

WECF Ethical Charter for Cooperation with Partners from Private Sector



WECF expects its staff, volunteers, partners, consultants and other alliances to act in accordance with the principles set out in the Code of Conduct. In addition to the WECF Code of Conduct, the Ethical Charter deals specifically with partnerships with private sector and scientific organisations and serves as an addendum to the Code of Conduct.

1. Our vision for Cooperation with Business

WECF encourages cooperation with socially responsible business partners, businesses which are working on a transformation for environmentally sustainable products and services, produced and delivered in full respect of human rights, workers' rights and women's rights in accordance with relevant international norms and standards, and transparent monitoring and reporting on the impact of their products on women, indigenous peoples, local communities and the environment, throughout the lifecycle. We look for cooperation with business partners which apply the precautionary principle, take full responsibility for any damage or pollution, do not evade taxes, and report transparently on their social, gender and environmental policies and impact, through a.o. annual reports, fair-trade labels and eco-labels.

2. Possible Forms of Cooperation with Business

- Voluntary and pro bono work: employees offering their specific competence/know-how/experience to WECF.
- Targeted sponsorship: financing WECF's publications, websites, events in return for publicity of respective financial sponsor (e.g. via showing the logo on WECF's website).
- Strategic partnership: transfer of knowledge, sharing of strategic thinking, corporate responsibility policies.
- Joint working on campaigns and projects, forming coalitions.
- Financial support: financing projects, organising common events.
- In kind support: donation of products, materials.

3. Our Requirements towards Cooperation Partners in Business

- We expect from every cooperation partner to respect our principles enshrined in the Code of Conduct, as mentioned under "making choices in accordance with our beliefs". This excludes any partner involved in unsustainable and harmful activities and technologies such as among other GMOs, synthetic pesticides, mining, nuclear and fossil energy.

- WECF does not take funding from donors that obviously do not respect human rights, women's rights.
- WECF will use available tools/reports assessing the social and environmental responsibility as well as the lobbying practices of respective cooperation partners.
- The cooperation partner should be committed to a sincere and integrated strategy for sustainable development (e.g. regarding the ecological footprint, health impact and socio-economic impact of the business) concerning its production and/or sales strategy.
- The cooperation partner should accept to share information and exchange ideas with WECF on its product composition, production processes, especially concerning their environmental and health impacts.

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