

Ethical Policy

The Geographical Association (GA) is at heart a membership organisation and as such we believe that we have a duty to act on behalf of our membership in an ethically responsible manner. This policy is the **guide** for fulfilling this mandate and we **will endeavour to** ensure that it is applied in all areas of our operation.

This ethically responsible approach is to apply to the core GA activities associated with furthering the study and teaching of geography, which fall into the three main categories of:

- (i) Publications;
- (ii) All other membership related activities; and
- (iii) Management and administration of the association's affairs.

This policy equally applies to those organisations in which the GA invests or deals with as a supplier, partner or sponsor.

Key Elements

- **Environment & sustainability** – The GA will seek to support collaboration with organisations that demonstrate a care for the environment and will conversely actively avoid organisations that have a poor environmental record or whose effort to reduce their adverse environmental impact lags behind others in its area of operation. The GA also supports the principle of energy conservation and encourages the use of renewable non-polluting energy. It will seek to support businesses with similar goals that are involved in recycling and the pursuit of ecological sustainability. It will not knowingly have dealings with any organisation whose core activities contribute to:
 - Adverse climate change impacts;
 - The manufacturing of chemicals which are persistent in the environment and linked to long term health concerns; or
 - The unsustainable harvest of natural resources that cause long-term damage for short-term economic gain.
- **Human rights** – The GA seeks to support the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and will seek to work with organisations that demonstrate respect for human rights. It will avoid any businesses or organisations that profit from child labour or whose operations have a record of human rights violation.
- **Social responsibility** – The GA is committed to and encourages collaboration with organisations that support Fair Trade and operate non-exploitative employment practices in their own businesses and supply chains throughout the world. It will conversely not invest in or do business with any organisation that:
 - Manufactures or designs weapons, instruments of warfare or torture, or that derives significant revenue from weapons related products or services; or
 - Manufactures tobacco products or derives significant revenue from tobacco related production.

Endorsed by Council on 29 November 2003