

The Earth Charter Index: Guidelines to Participate to Measure the Contributions of Countries to Planetary Well-being

What do you need to submit as your entry?

1. Research the indicators that can drive action and policies through the values of:
 1. Respect and care for the community of life.
 2. Ecological Integrity.
 3. Social and economic justice.
 4. Democracy, non-violence, and peace.
2. Develop a methodology to measure and use these indicators.
3. Identify publicly available data sets (that include 75% or more of the countries in the world) to apply this methodology and report the scores and ranks of countries using these indicators from 1990 till as currently as possible.
4. Produce graphs, maps, and tables to document your findings.
5. Document your work in the form of your submissions in Microsoft Word or Google Docs format. Your submissions should include the following sections:

Title page: The title, authors, and affiliations should all be included on a title page as the first page of your submission file.

Abstract: A 300-word Abstract should be succinct and cover the background, methodology, principal findings, and conclusions or significance.

Author Summary: Include a 150-200 word non-technical summary of the work in the first-person voice that is distinct from the abstract. Present the significance or possible implications of your work simply and objectively. The goal is to make your findings accessible to a wide audience that includes both scientists and non-scientists.

Introduction: Include a brief review of the key literature you referred to including any controversies or disagreements in the field, for a non-expert reader to delve into these issues further. Include a brief statement of the overall aim and a comment about whether that aim was achieved.

Results: Provide details of all formulas, algorithms, or heuristics required to support your conclusions. Use subsections, each with a concise subheading, if needed.

All data underlying the findings described along with all code required to generate the results must be made fully available from the original source without restriction. All derivative datasets must be provided to maximize the accessibility and reusability of the data by selecting a file format from which data can be efficiently extracted (for example, spreadsheets or flat files should be provided rather than PDFs when providing tabulated data). Data and code must be shared openly in an appropriate repository like [GitHub](#) with accompanying documentation and clearly licensed to facilitate reuse by others. Code may also be shared on [Google Colab](#) and must preferably be in [Python](#). All graphs should also be submitted as HTML code with captions explaining the graphs for sharing on the website.

Discussion: Spell out concisely and provide tight arguments for the major conclusions along with some explanation or speculation on the significance of these conclusions. How do your conclusions affect the existing assumptions and models presented in the Earth Charter Index proof-of-concept

synopsis? How can future research build on these observations? What are the key experiments that must be done?

Methods or Models: Provide enough detail to reproduce the findings. Details of algorithms must be uploaded as supporting information.

Acknowledgments: Those who contributed to the work but are not co-authors to your submission should be listed here with a description of the contribution. Please include funding sources, if any, in this section.

References: All available works must be cited in the reference list. Do not cite unavailable and unpublished work, manuscripts that have been submitted but not yet accepted, and personal communications. Use in-text citations with numbers in superscript, which are later referenced in full in a sequential list at the end of the paper (eg: An in-text citation in Nature style: Planetary Health¹. Listed in References as 1. Horton R.; Lo, S. Planetary health: a new science for exceptional action. Lancet (2015) 1921:1922. Available online: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)61038-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)61038-8).

Who is the author of your work?

Everyone who meets our criteria for authorship must be listed as an author.

Those who have played a substantial role in contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, drafting the entry or revising it critically for important intellectual content, and take public responsibility for the content of their contributions, and are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved meet the criteria for authorship.

All authors will be contacted by email at submission to ensure that they are aware of and approve the submission of the entry, its content, and its authorship. Other members of the group who do not meet this criterion must be acknowledged.

In the case of an authorship dispute, the Earth Charter International will not arbitrate. If the authors are unable to resolve the dispute themselves, we will defer the issue to the authors' institution(s). The Earth Charter International will abide by institutional recommendations following authorship investigations.

Can you publish your entry elsewhere?

You may publish your entry elsewhere at any time provided you include the following acknowledgement in your publication:

"This research was undertaken in response to the open call by the Earth Charter International to participate in the process of identifying ways to measure the contributions of countries to planetary well-being."

What do you get for participating?

All participants, of all accepted entries, will be acknowledged in the Report and on the website released in June 2022 for their participation. The entries selected by our editorial team will be published in part or in whole in the Report. We envision to create an exhibition of entries to be displayed on our website and a possible compilation of entries into a book in order to recognize the contributions and the efforts of the contributors in furthering the thinking and narrative around contributions of countries to planetary leadership.

What are the conditions for participating?

While we welcome open participation, we value healthy meaningful participation. Therefore, we will only accept entries that are complete and submitted in accordance with the guidelines here. We reserve all rights to reject entries that do not meet the spirit of the call for participation, the guidelines, or the editorial standards of the Earth Charter International. All decisions of the editorial board shall be final, and no complaints shall be entertained.