

THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL –

GROUP CONCEPT TO CHAPTER 1 OF THE SOCIAL PRINCIPLES (THE NATURAL WORLD)

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1.	Brief overview
1.1	Target group
	Youths starting from 14 ys
1.2	Basic conditions
Duration	1,5 - 2 hours
Group size	min. 5 participants
Staff	1 + X
Room	Indoor
1.3	Short facts
Relation	Chapter 1, Social Principles
Target	[...] to support a more ecologically equitable and sustainable world leading to a higher quality of life for all of God's creation (SP, ¶ 160. I. The Natural World)
Methods	Brainstorming, Teamwork, democratic decision-making
Prep. time	short
Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Devotion (optional) - Introduction: „What are the Social Principles?“ (explain) and introduce into Chapter 1, ending with the named target thoughts - Phase 1: Address concrete goals on the basis from sections A - D and G + H - The group decides on one of these concerns (this can also be done after Phase 2) - Phase 2: The group draws up a resolution, a reader 's letter, or a request to the local council or similar on the chosen issue (OR: small groups working on a number of the named concerns) - The whole group decides which draft should be published first - The group decides when and how its draft should be published - Completion as usual in the group
Material	Min. 1 laptop for writing and researching the Internet

2	Content deepening for staff
Importance of the subject	The topic of Chapter 1 is of global importance and is seen by young people as very important.
Biblical references	Genesis 1 - 2; Psalms 8, 29, 104
Importance for the day-to-day life of the target group	To relate to their own world of living is not a problem for young people. It is the goal of the meeting to bring them into democratic participation and decision-making processes. Ideally, they should be guided during the hour from the emotion to the action, from the expectation ("there should be something happen!") to the active doing.
Literature	Social Principles, Preamble, Chapter 1

3	Detailed schedule
	To get started a devotion is recommended, if this is not absolutely unusual for the group. The group leader should try to teach the young people appreciativeness of God's good creation, to help them realize that the protection of the natural world is based on the fact that God created the earth for us. Psalm 104 is particularly suitable as a biblical text for such devotion.

	<p>The introduction can be kept short, limited to the most important. The goal should be mentioned as the whole concept of the meeting is based on it.</p> <p>At the beginning of the "group work phase", small groups or the individual participants (depending on the size of the group) should each consider one of the sections A - D and G + H in order to identify deficits in their city, their residential community etc., e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deficiencies in waste prevention and recycling (section A) - destruction of woodland or other biotopes (section A) - Ideas for energy saving measures (Section B) - Ideas for the expansion of renewable energy sources (section B) - non-animal husbandry of farm animals (section C) - unnecessary emissions (section D) - Promotion of organic agriculture and regional products (sections G- H) <p>The task for the group is now to produce one or more (depending on the group size) drafts of a resolution, a reader's letter of the reader, an application to the local council etc. This is done according to the classical rules of democratic processes (proposal, discussion, voting, final statement).</p> <p>Important: the design should not be produced for the paper basket, but should actually reach the communal public ("into the world") so that it "leads to a higher quality of life for all."</p> <p>By that, the young people should realize, that their action can influence the "adult world" and that their commitment can in the ideal case actually lead to improvements.</p>
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Translation: Daniel Obergfell, june 2017