:** When acquiring new equipment such as computers, printers, or vehicles, we give preference to low-energy, high-efficiency models that meet or exceed local standards.

### **General Sustainability Considerations**

When purchasing any product or service, we also consider:

- **Resource use:** We look at the entire life cycle cost of products, recognizing that running costs often exceed purchase costs. Energy- and water-efficient products are preferred, and we seek to minimize the use of raw materials.
- **Biodegradability:** We consider whether products can break down naturally. If they cannot, we explore alternative options.

- **Local sourcing:** Sourcing locally supports community investment and economic sustainability by reducing transportation impacts.
- **Waste management:** We aim to ensure that purchased products do not have hidden waste disposal costs.
- **Low toxicity:** We choose products and materials that are free of toxic or polluting substances, minimizing harm to human health and the environment throughout their lifecycle.
- **Reduced habitat destruction:** We buy paper and wood products from recycled, salvaged, plantation, or renewable sources. We also prioritize eco-friendly cleaning products that don't pollute water or ecosystems.
- **Efficient water use:** Products that conserve water or use it efficiently are strongly preferred.
- **Low greenhouse gas emissions:** We choose energy-efficient products and favor those with the best energy ratings over their lifetime. We also support the use of renewable energy sources and minimize fossil fuel consumption and long-distance transport of goods.
- **Reduced soil degradation:** We avoid products and services that contribute to soil pollution, erosion, or degradation.
- **Minimal packaging:** We aim to buy products with minimal packaging and encourage reuse or recycling by suppliers and manufacturers.

By following this policy, **Adventure International Trekking** supports a responsible approach to purchasing that benefits people, the planet, and future generations.