A Call for CarboSchools: 
Teacher-Scientist Partnerships on Global Change

CarboEurope and CarboOcean are major research projects that study the impacts of human activity on the state and future of our common habitat. As such, they not only have a contractual but also a moral obligation to contribute the results of this research to the public discussion on global change.

As the citizens and decision-makers of tomorrow, young people are particularly affected by and concerned about the changes in the environment. They should be equipped with a basic understanding of the processes at work and the state of current research in order to make informed choices about future action.

In order to achieve this, CarboEurope and CarboOcean are promoting the CarboSchools initiative which fosters partnerships between scientists, secondary school teachers and students. Through common projects, these partnerships are intended to encourage

• science learning based on hands-on experience and up-to-date research,
• innovative interdisciplinary approaches,
• discussion on global change issues based on first-hand knowledge,
• the search for solutions both from an individual perspective and also within the European context.

As a step towards the establishment of lasting partnerships between schools and research, CarboEurope and CarboOcean will

• contribute to initiating pilot projects,
• explicitly acknowledge the involvement of fellow scientists in school projects as a valuable part of their professional work,
• encourage PhD students to participate in joint projects with schools as an integral part of their training as future scientists,
• contribute to the development and provision of resources for school projects through a dedicated CarboSchools webpage.

We hereby call scientists and scientific institutions from the global change community as well as teachers and schools to join this initiative.

Prepared 24 March 2005 in Sainte Croix, France

Adopted xxx by CarboEurope general assembly1
Adopted xxx by CarboOcean general assembly2

1- 64 institutions from 17 countries
2- 40 institutions from 15 countries