



INSTITUTE OF
ECONOMIC SCIENCES
Institute of national significance
for the Republic of Serbia

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICY OF THE INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES

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1. Introduction

The Institute of Economic Sciences (IES), established in Belgrade in 1958, is a state-owned research institution dedicated to advancing economic science, public policy, and sustainable development in Serbia and the wider region.

IES recognizes the importance of environmental protection and sustainability. As a scientific institution, IES is committed to responsible practices that minimize negative environmental impacts, promote efficient resource use, and foster ecological awareness among employees, partners, and the broader community.

This policy does not introduce a new direction but rather formalizes long-standing practices and values that have guided our work. For years, IES has actively promoted environmental responsibility through its research, educational activities, and internal activities. By systematizing these efforts, IES aims to further reinforce its commitment and ensure a structured, transparent, and continuous approach to sustainability.

This policy is complemented by the IES Environmental Protection Plan, which outlines specific goals, measures, and actions.

2. Environmental Policy Principles

As a research institution committed to sustainability, IES applies the following principles to guide our environmental responsibility:

1. Compliance with Environmental Laws and Standards

IES focuses on complying with all relevant environmental regulations and the transparency of IES activities, projects, and internal processes, ensuring they reflect legal and ethical environmental responsibilities.

2. Minimizing environmental impact and promoting sustainable resource use

By integrating sustainability and circularity principles into everyday operations, IES is committed to reducing the environmental footprint of its research and activities. This includes minimizing waste through recycling (paper, plastic bottles, bottle caps), using recycled materials for conference and project outputs, and prioritizing digital formats over printed publications. IES further promotes responsible resource use through energy efficiency, material reuse, sustainable procurement, and recycling practices, contributing to resource conservation and extending product life cycles in line with circular economy principles.

3. Environmental sustainability integration and awareness-raising

IES integrates environmental sustainability across its research agenda, institutional planning, and project activities. Through its projects, IES contributes to sustainable development objectives, climate action, and the advancement of green transition policies. In parallel, IES places strong emphasis on ecological awareness-raising, where it actively engages employees, and collaborators to support joint research, knowledge exchange, and environmentally responsible innovation.

4. Implementing green procurement and sustainable infrastructure

IES prioritizes the purchase of eco-friendly products and services, and considers environmental performance when making decisions about infrastructure, equipment, and IT systems.

5. Mitigating climate impact (taking responsibility for climate and energy efficiency)

IES is committed to mitigating climate impact by improving energy efficiency and encouraging sustainable mobility and travel behaviors across all institutional activities.

6. Monitoring, transparency, and continuous improvement

IES monitors environmental performance, reviews our policy and practices, and strives for continuous improvement. IES is committed to transparent communication and accountability in implementing this policy.

3. Objectives and goals

The Institute of Economic Sciences aims to establish a sustainable and environmentally responsible institution by integrating eco-friendly practices into its daily operations, research, and collaborations. The overarching goal is to minimize environmental impact, promote efficient resource use, and foster a culture of sustainability.

This policy is supported by key objectives related to:

- Minimizing waste;
- Improving energy efficiency;
- Promoting sustainable procurement and resource management;
- Ensuring continuous improvement through regular review and adaptation.

4. Responsibility and implementation

All IES employees and collaborators share responsibility for implementing this policy in their daily work. The IES's management holds specific responsibilities, including:

- Overseeing the implementation of this policy and ensuring it is applied across all departments and activities;
- Periodically evaluating environmental measures and proposing improvements;
- Organizing awareness programs for employees;
- Applying environmental practices across all segments of the IES's operations.

All environmental measures are limited due to the IES building's cultural heritage status.

A designated Sustainability Officer coordinates the implementation process; monitors progress and supports integration into institutional planning and operations.

5. Monitoring and reporting

IES is committed to regular monitoring of its environmental performance. This includes collecting data on energy, waste, and water usage; issuing periodic internal reports; and updating policies based on new knowledge and practices. A digital dashboard will be developed to regularly share sustainability performance data with staff and promote transparent internal communication.