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SIPRI Environmental Policy

Introduction

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) is a leading institution in the study of the risks climate change poses for peace and security. SIPRI is also an international institute with partners and research activities across the globe. As such, travel is often a requirement for SIPRI's core activities. The institute is committed to carry out necessary activities such as travel, commuting, organizing events/meetings in a as sustainable of a manner as possible.

The policy applies to all SIPRI staff, interns, and consultants. It is complemented by 'SIPRI's Travel & Travel Safety Policy'.

Energy efficiency

SIPRI rents its office building which includes the provision of water, heating and electricity. This limits SIPRI's possibilities to choose providers of these services. However, since 2024, SIPRI's landlord, Sagax, has been certified by the Swedish Green Building Council according to the BREEAM-In Use standard, a sustainability assessment method for the built environment. This means that Sagax uses service providers with a high sustainability standard for the premisses.

SIPRI takes measures to increase efficiency or reduce the waste of water and energy whenever possible. Operations will monitor SIPRI's energy and paper consumption on an annual basis.

Sustainable procurement and use of office supplies and equipment

'Office Supplies' refers to the expendable items used by staff members in the course of their daily tasks. They typically have a low per item cost, are easily portable, and have a low service lifetime as they are continually expended. 'Office equipment' refers to the non-expendable equipment used by staff members in the course of their daily tasks, e.g. desk, chair, computer, work phone.

To procure office supplies and equipment, SIPRI chooses the option which offers the most benefits in terms of environmental, social, work and financial aspects. SIPRI also keeps an inventory of office supplies which serves as the basis for replenishing stocks.

SIPRI works whenever possible with sustainable and eco-friendly suppliers. Preference is given to products that are recyclable, sustainable and that can be reused and/or have a longer-lasting life. For example, the furniture in SIPRI offices (tables, chairs, etc.) is bought second-hand.

Good Practice Tip

Staff are encouraged to make full use of the recycling bins which have been set up throughout the building.

With regards to computer equipment, SIPRI prioritises the purchase of high-quality, long-lasting and energy-efficient equipment, as well as, where possible, the opportunities to repair and reuse devices to minimise electronic waste. To dispose of electronic waste, SIPRI is looking to establish a partnership with an IT recycling company.

Printing

SIPRI is committed to ensuring that printing, scanning and photocopying is carried out in a sustainable, secure and cost-effective manner. SIPRI uses eco-friendly paper produced on FSC and PEFC-certified Scandinavian factories. SIPRI is also in the process of reducing the number of both shared and individual printers at the office.

To print publications and communications material, SIPRI works with a local and sustainable printing partner. This minimizes the delivery distance and transport emissions. Attention is paid to the number of publications and other communications materials printed to minimize waste as much as possible while enabling the effective dissemination of SIPRI research (print runs of publications only include 10 printed copies unless a specific dissemination plan is foreseen). Publications are printed on environmentally certified paper.

Good Practice Tip

Staff are encouraged to work digitally as far as possible to reduce paper consumption. Documents and emails should only be printed when necessary.

Double-sided printing, black and white printing and, where possible, printing several pages on the same sheet of paper, should be preferred as much as is possible.

Staff commute

Staff commuting to the office are encouraged to travel by bicycle or foot whenever possible. SIPRI premises include showers and bike storage facilities outside of the building to support staff who choose these sustainable options. On request, SIPRI can provide guidance on bike routes for staff. If cycling or walking are not feasible, staff are strongly encouraged to travel to the office using public transportation.

Travel

Duty travel on behalf of SIPRI is governed by the Travel & Travel Safety Policy.

Meetings and Events

SIPRI is committed to arrange more sustainable events and meetings. During preparations, SIPRI considers all aspects from start to finish (e.g., transportation, food, printing, waste) and how to make every step as sustainable as possible.

Ahead of an event or meeting, SIPRI always considers the possibility of arranging the meeting online instead to reduce its environmental footprint.

When booking hotels, preference is given to hotels that undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility, such as usage of environmentally friendly products, commitment to waste reduction and energy efficiency. SIPRI carefully considers the location of the hotel so that guests can easily use public transportation and preferably walk to/from the conference venue.

SIPRI aims to order vegetarian food, at the right amount, when catering for large groups during conferences and events. SIPRI gives preference to catering companies that have a sustainable approach, such as recyclable packaging, and those located close to the conference venue to limit transport emissions.

SIPRI maintains a policy of minimal printing of material for events.