Wetlands International Ethical Policy

Wetlands International is a global, independent, science-based, network organisation. Our international board of members is comprised of governments and non-governmental organisations. They nominate the members of our board and guide the development of our global goals, institutional policies and Strategy. We work through partnerships and with a wide range of sectors. We respect traditional values and knowledge. We work in a transparent and accountable way.

In our work with third parties, Wetlands International will reserve the right to:
- Assure that our high quality standards are met. Adherence to our Global Strategy is an integral part of the quality criteria;
- Express our own views wherever and whenever we see fit and have diverging views expressly stated publicly in joint reports;
- Bring in outside consultants – experts to aid our work and to peer review our conclusions; and
- End collaboration if there is considered to be a conflict of interest or if our core values are being compromised.

The decision to work in partnership with third parties (governments, multilateral organizations, NGOs and interest groups, industry) depends on:
- A third party’s willingness to respect our core values and the points listed above and to act to help achieve the goals outlined in our Strategy;
- A third party’s willingness to communicate and work with us in a fully transparent and collaborative way;
- A case by case analysis of the project at hand in its local, regional, national, international, political, ethical, environmental and socio-economic context and an analysis of the project’s contribution to Wetlands International’s goals and targets; and
- The expressed intent of a third party to continually improve its performance to achieve a more sustainable world that benefits people’s well-being and biodiversity. As a consequence, Wetlands International will not work with organisations that in Wetlands International’s opinion purposely harm the environment or public health, disrespect human rights, ignore traditional values and knowledge, enhance poverty or are otherwise engaged in activities that are inconsistent with the mission and objectives of Wetlands International.

In its own operations Wetlands International acts in an environmentally and ethically responsible way. We aim to:
- Be an equal opportunity employer;
- Be an environmentally conscientious procurer of goods;
Approved by ExCo on behalf of the Board of Directors in March, 2006

- Invest our money in socially and/or environmentally responsible funds; and
- Adhere to internationally recognized standards for fund raising and administration.

In carrying out our work through all our offices and with partners, Wetlands International maintains the following core values:

- Our work is globally relevant;
- Our work is based on sound science;
- We work through partnerships and with a wide range of sectors;
- We respect traditional values and knowledge; and
- We work in a transparent and accountable way.