



INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2017

TO CARE FOR EARTH AND LIFE, IS TO CARE FOR ONESELF.

TO CARE FOR EARTH AND LIFE, IS TO CARE FOR ONESELF.

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FOREWORD

The Earth Charter continues to shine a light and inspire individuals and organizations from various walks of life in a world addressing widespread of social inequality, environment devastation, and personal insecurity.

As a document, the Earth Charter offers a much-needed message of hope and is considered as a reference for planetary ethics. As a global movement, the Earth Charter Initiative continues to sparkle the creativity and engagement of individuals from different backgrounds in contributing to a change of course to a paradigm of care, respect and responsibility.

In 2017, the Earth Charter International Secretariat fulfilled its function as a hub for the global movement providing basic information and guidance related to the Earth Charter. As a result of exchange and dialogue with many Earth Charter friends and partners, a clear message emerged on the need to strengthen a sense of community and to offer more opportunities to exchange information and experience in using the Earth Charter in different contexts. Many involved in the movement, asked for closer collaboration. Partial impacts of the movement have been shown through news articles in the website or social media channels.

The Earth Charter Center for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) continued to implement actions, under the framework of the UNESCO Chair on Education for Sustainable Development in training and research on ESD for educators and youth empowerment.

The Center has a special focus in enhancing educators' capacity to reorient their work towards ESD and to infuse the Earth Charter as part of that effort.

In the area of Youth empowerment, the Center offered its online course on Leadership, Sustainability and Ethics in English and Spanish.

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This annual report does not cover everything that is going on with the Earth Charter around the world, but it highlights many innovative efforts that emerged through the decentralized Earth Charter global movement besides, it offers an overview of the major work of the secretariat and its education center.

As we move towards the 20th anniversary since the launch of the Earth Charter, all those involved in the movement are invited to expand the reach of the Earth Charter and build bridges with other existing efforts to address the current challenges all societies are facing. We work with a shared vision of strengthening our collaborative efforts in better positioning the Earth Charter around the world and raising its visibility.

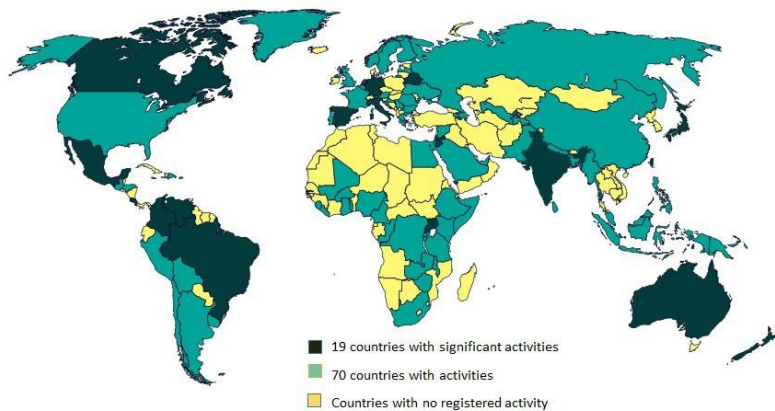
With gratitude for all of those who contributed to the work of the Secretariat and the global Earth Charter movement.

Mirian Vilela
Executive Director

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I. INTRODUCTION

Earth Charter Global Movement



The Earth Charter Initiative is a global movement and network of individuals, organizations, and institutions that have embraced the Earth Charter principles and are implementing its vision. Participants include leading international institutions, national governments, universities, non-governmental organizations and community-based groups, city governments, faith groups, schools, and businesses, as well as thousands of individuals from all over the world.

Earth Charter International (ECI) functions as the international hub of this movement, and it consists of a Council, the Secretariat, and the EC Education Center. It endeavors to promote the dissemination, adoption, use, and implementation of the Earth Charter and to support the growth and development of the Earth Charter Movement.

Currently, there are Earth Charter projects and activities in 79 countries. Among them, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Brazil, Costa Rica, Germany, Canada, Kenya, Australia, and India are particularly active. The map on this page, illustrates the countries where Earth Charter activity can be found. (See Annex I for more details)

The mission of ECI is to promote the transition to sustainable ways of living and to a global society based on a set of values and shared ethical framework as articulated in the Earth Charter.

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The following diagram illustrates the various kinds of groups involved in the Initiative.



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL– ECI

The Earth Charter International Council provides leadership and guidance to the ECI Secretariat and to the broader EC Movement. However, it does not directly govern the Earth Charter Movement or Initiative as a whole. The Council is responsible only for the governance of ECI and overseeing the work of the ECI Secretariat and its Center on Education for Sustainable Development.

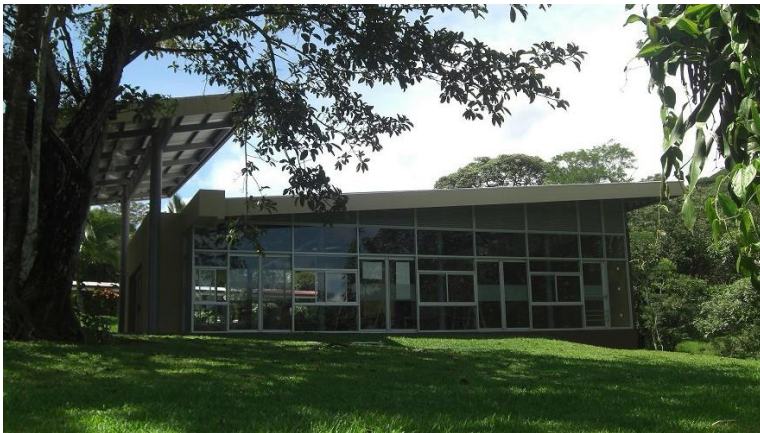
The Council has 13 members from 12 different countries composed of eight men and six women. The ECI Council elects its own members in consultation with the global network of Earth Charter supporters and typically meets once a year. The Executive Director of the ECI Secretariat participates in all meetings as an ex-officio member.

The ECI Secretariat is led by its Executive Director and is composed of, a Programme Director, a Programme and Partnership Development Manager, a Project Assistant and a Youth Coordinator. In addition, during 2016, 8 interns worked on a full-time basis at the Secretariat for a period of 4 months each, including students from the University for Peace and other universities.

The ECI Secretariat operates in Costa Rica as a semi-autonomous center under the legal umbrella of the University for Peace (UPEACE). The ECI Secretariat and the UPEACE cooperate in several ways including organizing joint courses, events, and research projects. UPEACE provides administrative management services, while the ECI Secretariat offers courses in UPEACE Master's programmes related to sustainability, and occasionally supports students in their research.

The Earth Charter Associates, Ltd. (ECA) was created in the United States in 2006 as a not for profit organization to provide legal, financial, and fundraising services in support of ECI, such as the trademark registration of the EC logo.

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Earth Charter Center for Education for Sustainable Development



Group picture of the ESD Public Policies Course

II. AREAS OF WORK AND MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

1. EDUCATION AND THE CENTER FOR EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT UPEACE

1.1. COURSES/EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

In 2017, the Earth Charter Center for ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) offered 10 online and face to face courses/programmes in English, Spanish and Portuguese involving 225 participants. Noting that the six month Online Diploma on “Education for Sustainable Development” is a programme that involves 14 courses.

The purpose of these education courses/programmes are:

- To raise educator’s capacity to reorient their work towards ESD and to infuse the Earth Charter as part of that effort (in response to a need of teacher training on ESD based on sustainability values); and
- To engage youth from around the world in realizing the aspirations of sustainability and Earth Charter vision and to strengthen their leadership capacity from an ethical and sustainability angle.

The Center offered a special capacity building course for policy makers from the Ministries of Education in eight countries in the Central America to develop ESD public policies. This was a hybrid course, commissioned by UNESCO San Jose Regional Office that was carried out with 30 participants from June to September. The objective was to strengthen the capacity of public officials of Ministries of Education to develop public policies on ESD. This is part of the UNESCO Global Action Programme on ESD Priority Area 1 on Advancing Policies.

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THE DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMMES OR COURSES OFFERED BY THE EARTH CHARTER EDUCATION CENTER IN 2017 ARE AS FOLLOW:

Date	Course	Audience	Participants
16 Jan - 27 March	Online Youth Training on Leadership, Sustainability, and Ethics- English	Young leaders	32
17 Jan - 20 June	Online Certificate on Education for Sustainable Development	Educators, ESD, SD, English	26
20-24 February	Educación para la Sostenibilidad, Aprendizaje Transformador y la Carta de la Tierra	Educators, ESD, SD, Spanish	22
2 April- 12 June	Online Youth Training on Leadership, Sustainability, and Ethics- Spanish	Young leaders	26
31 May - 28 Nov	Programa Internacional Educação para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável	Educators, ESD, SD, Portuguese	14
31 May - 28 Nov	Diplomado en Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible	Educators, ESD, SD, Spanish	14
12-15 June	Curso Bimodal de Diseño y Formulación de Políticas Públicas de Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible	Ministerios de Educación Spanish	30
19 June- 28 August	Online Youth Training on Leadership, Sustainability, and Ethics- English	Young Leaders	25
3-7 July	Education, Ethics, & Values for Sustainability	Educators English	9
11 Sept- 20 Nov	Online Youth Training on Leadership, Sustainability, and Ethics- English	Young Leaders	27
TOTAL			225



The youth course engaged 110 participants from 33 countries and 31 participants joined the Earth Charter Young Leaders programme (ECYL) in 2017. This means that they continue to be involved in ECI and in local Earth Charter work for an extended period of time.

In addition, the Center offered a course on Education for Sustainable Development in the UPEACE Masters Programme on Peace Education. The Center also collaborated with the University of La Salle, Costa Rica, in the process of updating its Masters Programme on Environmental Management with emphasis on Sustainable Development.

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1.2. WORKSHOPS

The EC Center organized 10 workshops in the area of ethics and sustainability, involving 291 people, including youth, educators, and business people. Six of these workshops focused on youth training.

In collaboration with UNESCO, a series of Youth Leadership trainings on Education for Sustainable Development took place in various regions around the world to test and implement the ESD toolkit/curriculum for young people (which was developed and finalized in 2016). These constituted the pilot phase of the Flagship Project of Priority Area 4 of UNESCO's Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD. GAP is the follow up to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) which aims to generate and scale-up concrete actions in ESD. Within GAP, there are five Priority Action Areas identified. ECI holds a co-chair position in the Partner Network of Priority Area 4, on Empowering and Mobilizing Youth in ESD. In this context, ECI Youth Projects Coordinator, facilitated regional UNESCO Youth Leadership trainings as follow:

The European regional workshop with 40 youth held from 21-22 February in Dublin, Ireland;

The Latin America and the Caribbean workshop held from 27-29 September, in Brasilia, Brazil with 37 youth from 14 countries. This training was co-facilitated with the organization Planeta Océano from Peru;

From 15-17 November, the same training took place with 34 participants from 23 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. This workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand, and was co-facilitated with Goi Peace Foundation;



Dublin, Ireland



Brasilia, Brazil

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Bangkok, Thailand



Costa Rica

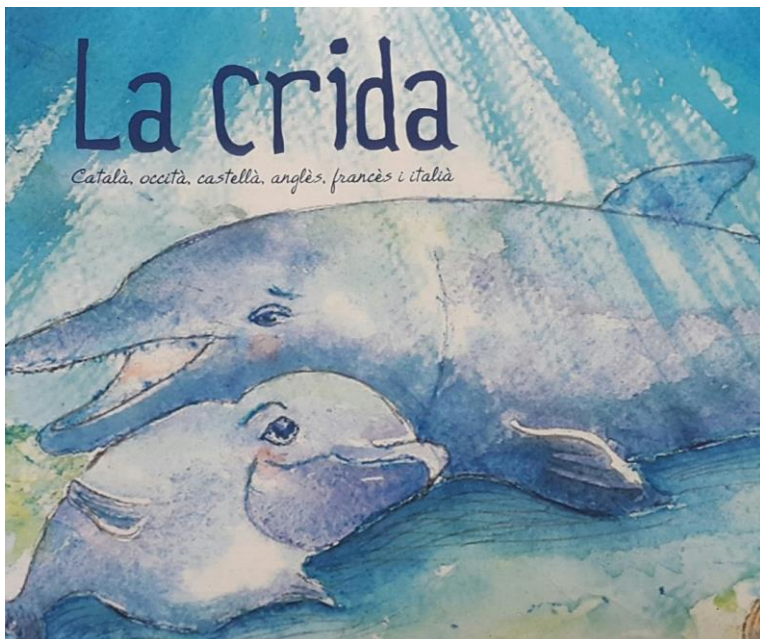
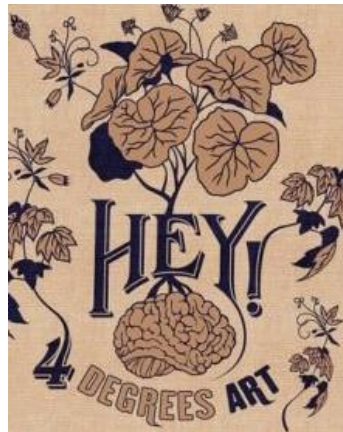
In October, two Earth Charter Youth workshops were offered at the Universidad de Costa Rica to 35 students on Sustainability in Higher Education and Leadership for Sustainability. And on 1 December, an Earth Charter workshop was offered to a group of 40 students from Long Island University; and

The training was also implemented every Friday from 28 July-17 November with 36 students from Professor Heidi Vega García's class, Ecocitizenship in Action with the Earth Charter (Ecociudadanía en Acción con la Carta de la Tierra) at the National University in Costa Rica by Christine Lacayo, ECI Youth Project coordinator, in collaboration with Earth Charter Young Leaders, Danelia Zúñiga, Dennis Perez, and Julian Arias Varela.

These UNESCO Youth Leadership trainings were designed to sensitize youth on ESD concepts and strengthen their capacity to become ESD multipliers in order to reach a more just and sustainable world.

The curriculum for this programme was developed by the Earth Charter International in 2016.

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1.3. PUBLICATIONS

“Voices of the Earth Charter Initiative responding to the Encyclical Laudato Si”. This is a collection of eight essays from renowned writers, such as, Leonardo Boff and Fritjof Capra, on the connections between the Earth Charter and the Encyclical Laudato Si. It is published in English and Spanish, in collaboration with the Technical University of Costa Rica.

<http://earthcharter.org/virtual-library2/voices-earth-charter-laudato-si/>

Publications by active groups of the Earth Charter Initiative:

“HEY! – 4 DEGREES” Art book with paintings inspired by the Earth Charter.

More information here: <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/french-art-magazine-hey-modern-art-pop-culture-publishes-art-book-inspired-earth-charter/>

“The Call” A children’s story on the origin of the Earth Charter document.

Available in Catalan, Spanish and English. Download here: <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/french-art-magazine-hey-modern-art-pop-culture-publishes-art-book-inspired-earth-charter/>

“The Earth Charter” in Yaqui, an indigenous language from Sonora, Mexico.

Download here: <http://earthcharter.org/virtual-library2/earth-charter-yaqui/>

“The Implementation of Agenda 21 in Mexico: Critical Contributions to Sustainability”.

Available in Spanish. Contains one chapter about the Earth Charter.

Order here: <https://libreria.mora.edu.mx/?q=node/34462>

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2. DIALOGUE

SDG/EC App “Mapping”

In 2016, ECI, in collaboration with Soka Gakkai International (SGI), developed Mapping, a mobile App that links the Earth Charter Principles with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2017, a revision and updated of the App was undertaken. Mapping is a free tool that invites users to document everyday actions, which help to achieve SDGs. The App offers an opportunity for its users to learn about activities that are taking place everywhere towards the implementation of the SDGs. It is also useful to learn more about the principles of the Earth Charter and the 17 Goals by combining these two complementary frameworks and building the connections between the targets, where we need to go (SDGs), and the fundamental shared values that we need to get there (the Earth Charter).

In 2017, ECI made special efforts to make this app known. Mapping is considered as a way to engage youth, schools and others groups in both SDGs and the EC. Within a year of its launch, 8,295 users downloaded the app across 141 countries. The top three countries with the highest usage are China, India, and the US.

Throughout 2017, there were three photo contests held to engage users with Mapping. The first one on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) for the International Women’s Day in March. The second one in May to celebrate International Day for Biological Diversity on SDG 14 and 15. Then in August, for International Youth Day (celebration under the theme “Youth Peace Building”), users were encouraged to use SDG 16, Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

Mapping was first introduced in Malaysia during the opening ceremony of “HIJAU”, an art exhibition celebrating nature, hosted by Soka Gakkai Malaysia (SGM) in April. Thanks to the coordination efforts of local artist Chin Kon Yit, twenty-five artists, exposed their artworks combining various styles and mediums. The seventy pieces all shared a common trait – a deep love for nature.

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ONE YEAR OF MAPTING

WHAT IS MAPTING?
A free and participatory app to share sustainability actions and to learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals

MAPTING
Sharing and witnessing actions for 17 SDGs

8295 downloads in **141** countries

1. CHINA
2. INDIA
3. USA

DISCOVER
the 16 Earth Charter principles and how they relate to the SDGs

Download on the **App Store** | GET IT ON **Google Play**

Photo: Au Blaud / iStockphoto, Earth Charter / Earth Charter

From 20 – 22 April, Dino De Francesco, former communications officer and co-creator of Maptiong, took part in the GoodFestival 2017 in Lausanne, Switzerland. This initiative gathered more than 100 social entrepreneurs and innovators from all over the world. They shared and presented projects aiming at building a better world. Participants formed teams with innovators working on similar projects and were then divided into 8 Summits. Dino took part in the Good Education Summit with Maptiong and worked with a group of seven people who all had projects related to this field. Together, they came up with great ideas to improve the App and were able to find many synergies between their projects. Finally, after two days of deep collaboration, each participant had a 5-minute pitch to present his/her project in front of a jury and get a chance to win an award. From a total of 65 projects for this edition, around 20 of them, including Maptiong, were awarded a PremaGyan Good 100 Medal providing Maptiong more visibility.

ECI launched the Maptiong Blog: An Invitation to Show that Everyday People Act for the Common Good in order to showcase users' stories and projects, updates and news about Maptiong, and about interesting events, activities, and presentations related to Maptiong.

Dino De Francesco also assisted Viva Technology with Maptiong, a global rendez-vous for innovations, which gathered more than 6000 startups and close to 70'000 visitors in Paris from 15-17 June. The event was structured around the technologies that will shape tomorrow's world aimed to bring start-ups and leading companies together to create partnerships and advancements in Technologies.

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UNESCO Week on Peace and Sustainable Development, Ottawa, Canada



Latin American Regional Meeting on ESD and Cities, Argentina

Conferences and events

ECI staff members participated in 29 conferences and meetings offering talks about the Earth Charter, reaching out to 2,200 people. These events were opportunities to generate connections with other initiatives. Some featured events are:

[UNESCO Week on Peace and Sustainable Development, Ottawa, Canada:](#)

On 6 to 10 March, 2017, two ECI Secretariat staff attended the UNESCO Week on Peace and Sustainable Development in Ottawa, Canada, where more than 400 people gathered. During the week, key partners in Partner Network 4 “Empowering and mobilizing youth” met to offer feedback on the new training script, to debrief on their experiences running pilot workshops, and to plan the following phases of the Flagship—an ESD Young Leaders Network for training alumni and an ESD Young Leaders Conference in 2018.

[Latin American Regional Meeting on ESD and Cities, Argentina](#)

ECI was invited to the Latin America and Caribbean Workshop on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and cities, organized by the UNESCO Global Action Programme on ESD, which took place on 26-28 April 2017 in Villa María, Argentina. This workshop was part of a series of regional workshops that have been taking place in all regions of the world, with the aim to sensitize about the integration of ESD at the local level, supporting the implementation of the SDGs.

[Spirituality and Sustainability Conference in Italy](#)

From 27 June to 4 July, a group of about 60 participants gathered in Rome and Assisi for the Spirituality and Sustainability Conference, convened by The Center for Ethics of Saint Thomas University in Florida and The Center for Earth Ethics at the Union Theological Seminary in New York. Earth Charter International was among the many co-sponsors of this unique event.

[Environment Day 2017](#)

On 5 June, ECI staff members were invited by the Ministry of Environment of Costa Rica to offer a talk about values-based education for sustainability with 60 participants. In addition, Department of Humanities of the Technical University of Costa Rica invited ECI to participate in a seminar on the connections between the Earth Charter and the UNESCO Declaration of Bioethics, with 150 participants.

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Global Gathering of Storytellers in Edinburgh

[Global Gathering of Storytellers in Edinburgh](#)

On 25–27 October, a special Global Gathering of Storytellers took place in Edinburgh, as part of the 70th Scottish International Storytelling Festival 2017. The event “If not now, when?” offered a space for participants to consider “what role storytellers have in the twenty-first century and how they can contribute to the Earth Charter”. ECI was invited to present the Earth Charter and invite participants to join the Earth Charter movement and link the core message articulated in the Earth Charter to the stories they share.

[Earth Charter and Laudato Si' book launch at Integral Ecology Symposium](#)

ECI was invited to be part of the “International Symposium on Ecology Laudato Si', Care of the Common House: a necessary conversion to Human Ecology”; which took place in Costa Rica from 29 November to 1 December 2017. This Symposium has been one of the most important international, academic, and ecological events of the year organized by the Vatican (Ratzinger Foundation). The Catholic University of Costa Rica organized the event, with the support of the Joseph Ratzinger-Benedict XVI Foundation, which holds this event annually.

As a contribution to this Symposium, ECI published the book “Voices of the Earth Charter responding to the Encyclical Laudato Si'”, which was shared in digital form with more than 600 participants of this Symposium.

[Global Oceans Dialogue: “Towards a Pollution Free Planet”](#)

Global Oceans Dialogue organized by UN Environment and the Government of Costa Rica was held from 6-9 June in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The two days before the dialogue, NGOs and active individuals were invited to participate in the Annual Regional Consultative Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Civil Society in preparation for the third session of UN Environment Assembly (UEA) under the theme “Towards a Pollution Free Planet.”

[Environment Governance session at the Conference on Watershed Ecology, Beijing](#)

From 28-29 August, ECI Executive Director took part in the Chinese Academy of Engineering International Conference on Watershed Ecology, and the PACE Conference held in Beijing. In this context, a presentation was made on examples of projects on good environment governance and the Earth Charter. The Conference was organized by the Beijing Normal University and was held at the Beijing Conference Center.



Global Oceans Dialogue: “Towards a Pollution Free Planet”

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3. NETWORK FACILITATION, OUTREACH EFFORTS AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES

ECI Secretariat continues to make efforts to nurture relationship with the Earth Charter network of affiliates, young leaders and others, collecting stories, managing the website and Facebook pages (in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese). For 2017, ECI used the slogan "To care for Earth and life, is to care for oneself" as communication theme and the logo image accordingly.

The Secretariat developed a survey to better understand how the Earth Charter Global network is working and to hear from the network on what can be done in the way ahead. Some of the key messages received were that the Earth Charter continues to be very relevant for the actions towards sustainability. Affiliates and partners expressed the willingness to generate a stronger sense of community between those involved with the Earth Charter global movement. In November, the ECI Secretariat organized four online meetings (two in English and two in Spanish), with Affiliates, Partners, Council members and Youth to share the results of this survey and to open a space for people to share what they are doing with the EC.

The indicators available for ECI Network Facilitation and Communication efforts are the number of active ECI affiliates or partners around the world, the number of visits to ECI website and facebook and the stories collected.

ECI Affiliates: 87 organizations in 55 countries (See Annex # for more details).

New Affiliates:

Cleantech Arabia, Egypt

Integral Climate Change Solutions, South Africa

All Together Foundation, Romania

Young leaders: 44 Earth Charter Young Leaders from 17 different countries

Youth Groups: 256 Youth groups

Youth Course Alumni: 922 alumni participating in online courses since 2000 from over 100 different countries

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Website visits

In 2017, there were about 54,812 visits to ECI website per month, and 657,740 visits per year. There has been an important increase of visits, compared to 2016, with 20,000 visits per month and 240,000 visits per year.

Facebook and other multi media

ECI generates a post every day on its Facebook pages in English and Spanish and sometimes in Portuguese and French with the intention to attract public to the EC and to share information. ECI is using Facebook and its website as its main communication vehicles. In the EC main Facebook pages followers moved from:

17,079 likes to 20,924 likes in English
 5,983 likes to 17,602 likes in Spanish
 2,500 followers to 2,879 on Twitter
 1,107 Youtube followers
 450 Instagram followers

New endorsers

In 2017, 442 organizations endorsed the Earth Charter, these are some of them:

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), USA
 Autonomous University of Chiapas, Mexico
 City of Victoria, Canada EARTH
 University, Costa Rica Municipality of
 Aguascalientes, Mexico
 Municipality of Guadalupe, Zacatecas, Mexico
 Municipality of Loreto, Zacatecas, Mexico
 Municipality of Tibás, Costa Rica
 State of Oaxaca Congress, Mexico
 Technological University of the Central Valley, Oaxaca, Mexico
 Technological Institute of Tacambaro, Mexico

Youth Partnerships

ECI Secretariat is open for new collaboration and seeks strategic partners to promote the Earth Charter in their vision, values, and work. In 2017 there were four new Earth Charter Youth Partners.

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RIJLF (International Network of Young Francophone Leaders):

RIJLF is a non-profit organization whose main goal is to connect and engage young native French speakers through knowledge and skills at the service of the common good. The organization's head office is based in Quebec (Canada). However, RIJLF is active in many francophone countries through local initiatives that contribute to social or economic development. The countries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Ivory Coast, France, Haiti, Mauritania, Niger, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Senegal, Chad and Togo. Through this partnership, joint webinars are planned to mutually enrich each organization's work, share inspiring youth stories, and promote initiatives of mutual interest.

Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network:

Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network is a group of volunteers (based in eight countries in sub-Saharan Africa, US, Canada, and Europe) – sharing findings and seeking advice for their practical projects in CSA and the environment. Youth trainings, such as, African Youth for the Sustainable Development Goals, aim to engage youth across Africa to better understand the SDGs and how they can contribute to the achievements of the SDGs. Through this partnership, collaborations on Mapping and Earth Charter Youth Webinars are also envisioned.

Recrear

Recrear is a Canadian charity composed of a network of young professionals from around the world. By designing and implementing participatory youth led research, they work to create active youth engagement in community development. This partnership will seek to join efforts in engaging Earth Charter Young Leaders with Recrear youth network in collaborative projects, to create action around emerging issues related to youth and to develop joint course opportunities.

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WORLD SUSTAINABILITY ORGANIZATION (WSO)

The World Sustainability Organization is an NGO based in Milan, Italy specializing in sustainability policies for the food market, particularly meat and seafood. The ECI Secretariat has been in connection with their operating branch in the Indian Ocean Region with two sustainability certification programmes: Friend of the Sea and Friends of the Earth. Mapping has been introduced in Sri Lanka and it will be used as a tool for engaging students in discovering SDG solutions with a special reference to the sustainable use of land and ocean. This partnership led to the development of a four-stage programme: involving webinars, SDG videos telecasted nationwide, bringing Mapping to the classroom, and a dialogue between the students and the decision makers. Youth Stories:

A number of Earth Charter Young Leaders stories were generated through videos and articles. Sharing their stories is to further motivate and inspire new and potential young leaders in the EC network.

- Esther Abgarakwe from Nigeria started an Earth Charter Youth Group in 2006 in Calabar. She participated in an Earth Charter E-Glo (Earth Charter Global Learning Opportunity) training programme, which opened many doors for her. Esther now works as an Advisor to the Minister of the Environment and uses the Earth Charter Principles in her daily life and work. Read her story here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/esther-kelechi-agbarakwe-nigeria/>
- Assouan Gbesso from Togo, was an active Earth Charter Young Leader from 2003-2009 engaging youth with the Earth Charter in Togo. He now works as a Programme Officer for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Republic of Congo and is currently in the Doctoral Programme at the UPEACE focusing on Peace Education Encountering Youth Radicalization in Mali. Read his Earth Charter Youth Story and watch his video here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q-kWje3Dw7k&feature=youtu.be>
- Gabriela Barbosa Batista, deputy-secretary of education and socio-environmental mobilization of the Environment Secretariat of the city government of Brasilia, Brazil. Gabriela was introduced to the Earth Charter in 2002 during the Second World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil in the presence of Marina Silva and Leonardo Boff. Since then, she has organized groups of young people from the NGO, Alternativa Terrazul to work with sustainability projects based on the Earth Charter. Read her Earth Charter Youth story and watch her video here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/gabriela-barbosa-batistas-earth-charter-youth-story-brazil/>

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III. FINANCES

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES - 2017

Earth Charter International - All Activity Centers
January 1 - December 31, 2017

Income	USD	USD
Major Individual Donors		
Seaward Fund / S. Rockefeller	35,417	
Amana-Key /Oscar Motomura	126,843	162,260
Individual Donors (Less than USD 10,000)		6,350
Partners and Affiliates		23,040
Interest Income & Other (Includes EC Brazil, CR and NY)		159
Courses & Other Services		127,416
Total Cash Income		319,224
In-Kind Support		
Universities & Foundations		15,000
Affiliates and partners		38,000
Individual Donors		32,000
Total In-Kind Support		85,000
Total Income		404,224

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Expenses	USD	USD
Salaries / Professional Services		131,237
Employment Related Insurance		17,955
Strategic, Program, and Communications Consulting Support		15,564
Travel Staff		7,959
Telecommunications & Internet		8,349
Translation Services		0
Courses and Workshops		30,350
ECI Council Expenses (Travel and Meeting Costs)		4,650
Events and Meetings		157
Office (Equipment, Security, and Expenses)		14,822
Equipment Purchase		451
Publication, Media, & Web Development		2,474
Printing and Postage		2,262
Fin Exp & Currency Devaluation Charges		861
Legal Expenses, ECA		417
Fund Management Expenses, ECA & RPA		1,472
Maintenance		1,327
Miscellaneous		1,926
Total Cash Expenses		242,233

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In-Kind Services	USD	USD
Administrative and Facilities Support		12,000
On-Line Course for young leaders in Brazil		10,000
Editing Video Interview - Resource Material		3,000
Website Support (Website in different languages and new website in Portuguese)		8,000
Meeting Host		2,000
Social Media Support		16,000
Mapping App on SDG and EC Update		10,000
Research and project assistance		16,000
Travel		8,000
Total In-Kind Services		85,000
Total Expenses		327,233
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$	76,991

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EARTH CHARTER INTERNATIONAL
STATEMENT OF FUND BALANCES

As of december 31, 2017

ASSETS	USD
RPA / Earth Charter Fund Balance	34,549
UPEACE / Earth Charter Account Balance - General Fund	6,377
UPEACE/Earth Charter Account Balance - Construction Project	(38,205) ⁽¹⁾
Earth Charter Brazil	2,033
NET AVAILABLE ASSETS	4,754
UNRESTRICTED & RESTRICTED BALANCES:	
General Fund	42,959
RESTRICTED BALANCES:	
Construction Fund	(38,205) ⁽¹⁾
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED & RESTRICTED FUND BALANCES	4,754

1) The remaining of the Construction Fund balance was paid off in February 2018.

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IV. THE EARTH CHARTER MOVEMENT: EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES OF AFFILIATES, PARTNERS, AND YOUTH

- Africa and Middle East

In Cameroon, Pacifique Nshimiyimana, Earth Charter Young Leader, attended the #DOTYouth Unconference of Social Innovators and entrepreneurs from around 10 countries at the Digital Opportunity Trust Youth Unconference 2017. This event was an opportunity for sharing best practices, learning about social impact, and creating a community. Each youth delegate attending the Unconference was a social innovator with a startup social business or a growing enterprise. The event was held in the Eastern Province, Nyamata City. The Dot Unconference gathered over 100 young social innovators from Rwanda, Kenya, Indigenous Canada, South Africa, Jordan, Lebanon, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and a number of public opinion leaders from private organizations and governments.

Rohdof Lactem Yengeh, Earth Charter Young Leader from Cameroon, participated in a pilot project with Pro-Climate International (PCI) on a heat retaining cooking bag called the “Wonder-Cooking” bag in 16 rural and urban communities randomly selected from the South West, Littoral, and Western regions of Cameroon. PCI is an NGO based in Cameroon and founded on the basis to address the dilemma of economic growth and global warming with the ambition to contribute to sustainable development.

In Egypt, the Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), an ECI Affiliate, continues to raise awareness and promote the principles of the Earth Charter on the national and regional levels. RAED is a network with more than 275 NGO’s members from Arab Countries, in North Africa and West Asia. It was established in 1990 during the preparations for the Earth Summit of Rio de Janeiro.

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The following are some highlighted activities during 2017:

- Side event in the World Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, entitled “Arab Communities Resilience within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction”
- Workshop: “Addressing marine litter in the Mediterranean using an ecosystem-based approach: focus on governance within Marine Protected Areas (MPA’s) and beyond” at the UfM Regional Conference on Blue Economy, Naples, Italy, November 2017.
- Side event in COP23 on mitigation & adaption on Climate change in Africa, in cooperation with the UN & African research center for climate change, strengthening the role of civil society in cooperation with governments and other stakeholders to face impacts of climate change on the coastal areas and western Egypt.
- National workshop within ODYSSEA, platform for the development and deployment of integrated monitoring systems in the Mediterranean. The workshop took place in Alexandria and targeted fishermen and relevant partners.
- Regional Consultation on Challenges and Opportunities of Sustainable Development, in Amman (Jordan) in which nine Arab Countries were represented.

With these and other activities during 2017, RAED directly reached to 1,400 people.

In Ghana, Soka Gakkai International (SGI) conducted the “Seeds of Hope” exhibition at the University of Ghana, Legon on in March. The opening ceremony was attended by Nana Frema Boaitey-Azu of SGI-Ghana, Tirso Dos Santos, Country Director of UNESCO-Ghana, Miss Afra Foli, from Earth Charter International, Professor Atukwei Okai, Secretary General of Pan African Writers’ Association (PAWA). Dahveed Nelson from the African Hebrew Israelite of Jerusalem delivered the keynote addresses. It is estimated that 3,000 people visited this exhibition.

Earth Charter Young Leader, Mohammed Ba-Aoum from Saudi Arabia, is using the Earth Charter as a guide to engage engineers. Engineers, as individuals, have always been involved in humanitarian work. However, as a collective organized action, Humanitarian Engineering is relatively new and the concept started to emerge in the academia after year 2000. Mohammed conducted and participated in activities that promote the Earth Charter. As part of preparing future engineers to be informed of sustainable development, he conducted research and workshops to integrate the Earth Charter principles in engineering education. Mohammed presented the Earth Charter and his research at the International Conference on Modern Education Studies (ICONMES) in January 2017. He also promoted the Earth Charter at the UNESCO forum on Youth and Social Impact in Saudi Arabia in May and participated in the UNESCO training on “Education for Sustainable Development Leadership,” in Beirut, Lebanon. His leadership has contributed to empowering Arab youth and leveraging their impact on sustainable development.

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The Earth Charter



Values and principles for building a
just, sustainable, and peaceful
global society

- **Asia and the Pacific**

In Australia, the Earth Charter Committee has been working under the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA). They organized a variety of activities, among them the UNAA Queensland Global Citizenship Schools Programme. The aim is to engage and inspire primary and secondary students across Queensland to become active Global Citizens. The specific objectives include:

- Engage and inspire students to become active Global Citizens;
- Empower students to be effective leaders;
- Support students to plan two UN Global Goals school initiatives; and
- Target Principle 14a of the Earth Charter: Provide all, especially children and youth, with educational opportunities that empower them to contribute actively to sustainable development.

This Programme was offered in 2017, registration is open for the 2018 programme:

<http://unaaglobalcitizens.weebly.com/>

Another activity that UNAA organizes every year in Brisbane is a lecture on International Peace Day, where they share the Earth Charter with participants. The Sixth Annual Brisbane Peace Lecture took place, at St. John Cathedral in 2017. The topic was “Australia’s Unnecessary Wars” with Prof. Henry Reynolds. In this event, a new Earth Charter brochure has been distributed.

In India, the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) and Soka Gakkai International (SGI), both ECI Partners, worked together to carry out an assessment of the “Seeds of Hope Exhibition”. This exhibition, inspired by the Earth Charter, has showcased in about 34 countries in 13 different languages. The exhibition has reached out to a mass of about 1.5 million visitors of all age. As a follow-up, a structured study to measure the impact of the exhibition in terms of clarifying concepts of sustainability will be carried out in India with school children as the target group.

The exhibition was shown in six schools each in Delhi, Kolkata and Hyderabad during February to April 2017. An experimental design with an intervention through activities and facilitated discussion by CEE in one section and no activities and facilitation for the other section was followed. A pre- and posttest was administered just before and after the viewing of exhibition. The results of the intervention and assessment is presented in this report. <http://earthcharter.org/virtual-library2/seeds-hope-report-assessment/>

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On 21 April, Professor Klaus Bosselmann, ECI Affiliate from New Zealand and Director of the Centre for Environmental Law, University of Auckland, spoke at the Seventh Interactive Dialogue of the United Nations General Assembly on Harmony with Nature under the Theme: Earth Jurisprudence. Prof. Bosselmann is an Earth Jurisprudence expert and was invited to make a presentation on “The Next Step: Earth trusteeship”. He proposed to “accompany the current SDG process with high-level ethical dialogue and promote the idea of nation-states as trustees for the Earth and that the UN should provide a forum for achieving that.”

- **Europe and Central Asia**

In France, Anne & Julien and Zoé Forget created the art book HEY! – 4 DEGREES ART, inspired by the Earth Charter. The book, published by Ankama/619 Editions, brings together 102 artists from 20 countries, with the Preface and Afterword by French scientist Jean Claude Ameisen. The publishers sent the artists several guiding questions around the Earth Charter that they used as inspiration to create the art paintings portrayed in the book. More information here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/french-art-magazine-hey-modern-art-pop-culture-publishes-art-book-inspired-earth-charter/>

In Paris, the “Seeds of Hope – Visions of sustainability, steps toward change” exhibition was launched in collaboration with SGI in May. Opening guests included Dr. Jean Paul Durand as well as Ann and Julien along with 30 SGI members. The exhibit was opened to the public from 9 May to 30 June in the Association Culturelle Soka De France in Paris.

“Seeds of Hope” exhibition was also showcased in Moscow, on 25-30 September 2017, in the framework of the international scientific Conference titled “Globalistics-2017”. The exhibition was held at the lobby of the Russia’s Moscow State University (MSU) Fundamental Library.

In Italy, during 2017, the Italian Committee for Earth Charter (Comitato Italiano Carta della Terra), led by Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura, organized, as in previous years, a nationwide dissemination campaign for the Earth Charter. This included several conferences held in various cities, schools and universities. Every year the Italian Committee also prints approx 5000-10000 CD Roms. The Italian Committee, led by Corrado Daclon, is also working to keep updated the Wikipedia Earth Charter page in Italian, and writing articles on national magazines about the Earth Charter movement.

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Inspired by the Earth Charter, The Association “Villaggio Globale” of Bagni di Lucca developed and launched the “Gaia Project”, an intense education programme of 12 sessions on global consciousness and psychophysical health. This programme, was designed and developed by a team of university professors, educators, psychologists and doctors. The “Gaia Project” was supported by the UNESCO in Italy, the Italian Federation of UNESCO Centers, and by the Italian Ministry of Labor and Social Policies. The project has trained over 1500 teachers, psychologists, doctors and facilitators of the Gaia Protocol. They have later taught it to over 20,000 children, teenagers and adults across Italy. According to the coordinators of this project, statistical analyzes have shown that the programme has generated a significant impact to reduce stress, anxiety, aggression, and improve empowerment, empathy, cooperation, and active citizenship. Information on this can be found at <http://www.progettogaia.eu/> and the short English video presentation at <http://www.progettogaia.eu/index.php?id=video>. In addition, the Villaggio Globale di Bagni di Lucca, in collaboration with the Club of Budapest, Italy developed the film “Globalshift” which featured the Earth Charter and its education center. This film can be download in English at <http://www.villaggioglobale.eu/index.php?id=film>

In Germany, Ecumenical One World Initiative, ECI Affiliated organization, organized diverse Earth Charter workshops. Many Earth Charter ambassadors were active realizing talks and day-workshops on several topics linked with the Charter. The heart of the transformative Earth Charter education efforts in Germany is its Earth-Charter Ambassador training. In 2017, its sixth training took place on two weekends in spring. The 17 participants from all ages and all over Germany engaged in learning and trying out EC methods for educational work. They enjoyed exchanging ideas for new relationships with the Earth and the human family around the world. These new Ambassadors are very engaged and keep up with EC activities and weave it together with other groups they belong to, such as “Transition Towns”, Peace and Reconciliation Networks and “Theatre for Living”. As the group had a lot of fun with the Earth Charter Game, the rules have been translated into German, and the game was played in the following end of the year meeting.

On the 29 June, the second international Earth-Charta Day was celebrated in Germany. It took place in different locations and settings. Some celebrated with their pupils at school or with their colleagues at work. Others celebrated with workshops and music.

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The Earth-Charter Time meeting for exchange and networking (ECHT-Zeit) was set under the topic of local engagement in a small Eastern village near Halle where a group of Earth Charter Ambassadors and activists is transforming an old farm into an Earth Charter place. Besides intercultural discussions enriched by a student from Afghanistan, the group used hands-on steps and built up a little garden for Earth Charter workshops with the local kindergarteners.

Also in 2017, a new “Earth Charter Theatre Education” programme started with the Ecumenical One World Initiative. During five weekends, around 20 participants are learning how to work with theatre in education for sustainable development. An Earth Charter version in Braille-German was also developed.

Earth Charter Netherlands held the Earth Charter Masterclass in May, imparted by Professor Sam Crowell, Earth Charter Education Center faculty, with the collaboration with NIVOZ, a think-tank on education. The 15 participants engaged into a dialogue around the WHY of education based on the concept of “Emergent Teaching”, developed by Professor Crowell in his inspirational book. Find more information here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/severn-cullis-suzuki-reflections-world-premier-video-project-im-child/>

On 29 September, an Earth Charter event took place at Leiden University at The Hague with the participation of Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp and others. The topic of discussion was the linkages between the SDG Goals and the Earth Charter. The event was organized by ECI Council member, Alide Roerink, and Earth Charter Friend, Harriet Sjerps. The programme was moderated by ECI Council member Ama van Dantzig's together with Lynn Zebeda. At this occasion, Severn unveiled the World Premiere of the Rio 1992 Anniversary video project “I’m Only a Child, but...” and 25 children participated in this video compilation. To read her message and watch the video compilation go here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/severn-cullis-suzuki-reflections-world-premier-video-project-im-child/>

In Romania, The All Together Foundation established the Institute of Oriental Sciences and Applied Anthropology. This Institute aims to address the national need to raise the awareness on the human potential to change and to bring change into the world by creating a stronger link between knowledge and action. It will also use the Earth Charter as a framework to help improve quality education through its multi-disciplinary curricula and by bridging science and ethics.

In October 2017, the Institute has started a 2 years Masters’ programme called “Humanity’s Ancestral Codex” in Cluj-Napoca and Bucharest, Romania, with 34 students, in which the Earth Charter is part of the curriculum.

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In Russia, ECI partner organization, Cadaster Institute organized a meeting on Green Economy in which the Earth Charter was presented. They also published an illustrated album titled “The Nature of Yaroslavl Region: Unique Images” with the support of the Department of Environmental Protection and Nature Management of the Yaroslavl Region. (Ref. Yaroslavl: Cadaster Institute, 2017. ISBN 978-5-902637-29-5). Part of the Earth Charter Preamble was featured in the book, which geared to a wide range of readers: environmentalists, biologists, geographers, educators, students, and all nature lovers of the Yaroslavl region. The book includes information on respective history, key sights, and locations of the region’s ten protected areas together with photos showing the natural beauty of these areas. The book also contains up-to-date information that contributes to conservation and rehabilitation in these areas. This book tells the story of the region’s nature reserves in close connection with its original history and culture and expresses its unconventional roots.

In the Republic of Tatarstan, Russia, the government and educational institutions, continue to work with the Earth Charter and raise awareness of its ethical vision. The state authorities organized its annual regional competition “ECOLEADER”, which received diverse nominations among companies, educational organizations, municipalities, and NGOs. The Cabinet of the Ministers of the Republic invites public organizations to submit project proposals that aims at the implementation of Earth Charter principles. One of them is The Public Chamber of the Republic of Tatarstan. This forum promotes the public participation from authorities, citizens, and NGOs that work to implement the principles of the Earth Charter. The municipalities of the Republic also launched different projects related to the Earth Charter. For instance, one of the large-scale events in Almeteyevsky Municipal District was the greening of the district. Residents of the district planted 12,500 seedlings within the all-Russian action “Live, the Forest!” Every year, the action “Let’s Save a Tree Together”.

In Åre Sweden, a celebration of the Earth Charter took place on 22 and 23 September, as part of the Åre Sustainability Summit to mark the 15th year anniversary since the Åre Municipality adopted the Earth Charter. Tonia Moya, Executive Director, Green Cross Sweden, and Katrin Wissing, Chairman of the Urban Planning and Infrastructure Administration of the Municipality, opened the Earth Charter Celebration and the Åre Sustainability Summit. Learn more about the exciting activities of this event here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/celebrating-earth-charter-sweden/>

In Spain, a radio programme called Zero Emission, from International Radio, has been disseminating the Earth Charter in its regular transmissions. Zero Emission is the only programme in this country dedicated to sustainability. Its director, Ricardo Fraguas Poole, shared his experience in infusing the values and principles of the Earth Charter in its transmissions in this article.

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At the Faculty of Education of the University of Granada, Prof. Alfonso Fernández Herrería has been, for many years, working with the Earth Charter. He promotes to his students the experience of the Earth (Gaia) as a living organism. He teaches courses for both undergraduate and master students related to education for peace, citizenship, sustainability and transpersonal consciousness, reaching out to 249 students yearly. Reflecting on his experience and feedback from his students, he believes that the Earth Charter should be a “mandatory” reading in the formal education system, but it should not be a document to just read but should be used to allow students to experience what it says in different ways.

Values Foundation, ECI Affiliate based in Madrid, Spain, has been continually using the Earth Charter in their work since 2005. Their objective is to organize different types of activities that promote more responsible and coherent individuals and institutions around Spain, getting them involved with the Earth Charter global network. In 2017, Values Foundation organized the following activities, where they reached 160 people:

- Earth Charter course for PROAZIMUT, a business group from Sevilla. The areas developed in this course are: communication, work environment, proactivity, strategic power of inner happiness;
- Earth Charter Summer Camp (Huesca). This was a 10-day camp for children; and
- Four Earth Charter workshops on leadership, ethics, and sustainability, held in Madrid and Valencia.

In addition, members of Values Foundation have been working in an audiovisual project: The Earth Charter for Children. This is a series of three videos that will be finalized in 2018.

In Lleida, Spain, Implicate+, an ECI Affiliate, organized the 4th Forum of Solidary Schools on 18 November 2017, with the participation of 70 teachers who promote values, solidarity and the Earth Charter in their classrooms. Find more information and a video of this event here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/earth-charter-featured-4th-forum-solidary-schools-lleida/>

In addition, Implicate+ produced a children’s story about the origin of the Earth Charter document. This story is available in Catalan, Spanish and English. It is available for download at: <http://cartadelatierra.org/biblioteca-virtual2/la-llamada/>

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Former UNESCO Director General writes a message to the youth, especially those who have taken the Earth Charter ethical leadership course. Read his full message here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/letter-federico-mayor-zaragoza-youth/>

Earth Charter Youth, Kehkashan Basum, launched “PUSH for the Environment” and spoke in front of 10,000 youth at Young Impact celebrations in Amsterdam as the winner of the 2016 International Children’s Peace Prize. The founders of this PUSH campaign are KidsRights <https://www.facebook.com/KidsRights/>, Amsterdam and KidsRights Youngsters <https://www.facebook.com/KidsRightsYoungsters/>. The PUSH! Environment campaign is the start of an international movement of young change-makers for their rights. With this movement, youth take action and to speak out for matters that concern them directly: from education, equal rights, and the end of violence, to a clean environment. More information [here](#).

Earth Charter Young Leader, Nadine Huids from The Netherlands is a project manager at World of Walas. She uses the Earth Charter as an ethical guideline and framework. In this context, Nadine has given introduction lessons about the Earth Charter to colleagues and has written several articles about this initiative. Her recent work involves Urban Centres, programmed and driven by the Earth Charter Cities Manifesto and brings experts, companies, organizations, and education together all over the world. One past project, Carbon6 <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/carbon6-space-place-bringing-earth-charter-practice/>, transforms a vacant coal-mining building into a flourishing sustainable creative cluster. The vision of Carbon6 is guided by the Earth Charter with two core elements as the concept’s driver: Economy and Ecology. Innovations for circular economy, green energy, and urban farming are prototyped and implemented in the buildings to improve the sustainability of the complex and to incubate new businesses. By improving the building bit by bit, it is on its way to being carbon neutral. The project fosters a vital society and sustainable practices, and the financial situation has completely turned around.

Earth Charter Young Leader, Rabab Hammiche from the Netherlands, is the founder of the NGO Students-4Students, a platform for students and by students that offers a space to start projects and obtain training. This past 2017, she has worked on an Ecoliteracy project for France, Belgium and the Netherlands. She has also worked with two other youth from Belgium and France to develop a European Ecoliteracy project that is going to take place in all three countries. There are 20 youth from all three countries that have been trained to implement this project at schools in their hometown. Read more here. <http://earthcharter.org/youth/youth-network/earth-charter-young-leaders-programme/meet-earth-charter-young-leaders/>

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Meeting with alumni – Earth Charter Action Programme in UMAPAZ

- [Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

In Brazil, UMAPAZ (Open University of Environment and Culture of Peace of the City of Sao Paulo), continues to offer the Earth Charter in Action Programme that started in 2009. Their activities aimed at sensitizing, training, and supporting urban socio-environmental agents and thus to contribute to a more just and sustainable city. In 2017, this Programme carried out the following activities:

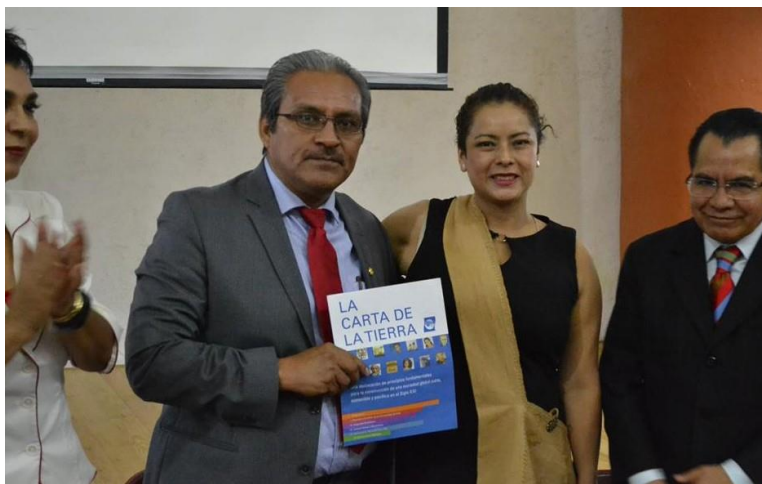
- Earth Charter meeting with alumni in January;
- Training Course for Urban Socio-Environmental Agents (14th cohort - April to July 2017). With this course, 44 people were certified and 26 projects were carried out;
- Socio-environmental Agents Course (April to July 2017) offered in partnership with SESC Itaquera focused on the situation of Aricanduva River basin, in the East of São Paulo. 47 people were certified;
- V Environmental Education Seminar, focusing on the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals; and
- Urban Permaculture Course.

In Costa Rica, the UPEACE and Earth Charter International hosted a talk with Bjørn Heyerdahl, on 23 November. Bjorn shared his experience creating Integral Climate Parks and the intention to develop one in the UPEACE area. He is an explorer, environmentalist, biospheric designer and consultant on humanitarian, environmental and development issues. He is currently the CEO of Integral Climate Change Solutions (ICCS) and founder of Midgard and uses the Earth Charter as an ethical guideline for his activities. Find in this link his full talk: <https://youtu.be/-ThVUvBqNEA>

In Colombia, the University Antonio Nariño (UAN) in Cartagena, has celebrated the Earth Day on 22 April with several events. The Earth Charter was introduced in an activity for Marketing Management students. The objective was to raise awareness about caring for the Earth.

In Mexico, many activities around the Earth Charter have been organized by the Earth Charter Mexican Network in almost all the States with the coordination by Mateo Castillo. This network is seeking Earth Charter endorsements with Municipalities, State Congresses, Universities and civil society organizations. With the endorsements, authorities and organizations pledge to use the Earth Charter as a guide and ethical framework for decision-making processes, in education programmes and as an inspirational reference in the quest towards a global society that is environmentally friendly, fair, sustainable, and peaceful.

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State Congress:

The Congress of Oaxaca State formally endorsed the Earth Charter on 5 June during the Environment Day celebration. On behalf of the sponsors, Deputy Paola Gutiérrez Galindo, mentioned the importance of this endorsement to work harder on ecological protection, eradication of poverty, equitable economic development, and respect for human rights, democracy and peace in the State of Oaxaca.

The State of Michoacán de Ocampo approved a Legislative Decree Number 292 on the Reform of the Environmental Law for Sustainable Development of the State of Michoacán de Ocampo, which adds article 18 BIS where the Earth Charter is considered as part of the Global Ethical Framework for decision-making.

Municipalities' endorsements include:

- City of Michoacan (ratification of Earth Charter endorsement) (June);
- Municipality of Santa Cruz Xoxocotlán, Oaxaca (July);
- Municipality of Aguascalientes (September);
- Municipality of Guadalupe, Zacatecas (November); and
- Municipality of Loreto, Zacatecas (November).

Higher Education Institutions' endorsements include:

- Technological Institute of Morelia (ITM) (May);
- International and Sustainable Bilingual Universities of Mexico (June);
- Twenty-one Technological and Polytechnic Universities (October) Endorsement ceremony took place at the International Congress of Sustainable Agriculture with more than 1,500 attendees;
- Autonomous University of Chiapas;
- Technological Institute of Tacambaro; and
- Center of Social and Economic Studies of the Autonomous University of Sinaloa.

On publications, the Cajeme Technological Institute (ITESCA) in Mexico, made it possible to have the Earth Charter translated into Yaqui, an indigenous language from Sonora, Northern Mexico. Download here. <http://earthcharter.org/virtual-library2/earth-charter-yaqui/>

The focal point of Nuevo León State in Mexico organized eight cultural activities with her organization (Rueda de Medicina Association) to invite people to endorse the Earth Charter. The varied activities include workshops, conferences, talks, a reforestation activity and meetings with strategic partners in this State.

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In Puerto Rico, The Society of Professional Tour Guides of Puerto Rico, a non-profit organization whose main objective is to promote the fellowship and education of tour guides and hikers, endorsed the Earth Charter in March 2017.

From 18 to 23 January 2017, thirty young ecologists from the Americas and Caribbean working in environmental education, conservation and climate activism came to Costa Rica, for a retreat on the "Inner Dimensions of Climate Change." Earth Charter International (ECI) collaborated with The Global Peace Initiative of Women (GPIW), and the Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association (DDMBA), to bring together young people with mentors from different spiritual traditions. They were invited to uncover deeper root causes of the climate crisis and to work together in finding creating solutions. More information here: <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/inner-dimensions-climate-change-young-ecologists-turn-inward/>

Earth Charter Young Leaders of Costa Rica developed workshops and disseminated the Earth Charter in Educational Centers through participatory activities. One of the lines of action aimed at children and young people of different ages, from school to university students so that they are linked and learned the importance of acting for sustainable development and the care of our community of life. As part of the actions of the Earth Charter Young Leaders Network, facilitators Danelia Zúñiga Alvarado, Catalina Gómez Vives, Sofía Mendoza Aguilar and Dennis Perez Umaña have developed different workshops in order to teach the importance of the Earth Charter for society.

The Universidad del Caribe in Cancún, Mexico, established sustainability, social responsibility, and equity with the purpose of creating a broad ethical humanistic sense and a social commitment. The Earth Charter principles have been included as a subject within the Social and Environmental Responsibility major. Each student is requested to learn the skills and values that contribute to sustainable development. In order to broaden and reinforce the principles and values of the Earth Charter, youth participating in the Earth Charter Young Leaders Programme, give workshops, as well as give lectures on systemic thinking, eco-literacy, and justice, culture of peace, leadership and sustainability. Read more here: <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/earth-charter-young-leaders-costa-rica-develop-workshops-dissemination-earth-charter-educational-centers-participatory-activities/>

The EC Mexican network focal point in Veracruz organized two workshops for university students of Veracruzana University in two of their campuses (Veracruz and Xalapa), with a total of 108 participants.

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The focal point of the State of Sinaloa, Julio Morales, organized a workshop to promote the Earth Charter and lifestyles based on sustainable actions, with students from the Autonomous Intercultural University of Sinaloa. This workshop was replicated twice: in September at Los Mochis and at Choix.

- **North America**

The Earth Charter Canada was active in engaging organizations and individuals in adopting the Earth Charter. They organized the Earth Charter Day on 29 June, and enhanced their social media presence and started a monthly newsletter to share the Earth Charter in Canada.

In the United States, Kimberly Corrigan, Vice President for Global Leadership at Global Visionaries and ECI Affiliate, wrote an article on Leaders in Education for Sustainability, published in the Shelburne Farms Sustainable Schools Project 2016 on Educating for Sustainability. The article includes a triple case study. This includes Noah Zeichner, award-winning high school social studies teacher at Chief Sealth International High School in Seattle. The second case is on Jing Fong, an inspiring storyteller and manager of YES! Magazine, a nonprofit and subscriber-supported independent media organization, and co-founders of The SEED Collaborative. Stacy Smedley and Ric Cochrane are architects focusing on transforming schools into exceptional environments for learning. Find these articles here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/earth-charter-affiliate-shares-case-studies-leaders-education-sustainability/>

On 20 February, Sam Crowell presented an introduction to the Earth Charter to 150 people from a local community action group in Idyllwild, California. The group "Indivisible Idyllwild," was formed to engage the Idyllwild community in an on-going dialogue around issues and policies affecting the poor and disenfranchised, sustainability, and social equality of women, LGBT, and immigrants – all impacted by the rhetoric and mandates of the Trump administration.

A new short film "Little Warriors" illustrates the passionate actions of the youth members of Earth Charter Indiana. The film was shown in August at the Indy Film Festival in Indianapolis and the Global Impact Film Festival in Washington, D.C. Directed by documentary filmmaker Sam Mirpoorian, "Little Warriors" tells the story of the efforts of the kids in Earth Charter Indiana to push Indiana, a traditionally conservative and Republican state, to pass climate change resolutions. Under the leadership of Jim Poyser, the founder and director of the group, the kids involved have been speakers at public events and testified at governmental hearings about the necessity of passing resolutions to move forward on climate change action. More information here. <http://earthcharter.org/news-post/independent-film-showcases-youth-efforts-earth-charter-indiana/>

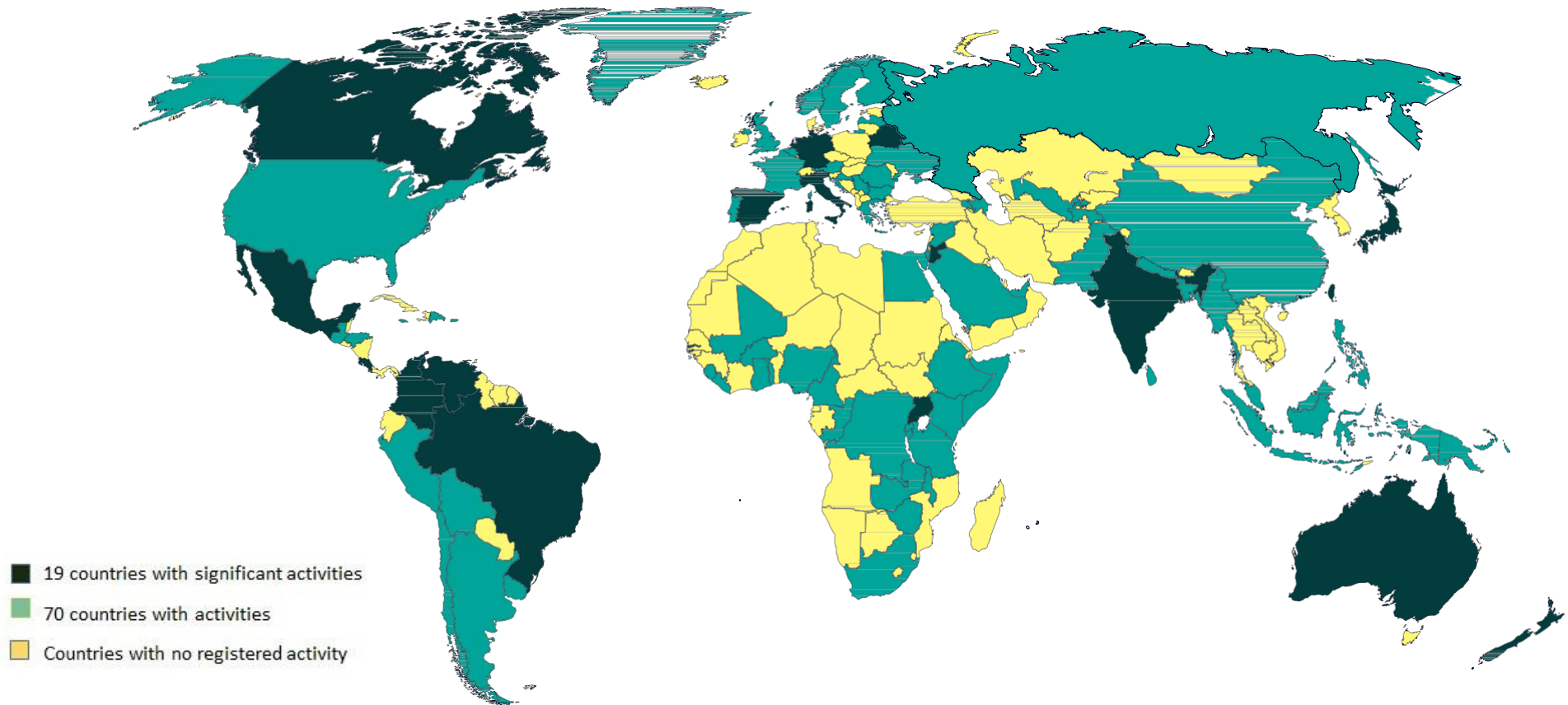
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Between May and June, Severn Cullis-Suzuki, ECI Council member, worked to develop a new version of the speech she delivered at the Rio 92 Summit on behalf of the NGO ECO (Environmental Children's Organization Members). This project aimed at engaging the new generation of 12 years old as an effort to continue to amplify this message. Parents and teachers were invited to incorporate the video in their classroom and engage teenagers in a dialogue. They were invited to watch, share, and show the 92 video to their kids and invite them to make up and add their voice. As part of this project, participants were invited to consider the Earth Charter as guidance to become sustainable and fair. Organizations involved in this project were Environmental Children's Organization Members, the David Suzuki Foundation, Earth Charter International and Indigenous City Media! For more on this see www.severncullissuzuki.com

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ANNEX I

Map Global Earth Charter Movement



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ANNEX II

Earth Charter International Council and Secretariat

ECI Council Members

Frijof Capra, USA/Austria
Mateo Castillo, Mexico
Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Canada
Ama van Dantzig, Ghana
Mitsuko Horiuchi, Japan
Oscar Motomura, Brazil[^]
Akpezi Ogbuigwe, Nigeria
Alide Roerink, The Netherlands
Kartikeya Sarabhai, India[^]
Tommy Short, USA
Mirian Vilela, Brazil^{*}
Hua Wang, China
Vladimir M. Zakharov, Russia Federation

[^] Co-Chairs

^{*} Ex-officio

ECI Secretariat

Mirian Vilela, Executive Director
Alicia Jimenez, Director of Programmes
Christine Lacayo, Youth Projects Coordinator
Gloriana Lara, Project Assistant

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ANNEX III ECI Affiliates

AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

BAHRAIN

Mahnaz Kadhemi
Bahrain Women Association for Human
Development
<http://en.bahrainws.org/>

BURKINA FASO

Ouseeni Diallo
Green Cross Burkina Faso
E-mail: greencross.burkinafaso@gmail.com

BURUNDI

Vital Nshimirimana
Réseau des Citoyens Probes(RCP)

EGYPT

Mennatallah Nada
Cleantech Arabia
Email: mennam@aucegypt.edu

Emad Adly

Arab Network for Environment and
Development (RAED)
E-mail: aoye@ritsec1.com.eg
eadly@hotmail.com

JORDAN

Ziyad Alawneh
Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)
E-mail: ziyad@index.com.jo

Muttasim Al-Hayari

The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human
Development
E-mail: johud@johud.org.jo
www.johud.org.jo

KENYA

The Green Belt Movement
E-mail: gbm@wananchi.com
www.greenbeltmovement.org

MAURITIUS

Rajen Awotar
Council for Environmental Studies and
Conservation
Maudesco
E-mail: maudesco@intnet.mu

SOUTH AFRICA

Bjorn Heyerdahl
Integral Climate Change Solutions
Email: info@bjornheyerdahl.com
www.midgard.co.za

UGANDA

Charles L.M Olweny, MD, FRACP
Vice Chancellor
Uganda Martyrs University
www.umu.ac.ug

ZAMBIA

Mike Chungu
Workers Education Association of Zambia
(WEAZ)
E-mail: mikechungu@yahoo.com

ZIMBABWE Osmond

Mugweni Africa
2000 Network
E-mail: afri2000@africaonline.co.zw;
mugweni@zol.co.zw

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

Clem Campbell
Earth Charter Committee
E-mail: info@earthcharter.org.au ,
clemcampbell@iinet.net.au
www.earthcharter.org.au

Michelle Maloney

National Convenor
Australian Earth Laws Alliance
Email: convenor@earthlaws.org.au
www.earthlaws.org.au

Vincent Sicari

Edmund Rice Centre
E-mail: vincents@erc.org.au
www.erc.org.au

BANGLADESH

Mahfuz Ullah
Centre for Sustainable Development
E-mail: mahfuz@bd.com

CHINA – HONG KONG

Kim Hor Toh
CEDS Ltd
E-mail: admin@ceds-asia.org
www.ceds-asia.org

TAIWAN

Nancy Tzu Mei
Taiwan Environmental Stewardship Association
(TESA)

INDIA

Ashok Khosla
CLEAN India, Development Alternatives
E-mail: tara@devaltd.org
www.devaltd.org

Kartikeya Sarabhai

Center for Environment Education (CEE)
E-mail: cee@ceeindia.org
www.ceeindia.org

Varghese Theckanath

Montfort Social Institute
E-mail: vtheckanathsg@gmail.com

INDONESIA

M.S Sembiring
Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation – KEHATI
E-mail: kehati@kehati.or.id
www.kehati.or.id

Ani Mardiasuti

Yayasan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan
(Sustainable Development Foundation)/ LEAD
Indonesia
E-mail: aniipb@indo.net.id

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JAPAN

Edo Heinrich
I Love Okinawa Campaign(R)/ World O.C.E.A.N.
E-mail: edo@okinawaocean.org
www.okinawaocean.org

Wakako Hironaka
Earth Charter Committee for Asia Pacific and Japan
www.earthcharter.or.jp

NEPAL

Ramesh Man Tuladhar
Nepal Earth Society
E-mail: nepaearts@yahoo.com

NEW ZEALAND / AOTEROA

Klauss Bosselmann
Earth Charter Aotearoa New Zealand
E-mail: k.bosselmann@auckland.ac.nz

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**ARMENIA**

Lilit Sargsyan
Association for Sustainable Human Development
E-mail: lilit.sargsyan@mail.ru
<http://users.freenet.am/~ashd>

AZERBAIJAN

Khayala Mammadova
IRELI Public Union
E-mail: khayala.mammadova@hotmail.com
www.ireli.az

BELARUS

Sofia Savelava
Youth International Education Club "New Line"
E-mail: yiecnwline@gmail.com
www.newlineclub.net

BELGIUM

Tuuli Sauren
Inspirit International Communication
E-mail: ts@inspirit.be

BULGARIA

Anna Lalkovska
Association "Balkan Agency for Sustainable Development" (BASD)
E-mail: alalkovska@balkanagency.org
www.balkanagency.org

GERMANY

Anja Becker
Oekumenische Initiative Eine Welt (Ecumenical One World Initiative)
E-mail: info@oeiew.de
www.erdcharta.de

GREECE

Nelly Kostoulas-Makrakis
University of Crete Faculty of Education Department of Primary Education
E-mail: nkostoula@edc.uoc.gr

ITALY

Corrado Maria Daclon
Comitato Italiano Carta della Terra
E-mail: press@cartadellaterra.it
www.cartadellaterra.it

Michele Scavenzi
Fondazione Cogeme Onlus
E-mail: cartadellaterradireccion@cogeme.net
www.cartadellaterra.org

Simone Mazzata
La Terra nel Cuore
E-mail: simone.mazzata@gmail.com

LATVIA

Ilga Salite
Institute for Sustainable Education at the Daugavpils University
E-mail: ilga.salite@du.lv
www.ise-lv.eu

THE NETHERLANDS

Alide Roerink
Earth Charter Friends Netherlands
E-mail: alideroerink@earthcharter.org
<http://www.earthchartervrienden.org/>

Brigitte van Baren
Inner Sense
E-mail: bmvanbaren@innersense.nl
<http://innersense.nl/>

NORWAY

Torill Frydenlund
Earth Charter Norway
torill@maanefestivalen.no
www.earthcharter.no

PORTUGAL

Carla de la Cerda Gomes
ASPEA – Portuguese Association for Environmental Education
E-mail: cartadaterra.portugal@aspea.org
www.aspea.org/

ROMANIA

Anca Bunea
All Together Foundation
ancusa@gmail.com

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Vladimir Zakharov
Center for Russian Environmental Policy
E-mail: zakharov@ecopolicy.ru
www.ecopolicy.ru/eng

SPAIN

María José Carrillo
Fundación Valores
E-mail: info@fundacionvalores.es
www.fundacionvalores.es

María del Mar Lluelles Implicat+
www.xtec.cat/~mlluelle/implicat/

Amalio de Marichalar
Foro Soría 21 para el Desarrollo Sostenible
E-mail: comunicacion@forodesoria.org

Alfonso Fernández Herrería
Fundación Avalon
E-mail: alfonsof@ugr.es

SWEDEN

Tonia Moya
Green Cross Sweden
E-mail: gcs@green-cross.se
www.gci.ch

TAJIKISTAN

Muazama Burkhanova
Foundation to Support Civil Initiatives (FSCI)
E-mail: muazamab@gmail.com

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UNITED KINGDOM / SCOTLAND

Enid Trevett
Action for Change
E-mail: enid@actionforchange.net

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA

Alejandro Meitin
Ala Plástica
E-Mail: contacto@aloplastica.org.ar

Aldo Esposito/Mariano Villares UISCUMARR
(Unión de Industriales para Saneamiento
Cuencas Matanza-Riachuelo y Reconquista)
E-mail: marianov@uiscumarr.org.ar
www.uiscumarr.org.ar

BOLIVIA

Ramiro Orías
Fundación CONSTRUIR
E-mail: rorias2@fundacionconstruir.org
www.fundacionconstruir.org

Lorena Terrazas
Pazinde
E-mail: lorena.terrazas@gmail.com

BRAZIL

Gabriela Barbosa Batista/Pedro Ivo
Associação Civil Alternativa Terrazul
E-mail: contato@alternativaterrazul.org.br

Moacir Gadotti
Instituto Paulo Freire
E-mail: ipf@paulofreire.org
www.paulofreire.org

Helgis Cristofaro
Umapaz
E-mail: umapaz@prefeitura.sp.gov.br
www.prefeitura.sp.gov.br/umapaz

Marcia Maria Miranda Boff
Center for Human Rights
E-mail: mm-lboff@compuland.com.br

Maria Christina Almeida Braga
Instituto-E
E-mail: nina@institutoe.org.br
www.institutoe.org.br/

Patricia Pereira Abuhab
Instituto Harmonia na Terra
E-mail: patricia@harmonianaterra.org.br
www.harmonianaterra.org.br

CHILE

Manuel Baquedano
Instituto Ecología Política
E-mail: ecologiapolitica@iepe.org
www.iepe.org

COLOMBIA

Milton Eduardo Rodríguez Porras
Asociación Naciones Unidas Colombia ANUCOL
E-mail: anucolcolombia@gmail.com
www.palimpalem.com/6/anucol/index.html

Hernán Bueno Castañeda
Fundación FilosofArte
E-mail: fundacionfilosofarte@yahoo.es

Celso Román, Pablo Garzón
Fundación Taller de la Tierra
E-mail: ftdehatierra@yahoo.com
<http://tallerdelatierra.org/>

Blanca Vilma Parra Durán
Fundación Todo Puede Cambiar
E-mail: blavil@hotmail.com

Olga María Bermúdez Guerrero
IDEA – Universidad Nacional de Colombia
E-mail: olgaber@gmail.com
<http://www.idea.unal.edu.co/>

COSTA RICA Felipe
Carazo Fundecor
info@fundecor.org
www.fundecor.org

Ana Cristina Briceño
Centro Costarricense para la Ciencia y la Cultura
E-mail: acbricenolobo@yahoo.es

Noelia Garita
Red Universidad Nacional – UNA Carta de la
Tierra
www.una.ac.cr/

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Noris Mercedes Garabito Guerrero
Centro Cultural Poveda
E-mail: r.interinstitucionales@centropoveda.org

Josefina Espaillat
International Resources Group, Ltd.
E-mail: ljosefina2000@yahoo.com

GUATEMALA

Marleny Rosales Meda
Organización para la Conservación de la Natura-
leza y Desarrollo Comunitario–ORCONDECO
E-mail: mrosalesmeda@orcondeco.org
<http://www.orcondeco.org/>

MEXICO

Mateo A. Castillo Ceja
Earth Charter Mexico Network
E-mail: matsal@prodigy.net.mx

PERU

Eloísa Tréllez Solís
Asociación Cultural Pirámide
E-mail: vardali7@gmail.com

Rodolfo Ponce De León
ROCKEA SAC
Email: rodolfo@rockea.pe

VENEZUELA

Rosa María Chacón
El Grupo de Investigación Vida Urbana
y Ambiente
Universidad Simón Bolívar
E-mail: rmchacon@usb.ve

Diego Díaz Martín
VITALIS Asociación Civil
E-mail: info@vitalis.net
www.vitalis.net/

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NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

Valerie Elliott
iD2 Communications, Inc.
E-mail: info@iD2.ca
www.iD2.ca

Greg Philliban
Environmental Project Management and Sustainability – ENVPMS
E-mail: gphilliban@envpmsolutions.ca
www.envpmsolutions.ca

Mallora M. Rayner
Earth Charter Friends of Canada
Email: mrayner@teamwalas.com

UNITED STATES

Mary Walch
Center for Environmental and Sustainability
Education,
Florida Gulf Coast University
E-mail: mwalch@fgcu.edu
www.fgcu.edu/cese/

ANNEX IV

Partner Organizations

Amana-Key, Brazil
Casas Optimus, Guatemala
Center for Environment Education – CEE, India
Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education, FGCU, USA
Club of Budapest Italy and Villagio Globale, Italy
CliMates, France
Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN), Africa, US, Canada, and Europe
Deep Time Walk, UK
Earth Day Network, USA
Earth Protect, USA
EOTO World, USA
Forum on Religion and Ecology, USA
Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)
Global Ecological Integrity Group (GEIG)
Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), The Netherlands

Green Cross International, Switzerland
Ideas for US, USA
Integral Climate Change Solutions, South Africa
Itaipu Binacional, Brazil
LLC Scientific-Technical Centre “Resources and Consulting”, Russia
LLC Scientific-Production Enterprise “Cadastre”, Russia
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico (SEMARNAT)
Réseau International des Jeunes Leaders Francophones, Canada
Ruta del Clima, Costa Rica
Shangri-la Institute, China
Soka Gakkai International (SGI), Japan
Transformative Learning Centre, Canada
University for Peace (UPEACE), Costa Rica
University for the International Cooperation (UCI), Costa Rica
Walas Concepts, The Netherlands/Canada

ANNEX V

Earth Charter Young Leaders

Africa

Babajide Oluwase, Nigeria
 Gha Jerry Mua, Cameroon
 Olabanji Jackson-oke, Nigeria
 Victor Okechukwu, Nigeria
 Mkong Cynthia Jeh, Cameroon
 Rohdof Lactem, Cameroon
 Pacifique Nshimiyimana, Rwanda
 Joshua Amponsem, Ghana
 Pendo Muthiora, Kenya
 Rufai Balogun, Nigeria
 Kelly Ngeti, Kenya
 Peter Fongeh, Cameroon

North America

Mary Katherine Belknap, United States

Middle East

Khadeejah bint Malik, UAE
 Mohammed Ba-Aoum, Saudi Arabia

Europe

Itxaso Bengoetxa Larrinaga, Spain
 Kitty Verduin, The Netherlands
 Nadine Huids, The Netherlands
 Rabab Hammiche, The Netherlands
 Jorge Garcia, Spain
 Carlo Abrate, Italy/ Sweden

Latin America & Caribbean

Melchor Ernesto, Mexico
 Arumi Rodríguez, Mexico
 Dennis Pérez, Costa Rica
 Sofía Mendoza Aguilar, Costa Rica
 Rocío Milagros Collantes González, Panama
 Hugo Enrique Robles Bustamante, Mexico
 Daniela Zuñiga, Costa Rica
 Catalina Gómez Vives, Costa Rica
 Ana Karen Proa Rebolledo, Mexico
 José Ignacio Fernández Viquez, Costa Rica
 Camila Mendoza Aguilar, Costa Rica
 Kimberly Alvarado, Costa Rica
 Kenneth Guevara Dinarte, Costa Rica
 Fernando Rodríguez Alvarado, Costa Rica
 Monserrat Carvajal Azcorra, Mexico
 Diana Caraveo, Mexico
 Elon Cadogan, Barbados
 Julian Arias Varela, Costa Rica

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ANNEX VI

Earth Charter Websites in various languages

Arabic	http://www.earthcharterarabic.org
China	http://www.earthcharterchina.org
English	http://www.earthcharter.org
Finland	http://www.earthchartersuomi.org
French	http://www.chartedelaterre.org
Germany	http://www.erdcharta.de
Greece	http://www.earthcharterhellas.edc.uoc.gr
India	http://www.earthcharterindia.org
Italy	http://www.cartadellaterra.it
	http://www.cartadellaterra.org
Japan	http://www.earthcharter.or.jp
Netherlands	http://www.earthcharter.nl
Nigeria	http://www.earthcharternigeria.org
Norway	http://www.earthcharter.no
Portuguese	http://www.cartadaterrabrasil.com.br
Russia	http://www.earthcharter.ru
Spanish	http://www.cartadelatierra.org

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