

# **The Group IV Project<sup>1</sup>**

## **Summary of the Group 4 Project**

The group IV project allows students to appreciate the environmental, social and ethical implications of science. It may also allow them to understand the limitations of scientific study, for example, the shortage of appropriate data and/or the lack of resources. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary cooperation and the processes involved in scientific investigation, rather than the products of such investigation.

The exercise should be a collaborative experience where concepts and perceptions from across the group IV disciplines are shared. The intention is that students analyze a topic or problem which can be investigated in each of the science disciplines offered by a school. The topic can be set in a local, national or international context.

## **Project Stages**

The 10 hours allocated to the group IV project, which are part of the teaching time set aside for internal assessment, can be divided into four stages: planning, definition of activities, action and evaluation.

### **Planning**

This stage is crucial to the whole exercise and should last 2 - 4 hours.

- The planning stage could consist of a single session, or two or three shorter ones.
- This stage must involve all science students meeting to “brainstorm” and discuss the central topic, sharing ideas and information.
- The topic can be chosen by the students themselves or selected by the teachers.
- Where large numbers of students are involved, it may be advisable to have more than one mixed discipline group.

After selecting a topic, or issue, the activities to be carried out must be clearly defined before moving from the planning stage to the action and evaluation stages.

### **Definition of Activities**

A possible strategy is that students define specific tasks for themselves, either individually or as members of groups, and investigate various aspects of the chosen topic. Ensure that carrying out the project is a group experience.

### **Your Task: Investigating Mer-Blue**

### **Assessment:**

You may be required to demonstrate the evidence of your involvement in the project in the form of a written statement, lab work, project report, record of data collected, photographs by the project group, a printout from a web page showing your work, a website prepared by the group and /or a diary of events and activities of the group.

You will be required to present a formal reflection of the Group IV to each of your subject teachers.

**Important Dates:** Completion of Proposal:

Completion of Group IV Project:

<sup>1</sup>Taken out of IBO, 2001 documents.

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Note: A student is to cover 10 hours of work for each Group IV subject and present separate Reflections to each of their subject Teacher.

## The Group 4 project

### **Personal skills (for group 4 project assessment only)**

Levels/marks	Aspect 1	Aspect 2	Aspect 3
	Self-motivation and perseverance	Working within a team	Self-reflection
<b>Complete/2</b>	Approaches the project with self-motivation and follows it through to completion.	Collaborates and communicates in a group situation and integrates the views of others.	Shows a thorough awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses and gives thoughtful consideration to their learning experience.
<b>Partial/1</b>	Completes the project but sometimes lacks self-motivation.	Exchanges some views but requires guidance to collaborate with others.	Shows limited awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses and gives some consideration to their learning experience.
<b>Not at all/0</b>	Lacks perseverance and motivation.	Makes little or no attempt to collaborate in a group situation.	Shows no awareness of their own strengths and weaknesses and gives no consideration to their learning experience.