CHARTERED ENVIRONMENTALIST
COMPETENCES

“Sustainability through Environmental Professionalism”

Copyright © 2020 Society for the Environment
Introduction

A Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) is a professional who has been registered as such by a Licensed Member after demonstrating that they apply a high level of environmental knowledge, understanding and skills to protect and enhance the environment in a sustainable way. Registration as a CEnv recognises the level of professional practice among people operating within the different environmental disciplines and knowledge bases found within the domains of the Licensed Members.

This document specifies the competences that must be demonstrated by applicants for registration as a CEnv. Other criteria are also required to register as a CEnv, including:

- The eligibility criteria
- Agreement to the Society’s Code of Professional Conduct

Successful applicants for registration shall be entitled to use the title Chartered Environmentalist and the designatory letters CEnv after their names.
CEnv Competences

Applicants must demonstrate how they meet each of the following 12 competences.

A Application of Knowledge and Understanding of the Environment to Further the Aims of Sustainability

A1 Have underpinning knowledge of sustainability principles in the management of the environment.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Critically analyse, interpret and evaluate complex environmental information to determine sustainable courses of action.
- Understand the wider environmental context in which the area of study or work is being undertaken.
- Understand the importance of maintaining and enhancing natural cycles and biodiversity in achieving sustainability.
- Reformulate and use practical, conceptual or technological understanding of environmental management to develop ways forward in complex situations.

A2 Apply environmental knowledge and principles in pursuit of sustainable environmental management in professional practice.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Conceptualise and address problematic situations that involve many interacting environmental factors.
- Determine and use appropriate methodologies and approaches.
- Critically evaluate actions, methods and results and their short and long-term implications.
- Actively learn from results to improve future environmental solutions and approaches, and build best practice.
- Negotiate the necessary contractual and agreed arrangements with other stakeholders.

A3 Analyse and evaluate problems from an environmental perspective, develop practical sustainable solutions and anticipate environmental trends to develop practical solutions.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Analyse and evaluate problems, some complex, from an environmental perspective working sometimes with incomplete data.
- Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and addressing problems.
• Demonstrate a critical awareness of current environmental problems and anticipate the impact of future environmental trends.

• Critically analyse and embrace new environmental information and seek new knowledge, skills and competences in the field of environment based on the most recent scientific, social, economic, cultural and technical developments and understanding.

B Leading Sustainable Management of the Environment

B1 Promote behavioural and cultural change by influencing others to secure environmental improvements that go beyond minimum statutory requirements.

This normally includes the ability to:

• Develop good practices [best practice] by actively learning from results to improve future environmental solutions and approaches.

• Help, mentor and support others to understand the wider environmental picture.

• Advocate sustainability concerns and environmental issues, encourage others to actively contribute to environmental protection and sustainability.

B2 Promote a strategic environmental approach.

This normally includes the ability to:

• Demonstrate self-direction and originality in developing strategies for sustainable development and environmental improvement.

• Actively collaborate and engage with other disciplines and stakeholders and encourage multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches to environmental challenges.

• Identify constraints and exploit opportunities for the development and transfer of environmentally appropriate technology.

• Identify areas of uncertainty and risk including health and safety, environmental, technical, business and reputational.

B3 Demonstrate leadership and management skills.

This normally includes the ability to:

• Exercise autonomy and judgement across environmental and sustainability issues.

• Motivate and influence others to agree and deliver environmental objectives.

• Identify individual needs, plan for their development, assess individual performance and provide feedback.

• Reflect on outcomes, identify and pursue improvements on previous practice.
C Effective Communication and Interpersonal Skills

C1 Communicate the environmental case, confidently, clearly, autonomously and competently.

This normally includes the ability to:

• Deliver presentations to a wide spectrum of audiences.
• Lead and sustain debates.
• Contribute to and chair meetings and discussions.
• Identify, engage with and respond to a range of stakeholders.

C2 Ability to liaise with, negotiate with, handle conflict and advise others, in individual and/or group environments (either as a leader or member).

This normally includes the ability to:

• Understand the motives and attitudes of others and be aware of different roles.
• Influence decision-making.
• Seek the opinions and contributions of others
• Promote development opportunities and activities.
• Champion group decisions and manage conflict for the achievement of common goals and objectives.
D1  Personal Commitment to Professional Standards, Recognising Obligations to Society, the Profession and the Environment

Encourage others to promote and advance a sustainable and resilient approach by understanding their responsibility for environmental damage and improvement.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Inform and encourage others to consider environmental sustainability issues and the consequence of their decisions and actions.

D2  Take responsibility for personal development and work towards and secure change and improvements for a sustainable future.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Recognise the value of CPD to the profession.
- Have a strong desire to learn.
- Value and actively pursue personal professional development.

D3  Demonstrate an understanding of environmental ethical dilemmas.

This normally includes the ability to:

- Understand the nature of professional responsibility.
- Identify the environmental ethical elements in decisions.
- Address and resolve problems arising from questionable environmental practice.

D4  Comply with relevant codes of conduct and practice.
Contact Details

Society for the Environment
Davis Building
189 Railway Terrace
Rugby
CV121 3HQ

Tel: +44 (0)345 337 2951    Email: enquiries@socenv.org.uk