



Responsible Travel

World Challenge endeavours to ensure that all of our expeditions have a minimum or positive impact on the environment. This includes business operations in the U.K. and overseas as well as expeditions in the U.K. and abroad.

Business Operations

Minimising the environmental impact of our business operations is of the utmost importance to all World Challenge stakeholders. Following advice from the [Carbon Trust](#) we are seeking to minimise our business 'greenhouse gas' emissions. Our forward thinking policies on regionally based staff and Local Managers ensure that carbon and other harmful emissions from transport are kept to an absolute minimum whilst customer service is continuously improved.

Working with Climate Care we are also planning to offset the carbon emissions created by our business flights. We believe this is a necessary part of our responsibility to mitigate the effects of carbon emissions on climate change. This will be an option for Challengers taking part in 2008 expeditions. For further information please click [here](#).

Expedition Impacts

As an organisation we believe it is our responsibility to ensure that each and every expedition that takes place is planned and executed in a manner which ensures the best possible impact on local people and the local and global environment.

Through our [Responsible Travel Policy](#) we aim to minimise the negative impact of our expeditions on the local and global environment, including the cultural environment. As a central part of the World Challenge ethos this is continuously stressed to all participants and is a key focus from the initial planning stages right through to the completion of any expedition. We aim to adhere to the [Young Explorers' Trust](#) and British Biological Society's guidelines on [Environmental Responsibility for Expeditions](#) and also support the guidelines set by the [International Porter Protection Group](#) for protecting the interests of porters and guides around the world.

We also take pride in the positive impact of project work which happens around the world on many expeditions every year, as well as the support that our Sustainable Projects give to individual organisations above and beyond this.



Below are some examples of the work that World Challenge is doing to ensure that our expeditions have a minimum impact on the environment and positive effect on local people.

Tanzania

In Tanzania we co-operate with the Cultural Tourism Program initiated by local communities who decided to do something for themselves to benefit from the tourism potential. They were supported in this by the Dutch Aid agency SNV. An example of this is in the Northern Pare Mountains where tourism profits will be used to assist a local health clinic in the area.

India

In 2006 World Challenge donated money towards a litter clearing scheme in the Markha Valley, an area of particular ecological importance due to the presence of snow leopards. 2007 will see each team visiting India take an extra pony with them on their trek to clear up the litter that other trekking groups have left behind.

Costa Rica

Teams trekking in the Monteverde forest area support the Monteverde Conservation League (MCL) through trekking fees. In the 1980s the residents of Santa Elena village on the edge of Monteverde began a land purchasing campaign to protect the rainforests of the area, and the money now generated from charging visitors to enter their reserves in the area enables them to buy more land. The MCL now protects the largest private reserve in Costa Rica and have set up many trails (which World Challenge groups have helped to construct and maintain) and continue to plough profits in to the creation and maintenance of reserves in the area.

For details of what World Challenge is doing in your destination, please see details on the members' area.

World Challenge is constantly looking for new and innovative ways in which to have a more positive impact on the destinations that we visit, the people involved with the organisation, and the global environment as a whole. If you have any ideas or suggestions for ways in which we can improve, please email welcome@world-challenge.co.uk.