



FAITH FOR EARTH

NEWSLETTER
31 MARCH 2022

A SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

This newsletter has a special emphasis on research and education.

Education is a key element in changing perspectives and attitudes towards nature and lifestyles. In Christianity, while education is not specifically mentioned in the Bible, it is reflected in as part of the moral and spiritual obligations of knowledge of believers of his God and his creation. Similarly, in the Holy Quran, the importance of education is repeatedly emphasized such as "God will exalt those of you who believe and those who have knowledge to high degrees". In Hinduism, education is to achieve revelation or Brahman (divine consciousness).

From a sustainable development point of view, education is essential to promoting development of the knowledge, skills, understanding, values, and actions required to create a sustainable world. We are delighted that we are launching several initiatives on research on ecology and religion, launching training courses and developing some publications.



FIRST GLOBAL MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS FOR THE MONTEVIDEO PROGRAMME V

Submit a side event proposal for the First Global Meeting of National Focal Points for the Montevideo Programme V (6-9 June in Kenya) - **deadline is 15 April 2022.**

The meeting follows the [first part of the First Global Meeting of National Focal Points](#), which was held online in June 2021. Within this context, the Secretariat of the Programme is delighted to share the [open call for proposals for official side events](#).

Contact the Montevideo Programme Secretariat should you have any further questions relating to the application process for side-events (unep-montevideo@un.org), with a copy to amanda.cabrejo@un.org, marina.venancio@un.org and olivia.bonner@un.org.

INVITATION TO SUBMIT: FAITH ACTION ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The “[Faith Action on the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)” is a vibrant online database featuring faith-based

organisations, Indigenous groups, and/or, spiritual communities around the world doing work within the scope of the environmentally-focused SDGs.

In partnership with [UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative](#), this interactive resource was established in 2020 and is jointly curated by the [Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#), [United Religions Initiative](#), and [Parliament of the World's Religions](#). The database began as a [written report](#). Watch the [Launch Event](#).

If you are a Faith-based Organisation and you have a project that touches on the triple planetary crises of Climate, Ecosystems and Pollution, [submit your project](#). [Explore the current list](#) | [Get in Touch](#) with Lauren Van Ham, Climate Action Coordinator for URI.



Learn how to contribute to the design, planning, and implementation of SDG programmes in their home countries and communities. [Read more.](#)

The International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) together with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Faith for Earth, University of Peace (UPEACE), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), National Muslim Council of Liberia (NMCL), and Institut Superior de Ciències Religioses de Barcelona (ISCREB) unveiled a new e-learning course designed to help religious leaders and faith-based organisations (FBOs) achieve greater engagement and contribute to the implementation process of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

[This course](#) — Engaging Faith Actors to Support the Implementation Process of the Sustainable Development Goals — was launched during the [Faith for Earth Dialogue](#) at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA).

It is a free e-learning and training course is formed of seven modules, each offering faith leaders, religious groups, faith-based organisations and other stakeholders a distinct approach to effectively engage and contribute to the process of sustainable development in the communities they serve through different methodologies, models, tools, and other approaches.

FACING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY, TAKING ACTION THROUGH EDUCATION

Our partners at the Yale Forum recently launched a new online course: "[Introduction to Religions and Ecology](#)." It is designed to orient learners to the study of religion and ecology, and is a gateway to subsequent courses that explore the ecological dimensions of religions. Join professors Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim as they engage the vibrant ecological teachings of religious traditions, philosophies, and practices throughout the world.

This course is part of the "[Religions and Ecology: Restoring the Earth Community](#)," a series of 6 online

courses hosted by Yale University on the Coursera online learning platform.

These courses can be audited for free anytime and feature leading scholars, religious and Indigenous leaders, and environmental specialists from around the world.

Learn more and register at fore.yale.edu/online-courses.



TOWARDS ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES AGAINST CLIMATE CONFLICTS

4-5 April 2022 | In-person (Nairobi)

The Centre for Research, Training and Publications (CRTP) at Hekima University College, in partnership with the [Centre for Religion, Conflict and Globalization](#) at the University of Groningen, Netherlands have been conducting research on climate-induced conflicts and the role of sacred beliefs and practices in Kenya with collaborations from various stakeholders.

Academics, practitioners and community representatives, to exchange ideas "Towards Alternative Strategies against Climate Conflicts."

Faith for Earth will discuss it's workplan on Environmental Governance and opportunities for partnerships and engagement. [Get in touch with the Organising Team](#) at Hekima University.

CLIMATE CHANGE, MIGRATION, GOVERNANCE (SECURITY)

12 April 2022 | Webinar in French, English translation available.

This panel is part of a research programme "Climate change, migration, governance (security)" supported by the [Région Auvergne Rhône-Alpes](#).

Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, Directors of Faith for Earth, will join a panel of experts from the University Amadou Mahtar Mbow, Dakar, and the Institut Paul Bocuse Research Center, Lyon.



Mindfulness and Prayer for Climate Change and Environmental Protection

VIRTUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

On World Environment Day: 5th of June 2022



Scientists, Environmentalists and Climate Protectionists are invited to submit proposals for presentation at the Virtual Research Symposium on **World Environment Day**.

Please submit an abstract of the proposal (300 words) by **30th of April 2022** via email to: research@mindfulness4earth.org

This Virtual Research Symposium is Organised by Mindfulness for Earth in Partnership with:



CALL FOR PROPOSALS: MINDFULNESS SYMPOSIUM

30 April 2022

Mindfulness for Earth, where Faith for Earth is the co-founder, invites scientists and environmentalists to submit proposals for cutting-edge research and studies on mindfulness, prayer and their association with environment and climate-related action/protection.

Successful proposals will be shared in a Virtual Research Symposium on World Environment Day 2022.

Closing date for submissions is **30 April 2022**. Share your proposal with research@mindfulness4earth.org.