

## **WOLTERS KLUWER ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

Version: April 2009

## 1 Introduction

This policy supports the ambitions of Wolters Kluwer and the Executive Board with respect to the environment. This policy applies to all Wolters Kluwer employees and temporary hired staff world-wide. The Executive Board may resolve to amend this policy periodically. Wolters Kluwer Divisions or Operating Companies may give additional and more detailed regulations or guidance on the various subjects described in this policy, as also stated in clause 7 of this policy. Such additional regulations may not be in conflict with this policy, unless the deviations are based on local laws, Collective Labor Agreements or agreements with Employee Representative Bodies in specific countries. Ask your manager or HR department whether such additional policies exist.

## 2 Commitment

Wolters Kluwer is committed to minimize the impact of its activities on the environment and to comply with applicable laws in each of the countries where Wolters Kluwer business units operate.

In acknowledgement of global climate change, Wolters Kluwer believes it must continuously strive to become increasingly environmentally friendly, both in terms of the resources it uses and in terms of serving its clients.

## 3 Environmental impact and performance

Wolters Kluwer complies with relevant environmental laws and regulations applicable in each of the countries in which the Wolters Kluwer business units operate. Moreover Wolters Kluwer has identified the environmental aspects on which it has the most impact. Accordingly, Wolters Kluwer's global goals are to:

- incorporate environmental consideration into its core business plans and management practices
- reduce its paper use by increasingly offering software and online products to its customers
- encourage its employees to use paper approved by recognized third party certified forest sustainability standards
- work closely with its employees, customers, suppliers and other parties to continuously refine its work practices and operations
- promote 'green procurement' - consider the environment as one of the criteria when involved in purchasing decisions
- promote alternatives for business travel such as teleconferencing, videoconferencing and presentations via internet ("*webinars*")
- monitor its environmental performance
- comply with applicable legal requirements

## 4 Measuring of Performance

Wolters Kluwer measures the environmental performance of its business units on an annual basis on the following subjects: paper use, waste, energy use and water use. Furthermore the environmental impact of the use of lease cars and business-related air travel is measured.

## 5 External reporting

Each year, Wolters Kluwer publishes its environmental performance in the Wolters Kluwer Sustainable Entrepreneurship Report, which is available on the company website. Stakeholders are welcomed to give feedback on this environmental policy and the yearly environmental performance by contacting the global sustainability project manager ([sustainability@wolterskluger.com](mailto:sustainability@wolterskluger.com)).

## 6 Scope

Wolters Kluwer and all of its business units are responsible and accountable for upholding the principles of this environmental policy by monitoring environmental performance for:

- All Wolters Kluwer companies and business units worldwide
- To the extent possible Joint Ventures where Wolters Kluwer both owns at least 50 percent of the shares and also exerts full management control

Although Wolters Kluwer encourages improvements of their environmental performance, it is not responsible nor accountable for the environmental actions and practices of:

- Companies or joint ventures where Wolters Kluwer has a minority share or where it cannot exert management control
- All suppliers worldwide

## 7 Management responsibilities

Wolters Kluwer believes the individual business units are best able to design and implement their own environmental management systems because of regional and functional differences between the business units. This offers better granularity than an overlapping global target. For this reason Wolters Kluwer business units are responsible for designing and implementing their own management systems to monitor environmental performance. At the same time, Wolters Kluwer strives for harmonised standards on reporting environmental performance.

At company-wide level, end responsibility for environmental issues, policy and regular monitoring lies with the Senior Vice President Human Resources who reports directly to the CEO.