

# **STRATEGY 2014 – 2017**

End Ecocide on Earth is a global grassroots movement aimed at protecting ecosystems on which all life on earth - including human - depends. And you're part of it!

The main idea is intriguingly simple: **the destruction of ecosystems must become a crime**. A crime for which those in positions of superior responsibility can be held accountable according to criminal law.

This crime has a name: Ecocide,

defined as extensive damage or destruction of ecosystems of a given territory.

The ultimate goal of the initiative is that ecocide will be recognised as a crime around the world. This means not only national ecocide crimes in all states but also the recognition that ecocide is an international crime which can be enforced with an international court. To that end, ecocide should be incorporated into the Rome Statute as international Crime against Peace under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court. This can be achieved via an amendment of the Rome Statute, which the Head of any State party can propose.

It is in our collective power to make this change happen, in the years to come till 2017. This is the radical change we need, and we are building a global movement to make it a reality. The first step is to focus on the upcoming COP21 Climate Conference in December 2015 in Paris for which we aim to create huge public momentum supporting End Ecocide



We plan to pursue our goal via the following 3 pillars of our strategy:

# Global Call for International Justice for the Environment & Health

We have initiated and written with 9 other organisations the "Charter of Brussels", a global call requesting the establishment of a European and an International Criminal Court of the Environment and Health. The Charter calls for the recognition of environmental crimes as crimes against Humanity and Peace by the United Nations.

The Charter is now open for signatures by individuals and organizations and will be handed over to Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary-General, during the COP21 Climate Conference in December 2015 in Paris.

Let's join our forces by signing the Charter of Brussels and show our political leaders that the civil society demands environmental justice, by

- 1. Signing the Charter of Brussels 2014 on the website: <a href="http://iecc-tpie.org">http://iecc-tpie.org</a>
- 2. Promoting the initiative to your members and your networks via your website, your Facebook page, your newsletter... and encouraging them to sign the Charter of Brussels.
- 3. Actively engaging civil society around the world, including you, to publicize this initiative to the different opinion leaders and decision-makers in your country, asking them to support our proposed amendment of the Statute of the ICC, which will be presented in 2015.

More info can be found on the website of the Charter (in 11 languages), including a communication kit, the main principles and the objectives of the initiative



Besides supporting the Charter of Brussels, we see it also very important to raise public awareness in the streets and therefore plan a

## **Social Mobilisation Campaign for COP21**

At the COP21 in December 2015, we plan to mobilise tens of thousands of volunteers and supporters in the streets to demonstrate our dedication in protecting our Planet and Future Generations by asking to stop dangerous industrial activities.

Till then local volunteers lobbying, politicians and local NGOs, supported by End Ecocide steering group visits, will prepare the field for a star shaped march to Paris. Groups will start from Ecocide sites in Europe and converging in Paris, supported by flash mobs in Paris and throughout Europe. In addition, the longest press conference in history discussing ecocide cases around the world will be organised including a mock trial of oil pollution in Nigeria with the help of Friends of the Earth Nigeria.

We encourage the End Ecocide team members as well as all other interested activists to join all events in the world preparing the COP21 conference throughout the year 2015, to raise awareness for the law of ecocide prevention. The preparations are organised by Climate Justice coalitions and movements.

Volunteers can explain End Ecocide on Earth's strategy and invite other organisations to join the Global Call, to sign and promote the Charter founding a global network of volunteers and NGOs that are united in bringing justice to our planet and nature.

A planned website showing the progress of our mobilization campaign is currently implemented at <a href="http://cop21.endecocide.org">http://cop21.endecocide.org</a>

And finally we need to work out a detailed legal proposal on how to enforce justice for our planet by drafting a



### **Concrete proposal of Criminal Law recognizing Ecocide**

Under the lead of End ecocide on Earth, a legal and scientific working group of renowned international experts is set up and will meet personally on the 14th of October 2014. The expert group will prepare a draft amendment to the Rome Statute in order to include, within the ICC prerogatives, environmental and health crimes.

Organisations joining the Charter's global call and the expert working group commit to lobby with us the different opinion leaders and decision-makers in their country, asking them to support the proposed amendment of the Statute of the International Criminal Court. The process of revision of the statute is very simple: one member state shall propose the amendment to the UN Secretary-General, who then distributes the proposal to the other member states during a general assembly or convenes a revision conference.

#### The ultimate goal

The draft amendment will be given to the UN Secretary general, Ban Ki-Moon, the latest at the COP 21, by representatives of member states of the ICC supporting the text, together with the civil society petition asking for an International Criminal Court of the Environment & Health. The next revision conference already planned will not meet before January 1st 2017. This is why we shall continue lobbying throughout the year 2016 to get as many members states on board as possible before the Revision Conference, and make our wish into a reality.

To celebrate the new age of the End Ecocide movement becoming global, End Ecocide on Earth invites you to come to a free <u>Public Conference on 13-14 October</u> in Brussels. Over 170,000 citizens have supported our call on EU leaders to implement the law of ecocide prevention in Europe. As the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) has closed, End Ecocide on Earth is born - as the whole world is affected by ecocide.