



# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Our path to achieve harmony



# GATEWAY BOLIVIA TOURISTIC COMPANY SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## 1. INTRODUCTION & MISSION

Gateway Bolivia Compañía Turística (G.B.C.T. SRL) is a firm with a team of tourism professionals, who are devoted to providing high quality services, making sure that every trip with us is not only an unforgettable journey through the places and uses of Bolivia, but a life experience within the country, its flavors and backgrounds.

### 1.1. OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company provides high quality touristic services taking environmental, social and economic responsibility. We not only arrange nice trips, but we aim to create lifetime experiences.

### 1.2. OUR VISION

GBCT is a tourism engine that generates more than profits, its impact goes beyond; sharing the benefits with its stakeholders equally, within an efficient and effective organizational environment, which promotes the constant formation and development of its team.

### 1.3. OUR PHILOSOPHY & COSMOVISION

Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company is a social, moral and environmentally responsible company, whose social main goal is to create employment sources, supporting touristic sustainable development.

Our company was founded with such principals such as harmony with the environment and respect to the authentic peoples of America, Gateway Bolivia is a company that recognizes the ancestral values and that cultural inheritance left by the ancient inhabitants of this region, and the result of the mix of cultures, that became a very interesting and rich human phenomenon.

Therefore, every single action of the company is based on the knowledge of the ancient cultures; millenarian wisdom almost lost when they were conquered by the Spaniards. A special vision of the existence that prevails somehow until our days, a vision of armony and respect towards nature and the elements, so that, we are allowed to adopt it as a way of living and as a part of our organizational philosophy.

Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company endeavours to conduct its business operations whilst demonstrating good stewardship in the preservation of natural resources, by adopting environmentally and socially responsible practices for the benefit of our passengers, our crew and the local communities in the areas we operate. We make use of its resources in the promotion of local and international tourism which is its core business practice, pursuant to the environmental and developmental policies by ensuring activities within our operation areas do not damage the environment.





Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company comprehends that its operations and services will have an effect on local, regional and global environment. As a consequence of this Gateway is committed to the reduction of the potential impacts to air, surface water, ground water, public health, community quality life, employee health, wildlife habitats and species preservation, and soil degradation while providing a high quality service for recreational tourism.

#### 1.4. OUR CORE VALUES

- We are clear people, that likes to speak and act clear and transparently, getting the things well done, because we like to grow.
- We provide timely and appropriate care to our clients to identify , meet and exceed their needs and expectations.
- We do believe in responsible tourism (social, environmental and economic) as a way of development.
- We integrate environmentally and socially responsible practices at the time we develop our operations and encourage our local partners to act alike.
- With dedication and commitment we are willing to assume our responsibilities every day, keeping in mind the success of our company.
- Understanding that the self-accomplishment of our team members is achieved through work therefore we do acknowledge, giving recognition, and promoting the personal and professional development of our people.
- We work under the strong belief that continuous improvement and constant innovation, ensure our competitiveness in the changing environment.
- We are committed to our environment, keeping an open and honest behavior.
- We respect the communities and places in which we operate .
- We do not work based on internal or external corruption, nor allow it to guide or compromise us.
- We work to maintain a climate of respect and justice towards our partners, customers, consumers and suppliers.
- We believe in teamwork as essential tool to meet the goals and objectives that lead to personal and business success.

#### 1.5. TO THE VISITORS

Bolivia is a country where the contrasts in geography and culture are everywhere in the atmosphere as in ethnographic and social levels.

With your trip you will help us to construct responsible tourism within the reality of that context. Other of our goals is giving significance and conserving our natural and cultural wonders, simultaneously promoting the efforts of development of the local communities.





## 2. ON LAW & REGULATIONS

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Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company strives to meet and exceed all applicable environmental laws<sup>1</sup> and regulations, and code of practice of environmental performance. We facilitate this by implementing policies through a coordinated environmental management system in the utilization of environmentally safe and sustainable energy sources as is feasible to meet our needs. As a primary part of corporate environmental strategy, our company applies appropriate waste management practices and invests in reducing, reusing and recycling waste materials, especially hazardous waste and wherever possible dispose of all waste through safe and responsible methods.

In attainment of the company's environmental target and sustainable development goals, our team adopted the 3Rs principle:

1. Reduce the amount of trash that needs to be discarded;
2. Reuse containers and products; and
3. Repair what is broken and recycle where possible.

Gateway Bolivia Touristic Company has established an achievable annual evaluation of its performance goals in implementing these principles to ensure continual improvement of its Environmental Management Systems in compliance with applicable laws and regulations within Bolivia, but taking into account international standards in order to keep up the job. In entrenching these practices Gateway has implement continuous training programs for its employees to raise awareness on environmental issues and enlist their support in improving the Company's performance. Gateway carries out a periodic evaluation and assessment and as required amends procedures in order to attain higher levels of control.

### 2.1. A 7 STEPS STRATEGY:

1. Strive for continual improvement through the development of products/services that limits environmental cost and impacts generated by our activities.
2. Comply with applicable regulations and standards to which we subscribe.
3. Institute energy efficiency measures and wherever possible use recycled materials to conserve our natural resources.
4. Review environmental objectives and monitor performance.
5. Cooperate and develop partnerships with local communities in our area of operation, and with organizations that are engaged in protecting the environment.
6. Minimize waste by evaluating operations and ensuring they are as efficient as possible.
7. Minimize toxic emissions in ensuring optimal performance of our fleet to minimize emissions from our vehicle fleet that contribute to climate change.

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<sup>1</sup> Bolivian Environmental Law: Ley del Medio Ambiente N° 1333, published on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1992





### 3. THE ROOTS OF OUR EP ACTION PLAN...

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#### 3.1. COMPLIANCE

We are committed to conducting our business in an environmentally and socially responsible way while ensuring compliance with relevant environmental laws and company policies and requirements.

#### 3.2. LEADERSHIP

We strive to be a leaders in environmental performance. We assess our progress towards this goal through internal measurement, external benchmarking, incorporating best practices, instituting mechanisms to drive continuous improvement, and participating in research where appropriate.

#### 3.3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

We pursue continuous improvement in the environmental performance of our business by establishing one action plan with goals, programs and procedures that govern our business and tie performance to corporate and divisional environmental goals and objectives. Progress against these goals will be regularly reported to divisional and corporate management.

#### 3.4. GLOBAL STANDARDS

We adhere to company goals, programs, procedures and policies designed to provide the same level of respect for the environment globally.

#### 3.5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

We believe in prevention as the best way to protect the environment. Where we cannot prevent environmental impact, we will commit to identify and evaluate the environmental impacts of our operations and strive to minimize those impacts by leveraging best practices to protect natural resources, consistent with Global Sustainable Development.

#### 3.6. PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

As we develop new products, we will evaluate their potential environmental impact and provide our customers with the information necessary for environmentally responsible handling and disposal.

#### 3.7. COMMUNICATION

We foster openness and dialogue with our employees and the communities in which we operate by anticipating and responding to concerns about the environmental aspects of our operations.





### 3.8. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

We value well-informed and trained employees as essential in achieving environmental excellence. We provide appropriate environmental education and training programs to our employees to ensure that they are prepared to perform their jobs in an environmentally responsible manner. We develop the knowledge and skills of our environmental professionals to facilitate their professional growth and foster business excellence in executing their environmental responsibilities.

### 3.9. PURCHASING

Gateway Bolivia will pursue sustainability purchasing in the acquisition of goods and services/products in a way that gives preference to suppliers that generate positive social and environmental outcomes.

### 3.10. RESPONSIBILITY

The environmental coordinator within Gateway Bolivia is responsible for implementation and ongoing adherence to this policy and will implement strategies for achieving leadership in environmental protection consistent with our mission and values, and to monitor the environmental progress and performance of the Company, and are also responsible for ensuring adequate resources are provided to support and monitor environmental performance.

### 3.11. FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

The environmental coordinator is Victor Chavez Sanjines who is supervised by Leonardo Prado, our CEO. Together they will ensure staff uphold Gateway Bolivia's environmental policy. The environmental coordinator will be responsible for the continuous improvement of the company's environmental management system. Our environmental coordinator shall attend periodic training programs on environmental safeguards and the application of efficiency measures in order to keep up with the task.

Humankind has not woven the web of life.  
We are but one thread within it.  
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.  
All things are bound together.  
All things connect.  
~ Chief Seattle, 1854 ~

