

# The Earth Charter

## EC - Assess



*The Earth Charter Presentation  
by Clem Campbell*

*“You cannot solve problems with the way of thinking that led to their creation”.*

*Albert  
Einstein*

# More than a 'green manifesto'...

Environment protection

+

civil rights

+

poverty alleviation

+

gender equality

+

building a culture of peace

=

**ECO-JUSTICE**

# Preamble

*“We stand at a critical moment in Earth’s history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise.”*

1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.
2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion and love.
3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful.
4. Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

5. Protect and restore the integrity of Earth's ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.
6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.

7. Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights and community wellbeing.
8. Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge acquired.

9. Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social and environmental imperative.
10. Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.
11. Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care and economic opportunity.

12. Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.
13. Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making and access to justice.

14. Integrate into formal education and lifelong learning the knowledge, values and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.
15. Treat all living beings with respect and consideration.
16. Promote a culture of tolerance, non-violence and peace.

# Integrated ethical assessment tool

- To evaluate and improve
  - level of declared commitment
  - level of performance
- It is a subjective measure of ethical values

# Evaluation using the Ethical Framework of the Earth charter

Use the subset of 16 principles  
and  
61 supporting principles

# Identify material principles as significant, meaningful, relevant

- Publicly espouse principle – what we say!
- Implementation in practice – what we do!

# We Assess

- to inspire action

- to recognise inconsistencies  
between actions and espoused values

# Assessment process

- Positive and constructive perspective – build on strengths
- Select subject – participates in the process
- Determine material principles (5 – 16)
- Evaluate the values
- Appraise the performance
- Action – feedback, campaign for change, tract success

*Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.*

*The Earth Charter*

*"It is better to light a candle  
than to curse the darkness."*



*Adlai Stevenson*