



## Äerdschëff Charter

### **Vision**

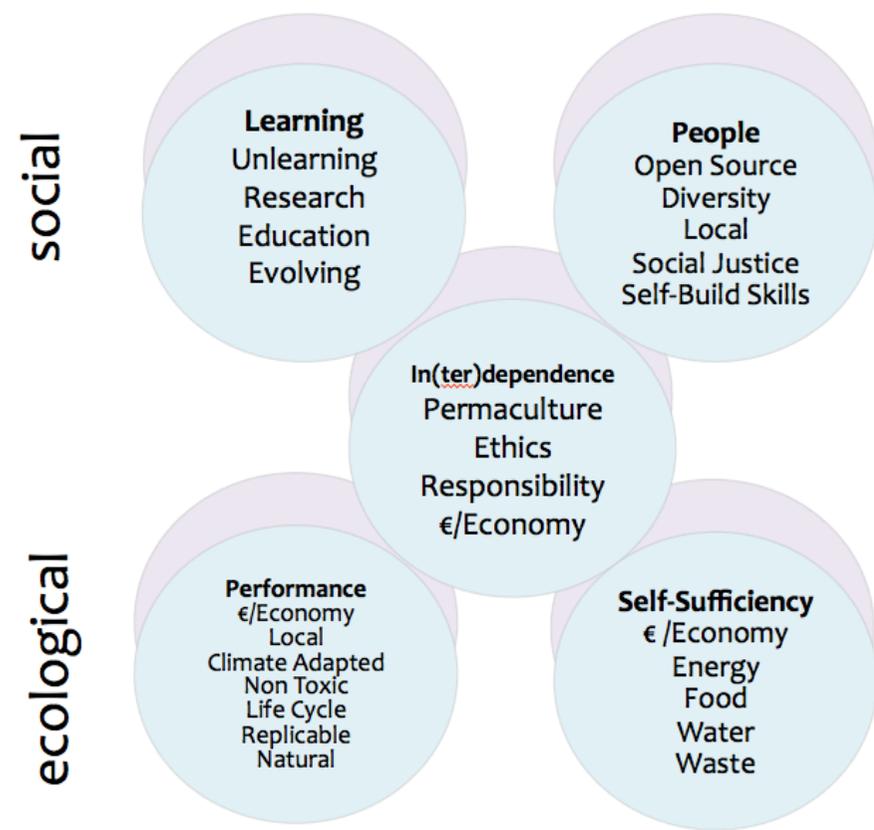
We seek to design and build a comfortable and healthy self-sufficient space for human learning and flourishing in a changed climate.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to steer and lead a community-based process aimed at designing, building and documenting an earthship-inspired hub in Redange/Attert. This building will serve the community as a hub to showcase, practice and live low-impact, regenerative ways of living.

### **Principles**

The principles that will guide our collective decisions around the design, implementation and running of the Äerdschëff are firmly rooted in the permaculture ethics, Earth Care, People Care and Fair Shares. What this means exactly is detailed below and was collectively harvested by the pilot group in October 2016 and distilled into 5 principles. These 5 principles foundational of our charter are evolving and will be updated and adapted as required during our learning process.



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRINCIPLE</b> guiding our decision</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EARTH CARE</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PEOPLE CARE</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FAIR SHARES</b></p>
<p><b>LEARNING</b> We seek to educate, research and evolve our learning for human learning and flourishing in a changed climate. As far as possible, we use local skills and materials and build cross-sectorial partnerships with local enterprise that seeks to evolve and deepen their social and environmental commitments. We learn as a community. Our collective decision-making processes are informed by our governance process. We create a living lab for people’s research and systems monitoring in partnership with research and educational stakeholders.</p>	✓	✓	✓
<p><b>PEOPLE</b> We empower a diversity of social classes and backgrounds to acquire new skills through participatory self-build learning contexts. We document our learning process in an open-source way. We design and build with community power, supported by professional artisanship for best practice. We are conscious of the need to think ecology and social together. Any system that fosters inequality destroys ecosystems, and so social justice is inextricably tied to aspirations of low-impact living. Social justice for us includes fostering a true culture of solidarity and engagement, across historical gender, class and racial divides.</p>		✓	✓
<p><b>IN(TER)DEPENDENCE</b> We make decisions independently and as responsibly as possible, based on permaculture ethics. We develop a permaculture-based business model that allows to reinvest capital for maintenance and post-construction development, and that will eventually make the Äerdschëff financially autonomous. We improve the health of the ecosocial system through systemic design and action. This is not just a building, but a hub for educational and economic activities relevant to the low-impact transition. The building is a catalyst that</p>		✓	✓

exists in an environment of educational practices, including vegetable growing and solar technology.			
<p>PERFORMANCE</p> <p>We are inspired by the earthship, but we adapt and evolve this concept to perform well in the climatic conditions in Luxembourg and to be replicable in our region.</p> <p>We will choose our building materials through a collective assessment with a matrix that includes considerations of life cycle (embodied energy, GHG emissions, resource-efficient material life cycles, water resources,...), non-toxicity, suitability for climatic conditions in our aspiration of providing healthy and comfortable shelter, closed loops (recycled materials and repairability), local (bioregional) provenance, resilience to climate change, and cost.</p> <p>We are aspiring to balance quality and simplicity in our Äerdschëff systems (water, power) for low-maintenance, longevity, repairability and low-impact.</p> <p>We engage political action around low-impact building, materials and living.</p>	✓	✓	
<p>SELF-SUFFICIENCY</p> <p>€/Economy Energy Food Water Waste</p> <p>We aspire towards self-sufficiency with regards to energy, food, water and waste.</p>	✓	✓	