

Portland's Environmental and Social Sustainability Policy

Policy Statement

This policy has been adopted by Portland's Parish Council (PPC), as the elected representative of the citizens of Portland, to guide the parish through the process of becoming a sustainable tourism destination under the Green Globe 21 program. This policy is a first step towards realizing the vision of developing a tourism product that is diverse but unique to the parish, highlighting the natural, historical and cultural flavor of the parish. It is further supported by a sustainability strategy and action plan that outlines the areas of action and activities necessary to achieve that goal.

This policy has been developed in accordance to the parish's sustainable development agreement established by the citizen's of Portland and presented in the Parish Council's Sustainable Development Profile. Consideration has also been given to the World Tourism Organization's Global Code of Ethics.

The Portland's Parish Council, through the **Sustainable Development Planning and Infrastructure Management Committee**, is committed to review this policy on an annual basis and to make sure the policy is widely distributed and communicated to all stakeholders, members of the general public, employees, customers and suppliers of goods and services within the parish. It will also put in place systems for regularly recording sustainability performance and supply this information annually to Green Globe 21.

Environmental and Social Commitments 2004 - 2005

- The Parish of Portland will promote the sustainable development of the tourist industry. The PPC will therefore, take all practicable steps to reduce adverse effects of activities that impact negatively on the economic, social, cultural and natural environments of the parish.
- The Parish of Portland will work with projects, contractors and consultants involved in parish activities to develop sustainable environmental and social practices.
- The Parish of Portland will source goods and services whose origins are as close as possible to the local community, as long as this does not adversely affect the parish activities or have a negative environmental, social or economic impact.
- The Parish of Portland will protect, conserve and improve the quality of the natural environment of the parish, taking into consideration its unique ecological balance, its carrying capacity and its ability to support the social development of the parish.
- The Parish of Portland will seek to preserve, and where possible, to restore Portland's unique mountains, wetlands, rivers and marine environments.
- The Parish of Portland will promote best practices in energy conservation and efficiency as well as the use of renewable energy.
- The Parish of Portland will monitor and act to prevent or minimize air, water, land and noise pollution

- The Parish of Portland will minimize the production of waste and promote reduction, re-use, repair and recycling.
- The Parish of Portland will utilize the parish's abundant water resources to meet the need of its residents in a sustainable way.
- The Parish of Portland will promote the use of goods and services which least damage the environment.
- The Parish of Portland will provide education and training opportunities to community members so as to enable them to meet working requirements and take advantage of employment opportunities available in the parish and the country.
- The Parish of Portland will seek to document and disseminate information on the parish's cultural heritage, and how this can assist in the development of heritage tourism and eco-tourism.
- The Parish of Portland is an equal employment opportunities employer and makes a commitment to the employment of local people.
- The Parish of Portland will work towards empowering and training local people in participatory approaches to development planning and action.