



HYYN
YMPÄRISTÖ-
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HYY'S
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMITTEE

HYY's

Environmental Committee's

Environmental instructions for organisations

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1. Introduction

You are reading the environmental instructions drafted by the Environmental Committee of the Student Union of the University of Helsinki. We have taken the best tips and ideas to help your organisation act in an environmentally friendly and sustainable fashion and collected them into a single document. Our hope is that you will learn plenty of new things and find some suitable operating methods from these instructions.

There are hundreds of organisations operating under HYY, and they organise thousands of events every year. We have faculty and subject organisations, student nations, cultural and hobby organisations as well as societal and religious organisations. Their events range from meetings between a couple of people to academic dinner parties with hundreds of guests. Organisations also annually take part in the Fresher Adventure, featuring some two thousand students. The highlight of students' year, May Day, also has thousands of HYY's members joining in the festivities.

HYY has around 27,000 members. Some of them take part in events actively, while others only pop in from time to time. We have a vast community, and this means that the way our organisations act and the kind of decisions they make is not a trivial matter. Our actions matter. And more importantly, the good choices we make are powerful when everyone helps and does their part.

We are a part of an academic community. Our duty is to make informed and conscious decisions that are, above all, supported by science. Our duty is also to create communality and to have fun. That is why we want to encourage organisations to cooperate – to borrow items, equipment and ideas from one another. Help is always available.

For now, we hope you will all have moments of insight and inspiration with these lovingly crafted environmental instructions!

2

Environmental plan

2. Environmental plan

An environmental plan is a document into which an organisation collects the principles and operating methods it uses to promote the environmental friendliness of its operations. The plan may be drafted by the person in charge of environmental affairs in the organisation or its chairs, for instance. The environmental plan should be reviewed and, if needed, updated at intervals determined in the plan itself. Everyone involved in the organisation should read the plan, and it should be approved in a meeting at the beginning of each organisational year. The environmental plan is thus a binding document.

The environmental plan is usually around 3–5 pages long. Using several subheadings is often a good idea for clarity. Under the subheadings, you can then collect environmentally friendly operating methods that are related to each theme and that the organisation wishes to put into practice during the following year. Organisations can decide for themselves which categories are relevant to their activities.

The following are examples of sections you can include in an environmental plan:

INTRODUCTION

- What, whose, why?

PERSON IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

- When are they chosen, what do their duties include?

PREMISES

- Cleaning of premises in regular use as well as other environmentally friendly operating methods

ACQUISITIONS

- How is the organisation acting sustainably when considering new acquisitions?

REDUCING WASTE AND SORTING

- How can the organisation reduce the amount of waste it produces and

how does it sort the waste in (at least) the premises it regularly uses?

EVENTS

- How are environmental affairs taken into account in different kinds of events (see the 'Events' section in these instructions)?

SERVING FOOD

- How could the organisation serve more environmentally friendly food in its events?

MEETINGS

- Paperless meetings, for instance

ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND EMISSIONS

- How could the organisation affect its own energy consumption and what modes of transport does it favour?

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY WORK

- Does the organisation participate in campaigns, for instance?

COMMUNICATION

- How does the organisation communicate its environmental values to its members?

UPDATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN AND MONITORING ITS REALISATION

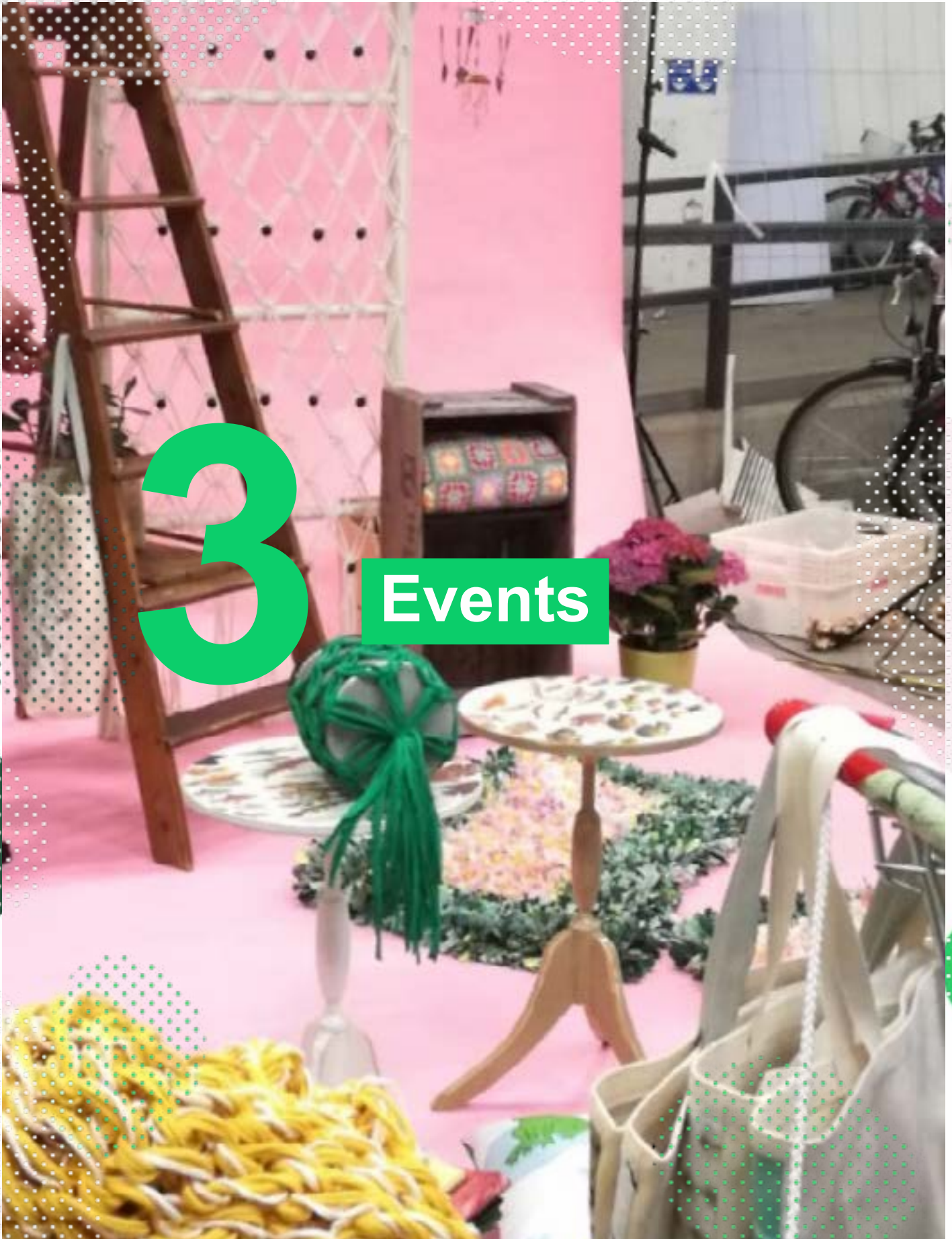
- Who updates the plan and when, and how is its realisation monitored?

When the organisation drafts an action plan at the beginning of the year, it could add an entry stating that the organisation follows its own environmental plan in the section on the environment. The organisation should monitor the realisation of its environmental plan. In all its simplicity, this means that the organisation implements the measures stated in the plan during the year. At the end of the organisational year, a report summarising how the organisation has succeeded in the realisation of the environmental plan is made for the organisation's annual report. This means comparing the organisation's realised activities to the goals set at the beginning of the year. One way of monitoring the realisation of the environmental plan is to utilise the carbon footprint calculator meant for HYY's organisations (in Finnish): <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hiilifiksu/laskuri/>.

There are many ways of taking the environment into account in organisational activities. You can find some ideas and tips in these environmental instructions. We also encourage you to check out the environmental plans of other organisations – you may and should take inspiration from them for your own activities!

The most important thing, however, is that the organisation's environmental plan has been made with the organisation's typical activities in mind. The goals and operating methods should be concrete and possible to realise. Nonetheless, we encourage you to be ambitious when setting your goals.

3 Events



3. Events

When organising and participating in events, the organisation can pay attention to many things that affect the environment to avoid and compensate for the strain the events put on it. We recommend that you start putting some effort on taking the environmental impact into account as comprehensively as possible already in the **PLANNING STAGES** of your activities – this way, you will be able to really achieve the goals you set for your events' environmental friendliness. There are plenty of tips available to help you organise sustainable events!

Regardless of the type of event, **THE CHOICE OF VENUE AND METHOD OF TRAVEL** are crucial from an environmental perspective. Choosing a venue that participants can reach as easily as possible by walking, cycling or using public transport is recommended. If organising the event, such as an academic dinner party, requires transporting stuff, the organisation can favour low-emission means of transport, such as trams, the metro or trains, if possible. Especially with events where you are going somewhere further away, such as excursions and meet-ups to travel to an event together, you should carefully consider your choice of travelling method and avoid flights and boat trips, as they produce almost the same amount of emissions, depending on the method of calculation. The diagram below shows the carbon emissions of different means of transport.



Source: Lamminen (2018).

Note: The fuel consumption of the means of transport included in the diagram are based on the Lipasto database of VTT. The figure for the car with an internal combustion engine is based on the average age of the Finnish vehicle stock. The ship is a car ferry. The utilisation rate of planes is assumed to be 60 per cent.

As an example, you could try out the new trend of tram cruises instead of regular cruises – they have many times lower emissions than a boat trip! If the selected method of travel causes an unreasonable amount of emissions, though, the organisation can compensate this by, for instance, investing in a suitable compensation target, such as the protection of forests or wetlands.

Festive events

When planning festive events, such as academic dinner parties, anniversaries, fresher events and other parties, you can minimise the event's environmental impact on many fronts. In **FRESHER EVENTS** in particular, it is important to set a good example on environmental responsibility so that new students would learn about the principles of sustainable events as well as their importance. In the planning stages, we recommend comparing various premises, menus and ways of serving the food and decorating the venue from the perspectives of ecological, social and financial sustainability. This way, you are promoting the selection of options that are responsible and sensible from an environmental perspective.

Event organisation may be fairly hectic, especially with larger events, and organisers often have loads to do. To ensure that you remember to consider environmental perspectives, too, especially during the events, we recommend including the **PERSON IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS** in your organisation in the planning. You can also appoint separate person(s) in charge of environmental affairs for individual events to help ensure that the event's environmental impact is taken into account, to help minimise the impact and to instruct participants if needed.

Most events have a **DRESS CODE** of some kind. At anniversaries, people wear evening dresses and suits, whereas dinner parties often have a funny theme. Whatever the occasion, the organisation can encourage its members to avoid buying new or throwaway outfits. The organisation can remind its members that dresses can be bought at flea markets, for instance. It can also encourage its members to swap dresses with one another or even organise an event for this. Outfits for dinner parties can also be found at flea markets or made yourself from surplus materials. In fresher events in particular this is important.

At anniversaries, it is customary for organisations invited to the event to bring a gift for the host organisation. We recommend that you both request and give **IMMATERIAL GIFTS**. A donation to a charity, made in the name of the organisation, is an

example of a good immaterial gift. This way, we can avoid unnecessary trinkets as well as do good to others.

Academic dinner parties and anniversaries also tend to include singing songs from songbooks. However, as everyone does not own a songbook, song printouts are often made for the events. We recommend making the latter as **DIGITAL VERSIONS**.

DECORATIONS have a large role in helping to create a suitable atmosphere in many events. At the same time, they are also the one factor that creates a lot of unnecessary waste. There are many ways to help you minimise the amount of waste created, though:

- Dishes, decorations and other equipment, such as tablecloths, can be **RENTED OR BORROWED** from other organisations or your own members.
- You can **MAKE SUSTAINABLE DECORATIONS AND EQUIPMENT YOURSELF** using existing material. Good material includes glass jars, twigs, newspapers, leftover papers and pieces of fabric.
- Pieces of fabric can be used to make reusable streamers, for instance. For more detailed instructions and more DIY ideas, check out the blog and Instagram of HYY's Environmental Committee!
- The organisation can get used sustainable tableware, decorations and other equipment from recycling centres, for instance. Acquisitions can also be made together with another organisation and share the equipment.
- We recommend gathering the decorations up after the event and reusing them in later events.
- On May Day, we suggest that you favour paper serpentine instead of plastic balloons. You can also come up with alternative decorations!

From an environmental perspective, **TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VOLUME OF THE MUSIC AND OTHER NOISE IN YOUR EVENT** is also crucial. You should restrict the noise by keeping the volume to a level that still allows for discussion and does not disturb the surroundings.

Environmentally themed events

Organisations can also organise environmentally themed events, such as training events, documentary nights or nature excursions. Visiting nature and nature sites can often also be considered as a sport or wellbeing event!

- Environmental training: the person in charge of environmental affairs can organise environmental training events, study trips and nature excursions where participants learn about the natural environment and societal issues related to the environment.
- You can organise excursions and tours as well as meet-ups to go together to events related to environmental protection or environmental advocacy work as well as sites on the environmental field.
- You can participate in the events and campaigns of the Environmental Committee.

Here are some suggestions for environmentally themed events:

- *Swap events for e.g. clothes, books or games*
- *Cooking vegetarian food or with surplus food*
- *Nature excursions, e.g. picking berries or mushrooms and birdwatching*
- *Movie and documentary nights*
- *Plogging*
- *Workshops, e.g. fixing/sewing clothes, making decorations, crocheting with leftover yarn, making signs for demonstrations...*
- *Challenges, e.g. the Kilometrikisa cycling challenge*
- *Theme evenings*
- *Meet-ups to go together to e.g. art galleries, polling stations or demonstrations*
- *Appros, e.g. a flea market appro*

4

Serving food



4. Serving food

The food you serve is a big part of event organisation. Food production has a significant impact on the environment, so it is important to pay attention to how ecological the food you are serving is – regardless of whether the event is an academic dinner party for a hundred people or a meeting for ten. It is easy to make sustainable choices when it comes to food, although it might not feel like it at first, when you do not know where to start. The carbon footprint of food is affected by so many things that you cannot take everything into account – and that is fine.

To put it another way, having your organisation start serving only locally produced vegan food that follows the zero-waste ideology and is certified organic is not the point at all. The most important thing is for you to be aware of the environmental impact of food when planning what to serve and to take it into account. The people planning what you are serving should also have enough information on how to make sustainable choices. In its environmental plan, the organisation could, for instance, commit itself, for one year at a time, to serving vegetarian food at its events or increasing the use of surplus products whenever possible.

Here are some things to consider when trying to choose environmentally friendly food:

- **Vegan food**

Vegan food refers to food with no animal products (e.g. meat, dairy products, eggs and certain E-numbers) in it. Reducing the use of animal-based products is the simplest way to reduce the environmental impact of food. It is also cheaper to serve vegan food that is suitable to everyone instead of preparing several different options for different special diets. There is a massive number of vegan recipes available online, as well as a list of vegan products in stores at vegaanituotteet.net (check out the links section!).

Fact sheet

- *Producing a certain amount of protein with beef or mutton causes 250 times as much greenhouse gas emissions as producing the same amount with legumes. (Vegaaniliitto)*
- *Animal production causes at least 18% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, which is more than the amount produced by traffic. (FAO)*

• Domestic and locally produced food

The environmental impact of food is also affected by its transport, which means that serving Finnish food significantly reduces emissions caused by transport. Locally produced food is produced nearby and has a fully traceable production chain as well as a short route from producer to consumer. Besides its environmentally friendly nature, locally produced food also supports local businesses.

• Seasonal and organic food

When planning what to serve at your event, you could also check out the harvest season calendar and get inspiration from the vegetables and fruit of the season! Veggies that are in season are significantly more ecological than those grown in greenhouses or transported over long distances. The price per kilo for fruit and vegetables that are in season is also usually fairly cheap, which means that you can also save money by buying seasonal products. Organic food is simply food that is produced organically – its production avoids the use of artificial fertilisers and pesticides, looks after biological diversity and ensures that farm animals are able to behave in a species-typical manner. By choosing to serve organic food, you are supporting an environmentally friendly and strictly controlled way of producing food.

• Surplus food

Food waste is food that is still fit to eat but, nonetheless, ends up in the trash or biowaste for one reason or another. To reduce food waste, you can buy surplus food and products on websites such as matsmart.fi and fiksuruoka.fi. Shopping mall Redi in Helsinki also houses a grocery store called WeFood, which sells surplus food and is ran by Finn Church Aid. You can also ask for surplus food you could use in your events from grocery stores.

Fact sheet

- *Up to 400–500 million kilos of food goes to waste in Finland every year. Private households are the largest source of food waste. (LUKE)*

- **Reducing packaging material**

Some food products are packed in an unnecessarily large amount of packaging material, such as plastic. If one of the event organisers has reusable produce bags they could lend, using them for fruit and vegetables is recommended. You should definitely also take your own grocery bags with you to the grocery store.

5 Facilities, reducing waste and sorting



5. Facilities, reducing waste and sorting

Organisational premises refer to the premises that organisations use regularly. Organisations also sometimes rent other facilities for academic dinner parties, for instance. Parks and other outdoor locations also act as venues for events in early autumn and late spring.

Recycling and sorting waste

Organisational activities inevitably produce some waste. The amount of it can be minimised, though, and any waste that is produced should be recycled. A **CLEAR RECYCLING SYSTEM** can help with this. It is definitely recommended to come up with a clear and functional recycling system for the premises the organisation uses regularly, for instance. You should have waste containers for the following types of waste: biowaste, cardboard, paper, metal, glass, plastic, mixed waste, cans and bottles. This is obviously also affected by the waste containers available in the waste room of the housing cooperative.

It is a good idea to have recycling instructions displayed next to the waste containers in Finnish, Swedish and English. New students and exchange students should also be helped with recycling. If you are unclear on how to recycle a specific item, you can find the correct container with the help of HSY's waste guide (<https://www.hsy.fi/en/waste-and-recycling/waste-guide/>), which allows you to use keywords to search for information on recycling various types of waste. We recommend making sure that all users of the premises know when to take the rubbish out and who is responsible for it. These are matters that can be discussed in the training event for the premises.

When using other facilities, you should learn about the recycling system of the facilities in question in advance. We recommend that the organisation starts looking into the recycling options available in the facilities and ways to recycle the waste as thoroughly as possible already when planning the event. You could also make recycling plans in connection with events. For instance, the team in charge of organising an academic dinner party could agree on who picks up the biowaste during the break and who clears the dishes.

Recycling may be more difficult in outdoor events. We recommend that you find out the location of the nearest recycling point before the event. One option is to encourage participants to take their own trash with them and sort them at home. The most important thing is that you do not leave any trash in the park or on the street. This means that you should prepare for outdoor events by taking garbage bags with you. At least bottles and cans should be sorted separately, as the organisation can get money by returning them. If you decide not to return the bottles but to leave them in a bag in the park for people collecting bottles, it is polite to only include bottles and cans with deposits in the bag.

Reducing waste

There are many ways to reduce waste. The starting point is to take good care of the organisation's premises and the things it owns. If something is broken, you should first try to fix it. Unnecessary acquisitions should be avoided. Items and furniture that are no longer in use can be donated to a recycling centre, if they are still fit for use. If not, they should be taken to a Sortti Station, which also provides a pick-up service for a fee, if needed.

You can also ask the spex operating on your campus whether they need the things you are getting rid of as props or stage clothes. They may well have use for fairly surprising items – a broken printer has been used as a stage prop, for instance. Textiles that are no longer fit for use can be taken to a Sortti Station, as can parts of stage props that cannot be recycled at your own recycling point.

Acquisitions

If you are making new acquisitions for your premises, you could buy second-hand items if possible. Furniture, electronics and kitchen supplies needed for the premises can be bought from recycling centres or flea markets, which saves both the environment and the organisation's funds. HY Y awards furniture grants for the acquisition of pieces of furniture and utility articles, such as dishes (<https://hyy.fi/en/guides/grants-for-organisations>). Dishes are definitely something you should have enough of to avoid the temptation to use disposable ones.

Borrowing and renting things is also possible. HY Y rents out and lends equipment including sound equipment, canopies and even beer pong tables (<https://hyy.fi/>

[en/guides/equipment-and-reservations](#)). We also encourage you to cooperate with other organisations. It simply makes sense to borrow things like tablecloths and decorations to one another instead of each organisation having their own.

Energy consumption

You can pay attention to energy consumption in your premises. Turn off the lights and equipment when they are not used. You should not air the premises in winter to prevent heat loss. Organisations can also come up with other ways to save energy depending on the premises they are using and the typical use of those premises.

Cleaning

When using different premises, you must look after their cleanliness and the movable property in them. Your aim should always be to leave the premises in a cleaner condition than they were in before the event. We recommend using environmentally friendly cleaning products. A separate cleaning agent is not usually needed for every single surface – universal cleaners work well with most kinds of dirt. You should also favour durable products, such as cloths, in cleaning equipment instead of kitchen towels and paper towels. We recommend buying unbleached toilet papers and paper towels for the premises. Note! Making vinegar-based cleaning agents yourself has become popular in recent years. However, we cannot unfortunately recommend using them in public spaces, as there are people who are hypersensitive to the smell of vinegar.

Avoiding food waste

If the facilities include a kitchen where foodstuffs are stored, there is a risk of several packages of the same product piling up in the cupboards. Eventually, some of them have to be thrown away. Because of this, you should try to keep the kitchen in order and have a designated place for all products. Many organisations use spreadsheets, for instance, to inventory their food items. This makes it easy to check which ingredients are available in the premises. Organisational premises often have someone in charge of them, and this person should go over the contents of the cupboards at regular intervals. One fun way of utilising any food accumulated in the cupboards is to organise a surplus food cooking event.

The food waste produced in events can be minimised in many ways. Food ending up in the rubbish after your event wastes not only your organisation's money but also resources used for the production, transport and storage of the food. To minimise food waste, you should thus try to estimate the amount of food needed as accurately as possible. You can also use the instructions of the Marthas to avoid the food waste (<https://www.martat.fi/in-english/wasted-food-is-wasted-money/>).

Good ways to reduce food waste at dinner parties, for instance, include giving the participants enough time to eat and encouraging them to eat everything on their plates. If there is still food left over, participants and organisers can take some home with them. You can even tell the guests to bring their own containers with them in advance. At least the organisers of the event should remember to bring a few containers from home with them just in case. You can also organise a completely separate event around surplus food – the eco-dinner organised by the Environmental Committee, for instance, turned out to be quite popular!

Bring your own containers!

There are also certain events where organisations can ask their members to bring their own containers. For instance, you can encourage members to bring their own cups and plates to outdoor events and events where coffee is served. Reusable coffee cups are very handy for this. If the organisation is selling food or drinks at its event, you could also advertise a lower price for those who bring their own container (or a higher price for those who buy a disposable one).

Digital communication

We recommend using digital platforms for the internal and external communication of the organisation. You could easily stop printing posters and flyers, for instance. In meetings, too, we recommend a transition to paperless meetings and electronic documents.

6

Communication and influencing matters

6. Communication and influencing matters

Organisations' communication channels and other means of influencing matters have a significant role in promoting environmentally friendly activities – both within and outside the organisation. Each organisation can define the emphasis and policies of the advocacy work in more detail in their environmental plan, which consequently acts as a good starting point for communication and advocacy work related to environmental affairs as well as the goals set for them. Along with the different rules of HYV, the committees of HYV must also take HYV's political views into account (see e.g. HYV policy paper). It's highly advisable to contact the HYV board in terms of unclear issues, such as political statements. The person in charge of environmental affairs in an organisation is responsible that the organisation's members and especially its officials are aware of the contents of the environmental plan to ensure that the organisation's activities reflect the plan as much as possible. Influencing matters and informing members of current news related to environmental affairs are also a part of the duties of the person in charge of environmental affairs. The organisation can also decide for itself how much the person in charge of environmental affairs and other members of the Board invest in the visibility of environmental affairs.

Why should organisations invest in environmentally themed communication and active advocacy work?

- The organisation's communication may have an important role as a source of information for its members.
- Active operations inspire and reinforce the members' team spirit.
- Members acquire a stronger belief in their own opportunities to influence matters through the advocacy work conducted by the organisation!
- Advocating for their members is often the most important task of organisations. Their goal is thus to strive to positively influence their members' future, which makes tackling environmental problems well justified.

- The organisation can set an example for others: actively influencing matters is infectious, and other organisations may be encouraged to use their opportunities to influence matters more frequently. This makes the message of your advocacy work ever stronger!
- Communicating about environmental matters makes the organisation's values visible and builds the organisation's culture.

In practice, the best way to communicate about matters is for the person in charge of environmental matters and/or communication to keep in contact with other actors and organisations as well as to follow email lists, current news, publications, campaigns and events related to the environment so that they can react to these and inform the organisation's members about them.

Examples of active operators conducting environmental communication:

- HYY's Environmental Committee
- Climate Move
- IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)
- Greenpeace (Finland)
- WWF (Finland)
- Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
- Fridays for Future
- Extinction Rebellion Finland
- Ilmastouutiset
- Zero Waste Finland
- The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

For communication, the organisation can use the means best suited to its needs, such as its own social media channels, email lists, its organisation paper, website or blog, or various events. Environmentally themed communication may simply mean sharing different kinds of news and publications on social media, either as they are or with the organisation's own comment or statement. Communication may just as well be used to provide added visibility for environmentally themed events by highlighting various campaigns, strikes, fund-raisers, statements and demonstrations the organisation considers relevant on social media, for instance. You can also arrange meet-ups to go to events together and thus encourage your organisation's members

in particular to participate in them. Voting excursions organised during elections, for instance, may lower the threshold to vote, and similarly meet-ups to go to different demonstrations together always get more people to attend!

The organisation can also organise its own environmentally themed events to bring more attention to its own values and goals. In this case in particular, it is important that environmental affairs and the members' common values are thoroughly discussed and communicated within the organisation to ensure that everyone feels that the common policies represent them. Environmental activities should definitely also be brainstormed in cooperation with other organisations – this way, there are more people sharing the workload of organising the event and the event can reach a larger audience! For more tips on different environmentally themed events, check out the 'Events' section of the environmental instructions.

7

Cooperation between the Environmental Committee and organisations operating under HYY

7. Cooperation between the Environmental Committee and organisations operating under HY Y

HY Y's Environmental Committee is a central part of HY Y's environmental sector. There are eight committees operating in HY Y, and they are all important parts of the Student Union. The committees focus on developing different sectors that are central to the Student Union's operations. The Environmental Committee brings together students interested in environmental affairs, acting as a community and a channel for influencing matters as well as working to increase environmental awareness among the people of the University. The Environmental Committee and the person in charge of environmental affairs on HY Y's Board work together to develop HY Y's environmental sector. The committee also organises various environmentally themed events and campaigns. Popular concepts in recent years have included an eco-dinner, the 'Zero Waste September' campaign and a flea market appo.

The Environmental Committee organises environmental training for organisations twice a year and supports the people in charge of environmental affairs in organisations in their work. The committee appoints a person in charge of training, and this person also acts as the contact person for organisations. HY Y organises a training event called Tuning Day for people involved in organisations in the spring, and the Environmental Committee organises an environmental training session in connection with this event. The committee drafts environmental instructions to support organisations in their environmental activities, and these instructions are updated annually. A shared email list and Facebook group are used to keep in contact with organisations. The persons in charge of environmental affairs in organisations can always contact the committee with any questions they may have related to their position.

HY Y's Sustainable Development Plan guides the operations of the committee and organisations operating under HY Y. Persons in charge of environmental affairs in organisations are recommended to read the document at the beginning of their term and, if needed, update their organisation's environmental plan accordingly. The Sustainable Development Plan is updated every third year, and committee members have the opportunity to comment on it and influence its contents.

It is easy to join the Environmental Committee's activities. Committee meetings are open to everyone and there is always something to do for everyone who wants to help. In addition to a chair and two vice chairs, the committee typically has several persons in charge of communication, a campaign coordinator and persons in charge of training, events, excursions and the committee's blog. The committee's Facebook page is called 'HYYn Ympäristöasiat', and the committee can be found on Instagram as @hyy_ymparisto. The committee also has a blog at <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hyy-ymp/>. You are more than welcome to join the Environmental Committee!

HYY'S ORGANISATIONAL SECTOR (specialist in organisations, member of the Board in charge of organisations, chair of the Financial Committee) provides support and advice especially with drafting the steering documents that guide organisations' activities, with reaching sustainable development goals and with grants meant for organisational use (see below). The sector also provides support and advice with practical matters related to organisational premises.

- Operating grant (organisations apply for the grant annually)
- Organisation paper grant (organisations apply for the grant annually)
- Furniture grant (organisations apply for the grant when needed)
- Project grant (organisations apply for the grant when needed)

HYY'S SERVICES OFFICE (organisational services secretary) provides support and advice with practical matters related to organisational, meeting and festive premises meant for the use of organisations operating under HYY as well as with items the Student Union rents to organisations. The Services Office's web page is at <https://hyy.fi/en/services-office>.



8. Links

Links mentioned in the instructions:

University of Helsinki. Hiilifiksu järjestö. Calculator. 2019. Available at <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hiilifiksu/laskuri/>.

HSY's waste guide. Waste and recycling. Available at <https://www.hsy.fi/en/waste-and-recycling/waste-guide/>.

HYY. Organisational grants. Available at <https://hyy.fi/en/guides/grants-for-organisations>.

HYY's Services Office. Available at <https://hyy.fi/en/services-office>.

HYY. Equipment and reservations. Available at <https://hyy.fi/en/guides/equipment-and-reservations>.

HYY's Environmental Committee. Blog. Available at <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hyy-ymp/>.

Lamminen, Katja. Juna on ylivoimaisesti vihrein kulkuneuvo - potkurikoneella pääsee lähes samoilla päästöillä kuin autolla yksin ajettaessa. Maaseudun tulevaisuus. 2.3.2018. [Cited on 16.11.2020] Available at <https://www.maaseuduntulevaisuus.fi/ymparisto/artikkeli-1.226412>.

The Martha Organization. Wasted food is wasted money. Available at <https://www.martat.fi/in-english/wasted-food-is-wasted-money/>.

Other links:

Examples of environmental plans

City, University London Students' Union. Sustainability. Available at <https://www.citystudents.co.uk/about-us/sustainability/>.

Sheffield Students' Union. SU Sustainability Strategy. 2019. Available at <https://su.sheffield.ac.uk/about/sustainability/strategy>.

Further tips:

HYJ. Sustainable Development Plan 2021–2023. Available at https://api.hyy.fi/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/eng_kestavankehityksensuunnitelma.2021-2023-edustajiston-hyvaksyma.pdf.

Guide to Sitsit by HYJ's Environmental Committee. Available at https://blogs.helsinki.fi/hyy-ymp/files/2018/08/sitsiipas_nettiin_englanti.pdf.

My Helsinki. Quick guide: How to eat seasonal food in Helsinki. Available at <https://www.myhelsinki.fi/en/eat-and-drink/quick-guide-how-to-eat-seasonal-food-in-helsinki>.

Vegaanituotteet. Available at <http://www.vegaanituotteet.net/inenglish/veganism-in-finland/>.