

IPC Environmental Policy

The promotion of sustainable development is the goal of our business activities. In this regard, we consider protecting nature and the environment, as well as limiting climate change, to be part of our social responsibility. At first glance, one might think that the environmental aspects related to our activities as a medium-sized company active in the areas of consulting, management and investments are minimal; however, the extensive amount of travel required makes the carbon footprint of our company and that of each employee comparatively heavy.

We therefore support forward-thinking environmental management that enables us to detect and avoid potential environmental impacts in all our areas of activity early on. Within the framework of our EMS, we undertake to continually improve our level of environmental protection and to work towards reducing our direct and indirect impact on the environment.

In order to achieve this, we set targets for the environmental performance of the company and we develop concepts for the implementation of these goals. Management provides the necessary human and financial resources and is responsible for fulfilling the defined targets.

For the purpose of measuring and monitoring environmental performance, we define performance indicators, which are updated on a yearly basis and made available to all employees. Every employee, by adapting her approach to work, contributes to the success of the EMS. Regular informational events are held with the aim of increasing our employees' level of environmental awareness both during and outside business hours. Furthermore, every employee can take part in the work of the Environmental Committee, and in this way actively participate in environmental management at IPC.

Environmental principles

Our ultimate objective is to protect the environment and prevent pollution, and to this end, we adhere to the following key principles:

- **Identifying environmental impacts**
We are committed to identifying, analysing and evaluating our direct and indirect impact on the environment. Our goal is to continually improve the level of environmental protection in our company. To ensure that this happens, we continually develop our approach to environmental management.
- **Reducing the internal consumption of resources**
We aim to permanently reduce our consumption of resources and the environmental impacts resulting from our business activities in order to continually improve our environmental performance. In accordance with the legal waste hierarchy, we give priority to avoiding waste, reusing unavoidable waste, recycling other waste appropriately or disposing of it in an environmentally friendly manner. Resources such as energy, water and paper are used sparingly in line with the idea of sufficiency.

- **Buying environmentally friendly products**
When we need to purchase a product, we look at the environmental impacts arising not only from the way it is manufactured, but also from how it is distributed, used and disposed of, and, whenever possible, choose the product that is most environmentally friendly over its entire lifecycle. A high percentage of our office supplies are produced using certified sustainable or ecological production methods and consist of as few individual components as possible. Ideally, these components should be easy to separate, thus making it possible for these items to be easily sorted into recycling categories at the end of the products' useful life and thereby making our recycling more effective. Food products bearing an organic and/or "fair trade" seal are given preference as well as consciously avoiding unnecessary packaging. In addition, by engaging in environmentally conscious purchasing practices, we support suppliers with high environmental standards.
- **Integrating environmental protection into our consulting activities**
IPC aims to establish business relationships with partners that have similarly high environmental standards. A part of our business activities includes providing consulting services to financial institutions with a view to resource-saving business practices and the introduction of an Environmental Management System. Furthermore, we advise these institutions on issuing green loans as well as on monitoring environmental risks when issuing loans. In this manner, we contribute to the improvement of our clients' environmental performance.
- **Reducing CO₂ emissions**
As an internationally active consulting company, the frequent travel of our employees produces a large volume of CO₂ emissions. As we cannot reduce these emissions, we aim to counteract the environmental impact of our air travel by, for example, providing financial support to environmentally friendly projects and, if the additional time required is justifiable, by using alternative means of transport and electronic forms of communication.
- **Ensuring legal conformity**
We strictly adhere to all applicable environmental and other laws and we continually strive to improve our own environmental performance.

The Management and all employees of IPC GmbH are required to comply with the regulations of the EMS.