SOFIA's guidelines in the management of environment and agriculture

Environmental issues are an important part of SOFIA's work. We work for sustainable development within our projects in our partner countries as well as in our work in Sweden.

**Environment / Agriculture**
All agriculture forwarded by SOFIA is based on organically sustainable cultivation methods. Therefore, food production, is as far as possible based on local and renewable resources, regenerative cycles of plant growth without the use of chemical pesticides, artificial fertilizer, or genetically modified crops. The methods we use protects arable land, forests, ground- and surface water, enhances biodiversity, prevents land degradation, mitigate climate change, and increase food security. This is achieved by using regenerative organic agriculture that increases the carbon content of impoverished soils and sequester carbon and thus mitigate climate change. By utilizing low input agriculture and local markets, CO₂ emissions are further minimized due to limited transport. Local access to food is improved and less oriented towards the global market which improves food security and secures that eventual profits stays local and are reinvested in the local communities and thereby promoting local sustainable development.

**Raw materials**
We work for an increased use of natural raw materials instead of synthetic products. We prefer recyclable certified raw materials and are careful to identify their origin.

**Waste**
We reduce waste by composting or sorting all our waste in Sweden. In projects, we work for as good waste management as possible. We also work for an increased awareness to limit the use of finite natural resources, we further recycling, and forward the use of flow resources.

**Energy use**
We encourage the use of sustainable energy production and the development of renewable energy sources by minimizing the use of fossil energy.

**Travel**
To contribute as little as possible to CO₂ emissions and work for sustainable travel we use public transport and bicycles when possible. All travel in Sweden is done by train or by bus. Due to time and price reasons or lack of alternatives, foreign travel can be made by air if CO₂ emissions are compensated for.

Adopted by the Board April 20, 2021