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Request by Victoria:

Faith In Action
A Multi-Faith Initiative
In support of justice for all

CREATION OF THE EARTH CHARTER

- The Earth Charter is the product of a decade long, worldwide, cross-cultural conversation about common goals and shared values.
- Thousands of individuals and hundreds of organizations from 78 countries have participated.
- Input has come from people from all regions of the world, different cultures and diverse sectors of society, including experts and representatives of grassroots communities.

What is Earth Charter?

Earth Charter is a global declaration for a sustainable future. Its message transcends politics, religion and culture, and embraces all aspects of modern life.

Earth Charter

WHY THE EARTH CHARTER?

- Given our global situation, humanity faces a common problem, which can only be solved through *co-operative action* based on shared values and an agreed agenda.
- The Earth Charter is a contribution to this need, created by private citizens.



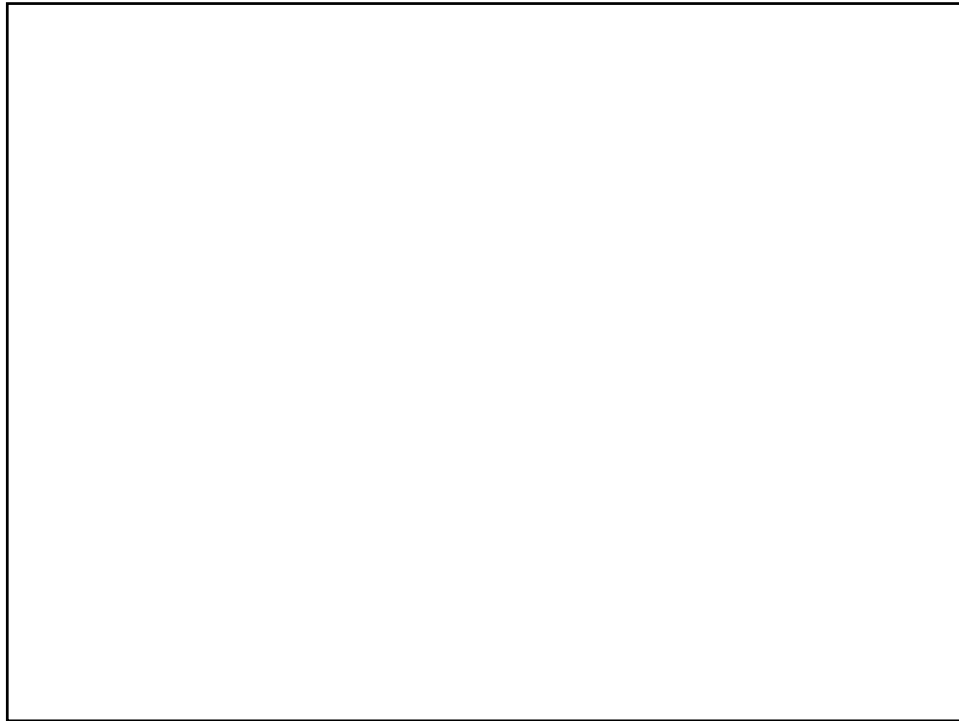
Earth Charter: An ethical blueprint for leaders

- the need to change our value systems to make transition to sustainable lifestyles is addressed by the Earth Charter
- it provides an ethical framework described as *“a declaration of global interdependence and universal responsibility”*
- the overall goal is **to stimulate inner reflection of our own beliefs, values and priorities**; it challenges us to examine our values and choose a better way
- the Earth Charter was written to fulfill the crucial necessity of a *“shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world community”*



We are asking the City of Victoria
to endorse the Earth Charter





EARTH CHARTER PRINCIPLES

- *Respect and Care for the Community of Life*
- *Ecological Integrity*
- *Social and Economic Justice*
- *Democracy, Nonviolence and Peace*



EARTH CHARTER INITIATIVE Brief History

- 1992 NGO Forum proposed a draft Charter to Earth Summit but time was not right
- 1994 Earth Council, Green Cross International and Dutch Government reactivated the initiative
- 1995 Consultation process started
- 1997 Earth Charter Commission was formed
- 1997 Benchmark Draft I was issued in Rio+5
- 97-98 35 national bodies & numerous conferences were held
- 1999 Benchmark Draft II issued
- 2000 Launching and acceptance of the Earth Charter document at The Hague
- 2002 WSSD in Johannesburg and the Type II Partnership

The Earth Charter
International Secretariat



What Earth Charter can offer


- A global citizen who is in search of reasonable global ethic can find it in the Earth Charter
 - a concrete expression of a global ethic which otherwise might seem too **abstract and undefined**
- Through the Earth Charter can be also found **a genuine and real community of like-minded people across the world** united in its inspirational power
 - It is not just an idea in the mind of the global citizen but actually **shared by agents from all over the world**
- The Earth Charter provides one **approach for educating and motivating people and governments to act** with the necessary sense of universal responsibility
 - stresses both the inner motivational resources of individuals and the external social structures and institutions




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Toronto & Region Conservation Authority, Canada

After its endorsement of the Earth Charter, TRCA used a very interesting chart to better understand the vision and prepare its implementation of the Earth Charter. They went through the Charter and pointed out the principles and sub-principles specially relevant to them. Then for each of them, they came up with their interpretation and comments of the sub-principle and how it can be implemented in their organization.




Local Communities

Implement the Earth Charter in your Community

3 Examples of Local Governments and associations implementing the Earth Charter

City of Joondalup, Australia:
The City of Joondalup is applying the Earth Charter as part of its Strategic Planning process. A comparison between Council policies and the Earth Charter demonstrates significant common ground between the two and the value of the Earth Charter as a tool in local government strategic planning.
www.earthcharter.org/communities/joondalup_casestudy.pdf

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www.earthcharter.org/communities/TRCA_application_of_EC.doc


San Jose Municipality, Costa Rica
They developed a project for the training and integration of the Earth Charter principles into the daily activities of the city employees, as part of a vision towards a sustainable future. About 1800 employees participated, including police, administration, infrastructure, sanitation, and health departments.
www.earthcharter.org/country then go to Costa Rica

Getting key actors of your Community to implement the Charter

Getting endorsements is a big step indeed, but the values need to be implemented to lead us all towards sustainability.

You can help each of those organizations and, with their help, the local population to:

- 1. Understand the vision** by having workshops put together for their members and others. This is especially essential to understand the concept of sustainable development.
- 2. Use the Earth Charter in their strategy planning process** (see on this page).
- 3. Use it to create and rate their activities** (see beside).



Rating your activities with the Earth Charter

To monitor your progress towards sustainability, or to identify the main needs:

- 1- List all your activities**, with eventually some decomposition in major tasks
- 2- For each task or activity:**
 - **Note the relevant principles** or sub-principles of the Earth Charter
 - **Rate yourself** for each principle, fixing objectives, identifying gaps
 - **Design a strategy** towards your goals, keeping in mind the interconnectedness of the similar efforts you might have to do for different tasks.

You can also use the Earth Charter as a values framework for assessing progress towards sustainability and for designing professional codes of conduct and accountability systems.

THE EARTH CHARTER MISSION

- To establish a sound ethical foundation for the emerging global society
- To help build a sustainable world based on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace





Maurice Frederick Strong, PC, CC, OM, FRSC, FRAIC(April 29, 1929 – November 27, 2015)

The Earth Charter is important as an expression of the commitment of people throughout the Earth to evoke their own deepest moral, spiritual and ethical principles in the task of ensuring a sustainable future for those who inhabit the Earth now and those who will follow us on the Earth.

Maurice Strong

QuoteAddicts.com



The Earth Charter



- The Earth Charter is a declaration of **fundamental values and principles** for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century
 - centrally concerned with the transition to **sustainable ways of living and sustainable human development**.
- It seeks to inspire in all people a new sense of **global interdependence** and **shared responsibility** for the well-being of the whole human family, the greater community of life, and future generations.
- It is **a vision of hope and a call to action**.

EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL



Earth Charter as global ethics



- Earth Charter is consensus on **integrated vision on shared moral values, basic ethical principles and practical guidelines**
 - Expresses common core of attitudes that can **unite people** in the midst of all their diversity
- Recognizing that our **environmental, economic, social, political, and spiritual challenges are interdependent**
 - The Earth Charter provides a **new integrated framework** for thinking about and addressing these issues
 - The result is a fresh broad conception of what constitutes a **sustainable society and sustainable development**

EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL