



Entreprises pour
l'Environnement

***Is biodiversity addressed by existing
corporate responsibility schemes ?***

What is EpE?

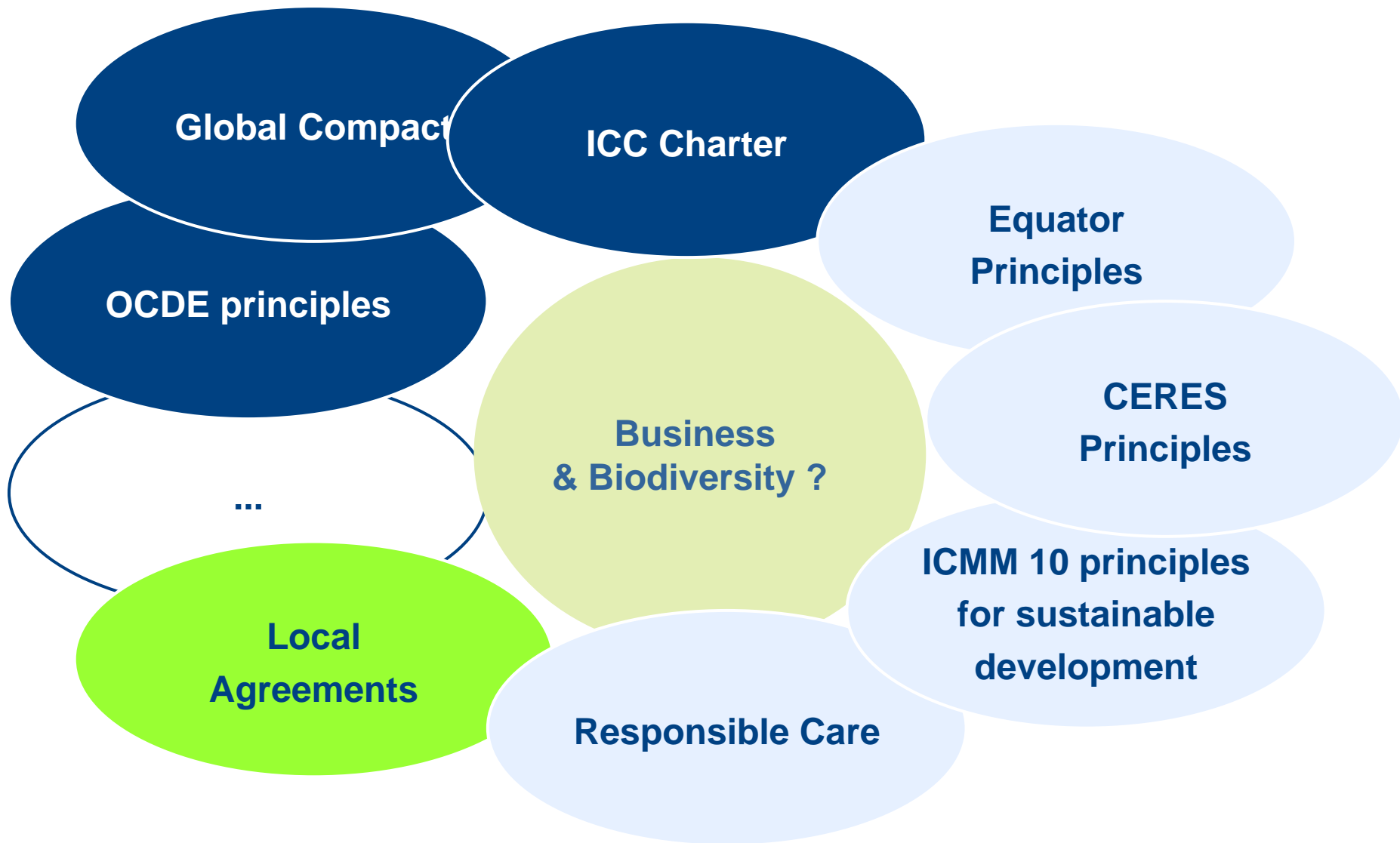
⇒ An association gathering 42 companies members :

- AGF
- AIR FRANCE
- AIR LIQUIDE
- ALCAN
- AON
- ARCELOR-MITTAL
- AREVA
- AUTOROUTES
PARIS RHIN RHONE
- AXA
- BNP PARIBAS
- BOLLORE
- CAISSE DES DEPOTS
FRANÇAIS
- DELOITTE
- DUPONT DE NEMOURS
- EDF
- ERAMET
- GAZ DE FRANCE
- LA POSTE
- LAFARGE
- MARSH
- MICHELIN
- NEXITY
- NORAUTO
- RATP
- RENAULT
- RHODIA
- SAINT-GOBAIN
- SANOFI-AVENTIS
- SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC
- SECHE ENVIRONNEMENT
- SFR
- SIA CONSEIL
- SNCF
- SOCIETE GENERALE
- SOLVAY
- SPIE BATIGNOLLES
- SUEZ
- TOTAL
- VALLOUREC
- VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT
- VINCI

⇒ A think tank on environmental issues, dealing with climate change, biodiversity loss, natural resources, health & environment, etc.

⇒ The French partner of WBCSD

Significant corporate responsibility schemes



OCDE Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises



Chapter 5 : Environment

- ↪ Establish EMS
- ↪ Take into account concerns about cost, confidentiality, IPR
- ↪ Assess and address EHS impacts
- ↪ Lack of full certainty is not a reason for inaction for human health and safety
- ↪ Establish contingency plans for preventing, mitigating and controlling damage
- ↪ Ensure continuous improvement of corporate environmental performance
- ↪ Provide education & training to employees
- ↪ Contribute to environment friendly public policy



No specific mention of biodiversity



Global Compact principles

Ten point code, among them :

- ↪ Principle 7:
Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- ↪ Principle 8:
undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;
- ↪ Principle 9:
encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies



No specific mention of biodiversity



ICC Charter 16 principles

- ↪ 1. Corporate priority
- ↪ 2. Integrated management
- ↪ 3. Process of improvement
- ↪ 4. Employee education
- ↪ 5. Prior assessment
- ↪ 6. Products and services
- ↪ 7. Customer advice
- ↪ 8. Facilities and operations
- ↪ 9. Research
- ↪ 10. Precautionary approach
- ↪ 11. Contractors and suppliers
- ↪ 12. Emergency preparedness
- ↪ 13. Transfer of technology
- ↪ 14. Contributing to the common effort
- ↪ 15. Openness to concerns
- ↪ 16. Compliance and reporting



No specific mention of biodiversity



CERES principles



Ten point code, among them :



Protection of the Biosphere :

we will reduce and make continual progress toward eliminating the release of any substance that may cause environmental damage to the air, water, or the earth or its inhabitants. We will safeguard all habitats affected by our operations and will protect open spaces and wilderness, while preserving biodiversity.



Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

We will make sustainable use of renewable natural resources, such as water, soils and forests. We will conserve non-renewable natural resources through efficient use and careful planning.



Environmental Restoration

We will promptly and responsibly correct conditions we have caused that endanger health, safety or the environment. To the extent feasible, we will redress injuries we have caused to persons or damage we have caused to the environment and will restore the environment.



Specific mention of biodiversity



Equator Principles



Principle 2: Social and Environmental Assessment

For each project assessed, the borrower has conducted a Social and Environmental Assessment process to address, as appropriate and to the EPFI's satisfaction, the relevant social and environmental impacts and risks of the proposed project (which may include, if relevant, the illustrative list of issues as found in Exhibit II). The Assessment should also propose mitigation and management measures relevant and appropriate to the nature and scale of the proposed project.

Exhibit II : many items, among them :

- f) **protection and conservation of biodiversity**, including endangered species and sensitive ecosystems in modified, natural and critical habitats, and identification of legally protected areas
- g) sustainable management and use of renewable **natural resources** (including sustainable resource management through appropriate independent certification systems)
- m) **land acquisition** and involuntary resettlement
- n) **impacts on affected communities**, and disadvantaged or vulnerable groups
- o) **impacts on indigenous peoples**, and their unique cultural systems and values



Specific mention of biodiversity



N#7 : Contribute to conservation of biodiversity and integrated approaches to land use planning

- Respect legally designated protected areas.
- Disseminate scientific data on and promote practices and experiences in biodiversity assessment and management.
- Support the development and implementation of scientifically sound, inclusive and transparent procedures for integrated approaches to land use planning, biodiversity, conservation and mining.



Specific mention of biodiversity



Responsible Care Global Charter



- ↪ Continuously improve the environmental, health and safety knowledge and performance of our technologies, process and products over their life cycles so as to avoid harm to people and environment
- ↪ Use resources efficiently and minimise waste



No specific mention of biodiversity



An example of local charter : Ile de France



Ile-de-France has established in 2003 a “**Charte régionale de la biodiversité et des milieux naturels**”. Companies should :

- ↪ Mettre en oeuvre une stratégie partagée de préservation de la biodiversité et du patrimoine naturel
- ↪ Intégrer la biodiversité dans les différentes politiques régionales ou locales d'aménagement du territoire
- ↪ Définir des plans d'actions coordonnées en faveur de la biodiversité et notamment :
 - Promouvoir des projets favorables à la biodiversité et au patrimoine naturel
 - Améliorer les connaissances en la matière
 - Créer un lieu permanent d'échange des connaissances et de l'information et favorisant la rencontre entre acteurs
 - Favoriser et promouvoir l'éducation et la formation
 - Reconquérir des espaces naturels en faveur de la biodiversité



Conclusion



- ↳ Biodiversity is NOT yet sufficiently integrated in global corporate responsibility schemes,
- ↳ even if A FEW of them DO mention it, especially local or sectorial,
- ↳ but they DON'T really provide helpful framework to integrate biodiversity into companies policies.

 **Need for more awareness of this issue !**