



# FAITH FOR EARTH

NEWSLETTER  
31 AUGUST 2021

## The World is Burning: Be a Firefighter

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Unprecedented and historic forest fires have been raging across the world in the previous weeks. Flames have been engulfing forests from California to Siberia and Indonesia associated with historic records of heatwaves caused by climate change. Humans, animals and ecosystems have perished. Wildfires emit between 5 and 30 tonnes of carbon per hectare reaching to almost 3600 tonnes of carbon a year.

Are we watching? Are we listening? Are we taking action? COP26 is just a few weeks ahead. Let's all be firefighters, not only fighting raging forest fires, but also in cooling our atmosphere by committing in our own institutions' climate action strategies, and calling upon our governments to make bold and meaningful commitments.

[Join the rising interfaith movement](#) on climate change and be an active agent.

### Publication:

## THE ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SPIRITUAL ETHICS IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

Together with [KAICIID](#), Faith for Earth Initiative has issued a policy brief about the interaction between environmental and spiritual ethics and global environmental governance.

The document highlights critical challenges to current-day environmental governance, such as the impacts of human activities on biodiversity, the rise of climate change impacts and consequent growth in inequalities, while addressing a way forward where Faith and conservation are aligned.

You can find the publication [here](#).

## Engage:

# RESPONDING TO THE IPCC REPORT: AN URGENT CALL FOR FAITH-BASED CLIMATE ACTION

In response to the urgent call for climate action, we strongly encourage faith-based commitments and cooperation to tackle climate change to ensure that no one is left behind. The [Climate Initiatives Platform](#) (CIP) has been jointly established by UNEP and UNFCCC to connect different projects and build momentum to achieve bolder goals regarding environmental care. As it is time to act, the CIP is NOW open for submissions from FBOs!

To register for the CIP, kindly submit your initiative by sending an email to Azmaira (azmaira.alibhai@un.org).

Submissions are required to include information on the categories detailed below. Please indicate the categories corresponding to your initiative in your email.

- (1) Faith tradition
- (2) Focus of Intervention: Climate Change Mitigation | Climate Change Adaptation | Climate Change Resilience
- (3) Thematic Area of Intervention: Just transition | GHG reduction | Sustainable development | Climate financing and transparency | Science-based action | Waste/plastic reduction | Ecosystem restoration.
- (4) Type of Intervention: Financial Support/Resource Mobilization | Capacity Building | Technological Solutions

## AL-MIZAN: A COVENANT FOR THE EARTH

### CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

In August, [Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth](#) entered a Consultative Process with more than 250 Islamic Institutions, Scholars, and Faith-based Organisations.

The Consultative Process will close on 20 September 2021 and aims to solicit feedback from a broad range of Islamic organisations, scholars, and traditions seeking to mobilise faith-based communities to take action in fighting the triple planetary crisis of climate change, ecosystems degradation, and pollution.

The Covenant is a collective effort by the [Core and Scholars Drafting Teams](#) and the United Nations Environment Programme [Faith for Earth Initiative](#).

To participate in the Consultative Process with the aim of providing feedback to the Scholars Drafting Team, please express your interest to Azmaira (azmaira.alibhai@un.org).



# FAITH ACTION TOWARDS A POLLUTION-FREE PLANET



We want to hear from you!

UNEPs [Faith for Earth Initiative](#), in partnership with [The Anglican Consultative Council](#); [Tearfund](#); [Plastic Bank](#); [IFEES/EcoIslam](#); [Islamic Help](#); and [UNEP MGCY](#) (Faith & Environment Working Group) have constituted a Working Group focusing on interfaith responses globally to the pollution and waste crises, with the aim of focusing on the following thematic areas:

- Air pollution
- Freshwater pollution
- Land and soil pollution
- Marine and coastal pollution
- Chemical pollution
- Waste pollution
- Online data pollution

Members of the Working Group listed herein are pleased to solicit feedback from faith-based organisations, faith communities, and faith leaders globally [through this mapping survey](#), the responses of which will contribute to the:

- Publication of a catalogue by UNEP Faith for Earth demonstrating innovative and effective approaches to pollution and waste management by faith actors on People and the Planet;
- Identification and creation of a network of like-minded faith-based partners working to address the effects of Pollution; and
- Identification of innovative and effective large-scale projects globally addressing Pollution.

We need your contribution to grow the Faith for Earth Network to include diverse and interfaith responses to global environmental challenges. [Click here to access this short survey](#).



TV PROGRAM ON RESTORATION FEATURING FEMALE PROTAGONISTS

Team [#GenerationRestoration](#) has been in conversation with Sony, looking at a TV production focused on restoration, for their “Unscripted” program.

The program will feature stories that focus on female leaders at the forefront of restoration.

Interested groups/individuals are therefore invited to submit a short description, plus any relevant links to exiting videos, articles or other content would be sufficient for consideration to Azmaira (azmaira.alibhai@un.org).

## Upcoming:



### LAUNCH OF THE FAITH ACTION ON THE SDGS DATABASE

Thursday, 2 September 2021 | 6pm EAT

In 2020, Faith for Earth partnered with the [Parliament of World Religions](#), [Bhumi Global](#), and the [United Religions Initiative](#) to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the launch of the SDGs by launching the [Progress & Outlook Report: Faith Action on the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

In 2021, the [Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#) joined this partnership and produced a database where all faith-based environment-related projects & campaigns by faith actors can be recorded, facilitating the development of annual reports which present global, regional, and local efforts.

Learn more and register for the launch [here](#).

Monday, 20 September 2021 | 9pm EAT/  
4pm GMT

Late September will host a discussion session with the global interfaith community about its role heading into COP26 and beyond.

The UK COP26 Presidency will give an update on the status of negotiations, and commitments will be put forward.

Reach out to Joshua Basofin ([joshua@parliamentofreligions.org](mailto:joshua@parliamentofreligions.org)) to discuss your organization's climate commitment, and register for the event [here](#).

## FAITH & CLIMATE SUMMIT: The Final Sprint to COP26



SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2021

4pm GMT | 11am Eastern | 10am Central

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Register Today at <https://bit.ly/COP26Interfaith>

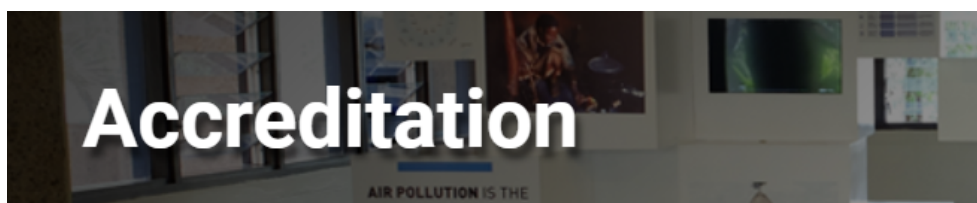
# ONLINE DIALOGUE ON FAITH FOR EARTH: A CALL FOR ACTION

Wednesday, 22 September 2021

[Faith for Earth: A Call for Action](#), a joint effort by the United Nations Environment Programme [Faith for Earth Initiative](#) and the [Parliament of the World's Religions](#), addresses the duty of care towards Planet Earth and its inhabitants, common to all religions, and introduces the world's major life support systems.

In keeping the dialogue going, the [Catholic Association of Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers](#) (CADEIO) will host a session to explore the book.

Register for the session [here](#).



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 Guidelines'](#) Rules of Procedure, and submit your request accordingly.