

CLINTEC Environment and Climate Action Plan

Strategy 2030

KI will approach the year 2030 as a pioneering, collaborative and global university. Sustainability is a prerequisite in this work and must permeate all of the university's activities, including that the campus must be environmentally and socially sustainable over the long term. By 2030, KI will substantially increase education and research efforts related to climate change and health, and at least halve its emissions of greenhouse gases in the endeavour to become climate neutral.

Environment and Climate Action Plan 2021–2024

To achieve KI's Strategy 2030 and contribute to the Swedish national environmental quality standards as well as the UN's 2030 Agenda, KI has produced an action plan for the environment and climate that sets out our climate strategy in concrete terms. The strategy takes into account KI's significant environmental aspects (energy use, new and reconstructions, chemicals and chemical waste, business travel, research and first-cycle education, and is divided into eight target areas with clear assignments for departments, university administration and committees. Everyone working or studying at Karolinska Institutet, or in some other way affiliated with KI, is responsible for working in line with the action plan. KI's Environment and Climate Action Plan must be integrated into the operations of all departments, and the department heads are ultimately responsible for ensuring that the plans are implemented. The work in the target areas is continuous and is reported annually to management, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Ministry of Education and Research.

CLINTEC's Plan of Activities 2021–2024

CLINTEC is a department characterised by a high proportion of clinically active employees with assignments, and often also employments, in healthcare. CLINTEC's main activities are education, research, development, collaboration and third-cycle higher education in varying degrees in the 14 different divisions. Activities and premises are spread out over Campus Flemingsberg and are intertwined with the healthcare services. National and international sustainability goals are in the interest of both Karolinska Institutet and Karolinska University Hospital, and both organisations have developed plans to actively work with environmental issues. The Work Environment Group at CLINTEC has therefore considered the environmental plan of the healthcare services when tailoring Karolinska Institutet's Plan of Activities for CLINTEC. Having a Plan of Activities that aligns with both organisations clarifies the goals for employees, facilitates communication and reporting, and contributes to meaningful collaboration between the two organisations. CLINTEC's Plan of Activities provides examples of activities within the eight target areas of Karolinska Institutet's Environment and Climate Action Plan, and describes similarities with Karolinska University Hospital's Environmental Plan (Table 1). **Each division defines two activities with significant improvement potential and makes a plan. These plans are reported to the Work Environment Group in Q1/2023 and the results in Q4/2023.**

Communication and continuing professional development

Communication and continuous professional development are important parts of the environmental work. The Environmental Plan is presented to the department at various CLINTEC meetings, and highlighted on the CLINTEC website. All parts of the organisation are encouraged to have environmental

work as a permanent item on the agenda of meetings. The Work Environment Group, Sustainable Development Ombudsman and Head of Department, who has ultimate responsibility, are available to support in this work. The Environmental Plan is followed up during the safety inspections. The Plan of Activities is spread to all divisions via heads of divisions and administrators, who will disseminate it onwards in the organisation.

Table 1. CLINTEC Environmental Plan 2021-2024. The eight focus areas with description of the '2024 targets', connection to Karolinska University Hospital's (KS) Environmental Plan, examples of activities, persons responsible for these, and how to report to the Work Environment Group are shown.

1. EDUCATION ON THE FIRST-, SECOND- AND THIRD-CYCLE LEVELS				
<i>'There are intended learning outcomes in all educational programmes where students will acquire knowledge and skills in the field of climate change and health as part of teaching related to sustainable development.'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?
Work for intended learning outcomes in all educational programmes on the first- and second-cycle levels to ensure that students acquire knowledge and skills about the climate and sustainable development.	-	Intended learning outcomes are planned for the programmes in which CLINTEC is responsible for course coordination: audiology, radiography and speech and language pathology	Programme directors	Intended learning outcomes for programmes
Work for intended learning outcomes on climate and sustainable development in relevant courses on the third-cycle level	-	Intended learning outcomes are planned for the courses that CLINTEC has at the third-cycle level	Course coordinators	Intended learning outcomes for courses
Where possible, with regard to quality and internationalisation aspects, use digital working methods in courses and other activities	Solutions for increased digitalisation	Digital equipment adapted for teaching is acquired Teaching online Courses saved on Canvas	Programme directors	Needs for digital equipment surveyed and plan for updating made Number of teaching sessions online Number of courses saved on Canvas
2. RESEARCH				
<i>'Research in the areas of climate change and health, climate-friendly healthcare, and behavioural science research and prevention of ill health connected to climate change has increased.'</i>				
<i>'KI has one or more positions such as professor, senior lecturer, associate senior lecturer or postdoc in one or more of the fields climate change and health, climate-friendly healthcare, and/or behavioural science research and prevention of ill health linked to climate change.'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?

Strengthen communication and communicate research on health linked to the environment, climate and sustainable development	-	Updating of CLINTEC website with current documents, targets and activities, incl. research Sustainability is highlighted at various meetings and in the CLINTEC newsletter	Communications Officer, Work Environment Group and Head of Department	Website exists Agenda/notes from meetings
3. COLLABORATION FOR UTILISATION <i>'Climate issues are integral to KI's collaborations with its most important partner, the healthcare sector'</i> <i>'Climate issues are included in all major collaborative projects in which KI participates'</i> <i>'KI contributes its expertise in health related to climate change to several broad societal projects'</i> <i>'KI plays an important role in the higher education sector's work on climate issues'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?
Work to ensure that climate and sustainable development are integrated parts of collaborative projects	Integrate the sustainability perspective into governing processes, agreements and decisions	The climate issue is discussed and considered in collaborative projects	Everyone with a role in collaborative projects	Examples of collaborative projects that include climate issues
CLINTEC: work on the environmental goals with KS		Discussions with hospital representatives to establish similar environmental activities Joint reporting of environmental activities	Work Environment Group Staff with combined employment	Parallel environmental goals with KS Joint reporting
4. TRAVEL AND MEETINGS <i>'Carbon dioxide emissions per full-time-equivalent from business travel are 40% lower than in 2015'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?
Promote travel-free meetings and conferences, including internationally, among own staff as well as partners	Solutions for increased digitalisation Do not increase emissions from business travel by air	Virtual meetings Purchase of equipment that enables organisation of travel-free meetings	Everyone who travels for work The divisions supporting the purchase of equipment for effective online meetings	Number of meetings attended virtually Number of meetings arranged with the option for virtual participation

				Equipment that enables travel-free meetings
Work to maintain a low degree of air travel after the pandemic and choose rail travel to a greater extent	Commutes for staff	Virtual meetings	Everyone who travels	Number of meetings attended virtually Number of meetings arranged with the option for virtual participation
Ensure that all employees are aware of current guidelines for business travel	-	Include the guidelines in new employee orientations Guidelines are easily accessible on the website	Heads of divisions (orientation for new employees) Admin meetings Communications Officer	Guidelines are part of the orientation package The guidelines are easily accessible on the website
Use the Sustainable Event Guide when arranging meetings and conferences	-	All administrators and group leaders are familiar with and use the Sustainable Event Guide The guide is easily accessible on the website	The heads of divisions disseminate the guide to relevant staff Communications Officer	The guide is available on the website Number of meetings in which the guide has been used
CLINTEC: The Half-Time Committee is given the opportunity to attend virtually	-	Members of the Half-Time Committee are given the opportunity to attend virtually	Doctoral student supervisors Director of Studies	Number of half-time reviews with virtual committee
5. ENERGY AND PROPERTIES				
<i>'Carbon dioxide emissions from KI's energy consumption are 50% lower per square metre than in 2019.'</i>				
<i>'Energy consumption per square metre is 15% lower than in 2019.'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?
Make energy consumption more efficient by, e.g., reviewing the use of fume cupboards, freezers and ventilation	Use of operational energy must be reduced	Turn off lights, screens and computers at the end of the day Close fume cupboards	All employees The heads of divisions support the modernisation of ventilation/lighting	Presence-controlled ventilation and lighting in place Green Labs Guide on the website

		Update to presence-controlled ventilation and lighting Switch freezers from -80 to -70 Green Labs Guide presented on the website	Property owners	
Choose energy-efficient products when buying electronics		Energy-efficient products purchased Switch to energy-efficient lamps Motion-controlled lamps	Everyone who buys electronics Heads of divisions support switch to energy-efficient lamps	Survey of premises with energy-efficient lamps Purchases with requirements for energy-efficiency
Work to ensure that second-hand furniture is purchased and that used furniture is left for reuse/recycling	Solutions for increased reuse of materials (furniture, computers, equipment, transition to reusable materials)	CLINTEC has a Teams group for the exchange of used furniture, equipment and computers	Communications Officer	Teams group exists Number of exchanges
6. PROCUREMENT AND PURCHASING <i>'KI has data about its emissions from the consumption of goods and services'</i> <i>'Wherever possible, sustainability and climate requirements are included in all relevant procurements, call-offs and purchases. These requirements are followed up'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	What can be reported?
Reduce the consumption of goods, e.g., by borrowing products from each other, coordinating purchases of chemicals and reviewing the use of single-use products	Use of consumables (containing PVC and phthalates) must be reduced. Increase the number of reusable products.	CLINTEC has a Teams group for the exchange of used furniture, equipment and computers Avoid single-use products Reduce paper consumption by approving electronic signatures (EduSign) in all documents	Communications Officer Everyone who buys products Administration on all levels (EduSign)	Teams group exists Number of exchanges EduSign becomes an approved procedure for all documents at CLINTEC
Responsibility for climate and sustainability requirements set in procurements to ensure that purchases have the lowest	Include sustainability requirements in purchasing and procurement	Sustainability requirements are set for each procurement	Everyone who handles procurements	The number of procurements in which sustainability requirements have been included

possible environmental and climate impact				
Work for reduced packaging in purchasing and procurement		Set requirements for reduced packaging in procurements Choose products with minimal packaging	Everyone who buys products	Number of purchases where packaging requirements have been set
When serving food, choose alternatives with low environmental and climate impact in accordance with the Sustainable Event Guide		Sustainability requirements are set before meetings and conferences where food is served The Sustainable Event Guide is known and used	Everyone who buys food/catering	The guide is available on the website Number of meetings in which sustainable food has been served
7. WASTE				
<i>'The total waste per full-time-equivalent generated on KI's premises has decreased by 10% compared to 2019'</i> <i>'Food waste is collected from all kitchenettes on KI's premises'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	Reporting
Facilitate and inform about the opportunities to recycle materials in the organisation		CLINTEC has a Teams group for the exchange of used furniture Establish opportunities for recycling of, e.g., metal, plastic, glass and paper in all premises Reduced consumption of paper (all public documents are approved in electronic format with EduSign)	Communications Officer Recycling is organised with help from property management Administration on all levels (EduSign)	Website exists Recycling options are available All documents are approved in electronic format
8. CHEMICALS				
<i>'The work with substitution, phase-out and reduction of the amount of hazardous chemical products has been developed'</i>				
Assignment	Similar goals in KS's Environmental Plan	Examples of activities	Responsible	Reporting

Work actively to substitute hazardous chemicals	Use, storage, handling and waste management of chemicals, chem tech products and pharmaceuticals. Use of CMR substances, substitution investigations and risk assessments Clean out old chemicals and ensure that fire cabinets are placed where they are needed	All lab employees are familiar with hazardous chemicals and substitution rules and apply them This information is part of the new employee orientation.	Chemical and biosafety delegates ensure that relevant material is included in new employee orientations Hazardous chemicals in KLARA are followed up (risk assessment, substitution)	CMR investigations Number of hazardous chemicals in KLARA Number of phased-out/substituted chemicals
Streamline purchasing and use of hazardous chemicals to reduce both purchases and waste		Substitute hazardous chemicals Look for chemicals in KLARA instead of buying new Waste management is described in risk assessment	Everyone working with hazardous chemicals Chemical and biosafety delegate	Purchase of hazardous chemicals is decreased Reports from safety inspections concerning waste management Number of hazardous chemicals in KLARA
Ensure that risk assessments are performed for handling chemicals and that waste management is included in these		All lab employees take a course in chemical handling and risk assessment Waste management is part of risk assessments Safety inspections	Heads of divisions Group leaders/supervisors Chemical and biosafety delegate	Number of employees who have taken the course Risk assessments are in place Safety inspections are carried out and reported, deviations are followed up
Ensure that all employees managing or carrying out work with chemical products take a course in risk assessment		The supervisors and heads of divisions check that everyone working with chemical products take courses	Heads of divisions Group leaders/supervisors Chemical and biosafety delegate	Number of employees who have taken the course
Work to ensure that incidents, deviations and near-accidents are reported in KI's incident reporting system to improve the working environment and prevent accidents		Increase awareness of incident reporting Link for reporting is available on the website	Heads of divisions Group leaders/supervisors Communications Officer Work Environment Group	Link for incident reporting is available on the website Number of reports Memos from the Work Environment Group

		The Work Environment Group handles and follows up on all incident reports		
--	--	---	--	--