

Set up a book club

A guide for facilitators



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A book club is a great way to discuss and unpack the key ideas of *Earth for All: A Survival Guide for Humanity*.

This guide can help you setup and run a book club. It includes tips for procuring the book and exploring the implications of its ideas for your community.

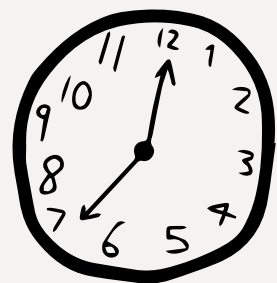
The Earth4All initiative is guided by clear principles:

1. We can achieve wellbeing for all within the limits of our planet.
2. The crises we face are interwoven and need to be approached with a systems-thinking perspective. For example, we cannot solve the climate crisis without also tackling the poverty and inequality crises, and vice versa.
3. Solutions must work for the majority, and they must be seen as fair and just or they risk rejection.

Transforming our economic system requires widespread popular support. To achieve this, we encourage citizens from all walks of life to engage in discussions about transformative ideas. Together, we can jumpstart the transformation of our economic system to one that puts wellbeing above growth.

The following note suggests different options to unpack the ideas of *Earth for All* in a book club format.

The [guide by the Edmonton Public Library](#) offers useful insights into the logistics of starting and running a book club.



Before the book club

How can members of the book club access and read *Earth for All: A Survival Guide for Humanity*?

There are different options available to the participants of the book club.

Organisers can purchase one or more copies of the book to be shared among participants. The book is available in printed form as well as an [e-book](#).

You can also check with your local library if the book is available.

As of September 2023, the book is available in English, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Swedish, and French. You can find updated information about language availability on our [website](#). You can also find [executive summaries](#) of the book in five languages.

Choosing the format of your book club

You need to decide the format of the reading and communicate this to participants ahead of time.

Whole-book reading

In this format, each participant reads the entire book before the gathering. While this approach allows for comprehensive discussions about the book as a whole, it may require more time and dedication.

Bit-by-bit reading

With this format, participants read the book in smaller sections, discussing and reflecting on each portion during the gatherings. This method allows for more in-depth exploration of specific themes and ideas, but it may take multiple gatherings to cover the entire book.

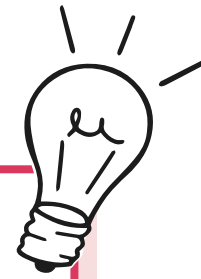
As an organiser, you can decide how to split the book depending on the duration of the book club, your participants' level of knowledge or reading pace, etc.

Roundtable

Participants focus on specific parts or chapters of the book, either assigned beforehand or chosen collectively during the gatherings. The participants take turns explaining the key ideas featured in their part to the rest of the group over the meeting.



During the book club



Introduction

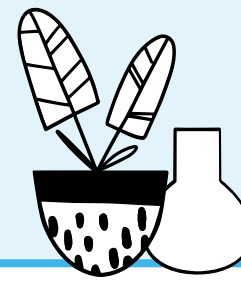
Why did you (the organiser) choose to gather people to discuss the *Earth for All* book?

How did you first come across the *Earth4All* initiative?

Why do you think this book is interesting for your community/ region/ country?

Part 1: restitution

In the first part of the book club, which will usually last about 1/3rd to half of the total time of the gathering, participants explore the content of the book. The aim of this part is to make sure everyone understands the main messages and create space for clarifications when needed.



Part 2: discussion

The second part of the book club is a space to unpack the messages of *Earth for All*. What do they mean for your country, city, community? What would it take to implement them? Which ideas are you less convinced by?

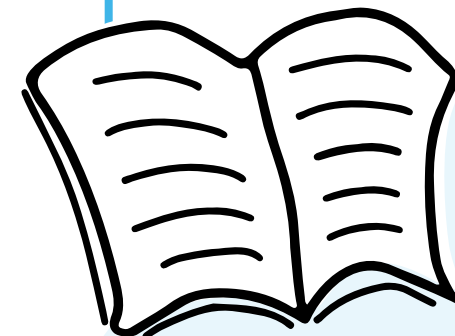


Part 3: wrapping up

The third and last part of the book club can be harnessed to create momentum. Depending on the objectives for the book club, you may want to hold another session to go more in-depth into certain topics or reach out to local decision-makers to demand specific changes in your community. You can also explore another book, watch a movie/ documentary, or run the [Earth4All Storytelling workshop](#) as a follow-up.

Don't forget to tag us if you share highlights of the book club [on social media](#), or email us at info@earth4all.life to let us know how it went and how you will keep your community engaged for change. You can also review *Earth for All* on an online platform like Goodreads.

If you have time, you can include a note with a few quotes and reactions from participants, plus photos or videos, to help us spark conversations everywhere.



For instance, if one participant struggles to understand the concept of a universal basic dividend, you can do a roundtable where each participant provides a one-sentence explanation built on the previous person's statement. For example:

Participant 1: "The concept is based on an understanding that corporations make money off of the commons."

Participant 2: "As the name suggests, the commons, i.e., air, fresh water, trees, etc., belong to everyone – they are public rather than private."

Participant 3: "The concept views as problematic the fact that it is only a few individuals/ corporations who benefit from damaging the commons."

Participant 4: "The concept introduces a price to be paid by individuals and corporations to use or damage the commons, like when they pollute the air or cut trees."

Participant 1: "All this money becomes a fund, which is then shared equally among the Earth's citizens."

And so on. As the roundtable continues, the depth of understanding of the concept grows.

