



PoliNations Environmental Policy

PoliNations is a diverse collective of like-minded independent creative companies with experts in horticulture, design & architecture, production and arts. We are working collaboratively to produce two large scale events, one in Birmingham and one in Edinburgh in 2022. Our mission is to create two large scale outdoor horticultural & cultural arts events celebrating colour, beauty and natural diversity, to which everyone is invited.

We have a creative staff team of 31 people working remotely across the country with an additional 240 people working on the project including dancers, musicians, speakers & artists, crew, production and event teams and 100 volunteers. We will present live events over 26 days split between Birmingham and Edinburgh in August/September 2022. This will include community/education workshops, music, talks, poetry, dance, planting & growing and is expected to attract an audience of 3500 people at any one time at live events, as well as global online engagement via the app and website, and 1800 participants for school and community group workshops and tours.

Our **motivation** for taking environmental action is:

- Continuing to produce arts events whilst working to minimise the detrimental impact on the environment.
- Re-affirming people's connection with nature & raising awareness of the importance of green space in our daily lives.
- Reclaiming public space with nature in mind
- To join the groundswell in the arts and horticultural sectors working to reduce negative impacts on the environment.
- To share our learning, influencing others in the sector through good example.
- To respond to Unboxed's Environmental Policy to identify PoliNations' sustainability targets
- Human empathy with the ecological challenges faced by the world

This policy will be reviewed at monthly roundtable meetings led by Jenny Hutt (Technical Project Manager & Sustainability Lead) and the Creative Team.

Our **ambition** is to:

- Leave both cities a legacy of planting
- Minimise the overall environmental impact of the project within the realms of large scale installations, challenging current restrictions.
- To create long term environmental benefits in the sector and in the communities within which we work.
- Raising audience awareness and engagement in sustainability.
- Work with partners to improve sustainability

Our **main negative environmental impacts** are:

- Energy (consumption)
- Embodied carbon in built structures
- Digital footprint
- Travel and transport
- Waste

Our **main positive environmental impacts** are:

- Embracing diversity as a catalyst for environmental change
- Education and awareness raising
- Green/horticultural legacy within the locality
- Energy
- Place making – pride and enjoyment for local residents

We are **committed**:

- To show it is possible to present outstanding, high impact events whilst minimising detrimental environmental impact.
- To interrogate the sustainability of each element of our events and justify their use
- To ensure the legacy of materials beyond the project and to consider this when making initial selections.
- To work with partners to minimise impact using a strategic approach to procurement, logistics and maximising use of existing process.
- To take the audience with us on the journey of sustainability and encourage commitment to our policy across the site and with all of our contractors.
- To publicly share knowledge and experience about the processes and choices made during the project to inspire others in relation to sustainability.
- To introduce additional plants and trees into the local community for long term enjoyment by all.

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