



**ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY POLICY**

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in November 2023

FOREWORD

Dear Médecins du Monde colleagues,

We are delighted to present the new Médecins du Monde France environmental responsibility policy. As a medical organisation committed to international solidarity, our mission extends beyond individual health. The global health paradigm guides the approaches we take, and we recognise the interconnection between individual health and that of the planet.

This broader perspective drives us to act beyond conventional medical limits and to integrate the dimensions of social justice, health, and the environment. We are committed to reducing the impact of our activities on the environment, to preventing the consequences of climate change, and to meeting our commitments to reduce our carbon footprint, aiming to halve it by 2030.

Our bold approach falls within our comprehensive advocacy for environmental health issues. As a global health player, we accept our dual responsibility to treat and to prevent, by intervening in humanitarian crises through initiatives that respect the environment.

The Board of Médecins du Monde has decided that environmental responsibility shall be one of the five priorities for the organisation for 2023-2024, as outlined in our policy and strategy note. The Strategic Plan II also addresses this issue.

Through this policy, we are committed to minimising our environmental impact, reducing waste, and promoting responsible consumption. By integrating sustainability into all our activities, we are fulfilling our mandate to protect health and defend fundamental rights.

We are at a crucial moment in our history, where every action taken to promote environmental responsibility is a step towards a healthier future for everyone, including the most vulnerable populations.

We are united in our fight for a healthier, fairer world.

Dr Jean-François Corty, Vice-President of the Board
Dr Guillaume Fauvel, Board Member
Ms Betty Azocar, Deputy Board Member

INTRODUCTION

Climate and environmental crises threaten the long-term existence of humanity and biodiversity. They call for a necessary change through social justice, for which Médecins du Monde fights. These crises have a particularly hard impact upon the most fragile, vulnerable, and disadvantaged populations, making their access to rights and healthcare all the more difficult. We bear witness to these effects in the areas in which we operate, and try to help people deal with them¹.

The Médecins du Monde France (MdM-F) *environmental responsibility* policy embodies our deeply held commitment to protecting the environment now and in the future. It is based on the principle of sustainability, which can be defined as meeting the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It will form the basis of an ambitious roadmap aiming to integrate environmentally responsible practices into all aspects of our organisation. This policy aims to minimise our environmental impact, promote responsible, respectful and sustainable practices, and raise awareness of the importance of preserving the environment with all our stakeholders, beneficiaries and partners. By adopting a comprehensive approach, setting clear objectives, practical actions, and mechanisms for monitoring and continuous improvement, we aspire to change our practices internally and to be an agent of positive change in the humanitarian sector, in collaboration with other players.

KEY CONCEPTS

The terms used in this policy are clearly defined below.

Carbon assessment: Assessing the carbon footprint of an organisation, project or activity involves assessing its *greenhouse gas* emissions. It quantifies climate impact by measuring CO₂ equivalent emissions.

Biodiversity: This refers to the variety and abundance of different forms of life present in a given ecosystem, including plants, animals, micro-organisms and the interaction between them.

Decarbonisation: This is the process of reducing or eliminating the carbon emissions (or *greenhouse gases*) associated with an activity, process or organisation. As part of its *environmental responsibility* policy, the *decarbonisation* of Mdm-F's practices involves moving towards more environmentally friendly methods of working that are less dependent on fossil fuels, encouraging the use of renewable energies.

Environmental responsibility: This can be defined as all the behaviour and actions taken by individuals or groups of individuals to limit their impact on the environment. However, the contours of this concept have not been officially defined and remain vague.

At Mdm-F, we define *environmental responsibility* as all activities carried out by our teams (managers, volunteers, and employees) to reduce the negative impact on the environment of all our projects.

Renewable energies: These are naturally renewable energy sources that are considered to be more environmentally friendly, such as solar, wind, hydro, geothermal and biomass.

Greenhouse gases: These are chemical compounds present in the atmosphere that contribute to global warming by trapping the heat from the sun. Common examples of *greenhouse gases* include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O).

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Green IT: Also known as environmentally responsible technology, green IT refers to the adoption of practices, strategies and technologies aimed at reducing the environmental impact of IT activities. This includes the efficient use of energy resources, reducing paper consumption, responsibly managing IT equipment at the end of its life, and promoting sustainable technology initiatives.

Ecological transition: This is the overall process of transformation aimed at redirecting all our activities and practices towards a more sustainable model that respects the environment. It involves a gradual transition of systems, processes, and values within the organisation to minimise negative impacts on the environment, while helping to protect the planet and promote a balance between human health and ecological integrity. The *ecological transition* at Mdm involves constantly questioning existing practices, adopting innovative and environmentally responsible solutions, and creating a culture of sustainable commitment to the health of the planet and the populations we serve.



MÉDECINS DU MONDE IS COMMITTED TO ECO-RESPONSIBILITY!

As a key player in the healthcare sector, we make the choice to: **"as of now, limit the impact of our activities on the environment and our planet, without ever having to compromise quality of care or the safety of our teams!"**
Let's be consistent with the fights we lead.
Our goal is to reduce our footprint by changing our behaviours and actions and continuing, together, to adapt all interventions, to protect vulnerable populations from the consequences of climate change.

Let's raise awareness and inform the communities we support and our partners for more effective eco-responsible practices.

INFORMED COMMUNITIES, SHARED RESPONSIBILITY



ECO-RESPONSIBLE TRANSPARENCY



Let's be transparent and communicate with the public about our progress, successes, and challenges found in the field.

INNOVATE TOGETHER: THINK GREEN, ACT BIG

Let's push the boundaries, think green, choose innovative solutions, and maximise impact.



Let's take the steps to achieve our goals and support stakeholders in this to change.

CLIMATE CHANGE: TOGETHER, LET'S CHANGE OUR PRACTICES



PRIMUM NON NOCERE¹: AN ETHIC FOR THE PLANET

1. First, do not harm

Let's be guardians of health, prioritise health practices that respect the planet to protect it.



Let's prioritise renewable energy over fossil fuels.

INFORMED ENERGY CHOICES, MDM IS AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE CONSUMER



DECARBONISING MDM: AN ESSENTIAL CHALLENGE!

Let's reduce our carbon footprint to fight against climate change, environmental crises, and their consequences on biodiversity.



Let's invest today in more energy-efficient buildings, whether they are new or old.

ECO-FRIENDLY INFRASTRUCTURES: LESS ENERGY-CONSUMING



GREEN SUPPLIERS: LESS PLASTIC, MORE CARE

Let's support change in the practices of our suppliers and fight against overpackaging for fewer impacts.



WATER, ENERGY, WASTE: OUR TRIPLE COMMITMENT

Let's be more efficient with our resources: less water, less energy, and better management and reduction of waste.



OUR COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

MdM-F is committed to placing environmental protection at the heart of our global strategy. This commitment to *environmental responsibility* is reflected in a desire to **reduce the environmental impact of our activities and our operational presence**, while ensuring that our teams and partners take ownership of these issues.

Let's begin by defining "**environmental responsibility**". The term **can be defined as all the behaviour and actions of individuals or groups of individuals to limit their impact on the environment**. However, the contours of this concept have not been officially defined and remain vague.

At MdM-F, we define *environmental responsibility* as all the activities carried out by our teams (managers, volunteers and employees) to reduce the negative impact of our projects on the environment.



1.1 THE PILLARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AT MDM-F

The MdM-F *environmental responsibility* policy aims to:

- ➔ **Measure and reduce the impact of our activities on the environment.** This covers two distinct but complementary levels. First, we consider the direct environment in which we operate, targeting specific improvements linked to our presence and our activities in specific areas. We then take a broader perspective, looking at our organisation's overall footprint and minimising the use of limited resources.
- ➔ **Reduce consumption of the planet's limited natural resources, particularly fossil fuels.** Consume responsibly and sensibly, by prioritising products from the circular economy, by recycling, and by using sustainable and/or renewable materials, preferably from short supply chains.
- ➔ **Engage internal and external stakeholders around the importance of *environmental responsibility*** and the impact of our activities on the environment, and support them in implementing actions to reduce our environmental footprint.
- ➔ **Implement environmentally responsible practices** in all MdM-F activities.
- ➔ **Communicate regularly both internally and externally on our positions and our environmentally responsible commitments**, as well as on current *environmental responsibility* issues within MdM-F and their follow-up.
- ➔ MdM-F is fully committed to **playing its part in the global movement to preserve the environment** by adopting responsible practices.

➔ **Enable stakeholders to fully live up to their values through their work**, including acting to promote social justice, including ecology.



1.2 A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

The comprehensive approach to *environmental responsibility* at MdM-F implies a **cross-cutting approach that must be integrated into all the organisation's activities, directorates, projects, and services**. This is conditional upon the involvement of all internal and external stakeholders in a process of co-construction and active participation.

Our commitment to *environmental responsibility* is based on a structured, systemic approach, aligned with the One Health philosophy. This concept is linked to a holistic vision of health based on the interconnection between the health of humans, animals, plants, and the ecosystem, taking into account the quality of the environment (water and air, for example).

It is important to emphasise that **our approach extends to all aspects of our operations**. It is not just about minimising the effects of our activities on the environment within which we operate, but also about taking account of climate change and environmental deterioration. For example, we carry out projects which we categorise as "Health and the Environment", which focus on the quality of the living and working environments of the communities we serve, and we implement actions to mitigate climate change. Although these projects and operations are not directly linked to *environmental responsibility*, they are part of the systemic approach the MdM-F adopts.



1.3 INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY INTO OUR PRACTICES

Environmental responsibility is integrated into MdM-F's practices on various levels:

- ➔ **Implementing measures to raise awareness, inform, and train** stakeholders and partners about environmental issues and best practice.
- ➔ **Integrating environmentally responsible criteria into purchasing and logistics activities**, for example a responsible purchasing policy, the inclusion

of environmentally responsible criteria in the evaluation of suppliers or calls for tenders and specifications, and waste management.

- ➔ **Integrating environmentally responsible criteria** into MdM-F projects, from planning through to implementation.
- ➔ **Regularly monitoring the organisation's environmental performance** to measure progress and identify areas for improvement.
- ➔ **Taking environmentally responsible measures into account in operating and operational budgets**.



1.4 OUR PARTNERS AND ALL PLAYERS INVOLVED IN ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

1.4.1 COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS: WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE OUR FOOTPRINT

MdM-F works in partnership with other organisations to help the humanitarian sector reduce its impact on the environment.

We are therefore committed to participating in strategic discussions, exchanging best practice, undertaking joint initiatives aimed at reducing the environmental impact of our actions, raising awareness among stakeholders, and driving change towards *ecological transition* in the sector. MdM France is keen to carry out joint projects to continually improve our approach to environmental responsibility.

As such, MdM-F is committed to the Réseau Environnement Humanitaire, a network of over 200 French-speaking NGOs, both as an active member and as member of the steering committee (2022-2023) of this network.

1.4.2 ACCOUNTABILITY TO OUR INDIVIDUAL DONORS

At MdM-F, we recognise the important role that donors play in our activities and the causes we support. We want to inform them of our environmentally responsible approach, in order to raise their awareness, engage them, and involve them, because their support is essential if we are to implement humanitarian projects that integrate respect for the environment.

As part of this approach, we are committed to:

- ➔ **Informing our donors that the humanitarian sector is increasingly committed to environmentally responsible initiatives**, by highlighting our efforts and achievements in this area. We will communicate regularly on our

environmentally responsible actions and operational plans, as part of holding ourselves accountable for our actions.

➔ **Making available to our donors the figures and reports** relating to the implementation of environmentally responsible actions. For example, carbon assessments will be available for consultation, as will action plans to reduce our environmental impact.

➔ **Regularly communicating news** on *environmental responsibility* through media dedicated to donors.

➔ **Suggesting to donors that they support our environmentally responsible approach** by going “paperless”, for example, and opting to receive our communications in digital format.

➔ By involving our donors in our environmentally responsible approach, we hope to strengthen their sense of attachment and belonging to our organisation. They will thus be reassured in their decision to make a collective impact for a fairer, more sustainable world.

1.4.3 STRATEGIC DIALOGUE WITH HUMANITARIAN DONORS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Much as the humanitarian sector as a whole, donors in the humanitarian sector are also moving towards more environmentally responsible practices, as demonstrated by the publication of the Humanitarian Aid Donors’ Declaration on Climate and Environment (2022), and the adoption of environmental policies by donors. We share their ambition to reduce the impact of humanitarian action on the environment.

As part of our relations with donors, we undertake to:

➔ **Strengthen dialogue with donors on *environmental responsibility*** and work towards the adoption of aligned environmental commitments and policies.

➔ **Take account of donors’ environmental recommendations and policies** when applying for funding.

➔ **Continue strategic dialogue** with donors on financing the *ecological transition*.

➔ **Report on our efforts** in the area of *environmental responsibility* to our donors, providing information and indicators on our environmental performance, our achievements and our action plans.

By working together with our donors, we aim to reduce our environmental impact and promote a global approach to environmental protection in the humanitarian sector.

1.4.4 THE MÉDECINS DU MONDE NETWORK

The Médecins du Monde network is made up of 17 chapters. These are independent organisations which carry out domestic and international projects aimed at removing obstacles to health and recognising health as a fundamental right.

MdM-F is committed to working closely with other chapters to integrate sustainable and environmentally responsible practices throughout the MdM Network. By working together with all the members of the network, we are seeking synergies of action to protect and guarantee the health of vulnerable populations, who are particularly exposed to the harmful consequences of climate and environmental crises. By sharing our successes and the challenges we face, we can collectively strengthen our ability to act responsibly and sustainably.



REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND OUR IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

At MdM-F, **we believe in taking responsible steps to minimise our carbon footprint while pursuing our vital humanitarian mission.** We recognise that our activities can have an impact on the environment, which is why we are committed to assessing them, reducing their negative impact, and implementing environmentally friendly practices at all levels of our organisation.

Greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide and methane, as well as many other gases) contribute towards global warming because of their increasing concentration in the Earth's atmosphere. As indicated in the *IPCC's* report published in March 2023,² in line with the 2015 Paris Agreements, it remains possible to limit global warming to 2 °C compared with pre-industrial levels, provided that we drastically reduce the emission of these gases through human activity, while continuing to work to further reduce it to 1.5 °C.

MdM-F is therefore firmly committed to reducing *greenhouse gas* emissions from its activities in line with the recommendations of the *IPCC* experts and the Paris Agreements. This reduction is in line with the commitments made when the humanitarian organisations signed the Statement of Commitment on Climate Change in December 2020.

In this section, we will use the terms "*carbon assessment*" and "*greenhouse gas emissions inventory*" interchangeably. Although different, these two methods are useful ways to identify the sources of carbon emissions and/or gases that contribute to global warming and pollution.

However, we recognise that to be truly environmentally responsible, we cannot limit ourselves to assessing our *greenhouse gas emissions* alone. **It is essential to adopt a holistic perspective that encompasses all our activities and their impact on the environment. We believe in taking responsible steps to minimise our carbon footprint** while pursuing our mandate. We recognise that our activities can have an impact on the environment, which is why we are committed to assessing them, reducing their negative impact, and implementing environmentally friendly practices at all levels of our organisation.

² IPCC report, March 2023: the summary report can be consulted on the MdM-F «Environmental responsibility» intranet page.



2.1 TAKING STOCK ...

The first key step in our environmentally responsible approach is to draw up a complete inventory of our activities and their impact on the environment.

This enables us to quantify our *greenhouse gas emissions*, measure our consumption of natural resources, and identify areas where we can improve our environmental performance. Thanks to this approach, we are identifying the levers for action that will enable us to significantly reduce our carbon footprint.

In order to better understand the overall impact of our activities on the environment, we will regularly carry out a *greenhouse gas emission inventory (carbon assessment)*, in accordance with current legislation. This process will enable us to identify the main sources of emissions and to identify the priority actions to reduce our carbon footprint, completing our comprehensive approach to environmental responsibility.



2.2 ... AND REDUCING

In order to reduce the impact of our projects on the environment, MdM-F will have to significantly reduce its *greenhouse gas emissions* and will implement various *decarbonisation* initiatives, including:

2.2.1 REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION

Implementing **measures to reduce the energy consumption of MdM-F infrastructures is an important lever, as infrastructures are a significant source of emissions.** This will include the use of low-emission energy systems, the optimisation of heating, air-conditioning and lighting systems, insulation, as well as raising staff awareness of the importance of energy efficiency and compliance with energy-saving recommendations.

2.2.2 PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGIES

MdM-F will actively encourage the use of renewable energy in its facilities and projects. This will include the installation of solar panels, for example, or the purchase of certified green electricity. MdM-F aims to stop using fossil fuels when alternatives exist that are compatible with our constraints.

2.2.3 LIMITING AND OPTIMISING TRAVEL

MdM-F travel can be classified into two broad categories:

➔ **Business travel: related to our operational activities in the field, as well as field visits and meetings with our partners.** This travel is essential to providing care and direct support to the populations we work with.

➔ **Daily travel:** this category covers travel to and from work, to attend internal or external meetings, and other work-related commitments. This type of travel plays a crucial role not only in the internal coordination of our activities, but also in maintaining the social and human links that strengthen our collaboration and mutual understanding within the organisation.

MdM-F recognises that travel is an unavoidable part of our business, but we are committed to adopting more responsible practices to reduce its impact on the environment. Our aim is to maximise our efficiency while minimising the carbon emissions associated with our travel.

With a view to reducing our travel, we strive to **minimise non-essential travel**, encouraging remote communication where possible. This not only helps to reduce our carbon emissions, but also optimises the use of our resources.

When travel is necessary, we will **give priority to the least polluting means of transport**, such as public transport, cycling, and car sharing. However, the nature of our business may require us to use vehicles powered by combustion engines. We are committed to adopting a fuel-efficient approach (by leasing or purchasing hybrid or electric vehicles and by conducting regular preventive vehicle maintenance, for example), and optimising routes to avoid unnecessary journeys.

This optimisation will have to be in line with our safety guides in place on international sites and in France. Our main priority remains the safety of our teams when they travel.

Finally, for long-distance travel, **the use of air travel will be reduced and reasonable.** We are committed to not using air travel for journeys that could be made with another means of transport in less than four hours.

As travel is a major source of *greenhouse gas* emissions, we are encouraging people to adopt a conscious approach when planning their journeys and to make more environmentally responsible choices.

2.2.4 TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

As with travel, the use of transport in connection with the provision of supplies is unavoidable. MdM-F is therefore committed to implementing appropriate practices in order to minimise its environmental impact.

We are working to **optimise our freight transport plans to reduce the distances travelled and the associated carbon emissions**, while giving preference to the least polluting carriers and modes of transport, depending on delivery time constraints, for example.

We will pay particular attention to our **choice of suppliers**, based on environmentally responsible criteria, encourage them not to over-package their products, and to use reusable packaging when necessary.

Finally, we will examine **opportunities for pooling** freight transport in order to optimise the modes of transport used and their environmental impact.

2.2.5 RESPONSIBLE WASTE MANAGEMENT: RESPECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

At MdM-F, we are fully aware that the nature of our operations involves the production of waste. While we cannot commit to producing no waste, we are committed to taking proactive measures on various levels to reduce this production and to manage our waste responsibly and in the most environmentally friendly way possible.

This waste management must be part of the **implementation of selective recycling and waste reduction systems** in our various infrastructures³ and in all our projects. It is important to note that waste will be managed in accordance with local or national regulations in force.

In the first phase of the cycle, we will **encourage supply methods that generate the least waste** and, where this is not essential from a health point of view and in line with the quality of practices advocated by MdM-F, we will not use single-use equipment and therefore prioritise re-use.

We will then put in place **waste recycling solutions tailored to local capacities**. We will also be looking at pooled waste processing solutions, particularly through networks of NGOs, organisations and associations.

We will work on **recycling and reusing materials and finding innovative solutions** in order to minimise the environmental impact of our activities.

Finally, we are committed to **disseminating and sharing best practice**, existing local solutions, and opportunities for pooling with our partners.

2.2.6 MEDICAL WASTE

Medical waste management is a major concern for MdM-F, as it directly connects our commitment to human health and our responsibility to the environment. In France, we comply with local and national regulations on the management of medical waste, working with specialist partners and service providers to ensure safe and compliant disposal.

Internationally, our teams work closely with local authorities to implement waste management protocols that comply with international standards and are adapted to local conditions. Our efforts are aimed at minimising the risks to health and the environment, while building local capacity for the autonomous management of medical waste.

At the same time, we are firmly committed to the responsible management of medicines that have expired or deteriorated. In order to prevent the health threat posed by these medicines, we will implement strict stock management and follow protocols for their safe disposal, in accordance with local and international standards. Our aim is to minimise the environmental and health risks associated with the disposal of expired medicines, while preserving the integrity of the environment.

2.2.7 IT AND TECHNOLOGY

Awareness of *environmental responsibility* also extends to our IT practices, where we recognise the importance of adopting environmentally friendly technology practices. We are committed to promoting “*green IT*” and to integrating environmentally responsible initiatives into our technology operations.

The concept of *environmental responsibility* will be taken into account at several levels in the IT sector. This includes the choice of equipment, favouring less energy-intensive equipment with a better reparability index and a longer lifespan. We will encourage the reduction of paper consumption by promoting digital solutions and implementing more digital working practices.

³ By “infrastructures” we mean all our offices, guesthouses, health centres and referral centres.

We regularly assess our IT infrastructure to identify opportunities for optimisation and virtualisation, which contributes towards a more efficient use of resources.

Finally, we prioritise recycling and the appropriate management of IT equipment at the end of its life, in order to minimise the scale of electronic waste.



USING RESOURCES RESPONSIBLY

MdM-F recognises the importance of **responsible use of natural resources** and is committed to implementing measures to optimise their use. We will seek to minimise our carbon footprint by adopting responsible and sustainable practices, while promoting the efficient use of resources.



3.1 EFFICIENT WATER MANAGEMENT

Efficient water management is a priority for MdM-F. We will implement measures to **reduce our water consumption, optimise distribution processes, and promote water conservation practices** in all our projects and infrastructures. This may include installing devices to reduce water consumption, raising awareness of good water management practices, and setting up systems to collect rainwater for later use.



3.2 SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PRACTICES

MdM-F recognises that sustainable procurement practices play an essential role in achieving our *environmental responsibility* objectives. We are firmly committed to promoting responsible sourcing, which takes into account the environmental, social, and ethical aspects of our activities.

We apply rigorous selection criteria to our suppliers, including environmentally responsible criteria wherever relevant. We assess their sustainability practices and policies, paying particular attention to their commitment to the environment, human rights, equity, and social responsibility. By promoting partnerships with suppliers who share our values, we are committed to a responsible purchasing policy. **Promoting local and sustainable products** is a priority for MdM-F. We favour locally sourced products, thereby reducing the carbon footprint associated with long-distance transport, whenever it is possible to source locally in line with our quality standards. We also **encourage environmentally friendly farming and production practices**, promoting sustainability in our supply chain.

Transparency is a key element of our approach. We demand detailed information on the origin of products, production conditions, certifications, and ethical labels.

This enables us to make informed decisions and ensure that our suppliers meet our high sustainability standards.

We are also committed to **reducing packaging waste**. We encourage our suppliers to adopt environmentally responsible packaging practices by prioritising the use of recyclable, compostable or reusable materials. In addition, we encourage bulk supplies or larger formats in order to minimise the amount of packaging waste generated, when this is in line with our standards and the quality of our practices.

We regard our suppliers as genuine partners and encourage close collaboration with them. We share the same values and expectations when it comes to sustainability, and work together to continually improve our procurement practices. By raising their awareness of sustainability issues and encouraging them to adopt responsible practices, we are helping to create a more ethical and sustainable supply chain.

SPECIFIC CASE OF MEDICINES AND MEDICAL DEVICES:

The issue of packaging and excessive packaging of medicines and medical devices is of crucial importance to our commitment to environmental responsibility. We recognise that these elements can have a significant environmental impact by contributing to the production of waste. At the same time, managing expired medicines is another fundamental aspect of our approach to *environmental responsibility* and protecting public health.

We strive to **supply medicines and medical devices in a way that takes account of environmental considerations, while meeting our quality and safety standards**. By carefully evaluating the packaging and excessive packaging of medical products, we seek to prioritise options that reduce the quantity of materials used and comply with safety directives. We also encourage our suppliers to adopt environmentally responsible packaging practices, favouring recyclable and sustainable materials while avoiding unnecessary waste.

However, it is important to point out that, as part of our duty to ensure the quality of medical practices, we must ensure the quality of the medicines and medical devices we use and distribute. MdM-F applies strict quality standards to medical and pharmaceutical products, and when the local market does not meet the required quality conditions, we prefer to source from the national or international market.



3.3 QUALITY OF MEDICAL AND CARE PRACTICES

We consider the quality of medical and care practices to be an essential foundation of our work. Our commitment to *environmental responsibility* does not compromise the quality of the care we provide. We work closely with healthcare professionals, medical experts and our partners to ensure that our medical procedures meet the highest standards of safety and efficacy. We prioritise rigorous clinical assessments and ongoing training of our teams and consistently apply best medical practice across all our operations. As part of our environmentally responsible approach, we are taking steps to optimise the use of medical resources, reduce waste and thus contribute to the long-term viability of our medical interventions.

These elements illustrate our commitment to reconciling our environmentally responsible objectives with our ongoing commitment to quality medical care and practice, reflecting our dedication to the health and well-being of vulnerable communities around the world.

LEADING THROUGH GOVERNANCE AND THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES



4.1 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MDM-F BODIES AND DIRECTORATES

MdM-F is committed to this policy. Its decision-making bodies will therefore ensure that their principles and commitments are in line with the decisions, directions taken, and means and resources dedicated to its implementation.

The governing bodies and directorates of MdM-F ensure sound governance and that environmental responsibility is integrated into the organisational culture, decision-making processes, and practices of the entire organisation.



4.2 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Effective implementation of the *environmental responsibility* policy requires adequate resources and appropriate support. Following a needs assessment, the necessary resources must be allocated to support the actions in the roadmap that will be defined, and to provide appropriate support for environmentally responsible initiatives to enable the **ecological transition**.

Specific funds will be allocated to support environmentally responsible investments, such as the purchase of energy-efficient equipment, the implementation of waste management systems, and staff training in environmentally sustainable practices. These financial resources will also be used to fund innovative projects and encourage the adoption of clean technologies.

In addition to financial resources, **technical support and specialist expertise will be provided** to help employees put their environmentally responsible commitments into practice. Training courses will be offered to raise teams' awareness of environmental issues, share best practice, and promote environmentally friendly behaviour.

RAISING AWARENESS, COMMUNICATING, SUPPORTING AND HOLDING OURSELVES ACCOUNTABLE

In order to enable all MdM-F staff to adopt and implement this *environmental responsibility* policy, everyone must be made aware of it and receive training as part of their commitment to MdM-F.

This is the main lever for disseminating and radically transforming our practices.



5.1 RAISING INTERNAL AWARENESS AMONG STAKEHOLDERS

We consider all MdM-F staff to be key players in the implementation of our *environmental responsibility* policy. To enable them to implement the roadmap and propose environmentally responsible initiatives, it is necessary to raise their awareness inside the organisation, by passing on information about environmental issues and encouraging them to adopt virtuous and sustainable practices that commit them to our *ecological transition*. This may include training sessions, workshops, awareness-raising campaigns, and the regular dissemination of information on environmentally responsible practices.

The active involvement of our stakeholders is at the heart of MdM-F's values. The creation of forums to discuss and share ideas on the theme of environmental responsibility will enable everyone to propose environmentally responsible initiatives, share best practice, and participate in environmental projects within the organisation.



5.2 RAISING AWARENESS AMONG BENEFICIARIES AND PARTNERS

Adopting an empowerment approach to working with beneficiaries, as well as encouraging coalitions for common causes with partners is at the very core of MdM-F. As part of our *environmental responsibility* policy, this way of working highlights the importance of involving our beneficiaries and partners in our commitments, through awareness-raising tools tailored to their needs and contexts, aimed at promoting environmentally responsible practices. This may take the form of information campaigns, training workshops, or the creation of educational resources.

Working in partnership, we promote a global approach to sustainability and *environmental responsibility* by working with our partners on the *ecological transition* of our operations and also on the transition of the humanitarian sector. This transition

does not call into question our commitment to the effectiveness of healthcare rights or our quality requirements, in line with our ethical charter.



5.3 DISSEMINATING AND SHARING ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE BEST PRACTICE

Sharing good environmentally responsible practices enables them to be disseminated and reproduced both internally within the organisation and externally with partners. We support the establishment of mechanisms for sharing experience and mutual learning. This will enable MdM-F to make an active contribution to the dissemination of knowledge and the adoption of environmentally responsible practices in the humanitarian sector and beyond.

By implementing these awareness-raising initiatives, MdM-F aims to **create a culture of environmental responsibility** and thus mobilise its wide range of stakeholders, beneficiaries and partners to meet the many environmental challenges.



5.4 ONGOING TRAINING AND SUPPORT

We recognise the importance of ongoing commitment from our teams and partners to achieve the objectives set out in our **environmental responsibility** policy. Beyond the initial awareness-raising, **we are committed to supporting our teams with the practical implementation of environmentally responsible solutions adapted** to their local contexts and the challenges they face.

This support will take the form of a **personalised approach**, where each team will be supported in identifying best practices and the most relevant solutions for reducing *greenhouse gas* emissions, using resources responsibly, and continuing to assimilate and improve the way in which *environmental responsibility* is integrated into our operations. For example, we will set up targeted training sessions, collaborative workshops, and exchanges of best practice to make it easier to share experiences and learn from one another.

Our aim is to create an environment where everyone in our organisation can actively contribute to our collective efforts to be *environmentally responsible*. We are convinced

that support and ongoing training are key to enabling our teams to meet the complex challenges of environmental sustainability while maintaining the efficiency and quality of our operations.

By providing the necessary tools, resources and support, we will ensure that our teams are empowered to actively integrate environmentally responsible principles into their day-to-day actions, contributing to our overall sustainability objectives and protecting the environment while maintaining MdM-F standards.



5.5 ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We will define indicators to assess our performance in terms of *environmental responsibility*. Among other things, these indicators could include assessment of the reduction in *greenhouse gas* emissions, reduction in energy consumption, responsible waste management, efficient use of resources, and raising stakeholder awareness. By monitoring these indicators, we will be able to measure our progress and adjust our actions accordingly.

These indicators shall be regularly presented to stakeholders and decision-making bodies so that they can take the necessary action in response to changes.



5.6 ACTION PLAN AND IMPROVEMENTS

We will strive to improve our practices to ensure that we achieve the objectives defined in this policy, aided by the results of our monitoring and evaluations. The roadmap will be updated accordingly, setting out the specific measures to be taken, responsibilities, deadlines, and resources required. It will be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect new opportunities, good practice, and changes in the environmental context.

We will also encourage the active participation of our stakeholders and partners in identifying opportunities for improvement and implementing new environmentally responsible initiatives. We believe in the power of collaborative working to stimulate innovation and contribute to social and societal change.

By adopting a continuous improvement approach, we aim to be at the forefront of *environmental responsibility* in the humanitarian sector. We are striving to be an inspiring example for other organisations and to transition towards being a humanitarian organisation with a reduced and controlled impact on the environment.





ALSO TREATING INJUSTICE

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LET'S REDUCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS BROCHURE!

