

Guideline on Climate and Environmental Protection at Leibniz University Hannover

Preamble

"Human actions live on in the effects that they have." (G. W. Leibniz)

Leibniz University Hannover takes climate and environmental protection concerns into account in the fulfillment of its tasks and strives for sustainable development. For us, this is an obligation towards the present and future generations. It is derived from the mission statement adopted by the Senate of Leibniz University Hannover on July 18, 2007, in the section "Our values". All members and affiliates of Leibniz University Hannover should incorporate climate and environmental protection into their actions. Leibniz University Hannover is committed to achieve climate neutrality in all areas of activity by 2031.

Research and Teaching

Through our research, we develop and improve technologies with the aim of optimising energy efficiency and climate friendliness. As part of our academic teaching, we raise students' awareness for the impact of human activity on climate and environment and create the methodological basis for influencing these impacts across all disciplines in order to minimise climate and environmental pollution.

Employee Development

We promote a sense of responsibility for an environmentally protective, resource-efficient, family- and gender-equitable, inclusive and diverse university life. All employees should play an active role in implementing the guideline on climate and environmental protection in their respective workplaces. We see ourselves as pioneers for our society and as role models for our students and guests.

Exchange with external organisations

The exchange with external organisations is important to us. We contribute to the regional, national, and international exchange of knowledge and findings in the areas of climate and environmental protection.

Communication with Society

We take an open, transparent approach to issues relating to climate and environmental protection. We document our performance in our environmental report being published regularly. In particular, we balance our CO₂-emissions and our efforts to continuously reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We are looking for ways to share scientific evidence on climate change to the public and use the dialogue to create opportunities for individual climate-friendly action.

Resource consumption

We protect the climate and environment through economical and efficient use of resources. The use of existing technologies, procedures, operational workflows, and processes takes place under the aspect of sustainability.

Procurement

We take sustainability criteria into account when purchasing products and services, insofar as this is possible under procurement and budgetary law. In principle, all procurements must contribute in an exemplary manner to achieving the goals of waste avoidance, minimisation of harmful substances in waste, waste recycling, resource protection as well as energy and water conservation.

Continuous improvement and consolidation of our actions

We strive to protect the climate and the environment beyond the legal requirements and subject our activities to continuous evaluation.

The objectives and measures are presented in our integrated climate protection concept. This concept serves as a basis for the continuation of the necessary climate and environmental protection measures at Leibniz University Hannover.