

# Earth Charter Youth Toolkit



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## About

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This toolkit, while not exhaustive, explains many of the most useful tools, resources and activities that have inspired and motivated members of the Earth Charter youth network.

The [Earth Charter Youth Network](#) is a bold and dynamic action-oriented movement convinced that urgent action is required to bring about a just, sustainable, and peaceful world. The Earth Charter youth network is active in over 198 countries and at the global level, with youth groups, partners and a large number of internationally diverse individual activists.

## You and the Earth Charter

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Earth Charter International (ECI) encourages everyone to contribute to the goals of the Earth Charter Movement. You can do this on an individual level, in a project or organization.

### Individual

As an individual, you can take the following actions to support and participate:

- Use the Earth Charter as a call to action and an ethical guide to a sustainable way of life that inspires commitment, cooperation and change
- [Endorse](#) the Earth Charter and encourage others to do as well
- Promote the Earth Charter amongst your peers offline and online
- Take part in the online [Leadership, Sustainability, and Ethics Training](#) and become an [Earth Charter Young Leader](#)
- Do a project or become active in an organization linked to the Earth Charter
- Write blogposts on the Earth Charter Initiative send to [youthcoordinator@earthcharter.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@earthcharter.org)

### Organizations

As an existing organization, you can take the following 10 actions to embrace the Earth Charter:

1. Disseminate and promote [the declaration](#) among your members and raise awareness about values and principles for a sustainable future
2. [Endorse](#) the Charter and encourage your members to do as well
3. integrate the Earth Charter, Earth Charter educational materials, and programs of EC into your activities and materials,
4. Translate the Earth charter and Earth Charter-related materials in your local language
5. Collaborate with Earth Charter Partners and Affiliates and with other organizations that have endorsed the Earth Charter in your region
6. Share the [Earth Charter Initiative](#) stories on your website, newsletter or social media
7. Assess your organization's progress toward the goal of sustainability with the [Earth Charter Assess Tool](#)
8. Identify additional, potential partners for the Earth Charter youth network
9. Make [financial contributions](#) or provide other resources
10. Consult and follow the [Action Guidelines](#) for Decentralized Expansion of the Earth Charter Movement.

## Partners

[Youth Partners Organizations](#) collaborate in the promotion of the Earth Charter as a sound ethical foundation for a sustainable global society, based on the principles of respect and care for the community of life in all its diversity; ecological integrity; social and economic justice; and democracy, non-violence and peace. They fully embrace the Earth Charter and integrate it into their actions.

Partner Organizations enter into a formal agreement with Earth Charter International on specific projects that describe how the Partner will work to support and promote the Earth Charter and how Earth Charter International will support them.

## Earth Charter Young Leaders

The [ECYL programme](#) is a one-year voluntary commitment to serve as an active focal point in the Earth Charter Youth Network. All ECYL must first complete the Earth Charter International online training in Leadership, Sustainability and Ethics offered annually in English and Spanish. Examples are the [ECYL of Costa Rica](#) and [Melchor from Mexico](#).

## Project

You can use the Earth Charter as your tool to strengthen your current work OR as a framework for a new project to make a positive change in your community. You can find more info on how to implement a youth project [here](#). An inspiring example of a youth starting a project is [Esther Abgarakwe](#).

## Earth Charter Youth Stories

ECI looks for youth stories in the form of an essay, video, performance, artwork, podcast etc. These stories may be published on the ECI website, social media, or even in future print publications. Check out these [youth stories](#) in the ECI Youth Network to see some examples.

## Resources

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You can use the following resources as in your activities:

Online courses	<a href="#">Leadership, Ethics and Sustainability Training</a>
Promotional materials	<a href="#">The Earth Charter Center for Education for Sustainable Development Brochure &amp; Videos</a>
Inspiration	<a href="#">The Earth Charter text translated into fifty languages</a> <a href="#">Stories of the Earth Charter around the World</a> <a href="#">Examples of Earth Charter activities and workshops</a> <a href="#">Art for the Environment</a>
Educational tools	Browse the <a href="#">Earth Charter Virtual Library</a> to access documents that will help you implement the Earth Charter in your own community, organization and personal life. <a href="#">MAPPING</a> is a free mobile app to discover the Sustainable Development Goals and the Earth Charter Principles and promote sustainable actions and projects through picture & video sharing. View the <a href="#">Mapping blog</a> to read stories about how app users are using Mapping in their community. Check out the <a href="#">Mapping How-to-Use Guide</a> .
Project resources	<a href="#">Action Guidelines</a> for decentralized expansion of the Earth Charter <a href="#">Action planning manual</a> <a href="#">Guides for Youth NGOs</a>
Monitor	<a href="#">Earth Charter Assess</a> is an open-source tool for evaluating the sustainability of organizations, projects, initiatives and individuals <a href="#">Creating more impact with your youth projects</a>

### Support

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We can support you in various ways regards to your project:

- Put you into contact with people working on a similar project – in a similar region
- Promote your work, especially about the Earth Charter, on social media and on its different platforms and networks.
- Share opportunities such as conferences, grants, scholarships, competitions and campaigns
- Use of Earth Charter logos, Earth Charter materials and resources
- Give you overall support and encouragement from the [Youth Projects Coordinator!](#)

### Information channels

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There are many different ways to stay up to date with activities of the [Earth Charter Youth Network](#) as part of the [Earth Charter Initiative](#).



On the website you can find information about the [history](#) and [structure](#) of the Earth Charter Initiative, [read inspiring stories](#), browse through various resources in [the virtual library](#) and explore opportunities to [learn](#), [become involved](#) or [donate](#).



The Earth Charter Facebook pages keep you up to date with news about education for sustainable development and the Earth Charter as well as possibilities to become involved. There is an Earth Charter [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#), and [Portuguese](#) official Facebook page. The [Earth Charter Youth Facebook group](#) is a place for you to share as well, discuss or ask questions. There are other Earth Charter youth groups in [Dutch](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#) speaking as well as a local pages such as the [Mexican page](#) and the [Costa Rican](#) page.



Every two months, a newsletter is sent out to the [endorsers of the Earth Charter](#), highlighting the activities of the Earth Charter.



On the [LinkedIn page](#), opportunities for professional development as well as vacancies are shared. The [LinkedIn group](#) allows members from the Earth Charter Initiative to connect in a professional way.



Furthermore, you can follow the Earth Charter on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and follow our [youtube](#) channel.

### Contact

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Youth Projects Coordinator

[youthcoordinator@earthcharter.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@earthcharter.org)