

FAITH FOR EARTH



ONE EARTH
MANY RELIGIONS
ONE GOAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

While the Summer has not officially started, the heat of faith and interfaith activities have started to be felt across the globe. Last year might have been the hottest year in record, but this year certainly it is one of the hottest years for the role of faith-based organizations getting engaged in important global events such as Climate Change COP 26, Food Systems Summit, Biodiversity COP 15, the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, G20 Interfaith Dialogue, the Vatican Faith and Science Conference, and many more.

Faith for Earth is at the heart and centre of all these important events providing a non-biased and neutral platform for engagement and dialogue and mobilizing concrete actions for the people and the planet.



Faith + Food Coalition: Regenerating the Earth

[The Center for Earth Ethics](#) is convening a series of independent virtual dialogues under the [Faith and Food Coalition](#) to critically examine the role faith-based organizations can bring to conversations about our food systems.

On 20 May 2021, Dr. Iyad Abumoghli will join [Lyla June Johnston](#), [Joshua Amponsem](#), [Tosi Mpanu-Mpanu](#), [Felipe Carazo](#), [Marcelo Salazar](#), and [Bibi la Luz Gonzalez](#) in a conversation about [Regenerating the Earth](#) that seeks to highlight the real impacts our current world food systems is having on biodiversity and ecosystem health; discuss how faith can change attitudes towards our relationship with the Earth; and educate on action items and solutions within global food systems.

Watch: [We are all connected](#)

Read the [Scientific Group Reports](#)

Become a [Food Systems Hero](#)



UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) Event

On 24 May 2021 at 9am BST, UK FCDO will convene a panel consisting of Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, [Dr. Ibrahim Özdemir](#), and [Glada Lahn](#), with opening remarks by [Janet Rogan](#), the COP26 Regional Ambassador for Middle East, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa to discuss faith engagement, climate and environment issues, with a particular focus on Islamic precepts on the environment, and possibly the role of interfaith dialogue with regards to climate action.

INFORMATIVE WORKSHOP

THE ROAD TO GLASGOW

MAY 26TH, 2-3.30PM CET



The Road to Glasgow: An Informative Workshop to Coordinate FBO Actions Leading to COP26

On 26 May 2021 2 pm-3.30 pm CET, UNEPs Faith for Earth will host an informative workshop on FBOs' initiatives and efforts towards COP26 as well as their suggestions for a long-term strategy. The workshop seeks to accelerate climate action among different stakeholders in an informative, inclusive, and action-oriented way.

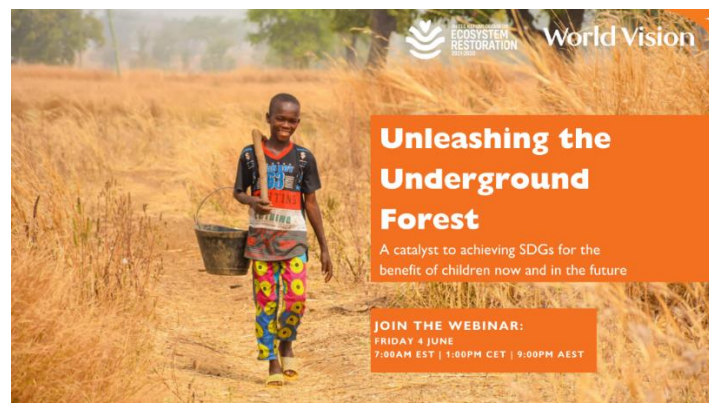
The workshop will inform about the findings of the Survey on Faith-Based Climate Action conducted by the Interfaith Task Force on Climate Change, and the Faith and Science Dialogue Series presented by the Vatican and the British and Italian Embassies to the Holy See. The Workshop will also highlight some examples of faith-based activities in the lead-up to and during COP26, and will provide an open forum to discuss the status quo, consolidate collaborative efforts, and plan next steps together.

For more details about this Workshop, please contact Esther Breffka (esther.breffka@un.org).



Healing the World: Prayers and Reflections for All Sentient Beings

Building upon and celebrating the [UN Vesak Day dialogue](#) in 2020, the [Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation](#) will convene representatives from a diverse range of organizations representing Buddhist, Interfaith, Faith and UN voices to present digital offerings in the forms of prayers reflections. On 26 May 2021 at 8am EST, Dr. Iyad Abumoghli will reflect on a vision for the road to recovery, and through interfaith partnership, how FBOs are able to simultaneously address the impacts of the pandemic and build climate resilience in the most vulnerable communities around the world.



Event: Unleashing the Underground Forest: A catalyst to achieving SDGs for the benefit of children now and in the future

Join Faith for Earth on 4 June 2021 in a webinar hosted by World Vision discussing the key drivers and consequences of deforestation and landscape degradation as well as nature-based solutions (NBS) and activities by World Vision across the globe. The event will hear directly from a child beneficiary on how the unique potential of children and youth can be unleashed to support ecosystem restoration. In addition, the event will focus on the important value-add that faith-leaders and communities can play in championing ecosystem restoration and promising solutions and how governments are prioritising NBS, including FMNR, and what more can be done by governments and donors to support ecosystem restoration.

[Register for this event.](#)



UNEP India: Launch of The Faith for Earth Councillor Action Plans

UNEP India has planned various events from April leading to World Environment Day and in support of the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

The Faith for Earth Councillor Online Recognition and Pledge Ceremony will take place on 3 June 12:30pm IST // 10am EAT to launch a series of FBOs' Action Plans contributing to Ecosystem Restoration; Climate Action; Efficient Resource Management; and Biodiversity. Around 70 FBOs participated in the program representing the diversity of religions in India.

UNEP Faith for Earth Initiative in collaboration with UNEP India and the United Religions Initiative (URI) designed a series of workshops for 'Faith leaders' – religious and social leaders. Using the train-the-trainers model, Faith for Earth Councillors will be the point of contact for their FBOs and will be encouraged to grow grassroots environmental action in their communities to fight the climate crisis.

UNEP India launched [Faith for Earth in India](#) in June 2020, being the first country-programme to adapt a structured approach for collaboration with Faith-based organisations. Read more about the [Faith for Earth National Coordination Hubs](#).



Working Towards #GenerationRestoration

Following the live interview with Doug Parsons on Cimpatico TV in [January](#), Dr. Iyad Abumoghli will continue an interview about the [Role of Faith Communities in Ecosystem Restoration](#) on 27 May 2021, with a focus on projects like The Living Chapel and Hope Cathedral as best practices.

Watch this episode on [cimpatico.tv](#) or [YouTube](#)



Living Chapel Design Principles

Inspired by the [Laudato Si': Care for Our Common Home](#), the [Living Chapel](#) represents a model of sustainable and "living" architecture conceived to inspire new spaces of spirituality and ecological awareness among all people of all religions. The Living Chapel is a site-specific artistic installation which meets the challenges of climate change through 4 fundamental and distinctive design principles: 1) Use of renewable energy sources; 2) Materials recycling and re-use; 3) Sustainable water management; and 4) Knowledge and experience in green management.



Islam Resources at the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology

In honour of Ramadan, the Yale Forum celebrates the contributions of voices from within Islam, past and present, that inspire environmental protection and care for the Earth. Explore the [Islam](#) section of the Forum website to find:

- An Overview Essay that provides an [introduction to Islam and ecology](#), authored by Zainal Abidin Bagir and Najiyah Martiam
- [Official environmental statements](#) from Islamic leaders and networks on caring for the earth, sustainable development, and endangered species protection
- [Climate change declarations](#) from Islamic councils and organizations
- A list of [Islamic groups and engaged projects](#) working for the betterment of the earth and its ecosystems
- The Harvard volume on [Islam and Ecology](#) edited by Richard Foltz, Frederick Denny, and Azizan Baharuddin
- A [Bibliography](#) of works that feature the environmental dimensions of Islamic traditions, beliefs, and spiritual practices
- [Advisory Specialists in Islam](#) for the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology
- [News updates on Islam and ecology](#) (this list is updated daily)

[Faith for Earth Newsletters](#)

Best wishes,

Iyad

[Faith4Earth Website](#)

Social Media Hashtag [#Faith4Earth](#)

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