

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The Sustainability team has in recent years, established a wide range of useful resources for use in curricula and extra-curricular activities, which are designed to help build the capacity of staff and students in relation to sustainability-related issues.

A short description of all our interesting range of resources is given below.

If you'd like to use or borrow any of these resources, please contact Maz Hamilton on sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk



The Yurt was acquired in May 2014 and has since become part of the landscape at the Canterbury campus. It offers a unique space for any type of event, and gets used by staff and students in a myriad of ways from a team meeting to a music concert!

Every now and then, it gets moved around campus depending on the event or activity for which it is required as a focal point. For example, the Yurt has been used by the Chaplaincy for prayer at Christmas

and Easter, as a venue for small music concerts, as an information point for the SGO (Student Green Office) at undergraduate Open Days. It has even been turned into 'Santa's Grotto' at the Staff Children's Christmas Party!

To book it, please contact Maz Hamilton on sustainability@canterbury.ac.uk



The Sustainability Library is a collection of sustainability themed books which reflect the interests of staff across all faculties invited to select them. Among the more than fifty titles, there are seminal works that tell the 'story of sustainability' from its roots in the niche post-War environmental movement to its current position as a concept with global currency.

The books are available to borrow as a vital resource for staff seeking to enrich their curriculum with sustainability perspectives.

Their content is also of relevance to students undertaking the growing number of modules and programmes with an explicit sustainability focus.

NB: A downloadable list of the books and films in the Sustainability Library is available from the Sustainability webpages or from the Teaching Resources for Sustainability site on Blackboard.



The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) In September 2015 the United Nations (UN) issued '17 goals to transform our world' as part of a new sustainable development agenda. We have created a laminated set of [all seventeen SDGs](#) which show the icon for each Goal on one side and provide full details of its aims on the other.



Pictures of Success is an innovative and inspirational engagement tool developed by the [Carbonsense Foundation](#), which is an independent not-for-profit company set up to create innovative responses to the challenges of climate change and sustainability. Focusing on the core commitments and ethical principles of the [UN Earth Charter](#), they consist of

a suite of cards featuring real picture-based stories of businesses that have successfully established businesses sustainably. Click [here](#) for more info on the Pictures of Success website.

NB: For ideas of how to use them please see the Appendix at the end of this document.



Eco Action Games is the UK's leading specialist in innovative, interactive, eco educational games, a fun employee training or classroom resource, which helps people become more eco-friendly in their everyday lives at home, school, work and university.

We have the [Eco Action Games giant compendium](#) of games which includes: snakes and ladders, bingo and a variety of other well-known games.

We also have the [Global Goals games](#)

[compendium](#), games designed to help understand what the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are, and how they relate to our lives at work and home.



How Bad Are Bananas? is a Carbon Footprint Game based on the book 'How Bad Are Bananas?' by Professor Mike Berners-Lee.

A useful interactive game to start carbon conversations with anybody in bespoke settings.



At My Best® Strength Cards

[At My Best® Strength Cards](#) are a set of 48 cards 'designed to help you bring the best out of yourself and others' by focusing on your strengths and those of your colleagues. Most people find it difficult to articulate what their strengths are, or show appreciation of the qualities they value in their colleagues.

Research has proved that doing so, rather than making improvement a continual focal point, brings out the best in individuals and teams. The *At My Best*

® Strength Cards provide a simple tool to get conversations started, and help people to flourish.



Values cards

[The Values Deck](#) are produced by the Public Interest Research Centre (PIRC), 'an independent charity developing participatory approaches to researching, communicating and connecting around cultural stories for a more democratic, equitable and sustainable society.'

The cards provide a safe and non-invasive tool to help people explore who they are and what matters to them.



The Whole Earth? exhibition in miniature

has been reproduced from pdfs of the 1m high, sixty metres long outdoor exhibition which, for the duration of the 2015-16 academic year, the University mounted at each of its campuses.

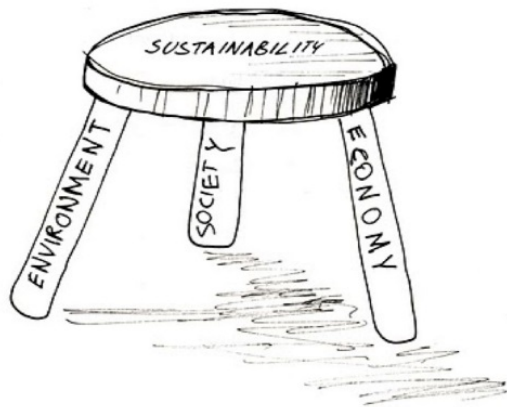
[Whole Earth?](#) is based on the premise that the future belongs to today's young people, who have a major role to play in making society more sustainable. As well as exploring a range of solutions to current environmental problems, it challenges students and tutors to think about changing their courses to meet current and future needs. Many staff and students over the year engaged with the outdoor exhibition through curriculum-based and creative activities, but this smaller version makes it available in perpetuity for use in a classroom setting.



The Hard Rain Project was the precursor to Whole Earth? Mark Edwards and Lloyd Timberlake, creators of both exhibitions used it to highlight the many environmental, political and social challenges we face globally.

Inspired by the lyrics of Bob Dylan's 'A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall', [Hard Rain](#) reveals in a moving and sometimes shocking way the consequences of exploitation and depletion of our planet's population and natural resources.

NB: Copies of the accompanying Hard Rain and Whole Earth? books are available to borrow from the Sustainability Library.



The ESD Curriculum Review Tool is a simple Excel spreadsheet which draws upon the four categories outlined by [QAA in its 'Education for Sustainable Development: Guidance for UK higher education providers'](#), published in June 2014. It asks academic staff to review existing programme and module documentation (prospectus, handbooks, and validation documents) to identify: evidence of existing activity; opportunities for further curriculum enhancement and barriers to further progress, in relation to sustainability-related content.

NB: The tool is designed to be used by programme teams to support curriculum innovation and development not to 'account' for or 'rate' academic practice, indeed not an additional 'tick box' exercise.

APPENDIX

How to use the Pictures of Success cards

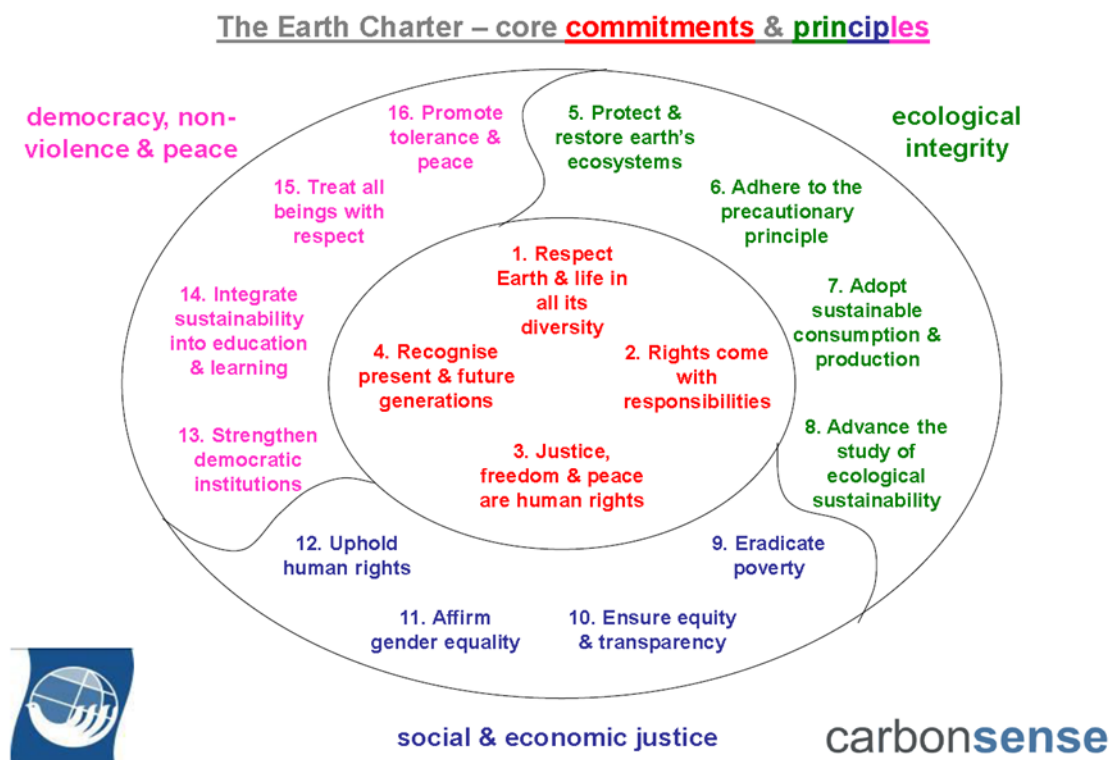
They are based on the principles of the [UN Earth Charter](#) which is unique in its origins. Although in the background (particularly in the UK where it hasn't been picked up by our government), it offers a ready-made charter for global citizenship. NB: For more information, see [The Earth Charter Initiative](#).

There are **16 Principle cards** and **61 sub-principle cards**.

Picture on one side, text on the flip side:

- Principle card has a colour-coded strapline at the *top*.
- Sub-principle card has a colour-coded strapline at the *bottom*.

For the purposes of making the Principles and Sub-principles digestible, PoS have structured their cards into colour-coded themes.



The [Pictures of Success website](#) homepage shows all the cards and you can engage with each of the projects featured on the cards interactively via that organisation's website.

GROUP ACTIVITY

GROUP EXERCISE no. 1

Spread card facing upwards. Invite each member of the group to look at cards through partially closed eyes, not to focus on an image, but on a COLOUR which appeals to them most.

Do this 2x ⇒ Get feedback

Ask each member of group to keep the cards they've chosen.

GROUP EXERCISE no. 2

Spread card facing upwards.

Invite each member of the group to look at cards, this time to focus on an IMAGE OR PICTURE which appeals to them most.

Do this 2x ⇒ Get feedback

GROUP EXERCISE no. 3

Invite each member of the group to turn over one of their chosen cards and READ TEXT on the back.

Do this 1x ⇒ Get feedback

A good way to connect – get people in sharing mode, human space.

ALTERNATIVE USES OF THE PICTURES OF SUCCESS CARDS:

- The cards could be cut by half to make them more manageable in really small groups.
- Academics could choose only the band of coloured principles most relevant to their discipline
OR
- Use the website to pick out examples and exemplars which might be relevant to their modules and disciplines.
- An activity could be done where you look at which coloured cards people choose or notice if any themes emerge.

NB: For all sharing activities, you could use an equivalent of the Native American Talking Stick, as it helps give everyone a chance to speak if in a very large group. Using an object like this can also help calm the nerves of shy people.

