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Sustainability Strategy

Introduction

This sustainability strategy explains our commitment to deep work with experts and internal teams to become a regenerative organization.

Objectives

Our sustainability strategy reflects our commitment as committee members of the Gallery Climate Coalition (GCC) in Spain.

The GCC approach has four key elements:

1. **Reducing Our Carbon Footprint:** minimizing the emissions from our activities.
2. **Promoting Sustainable Operations:** integrating sustainability into the activities and roles of the entire Foundation.
3. **Advocating for Climate Action:** using our position of influence and access to those with power and influence to support sustainability. Working to provide positive examples to other foundations and cultural organizations.
4. **Monitoring and Reporting:** to measure and assess our use of resources, have this independently verified, set, and publicly reported.

Actions

These are the actions we are taking to achieve our objectives:

1. Reducing Carbon Footprint:

Objective: To minimize the carbon emissions associated with Foundation operations and exhibitions.

a. Energy Efficiency:

- Using our independent energy audit to identify areas of energy waste.
- Transitioning to renewable energy sources.
- Implementing energy-efficient lighting, HVAC systems, storage facilities, and appliances.
- Promoting energy-saving habits among staff and visitors.

b. Transportation:

- Encouraging staff to use public transportation, carpool, or bike to work.
- Reducing our travel as much as possible, with the team only traveling when other options are not viable.
- Using alternatives to air travel, prioritizing rail and public transport.
- Offsetting our activity travel emissions through carbon offset programs.
- Provisioning of virtual and alternative forms of exhibitions and events to reduce the need for travel.

c. Art Handling and Shipping:

- Choosing sustainable packing materials and practices.
- Collaborating with artists to source sustainable materials for artworks.
- Optimizing shipping routes to reduce carbon emissions.
- Pushing our storage suppliers to improve the sustainability of their facilities and offers.

2. Promoting Sustainable Operations:

Objective: To integrate sustainability into the daily operations of the Foundation.

a. Waste Reduction:

- Implementing a comprehensive recycling and composting program.
- Banning single-use plastics and promoting reusable alternatives.
- Encouraging artists, galleries, and institutions to adopt sustainable packaging.

b. Sustainable Sourcing:

- Serving only vegetarian food at all Foundation events; no meat or fish will be available.
- Sourcing sustainable and eco-friendly materials for Foundation supplies.
- In producing artworks and events, supporting local and ethical supply chains, including artists and artisans.
- Considering the environmental impact of exhibition design and construction.

c. Water Conservation:

- Installing water-saving fixtures and practices in Foundation facilities.
- Educating staff and visitors about responsible water use.
- Advocating for water-saving practices at organizations, institutions, and events we work with.

d. Sustainable Partnerships:

- Collaborating with environmentally-conscious organizations and sponsors.
- Requiring evidence of sustainability commitments and actions from sponsors and partners.
- Partnering with sustainable, locally sourced seasonal providers catering for events and openings.

3. Advocating for Climate Action:

Objective: To raise awareness and engage the arts community in climate advocacy.

a. Education and Awareness:

- Hosting exhibitions and events focused on environmental themes.
- Offering workshops and lectures on sustainability in art, research, digital production, institutions, production, and exhibition.
- Sharing information about the Foundation's sustainability initiatives with visitors.

b. Community Engagement:

- Continuing to actively engage with the local communities and art organizations on climate issues in Madrid, Vienna, Venice, Cordoba, and all locations where our works are experienced.
- Participating in and advocating for community clean-up efforts and environmental campaigns.

c. Policy and Advocacy:

- Joining and supporting art industry associations and initiatives promoting sustainability, we are members of the GCC Spain, advocating for sustainability advances within the World Arts Foundations.
- Advocating for climate action and sustainable practices within the art world, committing to a sustainable approach as part of due diligence on all sponsors and partners.
- Collaborating with policymakers to advance climate-friendly policies. We hold observer status at the International Seabed Authority, have an advisory role to the EU Mission Healthy Ocean, and are part of the New European Bauhaus.
- Collaborating with NGOs and Foundations that share our aims.

4. Monitoring and Reporting:

Objective: To track progress and communicate sustainability achievements.

a. Data Collection:

- Building carbon budgets into our project planning process.
- Working with experts and teams to improve and evolve key performance indicators (KPIs) for sustainability efforts.

b. Reporting:

- We commit to publishing annual sustainability reports showcasing achievements and challenges, including our carbon and water data.
- We commit to sharing success stories and best practices with the art community, government policy, and education and learning communities.

c. Continuous Improvement:

- We will use our independently designed data audit to identify areas for improvement and set new sustainability goals.
- We will continue working with staff, artists, and visitors to enhance sustainability efforts across our work.

Supervision & Responsibility

Supervising and taking responsibility for this work sits with the Head of Collection Management and the Chief of The Financial and Legal Office.

Documentation

Carbon and water audits