



St. Francis Institute of Management and Research

(SFIMAR)

Green Club

Introduction

SFIMAR Green Club empowers students to participate in meaningful environmental activities like tree plantation, awareness drives and knowledge development related to social entrepreneurship for management students. It is a forum through which students can influence and engage their parents and neighborhood communities to promote good environmental behavior. It will empower students to explore environmental concepts and actions beyond the confines of a syllabus or curriculum. While everyone asserts the importance of 'learning to live sustainably,' environment remains a peripheral issue.

The details of a few of the activities undertaken by the club are enumerated below-

Activity 1: Tree Plantation

Objectives

1. To develop the closeness/connection to nature and love for Mother Earth
2. To understand the importance of care for the environment and giving back to the society

Practice

St Francis Institute of Management & Research (SFIMAR) propagates sustainable ways in all the practices within the campus.

- In 2016 medicinal plants were planted. Medicinal trees Plantation was organized on 1st July 2016. Trees like Tulsi, Neem, Aloe Vera, Gotu Kola, Lemon Grass, Khus etc., were planted.
- In 2017 around 100 saplings were planted (including floral and ornamental plants for beautification)
- In July 2018, approximately 50 saplings were planted within the campus.
- Due to heavy rainfall and soil erosion, few plants did not survive, replaced by the saplings donated by students in 2019. SFIMAR Green Club members discussed and decided to carry out a research study on the hydroponic system of cropping on a practical note. The project aimed to establish organic vegetable cultivation using a hydroponic cropping technique on a small scale in about 200 to 300 square feet of land. The project concentrated on cultivating vegetable crops/green leaves using mineral nutrients solutions, in water, without soils. Students of the 2019-21 batch took the initiative and cultivated spinach on the campus.
- During the lockdown period in 2020, proper care of saplings was not feasible, which led to further damage, but the institute took immediate action post lockdown to improve the situation. Beautification was done in the front part of the institute. Also, because of lockdown, the hydroponic initiative was stopped. Later rose saplings were planted in that area.

Students and the campus supervisor nurtured the plants by taking periodic measurements of the plants and providing timely fertilizers. It has been a regular ritual in SFIMAR for the students to water and interact with the plants. Also, the students have initiated to donate saplings for the college campus every year.

Learning Outcome

Students learned to take responsibility by caring for the plants, gained leadership and teamwork skills, care for nature and the environment, and developed self-confidence.



Planting Medicinal Plants on 1.7.2016





Tree plantation on 28.10.2017





Planting floral Plants on 25.11.2017



Tree Plantation on 02.07.2018



Tree Plantation on 02.07.2018



Tree Plantation Team



Tree height measurement and numbering activity on 16.10.2018



Tree height measurement and numbering activity on 16.10.2018



Students taking an interest in Hydroponic Crop Cultivation



Hydroponic Crop Cultivation in SFIMAR Campus

Activity 2: Awareness Drive & Knowledge Development

Objectives

1. Creating awareness about the environment and the need for its sustainability
2. Acquire knowledge regarding the theory and practice of cultural and production techniques and methods of various plants.

Practice

1. **2015-16:** 'Go Green Pledge' was taken on 25th January 2016 by the faculty, staff, and students. A Tree Plantation Drive was also conducted on 26th January 2016.
2. **2016-17:** Debate on Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan organized by Green Club on 07th October 2016.
3. **2017-18:** Guest lecture organized on "Nursery Management" by Mr. Bharat Soni, M.D. of Go Green Nursery on 16th February 2018.
4. **2018-19:** SFIMAR, known for its involvement in various social activities benefiting society, organized an awareness campaign in association with the NGO, Green Yatra, a leading environmentalist of Mumbai towards protecting, conserving and the betterment of

the environment through a street play on tree plantation, with the slogan "**Ped lagao Jeevan Bachao**" in some of the biggest malls in Mumbai, i.e., Maxus, Growels and the Raghuleela on the 25th & 26th of August 2018 followed by a rewarding contest.

5. **2018-19:** Go Green Nursery visit was conducted on 26th January 2019, where all green club members (staff and students) spent their whole day understanding the dos and don'ts with plants.
6. **2019-20:** A team of 12 students and 06 faculty/staff of the Green Club from SFIMAR went on a field trip to Bassien Agro Farms near Arnala Beach, Virar West, on 09th January 2020, to develop an understanding of Hydroponics and Inorganic farming.

Learning Outcome

Students learned about the various business opportunities in organic farming, Hydroponics, Nursery Management and social entrepreneurship and the broad understanding of the technology and infrastructure needed to establish the same.



Pledge for 'Go Green' on 25.01.2016



Pledge for 'Go Green' on 25.1.2016



Tree plantation drive on 26.1.2016



Students participating in Debate competition - "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: Publicity Stunt or Making a Difference?" on 7th October 2016.



Winners of Debate competition - "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: Publicity Stunt or Making a Difference?" on 7th October 2016.



'Ped lagao Jeevan Bachao' Campaign at Growels Mall, Mumbai



'Ped lagao Jeevan Bachao' Campaign at Raghuleela Mall, Mumbai



Go Green Nursery Visit on 28.01.2019



Go Green Nursery Visit on 26.01.2019



Bassien Agro Farms Visit on 09.01.2020



Bassien Agro Farms Visit on 09.01.2020