

At KEP Textile Atelier, our unwavering commitment to sustainability is integral to our operations. We understand that the textile industry can have a significant environmental footprint, and we are dedicated to being part of the solution, rather than the problem.

Key Environmental Commitments

- **Renewable Energy:** We generate our electricity using solar panels, reducing our carbon footprint and dependence on non-renewable energy sources. This approach aligns with our goal to minimise our environmental impact.
- **Water Conservation:** To minimise external water use, we have implemented a water filtration system, which reduces our need for externally sourced water. We also practise rainwater harvesting. These measures demonstrate our dedication to responsible water management and resource conservation.
- **Waste Management:** We have a comprehensive solid waste management plan that includes the separation of different waste streams at all our facilities. Our waste management practices encompass recycling and composting of paper, cardboard, fabric, textile, plastic, glass, and metal waste. Hazardous waste, such as batteries, paint, and light bulbs, are sent to specialised waste management services. These measures help us reduce landfill waste and minimise our environmental footprint.
- **Sustainable Sourcing:** We prioritise working with local suppliers for fabrics and accessories for clothing manufacturing. Our packing materials are either made from recycled materials or collected for reuse or recycling. This approach not only reduces transportation emissions but also supports local communities.
- **Training and Education:** We provide ongoing training to our staff about sustainability, carbon footprint reduction, and the impact of climate change. We believe that knowledge and awareness are key drivers of sustainable behaviour.

Sustainable Practices

In our daily actions and events, we consistently prioritise sustainable standards, which include:

- No plastic drinking straws.
- No disposable plastic water bottles at any of our facilities or events.
- Use of washable and reusable cups, dishes, and cutlery.
- Adoption of air dryers, cloth towels, or cloth napkins to reduce paper towel and napkin waste.
- Use of water bidets or sprayers to reduce toilet paper waste.
- Selection of natural biodegradable cleaning supplies.
- Utilisation of office paper and office supplies made from recycled materials.
- Preference for unbleached and chlorine-free paper products.
- Use of plant-based inks for printing.
- Sourcing of promotional materials from sustainably managed sources.
- Avoidance of signs made from polystyrene or polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
- Minimise the use of paper in the office and seek to reduce packaging, and prioritise the purchase of recycled and recyclable paper products and promote paper reuse and recycling.

Water Management

To further reduce our external water use, we have implemented:

- Clear signage for workers and visitors regarding responsible water use.
- Ongoing worker training and incentives to promote water-efficient practices.
- Installation of water-efficient fixtures to minimise water consumption.
- Implementation of rainwater harvesting.
- On-site water treatment to recycle and reuse water where possible.
- Monitoring and recording of water use with reduction targets in place.

Energy Efficiency

We actively strive to reduce our energy use through various initiatives, including:

- Clear signage for workers and visitors to encourage energy-efficient practices.
- Ongoing worker training and incentives to promote energy conservation.
- Use of energy-efficient equipment throughout our facilities.

- Maximised use of natural lighting during daylight hours.
- Utilisation of energy-efficient CFL or LED bulbs.
- Installation of occupancy sensors, daylight dimmers, and key switches for lighting control.
- Investment in insulation to improve energy efficiency.

Renewable Energy

We are committed to using renewable energy in our operations. Our solar photovoltaic system is a key component of our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint and reliance on non-renewable energy sources.

Sustainable Transport

We are dedicated to reducing our use of fossil fuels for transport through the following practices;

- Priority given to local suppliers and markets, reducing the need for long-distance transport.
- Utilisation of virtual meeting technology to reduce travel requirements.
- Adoption of low-impact transport options, such as public transport and sea shipments, for transport, supply chain, and distribution.
- Avoidance of air travel and shipment by air whenever possible.
- We prioritise the use of public transportation for business travel, particularly for long-distance journeys. Car/taxi usage is considered an option when required.

Compliance and Monitoring

At KEP Textile Atelier, we are committed to the consistent implementation of our environmental policy. To ensure compliance with this policy, we have established a robust framework for monitoring and enforcement.

- **Training and Education:** All staff and team members receive comprehensive training on our environmental policy as part of their onboarding process. This training is reinforced through periodic workshops and educational initiatives. We believe that understanding and awareness are fundamental to fostering a culture of sustainability within our organisation.

- **Employee Engagement:** We actively encourage our staff and team members to engage in sustainable practices by fostering a sense of shared responsibility. We promote open communication and actively seek input and feedback from employees regarding policy compliance, sustainability ideas, and concerns.
- **Regular Audits:** To ensure compliance, we conduct regular environmental audits and assessments of our facilities and operations. These audits are performed by designated personnel trained in environmental compliance and sustainability.
- **Reporting Mechanisms:** We maintain an open-door policy that encourages employees to report any observed violations or deviations from our environmental policy. Employees are encouraged to report through appropriate channels, such as their supervisors, the human resources department, or dedicated environmental compliance personnel.
- **Corrective Actions:** In cases of non-compliance or policy violations, corrective actions are taken promptly. The specific actions will vary based on the nature and severity of the violation but may include;
 - Education and retraining of employees involved.
 - Issuing warnings and reminders to individuals or teams.
 - Implementing process improvements to prevent future violations.
 - Enforcing disciplinary measures when necessary, following established company policies.
- **Continuous Improvement:** We view policy compliance as an ongoing process. We continually assess our procedures and initiatives to identify areas of improvement. This includes addressing non-compliance incidents to refine our policies and procedures for the future.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** We believe in transparency and accountability in all aspects of our operations, including policy compliance. Any significant non-compliance incidents and actions taken will be documented and reported to relevant stakeholders.
- **Employee Incentives:** In addition to corrective actions, we recognize and reward individuals and teams that consistently demonstrate a commitment to our environmental policy and sustainability initiatives. These incentives are aimed at fostering a culture of compliance and proactiveness.



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- **External Accountability:** We are committed to external accountability and are open to external audits or reviews of our environmental practices. We actively seek third-party certifications and verifications of our sustainability efforts to ensure transparency and credibility.

Continuous Improvement

Our environmental policy is a dynamic document that evolves with our ongoing commitment to sustainability. We actively seek new technologies, methods, and best practices to further reduce our environmental footprint and promote responsible and ethical practices within the textile industry.