

## CEP Magazine – July 2022

### Tending your compliance and ethics garden

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By Nick Gallo and Giovanni Gallo

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“In this palace he erected very high walls, supported by stone pillars; and by planting what was called a pensile paradise, and replenishing it with all sorts of trees, he rendered the prospect an exact resemblance of a mountainous country.” — Josephus (c. 37–100 AD) The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, were built in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC by King Nebuchadnezzar II for his homesick wife, Amytis. The Achaemenid princess deeply missed her green, mountainous homeland and found the flat, dusty, sun-scorched terrain of Mesopotamia depressing. To cheer her up, King Nebuchadnezzar built his queen an oasis in the desert, a massive garden with multiple terraces meant to resemble a mountain, covered with innumerable exotic trees and plants near the Euphrates River,<sup>[1]</sup> which served as a water source. As you can imagine, keeping these plants alive in the arid desert climate took a lot of water and a lot of intentional effort by people employed for this purpose specifically.<sup>[2]</sup> Your ethical culture of integrity is just like a garden planted in an arid, profits-over-everything wasteland inhabited by other companies. Without the consistent focused effort to keep it thriving, the wrong things will grow and the right things will die.



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