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The Earth Charter & Education

Introduction

The Earth Charter is being adopted and used by educators around the world in a diversity of educational settings' schools, institutions of higher education, community and professional development. High school and university educators are finding the Earth Charter a useful resource to incorporate into courses dealing with themes such as ethics, environment, social justice, sustainable development, globalisation, and international relations. Community workers are finding that the

Earth Charter can serve important roles in raising peoples awareness of the global challenges we face, and assisting them in evaluating their own situation and deciding on positive courses of action. Primary school teachers are finding the Earth Charter an inspiring vehicle for engaging young learners to think positively and creatively about their futures.

Education is the key to advancing the transition to more sustainable ways of living. Transformative education is needed: education that helps bring about the fundamental changes demanded by the challenges of sustainability. Accelerating progress towards sustainability depends on rekindling more caring relationships between humans and the natural world and facilitating the creative exploration of more environmentally and socially responsible forms of development. The Earth Charter provides a unique framework for developing educational programs and curricula aimed at transformative learning for a more just, sustainable and peaceful world.

BACKGROUND DOC

- Draft International Implementation Scheme for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
- Earth Charter Guidebook

Soweto children

School children at an Earth Charter educational exhibition in South Africa

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