

Charter for Compassion International

Environment



The human brain now holds the key to our future. We have to recall the image of the planet from outer space: a single entity in which air, water, and continents are interconnected. That is our home.

~David Suzuki

A World of Extremes

Now in the second decade of the twenty-first century, we find ourselves facing a number of extreme situations that were barely thought of a century ago:

- Oceans on the brink of catastrophe
- Ozone holes above the Arctic
- Melting glaciers and rising seas

- Increasingly violent or extreme weather
- More pollution in our air
- Genetic manipulation of plants and food
- The desperate need for clean water
- An exploding world population
- Alarming, dwindling populations of bees, frogs, elephants, whales, and other species and an increase in mutations

An Urgent Call

Many of us—as individuals and in a variety of environmentally-based organizations, have understood the

urgency of these extremes and the compelling need to take action.

The Charter for Compassion: Making Connections

The Charter for Compassion, begun as a simple document, and now grown to a global grass roots movement, serves to connect these kindred individuals and organizations around the globe through the science of technology and the magic of collaboration.

The original document was developed in kinship with many luminary minds worldwide and in response to the TED prize award given to author and scholar Karen Armstrong, in 2008.

Environmental Focus

The Environment sector of our movement includes individuals and partner organizations that have a passionate—and compassionate—concern for the Earth and all life that inhabits and interconnects on our planet. Whether it's eco-economy, growing eco-municipalities, climate change, artificial agriculture, food production, political indifference or influence, the treatment of animals, land grabs and mismanagement, exploitation of the Indigenous, the distribution of scarce resources, double standards, abuse of power and authority, the trampling of human and civil rights, they all serve to right the indifference that abdicates human stewardship for the planet and all its sentient life.

The Charter for Compassion serves as a network to connect and encourage communication among the many and varied activities focused on treating our Earth with compassion. We ask those who are interested to sign the Charter and join in to share ideas, plans, and actions with others also working to make a difference to this place we all call home-- the third planet from the sun.

How does an Environment Organization become a Partner of the Charter for Compassion International?

Here at the Charter for Compassion, we are now asking, "What if?" What if we now turned our collective attention and our human ingenuity—in the environment, business, education, healthcare, religion and all our human endeavors-- to create a compassionate global community where people are motivated by compassion to take responsibility for and care for each other?

That is the vision of the Charter for Compassion International (CCI).

Individuals, organizations, and institutions around the world are already working to bring compassion to life in their communities, taking responsibility for the well-being of people and the planet.

We invite you to [join us](#)—to weave your compassion with the same heartfelt impulse of both friends and strangers throughout the Earth.

A Network of Networks

The basis for the global compassion movement is contained in the Charter for Compassion, a document that was conceived in February 2008 when the TED prize was awarded to Karen Armstrong for her wish to create, launch, and propagate a global compassion movement based on the Golden Rule. The Charter is an expression of the change we are working to implement, beginning with individuals but encompassing organizations, institutions, and communities (villages, hamlets, towns, cities, and countries)—throughout the globe.

Our mission is to serve and support connection among people everywhere. When your organization signs the Charter, it will have the opportunity to communicate with like-minded people and organizations worldwide.

Benefits of Becoming a Partner

The Charter provides regular, open conference calls for each of its sectors (Business, Education, Environment, Healthcare, Peace, Religion/Spirituality, Scientific Research and The Arts), usually with a provocative speaker. All Partners also receive general newsletters and announcements of upcoming events, conferences, and other information that may be of interest.

Each Partner organization has a dedicated page within our website so that others can read about what an organization is doing and perhaps form alliances among organizations. An ongoing blog, relevant annotated bibliographies, and an ever-increasing library of resources is also available on our website. The Charter staff take seriously the need and the commitment to facilitate the connection of people who share the hope of making a difference.



Recognize that peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.

~The Earth Charter

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