

FAITH FOR EARTH



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We heard a resounding pledge on UN Day for the protection of our planet, possible with a unified approach and support from the international community. The Faith of Earth Initiative aims to be at the forefront of this mission, leading with our hearts, sharing expertise and working towards fully integrating ethics and spiritual values into environmental policy. By inviting religious leaders across the world to highlight their ecological reflections, we facilitate forums to highlight best practices and draw from the strengths of these very diverse backgrounds.

We invite youth groups to share with their religious leaders and UNEP some of the innovative and sustainable projects that have driven their congregations towards a more environmentally conscious way of life. I am pleased to share with you the [UN Day Message](#) of our Executive Director Ms. Inger Andersen.



[One Earth, Many Religions, One Goal: Interview at the Yale Forum on Religions and Ecology \(FORE\)](#)

Our knowledge partner, the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology (FORE) is running a series of blogs focusing on efforts of individuals and organizations in the field of faith and interfaith work. FORE will be sharing a variety of original content including interviews, reviews, reports from the field, new and enhanced resources on the Forum website, content from the new video podcast series, FORE Spotlights, and much more.

One of these interviews was with Iyad Abumoghli, the Director of Faith for Earth sharing his [personal journey](#) with the initiative and where he wants to go with it.



Faith for Sustainable Development: Advocating Care for People and Planet

On 22 October 2020, Faith for Earth took part in the release of the King Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz International Center for Interfaith Dialogue (KAICIID) [Faith4SDGs project](#), a digital storytelling series that reveals the enormous contributions faith-based organizations around the world are making to help implement the SDGs.

Experts from the field of sustainable development, discussed the approaches of faith-based organizations and religious actors in promoting the global goals. The discussion featured how faith communities collaborate with political decision-makers to develop and implement policies on issues such as quality education, gender equality and access to decent work; gaps that could be better addressed if religious actors are regularly included in multilateral efforts for development and aid; how faith communities are uniquely positioned to manage the response to health and environmental crises; and how these communities leverage their impact on educational structures to foster equal opportunities.



Faiths Unite: Visions for Transformative Climate Action: The World We Want

Organized by the Interfaith Liaison Committee that serves as a platform during UNFCCC COPs, [the first webinar](#) of the series was held on 27 October to explore the response offered by different faith traditions to the current climate crisis and COVID-19. The discussion focused on how these perspectives might help us to navigate through this precarious moment. The panellists considered the possibility of converting the world economy, built on extracting and depleting natural resources without regard for the environment, to one based on sustainable sources of energy, eliminating waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems? Faith for Earth focused on the spiritual and economic strength of the faith community to drive a transformation towards nature-based economic solution.



[UN75: Building on the Legacy](#)

Faith for Earth joined a [high-level panel](#) representing several UN seniors participated in a webinar organized by Green Hope Foundation on 28 October to discuss the critical issues that need the UN's focus and attention in the process of rebuilding better and how the UN and its processes are adapting to the new normal and leaving no one behind.

We are commemorating the 75th anniversary of the United Nations at a time when the world is facing its greatest crisis of the century. The pandemic has ravaged our economies and social systems, with disproportionately severe impacts on the vulnerable and marginalized, undoing the diverse developmental work of the past decades. As we celebrate the 75th founding of the world's apex body and its charter, it is time to reassess and rebuild on its rich legacy to ensure that we are able to create a world that is representative of the aspirations laid out in the UN Charter, one that is just, equitable, resilient and sustainable.



[Interreligious Responses to Laudato Si', Implementation of Laudato Si': A Call for Multi-Religious Collaboration](#)

[The Interreligious Responses to Laudato Si'](#) Series is co-sponsored by Georgetown University's Office of the President; Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs; and Office of the Vice President for Global Engagement with the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale University. Faith for Earth will be discussing the role of the international and interfaith communities is supporting the vision of Laudato Si on Friday 30 October 2020. During this session, representatives of various agencies and organizations aim to connect religious communities on environmental concerns and explore how multireligious cooperation enhances care for the earth and for the vulnerable. [Register for this event here.](#)



3rd International Forum on Religious Life in Bandung Indonesia

This [Forum](#) is co-hosted by the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Indonesian Consortium of Religious Studies (ICRS). The Forum will launch a new multi-faith urban organization. The International Council of Faiths for Urbanism (ICFU) is intended to be the highest international multi-faith organization that facilitates high-level expert discourse on urbanism. The aim of the organization is to enable religious stakeholders to present a united faith-based voice on urban issues, concerns, and policies at an international level, inspire action to advance urbanism, and to breathe life into the [New Urban Agenda \(NUA\)](#). Faith for Earth will be discussing how the interfaith community can positively impact the urban agenda. Join the launch on 4 November 2020 by [registering here](#).



Philippine Interfaith Summit on Climate Emergency

Living Laudato Si' Philippines, the Climate Change Commission of the Philippine Government, Uniharmony Partners Manila, GreenFaith and Faith for Earth are organizing the Philippine Interfaith Summit on Climate Emergency 2020. It is a three-hour free virtual event that will be a platform for different religions and religious denominations in the Philippines to discuss how their respective religious doctrines and traditions talk about morality and the spirituality of caring for the planet through divestment from fossil fuels and other environmentally destructive industries. To attend the discussions, please [register here](#).

[Living Laudato Si' Philippines](#) is an inter-faith Catholic initiated movement calling on Philippine financial institutions to divest from coal-fired power plants and other environmentally harmful commercial activities.



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.

[Faith for Earth Newsletters](#)

Best wishes,

Iyad

[Faith4Earth Website](#)

Social Media Hashtag [#Faith4Earth](#)

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