

## Environmental/Sustainability Development Statement for FoAM Kernow

We recognise the severity of climate change and its impacts on human societal structures and the survival of all other species. Sustainable development is about finding better modes of existence, in line with our organisational motto 'Grow your own worlds'.

The FoAM Kernow studio is based in Penryn – a rural and coastal location, at only two metres above sea level, heightening our awareness of the impacts of climate change. It is also a neighbourhood in the top 10% most deprived areas in England (Cornwall Council Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015), reminding us daily of the challenges facing our society.

Our organisation is designed in line with postcapitalist thinking:

- We are a non-profit limited by guarantee, ensuring that there are no shareholders - all those who benefit from the organisation must also work for the organisation - and any profits are ploughed back into meeting the organisation's aims.
- Our software is licensed under the GNU General Public License and we ensure that we make all publications open-access.
- We follow the principles of Appropriate Technology, aiming to make our work low cost, environmentally sound, and locally autonomous.

Our legal articles of association are available online for transparency and for others to use:

<https://github.com/fo-am/foam-kernow/blob/master/articles-of-association.md>

Guided by The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we:

- Ensure inclusive and equitable education through the design and delivery of free transdisciplinary workshops that are open to all. We work to meet 50:50 gender balances, and prioritise participants who are under-represented. Our studio space is fully accessible for wheelchairs and this is mentioned in all event advertising.
- Supporting resilient infrastructure by locating the studio in a building with electricity provided by on-site solar and wind energy, heating provided by a pellet burner, and rainwater harvesting,
- Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth by open-source licensing, enabling others to freely re-use and modify our work.
- Promote and enable the conservation of the land and oceans through our commitment to developing projects with a focus on the environmental and natural sciences.
- Promote inclusive societies and better access to institutions through our focus on citizen science interventions, enabling a broader segment of society to become involved in research and benefit from it.
- Collect and deliver for a local foodbank at our studio, combating food poverty and hunger.

It is our policy to reject projects that fulfil any of the following criteria:

- Is it one dimensional (i.e. is it dealing with a single issue, using a single approach, by a single individual)?
- Is it wasteful (in terms of human & electrical energy, waste products, time)?
- Is it unsustainable (environmentally, socially, culturally)?
- Does it focus on producing an artefact for its own sake (without taking the whole lifecycle of the artefact into account)?
- Is it one-directional (i.e. is it 'for' people instead of 'with' people)?

- Does it require a big, expensive production to produce a temporary result (e.g. a large installation on a 2 day festival)?
- Does it separate thinkers from makers?
- Does it treat scientists & technologists as 'technicians', artists & designers as 'prettifiers', or crafts and trade's people as 'manual labour'?

We remain open at all times to suggestions for improving our work and organisational structures to achieve further sustainability.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Griffiths". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Amber" and last name "Griffiths" clearly legible.

Amber Griffiths, Director, FoAM Kernow

15 May 2017