



Environmental club Registration.

Affiliation to Environmental Management Agency

Name of school/College/University and Address: _____

Contact details

Name: _____ Position: _____

Email address: _____ Telephone # _____

Club details

Official name of club: _____

Environmental Club Mentor (Teacher): _____

Club Meeting day (s) and time(s) _____

Email: _____ Approximate. Number of Members:
(Total) _____ (Males) _____ (Females) _____

Elected Executive Members:

Chairperson _____ Member: _____

Secretary: _____ Member: _____

Treasurer: _____ Member: _____

Proposed Activities

Environmental Education and Publicity Unit; Environmental Management Agency

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Environmental clubs

Getting started

A guide to starting

“The Environment is Everybody’s Business”

Produced by

Environmental Management Agency

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Introduction

All over the country people are joining forces with each other to form environmental clubs. Many meet at schools and colleges, others gather in community halls or in small rural villages. They are engaged in various activities such as gully reclamation, writing articles tree growing and planting etc.

It is an opportunity for them to take action to solve their own problems and have fun and meet other people with similar interests. Environmental clubs are also a unique opportunity to develop useful skills such as working in a committee, financial management, leadership and working as a team.

What is an environmental club?

It is a group of people who come together because they have got a common interest. This is the most important thing about a club. For example, you might be interested in tree nursery production or in water harvesting projects.

A club can also comprise a group of people from your school or community who get together to discuss and do something about problems in your area. These may include waste management issues, water crisis or land degradation.

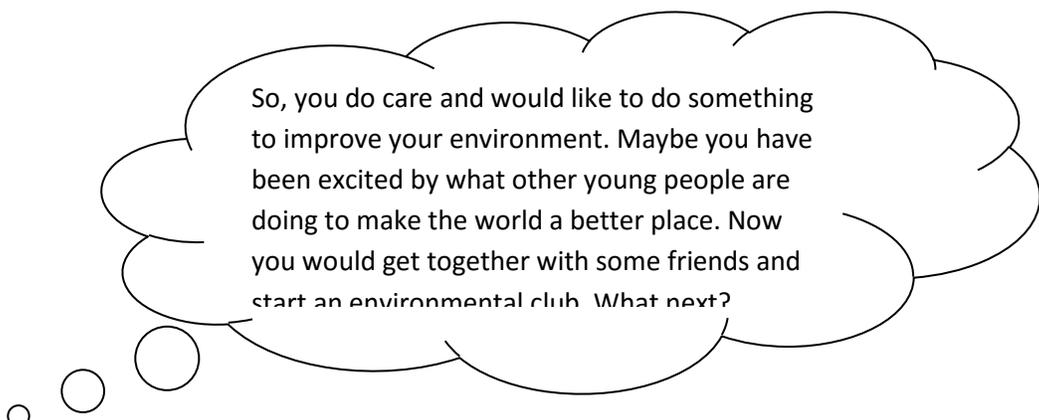
Clubs can vary in size, membership and purpose

Why start an environmental club?

Think why a club should be formed

Through a club you can:

- Share a common interest
- Enjoy meeting people and working as a team
- Learn how to organise activities or projects
- Learn new life skills
- Develop a community spirit and create an interest in a common goal
- Build self confidence
- Learn to make decisions compete with other environmental clubs
- Have fun



So, you do care and would like to do something to improve your environment. Maybe you have been excited by what other young people are doing to make the world a better place. Now you would get together with some friends and start an environmental club. What next?

How to form an environmental club?

An environmental club can be formed by any person or group that wants to make a difference in the environment. These include:



Religious groups

School groups



Youth groups

Community groups

If you are forming an environmental club, then you need to get organised. Here are some easy steps to start an environmental club

Five easy steps to start an environmental club

1. Get permission or clearance and support from the head of the school, church community or parents. It is important for them to know what you are planning because you need their support when you begin organising activities.
2. When you have got clearance, advertise for members. Advertising can be done by visiting school/ classes or at assembly or a notice on the school notice board. A combination of these will generate interest in joining the environmental club. It is important for members to join out of their own personal interest
3. Get together during break or any free or spare time and let the members register and talk about what activities you want to do. Let everyone participate in the planning of activities as it is an important part of building the club.
4. At your next meeting, discuss the aim of having an environmental club and what you hope to achieve. List possible names for the club and vote for one.
5. Now you can meet on a regular basis. Plan activities and a short term project. Don't forget to keep minutes or notes to help you remember what was decided and what to do next.

School _____ / _____	Community: _____			
Teacher / Mentor /coordinator/ contact person: _____				
Tel/Cell _____ # _____	Email: _____			
Work plan				
Year _____				
Activity	Time frame	Responsibility	Resources	Comments/Evaluation

- Keep records of activities carried out. Examples of records are pictures, videos and products of the activities such as drawings, essays, maps etc
- Take advantages of services that EMA offers such as technical support and funds for specific projects and participate in environmental observances such as the world wetlands day and clean up campaigns
- Engage in income generating activities such as can collection , tree nursery projects or green concert

Proposed activities for environmental clubs

Environmental activities can be planned around major environmental days, since each environmental day has a theme which changes annually. Here is a list of some interesting activities the club can undertake

- Talks: organise and deliver presentations at school assembly
- Set up an environmental corner and exhibit information from which others can learn
- Community days: club members can go into the community to speak with particular target groups on a specific environmental issues
- Hold environmental competitions: within your school (e.g best class room, poster, essay etc)
- Manage waste: secure bins for the classrooms and the school compound and regulate the cleaning of classrooms and school compound.
- Environmental awareness: conduct activities to raise awareness by being creative e.g concerts and street theatres, and seminars in your school and community

- Identifying species: identify plant and animal species in their immediate surroundings and learn more about them
- Monitor biodiversity: monitor specific biodiversity in their area
- Monitor your surroundings: look for and classify debris found; organise clean-ups campaigns; test and record water quality; and plan awareness exercises around curbing littering and water pollution
- Recreational activities: organise nature walks, and video shows
- Exchange visits: visit other clubs and have clubs visit your school
- Take part in environmental exhibitions
- Take part in programmes organised by other environmental groups
- Participate in tree planting and school/ community beautification
- Plant a vegetable garden
- Hold and participate in environmental quizzes

Reporting to EMA on the progress from the environmental club

Each environmental club affiliated to EMA should provide reports to the Agency of the activities executed by the club during a specific period. Clubs can send in reports at the end of every term or twice per year.

This will enable EMA to keep track of club activities and provide avenues for collaboration and information sharing. Below is a simple template which can be sent to EMA

Environmental club reporting template			
Name	of	environmental club:	

Chairperson:			

School	/	Community:	

Teacher / Mentor /coordinator/ contact person: _____			
Tel/Cell	# _____	Email:	

Reporting date: _____			
Activity	(Date	Brief report(participation,achievement, challenges and

Name and Description)	conducted	successes

Environmental club constitution

Once a group of people has formed a club, they should work out some guidelines by which the club will be run. Such rules are sometimes called a constitution.

1. Name of club

Give your club an exciting name. Be creative. Each club member should think of at least two possible names. From all the names democratically choose the best one for your club

2. Aims and objectives

Every player in a soccer team knows where they are aiming between the opposing team's goal posts. In the same way, the aim of your club is where you are heading or what you hope to achieve. Unlike the soccer team, your club can have more than one aim. We suggest you limit yourself to no more than three aims.

To help you describe your aims ask these questions

- Why do we want a club?
- What would we like our club to achieve?

- ❖ The aim describes your goal, or where you are heading and the objective describe how you will achieve, or get to, your aim

3. Membership

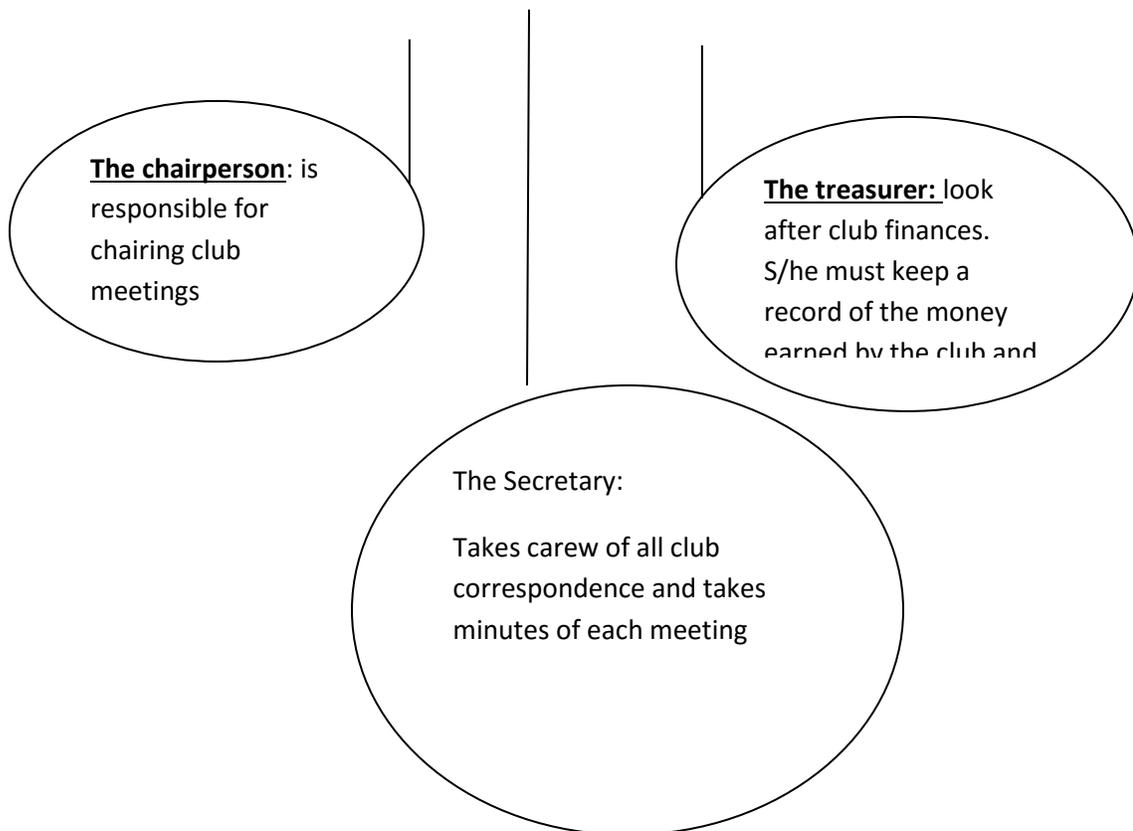
Who can be a member of a club?

Anybody can be a member. In the school it is pupils who are expected to be .if you decide to limit it to pupils of say, grade 6 and 7, write this down in your constitution. However, in this programme you have an opportunity to be really creative by allowing pupils, teachers, youth in the community and parents to work together in one club. A lot of excitement can be generated by arranging some sessions for all the different groups of people separately and others together.

4. Club administration

Administration refers to the management or running of your club. It includes the arranging of club meetings and taking minutes if necessary, keeping club resources in a safe place; and planning events for the year and recording them. It is useful to have a working group or committee to run the club.

Possible functions of each position or portfolio on the committee



5. Club meetings

Decide when and where meetings should take place. For example you might meet every second Tuesday afternoon. If you can choose one place for your meetings , the better. This might be under a tree, in the back corner of a classroom or in a community hall. Wherever you meet, try and organise a notice board for the club display the latest club's

newsletter, posters and pictures, newspaper cuttings on issues of interest and any club material.

Running an environmental club

Once you have worked out the constitution you will need to plan the club's activities for the month ahead. Below are some general guidelines to help you.

KISS (Keep It Small and Simple)

If running a club activities that are easy to organise and gradually take on more difficult ones.

At school

If your club is based at a school, make sure the rest of your school knows what you are doing. This will lead to more support and members for the club.

Choosing projects and activities

Once you have gathered some people together as a club, you need to DO something. This might be a fun activity where you learn new skills and enjoy yourselves; e.g a nature trail, painting a poster on any environmental issue in your area, dramatising a play or writing.

These are short term activities. On the other hand you might want to have fun and learn about your environment through solving a problem over a long period; e.g preventing soil erosion, growing vegetables or constructing stone checks. We will call these "Projects".

Some simple guidelines in deciding on projects and activities on which to embark on:

A. Ideas for projects

Make a list of possible projects such as recycling, wetland utilisation or water harvesting

B. Thinking globally and acting locally

Be realistic and choose something close and relevant to home or school.

C. Timing: consider short, medium and long term projects

D. Cost: Also consider how much the project will cost

E. Member's interests: consider member's interests, abilities and skills

Ideas for projects and activities for an Environmental club

1. Recycling

Less waste means fewer rubbish dumps. Less waste also means less ground and water pollution. Recycling can actually earn you some money.

2. **Nutritional garden:** learn how to grow various nutritional plants using sustainable means ;e.g the basin or mulching method uses less water and enriches the soil faster. Recycled material such as compost manure can also be utilised.
3. **Cultural attributes:** find out from elders the cultural importance of certain tree species, rivers and mountains or certain sacred areas. Write down the information and document it in your environmental club magazine
4. **Gully or Donga Reclamation:** investigate the possible causes of the gullies in your area and possible ways of reclaiming them. Use both mechanical and biological means of reclaiming gullies (i.e stone hedges, gabions, vertiver grass hedges, jatropha and sisal hedges across gullies)
5. **Tree nursery and orchard establishment:** is a long term project that can raise money and allow your club members to learn a tremendous amount about plants. Collect indigenous tree seeds and try to raise them
Plant trees in and around your school grounds, and even in the community. Take part in reclaiming degraded areas by re-afforesting them