

Green Cross International (GCI) is a non-governmental environmental organization established in April 1993 as the result of an initiative by Mikhail Gorbachev, the former President of the USSR. Its mission is to help create a sustainable future by cultivating harmonious relationships between humans and the environment.

GCI has its head office in Geneva. In addition to the international association, Green Cross has national chapters in 21 countries. The national offices in the United States and Germany have adopted the name "Global Green." Global Green's American offices are located in California, New York and Ohio. GCI has a Board of Directors is comprised of political, business and opinion leaders of who represent and connect GCI to the political and business communities of relevant nations. U.S. citizens on the Honorary Board in 2003 included Robert Redford and Yoko Ono.

Green Cross's programs include "The Environmental Legacy of Wars," including the Cold War, which promotes the clean-up of contaminated areas, the conversion of military bases to civilian use, and the environmentally-responsible destruction of chemical weapons; a water and desertification program which works to prevent conflicts in water-stressed regions by promoting joint solutions involving all parts of the community; and a "Greening Affordable Housing" project led by Global Green of the United States which promotes the development of energy efficient housing in low income-neighborhoods.

Green Cross has been particularly active in water issues in the Middle East and southern Africa, and Mikhail Gorbachev has personally played an active role in seeking an agreement between Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority and Lebanon on the sharing of the Jordan River Water. The Green Cross worked with other environmental organizations to draft the "Earth Charter," intended to serve as a universal code of conduct for a sustainable future. Green Cross is also highly involved in environmental education and communication.

INTERNET

www.gci.ch

Description of Green Cross International and its programs, links to national offices, forums for dialogue.

GCI

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