



# EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL

## *Annual Report*

2009



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# Foreword

We are completing the first decade of the new millennium with no fewer challenges than 10 years ago, but with a continuous commitment to make the vision of sustainable development a reality everywhere. We believe that to make sustainability happen “fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living.” That is the promise of the Earth Charter Initiative.

For two decades, the vision of the Earth Charter has inspired numerous individuals and groups from all walks of life to undertake activities that have moved us towards sustainability. Nearly ten years ago, when the Earth Charter was first launched, after years of consultation and drafting, the vision was to have it widely disseminated, used and implemented as an instrument that contributes to the transition towards a new paradigm. Much has been accomplished and much is still to be achieved. The Earth Charter Initiative’s Mission and Vision is neither trivial nor easy to attain; it requires significant collaboration, perseverance, passion, and time, and this is what we have been exercising.

This report offers an overview of activities led by the Earth Charter International (ECI) Secretariat and Affiliates, Volunteers, and Partner organizations. While it does not intend to offer a comprehensive account of all efforts carried out in 2009, it offers a glimpse into these undertakings.

Nearly five years ago, the Earth Charter International Council was formed to set major goals, policies, and strategies for Earth Charter International, and to provide guidance to the broader Initiative. Over these years, the ECI Council has stressed that the Earth Charter Initiative is not to be considered a conventional nongovernmental organization, but rather a global movement. Therefore, the purpose of the Council and Secretariat is to offer guidance, and provide instruments and communication services to this global movement.

To fulfil this purpose, in 2009 the ECI Secretariat continued to implement the Decentralized Empowerment for Scaling up Policy. A strategic priority of this policy was to ensure the availability of basic Earth Charter information on the Internet in the most spoken languages in the world in order to reach out to people and raise awareness of the Earth Charter among new groups in different regions of the world. Therefore, 38 Earth Charter National Websites were set up in Chinese, Hindi, Portuguese, and Turkish, among other languages. In addition, the Secretariat paid special attention to ECI Affiliates, Youth Groups, and volunteers who are leading small groups or executing key projects, by nurturing their relationships with existing ones and cultivating new partnerships, especially in countries where there was little or no activity. The Secretariat still needs to enhance its role in better understanding and observing the activities that are being generated by the Initiative, especially their impacts, and to better make connections between groups, individuals, and organizations active in the Initiative, in order to channel opportunities for collaboration.

In 2010, we are celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Earth Charter launch; with this in mind, the ECI Council has developed a vision to encourage activities that expand the outreach and impact of the Earth Charter Initiative globally. It is expected that new political support will be generated, and that the impact of the Earth Charter in educational settings, local community planning, and business will continue to grow. It is hoped that these efforts will multiply the “Dialogue, Collaboration and Action for a Sustainable Future” that the Earth Charter is able to inspire.

As part of ECI’s commitment to promoting sustainability, accountability, and transparency, its 2009 Annual Report has been prepared for the first time drawing on the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework. For this first report, and given the small size of ECI Secretariat operations, it has been decided to apply **Level C Application Level of the G3 guidelines**. The Earth Charter Initiative has a strategic alliance with GRI and encourages all EC users to report on their progress towards Earth Charter goals using GRI G3 guidelines wherever possible.

The Earth Charter Initiative is fuelled by individuals and groups who understand that we cannot address the interconnected challenges of our time and forge global cooperative action without a shared ethical foundation. There is much that remains to be done before the vision that “in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny” is permeated everywhere. We are ready to take this challenge.

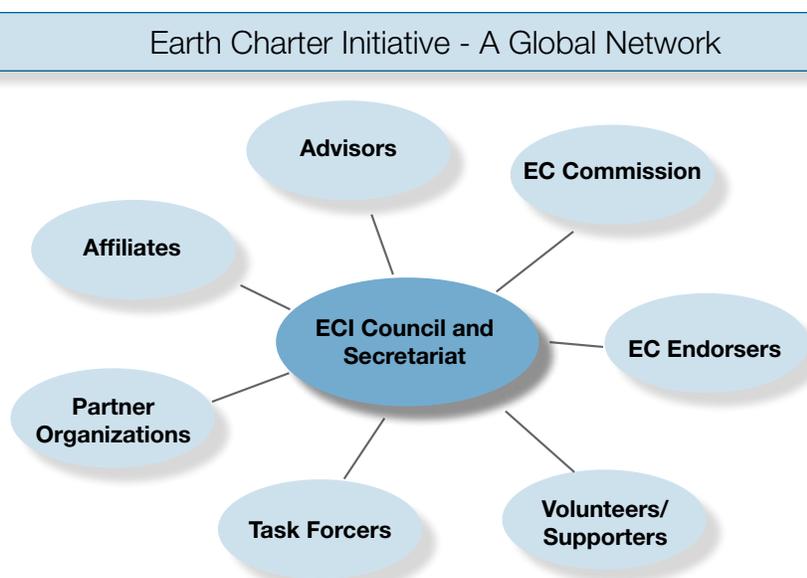
Mirian Vilela  
Executive Director  
Earth Charter International Secretariat

# I. Introduction

The Earth Charter Initiative is a global network of people, organizations, and institutions that participate in promoting and implementing the values and principles of sustainability expressed in the Earth Charter. The Initiative is a broad-based, voluntary, civil society effort.

Earth Charter International (ECI) is an integral part of the Earth Charter Initiative; it exists to advance the Mission and Vision of the Earth Charter Initiative. ECI endeavours to promote the dissemination, adoption, use and implementation of the Earth Charter, and to support the growth and development of the Earth Charter Initiative. It consists of the ECI Council and Secretariat. ECI works in collaboration with national and local governments, the business community, and civil society organizations on various projects and themes.

The Earth Charter Initiative also involves the following stakeholders: the Earth Charter Commission, Advisors, Affiliates, Youth Groups, Partner Organizations, Volunteers, and Endorsers.



Currently, there are EC Initiative projects and activities in over 80 countries. The countries where there are more Earth Charter activities are: Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Brazil, Costa Rica, Russia, Latvia, Germany, The United States, Australia, Taiwan-China, Nigeria, India, Tajikistan, and the United Kingdom.

The **mission** of the Earth Charter Initiative is *to promote the transition to sustainable ways of living and a global society founded on a shared ethical framework that includes respect and care for the community of life, ecological integrity, universal human rights, respect for diversity, economic justice, democracy, and a culture of peace.*

The EC Initiative **vision statement** is: *We envision individuals, organizations, businesses, governments, and multilateral institutions throughout the world, including the United Nations General Assembly and UN agencies, acknowledging the Earth Charter, embracing its values and principles, and working collaboratively to build just, sustainable, and peaceful societies.*

## II. Governance Structure of ECI

The **Earth Charter International Council** provides leadership and guidance to the broader EC Initiative; nonetheless, it does not directly govern or control the Initiative as a whole. The Council is responsible only for the governance of ECI, mainly overseeing the work of ECI Secretariat. The Council has 23 members, from 17 countries representing all regions of the world. It elects its own members in consultation with members of the global network of Earth Charter supporters. ECI Council meets once a year, and its Executive Committee, composed of eight members, meets 2 to 4 times a year. The Executive Director of the ECI Secretariat participates in all these meetings, as an ex-officio member.

**ECI Secretariat staff** is composed of the executive director, three regional coordinators and one youth coordinator. In addition, during 2009, six interns worked on a full time basis at the Secretariat. Most of them are graduate students from Jyväskylä University, Finland. The interns were involved in developing publications, research, doing outreach work, and administrative tasks. In addition, six part time interns from the University for Peace collaborated with specific projects such as writing theses and articles on topics related to the Earth Charter, and doing translation and editing work, among other things.

ECI Secretariat operates in Costa Rica as a semi-autonomous centre under the legal umbrella of the University for Peace. ECI Secretariat and the University for Peace cooperate in different aspects. UPEACE provides office space and administrative management services, while the ECI Secretariat offers courses in UPEACE Master's programmes related to sustainability, and occasionally supports students in their research work.

Since ECI is not legally incorporated, Earth Charter Associates, Ltd. (ECA) was created in the United States in 2006, to provide certain legal, financial, and fund raising services in support of ECI, such as the trade mark registration of the EC logo. ECA is registered in The United States as a charitable (501c3) organization.

Due to the decentralization strategy for scaling up, which was adopted at the Third ECI Council Meeting in 2007 (more information in Section IV), there are no plans for expanding the ECI Secretariat with more staff members. Rather, it is envisioned that more individuals and organizations will feel empowered to further broaden awareness of the Earth Charter and encourage others to engage with it by promoting and using the Earth Charter in their field of work.

# III. Goals and achievements of ECI Secretariat

ECI Secretariat aims to raise awareness about the Earth Charter worldwide and promote its use with the purpose of moving ahead the transition towards a more sustainable society.

## ECI GOALS:

1. To raise awareness worldwide of the Earth Charter and to promote understanding of its inclusive ethical vision.
2. To seek recognition and endorsement of the Earth Charter by individuals, organizations, and the United Nations.
3. To promote the use of the Earth Charter as an ethical guide and the implementation of its principles by civil society, business, and government.
4. To encourage and support the educational use of the Earth Charter in schools, universities, religious communities, local communities, and many other settings.
5. To promote recognition and use of the Earth Charter as a soft law document.

To achieve the above-mentioned goals, ECI Secretariat seeks the collaboration of individuals and organizations worldwide and strives to service the Earth Charter Initiative network. Over the past year, the Secretariat has focused its work on outreach efforts towards key individuals and organizations, in building partnerships and developing communication services (websites in several languages and online interaction services), publications, and capacity building opportunities. A special effort has been made to ensure that ECI materials are available in English, Spanish, French, Russian, and various other languages. In addition, ECI Secretariat is encouraging organizations and individuals to form task forces and small action groups to undertake activities in six focus areas: Education, Youth, Religion, Media, Global Governance through the United Nations, and Global Governance and Business.

## Outreach Efforts

### **Affiliates**

By the end of 2009, there were 112 ECI Affiliates<sup>1</sup> from 66 countries in all regions of the world, 20 of which joined the network this year. Attachment A offers a full list of current ECI Affiliates. New affiliates and partnership agreements were signed this year with La Salle Central America; Florida Gulf Coast University,

<sup>1</sup> ECI Affiliates are organizations that share the Earth Charter vision and are committed to promoting the Earth Charter and helping implement ECI strategies in their countries. Affiliates enter into a formal agreement with Earth Charter International to be an active source of Earth Charter information and activity in their country.

USA; Montfort Brothers Social Institute, India; Shangri-la Institute, China; the Municipal Library in Sedlchany, Czech Republic; and The Belarusian Academy for Professional Teacher's Training, among others.

## **Youth Groups**

There are 69 official Earth Charter Youth<sup>2</sup> and Student Groups in 41 countries around the world. 25 new groups were formed during 2009 and 10 of them come from new countries: The United Kingdom, Ukraine, Germany, Croatia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, India, Somalia, Israel, and the Gambia. Out of these countries, Ukraine, Somalia, Croatia, and the Gambia do not have Earth Charter activities other than ECYGs. Attachment B offers a full list of EC Youth Groups and indicates the new ones.

## **Volunteers**

In 2007, an online mechanism for EC volunteer registration was established on the EC website, where individuals can register for several projects or focus areas of their interest. This year, new projects were added and others were modified, in order to adjust to the new strategy of starting small action groups. In 2009, 261 people registered as volunteers. In total, 633 volunteers have registered since this effort began. Attachment C shows the distribution of volunteers per region, and compares the number of volunteers as of 2008 and 2009. There is a significant increase in the number of volunteers from Latin America, probably because the Spanish version of the registration process was in place this year.

**Examples of volunteers work:** There are 98 volunteers that worked on translations in 25 languages (Catalan, Chinese, English, Farsi, Filipino, Finnish, French, Greek, Haiti Creole, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Malaysia Bahasa, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Sinlah, Spanish, Telugu, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese).

Most of them work on translating the Earth Charter text, and the key Earth Charter publications such as: The Earth Charter Guidebook for Teachers, EC-Assess, Good Practices Using the Earth Charter and the content of EC National Websites.

About 25% volunteers commit to making presentations and creating EC groups in their work places, schools and universities. Others promote the Earth Charter in online media and social networks, for example volunteers have created the EC article in Wikipedia in various languages (i.e. Korean, Ukrainian, Russian, Portuguese and others), also in their personal blogs, create groups in facebook and twitter.

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<sup>2</sup> An Earth Charter Youth / Student Group is a social network or organization of local young activists working to realize the vision of the Earth Charter in their communities.

## Endorsers

The ECI website has an online system in place to record endorsements from individuals and organizations. Only the organizational endorsements are made public. Among the most recent organizational endorsers are: Florida Gulf Coast University (United States), Vitalis Asociacion Civil (Venezuela), Avepalmas Centro UNESCO (Venezuela), Grassroots Productions (Australia), Washington Ethical Society, Global Ecovillage Network (Europe), Empowerment Works, Department of Women and Gender Studies – University of Toledo (Spain), Green Cameroon, Namib Desert Environmental Education Trust (NaDEET).

As of December 2009 there are a total of 20,431 endorsements out of which over 5,000 are organizational endorsements.

## Communication services

ECI Secretariat has made a special effort to consolidate its international website in English, Spanish, and French, which features 91 country pages offering an overview of activities and organizations involved with the Earth Charter Initiative in each country, and a Virtual Library with over 800 resources. In 2009 there were over 480,000 visits to the main Earth Charter website and 164,000 visits in the Earth Charter page at Wikipedia in English and Spanish.



Earth Charter International webpage

In addition, ECI Secretariat has been involved in the following communication efforts:

### **EC National Websites**

A key communication strategy has been the development of **EC national websites**. Thanks to the collaboration of Amana-key (Brazil) and many other local partners, it was possible to launch 38 national websites in each country's official language. This involved significant effort in coordinating translations and technical support. Attachment D shows the list of all available EC websites.

### **EC YouTube Channel**

In May, ECI Secretariat launched its first Earth Charter video channel on YouTube, with the purpose of sharing EC videos, stories, and interviews with the hope that such tools will inspire many groups and be widely used by anyone interested. The EC YouTube channel currently has 66 videos uploaded in different languages, which have been watched by nearly 20,000 viewers since its launch.



ECI Video channel: <http://www.youtube.com/ECInternational>

### **EC video interviews**

Four video interviews were made featuring Leonardo Boff, Maurice Strong, Jan Pronk, and David Korten. These interviews generated 18 short videos relating the Earth Charter to specific themes such as climate change, ethics and the upcoming Rio+20 Summit. The interviews are available to the public through the ECInternational YouTube channel.

### **EC Youth/Student group Wikipages**

A Wikispace for Earth Charter youth activists was created during 2009. The purpose of these online Earth Charter Youth / Student Group profiles is to facilitate the familiarization of potential new members with

current activities of ECYGs, and to serve as an information channel from one group to another. The profiles consist of basic information about each ECYGs, activity reports, project proposals, calls for partners, and pictures of the group and events. In this way, the profiles also help other ECYGs when brainstorming new ideas and projects to be implemented in their respective areas.

In addition, this wiki includes a collection of the Earth Charter youth resources and has been a great success. It has been visited more than 40,000 times by people from 135 different countries. In December 2009, the ECI wiki was acknowledged by Wikispaces as a great example of how non-profits are using wikis. This Wikispaces can be seen at <http://ecyg.wikispaces.com/>

## **EC Schools Network**

Another Internet service produced by ECI Secretariat is the Earth Charter Schools Network (<http://ec-snet.wikispaces.com/>). The purpose of this website is to provide a platform in English and Spanish, where students and educators from different countries, can share and collaborate on issues related to education for sustainable development. In this space, participants are able to post discussion threads, find and upload useful resources, and get in touch with like-minded people. This wikispaces includes a teacher's resource centre with suggested lesson plans, teacher's guidebooks and others. The Earth Charter Schools Network Wiki was visited more than 5,000 times from 111 different countries in 2009.

All these tools facilitate outreach and networking tasks for the ECI Secretariat.

## **Education**

### **A Guide for Using the Earth Charter in Education**

In April, ECI launched a Guide for Using the Earth Charter in Education during a special event at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development held in Bonn. This Guide provides basic information on how to use the Earth Charter in educational settings. It will be especially helpful to educators who are working in the fields of environmental education, education for sustainable development, human rights education, human ecology education, peace education, humane education, social education, and related areas. This document builds on the Synthesis Report of an on-line Education Discussion held in 2001; it was first developed in English, with the collaboration of a number of advisors, and then translated into Portuguese, Spanish, French, Mandarin, and Russian.

## **Events**

ECI Secretariat continues to support and be involved with the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, in close partnership with UNESCO Headquarters. From 31 March to 2 April, UNESCO organized the “*World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, Moving into the Second half of the Decade*”, held in Bonn, Germany. The Earth Charter featured in several workshops and side events that were led by ECI Secretariat or its partners. The **Final Bonn Declaration**, a key outcome of this Conference, emphasized the importance of incorporating values for sustainability such as justice, equity, and tolerance into educational processes. The Bonn Declaration referred to the Earth Charter as a key educational instrument offering a clear vision of sustainability as a core value to achieve a more just

and sustainable world. About 1,300 people from over 150 countries participated in the Conference including representatives of ministries of education, universities, and civil society organizations.



*Executive Vice President and Provost of Peking University, Dr. Jianhua Lin, with Ruud Lubbers, Earth Charter Commissioner.*



*UNESCO World Conference on ESD, Bonn*

In September, ECI Secretariat organized a number of meetings in Beijing, China to share information about the Earth Charter Initiative and seek collaboration. This effort included a meeting at the Peking University that brought together approximately 20 professors, 30 to 40 students, and the Executive Vice President and Provost of Peking University, Dr. Jianhua Lin, with Ruud Lubbers, Earth Charter Commissioner. At the end of the two hour meeting an interesting discussion took place around the need to further stimulate education for sustainable development and how useful the Earth Charter could be in such effort.

Other important conferences where ECI Secretariat gave presentations in order to raise awareness about the Earth Charter include:

- The Czech National Teacher's Conference on Ethical Education held in May in Prague, Czech Republic.
- The Earth Charter and Local Action event, held at the National Taiwan Normal University in Taiwan in June.
- The Brazilian Business Council for Sustainable Development conference "Sustainability 2009" held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in June.
- The Ethos Institute International Conference of 2009 held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in August.

### **Earth Charter workshops and courses**

ECI Secretariat facilitated over 15 workshops and courses that introduce the EC systemic approach. Following are some examples of workshops carried out throughout the year:

- In Costa Rica, there were a number of Earth Charter sessions in [a course on education for sustainable development for in-service teachers](#) of primary and secondary schools, organized by the Peace with Nature Presidential Initiative and the Ministry of Education of Costa Rica.

Approximately 150 teachers from four different regions participated in this process, which took place from May to August, and July to October. This course used the Earth Charter as framework, and participants were encouraged to see the connections throughout the course using the EC lens. In addition, several EC workshops were offered to teachers in primary and secondary schools.

- At the **VI Latin American Congress on Environmental Education** held in Argentina in September, there was an EC workshop organized by the Secretariat involving educators from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Spain.
- In Latvia, two EC workshops were organized during the **7th International Conference “Sustainable Development, Culture, Education”**, held at Daugavpils University in May, and organized by the Black & Baltic Sea Circle Consortium of Educators (a network of universities working on education for sustainable development).



*Earth Charter workshop in Latvia*

- At the **National Workshop of the Belarusian Academy of the Professional Teacher’s Training** held in May in Belarus, there was an EC workshop for heads of regional centres for teacher’s training.
- At the **Russian National Conference “Ecology and Culture - the Future for modern Russia”**, held in June in Moscow, an EC workshop was undertaken. One of the highlights of this event was a resolution that participants signed to integrate the Earth Charter values into the drafting process of the National Ethical Code for Sustainable Development. The Declaration was submitted to the Russian Government on 9 June 2009.
- At the 5th Annual International Leadership Training Programme: A Global Intergenerational Forum, organized by the UNESCO Chair & Institute of Comparative Human Rights held in August, an EC workshop on **Youth Leadership, Sustainability and Ethics** took place.
- At the International Youth Conference on the Environment, “TUNZA”, organized by UNEP, a similar workshop on Youth Leadership, sustainability and Ethics was offered.
- Hotel Parque del Lago in Costa Rica decided to endorse and work with the Earth Charter as a guiding instrument in their transformation towards sustainability and requested support from the ECI Secretariat with a training workshop for all their staff.
- A second **e-GLO [Earth Charter Global Learning Opportunity]** was offered in eight sessions from September 2009 to January 2010 under the theme Earth Charter Guiding Leaders Towards Sustainability Action. The aim of the course was to make a positive impact on society by

familiarizing local level Earth Charter youth activists with sustainability leadership skills and shared ethics, and to further develop the capabilities necessary to conduct Earth Charter inspired action projects in the participants' own communities. e-GLO is a semester-long, online leadership course inspired by the Earth Charter, which this year brought together 30 active participants from 21 different countries. 90% of them live in the global south. e-GLO was first offered in 2008. e-GLO is a joint collaborative vision between ECI Secretariat, BeatBoard, and Heart In Action Enterprises. It was implemented in Heart In Action Enterprises' interactive virtual platform called "e-GLO Global Online Live & Interactive Seminar Room". The unique nature of this platform provided an opportunity for global youth to access a safe and secure interactive multimedia communication platform via the Internet.

- A course introduction on Sustainable Development with 15 sessions was offered to graduate students of the University for Peace, using the Earth Charter as an organizing framework.



*eGlo session*

The ECI Secretariat is encouraging other higher education institutions to use the Earth Charter in their courses as well. The following are examples of institutions that have started EC specific courses or courses that have a significant component on the Earth Charter:

- The Environmental Centre of Charles University, Czech Republic, developed a mandatory foundation course with the Earth Charter as an important value framework.
- Florida Gulf Coast University, United States, has a special mandatory course called Colloquium that has a focus on the Earth Charter. The university also has several other courses and projects that use the Earth Charter.
- Kazan State University of Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences, Republic of Tatarstan (Russian Federation), started a course on the principles of Earth Charter for sophomores, juniors, and seniors.
- The Methodist University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, under the leadership of its Environmental Center, has been making special efforts to introduce sustainability as a cross-cutting theme in all

undergraduate curricula and its operations. The Methodist University Sustainability Programme began with the introduction of sustainability as a core value in the Institutional Political-Pedagogical Plan, and is working with professors and lecturers of related subjects to mainstream sustainability in their curricula using the Earth Charter as a guideline.

### **Indicators and Assessment for Values-based Education**

In 2009, the implementation of the **ESDinds project** (Development of Indicators & Assessment Tools for CSO Projects Promoting Values *(based on Education for Sustainable Development)*) was initiated. This is a two-year research project supported by the European Commission and implemented by a consortium of organizations and research institutions, including ECI Secretariat. The project aims to develop indicators to measure values components of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) projects. The intention is to evaluate the impact of experiences using the Earth Charter in educational settings. In 2009, the Civil Society Organizations and Universities worked together to develop the project's theoretical framework and a first set of indicators, which will be tested on the ground in specific projects in early 2010. This project is led by The University of Brighton (United Kingdom) and Charles University (Czech Republic).

### **Resources**

The following resources were developed and launched in 2009 for the use of all those interested.

1. Earth Charter International. 2009. *A Guide for Using the Earth Charter in Education*.
2. Earth Charter International. 2009. Earth Charter Course Syllabus for Higher Education Institutions.
3. Earth Charter International. 2009. *Earth Charter Youth Toolkit: Resources and Activities for the Development of Youth Activism*. ECI Secretariat, Costa Rica.
4. Earth Charter Comprehensive Bibliography.

## IV. Activities led by the Earth Charter Initiative in Specific Focus Areas

### Business

For this focus area, ECI Secretariat has relied on some partners to bring the EC to the attention of business groups and to encourage them to incorporate the Earth Charter principles in their activities. Herewith are some examples of how this is happening.

*Ethos Institute*, a leading organization in the field of corporate social responsibility, decided that for the next ten years, the central objective of the Ethos Institute will be to promote an inclusive and responsible green economy in Brazil, in partnership with enterprises and other social actors, using the principles of the Earth Charter as a general guide. In this sense, during the 2009 Conference, held in June, the Earth Charter featured in the opening plenary session and in the meeting of the institute's network of entrepreneurs, media professionals, and academics.

*The Global Reporting Initiative* – As part of the strategic alliance with the Earth Charter Initiative announced in May 2008, GRI continues to promote the Earth Charter as an important and inspirational framework for organizations to consider when using the GRI Guidelines. To assist organizations in this respect, GRI developed a guidance paper designed to help Earth Charter users – as well as those using the GRI Guidelines and the Global Compact – to understand the synergies and complementary strengths of these three initiatives, and to help organizations to integrate the Earth Charter into their global engagement and reporting processes.

*Fundacion Valores* (Values Foundation) in Spain, has been raising awareness about the Earth Charter within the business sector. On 14 – 15 November they hosted the **5th Earth Charter Congress “Values for Life and Business”** in Madrid, in collaboration with Instituto de Formacion Avanzada and Instituto de Potencial Humano. The purpose of the congress was to create a platform where participants could debate about economic challenges and their relationship with environmental and social concerns. Leonardo Boff, Oscar Motomura, Federico Mayor, and many others participated in the event.



A new **Earth Leaders course** was planned in 2009 by the Earth Charter business task force from The Netherlands and Brazil, with Mutual Learning Journeys and LEAD Brazil. This programme will start in April 2010 in Brazil and the Netherlands and it consists of three parts during a 6 months period.

*Participants at Values for Life and Business Conference, Spain*

*“By taking the Earth Charter principles as a reference the necessary synergies between economic activities and other human activities are created in a spirit of respect and harmony with the planet and with the whole community of life”*  
(The Ethos Institute).

## Education

In February, a small working meeting took place in Florida to advance the Earth Charter scholarship project, which involved developing a bibliography of Earth Charter materials, a guide for teaching with the Earth Charter, and for exploring ways to stimulate related research and new publications. The meeting was organized by the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education of the Florida Gulf Coast University.

### *ESD Journal (upcoming in 2010)*

A special Issue of *The Journal of Education for Sustainable Development* (JESD) on “The Earth Charter and Education for Sustainable Development” is under development with approximately 15 articles collected during the second semester of 2009, which are being edited. This issue will be published in the Fall of 2010 by Sage Publishers. JESD is a forum for academics and practitioners to share and critique innovations in thinking and practice in the emerging field of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). This is a collaborative project that involves the ECI Secretariat and volunteers and partners of the Earth Charter Education Task Force.

### *Publications*

A number of publications and research papers were produced in 2009 by Affiliates and Partners.

### *Books with significant reference to the Earth Charter:*

1. Birch, BM. 2009. *The English Language Teacher in Global Civil Society*. Routledge. United States.
2. Boff, L. and Hathaway, M. 2009. *The Tao of Liberation: Exploring the Ecology of Transformation*. Orbis Books. United States
3. Brown, P.C. 2009. *Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth Economy*. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler. United States
4. Cruz Hernández, R.M. 2009. *Educación Ambiental para la Sustentabilidad* [Environmental Education for Sustainability]. Toluca, Mexico.
5. Novo, Maria. 2009. *El desarrollo sostenible: su dimensión ambiental y educativa* [Sustainable Development: Its Environmental and Educational dimension]. Badajoz: Universitas. Spain.
6. Damianovich, MC. 2009. *From a lemon, a lemonade*. Costa Rica.
7. Pozas Terrados, Pedro. 2009. “La Carta de la Tierra: un instrumento ahogado en el olvido” [Earth Charter: an instrument drowned in the negligence]. In *Voces del Planeta* [Voices of the Planet], 147-150. Madrid: Aebius.

### *Book Chapters on the Earth Charter:*

The following are chapters in *Young People, Education, and Sustainable Development*, eds. Blaze Corcoran, P. and Osano, P.M. Wageningen: Wageningen Academic Publishers. The Netherlands.

1. Gadotti, Moacir. 2009. Eco-pedagogy: *Extending the Educational Theory of Paulo Freire to Sustainability*.

2. Lotz-Sisitka, Heila. 2009. *Utopianism and Education Processes in the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development: A Critical Reflection*.
3. Mireles, Namir Hadad Nava. 2009. *Sexual and Reproductive Rights and HIV: Experiences of Empowerment among Mexican Youth through the Earth Charter*.
4. Slaby, Michael and Soetendorp, Awraham. 2009. *Sustaining Hope: Why Religion Matters in Education for Sustainable Development*.
5. Stucker, D, Nicole Jiron Beirute, and Hamza Ali Alamoosh. 2009. *The Earth Charter Youth Initiative: An Ethical Approach to Justice, Sustainability, and Peace*.
6. Wohlpert, James A. and Megan M. Melvin. 2009. *Developing an Ethics of Sustainability: Reading Environmental Literature through the Earth Charter*.

#### *Essays on the Earth Charter in Scholarly Journals:*

1. "The Earth Charter." 2009. In Callicott, J.B., Frodeman, R. (Eds. in Chief) *Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy*, Vol. 2, pp. 501-505. Macmillan Reference USA.
2. Rockefeller, Steven. 2009. "The Earth Charter" in Callicott, J.B., Frodeman, R. (Eds. in Chief) *Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy*, Vol. 1, pp. 219-221. Macmillan Reference USA.
3. Bosselmann, K. 2009. *Strong Sustainability for New Zealand: Principles and Scenarios*. Nakedze Limited.
4. Bakhnova, M. 2009. *Earth Charter: Value framework for Education for Sustainable Development*. National Teacher's Journal "Upbringing and Education" (Minsk, Belarusian Press, July 2009- Russian)

#### *Manuals, Toolkits:*

1. Brock, Julia. 2009. *Earth Scouts Peace Education Program. Lessons Plans on the Earth Charter for Middle Schools*. ECI Secretariat, Costa Rica.
2. Tansey, S. 2009. *The Art & Skill of Dialogue, a Practical Manual to Communication & Dialogue for a Global Community*.
3. Hill, L. 2009. *Earth Charter Action Planning Manual*. Cowichan Intercultural Society. Canada.

## **Media**

A group of experts in communications have been working together to explore ways to reach out to the media and to exponentially expand awareness and understanding of the Earth Charter through communication channels. This group has been consolidating the vision of the EC Communication and Media Task Force. The following are examples of activities done by this group:

### *EC TV Spot*

A 60-second video clip was produced in April by volunteers in Brazil, illustrated with drawings from children of an underprivileged community around Sao Paulo. The video aims to raise public awareness about the Charter through TV Channels. It was launched on 22 April, Earth Day and broadcast, during one month or more, on several TV channels in Brazil. This effort was led by Fernanda Baumhardt, media expert, EC volunteer, and member of EC Media Task Force, who approached several TV companies to open free space in their broadcasting. This video was originally produced in Portuguese, and has been translated by ECI Secretariat into 16 languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, German, Turkish, Japanese, Korean, Finnish, Ukrainian, Azerbaijani, Persian and Kurdish.



### *Earth Charter and Climate Change video*

During the Club of Rome Global Assembly held in The Netherlands in October, an Earth Charter video was created focusing on Climate Change. This video took part in the YouTube/CNN competition “Raise your voice: change climate change”, which was an effort to engage the public in the process leading up to the United Nations Climate Change Summit held in December in Copenhagen. Over 1,000 people have watched this 4 minutes video.

This Task Force has developed a special communication strategy for 2010 building on the opportunity of the Earth Charter+10 celebrations. [Information about this can be found at the EC website.](#)

## **Religion and sustainability**

Following the decentralization strategy, a Task Force on Religion, Spirituality and Ethics was formed in early 2009 to engage a broad range of individuals, institutions, and organizations concerned with religion, spirituality and ethics, to use the Earth Charter in their efforts towards creating a just, peaceful, and sustainable future for the Earth Community.

In particular, the Task Force is reaching out to:

1. Leaders of religious institutions and communities.
2. Scholars and theologians of the world’s religions as well as ethicists.
3. Individuals and organizations interested in linking religion, spirituality, and ethics to issues of sustainability.

This Task Force is led and supported by Mary Evelyn Tucker of the Forum on Religion and Ecology, Yale University (United States), and Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp of the Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values (The Netherlands).

An important aspect of this Task Force has been to build alliances with key institutions and to develop materials for religious audiences. For example, the second edition of the [Earth Charter Guide to Religion and Climate Change](#), developed by Michael Slaby, was launched in November 2009.

Another priority for this task force is to further raise awareness about the EC within the religious community by sharing the Earth Charter at international events (conferences, workshops and others). The following are examples of important events where the EC was featured and shared.



*EC panel during PWR, Australia*

In April, the second [Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations \(AoC\)](#) gathered about 2,000 participants in Istanbul, Turkey. The Forum aimed at advancing intercultural understanding serving as a global platform to bridge the divides between different cultures and religions. The Earth Charter was represented at the Forum by EC Religion and Sustainability staff Michael Slaby, who reached out to the assembled global leaders, heads of international organizations, media representatives, civil society leaders, and youth groups.

On 3 – 9 December, the city of Melbourne, Australia, hosted the [Parliament of the World's Religions](#), where the Earth Charter Task Force on Religion, Spirituality, and Ethics organized several activities. The event gathered a large multi-faith community of religious and spiritual leaders, with more than 6,000 participants from 80 countries. The Earth Charter was represented by several Council Members, Commissioners, and close supporters, including Mary Evelyn Tucker, Rick Clugston, Brendan Mackey, A.T. Ariyaratne, and Bishop Geoff Davies, as well as Michael Slaby, supporting staff of the task force. Two panel events were organized on the Earth Charter.

As a result of this task force's effort, there were two outstanding endorsements of the Earth Charter. The [US Episcopal Church](#), at its 76th General Convention held in July, adopted a resolution to endorse the Earth

Charter. India's spiritual leader [Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi](#) (known as Amma), endorsed the Earth Charter at a public event attended by more than 2000 people on 8 July in New York City. Both organizations are following up on this endorsement by exploring ways to use the EC as part of their work. For instance, Amma University is working on incorporating the EC as part of its courses.



*Amma and Steven Rockefeller,  
New York*

## United Nations Global Governance/ Climate Change

Throughout 2009, climate change discussions have been of central interest to ECI. In this sense, ECI Council Members Steven Rockefeller, Brendan Mackey, and Song Li, and ECI Advisor Nick Robinson, drafted a series of recommendations to strengthen the ethical dimension of the negotiating text prepared by the chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA), under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. [Find the full text of these recommendations here.](#)

ECI Council members, Secretariat staff and many other Initiative members shared these recommendations with delegates of some countries before and during COP15. In addition, the members of the EC Initiative that attended COP 15 met again on 15 December in Copenhagen, Denmark. [Read more about this by clicking here.](#)



*ECI members meeting during  
COP 15 , Copenhagen*

Others have focused on writing articles or doing interviews about climate change and the importance of framing the discussion from an ethical perspective. Here are some examples:

- *[What is at stake in Copenhagen?](#)* By Leonardo Boff.
- *[Negotiations will not save the planet. At COP15 world leaders need to reach an agreement to recognize the Earth Charter.](#)* By Sylvia Borren, Ruud Lubbers and Sayida Vanenburg.

CI Secretariat joined other worldwide initiatives, such as the 350 campaign ([see video here](#)) and co-organized, with the British Embassy in Costa Rica, a presentation of the “Age of Stupid” movie at the University for Peace.

## Youth

The Earth Charter youth network is based on 3 levels of activism: individual, Earth Charter Youth Group, and Youth Partnership. Altogether, 1195 individuals and organizations from 95 different countries have joined the Earth Charter youth network, out of which 986 are individuals and 202 are organizations.

**Individual activists** undertake several activities; they promote the EC among their peers, take part in global EC activities (such as the e-GLO online leadership course), and organize workshops on the EC. Good examples of individual activism come from The Netherlands and Russia, where enthusiastic young students organize different types of promotional events.

**Earth Charter Youth/Student Groups** are groups of youth studying Earth Charter, getting inspired by it and then organizing small action projects in their local communities on sustainability. As mentioned before, there are 69 official Earth Charter Youth and Student Groups in 41 countries around the world. The details about their work can be found at the Earth Charter website and the youth groups’ Wikispaces. Following is a brief overview of some efforts carried out by youth leaders and groups.

In 2008, Earth Charter International developed a “Special Projects Fund” (SPF) to financially support Youth Groups in promoting and applying Earth Charter principles among youth. SPF was generously funded by Plan Netherlands. These Earth Charter action projects were implemented between February and April 2009, with resulting action projects lasting, in many cases, for an additional year. The grants varied from US\$700 to US\$5,000.

The main goals of the SPF were:

1. to help build youth leadership capacity for promoting sustainability and the Earth Charter; and
2. to increase the number and impact of youth-led, Earth Charter inspired projects that promote a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world.



*Activity under Special Projects Fund, Nigeria*

ECI Secretariat received 16 high quality project proposals from Earth Charter Youth Groups from around the world and after a careful selection, decided to support the following 6 youth groups. The following are the projects implemented in six countries:

Belarus - Project: Winter School in Sustainable Development. By: Youth International Education Club NewLine.

Canada - Project: Forging Inclusive Solutions. By: Cowichan Intercultural Society.

Congo - Project: Strengthening Youth Activism on Sustainable Development Using the Earth Charter as a Tool for Change. By: Congo Azur.

Nigeria - Project: Understanding and discovering the purpose of the Earth Charter in achieving the MDGs: Towards environment, sustainability and peace building in Niger Delta. By: ECYG Calabar,

Peru - Project: Cuzco Countryside. By: Asociación Peruana de Escultismo.

Togo – Project: Promotion of Youth Leadership for Sustainable Development in Central Togo Based on Values and Principles of the Earth Charter. By: Togolese Foundation for Peace.



*Activities under Special Projects Fund, Congo*

#### *EC youth activists elected to UN CSD Major Group on Children & Youth*

Youth activists from the Earth Charter Initiative strengthened their position in the global governance discussion in 2009. A great number of EC youth were selected to participate at the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development Major Group on Children & Youth leadership (2009 -2010). Three out of the 6 regions are now coordinated by Earth Charter youth network activists and 2 out of 4 steering committee members are EC supporters.

#### *EC Radio Campaign*

On 24 October 2009, during the International Day of Climate Action and United Nations Day, the Earth Charter Youth Leadership Team launched the Earth Charter Radio Campaign, organized by youth volunteers Namir Nava and Didier Gleyzes. This campaign consists of 4 radio spots introducing the Earth Charter and its principles for sustainability. The length of each spot is 15 – 20 seconds and they are free to download in English, French and Spanish.

Information about the Radio Campaign *can be found at the EC website*. Ideas about how to create local level action projects around these radio spots are also provided. In addition, the Radio Campaign has a Wiki that is designed to promote the exchange of experiences and best practices when using the EC Radio Spots.

# V. Strategy and Challenges

## Strategy

To achieve the above-mentioned actions, ECI Secretariat have been following the *Decentralized empowerment for scaling up strategy* that ECI Council launched in 2007-2008. The purpose of the strategy is to enable the massive expansion of the Earth Charter Initiative without having to increase the central administration, and to allow for a vast number of self-organizing efforts to multiply and grow. To make this possible, ECI encourages the creation of action groups or task forces that would bring together people interested in the focus areas of education, media, business, United Nations and global governance, religion, and youth. The action groups would explore ways to incorporate the Earth Charter in these broad areas in their local, regional or national context.

In this sense, ECI Secretariat relies even more on volunteer work from affiliates, youth groups, volunteers, and partners to carry out the EC Initiative mission. ECI attempts to enable the conditions for this collaborative work and inspire more people who will engage in advancing EC Initiative mission in their field of work.

Considering this, success for ECI Secretariat work can be measured by the increasing number of affiliates, youth groups, partnerships, publications, endorsers, websites and web platforms, as well as by the growing number of activities that have been inspired by the Earth Charter worldwide. Section VII offers examples of some actions undertaken by ECI Affiliates and Partners.

## Challenges

ECI Secretariat experiences the challenge...

- Of being able to better connect groups, individuals, and organizations active in the Initiative to create synergies by opening opportunities to share experiences and collaborate.
- Of better understanding and observing the activities that are being generated by the Initiative, as well as their impacts. There are many efforts being carried out with or inspired by the Earth Charter that the Secretariat is not aware of. This challenge includes bridging the language divide.
- Of exponentially growing the number of people in the world that are aware of the Earth Charter and who are using it. A strong communication strategy is a very significant tool for this and the ECI Secretariat should explore ways of using online social networking raise awareness and participation with the Earth Charter Initiative.
- Of having a better office facility to be able to receive not only more staff, but also researchers and interns to help fulfil its mission.
- Of offering financial support to small local projects in order to ensure that they will be carried out in impoverished countries.

## VI. Plans for 2010

In 2010, the Earth Charter Initiative will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Earth Charter launch. This is considered as an opportunity to gather momentum for the Earth Charter globally.



Since this is a celebration of the whole EC Initiative, many people have been involved in the conceptualization and organization of activities to commemorate this special date. A draft proposal for EC+10 was put together in October. It contained proposed goals, themes, slogans, and expected results. This draft was shared with the Earth Charter Initiative network, and feedback to it was received during an online forum that took place from 2-30 November 2009, organized by the ECI Secretariat using the Wiserearth online platform.

Most participants considered that the goal of EC+10 celebrations should be: to raise awareness worldwide of the Earth Charter and to promote understanding of its inclusive ethical vision. They also discussed ideas on the priority goals for EC+10, the slogan, and the theme.

A concept paper has been designed as a guide for actions in the celebrations of EC+10. It is envisioned that in 2010 there will be at least one major Earth Charter+10 gathering in each region of the world. ECI encourages Affiliates, Advisors, Partners and Volunteers to organize local, national, and regional gatherings to celebrate Earth Charter+10. ECI plans to launch Earth Charter+10 in a special celebration in Mexico on Earth Day, 22 April.

In addition, a project to build an Earth Charter Centre for Education for Sustainable Development at the UPEACE campus has been discussed, and a funding proposal has been drafted. Efforts are underway to find the financial resources for the construction of the building.

## VII. Finances

The University for Peace Human Resources and Finance Departments administrate all legal and financial issues pertaining to contracts with personnel and payments for staff and services. In this sense, ECI Secretariat follows the administrative procedures of UPEACE, thus ensuring an adequate and transparent management of ECI funds.

ECI Secretariat receives funds mainly from major individual donations, as detailed below.

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES - 2008

*Earth Charter International  
January 1 - 31 December 2009*

INCOME	USD	USD
Foundation Grants		
Plan Netherlands - Youth Initiative		32,107
Major Individual Donors		
Seaward Fund (S. Rockefeller)	233,339 (1)	
Ruud Lubbers	<u>69,639</u>	302,978
Affiliates		
NCDO		14,657
Small Donors (Less than USD 10,000)		6,716
International Agencies		
European Commission/Brighton University - Restricted		14,422
Return on invested fund/ Interest Income		423
Other/Miscellaneous		0
<b>Total Cash Income</b>		<b>371,303</b>
<b>In-Kind Support</b>		
Amana-Key (O. Motomura)		40,000
University for Peace		55,000
NCDO		8,000
<b>Total In-Kind Support</b>		<b>103,000</b>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>474,303</b>

**Expenses**

Salaries and Professional Services	183,732.27
Strategic, Program, and Communications Consulting Support	7,229
Youth Program (Restricted Funding)	35,352 *
Religion Program (Restricted Funding)	33,721 *
European Commission/Brighton University (Restricted Funding)	14,422 *
RBF - Education Resource - Program Development	684 *
Telecommunications & Internet	10,964
Translation Services	5,987
Travel	13,641
Council of Trustees Expenses (Travel and Meeting Costs)	8,970
Events and Meetings	4,435
Office (Rent, Equipment, Security, and Expenses)	5,668
Publications Development	120
Printing and Postage	8,799
Financial Expenses	284
Miscellaneous	6,564
Financial Consultant, ECA	5,000
Financial Expenses, ECA	30,177 (2)
Fund Management Expenses, ECA & RPA	4,398
<b>Total Cash Expenses</b>	<b>377,147</b>

**In-Kind Services**

Website Technical Support	15,000
ECI Council Meeting Expenses	12,000
TV Video Spot	13,000
Office Space, HR & Financial Services	49,000
Computer Support	6,000
Climate Change Video, EC=10 Logo & Communication	8,000
	<b>103,000</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>480,147</b>
<b>SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>-5,844</b>

\* Restricted Fund balances have been exhausted.

(1) Includes Seward Contribution for Legal Fees \$8,339

(2) Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, LLP - \$19,920 and Rockett & Smith, LLP - \$10,257

**EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL / STATEMENT OF FUND BALANCES**

*As of 31 Decembre 2009*

**ASSETS:**

RPA / Earth Charter Fund Balance	\$ 57,724
UPEACE / Earth Charter Account Balance	30,613
	<b>88,337</b>

**LIABILITIES:**

2009 Outstanding Legal Bills	1,571
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**NET AVAILABLE ASSETS**

\$ 86,776

**RESTRICTED & UNRESTRICTED BALANCES:**

General Fund	\$ 86,766
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## VIII. The Earth Charter Initiative: Examples of Activities of Affiliates, Partners and Youth Groups

This section intends to offer a brief overview of some actions taken by the EC Initiative network. This is not a comprehensive report of all activities carried out in the past year. More information about Earth Charter projects and activities can be found in the 91 country pages on the main Earth Charter website.

### **Africa and Middle East**

In *Cameroon*, Nouvelle Afrique, an EC Affiliate, has been organizing creative and informal activities to promote the Earth Charter. For example, they created art posters quoting the Earth Charter and disseminating this message in Universities, High Schools and Primary Schools. They organized debates on current issues, as well as social gatherings where discussion on the Earth Charter is part of the agenda. They contacted politicians and brought the Earth Charter to their attention.

In *Kenya*, Nobel Peace Laureate and Earth Charter Commissioner, Wangari Maathai, participated in the “[Symposium on Climate Change and Sustainable Cities](#)” organized by UNEP in Nairobi, on 31 August. At this occasion, Maathai highlighted the relevance of the Earth Charter as an instrument for education for sustainability and challenged UNEP to adopt this important declaration as an organizing principle for the second half of the Decade. Peter Blaze Corcoran, faculty member at the Florida Gulf Coast University (Earth Charter Affiliate) was also participating in this Symposium. He offered a keynote speech drawing the audience’s attention to the value of the Earth Charter, particularly in the efforts on education for sustainable development.



*Wangari Maathai at UNEP workshop, Kenya*

In *Nigeria*, the Earth Charter was presented to the [National Youth Service Corps \(NYSC\)](#) during a meeting organized by Earth Charter supporters (Yakubu Joseph from Earth Charter Nigeria and several members of YEDI – Youth Empowerment and Development Initiative), in February. The meeting resulted in an expressed interest from NYSC members from Plateau State to use the EC in their orientation programmes. From 11 to 13 March, three thousand young people from Plateau State participated in initial sensitization lectures and inception training with the Earth Charter. Other states of the country plan to eventually join this project.



*NYSC Earth Charter group*

The Nigerian *Earth Charter Youth Group* “*Youth Vision Alliance Network*” initiated an innovative programme to implement the Earth Charter. Throughout the second half of 2009, these youth organized monthly football tournaments that promote the EC among other young people in their community. The organizers expressed their strong belief that these popular tournaments, which also include discussion sessions, are building youth’s capacities on sustainability leadership: “*Football is a sport that cut across all social strata, gender and ethnic groups. It’s a global language that unites people and nations. We realize the power of soccer and decided to use it as a tool for social change in our community.*”

In *Zambia*, an interesting collaborative project between two Earth Charter Affiliates: Workers Education Association of Zambia and Earth Charter US, started this year. It is called **COPE project**, and its aim is to move rural people from poverty to contentment without going through the carbon economy. They are using the Earth Charter Principles to guide their actions. This year, the first training session on solar and fuel-efficient cooking, water purification, and waterless toilets was completed in two villages.

## **Asia and the Pacific**

In *Australia*, the Edmund Rice Centre, an EC Affiliate, has been working on *the Pacific Calling Campaign for Human Rights and Climate Justice*, whose activities are underpinned by the Earth Charter. Their main objective is to raise awareness about the effects of global warming on low lying Pacific Islands, and their aboriginal population.

Also, the Sustainable Living Foundation, an EC Affiliate, held a consultation process to define a vision for a strategy for Australia, to move towards sustainability in the next 10 years. They call this “*Transition 10*”. A number of people were invited to participate in this consultation process and reflected on the Earth Charter’s role in this strategy.

Louise Erbacher, a member of Earth Charter Australia, joined a group of educators from Brisbane in a campaign that seeks to influence local governments around the country to embed sustainability (and the Earth Charter values and principles) directly into the new national curriculum.



*Kidsrgreen homepage*

In *India*, the children’s environmental-educational website **Kidsrgreen**, developed by the Centre for Environment and Development (ECI Affiliate), put the Earth Charter in the focus of its activities. Every month one of the Charter’s principles was linked to different dimensions of environment through a story, activity, or a project idea.

The global educational network of the [Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel](#) has adopted the Earth Charter as one of the important elements of its draft education policy. Consequently, the Earth Charter will be part of the educational curriculum of hundreds of educational/social institutions in 34 countries.

As a way to put the Earth Charter principles into action, [AAGAAS Federation](#), an EC Affiliate from India, came up with an interesting programme to deal with plastic bag contamination due to pilgrimage in the Himalayas. They are promoting the use of bamboo baskets made by local artisans. In this way, the plastic bag threat to the environment is being reduced, and alternative employment for local people is being generated.



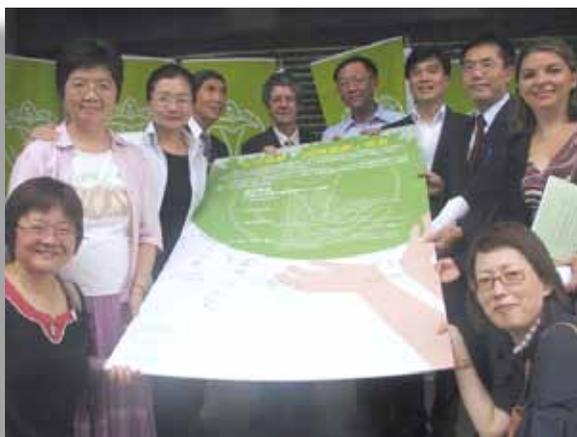
*AAGAAS campaign in Himalayas, India*

Earth Charter *Indonesia* is a network of affiliates and supporters, who meet periodically and share efforts about how to use and promote the Earth Charter in Indonesia. Find more information about decisions and actions taken [here](#).

The [Japan Classic Live for the United Nations group](#), that composed the Earth Charter inspired musical “Our Blue Planet: Will it Survive Till Tomorrow?”, performed this musical in New York and Washington in November, then in Tokyo, Japan in December.

This year, Professor Klaus Bosselmann, Earth Charter Affiliate from New Zealand, received the first [IUCN annual Scholarship Award](#) as best researcher in the category of Environmental Law Academic. The award ceremony took place on 4 November in Wuhan, China. Prof. Bosselmann has undertaken significant

research and publications related to the Earth Charter and global governance instruments in international law.



*Legislators endorsement, Taiwan*

In *Taiwan*, an Earth Charter event was organized in June by the ECI Affiliate, The Taiwan Ecological Stewardship Association (TESA) on “Earth Charter and Local Action”. Taking advantage of these events, Earth Charter Taiwan was formally launched. In addition, members of Earth Charter Taiwan invited five legislators to endorse the Earth Charter in a public event that was covered by Taiwanese media. Earth Charter Taiwan is a network of organizations. Find more information about [ECT here \(in Chinese\)](#).

## **Europe and Central Asia**

In *Armenia*, an Earth Charter discussion took place at the [International Summer School for Young Researchers](#) involving PhD and graduate students, under the theme of “Political and Social Processes in the Eurasian Space: Looking forward for new Paradigms”. It was held in Tsaghkadzor in early August.

In *Belarus*, the Academy for Professional Teacher's Training is using Earth Charter in new methodological materials to instruct Heads of the Regional Teacher's Training institutions all over the country.

In *Czech Republic*, the Sedlčany Municipal Library has chosen the Earth Charter as the theme for the 7th year of **Lukášek** (short for Saint Lucas) an educational community project.

In *England*, the **Faith and Climate Change Conference** was held in London in October. Earth Charter UK Affiliate, Rabbi Jeffrey Newman, and Michael Slaby participated in a discussion about the Earth Charter's relevance for engaging religious institutions on climate change.



Sedlčany Library, Czech Rep

In *Germany*, the One World Ecumenical Initiative organized a major international Earth Charter youth conference in January 2009 that was officially recognized as a lead-up event to the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. Co-organizers were the World Future Council, Germany's Federal Agency for Civic Education, the German Movement of Catholic Rural Youth, and the Catholic Social Institute in Bad Honnef near Bonn that hosted the conference that brought together 145 young adults from over 30 countries.

In April, the One World Ecumenical Initiative organized a **Christian-Buddhist Dialogue** on the Earth Charter.

In *Greenland*, EC Affiliate Finn Lyngé, received an award from the government as recognition of Earth Charter Greenland efforts in favour of the environment. With his colleagues, Mr. Lyngé has been raising concerns on the incompatibility of Greenland's environmental policies with the Rio Declaration principles, using the Earth Charter to promote understanding on sustainability in the country. Find more information about this award [here](#).

In *Italy*, **Fondazione Cogeme Onlus**, in cooperation with the Municipality of Castegnato, organized their yearly Earth Charter congress "Web of Life – Towards an Integrated Vision of Reality", on November 28, 2009 at the University of Brescia. The event had the participation of Dumisani Nyoni, member of the ECI Council from Zimbabwe and Ervin Laszlo, President and founder of Club of Budapest, member of the International Academy of Philosophy of Science.



EC Congress Web of Life, Italy

In *Russia*, a two-month art contest entitled “Earth Charter through the eyes of children and youth” resulted in a big exhibition in the grand hall of the Russian Public Chamber. The best works constituted a full-colour album that will be soon published and distributed in secondary schools and youth groups in various regions of Russia.

In *Spain*, the **Third Majorca’s Social Forum** was held in March in Palma. The main objective of this event was to reflect on and promote health public services, education, transportation, and social well-being. The Forum embraced the Earth Charter as their core reference document.

In *Switzerland*, Earth Charter Affiliate Christa Schmidmeister presented five panels of the EC exhibition “Seeds of Change” at the annual public event, Lifefair, organized by the city of Zurich on 4 – 6 September. The Lifefair was followed by an event at the “Dialogue between cultures” organized by the House of religions in Bern. More information on the events can be found [here](#).

In *Tajikistan*, over 40 students from a Dushanbe secondary school had an opportunity to participate at the first of 16 Earth Charter pilot lessons, which started in January. The students met with Earth Charter representatives, who introduced a number of posters and brochures with the Earth Charter text. This project was implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Tajikistan and the Foundation for Support for Civil Society Initiatives. These lessons were held on a regular basis until the end of the 2009 school year.

In *The Netherlands*, the National Committee for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development (NCDO) was very active in organizing various projects, events, meetings, and communication campaigns for the Earth Charter in the country.

### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

In *Argentina*, an EC group “Tierra 21” was formed to work mainly with schools.

In *Brazil*, the **World Social Forum** took place from 27 Jan – 1 Feb (in Belem, State of Para), and several Earth Charter supporters (affiliates and advisors) participated and organized two side events.



*Art contest, Russia*



*Workshop organized by Itaipu, Brazil*

Itaipu, the biggest hydroelectric power company in the world in terms of energy production, has developed a programme that is fully based on the Earth Charter principles as part of its social and environment responsibility efforts. Over the past years, it has printed and disseminated millions of copies of the Earth Charter, and provided courses and workshops for study and debate about it with the populations that surround the enterprise.

The Institute Harmony on Earth (Instituto Harmonia na Terra), developed a table game to promote and share the understanding of the Earth Charter in a playful way. The Game dynamics promotes reflections and attitudes on basic human values for the construction of a fair and sustainable world. To reach the goals of the game, participants have to practice cooperation and understand the notion of interdependence. The players learn diverse ecological concepts as waste of energy, recycling, and symbiosis. At the end either all players win or all lose, which is similar to the impasse and challenge of our contemporary society. The game can be played by anyone from nine years old. The Institute has brought this game to schools and workshops with youth and teachers and are exploring ways to expand the number of groups that have access to this educational instrument.

The Municipality of Suzano developed a project to incorporate the Earth Charter into its education programme. Also, the municipality of Atibaia in Sao Paulo state strengthened an environmental education programme called Fruits of Earth, which uses the Earth Charter and was first launched in 2003.

In August, UMAPAZ (the Open University of Environment and a Culture of Peace - Brazil), launched the second course on “The Earth Charter in Action”. It gathered teachers with an interest in sustainability to reflect on different dimensions of sustainable development and explore ways to have them later incorporate these principles as part of their teaching.

In *Costa Rica*, an Earth Charter group was formed at the National University involving professors from various departments who are using the Earth Charter as part of their teaching and projects, or who are interested in doing so. In 2009, this group met several times to share experiences and develop a joint collaboration project across departments, this involved a half a day workshop to learn how to use the EC-Assess, held in August.

Also in Costa Rica, youth volunteers from **Reto Juvenil (Youth Challenge)** organized an **Earth Charter Action Day** in a rural community of the Northern region of Costa Rica. Other volunteers from this organization started a community development project in Juanilama, Alajuela, where they have built bridges, organized cleaning campaigns and introduced the Earth Charter to the villagers. Additionally, a third group arranged an Earth Charter information fair and clean-up campaign in Poasito (a local community). More information about the campaigns can be found here.

In *Mexico*, a textbook entitled “**Educación Ambiental para la Sustentabilidad**” (Environmental Education for Sustainability), which is based on the Earth Charter, was reviewed and republished in 2009. This book was first published in 2006.



*EC workshop organized by Reto Juvenil, Costa Rica*

Six regional EC workshops were held in different States of Mexico, i.e. Yucatán, Aguascalientes, Tamaulipas, Hidalgo, Guerrero, and Sonora, all designed to empower and train leaders. The organizer of the workshops was the Ministry of Environment. As an example, on 6 – 7 November the 5th Earth Charter Regional Workshop took place in the premises of the Higher Technological Institute of Cajeme (ITESCA). The workshop gathered over 100 participants from different sectors and regions and resulted in the endorsement of the Earth Charter by six civil society institutions and organizations. The President of the Municipality of Cajeme, Mr. Manuel Barro endorsed this important ethical commitment on behalf of this Municipality.

The State of Morelos hosted the Tenth Children’s Summit on Environment – CIMMA 2009. Over one thousand children participated in the Summit. In three days, they developed 24 workshops related to water, biodiversity, climate change, and solid wastes. In addition, they produced handcrafts and items from recycled materials and made murals inspired by the Earth Charter. The representatives of the Centre of Education, Sustainable Training and Development and the film Company Cinema Planet presented the project “*Fans of the Planet*”, and delivered a workshop on the importance of participation as agents of change through cinema. Other projects presented were: “*Saving Granny Earth*” (Yucatan), and “*Protecting the Butterfly*” (Nayarit), while Guerrero elaborated on clean beaches, Oaxaca focused on mangroves protection, and Queretaro spoke about waste management.



Participants of EC workshops, Mexico

## North America

In *Canada*, Little Animation Inc. released a new animated series for pre-schoolers. The *Little Earth Charter* is an entertaining audio-visual educational programme produced in consultation with ECI Secretariat and Manitoba’s Ministry of Education, Citizenship and Youth, to help teachers integrate universal environmental values into their classrooms. JC Little, Director of this series, and Rosie Emery, musician, presented this project at the 5th World Environmental Education Congress in Montreal held in May. Other Earth Charter supporters



participated in this Congress, which helped to give visibility to the Earth Charter among environmental educators.

In the *United States of America*, in February, **Florida Gulf Coast University, led by the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education**, hosted a group of Earth Charter Scholars for its Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture Weekend. The event provided faculty, staff, students, and the local community with the opportunity to interact with some of the leading thinkers in the world working toward a more just, humane, and sustainable Earth. Two Rachel Carson Distinguished Lectures were held entitled “Working on Behalf of the Beauty and Bounty of Earth: An Earth Charter Scholars’ Panel.”



Florida Gulf Coast University affiliation

In addition, the **National Momentum conference** took place in June in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Conference aimed to look at how Earth Charter principles offer an ethical framework for sustainability; to provide participants with information and skills for sustainability; to create an Earth Community and to award mini-grants for the most promising projects. David Korten, of Yes Magazine and author of many books, was the keynote speaker.

In 2009, Earth Charter US worked on a new communication strategy and launched its new Earth Charter US website.

## IX. Walking the Talk

Following the recommendation of the ECI Council, the ECI Secretariat is using the GRI G3 Guidelines for the first time to report on aspects of its sustainability performance in 2009. It has done this in the belief that all organizations should assess and share their sustainability impacts, and in the belief that this process provides an important opportunity to advance the goals of the Earth Charter.”

The 2009 Annual Report set itself the target of achieving the GRI Level C Application of the G3 Guidelines, meaning that it addresses elements of all three aspects of sustainable development (i.e. economic, social and environmental). The Application Levels communicate to the readers of a report to what extent the G3 Guidelines have been utilized in a sustainability report. They are intended to provide GRI reporters with a pathway in which they can continuously improve their reporting. There are 3 Application Levels: A, B and C. These levels can be self-declared, third-party-checked and/or GRI-checked and each with the option of recognizing external assurance.

The Secretariat aims to reduce its direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. The Secretariat office fully relies on hydroelectric power, which has less impact on the environment than fossil fuel generated energy. Nevertheless, one of the major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions is air travel transportation. The work of any international institution involves overseas travel, which affects our environment. In Costa Rica, it is possible to offset the CO2 emissions from air travels with a governmental agency called FONAFIFO (National Fund of Forest Financing). FONAFIFO manages a fund for conservation actions nationwide. FONAFIFO collects the funds, not only from carbon sequestration services, but also for other environmental services (i.e water production), and distributes it to landowners or organizations that are protecting the forests in their lands.

With the information on travels given by the Secretariat, FONAFIFO calculated a total of 84 CO2 tons emitted by ECI Secretariat staff travels for 2009. The offset price for one CO2 ton in Costa Rica is US\$5, therefore ECI Secretariat paid US\$420.00 to FONAFIFO for 2009 and US\$1,045 for 2008 corresponding to the 209 CO2 tons emitted. The significant difference between the years is due to the fact that in 2008, ECI Secretariat supported major training and outreach work of young leaders empowering them to participate in global governance and international fora.

The following section provides more details on ECI Secretariat performance based on GRI Indicators.

*“We are truly ‘one earth community with one common destiny’, as the Earth Charter holds. We are all called upon, every hour, every day, to mend and repair the world, to heed the cry of every single child, every human being, who suffers and to meet their basic needs, to make the world more just, sustainable and peaceful”*

Rabbi Soetendorp

# X. GRI Indicators

GRI INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	REPORT REF.	PAGES
<b>Strategy and analysis</b>			
1.1	Director statement	Foreword	1
<b>Organizational profile</b>			
2.1	Name of reporting organization	Intro.	3
2.2	Primary brands, products and/or services	Earth Charter ECI provides different services to help advance the Earth Charter Initiative Mission and Vision (e.g. capacity building, publication and materials available in various languages, sharing of experiences and networking possibilities among others)	
2.3	Operational structure	Intro and Section II	3 - 4
2.4	Location	University for Peace campus, Costa Rica	
2.5	Countries where organization operates	Section III	5 - 6
2.6	Governance structure	Section II.	4
2.7	Markets served	Schools, Universities, Teacher's networks, youth networks/groups/organizations, Local and National Governments, NGOs, Private companies, Religious organizations	
2.8	Scale of reporting organization	Section II	4
<b>Governance Structure</b>			
4.1	Governance structure	Section II	4
4.2	Chair of highest governance body	The chair of the ECI Council is not executive staff.	
4.3	Governance body	Section II	4
4.4	Mechanisms to provide to governance body	ECI Executive Director participates on the Council meetings, and brings the recommendations of staff and other members to these meetings, which happen once a year.	
<b>Report parameters</b>			
3.1	Reporting period	January - December 2009	
3.2	Date of most recent previous report	Annual Report 2008	
3.3	Reporting Cycle	Annual	
3.4	Contact person	Cover	
<b>Report Scope and Boundary</b>			
3.6	Boundary of the report	ECI Secretariat	
3.7	Boundary of the report	This report does not reflect the overall impact of the Initiative worldwide due to its level of decentralization.	
3.8	Basis for reporting on joint ventures	Section IV and VIII	14 - 21, 26 - 33
3.10	Explanation of re-statements		
3.11	Changes from previous reporting periods	This year the 2009 annual report will be developed together with the GRI reporting and for this part its boundaries will be the work of the Secretariat.	

<b>Governance, Commitments and Engagements</b>			
4.14	List of stakeholders	Section I and II and Attachments A and B	3 - 4, 37 - 40
4.15	Basis for selection of stakeholders	For Affiliates and Partners, ECI Secretariat identifies strategic countries and then search for networks or influential organizations. In some cases, organizations request an affiliation with ECI. Criteria: the organization's proven commitment in using EC. Youth groups request their commitment through EC website.	
<b>Report Content</b>			
3.5	Process for defining report content	Materiality: Operations of ECI Council and Secretariat Topics: - How ECI is putting the Earth Charter principles into action. - ECI role in EC Initiative. - ECI influence in education for sustainable development processes. - ECI involvement in climate change negotiations. - ECI approach to the private sector.	
<b>Program Effectiveness</b>			
NGO SS3	System for program monitoring, evaluation and learning.	Section II	4
NGO SS6	Process to coordinate	Info on joint projects: sections II and with other actors IV	4, 14 - 21
<b>Economic performance</b>			
NGO SS8	Breakdown of funding received by source	Section VII	24 - 25
<b>Environmental performance</b>			
EN 16	Total direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions	Section IX	34
EN 18	Initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Section IX	34
<b>Labor practices</b>			
LA 1	Total workforce	Section III	5
LA 10	Average hours of training per year	42 hours of average training time per employee in 2009.	
LA 13	Composition of governance bodies and breakdown of employees per category	ECI Council has 23 members, from 17 countries representing all regions of the world. 52% are women, 2 members are youth representatives. ECI Secretariat has 5 full time employees and had 7 interns in 2009. They come from 8 different countries. 75% of them are women, and 58% are under 30 years old.	
<b>Society performance</b>			
SO 1	Nature, scope and effectiveness of any programs and practices	Section III (outreach efforts) and V (strategy and challenges)	5 - 7, 22
SO 4	Actions taken in response to incidents of corruption	Section VII	24

# XI. Attachments

## A - List of ECI Affiliates

### **AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

#### ***BURKINA FASO***

Green Cross Burkina Faso\*^

#### ***CAMEROON***

Nouvelle Afrique

#### ***EGYPT***

Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)

#### ***JORDAN***

Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)

The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development

#### ***KENYA***

The Green Belt Movement

#### ***MALI***

Association de Formation et d'Appui au Développement (AFAD)\*

#### ***MAURITIUS***

Council for Environmental Studies and Conservation (MAUDESCO)\*

#### ***NIGER***

Commission Nationale pour l'environnement et le développement Durable

#### ***NIGERIA***

NGO Coalition for Environment \*

Eco-Stewards International\*

Center for Peace Advancement in Nigeria (CEPAN)\*^

#### ***SIERRA LEONE***

Environmental Foundation for Africa\*

#### ***UGANDA***

Integrated Rural Development Initiative - IRDI

#### ***ZAMBIA***

Workers Education Association of Zambia (WEAZ)\*

#### ***ZIMBABWE***

Africa 2000 Network\*

### **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

#### ***AUSTRALIA***

Earth Charter Queensland Committee\*

Edmund Rice Centre\*

Sustainable Living Foundation\*^

#### ***BANGLADESH***

Centre for Sustainable Development

#### ***CHINA - HONG KONG***

Hong Kong Sustainable Development Forum

#### ***CHINA - TAIWAN***

Taiwan Ecological Stewardship Association – TESA\*

#### ***INDIA***

PCED - The People's Commission on Environment and Development India\*

Development Alternatives\*

Center for Environment Education (CEE)\*

Montfort Social Institute

Alaknanda Ghaati Shilpi Federation (AAGAAS FEDERATION)\*^

#### ***INDONESIA***

Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation – KEHATI\*

Lenting (Institute for Development of Environmental Concern and Ethics)\*

Yayasan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (Sustainable Development Foundation)/ LEAD Indonesia\*

Dana Mitra Lingkungan (Friends of the Environment Fund)\*

#### ***JAPAN***

The Okinawa Ocean Culture & Environment Action Network (Okinawa O.C.E.A.N.)

Earth Charter Committee for Asia-Pacific and Japan\*

#### ***MALAYSIA***

Earth Charter Malaysia\*

#### ***NEPAL***

Center for Community Development and the Environment\*

#### ***NEW ZEALAND / AOTEROA***

New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law, Faculty of Law, University of Auckland \*

#### ***SRI LANKA***

Sarvodaya Sramadana movement\*

#### ***THAILAND***

Grassroots Action Program (GAP), Thailand Environment Institute (TEI)

ADEC (Environment and sustainability training NGO) and Mahidol University Thailand

#### ***THE PHILIPPINES***

Earth Council Asia Pacific\*

Philippine Resources for Sustainable Development

### **EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

#### ***ARMENIA***

Association for Sustainable Human Development

#### ***AUSTRIA***

International Network for Educational Exchange

#### ***AZERBAIJAN***

IRELI Public Union

#### ***BELARUS***

Youth International Education Club "New Line"\*^

#### ***BULGARIA***

Association "Balkan Agency for Sustainable Development" (BASD)\*^

#### ***CZECH REPUBLIC***

"UESS - SPODEK"\*^

#### ***DENMARK***

Green Cross Denmark

**FINLAND**GLM Finland<sup>^</sup>**FRANCE**

Centre Earth Charter pour une Education Developpement Durable

**GERMANY**

Ecumenical One World Initiative (Oekumenische Initiative Eine Welt)

**GREENLAND**

Earth Charter Greenland

**HUNGARY**

Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe

**ITALY**

Pro-Natura

Fondazione Cogeme Onlus

Green Cross Italy

**KYRGYZTAN**Social Fund "Sunny Country" <sup>\*^</sup>**LATVIA**

Institute for Sustainable Education at the Daugavpils University

**THE NETHERLANDS**

National Committee for International Cooperation - NCDO

**NORWAY**

Earth Charter Norway

**PORTUGAL**

ASPEA - Portuguese Association for Environmental Education\*

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Center for Russian Environmental Policy

**SPAIN**

Fundación Valores \*

Foro Soria 21 para el Desarrollo Sostenible

Fundación Avalon<sup>\*^</sup>

Guillem Ramis\*

INFOVA - Instituto de Información Avanzada<sup>\*^</sup>**SPAIN/CATALUNYA**

UNESCOCat, Centre UNESCO de Catalunya, Comité Català per la Carta de la Terra

**SWEDEN**

Green Cross Sweden

**SWITZERLAND**

New Angles

Earth Charter Switzerland

**TAJIKISTAN**

Foundation to Support Civil Initiatives (FSCI)

**UNITED KINGDOM / ENGLAND**

Earth Charter UK

**UNITED KINGDOM / SCOTLAND**

Action for Change

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN****ARGENTINA**

Argentina People and Nature Foundation\*

Ala Plástica \*

Programa Agenda 21 Escolar, Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo de la República Argentina

**BELIZE**

International Institute of Culture and Language\*

**BOLIVIA**

Fundación Puma\*

**BRAZIL**

Flávio Boleiz Júnior\*

Instituto Paulo Freire

UMAPAZ

Instituto BioMA\*

Center for Human Rights of Petropolis\*

Instituto Harmonia na Terra<sup>\*^</sup>

Nucleo dos Amigos da Infancia e da Adolescencia – NAIA

**CHILE**

Instituto Ecología Política

**COLOMBIA**Fundación Taller de la Tierra<sup>\*^</sup>**COSTA RICA**

Centro Costarricense para la Ciencia y la Cultura – Museo del Niño

Universidad Nacional – UNA

La Salle, Distrito de Centroamérica – Panamá<sup>\*^</sup>**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Centro Cultural Poveda

Centro de Estudios Sociales Padre Juan Montalvo

International Resources Group, Ltd.\*

**ECUADOR**Andes Tropicales S.A.<sup>\*^</sup>**HONDURAS**

Consejo Nacional de Desarrollo Sostenible - CONADES\*

**MEXICO**

Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales -

SEMARNAT

**PERU**La Carta de la Tierra PERU<sup>\*^</sup>

Asociación Cultural Pirámide\*

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Tropical Re-Leaf Foundation \*

**VENEZUELA**Vitalis Asociación Civil<sup>\*^</sup>Red Verde<sup>\*^</sup>Avepalmas Centro UNESCO<sup>\*^</sup>**NORTH AMERICA****CANADA**

Little Animation Inc.

Quantum Dental\*

**UNITED STATES**

Earth Charter US

Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education,

Florida Gulf Coast University <sup>\*^</sup>

The Interfaith Center of New York

Earth Charter Communities USA Initiatives

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<sup>\*</sup>Affiliates with MOU<sup>^</sup>new affiliates (2009)

# **B - List of EC Youth and Students Group**

## **AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST**

### ***Cameroon***

LUKMEF-Cameroon-ECYG \*  
ECYG AFREDECC Limbe\*  
ECYG Yaoundé Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child

### ***Congo***

ECYG AZUR Development  
Democratic Republic of the Congo  
Congoese Youth Association for Development  
MAISON DES JEUNES ECYG – PRODECE\*

### ***Ethiopia***

ECYG Jimma  
The Gambia  
ECYG - Global Unification, The Gambia\*

### ***Ghana***

IMAANI foundation ECYG \*  
ECYG Visionary Youth Ghana  
ECYG THE PIGOP \*  
ECYG Youth in Environment and Agriculture (YEA)  
ECYG For Sustainability and Peace Ghana \*

### ***Israel***

Earth Charter Youth Initiative Israel\*

### ***Kenya***

Kenyan Disabled Youth Action Network (KEDAN)  
Mathare Roots Youth Group  
Kibera Community Youth Programme  
Students for Global Sustainability – University of Nairobi\*  
Lake Victoria ECYG

### ***Liberia***

ECYG for Sustainability and Peace  
Fiamah Youth in Action for Development ECYG \*

### ***Nigeria***

ECYG OGUN \*  
ECYG Climate Change and Green Development \*  
CCN Earth Charter Youth Group  
Earth Charter Youth Committee Save a Youth Soul (SAYS)\*  
Earth Charter Youth Group Calabar, Nigeria  
ECYG for Sustainability, Youth Empowerment and Development Initiative  
ECYG Lagos and Abuja  
ECYG Youth Vision Alliance Network \*  
ECYG Sokoto for Change \*  
ECYG Suleja at the African School of Excellence  
ECYG Warri

### ***Rwanda***

Youth Association for Dissemination of Development Information (YADDI)

### ***Sierra Leone***

ECYG Sierra Leone

### ***Somalia***

ECYG Somalia \*

### ***Togo***

Togolese Foundation for Peace

### ***Uganda***

Students for Global Democracy – Uganda  
East Africa Network for Peace Builders - Earth Charter Youth Group\*

### ***Zambia***

ECYG for Social Empowerment and Development

## **ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

### ***Bangladesh***

ECYG Climate Natural

### ***China***

GreenSOS (Green Student Organizations Society)

### ***India***

ECYG Green-Clean Himalaya India AAGAAS  
FEDERATION \*

### ***Indonesia***

ECYG – Jakarta Green Monster\*

### ***Pakistan***

ECYG Farz Association of Rehabilitation and Development

### ***Papua New Guinea***

Earth Charter Youth Committee PNG for Ecological & Economical Sustainability\*

### ***Philippines***

ECYG at Mindanao Polytechnic State College  
ECYG Negros  
Philippine Resources for Sustainable Development, Inc

## **EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

### ***Armenia***

ECYG FOR SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

### ***Belarus***

Youth International Club “NEWLIN”

### ***Croatia***

ECYG de leur’s environment\*

### ***Finland***

ECYG Finland

### ***Germany***

ECYG Marburg\*

### ***Latvia***

ECYG Students for Sustainability

### ***Romania***

ECYG Constanta

### ***Serbia***

ECYG KRIO

### ***Tajikistan***

ECYG Dushanbe: “Live Earth”

### ***United Kingdom***

Havering Sixth Form College (East London) Earth Charter Student Group\*

**Ukraine**

Earth Charter Ukraine for Education for All\*

**Uzbekistan**

ECYG School Connect

**NORTH AMERICA**

**Canada**

Cowichan Intercultural Society Youth Projects  
SGIC Vancouver Youth Earth Charter Committee

**USA**

E3: Ecology, Economy, Equity (California Student Sustainability Coalition, UCLA Chapter)  
Earth Charter Butler Chapter \*

**SOUTH AMERICA**

**Brazil**

ECYG Diversity Institute, Bahia

**Costa Rica**

ECYG University for Peace Environmental Club  
ECYG at United World College

**Mexico**

Multidisciplinary Group of Youth in Michoacan

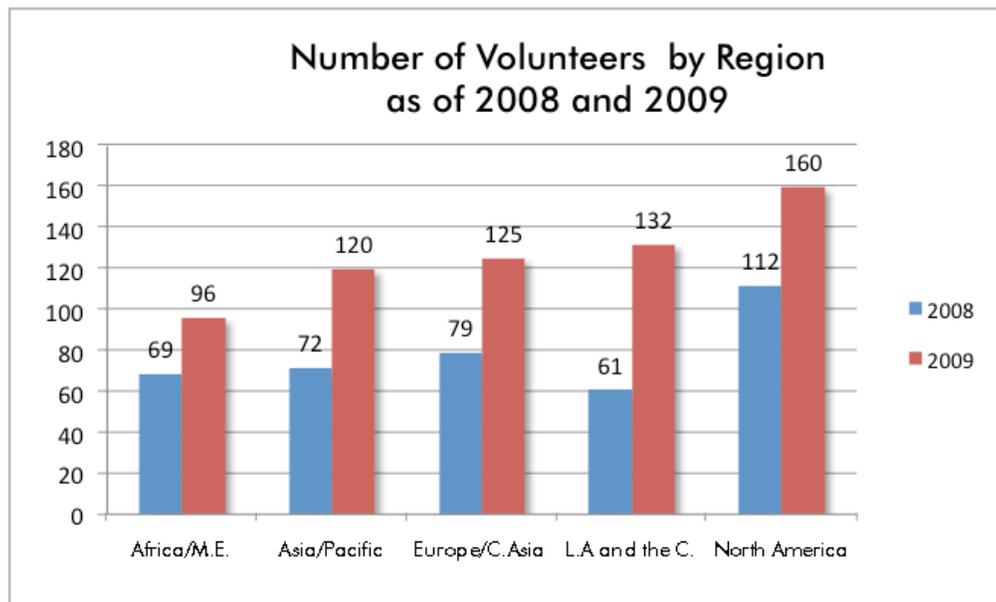
**Peru**

Asociacion Peruana de Escultismo (APE)

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ECYGs altogether	69
ECYGs formed during 2009	25
Countries altogether	41
New countries	10

## C - EC Volunteers 2008 - 2009



## D - EC National Websites

<b>Argentina</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterargentina.org">http://www.earthcharterargentina.org</a>
<b>Armenia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.am/">http://www.earthcharter.am/</a>
<b>Australia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.org.au">http://www.earthcharter.org.au</a>
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterazerbaijan.org/">http://www.earthcharterazerbaijan.org/</a>
<b>Bolivia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterbolivia.org">http://www.earthcharterbolivia.org</a>
<b>Brazil</b>	<a href="http://www.cartadaterabrasil.org">http://www.cartadaterabrasil.org</a>
<b>China</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterchina.org">http://www.earthcharterchina.org</a>
<b>Colombia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthchartercolombia.org">http://www.earthchartercolombia.org</a>
<b>Cuba</b>	<a href="http://www.earthchartercuba.org">http://www.earthchartercuba.org</a>
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterdominicanrepublic.org">http://www.earthcharterdominicanrepublic.org</a>
<b>El Salvador</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterelsalvador.org">http://www.earthcharterelsalvador.org</a>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterecuador.org">http://www.earthcharterecuador.org</a>
<b>Finland</b>	<a href="http://www.earthchartersuomi.org">http://www.earthchartersuomi.org</a>
<b>Germany</b>	<a href="http://www.erdcharta.de">http://www.erdcharta.de</a>
<b>Guatemala</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterguatemala.org">http://www.earthcharterguatemala.org</a>
<b>Honduras</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterhonduras.org">http://www.earthcharterhonduras.org</a>
<b>India</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterindia.org">http://www.earthcharterindia.org</a>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<a href="http://www.piagambumi.org">http://www.piagambumi.org</a>
<b>Italy</b>	<a href="http://www.cartadellaterra.it">http://www.cartadellaterra.it</a>
	<a href="http://www.cartadellaterra.org">http://www.cartadellaterra.org</a>
<b>Japan</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.jp/">http://www.earthcharter.jp/</a>
<b>Jordan</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterjordan.org">http://www.earthcharterjordan.org</a>
<b>Latvia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterlatvia.org">http://www.earthcharterlatvia.org</a>
<b>Mexico</b>	<a href="http://www.cartadelatierra.org.mx">http://www.cartadelatierra.org.mx</a>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharternederland.org">http://www.earthcharternederland.org</a>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.auckland.ac.nz/">http://www.earthcharter.auckland.ac.nz/</a>
<b>Nicaragua</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharternicaragua.org">http://www.earthcharternicaragua.org</a>
<b>Nigeria</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharternigeria.org/">http://www.earthcharternigeria.org/</a>
<b>Norway</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.no">http://www.earthcharter.no</a>
<b>Panama</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterpanama.org">http://www.earthcharterpanama.org</a>
<b>Paraguay</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterparaguay.org">http://www.earthcharterparaguay.org</a>
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterpuertorico.org">http://www.earthcharterpuertorico.org</a>
<b>Russia</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharter.ru">http://www.earthcharter.ru</a>
<b>Spain</b>	<a href="http://www.cartadelatierra.es">http://www.cartadelatierra.es</a>
<b>Switzerland</b>	<a href="http://www.erdcharta.ch">http://www.erdcharta.ch</a>
<b>Turkey</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterturkey.org/">http://www.earthcharterturkey.org/</a>
<b>Ukraine</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterukraine.org">http://www.earthcharterukraine.org</a>
<b>United States of America</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharterus.org">http://www.earthcharterus.org</a>
<b>Uruguay</b>	<a href="http://www.earthcharteruruguay.org">http://www.earthcharteruruguay.org</a>
<b>Venezuela</b>	<a href="http://www.earthchartervenezuela.org">http://www.earthchartervenezuela.org</a>
<b>Vietnam</b>	<a href="http://www.earthchartervietnam.org">http://www.earthchartervietnam.org</a>



This report was prepared by

**Earth Charter International Secretariat**

**Compilation:** Alicia Jimenez and Volodymyr Motyrov

**Editing:** Marina Bakhnova, Alicia Jimenez, Volodymyr Motyrov  
and Mirian Vilela

**Copy-editing:** Ross Ryan

**Design:** Lidia Picado, Producciones Alpi



Earth Charter International Secretariat  
c/o University for Peace  
PO Box 138-6100  
San Jose, Costa Rica  
Ph. (506) 2205-9060  
Fax. (506) 2249-1929  
Email: [info@earthcharter.org](mailto:info@earthcharter.org)