

# Environmental Sustainability

## Our Policy Statement

### Background

Barclays is a major global financial services provider engaged in retail and commercial banking, credit cards, investment banking, wealth management and investment management services. We are one of the largest financial services companies in the world by market capitalisation, with over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, operations in more than 50 countries and more than 135,000 employees. We move, lend, invest and protect money for over 30 million customers and clients worldwide.

As a diverse global business, we recognise the complex challenges of achieving sustainable development in the regions where we operate. The social and economic consequences of a changing climate will increasingly have an impact on our customers and clients and the return on our business. By addressing these issues, we will manage risk and capture new market opportunities.

As a provider of financial services, we have significant indirect environmental impacts through lending and investment activities on this scale and through procurement practices. We also have a direct environmental impact through the use of natural resources in our operations.

This statement sets out our approach to managing our environmental impacts. We will aim for continuous improvement in mitigating our direct environmental impacts, reducing use of natural resources and preventing pollution. We will also work with clients, customers and other stakeholders to identify ways of managing our indirect impacts and to develop financial services that promote sustainability.

### Compliance with policy

Compliance with the policy set out below is important to ensure that:

- Environmental risks are properly identified, prioritised and managed in an appropriate and timely way
- Barclays customers and shareholders benefit from market opportunities created by the move towards sustainable development
- The policy is applied wherever Barclays operates, in a manner sensitive to local cultures, customs and circumstances.

### Scope

The policy applies to Barclays operations globally.

### Policy content

It is Barclays policy:

- To ensure that we are compliant with all applicable environmental legislation in the countries in which we operate.
- To manage our direct environmental impacts through a Group-wide Environmental Management System, the core components of which are certified to ISO14001.
- To continue to integrate environmental considerations into business decisions in line with our commitment to environmental sustainability.
- To manage indirect impacts in lending through Barclays Environmental and Social Risk Assessment Policy, sector-specific lending guidance and our commitment to the Equator Principles.

- To deliver a Climate Action Programme. We recognise that climate change is the greatest threat to the global community and financial services organisations have an important role to play in the transition to a low-carbon economy. Barclays Climate Action Programme includes a commitment to reduce emissions from our own operations and to develop low-carbon products and services.
- To manage indirect impacts in the supply chain by collaborating with key suppliers to secure an improvement in our environmental performance and their own. Our assessment of suppliers within the sourcing process assigns appropriate weighting to their environmental performance issues.
- To use sustainable practices in property design and property management.
- To set targets on key aspects of our environmental performance and review them periodically. We will communicate proactively and openly about our environmental commitments and performance.
- To raise employees' awareness of environmental issues, encouraging environmentally responsible behaviour and providing appropriate training to enable them to play a full role in implementing our environmental policy.
- To engage with industry groups and non-governmental organisations in order to contribute positively and proactively to environmental sustainability in business.



John Varley  
Group Chief Executive  
April 2008

### Governance

**Policy sponsor:** The Chair of Barclays Group Operating Committee is empowered by the Group Chief Executive to sanction subordinate policies and procedures, after consultation with members of the Committee except those relating to environmental risk in lending.

**Policy owner:** The Global Head of Environmental Sustainability has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the Group-wide Environmental Management System and for supporting delivery of the Policy.

**Policy implementation:** Members of Barclays Group Operating Committee – comprising senior representatives from Business Units – are responsible for overseeing implementation of, and ensuring there is an effective structure in place for delivering compliance with, the Policy within their own Business Units.

**Environmental Risk Policy:** The Environmental Risk Policy team is responsible for incorporating environmental risk considerations into the lending processes for business customers.

**Compliance:** To be reported to Global Head of Environmental Sustainability, quarterly, by: All Business Units.