



services limited



national union of students

# Environmental Statement

**National Union of Students  
NUS Services Ltd.**

## Environmental Impact and Climate Change

NUS & NUS Services Ltd. are committed to minimising the negative environmental impacts of our operations. We believe that climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our time and that we have an important role demonstrating leadership on the issue. Through encouragement, support and resources we will seek to reduce our own negative environmental impact as well as that of our partners and suppliers. We will use our leadership position within the student movement to minimise the negative environmental impact of our members. Through initiatives, support and central resources we are able to set the agenda for students' unions, ensuring we are creating awareness whilst recognising this is a shared responsibility. We will use our influence with our suppliers to encourage them to reduce their negative environmental impacts and become more efficient.

## The environmental impact of NUS & NUS Services Ltd.

We have identified our most significant environmental impacts as the electricity, gas and water we use at our offices; business travel by staff in cars and aeroplanes; travel by our visitors, volunteers and delegates attending meetings and events; the manufacture and printing of our publications and promotional items; the waste we send to landfill.

NUS & NUS Services Ltd. will publicly report on their carbon footprint each year and set challenging targets to reduce our footprint annually with the aim of being seen as a beacon example of a low carbon business. We will attempt to reduce our impact before we try to offset it. We will seek to support our member unions in taking practical action to reduce their own carbon footprints.

It is important that we also minimise the physical waste that we create. As such we will be both proactive and innovative in our ways of working to reduce, reuse and recycle our waste streams.

We will continually seek to reduce all our negative environmental impacts through our planning processes, the operational decisions we make on a daily basis, and through the individual actions of our employees and volunteers. It is the responsibility of every employee to go about their duties in an environmentally responsible manner.

## Environmental issues for consideration

NUS & NUS Services Ltd. take the following views on environmental issues:

- We will comply with all local environmental legislation and expect our suppliers to do the same in all the countries in which they operate. For suppliers with operations in developing countries we expect they will exceed minimum legislative standards and actively promote best practice.
- We are against the exploitation of wild plants and animals and the destruction of natural forests.
- We are against the use of persistent organic pollutants, endocrine disrupting chemicals and PVC packaging and will seek to avoid these in the products that we list and buy through NUS Services Ltd.
- We are against unnecessary and non-recyclable packaging, but are for biodegradable packaging.
- We have a purchasing preference for recycled products and we favour recycling over disposal, and encourage our members and suppliers to do the same.
- We are wary of genetic modification.
- We seek to encourage biodiversity around our offices and encourage our suppliers to do the same.
- We promote sustainable travel and expect our members and suppliers to do the same.

**NUS National President**

**NUS Services Company Chair**

8 March 2008