

Obtain Commitment

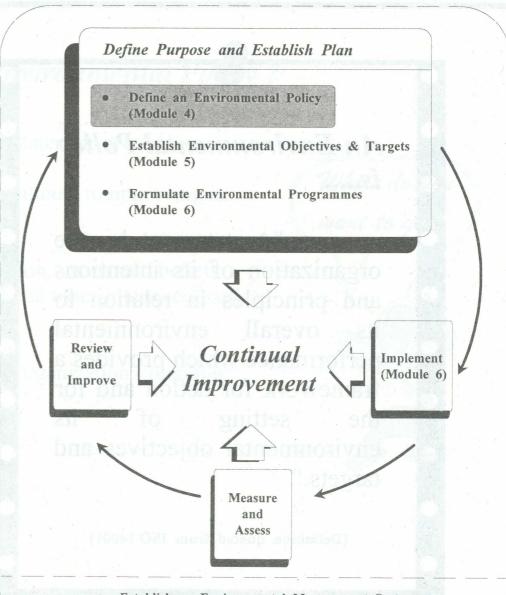
- Appoint a Green Manager (Module 1)
- Set up a Green Management Committee (Module 2)



Understand the current position

 Carry out an Initial Environmental Audit (Module 3)

Get started

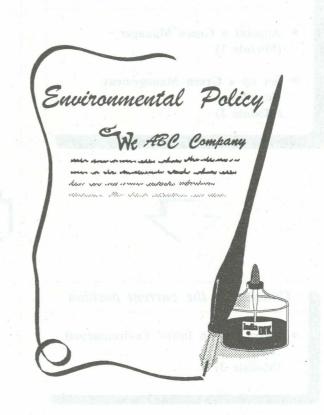


• Establish an Environmental Management System (Module 7)

An Environmental Policy is....

"A statement by the organization of its intentions and principles in relation to its overall environmental performance which provides a framework for action and for the setting of its environmental objectives and targets."

(Definition quoted from ISO 14001)



Why do you need to define an Environmental Policy?

It is necessary because a documented policy statement would :-

- Demonstrate the organization's commitment to improving its environmental performance;
- Communicate the organization's mission, vision and beliefs towards the environment to the staff and other interested parties; and
- Provide a framework for guiding the organization's ongoing environmental improvement efforts.



What could be included in the Environmental Policy?

In the Environmental Policy, the organization should state its commitments to *regulatory* compliance, prevention of pollution and continual improvement of environmental management. Therefore, the policy statements usually address a combination of the following:

- Meet all relevant regulatory and legislative requirements.
- Reduce waste and consumption of resources (materials, fuel and energy), recover and recycle, where feasible.
- Minimize the production of pollutants to the environment.
- Adopt technologies and raw materials that will minimize pollution, energy use and waste.

- Design products in such a way to minimize their environmental effects in production, use and disposal.
- Minimize the adverse environmental effects of new developments through strategic planning.
- Provide environmental education and training.
- Work towards the achievement of sustainable development.

Here is an example:

ATTITUDE: We will keep on improving the environment for the enjoyment of our customers, staff and local residents.

GOAL: We will comply with all relevant regulatory requirements.

PUBLICITY: We will communicate our environmental objectives, efforts and achievements to the public.

REDUCE: We will minimize the resource utilization and waste production.

STAFF: We will ensure our staff are aware of their environmental responsibilities and provide them with proper training.

COUNTERPART: We believe in "green" purchasing and expect high environmental standards from suppliers and contractors who work for us.

Keep in mind:



The environmental policy should be:-

- Simple and intellegible.
- Consistent with other organizational policies e.g. quality policy.
- Practical and achievable.
- Communicated to and supported by all staff.

More examples of environmental policies from different organizations:

Legal Compliance

"CLP will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in the countries and projects in which it operates and participates and will adopt responsible standards where laws and regulations do not exist. CLP will work with government and industry groups to foster timely development of laws and regulations which are environmentally

(Extract from Corporate Environmental Statement of China Light & Power Co. Ltd. on 1 May 95)

environmental needs of society."

acceptable and practicable to meet

the balanced economic and

Waste Minimization

"Baxter will aggressively pursue opportunities to minimize the quantity and degree of hazard of the waste that results from its operations. It will reduce toxic and chlorofluorocarbon air emissions 60 percent by 1992 and 80 percent by 1996, from 1988 levels based on equivalent production.

(Extract from Environmental Policy of Baxter International Inc. in "Environmental Performance Report 1993")

Annual Environmental Report

"As a member of the WMX
Technologies, Inc. family of
companies, the Company will
participate in the preparation and
publication of an annual report on
the environmental activities of the
Company and the group. The report
will include a self-evaluation of the
implementation of these principles
by the group, including assessment
of their performance in complying
with all applicable environmental
laws and regulations throughout
their worldwide operations."

(Extract from Environmental Policy of Waste Management International plc. in "Annual Environmental Performance Report 1994")



Steps to Take

Ir id si	sased on the findings of the nitial Environmental Audit, dentify the aspects with ignificant impacts or improvement opportunities.	STEP 4:	Draft and refine the wordings of the policy to express the organization's overall commitment. Seek comments from senior managers during the drafting process.
o Ir	etermine the organization's verall environmental direction. n other words, how "green" the rganization needs to be and how	STEP 5:	Derive an environmental policy that has been carefully considered and supported by all parties.
fa re	ar it wants to commit beyond egulatory compliance.	STEP 6:	Document the environmental policy and obtain approval of the top management.
O. SC	f the organization, define the cope of commitment of the nvironmental policy.	STEP 7:	Publicize the environmental policy both within and outside the organization by the Managing Director or Chairman of the organization.
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