



# FAITH FOR EARTH NEWSLETTER

26 JULY 2021

## On The Road To Glasgow

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Less than 100 days are remaining to COP26 in Glasgow, but it is actually less than 8.5 years remaining if we are to stay below the 1.5 C target. Are we on the right track? Are we presenting ambitious commitments? How is the faith community getting on and driving action on the road to COP 26?

Over the past few weeks, important efforts have been exerted to bring the faith voices to be heard loud and clear. The Holy See, the UK and Italian Governments are leading the Faith and Science Dialogue series in preparation for a global conference to be held in October prior to COP26 with a high possibility of the participation of Pope Francis in COP26 with an interfaith appeal. In the technical meeting held on 24 July, faith leaders discussed practical commitments related to reducing the climate impacts of faith assets and investment.

The Multi-Faith Advisory Council of the UN Task Force on Religion and Development has also been active in bringing the faith community to show leadership and commitment with the participation of UNEP and UNFCCC. We need more and we need it now!



## WWF-UK BELIEFS & VALUES PROGRAMME & UNEP FAITH FOR EARTH INITIATIVE

UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative is pleased to share with our network that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the WWF-UK Beliefs & Values Programme was concluded in July 2021.

This is a phenomenal milestone that will formalise our collaboration with WWF-UK on the issue of faith and environmental sustainability, looking at the implementation of the goals of the [Faith Strategy on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#), mapping projects on Nature-Based Solutions, faith owned assets, support faith groups active at the UN level around nature related advocacy, and more.

## Past Events:

### THE RESILIENCE PARADOX

#### THE ROLE OF FAITH ACTORS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHALLENGES AND VULNERABILITIES FACED BY SMALL ISLAND STATES

Monday, 12 July 2021



The [Anglican Communion Office at the United Nations \(ACOUN\)](#), together with the [Anglican Alliance](#), the [Episcopal Relief and Development](#), [The Episcopal Church](#), [Caritas Internationalis](#) and [Faith for Earth Initiative](#) organised this event on the challenges in building resilience and sustainable development faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and spotlight the work of faith actors as prophetic voices on environmental and sustainable development issues.

Learn more about this event [here](#).



### LAUNCH OF GREEN GUIDE AND APP TO HAJJ AND UMRAH

Monday, 19 July 2021

As part of the [Ummah4Earth Initiative](#), [Global One](#), developed the second edition of the Green Guide and Application for the Hajj and Umrah Pilgrimages that demonstrate the teachings of Islam related to the conservation of the environment.

The Guide and App present a checklist for the physical pilgrimage, but more importantly, share the teachings of Islam in connection with the spiritual underpinnings of the pilgrimage. The beautifully designed Guide demonstrates a clear nexus between Faith teachings and practices through practical suggestions and storytelling, provides a primer of the climate crises, and encourages the *Ummah* and civil society to employ more thoughtful techniques as they embark on Hajj and Umrah.

Find out more about the launch event [here](#), and download the guide and mobile application following the links below:

- The Green Guide can be found [here](#).
- The Green App on Google Play can be found [here](#).
- The Green App on Apple Store can be found [here](#).

## Engage:

# FBOS USING THE CLIMATE INITIATIVES PLATFORM TOWARDS COP26



Climate Initiatives Platform



Following the global mapping efforts **by the working group of the Multi-Faith Advisory Council for Climate Change**, FBOs with ongoing efforts in contribution to COP26 are encouraged to reflect their projects and initiatives towards COP26 **on the Climate Initiatives Platform (CIP)** by contacting Esther ([esther.breffka@un.org](mailto:esther.breffka@un.org)) or Azmaira ([azmaira.alibhai@un.org](mailto:azmaira.alibhai@un.org)).

The Climate Initiatives Platform (CIP) is a portal aimed at collecting, sharing and tracking information on international cooperative climate initiatives driven by non-state actors such as businesses and cities, often with support from national states.

Currently containing more than 250 initiatives, CIP is a great space to build momentum and inspire action, in a transparent manner.

You can learn more by downloading CIP's flyer [here](#). Visit the platform [here](#).

## GAN'S ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION (EbA) SURVEY

PLEASE FIND BELOW, AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE GLOBAL ADAPTATION NETWORK (GAN).



Thank you to all of you who have provided inputs into the GAN's Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) survey.

The survey was launched last month (please see the announcement [here](#)) and UNEP's Global Adaptation Network (GAN) has received over 50 case studies which is greatly appreciated.

The deadline for the survey has been extended to 31 October, and encourage Partners to continue submitting case studies and sharing the survey link with your EbA network.

Click [here](#) to go to the survey (approx. 45 minutes to complete). The survey is also available in [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

# INTERFAITH RAINFOREST INITIATIVES NEW PRIMERS ON

## FOREST RESTORATION

HEALING TROPICAL FORESTS FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

An issue primer for religious leaders and faith communities for use during the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

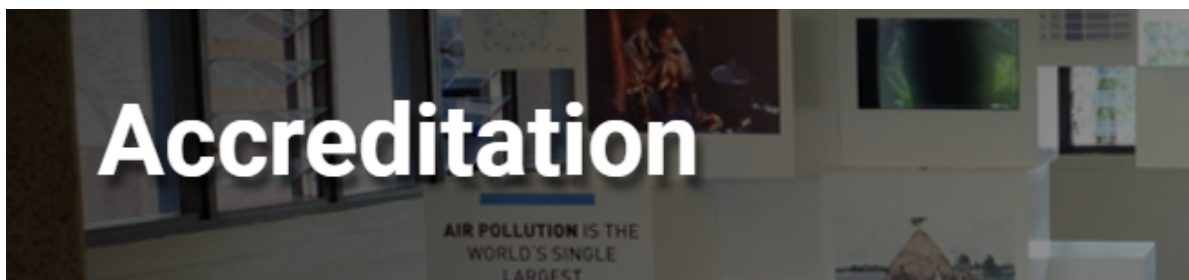
The **Interfaith Rainforest Initiative** country programmes in **Brazil** | **Colombia** | **Democratic Republic of Congo** | **Indonesia** | **Peru** have issued new primers on Forest Restoration for Religious Leaders and Faith Communities, as a contribution to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Click [here](#) to check all the available primers.

Want to learn more about the IRI country programmes? Have a look at the animated videos that tell a story about their mission, areas of work, and activities:

- IRI Colombia animation video ([Spanish](#) | [English subtitles](#))
- IRI DRC animation video ([French](#) | [English subtitles](#))
- IRI Indonesia animation video ([Bahasa](#) | [English subtitles](#))
- IRI Peru animation video ([Spanish](#) | [English subtitles](#))

Have a look at **Healing Tropical Forests for Spiritual Renewal**, a publication addressing the fundamental role faith communities can take in restoring and protecting tropical rainforests.



## INTERNATIONAL ONLINE CONSULTATION FOR ACCREDITED FBOS

Tuesday, 7 September -Thursday, 9 September 2021

An international online consultation for Major Groups and Stakeholders will take place on 7-9 September 2021, where several sessions will be held around noon/ early afternoon (please save the date for the three days from 11am-3pm GMT 3+ tentatively).

The consultation will be held as part of the preparations for UNEA 5.2 in February 2022 as well as UNEP@50 and Stockholm+50. The consultation will come just before the meeting of the Committee of the Permanent Representative (CPR) Bureau and the 155th meeting of the CPR.

The Registration Link will be shared at a later date, as well as the Programme which is being developed by a Consultation Planning Team with representatives from different MGs and thematic clusters.

Accreditation to UN Environment Assembly

You can apply for accreditation using the [New Online Accreditation System](#) and gain consultative status within the [rules of procedure](#) of the [UN Environment Assembly](#).

Please refer to the criteria for accreditation as derived from Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure, [the Guidelines](#), and submit your request accordingly.



# POST 2020 BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK



The Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has published the **first draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**.

A working group of the Multi-Faith Advisory Council for biodiversity has been constituted to discuss a coordinated approach by the faith-based network in addressing the preservation and loss of biodiversity.

## LEAVING YOU WITH A TIP ON WORLD MANGROVE DAY



Monday, 26 July 2021

Mangroves are important players in some of the greatest challenges facing the world today. They provide a barrier between land & sea, absorb carbon, contribute to economic & food security, & are home to some of the most rare and colourful species.

Did you know that mangroves **extract up to five times more carbon from the atmosphere than forests on land, and protecting mangroves is 1000 times less expensive, per kilometre, than building seawalls?** Yet, mangroves are disappearing at accelerating rates.

Here are **six things you can do to bring back mangroves**.

Share the Social Media Cards in English, Arabic, French, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Chinese, Spanish and Kiswahili [here](#).