

<h2>AVI Environmental Sustainability Policy</h2>	Effective date	February 2021
	Next review date	February 2023
	Sponsor	Chief Executive Officer
	Board committee	Governance
Level / Class Corporate Organisation	Approval / authorisation	Board

1. PURPOSE

This policy aims to continuously improve AVI’s environmental sustainability performance and mitigate high risks in a financially stable way while making a commitment to our people, partners, funders and stakeholders that AVI complies with its legal obligations and strives to improve its approaches to environmental sustainability.

2. SCOPE / PERSONS AFFECTED

This policy applies to all operations of AVI:

- Member of the Board;
- Management; and
- Employees and contractors of AVI.

Appropriate consultation (tick for ‘yes’, otherwise leave blank)

3. PRINCIPLES

AVI is a leading International Development agency that recognises that it has a responsibility to the environmental sustainability of its operations. AVI is committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving its environmental and sustainability performance as an integral part of our business strategy and operations. AVI is committed to encouraging our partners, stakeholders, suppliers and volunteers to do the same.

AVI’s Environmental Sustainability policy and practices are guided by the following principles:

3.1 AVI demonstrates an organisational commitment to environmental sustainability and improved environmental outcomes in our development initiatives.

3.2 AVI demonstrates an organisational commitment to environmental sustainability and improved environmental outcomes in our governance, internal and external operations.

AVI values environmental sustainability, acknowledging that:

- Healthy physical environments have a positive influence on social environments and the potential for an associated positive impact on outcomes
- Positive physical environments impact people’s Quality of Life
- Social responsibility is a value we model and are committed to.

- Aligning organisational and our people's environmental sustainability values engages commitment and energy for change.
- Climate change has a devastating impact on the countries in which we operate, their social and financial viability

AVI is committed to learning, evolving and improving environmental sustainability practices across all areas of the organisation.

4. POLICY

The objective of this policy is to drive and improve AVI's environmental sustainability performance by:

- Complying with all appropriate Australian environmental regulation and legislation, as well as, international treaties and frameworks
- Taking environmental and sustainability considerations into account for business decisions and strategies
- Continuing to reduce AVI's energy use across sites and being resource smart at all times to
 - Enhance AVI's online systems that reduce AVI's environmental footprint
 - Continue to use leading infrastructure technologies that reduce our environmental footprint and emissions such as video conferencing
 - Continue to promote and enable paper free environments and where printing is unavoidable use recycled paper double-sided and in black and white where possible
 - Further embed AVI's online communication with stakeholders and volunteers in order to reduce our paper use while continuing to use recycled paper
- Working with owners, agents and stakeholders where assets or property are not owned by AVI
- Maintaining AVI's e-waste recycling initiative with suppliers
- Continuing to purchase and procure environmentally sustainable products, goods and services
- Committing to ensuring ethical supply chains within our procurement and preventing modern slavery
- Committing to and implementing a 3 year 'Greening' strategy including performance targets that enhances AVI's environmental performance in a financially sustainable way
- Managing an appropriate environmental management system in a cost effective and financially sustainable way through AVI's Environmental Sustainability Committee
- Enhancing AVI's environmental sustainability culture and awareness, empowering our people to contribute and participate in continually improving AVI's environmental sustainable performance over time

- Communicating our sustainability commitment and efforts to our people, stakeholders, volunteers, partners and the communities we serve.

AVI recognises that its business operations have an impact on the environment and we are committed to understanding these impacts and working proactively to reduce or prevent them.

5. DEFINITIONS

Carbon Emissions: Polluting carbon substances released into atmosphere: carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide produced by motor vehicles and industrial processes and forming pollutants in the atmosphere.

Carbon Footprint: A carbon footprint is an estimate of how much carbon dioxide is produced to support operations. It measures impact on the climate based on how much carbon dioxide is being produced. Factors that contribute to your carbon footprint include your travel and general office energy usage.

Climate Change: Climate change refers to any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer).

Environment:

- Ecosystems and their constituent parts including people and communities;
- Natural and physical resources
- Qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas;
- Heritage values of places;
- The social, economic and cultural aspects related to environment

Environmental Impact Assessment: The process of identifying, predicting, evaluating a project's positive and negative environmental aspects as well as identifying ways of avoiding, mitigating or at last resort offsetting negative impacts.

Environmental Action Plan: A plan that details measures to avoid, mitigate or offset negative environmental impacts.

Impact: An impact is a change to the environment, including people and communities, whether negative or positive, or wholly or partly resulting from an investment's actions. An investment can have direct and indirect impacts on the environment. Impacts may be cumulative (over time) or combined (more than one impact in one place).

Significant Impact: A 'significant impact' is an impact which is important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to its context or intensity. Whether or not an action is likely to have a significant impact depends upon the sensitivity, value, and quality of the environment that is impacted, and upon the intensity, duration, magnitude and geographic extent of the impacts.

Sustainability: Meeting the needs of the present without diminishing the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability also means that human practices do not result in the permanent damage, alteration or depletion of the environment, ecosystems, species or natural resources.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

- Chief Financial Officer
- Environmental Sustainability Champions – From across AVI.
- Environmental Sustainability Committee – appointed representatives from across AVI
- Management and staff will be responsible for adhering to the Environmental Sustainability Policy

7. PROCEDURES / GUIDELINES (OPTIONAL FOR POLICY DOCUMENTS)

- Environmental Sustainability Committee – Terms of Reference

8. RELATED POLICIES

- AVI’s Workplace Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Procurement Policy

9. REFERENCES

- AVI Environmental Sustainability Committee Terms of Reference
- AVP Carbon Offset Scheme
- ISO 14000 series Environment Standards
- DFAT Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy
- DFAT Environmental and Social Safeguard Operational Procedures
- ACFID Code of Conduct B.1.6 – Environmental Sustainability

11. EVALUATION AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

An environmental sustainability performance framework will effectively evaluate this policy and AVI’s environmental sustainability performance where the Environmental Sustainability Committee will be responsible for the framework and the six monthly performance reporting to the Executive, Board and our people.

12. REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision Number	Change(s)	Reference Section(s)
Sept 2016	1	New policy	
Feb 2021	1.1	Review and addition of: <i>Addition of principles statements</i> <i>Addition of definition of terms</i> <i>Reference to Environmental Sustainability Action Plan</i> <i>Addition to References</i>	Section 4.1, 4.2 Section 6 Section 8 Section 10