



# Greening London's music venues

One of London's premier live music venues opened in 1900 with Charlie Chaplin on the bill. It is now stronger than ever as the home of Club NME and with regular gigs by internationally acclaimed artists.

KOKO first began to examine their environmental impact in 2006 and been implementing measures to improve their performance. They have aspirations to become one of London's greenest music venues

## Key Achievements

1. KOKO recycles all old computer equipment, ink cartridges and furniture
2. KOKO recycles all its paper and cardboard including flyers handed out by bands outside the venue.
3. KOKO supplies electricity to tour buses and artists vehicles to prevent local emissions.
4. KOKO only supplies Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar and other products
5. 70% of lighting replaced with low-energy alternatives

*"From having no environmental approach we now have an active green policy and in just over a year have worked hard to prove that live music venues can be green and work hard to improve climate issues not only locally but worldwide "*

*Mike Hamer  
Operations Manager, KOKO*



## How have KOKO begun greening their operations?

KOKO established a robust **environmental Policy** to ensure they achieve their aims of becoming an **environmentally aware** Live Music venue.

KOKO is working in conjunction with The Carbon Trust; and 'Better Climate for Camden' to reduce emission, save energy and recycle. KOKO signed up to receive a **Carbon and Environmental assessment** from a Camden Climate Change Carbon Mentor to help measure their Carbon footprint and identify opportunities for reduction.

KOKO's carbon footprint was calculated at just under 300 tonnes per annum and their carbon mentor set them a challenging 15% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction target by 2012. KOKO is now setting in place an action plan to reduce their footprint through measures such as low energy lighting upgrades and controlled heating and cooling regimes. KOKO will be revisited by their carbon mentor to monitor progress and help overcome and hurdles experienced along the way.

To start this process KOKO has already switched to a **green energy supplier**, begun replacing old light bulbs and supplying electricity to tour buses to reduce local emissions and noise pollution.

On Friday nights KOKO **donates** 10p from each ticket sold as a donation to **Solar Aid's**. With an average number of 1,500 tickets sold each week, this raises £150/week and will pay for a minimum of 10 solar lanterns a week (at £15 per lantern) equating to around 520 Solar Lanterns a year. Each solar lantern saves approximately one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> therefore helping to offset 520 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year and make KOKO a carbon neutral organisation.



*KOKO receive their 2009 EECO Award*

## What's next?

KOKO is continuing to look for ways to **reduce its carbon footprint and wider environmental impact** and over the next year hope to: replace the remaining lights with **low energy alternatives**, install **motion sensor lighting** to bathrooms and **reduce water consumption** from the toilets.

KOKO will also **continue to donate** 10p from every ticket sold to club NME to **Solar Aid** to support their work installing solar water pumps, lighting and PV cells to poor African communities.

## Further Information

1. [www.solar-aid.org](http://www.solar-aid.org)
2. [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)
3. [www.fairtradeatwork.org.uk](http://www.fairtradeatwork.org.uk)

The Camden Climate Change Alliance has been formed by Camden Council and organisations in Camden that are committed to reducing their carbon dioxide emissions and helping to tackle climate change. For more information visit [www.betterclimateforcamden.org](http://www.betterclimateforcamden.org), tel: 020 7974 5657 e: [better.climate@camden.gov.uk](mailto:better.climate@camden.gov.uk) to join the mailing list.