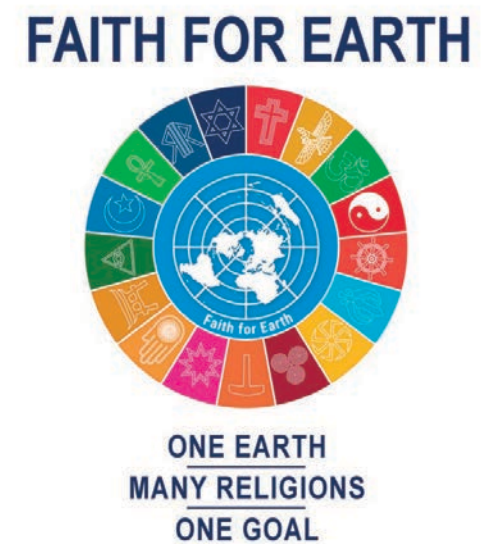




The United Nations Environment Assembly - UNEA 5.2

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE

Changing the Future



21 February – 4 March 2022

<https://www.unep.org/events/unep-event/faith-earth-dialogue-unea-52>

FOREWORD

Brothers and Sisters,

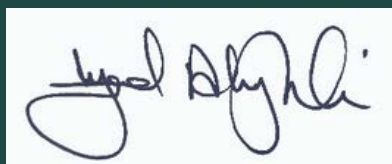
It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Faith for Earth Dialogue being held as part of the United Nations Environment Assembly 5.2 with the theme “Strengthening Actions for Achieving the SDGs”.

A moment in history is being created today to see hundreds of faith actors, academia, scientists, private sector, and other stakeholders coming together from around the world to celebrate the creation of the Divine. We are far from being content with the state of the environment. What we have is a moral and spiritual duty that also dictates on us to protect the gifts of the Divine.

Fifty years ago, the world woke up for the necessity that we need a new development paradigm that integrate the environment as an essential component in our economic and social wellbeing.

Fifty years from now, our children and grandchildren will judge us on the state we left their only home. Today, either we leave a legacy that is based on our values, spiritual beliefs and ethics or we leave an inheritance that is governed by greed, selfishness, and materialism. Do we live with egoism, or we live with eco-ism? The call is ours and the answer is now.

Looking forward to welcoming you all in these exciting and interesting sessions, being led by you for you.



Iyad Abumoghli
Director – Faith for Earth



Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, Founder and Director of the Faith for Earth Initiative, has more than 35 years of experience with international organizations, the private sector, and scientific institutions. Dr. Abumoghli’s expertise focus on strategic planning, sustainable development, natural resources management, interfaith collaboration and knowledge and innovation. Dr. Abumoghli is currently the Lead Principal Advisor on Engaging with Faith-Based Organizations at UNEP. Previously Dr. Abumoghli held several leading positions including the Regional Director and Representative of UNEP in West Asia, Director of Knowledge and Innovation at UNDP’s Regional Office for the Arab states, Senior Environment Advisor at UNDP’s Sub-Regional Resource Facility in Beirut, Global Practice Manager for the Energy and Environment Group in New York, Assistant Resident Representative of UNDP in Jordan. Dr. Abumoghli holds a doctorate degree in Bio-Chemical Engineering from the University of Bath/UK, and an outstanding graduate of the Virtual Development Academy - Johns University.

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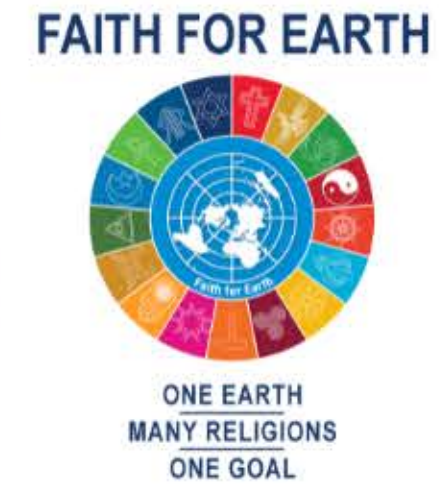
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FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Official Launch of the Faith for Earth Dialogue

21 February 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

With:

Organized by dozens of Faith-Based Organizations, this event includes more than 120 speakers representing different religions and spiritual practices to address the main theme of UNEA 5.2 :“Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”. The Faith for Earth Dialogue is open to all stakeholders, demonstrating the power and potential of FBOs and faith leaders in shaping the discussions at UNEA as well as engaging in policy dialogue with other stakeholders including governments, major groups, cities, businesses and other civil society organisations.

- **Inger Andersen** – UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UNEP
- **H. E. Dr. Hans Brattskar** - Special Envoy at the Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway
- Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson
- Don De Silva
- Dr. Husna Ahmad
- Stephen Avino
- Archbishop Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirrmacher
- Prof. Dr. Azza Karam
- Dr. Mohammad Abdussalam – TBC
- H. H. Sadhguru TBCA



Inger Andersen – UN Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UNEP



H. E. Dr. Hans Brattskar - Special Envoy at the Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway representing H. E. the Minister of Climate and Environment – President of UNEA



Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson - Prefect Emeritus of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Archbishop emeritus of Cape Coast.



Prof. Dr. Azza Karam - Secretary General of Religions for Peace



H. H. Sadhguru - A Yogi, Mystic & Visionary - Founder of Isha Foundation



Archbishop Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmacher - Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance



Stephen Avino - Executive Director of the Parliament of World's Religions



Rabbi David Rosen - American Jewish Committee, International Director of Interreligious Affairs



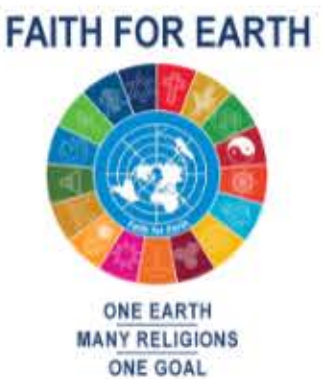
Don de Silva - Buddhist Chaplain, Goldsmiths, University of London and ex-director at UNEP



Dr. Husna Ahmad - Executive Director of Global One 2015



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith Communities Enabling Inclusive & Equitable Cities

21 February 2022; 10am-11.30am East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will provide a space to discuss the interlinkages between creating inclusive and equitable people-centered cities and the role world religions, their communities, and faith leaders play in bringing forward SDG 11.

In partnership with:



Thriving Cities



ORMOND CENTER



WEA EST. 1846
WORLD EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE



Dr. Chris Elisara



In 2012 Dr. Chris Elisara founded the World Evangelical Alliance's environmental as the director of the WEA Creation Care Task Force. In 2019 he co-founded the WEA Sustainability Center, in Bonn, Germany, which he currently co-leads. In this role Dr. Elisara represents evangelicals at the United Nations and other international bodies on a wide range of environmental issues including food systems, climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable urbanism.

A champion of urban design and placemaking, Dr. Elisara leads the Placemaking Studio for the Ormond Center at Duke Divinity School. Dr. Elisara's urban work includes being a long term member, and former board member from 2014-2018, of the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU); co-founder of the CNU Members Christian Caucus; co-founder of the Better Cities Film Festival and UN-Habitat Better Cities Film Festival; international work through UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign (WUC).

Dr. Iyad Abumoghli



Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, Founder and Director of the Faith for Earth Initiative, has more than 35 years of experience with international organizations, the private sector, and scientific institutions. Dr. Abumoghli's expertise focus on strategic planning, sustainable development, natural resources management, interfaith collaboration and knowledge and innovation. Dr. Abumoghli is currently the Lead Principal Advisor on Engaging with Faith-Based Organizations at UNEP. Previously Dr. Abumoghli held several leading positions including the Regional Director and Representative of UNEP in West Asia, Director of Knowledge and Innovation at UNDP's Regional Office for the Arab states, Senior Environment Advisor at UNDP's Sub-Regional Resource Facility in Beirut, Global Practice Manager for the Energy and Environment Group in New York, Assistant Resident Representative of UNDP in Jordan. Dr. Abumoghli holds a doctorate degree in Bio-Chemical Engineering from the University of Bath/UK, and an outstanding graduate of the Virtual Development Academy - Johns University.

Andre Dzikus



Andre Dzikus is the Chief of the Urban Basic Services Section at the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). Previously he was the Coordinator of the Urban Basic Services Branch (UBSB) and the Acting Coordinator of the Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation Branch. Urban basic services at UN Habitat covers its work on water and sanitation, energy, transport, solid waste, ICT. This work covers all three pillars of the UN: humanitarian response, peace and security and development.

Andre Dzikus has been with UN-Habitat for more than 30 years and managed large projects and programmes in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He was instrumental in setting up the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund (WSTF) to address the MDGs, which was converted into an Urban Basic Services Trust Fund in response to the adoption of the Agenda 2030 by member states. Andre holds a degree in Urban Geography, with specialization in urban and regional planning in developing countries.

Priestess Beatriz Schulthess



Priestess Schulthess has 30 years of expertise in multilateral diplomacy on behalf of Indigenous Peoples, Women and Environment and Development organisations. Priestess Schulthess currently serves as the President for the Indigenous People Ancestral Spiritual Council in Costa Rica. She has previously served as a consultant in preparation for and in negotiations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the 'Earth Summit,' and was subsequently engaged in the monitoring and follow up of the Climate Change and Rio + 20 negotiation processes. She founded and co-founded various organisations, notably the Indigenous Peoples Ancestral Spiritual Council. In addition, she was the Executive Director of the International Indigenous Commission from 1989 to 1992. Priestess Schulthess was instrumental in negotiations which led to the Proclamation of the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples, 1993, as well as in the drafting of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Dr. Josh Yates



Dr. Josh Yates is the Executive Director of Ormond Center for Thriving Congregations and Communities at Duke Divinity School, Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University, and Founder and CEO of Thriving Cities Group, an independent NGO dedicated to equipping cross-sector leaders to work for the flourishing of their local communities and regions. He also currently serves on UN-Habitat's "SDG Cities Taskforce."

As a cultural sociologist and experienced social practitioner, Dr. Yates weaves together two decades of academic research, community development experience, and social impact expertise in an on-going quest to understand what it means and takes to work for the human dignity of all people in today's changing community contexts. Prior to coming to Duke Divinity, Dr. Yates was Research Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Virginia and former Director of UVA's Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture.

Bhuvana Santhanam



Bhuvana has close to 24 years of experience in Brand Marketing and Strategy, Communications, Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). She was the Head of Corporate Communications and CSR at a six billion USD retail and hospitality conglomerate in Dubai, before she moved back to India in December 2012, after more than 15 years in the Gulf. She joined as the National Director for one of India's leading Image Management firms, consulting and advising corporate boards of national and international brands. In 2015, Bhuvana quit her lucrative and high-profile corporate career and decided to follow her calling, by joining the service mission of Indian philanthropist and humanitarian, Sai Baba, which brings respite to thousands of underprivileged and needy children through free healthcare, education, and nutrition across 30 countries. She is a speaker and presenter of hundreds of successful events, conferences and presentations, and a published author.

Khushwant Singh



Khushwant Singh is the Head of Secretariat of PaRD – the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development. PaRD has around 150 members and convenes governments, multilateral entities, civil society, especially religious actors, and academia in a safe space providing continuity for dialogue, learning, and collaboration to better inform policy and practices in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda.

Singh studied education and social anthropology. He has been working in the field of international development cooperation since 2006 having begun his career with GIZ, the German Agency for International Cooperation. He is a founding member of the Council of the Sikh Religion and the Interreligious Council of Religions Frankfurt and served as its president from 2014 to 2017. Singh publishes articles on the interlinkages of spiritual wisdom, ethics, behavioural change, sustainability, and the global challenges facing humanity.

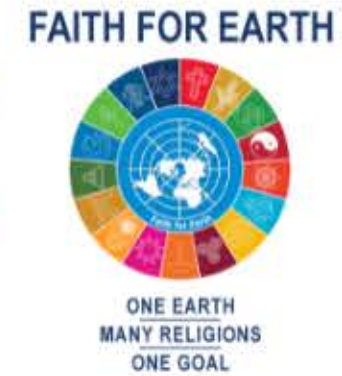
Kamran Shezad



Kamran Shezad is the Director for the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES/EcolIslam), he is also the Sustainability Lead for the Bahu Trust and the Climate Change Advisor to the Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board, UK (MINAB). A qualified environmental specialist with practical field and managerial experience in the sustainable development sector.

He is a strong advocate of using faith-based approach in promoting the message of environment and guiding behavioural change. Kamran is a grassroots environmental activist, he has worked with a diverse range of faith groups and has produced toolkits, practical guides, and mobilised communities for climate action. Kamran holds a master's degree in Environmental Sustainability (Strategy & Management), he has been awarded 'Chartered Environmentalist' status by the Society for the Environment and is a full member of the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment.

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Launch of Online Courses

21 February 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will launch a series of online courses on the intersection of faith and various aspects of environmental sustainability. The courses focus on capacity building of Faith-Based Organizations and offer practical guidance, tools, approaches, and methodologies on how faith actors can make tangible contributions to the implementation of the SDGs at all levels

In partnership with:



Mary Evelyn Tucker



Mary Evelyn Tucker teaches at Yale University at the School of the Environment and the Divinity School. She is co-director with John Grim of the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology. They co-organized 10 conferences on World Religions and Ecology at Harvard and were series editors for the 10 resulting volumes Harvard volumes. She also co-edited Confucianism and Ecology, Buddhism and Ecology, and Hinduism and Ecology. Moreover, she has authored (with John Grim) Ecology and Religion (Island Press, 2014), and co-edited the Routledge Handbook of Religion and Ecology (2017) with Willis Jenkins. They also have created six online courses in Religions and Ecology: Restoring the Earth Community.

Mary Evelyn won the Inspiring Yale Teaching Award in 2015 and has been awarded 5 honorary degrees. With John Grim, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture.

Armen Rostomyan



Armen Rostomyan is the Senior Programme Manager for the KAICIID Dialogue Knowledge Hub (DKH) as well as the KAICIID Online Course Coordinator. He is responsible for development, management, and implementation of the DKH portfolio of E-learning and training programmes, online resources and thematic webinars.

He has over 20 years of experience working as a programme manager, lead-trainer and online courses content moderator/coordinator in various UN Agencies and international organizations such as: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Bank (WB), Habitat for Humanity International, Aga Khan Foundation (AKF-AKDN), and Amnesty International Secretariat in UK, being responsible for development, management and implementation of various humanitarian and sustainable development programmes in 26 countries of Europe, Asia, and Africa regions.

Gayatri Raghwa



Gayatri Raghwa joined UNEP in early 2019 as UNEP's sole environmental education consultant based in India. She launched the Tide Turners Challenge in India and focuses on higher education work. As of mid-2021 Gayatri is in the process of setting up the India Green University Network. She has ensured the dissemination of Earth School (where India is second to the USA in terms of participation), and supported UNEP initiatives such as the Little Book of Green Nudges and the Race to Zero.

A teacher by training, with 22 years of experience at college and school levels in India, Gayatri also spent 15 years raising the profile of environmental education in the UAE. She advises several international organizations and is honorary Executive Director at Wildecologue, an organization committed to providing real life sustainability experiences to youth and other target audiences.

Euan McCartney

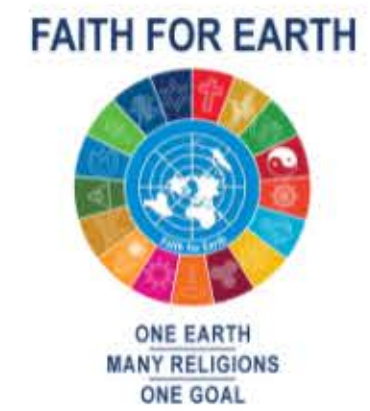


Euan McCartney worked as an Associate Programme Management Officer at UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative from January 2021 until February 2022, following on from an internship. Euan holds a BA in Anthropology and International Development from the University of Sussex as well as an MSc in International Development Studies from the University of Amsterdam.

Alongside his colleagues at Faith for Earth, Euan was in charge of producing the 8 modules in the online learning course "Faith, Environment and Climate Change". He hopes these online courses, and the other excellent modules produced by KAICIID's and its partners, will help drive greater and more effective faith engagement with the SDGs and contribute to overcoming the environmental challenges we face.

FAITH FOR
EARTH
A CALL FOR ACTION

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith for Earth: A Call for Action

21 February 2022; 5.30pm-7pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

The "Faith for Earth: A Call for Action" book describes the essential, unshakeable reverence that all religions have for creation and nature, and introduces the world's major life support systems. This session will look at the uptake of the book by different religious organizations as well as address ways and means to strengthen it by discussing its adoption as a global resource in educational institutions.

In partnership with:



Mary Evelyn Tucker



Mary Evelyn Tucker teaches at Yale University at the School of the Environment and the Divinity School. She is co-director with John Grim of the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology. They co-organized 10 conferences on World Religions and Ecology at Harvard and were series editors for the 10 resulting volumes Harvard volumes. She also co-edited Confucianism and Ecology, Buddhism and Ecology, and Hinduism and Ecology. Moreover, she has authored (with John Grim) Ecology and Religion (Island Press, 2014), and co-edited the Routledge Handbook of Religion and Ecology (2017) with Willis Jenkins. They also have created six online courses in Religions and Ecology: Restoring the Earth Community.

Mary Evelyn won the Inspiring Yale Teaching Award in 2015 and has been awarded 5 honorary degrees. With John Grim, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture.

Kusumita P. Pedersen



Kusumita P. Pedersen is Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at St. Francis College, a Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions and Chair of the Interfaith Center of New York.

She is also a member of the Parliament's Climate Action Task Force and of the Climate Working Group of the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations. She is co-author of Faith for Earth: A Call for Action (UN Environment Programme and Parliament of the World's Religions, 2020) and co-author of Global Ethics in Practice: Historical Backgrounds, Current Issues and Future Prospects (Edinburgh University Press, 2016).

She has compiled and edited librettos for two works by Philip Glass: Symphony No. 5: Bardo, Requiem and Nirmāṇakāya (1999) and The Passion of Ramakrishna (2006). Kusumita has been a student of Sri Chinmoy (1931-2007) since 1971 and is the author of The Philosophy of Sri Chinmoy: Love and Transformation (Lexington Books, 2021).

David Hales



David Hales served as President of the College of the Atlantic, Chair and President of Second Nature, the managing organization of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, and as Director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. He led environmental policy and sustainability programs for the US Agency for International Development. As a diplomat, he has represented the USA in numerous negotiations on climate change, urban affairs and policy, and biodiversity. He served in the Carter administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior. He was the first American to serve as Chair of the World Heritage Convention.

Imam Saffet Abid Catovic



Imam Saffet Abid Catovic has his MBA and has been a long-time US Muslim Community Organizer/Activist and Environmental Leader. He is the new Co-Chair of the Parliament of the World's Religions Climate Action Task Force and serves on the Parliament's, Board of Trustees, and has recently been re-elected as Treasurer. He is also a member of the Statewide Clergy Council of Faith in New Jersey, a Faith in Action affiliate, and also serves on their Board of Directors. Saffet is a GreenFaith Muslim Fellow and serves as their Senior Muslim advisor.

He is a Co-drafter of the Fiqh Council of North America (FCNA) "Fatwa" Religious ruling on fossil fuel divestment and member of the scholars Drafting team of "Al-Mizan - Covenant for the Earth" organized under the auspices of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) - Faiths for Earth and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO). Most recently, Imam Saffet has been appointed to head ISNA's Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances and Government relations in Washington, DC.

Rev. Dr. Michael Reid Trice



Rev. Dr. Michael Reid Trice is Spehar-Halligan Professor and Director of the Center for Ecumenical and Interreligious Engagement at Seattle University. Trice is also the founder of Religica, a popular virtual and multimedia platform that highlights religious traditions, spiritual pathways, and indigenous wisdom as virtues of public life. The Religica Theolab Podcast collaborates with national and global partners for a growing distribution.

Trice's book *Encountering Cruelty* (2009) won the humanities award at Loyola University. He is currently co-editing a forthcoming text *Injury, Repair and Gratitude in a Pandemic Age*. He participates in the PWR-Vatican Ecology Writing Group, was a fellow at both the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Seminaries program as well as at the Shalom Hartman Institute.

Dr. Laurel Kearns



Dr. Laurel Kearns co-founded the Green Seminary Initiative, and is Professor of Ecology, Society and Religion at Drew Theological School in New Jersey, USA where she has taught since 1994. During this time, she has helped eco-justice to become rooted in the Drew curriculum so that there is now a required course: *Global Faiths and the Earth*.

Her research is focused on religious involvement in ecological issues and movements, with a particular interest in environmental justice, climate change, and food. In addition to *EcoSpirit: Religions and Philosophies for the Earth*, she has contributed chapters to volumes such as, *The Oxford Handbook on Climate Change and Society*, *Grassroots to Global: Broader Impacts of Civic Ecology*, *Quakers, Creation Care, and Sustainability*, *Living Cosmology: Christian Responses to the Journey of the Universe* and the *Bloomsbury Handbook on Religion and Nature*. Her decades-long involvement in religious environmentalism has roots in the island where she was born, Sanibel, Florida.

Ursula Goodenough



Ursula Goodenough is Professor of Biology Emerita at Washington University with a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1969; she has been living by the ocean on Martha's Vineyard since 2017. Her research has focused on the molecular, cellular, and evolutionary biology of unicellular algae. Her first IRAS conference was in 1987.

She has served in several IRAS leadership positions and co-chaired 6 conferences. Her interest in the religious naturalist orientation was birthed at IRAS and led to a book (*The Sacred Depths of Nature*) and many articles in *Zygon*. She participated in the founding of the Religious Naturalist Association (RNA) in 2014 and currently serves as its president. She has 5 children and 8 grandchildren.

Tatiana Brailovskaya



Tatiana Brailovskaya works as an author, science journalist, and editor. The focus of her professional writing is on biodiversity and conservation biology, marine wilderness protection, and sustainable natural resources management.

She holds an M.S. in conservation biology and natural resources policy from The University of Michigan. She has published in the peer-reviewed journal *Conservation Biology* and has developed communications programs and written extensively for numerous state and federal environmental agencies, research institutions, and environmental organizations.

She is a member of the Climate Action Task Force at the Parliament of the World's Religions and is the executive editor of *Faith for Earth—A Call for Action*, published in October 2020 through a partnership between the Parliament and the United Nations Environment Programme.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



The Role of Accredited Faith-based Organisations

22 February 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will provide accredited FBOs with an opportunity to reflect on UNEP's activities and how to integrate UNEP priorities into their own programmes. The Dialogue will also be a platform for accredited FBOs to share their perspectives and experiences on environment protection, specifically on how to promote civic engagement and inspire actions based on Indigenous or religious knowledge.

In partnership with:



AACC-CETA



World Council of Churches



BRAHMA KUMARIS

Aurora Cheung



Aurora joined the Civil Society Unit of UNEP in 2019, mainly working on accreditation and youth engagement. Before joining UNEP, Aurora worked for UNESCO since 2012, first in Paris, then in Nairobi, focusing on teacher education in Sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to joining the UN, she was a teacher and an examiner in Hong Kong.

She received an MA from United College London, a post-graduate diploma and a BA from the University of Hong Kong.

Gorden Simango



Gorden serves as Director of the All African Conference of Churches (AACC), Liaison Office to the African & Advocacy. He is passionate about bringing voices from the fringes to power centres to influence policy and decision making; and empowering local partners in advocacy and policy influencing, through compelling storytelling, promoting faith and societal values; and evidenced-based research to preserve the integrity of creation and to promote sustainable peace, human dignity & justice.

Rev. Henrik Grape



Senior Advisor on Care for Creation, Sustainability, and Climate Justice at the World Council of Churches; and Co-chair of the Interfaith Liaison Committee to the UNFCCC

Dr. Husna Ahmad



Dr Husna Ahmad OBE is the CEO of Global One 2015 and Board member of Faith for the Climate, Faith In Water, and Palmers Green Mosque (the MCEC). She is also a member of the Women's Faith Forum UK; Executive committee member of Barnet Faith Forum; and of the Multi faith Advisory Council to the UN Inter-agency Task Force on Religion and Development.

Rev Dr. Rachel Mash



Rev Dr Rachel Mash is the Environmental Coordinator for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, Eswatini) and the movement known as Green Anglicans. She is also the secretary of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network and lives in Cape Town

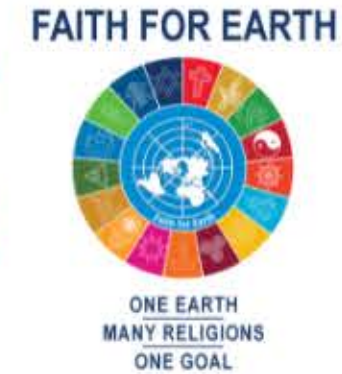
Peter Aburi



Peter Aburi joined the Baha'i International Community's (BIC) United Nations Office as a Representative to UNEP, Nairobi in 2019. His areas of work include climate change and the environment, social and sustainable development, and recycling. In 2019, Mr. Aburi worked with a team of experts and manufacturers to launch the Kenya Plastic Action Plan to promote circular economy. He holds an MBA from the University of Nairobi. He is also a private sector expert with experience of working with the East African Community (EAC) Members States to enhance regional trade integration in the East Africa region. Mr. Aburi was part of BIC delegation to COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Grassroot Interfaith Action for Climate Justice

22 February 2022; 4pm-5.30 East African Time (GMT+03:00)

What can we learn from success stories of interfaith cooperation in climate action from the field? How do we best promote interfaith collaboration and inclusive perspectives to climate action? How do we best support bold actions and grassroots

In partnership with:



Niklas Hagelberg



Niklas Hagelberg is a Senior Programme Officer at UN Environment where he is the Coordinator of UN Environment's subprogramme on Climate Change. Niklas work includes setting the strategic direction of the subprogramme, programme oversight and progress review and fundraising.

Previously Niklas worked as Coordinator for the Healthy and Productive Ecosystems subprogramme. In the Natural Resources Branch at UN Environment, his responsibilities included building a project portfolio on forests and integrated landscape management. Niklas was also part of the team that established the global UN-REDD programme and UN-REDD country programmes in Tanzania and Vietnam.

Prior to joining UN Environment, Niklas worked with various organizations in the development sector including a small NGO, a consultancy company and WWF.

Beth Roach



Beth Roach is a Co-founder of Alliance of Native Seedkeepers, an organization that was formed to keep ancestral seeds alive and to rebuild culture and food security in native communities. Beth has an extensive background in grants management, conservation, financial management, and organizing. She is also a storyteller for her tribe. Beth's work with Alliance of Native Seedkeepers aligns with her rural and agricultural roots and enables her to contribute to the resilience that is desperately needed in her region, particularly with regard to native communities' cultural and food security.

Since participating in the 2019 cohort WEA and Sierra Club's U.S. Grassroots Accelerator for Women Environmental Leaders, Beth has joined the design team for the program. Building off her two years as chairperson for the Virginia Environmental Justice Council, she was also recently tapped to coordinate a new tribal climate resilience project for the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs.

Meryne Warah



Meryne Warah is co-facilitator and coordinator of GreenFaith. Based in Nairobi, Kenya, she has worked with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance where she coordinated climate justice policy advocacy in eight African countries, and served as Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change for the Interreligious Council of Kenya.

Rev Dr. Rachel Mash



Rev Dr Rachel Mash is the Environmental Coordinator for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, Eswatini) and the movement known as Green Anglicans. She is also the secretary of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network and lives in Cape Town

Karina Soemarwoto



I am an independent researcher and investment consultant specialized in helping institutional asset owners (e.g. banks, pension funds, endowments/foundations and faith-based organizations) allocate their capital towards investments that have a positive social and environmental impact. I have worked on a variety of projects related to institutional impact investing and have a special interest in Islamic finance. My most recent work was on the Faith Impact Project. Prior to working in impact investing, I was a physicist, working in research related to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at Leiden University Medical Center. I have an academic background in (theoretical) physics and Middle Eastern studies from Leiden University and studied Arabic in Cairo, Egypt. In addition, I completed a graduate program in Science-Based Business, focusing on how to translate scientific research into marketable solutions.

Dr. Sophie Robé

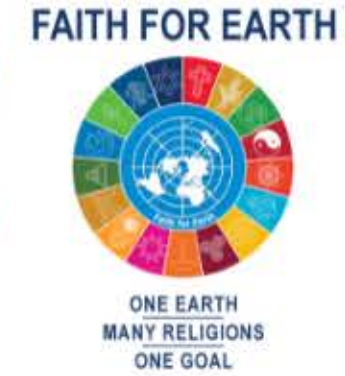


Sophie co-founder and CEO of FIIND Impact, an Amsterdam-based investment advisory boutique and foundation dedicated to impact investing. FIIND Impact foundation's mission is to be catalyst for change. We want to inspire other investors to invest responsibly and to commit to a net positive impact on people and planet in line with their unique set of values. Prior to this, she founded Phenix Capital, an impact investing intermediary in July 2012, and was co-CEO until March 2020.

The company successfully run seven impact investing summits, convened some among the largest asset owners, representing trillions in assets under management, and inspired numerous institutional investors to build impact mandates. Sophie is a former board of the CFA society Prior to Phenix Capital, Sophie was a Director and Head of Hedge fund Sales at Jupiter Asset Management in London and a Vice President and Head of Quantitative Equity Analysis at Commerzbank Asset Management in Germany.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Working Group on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration

23 February 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will create a space for dialogue and exchange of views, ideas, and practices on biodiversity protection and ecosystem restoration related issues and activities. It will introduce the purpose and efforts of the Working Group on Biodiversity and Ecosystems, outlining practical steps to contribute towards it while promoting interfaith collaboration and inclusive perspectives to ecosystems restoration.

In partnership with:



Chantal Elkin



20 years of experience in international conservation related to the protection of forests and wildlife, with a particular focus on the illegal wildlife trade, and on religion and conservation. Eight years with Asia programmes at Conservation International, with director level expertise in programme management, fundraising and donor relations, and working with interdisciplinary global teams. Director of the Wildlife & Forests Programme with the Alliance of Religions and Conservation in the UK for 9 years. Head of new Beliefs & Values Programme at WWF global network since July 2019.

Gopal Patel



Gopal D. Patel is a faith-based environmental activist, campaigner and consultant. For more than a decade he has spearheaded the development of environmental initiatives engaging religious communities and leaders in India, East Africa, Europe and North America. He is Co-Founder and Director of Bhumi Global, a non-profit organization that works to educate and mobilize Hindu communities globally for environmental action. He is co-chair of the United Nations Multi-faith Advisory Council and is a member of the Advisory Board to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. He also serves on the Board for Interfaith Power & Light and is an Advisor to the WWF Beliefs and Values Programme, Born and raised in England, he currently lives in the New York City Metro Area.

Andrew Schwartz



As director of sustainability and global affairs, Andrew Schwartz leads the Center of Earth Ethics' programs, such as the 2021 Faith + Food Coalition Dialogue series, that bring together voices from around the world to further environmental and climate justice. He has nearly a decade of experience working with community leaders and government officials to create multilateral coalitions and support environmental movements.

Before joining CEE, Andrew worked as interim executive director of Bend 2030, a coalition of diverse stakeholders in Bend, Oregon, co-director of the Micah Challenge USA, an advocacy group focused on ending extreme poverty, and program manager of the Climate Reality Project, founded by Al Gore to influence national and international environmental policy on climate change. Andrew earned his bachelor's degree from Pacific Lutheran University and his master's from Union Theological Seminary.

Tom Barasa



Consultant with WWF on faith tree growing, from Kenya.

Sonja Ohlsson



Sonja Ohlsson is a meditation teacher with the Prison and Probation Service in Copenhagen and occasionally gives lectures at The Asian Studies Department at Copenhagen University. Previously, she worked as a community nurse for more than 20 years. Born and raised in Sweden, she has been based at the Brahma Kumaris (BK) centre in Copenhagen since 1988.

In 2009, Sonja Ohlsson was instrumental in developing the Brahma Kumaris Environmental initiative in order to meet the need for a higher environmental awareness within the international BK community, and also to add the inner dimension to discussions at the UN Climate Change conferences

Laura D'Arcy



Head of Trillion Trees WWF-UK.
A joint venture between WWF, WCS and Birdlife International to support the end of deforestation and restore forests to benefit people, nature and climate.

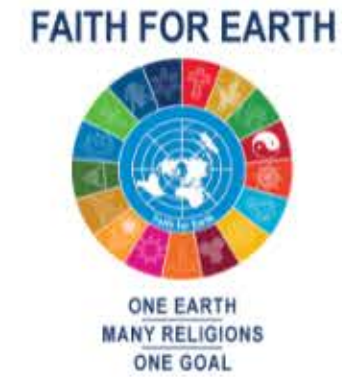
Sheren Sestra



Sheren is currently the Manager for Wildlife Programs at WWF Nepal and based in Kathmandu. He oversees the organization's snow leopard conservation projects, aiding in planning and implementation of research and conservation interventions. With special interest in human-wildlife conflict management, he enjoys working closely with communities to find solutions for well-being of nature and people. As part of the holistic snow leopard conservation strategy of WWF Nepal, Sheren also assists with engagement with faith institutions for wider conservation awareness, documentation of traditional knowledge, and adaptation of cultural practices to current context, among others.

A post-graduate in Environmental Sciences, Sheren has been working for wildlife conservation in India and Nepal since 2006. He believes in the need for partnerships, and in finding common grounds with diverse stakeholders, for unified conservation efforts. His interests include traveling, communication, photography, and singing-songwriting about conservation and social issues.

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith for Earth Youth Coalition: UK Youth Council

24 February 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will explore the ideas to implement in the Faith for Earth UK Youth Council, including introductions to members, a launch plan, work plan and strategy. The speakers will also discuss pledges and commitments of UNEP Faith for Earth UK Youth Council while exploring the climate action work of all participating youth council members and identifying priority action areas for the engagement of faith-based youth organizations.

In partnership with:



faith
for the
climate

Kamran Shezad



Kamran Shezad is the Director for the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES/EcoIslam), he is also the Sustainability Lead for the Bahu Trust and the Climate Change Advisor to the Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board, UK (MINAB). A qualified environmental specialist with practical field and managerial experience in the sustainable development sector. He is a strong advocate of using faith based approach in promoting the message of environment and guiding behavioural change. Kamran is a grassroots environmental activist, he has worked with a diverse range of faith groups and has produced toolkits, practical guides and mobilised communities for climate action. Kamran holds a Master's degree in Environmental Sustainability (Strategy & Management), he has been awarded 'Chartered Environmentalist' status by the Society for the Environment and is a full member of the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment. Kamran is also currently serving on the Civil Society & Youth Advisory Council to the Presidency of COP26.

Saba Yasin



Saba Yasin is a Politics and International Relations graduate as well as currently a Climate Action Project Officer at UK based NGO, Islamic Help. She works on delivering sustainable projects to empower those in need, while also advocating and campaigning for climate justice and using this platform to stand up for the rights of those who have been unfairly impacted by the effects of climate change across the globe

Imam Habib Khan



An award-winning Imam, Habib Khan studied at Jamia Al-Karam and Cambridge Muslim College before completing his MSc in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at Edinburgh University. In recognition of his work, Imam Habib was the 'Religious Advocate of the Year' at the British Muslim Awards 2020, speaker for the 'Time for Reflection' and Interfaith Summit 2018 at the Scottish Parliament and met Her Majesty, the Queen, at Buckingham Palace. He is currently pursuing an MA in International Human Rights Law and Justice at the American University in Cairo. He is also a Research Advisory Board Member for the 'Understanding British Imams' project at Islam UK Centre, Cardiff University.

Edward Sonin



Edward Meyer Sonin. Age 19. Youth climate activist in the reform Jewish community. I am passionate about climate injustice and using cross-faith cooperation to create grassroots solutions in marginalised communities who lack a voice in the mainstream discourse. Currently a first year Undergraduate Geographer at the University of Cambridge.

Devena Chouhan



Youth Co-ordinator at Hindu Climate Action

Rachel Mander



Rachel was one of the founders of YCCN (Young Christian Climate Network) and is their current Campaigns Lead. She works as Strategic Development Officer at the conservation charity A Rocha International

Amran Mohamed



Sanaa Pasha



Lucy Plummer



Jasmeet Kaur



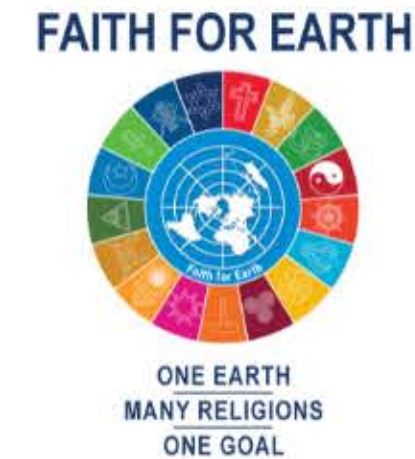
Finn Pierau



Since his MSc thesis on sustainable consumption from a Buddhist perspective, Finn has been involved in various environmental projects. He has organised intergenerational dialogues with a youth network called "My Faith and the Environment", where young and old come together to listen and learn from each other. Finn has also worked in a secondary school and is currently working in the fashion sector to drive sustainability transitions.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Climate Change and FoRB: Protecting Our Environment And Needs of All

24 February 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This Dialogue will provide parliamentarians, faith leaders and influencers and civil society actors space to look together at the relationship between FoRB and climate change. It will explore the role that each can play in ensuring that the needs of all unempowered groups are addressed and how these can be integrated into national (city, town and village-wide) climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. It will also explore the steps that need to be taken to address the existing discrimination against religious or belief communities that make them more susceptible to climate vulnerability.

In partnership with:





John Knox Former - UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment



Dr. Iyad Abumoghli - Director of UNEP 's Faith for Earth Initiative

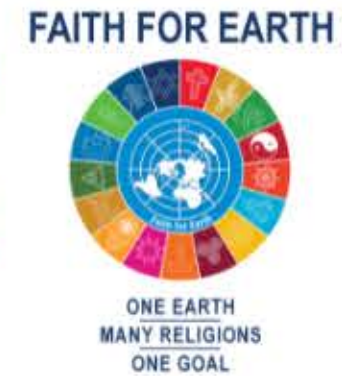


Catherine Thane - International Panel of Parliamentarians for FoRB



Archbishop Mark MacDonald
Indigenous Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Canada

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



The Innovation Expo

24 February 2022; 5.30pm-7pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session aims to showcase innovative approaches to addressing environmental challenges, as well as to highlight other pioneering initiatives while reflecting on how they can serve faith communities.

In partnership with:



Runa Ray



Runa Ray is a fashion designer and environmentalist who uses fashion to advocate for policy change. She has worked extensively with the sustainable development goals on various projects with regards to Climate Action and with the United Nations. She also is an educational member of the IUCN. As an innovator, Runa Ray's designs encompass Nature-Based Solutions. By keeping the end in mind, she has helped revive ancient and indigenous techniques that reduce our impact on the earth, and bringing together the fashion industry with science based knowledge. Her partnership with the Prince Albert II foundation 2021 helped in conserving marine protected areas.

Sustainable Fashion workshop is a collaboration she founded to support the UN decades for sustainable growth and development, it involves stakeholders, designers and end users who create, discuss and implement innovative solutions related to mitigating the fashion industry's carbon footprint.

Peter Nitschke



Dr. Peter Nitschke is the Faith Program Manager at Plastic Bank. Peter designed and pioneered the program from the beginning with the vision to enliven faith communities to stop ocean plastic and improve livelihoods. Peter has a passion for training and empowering communities, as he wrote his doctoral dissertation on grassroots education. Peter has been working with informal recycling communities for the past 10 years, opening the first Plastic Bank branch in the Philippines in 2017.

Peter has worked in the Philippines since 1997, where he supported local communities to set up grassroots cooperatives facilitating economic development. Peter has vast experience working with non-profits in the Philippines, managing projects in 12 provinces with a focus on developing entrepreneurs. Peter now lives in his native Germany.

Brennan Van Dyke



Chief, Capacity Development and Innovation Branch - Science Division of UNEP

Petra Wadström



Born and raised in Sweden, Petra Wadström is the founder of Solvatten. This social enterprise aims to provide people in developing countries with access to safe and hot water in a portable, environmentally friendly way.

Petra was educated as a biochemical-medical research technician at the Karolinska Institute, and after years of research in Biozentrum, University of Basel, she turned her focus to art.

"Being an artist has helped me hugely to think outside the box, combining the elements of research and creativity. I believe my passion for innovative sustainable solutions that change lives for the better has to do with a practical mind".

Mary Githiomi



Mary is the IAS K team leader, in charge of day to day operations of IAS K programme. She joined IAS K in the capacity of Country Director in 2015. She is also the Secretary to the Board, the go between the staff, management and the Board of Governors. She Chairs the Senior Management Team that runs the daily operation of the organization.

She has over 20 years' experience in Relief and Development sphere, and has worked in different countries. Mary brings wealth of experience in Management, Administration, leadership, programs and Human Resource Management.

She is a strong negotiator, focused on service delivery, and very passionate about the program she leads. Above all, she believes that God has a purpose for every single human being, and hers is to serve diligently, and with a focus to deliver the Mission of IAS-K

Suzanne Deering



She really thinks the products of Terrea Vitae are the new gold! But not in terms of financial richness or material wealth, but as in truly GOLD for the earth.

A healthy earth and healthy living creatures on it start with a healthy soil. She's passionate about spreading this message: that it's not too late to start living in symbiosis with nature and as humankind being a cooperating part in the whole ecosystem.

Arianne Neele



Arianne is the fourth generation of a Dutch family, since 1962 internationally active in the agri- and horticulture. She put all the knowledge and experience gained by the members of the family Neele, through decades, in a newly developed product.

With this product we give back to the earth what we took. It restores depleted- and sandy soils. She believes that with this product she can give everyone access to a healthy soil, and therefore to healthy food and comfortable living circumstances.

Katie Wachsberger



Katie is the co-founder of DANA Accelerator, an Abu Dhabi based accelerator that supports women-led startups in desert tech, including sectors of AgriTech, water solutions, food security, waste management, and renewable energy through regional collaboration, innovation mentorship, impact community, and investment.

She is also a research fellow at Forum for Regional Thinking and a freelancer at Qamar LLC. She holds a BA in Near and Middle Eastern Studies from Columbia University.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



FAITH FOR EARTH



ONE EARTH
MANY RELIGIONS
ONE GOAL



Faith for Earth Coalition: Religion-Science Consortium

25 February 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

The session aims to discuss the nexus of religion and science and its definition for the purpose of the Religion-Science Consortium within the Faith for Earth Coalition. The speakers will identify the work plan and strategy of the Religion-Science Consortium, translating these into achievable targets and goals for faith actors to aspire towards.

In partnership with:



YALE FORUM ON
RELIGION AND ECOLOGY



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE

Mary Evelyn Tucker



Mary Evelyn Tucker teaches at Yale University at the School of the Environment and the Divinity School. She is co-director with John Grim of the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology. They co-organized 10 conferences on World Religions and Ecology at Harvard and were series editors for the 10 resulting volumes Harvard volumes. She also co-edited Confucianism and Ecology, Buddhism and Ecology, and Hinduism and Ecology. Moreover, she has authored (with John Grim) Ecology and Religion (Island Press, 2014), and co-edited the Routledge Handbook of Religion and Ecology (2017) with Willis Jenkins. They also have created six online courses in Religions and Ecology: Restoring the Earth Community.

Mary Evelyn won the Inspiring Yale Teaching Award in 2015 and has been awarded 5 honorary degrees. With John Grim, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture.

Esben Larsen



Esben serves as the Director for the Faith and Sustainability Initiative at WRI. Prior to joining WRI, Esben had a political career in the Kingdom of Denmark as Member of City Council from 2006-2014, Deputy Mayor from 2010-2014, Member of the Danish Parliament from 2011-2018 and Cabinet Minister in Her Majesty the Queens Government from 2015-2018. First as Minister for Higher Education and Research and secondly as Minister for Environment and Food.

Being a farmer's son, Esben always had an interest in food, forest and agriculture. Esben holds a Master in Theology from the University of Copenhagen and a PhD from the University of Copenhagen about freedom of speech and freedom of religion.

Alberto Palecchi



Alberto is a WRI Europe Program Manager. He works on WRI's Faith and Sustainability initiative, supporting existing and new faith-based projects in the area of sustainability and enabling faith-based communities to identify ideas and programs that build capacity for community-level solutions to sustainability challenges. Alberto also oversees WRI Europe's activities around natural resources, peace and security, supporting the 'Water, Peace and Security partnership' and coordinating outreach activities with relevant European actors.

Prior to joining WRI, Alberto worked with the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA, ACP-EU), an international development organization; the European University Institute (EUI), a research institute and also interned for a justice institute in The Hague, the Italian General Consulate in Miami, and a human rights NGO in Italy.

Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter



Rev. Dr. Christopher Carter's teaching, research, and activist interests are in Black, Womanist, and Environmental ethics, with a particular focus on race, food, and nonhuman animals. He is the co-creator of Racial Resilience, an anti-racism and anti-bias program that utilizes the combined insights of contemplative practices and critical race theories. His academic publications include The Spirit of Soul Food (University of Illinois Press, November 2021), and "Blood in the Soil: The Racial, Racist, and Religious Dimensions of Environmentalism" in The Bloomsbury Handbook on Religion and Nature (Bloomsbury, 2018).

The passion that informs all of his work evolves out of his family's struggle to loosen the chains of systematic racism – similar to bell hooks he believes that education is the practice of freedom. He believes that at its broadest level, learning should be transformational: it should transform how the student views herself, her neighbor, and her worldview. Currently he is an Assistant Professor of Theology at the University of San Diego, a Faith in Food Fellow at Farm Forward, and lead pastor of The Loft in Westwood California.

Ursula Goodenough

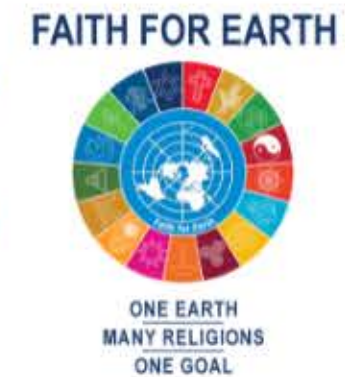


Ursula Goodenough is Professor of Biology Emerita at Washington University with a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1969; she has been living by the ocean on Martha's Vineyard since 2017. Her research has focused on the molecular, cellular, and evolutionary biology of unicellular algae. Her first IRAS conference was in 1987.

She has served in several IRAS leadership positions and co-chaired 6 conferences. Her interest in the religious naturalist orientation was birthed at IRAS and led to a book (The Sacred Depths of Nature) and many articles in Zygon. She participated in the founding of the Religious Naturalist Association (RNA) in 2014 and currently serves as its president. She has 5 children and 8 grandchildren.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith, Values & Ethics in Environmental Governance

25 February 2022; 5.30pm-7.00pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will introduce the Report on 'Faith, Values and Ethics in Environmental Governance', presenting the efforts, outcomes, and recommendations of 'Our Sacred Commitment Strategic Meeting' (Skálholt III Conference). As a space for dialogue and exchange of views on the role of faith, values and ethics in environmental governance, this event will enable soliciting support and inputs for a new publication on common faith values and ethics relating to the environment and help catalyze action for the way forward.

In partnership with:

Bahá'í
International
Community



**Center for
Earth Ethics**



Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote



Patricia Kameri-Mbote is the Director of the Law Division, of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Previously, Patricia was Founding Research Director of the International Environmental Law Research Centre (IELRC), and was the Programme Director for Africa for over 20 years.

Patricia has in-depth knowledge and experience in environmental law acquired at local, national, regional, and international levels. She has consulted for UNEP in the review of programmes, legal instruments, and the rules of engagement of major groups. She has been engaged in the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme since 2007 and is a member of the Governing Board of the International Council on Environmental Law (ICEL).

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher



Archbishop Thomas Schirmmacher (Dr. theol., Dr. theol., PhD, DD) is Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance, which represents Protestant churches belonging to 143 National Evangelical Alliances with altogether 600 million members. He is also Co-President of Religions for Peace (New York). He served WEA in different leadership roles the last two decades, the latest being the Associate Secretary General for Theological Concerns and Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations.

He earned four doctorates in ecumenical theology, in cultural anthropology, in ethics, and in the sociology of religion and is extraordinary professor of the sociology of religion at the state University of the West in Timisoara (Romania) and at the University of Oxford (Regent's Park College).

Mona Polacca



Mona Polacca is an educator and facilitator whose knowledge, empathy and values motivate others to speak and act. She has a special interest in older people and youth, and has led or participated in many effective initiatives related to Indigenous water issues and culturally appropriate health treatments for Native Americans.

Mona has held posts of responsibility within her own community, such as Treasurer for her tribe (the Colorado River Indian Tribes). She earned a masters in social work and has over twenty years of practical experience working, presenting and publishing on health and social issues affecting Native American peoples. She is the founder, President/CEO and faculty member of the Turtle Island Project, a non-profit program dedicated to promoting a vision of wellness and providing trans-cultural training to individuals, families, and healthcare professionals, and she is an active member of the Healing the Border Project of the Indigenous Alliance Without Borders.

Priestess Beatriz Schulthess



Priestess Schulthess has 30 years of expertise in multilateral diplomacy on behalf of Indigenous Peoples, Women and Environment and Development organisations. Priestess Schulthess currently serves as the President for the Indigenous People Ancestral Spiritual Council in Costa Rica. She has previously served as a consultant in preparation for and in negotiations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the 'Earth Summit,' and was subsequently engaged in the monitoring and follow up of the Climate Change and Rio + 20 negotiation processes. She founded and co-founded various organisations, notably the Indigenous Peoples Ancestral Spiritual Council. In addition, she was the Executive Director of the International Indigenous Commission from 1989 to 1992. Priestess Schulthess was instrumental in negotiations which led to the Proclamation of the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples, 1993, as well as in the drafting of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Daniel Perell



Daniel Perell joined the Baha'i International Community's United Nations Office as a Representative in 2011. His areas of work include climate change and the environment, social and sustainable development, global governance, and disaster risk reduction. He is formerly a Global Organizing Partner of the HLPF NGO Major Group and Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development.

Dr. Husna Ahmad



Dr. Ahmad is the CEO of Global One 2015. With a PhD in Environmental Law from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, Dr. Ahmad is the former Group CEO of Faith Regen Foundation which is a multi-faith UK charity. She is currently a Board member of BOND, Faith In Water, and Palmers Green Mosque (the MCEC). She is a member of the UN Task Force Faith based Advisory Council. She sits on the international advisory board of the Commonwealth Initiative for Freedom of Religion and Belief (CiFORB).

Dr Ahmad sits on the Steering Committee of The World Bank's Moral Imperative Initiative. She is an author and thought leader who has presented many papers internationally focusing particularly on faith and the environment. She is the Secretary General of the World Muslim Leadership Forum and Coordinator for the Alliance of NGOs and CSOs for South-South Cooperation.

Gauranga Das



Gauranga Das is a mindful meditation expert, strategic character educationist, sustainability and climate change warrior, and social welfare catalyst based in Mumbai.

Gauranga Das is director of ISKCON's Govardhan Ecovillage (GEV), founded by Radhanath Swami. The GEV, representing India, has won over thirty-six national and international awards, including the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Award in 2017 for its innovative model of 'Eco-Tourism as a Catalyst for Rural Development'.

Rabbi Daniel Swartz



Rabbi Daniel Swartz is the Executive Director of the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL), which has engaged Jewish organizations and individuals in environmental advocacy and programs for 25 years as part of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment (NRPE). He has also worked with Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light, NRPE, Children's Environmental Health Network and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Kehkashan Basu

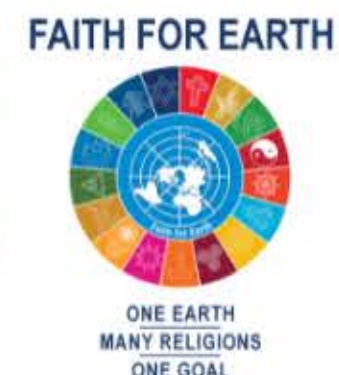


Kehkashan is the Founder-President of global social innovation enterprise Green Hope Foundation, that works at a grassroots level in 26 countries, empowering young people and women, especially those from vulnerable communities, in the sustainable development process and she has spoken at over 300 United Nations and other global fora.

She is the youngest Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions, an Action Coalition Leader of UN Women Generation Equality Forum's Feminist Action for Climate Justice, the Co-Chair of the University of Toronto's SDG Student Advisory Council, Council Lead of the Toronto-St. Paul's Constituency Youth Council, Canada and a member of the World Humanitarian Forum Youth Council.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Strengthening Linkages between Faith Communities and Nature-Based Solutions

28 February 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

Showcasing successful stories from the field, the session will focus on the perspective and role of faith actors by looking at case studies and best practises that could be replicable - addressing Indigenous knowledge, adaptation measures, partnerships/coalition building and ecosystem restoration.

In partnership with:

**Interfaith Center
for Sustainable
Development**



Tim Christophersen



Tim Christophersen is the Coordinator of the 'Nature for Climate' Branch at the UN Environment Programme, and focal point for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. He coordinates UNEP's role within the UN-REDD Programme, a collaborative initiative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UNEP to reduce deforestation in developing countries.

He previously worked for the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Danish Ministry of the Environment, and the European Commission. Tim is a German national and holds a Master's degree in forest engineering and conservation from Dresden University of Technology.

Alvin Chandra



Alvin is a Climate Change Specialist from the Pacific Islands with more than 15 years experience with climate change, international development and environment management. I completed a doctorate at the University of Queensland. His work interests center on ecosystem-based approaches and socio-political dimensions of climate change adaptation, climate-induced loss and damage, the utility of community-focused interventions, and climate change policy negotiations. Much of my recent work has focused on Southern Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, in particular Bangladesh, Fiji, PNG, Timor-Leste, the Philippines, Myanmar and Vietnam. He have experience in supporting UN intergovernmental processes under the three Rio Conventions - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

Norah Cherotich Ngeny



Global Adaptation Network, UNEP

Oscar Ivanova



Oscar Ivanova is the GAN Liaison for the African Region. Oscar's main task is to strengthen regional partnerships and support EBAFOSA, our regional node for Africa, to expand its network. He also helps gathering evidence with a focus on EbA, organizes regional stakeholder dialogues, assists the launch of the Global EbA Fund, and supports the GAN Secretariat in its activities. He previously worked within the Climate for Nature Branch and the Communication Division of UNEP on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, where he was helping with the overall coordination/management. Being native from Chamonix Mont-Blanc, in the middle of the French Alps, Oscar feels very close to nature and will always enjoy going for a hike, exploring the local ecosystems and appreciating observing animals there.

Rabbi Yonatan Neril



Rabbi Yonatan Neril founded and directs The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development. Raised in California, Yonatan completed an M.A. and B.A. from Stanford University with a focus on global environmental issues, and received rabbinical ordination in Israel. Yonatan is coauthor of the bestselling book Eco Bible, published by ICSD, which shines new light on how the Hebrew Bible and great religious thinkers have urged human care and stewardship of nature for thousands of years as a central message of spiritual wisdom. He has spoken internationally on religion and the environment, including at the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, the Fez Climate Conscience Summit and the Parliament of World Religions. He co-organized ten interfaith environmental conferences in Jerusalem, New York City, Washington D.C., and Atlanta.

He is the lead author of three books on Jewish environmental ethics and also co-authored three reports on faith and ecology courses in theological education.

Lindlyn Moma



Lindlyn Moma is Director of Advocacy at Laudato Si Movement. She currently is a member of the Vatican Commission on the post-COVID world task force on ecology and also acts on the Board of Advisers for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. Prior to her current role, Lindlyn served for just under a decade as Program Director for Greenpeace in Africa and Regional Advocacy Director for WaterAid in Southern Africa.

Lindlyn started her quest for social and environmental justice with Third World Network Africa by supporting communities adversely affected by gold mining in Africa. She holds a Masters in Human Rights Law from the University of Pretoria and a Maitrise en Sciences Juridiques et Politiques de L'Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale. Lindlyn has spent over 20 years challenging human and environmental rights violations in Africa.

Jessica Troni



Jessica Troni is a Senior Programme Officer: Adaptation Portfolio Manager for UN Environment. Her role includes development of the adaptation portfolio at UN Environment, and developing quality standards and corporate guidance and coordination on adaptation planning and implementation.

Ms. Troni is a climate change and public policy specialist, with 17 years of experience in the private sector, the public sector and for UNDP.

Tom Barasa



Consultant with WWF on faith tree growing, from Kenya.

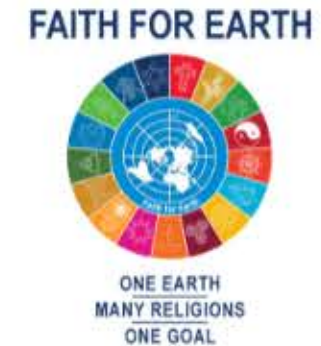
Jungin Hwang



ICE Network



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



What the World Expects from FBOs and What We Should Do

28 February 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

The directors of six leading religion and ecology NGOs and initiatives will share their perspectives on the religion and ecology movement. Their work addresses the climate and environmental crises through policy advocacy, grassroots activism, sustainable lifestyles, religious education and worldviews, asset and facility management, habitat and species protection, science-policy-faith nexus integration, and more. There is a huge upswelling globally of innovative faith-based environmental programs - from religious funds in the trillions of dollars moving to sustainable investments, to on the ground forest and wildlife protection projects, to channeling vast faith-based tree planting to restore degraded natural areas, to powerful climate change advocacy and sustainable consumption initiatives.

Well organized and mobilized, the religious sector could become one of the most effective forces to address the climate and environmental crises. Over the past thirty years, researchers, environmentalists, and business and political leaders have come to understand the uniquely valuable role of religion in relation to climate change and environmental conservation. Groundbreaking work by a core of global religious environmental organizations, select high-level religious leaders, and many religious communities, has begun to harness the religious sector's enormous size and considerable power for ecological

In partnership with:



Chantal Elkin



Chantal is the Head of the Beliefs & Values Programme at WWF and is President of the Society for Conservation Biology's Religion and Conservation Biology Working Group. She was formerly the Director of the Wildlife & Forests Programme at the British-based NGO, the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC). Chantal spent eight years with the Washington-based NGO, Conservation International, managing the Indo-Burma and Wildlife Trade programmes, working primarily in Asia. Chantal holds two Master's degrees from the University of London, the first in Environment and Development in Southeast Asia and the second in Buddhism and Conservation. She has contributed to a range of publications such as Cultural and Spiritual Significance of Nature in Protected and Conserved Areas: Governance, Management and Policy (2019); Cambodia's Contested Forest Domain (2013), Logging Burma's Frontier Forests: Resources and the Regime (WRI, 1998) and several ARC publications on Green Pilgrimage (2012, 2015).

Sonam Yangchen



Program Officer, WWF Bhutan Program

Leads WWF Bhutan's Youth and Education Program by developing and implementing a variety of projects to effectively engage and empower Bhutanese children and youth to support WWF Bhutan's conservation work, promote sustainable development, apply the principles of sustainability in their everyday activities and decisions, and drive active citizenship.

Rabbi Yonatan Neril



Rabbi Yonatan Neril founded and directs The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development. Raised in California, Yonatan completed an M.A. and B.A. from Stanford University with a focus on global environmental issues, and received rabbinical ordination in Israel. Yonatan is coauthor of the bestselling book Eco Bible, published by ICSD, which shines new light on how the Hebrew Bible and great religious thinkers have urged human care and stewardship of nature for thousands of years as a central message of spiritual wisdom. He has spoken internationally on religion and the environment, including at the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, the Fez Climate Conscience Summit and the Parliament of World Religions. He co-organized ten interfaith environmental conferences in Jerusalem, New York City, Washington D.C., and Atlanta.

He is the lead author of three books on Jewish environmental ethics and also co-authored three reports on faith and ecology courses in theological education.

Martin Palmer



Martin Palmer is Chief Executive of FaithInvest, an international non-profit founded in 2019 to grow the scale and impact of faith-based investing. He has worked with the faiths on the environment for over 30 years, and co-founded the Alliance of Religions and Conservation with HRH Prince Philip in 1995. He has written many books on religious and environmental topics, translates ancient Chinese texts and is a lay preacher in the Church of England.

Fletcher Harper



Fletcher is an Episcopal priest and Executive Director at GreenFaith. GreenFaith is a national, interfaith environmental organization that conducts education and advocacy, and provides sustainability services, to faith-based groups. Under his leadership, GreenFaith has developed innovative programs linking religious belief and practice to the environment. An award-winning spiritual writer and nationally-recognized preacher on the environment, he teaches and speaks at houses of worship from a range of denominations in New Jersey and nationwide about the moral, spiritual basis for environmental stewardship and justice. GreenFaith facilitates solar and energy services and financing for the faith sector, and uses the power of religious networks help people from diverse backgrounds put their belief into action for the Earth. A graduate of Princeton University and Union Theological Seminary, he served as a parish priest for ten years and in leadership positions in the Episcopal Church before becoming GreenFaith's Executive Director.

Jakir Manela



Jakir Manela is the CEO of Hazon and Pearlstone. Born and raised in the Washington DC metropolitan area, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 2004 and went to work at the Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center as a Teva Jewish outdoor environmental educator. In 2006 he established Kayam Farm, North America's first Jewish Community Farm at Pearlstone, and in 2012 Jakir was promoted to become Pearlstone's Executive Director.

For the past ten years, Jakir has helped lead Pearlstone to its perennial status in the Slingshot Guide as one of the most innovative Jewish organizations in North America. Today, Jakir works collaboratively with the wonderful staff and board members at Hazon and Pearlstone, as well as funders and partners across the country, leading the new Hazon-Pearlstone entity into a new chapter of growth and impact. Jakir lives just up the road from Pearlstone with his family. He coaches youth sports and loves building campfires and making music with friends.

Susan Hendershot



20+ years of executive, advocacy, issue campaign design, and coalition management in nonprofit, faith-based, environmental, and climate change space; focused on strategizing and advancing public policy change. Ability to engage with cross-constituency teams and influence diverse stakeholders at all levels of public, private, and non-profit organizations. Known for public speaking, public engagement, and collaboration savvy as well as achieving policy objectives.

Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth

Date: Tuesday, 1 March 2022; 2pm -3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)



Sidi Fazlun Khalid



Fazlun Khalid has a worldwide reputation as a pioneer in the field of Islamic environmentalism having been involved in this work since the 1980s. He was recognised as one of fifteen leading eco-theologians in the world (Grist magazine, USA 24 July 2000). He founded the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences which is now established as the world's leading Islamic environmental NGO. His book Signs on the Earth: Islam, Modernity and the Climate Crisis published in 2019 has been described as a masterclass in framing contemporary issues from a faith perspective.

Sidi Othman Llewellyn



Othman Llewellyn is an ecological planner and member of the IUCN World Commissions on Protected Areas and Environmental Law, Othman authored Saudi Arabia's current protected area system plan. Born in Colorado, USA, he has lived in the Arabian subcontinent since 1982, working to conserve its natural heritage. His research interests focus on the ecological implications of Islamic ethics. He wrote "The Basis for a Discipline of Islamic Environmental Law" in Islam and Ecology: A Bestowed Trust (Harvard, 2003). He co-authored Environmental Protection in Islam, (IUCN, 1994) and was on the drafting team of the Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change (Istanbul, 2015).

Kamran Shezad



Kamran Shezad is the Director for the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES/EcoIslam), he is also the Sustainability Lead for the Bahu Trust and the Climate Change Advisor to the Mosques & Imams National Advisory Board, UK (MINAB).

A qualified environmental specialist with practical field and managerial experience in the sustainable development sector. He is a strong advocate of using faith based approach in promoting the message of environment and guiding behavioural change. Kamran is a grassroots environmental activist, he has worked with a diverse range of faith groups and has produced toolkits, practical guides and mobilised communities for climate action. Kamran holds a Master's degree in Environmental Sustainability (Strategy & Management), he has been awarded 'Chartered Environmentalist' status by the Society for the Environment and is a full member of the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment. Kamran is also currently serving on the Civil Society & Youth Advisory Council to the Presidency of COP26.

Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Özdemir



Dr. Ibrahim Özdemir is a professor of philosophy at Uskudar University, Istanbul. He holds a Doctorate degree in philosophy from the Middle East Technical University, Turkey. His major is environmental ethics and environmental philosophy.

He was part of the drafting team of the Islamic Declaration for Global Climate Change, 2015 and a Strategy Document for the Islamic Conference of Environment Ministers (ICEM), 02-03 October 2019 in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco. His most recent publications include *The Ethical Dimension of Human Attitude Towards Nature*, 2nd edition, Insan Publications: Istanbul, 2008; *Jalaluddin Rumî and Confucius: Messages and Visions for a New Century*, Tugra Books: New Jersey, 2013

Datuk Prof. Azizan Baharuddin



Azizan Baharuddin is the Director-General of the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM). She is the Chair in Climate Change of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia-Yayasan Sime Darby (UKM-YSD), Honorary Professor of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, Universiti Malaya and Member of National Council of Islamic Religious Affairs Malaysia. She was appointed as member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee and a member of the Drafting Committee of the International Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change (IDCC) launched in Istanbul (2015) in conjunction with the Conference of the Parties (COP21) – Paris Climate Change Conference. She specialises in several areas such as bioethics, interfaith/intercivilisational dialogue, Islam and science, environmental ethics & religion and sustainable development. She has published more than 200 books, book chapters, monographs, journal articles and newspaper articles in the above-mentioned fields.

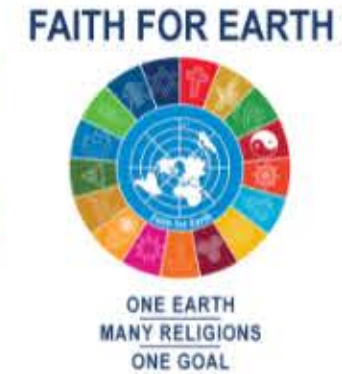
Dr. Fadila Grine



Dr. Fadila Grine is the Senior advisor, The director of foreign affairs and Cabinet at the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Istanbul, Turkey, and former Director of Family and Social Affairs to the Department of Humanitarian, Cultural and Social Affairs at the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. An active member of the OIC Council of Muslim Women, Dr. Grine has long been a strong advocate of the rights and significance of family and women in all fields of development, with a focused interest on youth, elderly, marriage, leadership and culture. During her time as Visiting Associate Professor to the Department of Islamic History and Civilization, University of Malaya, Malaysia, she served as Head of Research as well as Head of the International Bureau of Consultancy and Training.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Local Challenges, Local Solutions: Faith Groups for Environmental Action

1 March 2022; 4pm-5.30 East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session aims to provide a platform to amplify the voice, role and experience of Faith-Based Organizations as key stakeholders in driving the SDG agenda, incorporating a values-based lens into the conversations towards global and local environmental challenges.

In partnership with:



Atul Bagai



Shri. Atul Bagai is the Country Head for United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) India Office. UNEP is UN's leading global environmental body that sets the global environmental agenda.

After UNEP established its footprint in India in 2016, Shri. Bagai has decisively led from the front to fulfil its mandate across Climate Change; Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality; Environmental Governance; Resource Efficiency; Environment under Review; Healthy & Productive Ecosystems and Resilience to Disasters and Conflicts.

Previously, as a career civil servant, Shri. Bagai rose to be the Director (Ozone) in MoEFCC, Government of India before joining UNEP in 2000. He worked on various senior positions in the State of Uttar Pradesh and the Central Government. As a UN veteran he has spent over two-decades spearheading challenging assignments in regions across South and Southeast Asia & the Pacific Islands.

Lauren Van Ham



Raised in the Midwest, Lauren's professional life began as a performing artist in NYC before attending interfaith seminary in California. After ordination (1999), Lauren served as chaplain in both healthcare and corporate settings, and seminary Dean at The Chaplaincy Institute. Her passion for spirituality, art and Earth's teachings construct her focus in eco-ministry, grief & loss, and sacred activism.

She is a guest writer for "Progressing Spirit," an online publication exploring theology, spirituality and public events. She holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and Naropa University. Lauren is a spiritual director and serves as guest faculty for several schools in the Bay Area.

Catherine Devitt



Catherine Devitt has worked in environmental policy and advocacy for over ten years. She came to the FaithPlans programme from her role as policy coordinator with Ireland's national climate coalition, Stop Climate Chaos. Catherine also worked as environmental justice officer with the Irish Jesuits and EcoJesuit. She lectured in University College Dublin on environmental issues and has published in leading international journals on topics related to environmental risk, climate change, biodiversity, and interreligious dialogue and sustainability. Catherine has sabbatical experience in ecology and spirituality, and her academic background is in the social sciences, and in environmental policy.

Dr. Lorna Gold



Dr. Lorna Gold is director of movement building with FaithInvest. Prior to her current role, she led Trócaire's policy, research and advocacy activities in Ireland for almost two decades. She holds a Ph.D. in economic geography from the University of Glasgow. She is chair of the board of the Laudato Si' movement and a member of the Vatican Covid-19 Commission Economic Taskforce. Her most recent book, "Climate Generation: Awakening to Our Children's Future," was described by Naomi Klein as "an anguished journey into the heart of the climate crisis."

It tells her personal story of waking up to the ecological emergency as a mother, academic and activist. Her academic research interests include the just transition, civil society movements and the role of faith groups in climate activism.

Allen Ottaro



Allen Ottaro is the Founder and Executive Director of the Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESA), based in Nairobi, Kenya, with chapters in 10 African countries. He is also a member of the steering committee of the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM), and serves on the Ecology Commission of the World Christian Life Community (CLC).

Since 2015, he has served as a member of the climate change working group, under the Justice, Peace and Development department, of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM).

Allen is passionate about engaging young people and faith communities in promoting environmental sustainability, with a strong social justice perspective. He has a keen interest in bridging the gap between environmental policy and practice, and participates actively in policy dialogue fora.

Daniel Eror

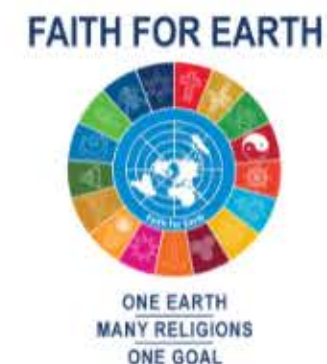


Daniel Eror was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. He obtained formal education at the University of Sarajevo, Master Studies of Economy and Management, with a focus on Human Resources as well as the Master Program of Interreligious Studies and Peacebuilding at the Faculty of Catholic Theology Sarajevo, the Faculty of Islamic Studies Sarajevo, and the Faculty of Orthodox Theology Vasilije Ostroski Foča. He is a member of civil society with 14 years of progressive experience in the field of intercultural dialogue, reconciliation, and peacebuilding, mainly working with young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as abroad.

He is a founder and president of Youth for Peace, an organization which has positioned itself as one of the most prominent youth-led organizations in BiH, working in the field of peacebuilding. Daniel has been an active member of the United Religions Initiative network for several years. He has been a URI Global Council Trustee and URI Europe Treasurer since 2018. In Religions for Peace Europe, he serves as a co-president of the Organization.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Religions in Action for the Protection and Restoration of Forests: Lessons from the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative

1 March 2022; 5.30pm-7pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will reflect on the achievements and lessons learned by the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, hearing from the National Facilitators country programs on what has worked, what has not and what is the way forward. The speakers will discuss the Faith for Earth program and the possible transfer of best practices to other member nations, as well as how to engage youth more effectively.

In partnership with:



Inger Andersen



H.E Dr. Hans Brattskar



Dr. Jane Goodall



Dr. Charles McNeill



Rev. Romi Bencke



Blanca Echeverry



Carlos Vicente



Rev. Matthieu Bonketo



Monseñor Alfredo Vizcarra

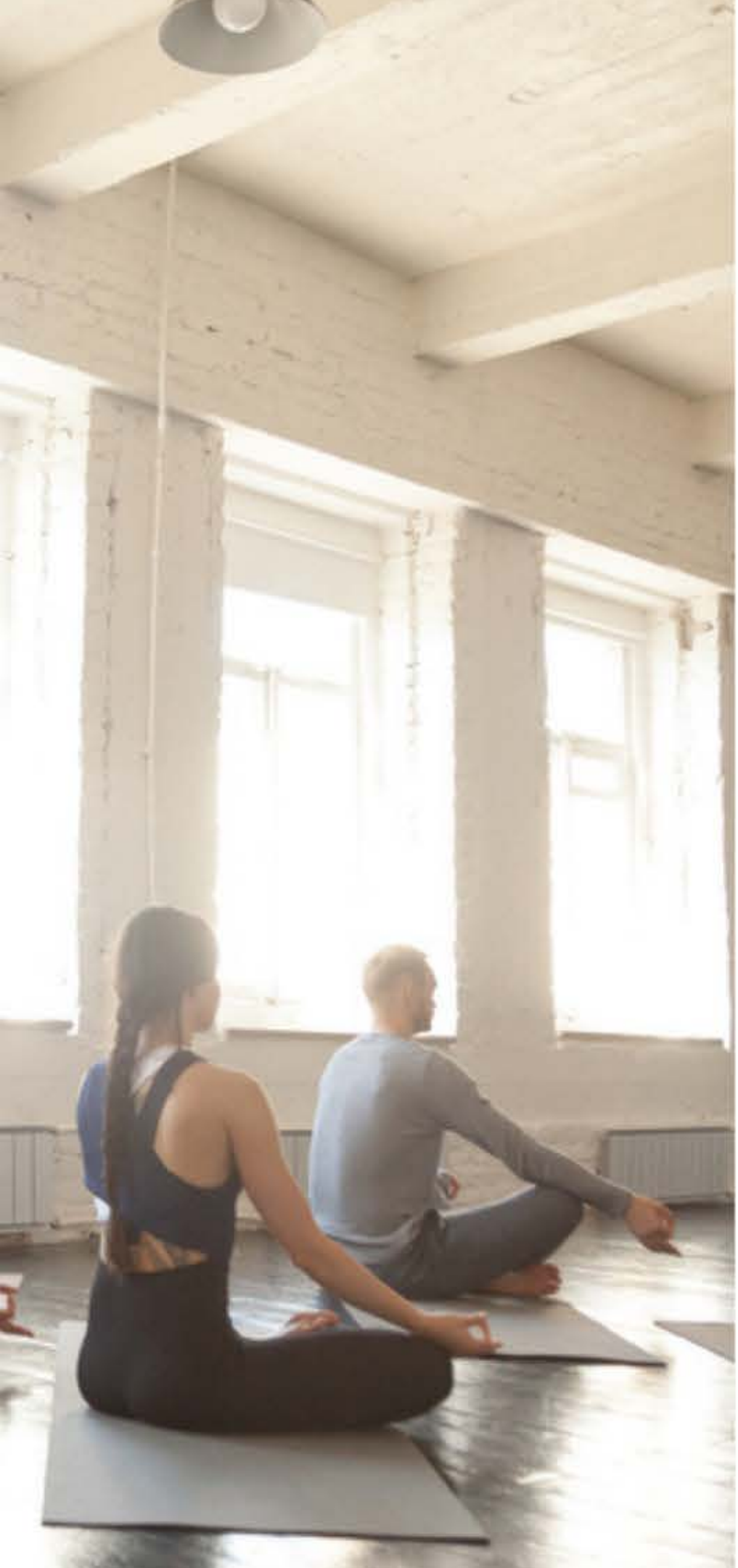


Abbé Donatien Nshole

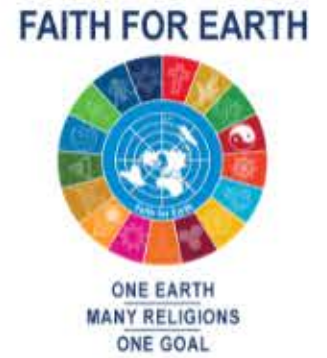


Laura Vargas





FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Preventing and Mitigating Climate Crises through Mindfulness and Spirituality

2 March 2022; 10am-11.30am East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will focus on how ideas of mindfulness - that are already present in many different faiths - as well as meditation, collective prayer and other mindfulness practices can help address the triple planetary crisis and especially address SDG 12.

In partnership with:



Dr. Kumanga Andrahennadi



Dr. Kumanga Andrahennadi is a Mindfulness Researcher, Educator and a Consultant with over 20 years of experience in delivering mindfulness-based programmes in the West for children, young people and adults. As the Founder of CALM: Centre for Advanced Learning of Mindfulness, U.K. (www.calmmindfulness.org), Kumanga pioneers delivering the ecological contemplative framework, the 'Advanced Mindfulness-Based Practices' (AMBP) Programme, within the public, private and government sectors including to Mental Health, Education, Police Organisations and Private Corporations in the U.K. and internationally. As the AMBP Programme Director for CALM, Kumanga has delivered AMBP courses and workshops to thousands of students, government and private sector employees, including to over 250 Police Officers and Staff in the U.K. Kumanga is also the Co-Founder of 'Mindfulness for Earth' (www.mindfulness4earth.org), an international initiative established in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Faith for Earth.

Dr. Tara De Mel



Dr Tara de Mel is co-chair, Education Forum Sri Lanka since January 2020 and a Member of the Worldwide Commission to Educate All Kids (Post pandemic), since the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic. She has served the Government of Sri Lanka for over a decade as Secretary to the Minister of Education, Advisor to the President of Sri Lanka on Education, Vice Chairperson, National Education Commission, and coordinator Presidential Task Force on Education from 1997 through 2005. Throughout her career, Dr de Mel has been promoting quality and equity in education, in child protection and preventing child abuse in schools, and in preventing ragging and bullying in universities. She is a member of the Global Consultative Group- Mindfulness Initiative UK, and is active in incorporating mindfulness into schools, developing programs on mindfulness with values, ethics and social emotional learning, targeting educators in schools and universities. She founded Mindful Educators Sri Lanka in 2019 and co-authored Manual for Mindful Educators in 2021.

Venerable U. Dhammajiva Maha Thero



Abbot, Chief Preceptor & Meditation master, Nissarana Vanaya Monastery, Sri Lanka Founder, Sati Pasala Foundation. Venerable Uda Eriyagama Dhammajīva Mahā Thero is a revered present-day teacher and is the fourth Abbott and Chief Preceptor of Mitirigala Nissarana Vanaya.

He is highly respected for his widely encompassing knowledge of the various meditation techniques, and particularly for practicing and teaching mindfulness for nearly three and a half decades. His efforts have resulted in the introduction of mindfulness into the school curricula in Sri Lanka.

Venerable Ringu Tulku Rinpoche



Venerable Ringu Tulku Rinpoche is a Buddhist Master of the Kagyu Order. He was trained under many great masters such as HH the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa and HH Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche. Since 1990 he has been traveling and teaching Buddhism and meditation at more than 50 Universities, Institutes and Buddhist Centres in Europe, USA, Canada, Australia and Asia.

He founded Bodhicharya an international organization that coordinates the worldwide activities to preserve and transmit Buddhist teachings, to promote inter-cultural dialogues and educational & social projects.

Swami Gunatitananda Saraswati



Swami Gunatitananda Saraswati, Resident Swami of Chinmaya Mission of Sri Lanka and Member of 'Mindfulness for Earth' Initiative

He is a seeker of the Truth and a disciple of Swami Chinmayananda, he studied Vedanta in India at Sandeepany Sadhanalaya of Chinmaya Mission. He is presently based in Chinmaya Mission of Sri Lanka as the resident Swami. In keeping with the vision of Chinmaya Mission - "Inner transformation of individuals resulting in a happy world around them", he is engaged in sharing knowledge from the scriptures in the modern context, motivating adults and young adults to become positive contributors to society.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



The Power of Faith Partnerships to Safeguard Nature: PaRD a Case in Point

2 March 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will explore the work of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) Water, Environment and Climate Action work-stream (WECARE), discussing the challenges and obstacles for Faith-Based Organizations' policy engagement and showcasing their good practices to protect nature.

In partnership with:



Dinesh Suna



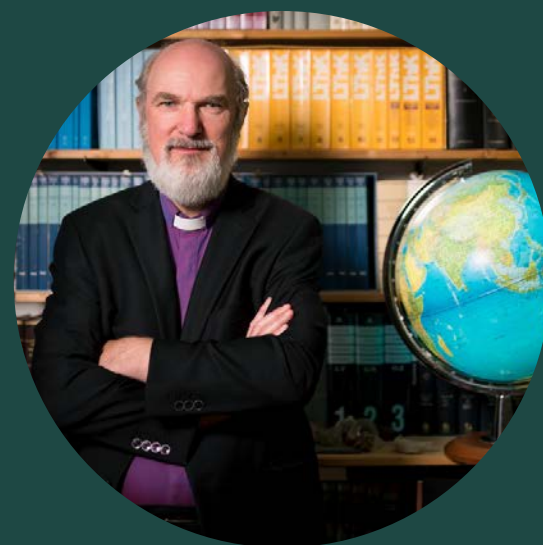
Dinesh Suna serves the WCC in this position in Geneva since 2012. The Ecumenical Water Network (EWN) is a platform of Christian churches and organizations committed to increasing access to safe drinking water and a dignified sanitation worldwide. He is a Lutheran and has worked with several ecumenical organizations in his home country in India since the 1990s, including the National Council of Churches in India, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action and Student Christian Movement of India. Currently he is also one of the Co-leads of the PaRD (Partnership of Religions and Sustainable Development) workstream on "Environment, Water and Climate Action" (WeCARE). Mr Suna has a master's degree in Social Work.

Joan Okitoi-Heisig



Joan Okitoi-Heisig is a project manager at the World Evangelical Alliance – Sustainability Center and a freelance communications consultant. She designs and implements communication and social media strategies for both big and small international organizations. Joan is passionate about shifting language in global development from an 'aid' narrative to one of solidarity. She has spoken in events organized by Health Poverty Action and USAID to contribute to this long-term process of humanizing the sector. She also co-hosts a monthly space (#Globaldev Communicators Connect) at the Healing Solidarity Collective for communicators in #globaldev with Jennifer Lentfer to reimagine communications and support efforts towards decolonizing development communications.

Archbishop Thomas Schirmacher



Archbishop Thomas Schirmacher (Dr. theol., Dr. theol., PhD, DD) is Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance, which represents Protestant churches belonging to 143 National Evangelical Alliances with altogether 600 million members. He is also Co-President of Religions for Peace (New York).

He served WEA in different leadership roles the last two decades, the latest being the Associate Secretary-General for Theological Concerns and Intrafaith and Interfaith Relations. He earned four doctorates in ecumenical theology, in cultural anthropology, in ethics, and in the sociology of religion and is extraordinary professor of the sociology of religion at the state University of the West in Timisoara (Romania) and at the University of Oxford (Regent's Park College).

Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp (tbc)



Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp, a Jewish leader, was born in The Netherlands in the middle of the second world war and survived as a hidden child through the help of a righteous couple. He has been a human rights advocate, lecturer, writer, environmental activist and civil society champion. He has been a founding member of Green Cross International, an Earth Charter Commissioner, and a founding member of GIWA, the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance.

He is also a member of the International Advisory Committee of EcoPeace Middle East.

Jean F. Duff



Prof Katherine Marshall



Peter Prove



Prof. Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati



President, Partnership for Faith and Development

Ms Duff works for full engagement of the positive power of local faith actors for the common good. She serves as an advisor to faith groups, and to governmental and private organizations seeking to enhance global and local faith engagement on community development and humanitarian issues. Recent focal areas include Gender, Climate Change, WASH, People on the Move, and principles of effective partnerships.

She co-moderated the working group on Gender Equality for the 17 Rooms project, supported by the Rockefeller Foundation and Brookings institution. In 2012 she co-founded the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities which she served as CEO until 2020. In 2008, she co-founded the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty at Washington National Cathedral. Previously, she led the Cathedral's global poverty program as Managing Director of the Center for Global Justice and Reconciliation.

Professor Katherine Marshall is the executive director of the WFDD at Georgetown University. She worked at the World Bank from 1971 to 2006 and has nearly four decades of experience on a wide range of development issues in Africa, Latin America, East Asia, and the Middle East. She led the World faith and ethics initiative between 2000 and 2006. Marshall has written extensively about religion and development, peacebuilding, women, and the fight against poverty.

Peter Prove assumed the office of Director of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) at the World Council of Churches in February 2014 and has responsibility for the WCC's programmes in the field of peacebuilding, disarmament, and human rights.

A lawyer by profession, Peter has more than 20 years' experience representing church-based organizations in the international policy arena, including prior to his current role more than 12 years as Assistant General Secretary for International Affairs & Human Rights at the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and 4 years as Executive Director of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA).

Peter has served in numerous leadership roles in UN and civil society contexts, including as President of the NGO Special Committee on Human Rights (Geneva) 2000-2008; as a member of the UN International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions,

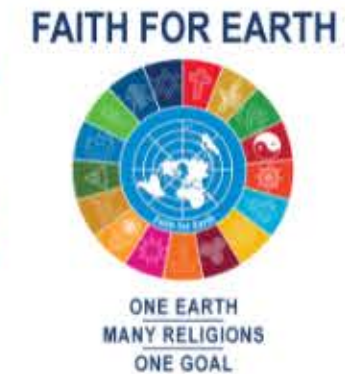
Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, PhD is a renowned spiritual leader and social activist based in Rishikesh, India. Sadhvi has received numerous national and international awards and recognition for her work in the sector of WASH as well as women's upliftment and empowerment, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the President of the United States.

Sadhviji has lived on the banks of the sacred Ganga river, in the lap of the Himalayas, in Rishikesh, India for more than 25 years engaged in spiritual service, wisdom teaching, sacred action, and deep spiritual practice.

Today she serves as Secretary general of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and as the President of the Divine Shakti Foundation as well as in the United Nations Faith Advisory Council on Religion and PaRD. She is also the author of newly released bestselling memoir, Hollywood to the Himalayas: A Journey of Healing and Transformation.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith and Food: Nature Positive Solutions for a Flourishing World

2 March 2022; 4pm-5.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

How can faith, spirituality, and Indigenous knowledge help support nature positive solutions - both in food production and food distribution - to drive equitable food systems transformation?

In partnership with:



**Center for
Earth Ethics**

Andrew Schwartz



As director of sustainability and global affairs, Andrew Schwartz leads the Center of Earth Ethics' programs, such as the 2021 Faith + Food Coalition Dialogue series, that bring together voices from around the world to further environmental and climate justice. He has nearly a decade of experience working with community leaders and government officials to create multilateral coalitions and support environmental movements.

Before joining CEE, Andrew worked as interim executive director of Bend 2030, a coalition of diverse stakeholders in Bend, Oregon, co-director of the Micah Challenge USA, an advocacy group focused on ending extreme poverty, and program manager of the Climate Reality Project, founded by Al Gore to influence national and international environmental policy on climate change.

Andrew earned his bachelor's degree from Pacific Lutheran University and his master's from Union Theological Seminary.

James Lomax



James Lomax has been the Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture Programme Officer in UN Environment's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics based in Paris, France since 2009. James leads work on mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production practices from 'farm to flush' in the agriculture and food sector.

He has pioneered the idea of systems thinking in the food and agriculture sector where nutrition, waste, environmental externalities and livelihoods must be considered if a shift to more sustainable food systems is to be realized.

Dr. Marium Husain



PDr. Marium Husain, MD, MPH is a hematology/oncology fellow at The Ohio State University James Comprehensive Cancer Center. She graduated from The Ohio State University College of Medicine and completed a residency in Internal Medicine. She recently worked as an oncology hospitalist at the James.

Marium has been working on community service projects in the Columbus area and abroad for the past 10 years. As the Vice President of the national non-profit, IMANA (Islamic Medical Association of North America), she has been working on public health education and creating domestic campaigns for food insecurity, reproductive health, mental health and climate change. She has also traveled to Haiti, as part of IMANA Medical Relief, to help provide primary care at a rural clinic and raised money to build wells for clean water access. IMANA is a leading resource and network for American-Muslim physicians, dentists and other healthcare professionals in North America.

Kelly Moltzen



Kelly Moltzen is a tireless advocate of making connections between food, faith, and social justice. In addition to being a co-convenor of the Interfaith Public Health Network, Kelly is a program manager at the Institute for Family Health with the Bronx Health REACH initiative. She is a 2015 Re:Generate Fellow with the Food, Health and Ecological Well-Being Program of Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Professional Development Co-Chair with the Religion Member Interest Group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and a member of the Ecumenical/Interfaith Committee of the USA Secular Franciscan Order.

She has an MPH from NYU, completed her dietetic internship with the James J. Peters Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and has a BS in Nutritional Sciences & Dietetics from the University of Delaware. Kelly was recognized as part of Hunter College's NYC Food Policy Center 40 Under 40 Class of 2020.

Dr. Cristina Tirado



Dr. Tirado works at the interface between science and policy related to climate change, health, food and sustainable development with the University, WHO, UNEP, UNFCCC, governments, and NGOs worldwide. She has served as WHO Regional Adviser in Europe and in Latin America, Scientist at the WHO Surveillance Program at the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment in Berlin, Director of the PHI's Center for Climate and Health in Oakland and adjunct professor at the UCLA School of Public Health, affiliated with the UCLA Institute of Environment and Sustainability.

Dr. Tirado is Director of International Climate Initiatives at the LMU Center for Urban Resilience and serves as Secretariat of the Mediterranean Cities Climate Change Consortium. She is member of the UNFCCC Research constituency and adviser on Climate and Health for several UN organizations.

Lyla June



Lyla June is an Indigenous musician, scholar and community organizer of Diné (Navajo), Tsétsêhéstâhese (Cheyenne) and European lineages. Her dynamic, multi-genre presentation style has engaged audiences across the globe towards personal, collective and ecological healing. She blends studies in Human Ecology at Stanford, graduate work in Indigenous Pedagogy, and the traditional worldview she grew up with to inform her music, perspectives and solutions. She is currently pursuing her doctoral degree, focusing on Indigenous food systems revitalization.

Steve Chiu



Steve Chiu is Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation USA's Main Representative at the United Nations. In alignment with Tzu Chi USA's work in disaster relief, climate action, education for global citizenship, sustainable development and gender equality, Steve works to build relationships, share best practices and develop programs with other organizations to make tangible impacts on the ground, with the mission of alleviating the suffering of those in need.

With over 19 years of experience in community based development and local interfaith partnership, Steve seeks to connect the importance of grassroots action to policies that are being developed on the international level.

Dr. Stefanos Fotiou



Stefanos Fotiou is an international expert on environment and sustainable development with over 25 years of experience in the United Nations system, private sector and research organisations. He currently serves as Director in the Office of Sustainable Development Goals in FAO as well as Head of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub hosted by FAO. In these roles, Stefanos provides strategic leadership and oversees implementation mechanism to support countries developing and implementing SDGs based agrifood transformations.

Prior to joining FAO, Stefanos served 16 years in the UN Secretariat including 6 years as Director in the Environment and Development Division of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as well as 10 years in the UNEP leading global and regional work on green economy and sustainable consumption and production

FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith in Action: Only One Earth

3 March 2022; 10am-11.30am East African Time (GMT+03:00)
- 12.30pm-2pm India Standard Time (GMT+5.30) -

The session will reflect and build upon efforts of the Faith for Earth Councillors Programme over the past year, highlighting the roles of FBOs in driving environmental actions and empowering youth movements. This space for dialogue and exchange of views about the way forward will allow to actualize a call to action to strengthen the movement of living in harmony with nature, to strengthen interfaith relations, and to share tools and resources for individuals and communities at the local level.

In partnership with:



Shri Atul Bagai



Shri Pinaki Dasgupta



Hon. Pujya Sister BK Shivani ji



Hon. Shri Yuri Jain ji



Shri Vipul Shah



Atmarpit Vidhiji



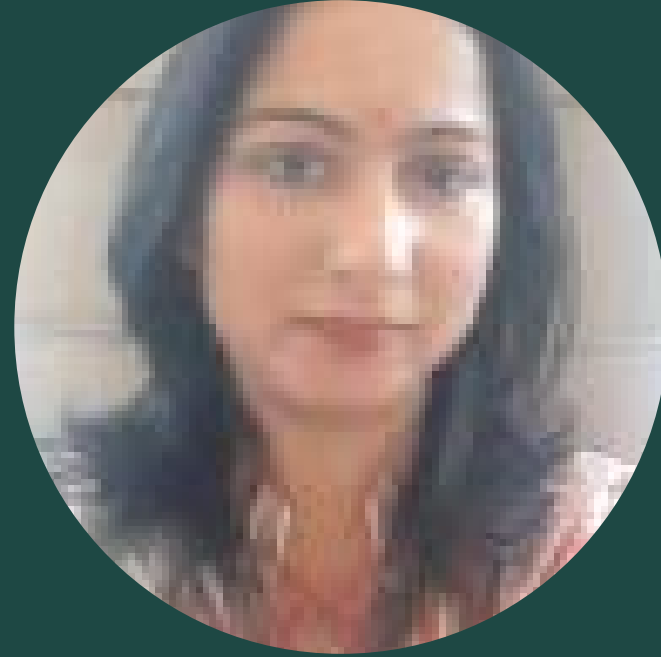
Hon. Shri Ravneet Singh



Hon. Shri Gauranga Das Ji Hon. Smt/Ms Kamana Swami



Hon. Smt/Ms. Mamta Bishnoi



Hon. Dr Mathew Koshy Punnackad



Hon. Shri Swami Dipankar Ji



Hon. Shri Bhayva Shrivastava



Hon. Dr. AK Merchant



Haji Syed Salman Chishty

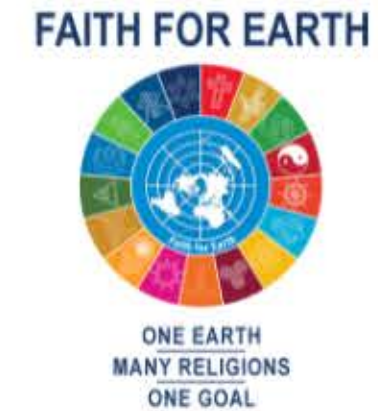


Mary Pay Fisher





FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith - the Solution to Pollution ?

3 March 2022; 2pm-3.30pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will introduce the purpose and efforts of the Working Group on Pollution Action, focusing on sharing knowledge , exchanging experiences and promoting good practices. It will serve to mobilize engagement between and among Faith-Based-Organizations and encourage interfaith collaboration in tackling pollution issues.

In partnership with:



Rt. Rev. Dr. Malayil Sabu Koshy Cherian



Rt. Rev Dr. Malayil Sabu Koshy Cherian is the 13th Bishop of the Madhya Kerala Diocese, Church of South India. He earned BSc in Mathematics, PGDCA, B.Ed, and MA in Sociology. Later he received his Bachelor of Divinity (BD) from UBS, Pune and Doctor of Ministry from New York Theological Seminary.

He started his ministry as a missionary in the Andhra Mission, where he spearheaded medical, educational and church planting ministry in Warangal district. As a missionary, he supported the protest movements of the marginalized labourers for suitable daily wages and conducted free night schools for the illiterate people in villages. From 2017, he has utilized the barren land to start organic farming and promoted green homes, helped the community kitchen by providing agricultural products cultivated from parish property during the pandemic period, and gave leadership for supporting the families affected by floods in surrounding areas.

Luyanda Hlatshwayo



Luyanda is a Reclaimer and an Implementation Officer at the African Reclaimers Organisation currently based in the City of Johannesburg.

As a reclaimer, Luyanda works to collect, sort, and sell recycled materials from most what we think is waste through their separation at source initiatives. His other functions at ARO include organising other reclaimers in different communities so that their voice and importance in society is realised.

Emina Frljak



Emina Frljak is a Program Coordinator within Youth for Peace (Bosnia and Herzegovina). She is also a member of the International Youth Committee of Religions for Peace since August 2019. Her academic background is in educational sciences, interreligious studies, and peacebuilding. Her area of work and interest are peace education, interreligious dialogue, and religious literacy.

Lately, her interest is focused also on using social media for educational and campaigning purposes, with special emphasis on countering hate speech. Since January 2021 Emina is doing her KAICIID International Fellows Program, which is focused on equipping religious leaders, civil society actors, and academics in the field of interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

Rabbi Ed Rosenthal



Rabbi Ed Rosenthal was born in landlocked St. Louis Missouri in the United States. His passion for the Sea began on a hiking trip in the Sinai desert in 1982 when, for the first time he went snorkeling in the Red Sea. Overcome by the awe and wonder of the deep, he felt as if he entered an entirely new universe. The water was teeming with life; thousands upon thousands of fish and coral of every shape and color.

Deep blues, vibrant yellows, rich purples, reds and greens, colors he never imagined could exist, all shimmering and shining in the dancing light of the Sea. Ever since that first experience, he has been obsessed with exploring the Spirituality of the Sea and the Wonders of Water and sharing it with as many people as possible.

Parthaa Bosu



Parthaa Bosu has two decades of experience working on vehicular emissions. He started his career at the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), where he was a part of the team that developed the computerized emission check system (PUC) for vehicles in India (which remains in use today). In 2010, he joined the UN Partnership, Clean Air Asia, as the India Representative, before becoming their India Director and South Asia Liaison. During his tenure, he gained importance for air pollution in India. He was a part of the working group on non-motorized transport promotion at the Ministry of Urban Development, Govt of India. He developed the world's first walkability survey app. He also structured the country's first and only Green Logistics Working Group with the Ministry of Heavy Industries and the NITI Aayog. to reduce emissions and improve freight efficiency. He also launched the IndAIR repository of indigenous air quality studies with NEERI and CPCB. Currently, he is the lead India advisor to Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). In addition, he is directing the USAID funded Clean Air Catalyst, a multi-stakeholder consortium, working towards clean air in Indore and developing a protocol on hyperlocal hotspots in India.

Shayna Cohen



Shayna Cohen is the Community Outreach and Expansion Director of Repair the Sea/Tikkun HaYam. Since joining the organization's team as its first employee in 2018, she jointly grew a college club, Scubi Jew, into an international organization, expanded an annual local cleanup into a debris removal program in 18 countries, and coordinated the transition of over 50 campus organizations to 100% biodegradable dinnerware.

As a Master SCUBA Diver Trainer, Shayna has spent over 1000 hours underwater, shared the underwater world with hundreds of divers, and removed thousands of pounds of debris from the ocean. Shayna has a BA in Biology from Grinnell College.

Mari Williams



Mari Williams is Senior Policy Associate at Tearfund. She has been working in the field of international development and environmental sustainability for more than 20 years, and leads Tearfund's global advocacy programme on waste picker rights.

She co-authored Tearfund's influential reports on plastic pollution: No time to waste and The Burning Question.

Marina Pires de Lacerda

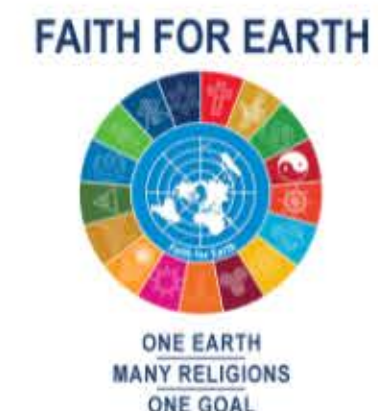


Marina is an intern at UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative and member of the Multifaith Action Group on Pollution. She holds an Undergraduate Degree in Electrical Engineering from the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil, and a specialization in Petroleum Engineering.

She recently completed a Master's Degree in Environment (with distinction) at the University of Melbourne, Australia, specializing in Climate Change.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Youth Council: A Forum for Faith-Based Environmental Action

4 March 2022; 2pm-3.30-pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will explore the pathway to implement the Faith for Earth Youth Council, including a launch event, work plan and strategy. The speakers will discuss the development of a plan of action in collaboration with UNEP MGCY and identify priority action areas for the engagement of Faith-Based youth Organizations, based on a global mapping that identifies their engagement and networks.

In partnership with:

Global Youth for Environment



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MAJOR GROUP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Shantanu Mandal



Alphonse Munyao Muia



Magamba Richard (Erasto)



Nicholas Pande



Carrick Reddin



Born and brought up in India, Shantanu has great humanitarian values, spirituality and eco-friendly traditions. He was introduced to Transcendental meditation and Rajyoga meditation in his childhood. Since then it has been 20 years of him practicing Rajyoga. Academically a very bright scholar Shantanu did his graduation in Fashion design from the prestigious NIFT, Kolkata with an award for most innovative Design Collection for year 2012 & was an exchange student to Modart International, Paris. He also holds a second bachelor's degree in Fine Arts.

After a brief experience in Fashion business he shifted into teaching design and fashion in many reputed universities of Design and Fashion as a guest lecturer. His environmental inclination helped him with designing special course structures that are focused on upcycling, recycling and deconstruction.

Alphonse is a Core team member at Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa, a role that has shaped his understanding of the faith and environmentalism nexus propelling him to currently serve as the Faith and Environment thematic facilitator in the UNEP Children and Youth Major Group global steering committee (the official youth engagement mechanism to UNEP).

Alphonse's passions and commitment have made him develop his expertise on various realms including Environmental policy, advocacy and other sustainability and ecological topics and he is interested in bridging the gap between environmental policies formulation and implementation especially with the base of young people. He holds a Bsc. Environmental Science and several certificates on environmental multilateralism.

Erasto is the Acting Youth Coordinator since 2018, responsible for coordinating Youth in 37 Churches within the Capital city in different activities such as Inclusion of Young people in decision making, Environment Conservation, Project on tangible skills. Since 2017 he has represented the Religious sector during the Ugandan Youth Parliament up to now and in 2019 represented both Uganda and the Church of Uganda on the Commonwealth Youth Roundtable on Unemployment discussing about Agriculture, Climate Change, Education, Politics and Health and the success of Governments in the aforementioned sectors.

In 2020 & 2021, he participated in the Commonwealth Youth Parliament as a delegate for Uganda discussing COVID-19, Climate Change, Education, Tourism and Health as tools to create employment for youth in Commonwealth land. Again in 2021 he was nominated by the Parliament of Uganda as a Candidate during the Commonwealth Youth Council as a Vice Chairperson Inclusion and Engagement and my sister from Ghana won the position and currently working on the Commonwealth Inclusion & Engagement Committee as a member.

Nicholas has extensive experience in project design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, accountability and Learning. Experienced in livelihood programming, disaster risk management and Environmental policy Influencing and advocacy.

Carrick Reddin is Project Manager for the WRI Faith and Sustainability Initiative. He partners with faith-based groups to identify ideas and implement programs that build capacity for community-level solutions to sustainability challenges with the goal of fostering environmentally sustainable, socially just communities. Based in Los Angeles, USA, Carrick holds a master's degree from the Urban School at l'Institut d'études politiques de Paris and a bachelor's degree in architecture and international development from Washington University in St. Louis.

Daniel del Valle Blanco



Mr. Daniel del Valle Blanco currently serves as Political and Youth Advisor to the Ambassador at the Permanent Observer Mission of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the United Nations, New York. Daniel is based in Madrid, Spain. His main professional interests include diplomacy, international relations, law, human rights and economics. In addition, he loves music and is an accomplished singer, a former soloist of the Escolania Boys' Choir of the El Escorial Royal Monastery, the Royal Choir of Spain.

Bernd Hirschberger



In various youth work positions, Dr. Bernd Hirschberger has been advocating for climate justice and human rights for years. As European Co-President of FIMCAP, the international federation of Catholic parochial youth movements, (2014-2021) and co-founding board member of Generation Climate Europe (2019-2021), for instance, he conducted large-scale climate justice consultations and edited the "Young Voices on Climate Justice" report. As a member of the youth platform of COMECE and the interfaith initiative on the European Green Deal, he helped prepare the 2021 Interfaith Youth Convention on the European Green Deal. As IYNGO delegate to the Structured Dialogue and the EU Youth Dialogue and member of the European Working Group (2015-2020), he contributed to the development of the European Youth Goals. Bernd holds a Ph.D. degree in social sciences (LMU Munich), having researched external communication during asymmetric conflicts. He also holds a B.A. & M.A. degree in political & social science, international politics & law (University of the German Federal Armed Forces Munich), and a B.Sc. degree in geosciences (LMU & TUM Munich).

Dr. Fadila Grine



Dr. Fadila Grine is the Senior advisor, The director of foreign affairs and Cabinet at the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Istanbul, Turkey, and former Director of Family and Social Affairs to the Department of Humanitarian, Cultural and Social Affairs at the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. An active member of the OIC Council of Muslim Women, Dr. Grine has long been a strong advocate of the rights and significance of family and women in all fields of development, with a focused interest on youth, elderly, marriage, leadership and culture. During her time as Visiting Associate Professor to the Department of Islamic History and Civilization, University of Malaya, Malaysia, she served as Head of Research as well as Head of the International Bureau of Consultancy and Training.

Kehkashan Basu



Winner of the 2016 International Children's Peace Prize, Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M. is an iconic global influencer, environmentalist, champion of women and children's rights, TEDx speaker, Climate Reality Mentor, author, musician, peace and sustainability campaigner. A Forbes 30 Under 30 and the first-ever Winner of the Voices Youth Gorbachev-Schultz Legacy Award for her work on nuclear disarmament, Kehkashan is a United Nations Human Rights Champion, a National Geographic Young Explorer, a UN Habitat Young City Champion, the Regional Organizing Partner for North America for the NGO Major Group and one of Canada's Top25 Women of Influence. Kehkashan is the Founder-President of global social innovation enterprise Green Hope Foundation, that works at a grassroots level in 26 countries, empowering young people and women, especially those from vulnerable communities, in the sustainable development process and she has spoken at over 300 United Nations and other global fora. She is the youngest Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions, an Action Coalition Leader of UN Women Generation Equality Forum's Feminist Action for Climate Justice, the Co-Chair of the University of Toronto's SDG Student Advisory Council, Council Lead of the Toronto-St. Paul's Constituency Youth Council, Canada and a member of the World Humanitarian Forum Youth Council. She is the recipient of several awards that include the World Literacy Award for Significant Contribution to Literacy by a Young Person, Canada's Global Energy Show Emerging Leader Award, the Pax Christi Toronto Teacher of Peace Award and the Meritorious Service Medal of Canada. She continues to work tirelessly to amplify the voices of young people, women and girls in decision-making processes.

Lejla Hasandedic-Dapo



Lejla Hasandedic-Dapo is a psychologist, psychotherapist, lecturer, activist, peacebuilder, and volunteer from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently, she is doing her PhD in psychology at Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University, in Turkey. She is working as United Religions Initiative (URI) Europe CC Liaison Officer and she is co-founder of Youth for Peace, an organization that positioned itself as one of the most prominent youth-led organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working in the field of peacebuilding. Besides this, she is vice president of the European Interfaith Youth Network (EIYN) and Board member of Religions for Peace Europe. Lejla is also a Non-violent communication trainer, Learning to Live Together (Arigatou International) trainer, she holds a Diploma in Islamic studies from the University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and she is PPA and KAICIID fellow.

Natalija Vojno



Natalija is a peace innovator with over a decade of experience helping diverse groups align on environmental priorities and actions. Her past roles have included environmental campaigner, speechwriter for Ontario's Minister of the Environment, and founding member of the Water Youth Network.

Approaching conflict transformation from a creative lens, she has piloted values-based community building projects and is an UNLEASH Innovation Lab fellow. Natalija founded Our Future First a non-profit through which she delivers positive peace initiatives globally.

Natalija holds a BA from the University of Toronto, and an MSc in Water Resources Management from UNESCO-IHE, in the Netherlands. She is currently a Rotary Peace Fellow at ICU in Tokyo (via Zoom). Her research focuses on environmental peacebuilding and participatory water governance processes

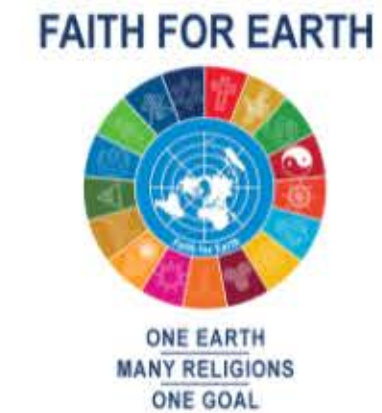
Abdullahi Abdi Mohamed



Abdullahi holds a bachelor's of international relations and diplomacy worked with mass distructon weapon, youth and socio economic aspects, and ocean assesment and chaired SYDF as special repourtuer of the econmic and social council of the united nations with more than 10 years in youth topics.



FAITH FOR EARTH DIALOGUE



Faith for Stockholm +50

4 March 2022; 4pm-5.30-pm East African Time (GMT+03:00)

This session will provide a space to discuss the success and challenges Faith-Based Organizations have met while implementing the 2030 Agenda and global SDGs, while also commemorating and reflecting on the progress that has been achieved on a global scale - envisaging the ideal future that is to be achieved in order to benefit humanity as a whole.

In partnership with:



Government Offices of Sweden

Karenna Gore



Ambassador Lissinger Peitz is recently appointed to lead the work within the Swedish Government offices on preparations from a high-level meeting in the commemoration of the first UN conference on the human environment that took place in Stockholm in 1972. Before that she has been the Lead negotiator for Sweden and EU in the UN Climate Change process and earlier on in the field of chemicals and waste. She was the EU lead negotiator on climate finance in the period after Paris and leading up to Katowice. She has also had roles as COP president for the 7th Conference of the Parties for the Stockholm Convention and for the third ministerial meeting on integrated chemicals policy (ICCM3). Her last assignment was at the Swedish Mission to the UN in New York leading the work together with India on the Industry transition track ahead of the Climate Summit in September 2019. Ambassador Lissinger holds an M.Sc.

Fazlun Khalid



Fazlun Khalid is an advisor to the UN on environment and faith. He is a member of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, a member of the UN Task Team on Religion and of the UN's Development Advisory Council. As the founding director of the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES), he is recognised as one of top fifteen leading eco-theologians in the world.

P. Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam



Born and brought up in India, Shantanu has great humanitarian values, spirituality and eco-friendly traditions. He was introduced to Transcendental meditation and Rajyoga meditation in his childhood. Since then it has been 20 years of him practicing Rajyoga. Academically a very bright scholar Shantanu did his graduation in Fashion design from the prestigious NIFT, Kolkata with an award for most innovative Design Collection for year 2012 & was an exchange student to Modart International, Paris. He also holds a second bachelor's degree in Fine Arts.

After a brief experience in Fashion business he shifted into teaching design and fashion in many reputed universities of Design and Fashion as a guest lecturer. His environmental inclination helped him with designing special course structures that are focused on upcycling, recycling and deconstruction.

Archbishop Mark MacDonald



The Most Rev. Mark MacDonald became the Anglican Church of Canada's first National Indigenous Anglican Bishop in 2007, after serving as bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Diocese of Alaska for 10 years. In 2019 now Bishop MacDonald was elevated to Archbishop.

Gopal Patel



Gopal D. Patel is a faith-based environmental activist, campaigner and consultant. For more than a decade he has spearheaded the development of environmental initiatives engaging religious communities and leaders in India, East Africa, Europe and North America. He is Co-Founder and Director of Bhumi Global, a non-profit organization that works to educate and mobilize Hindu communities globally for environmental action. He is co-chair of the United Nations Multi-faith Advisory Council and is a member of the Advisory Board to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. He also serves on the Board for Interfaith Power & Light and is an Advisor to the WWF Beliefs and Values Programme. Born and raised in England, he currently lives in the New York City Metro Area.

Ambassador Johanna Lissinger Peitz



Ambassador Lissinger Peitz is recently appointed to lead the work within the Swedish Government offices on preparations from a high-level meeting in the commemoration of the first UN conference on the human environment that took place in Stockholm in 1972. Before that she has been the Lead negotiator for Sweden and EU in the UN Climate Change process and earlier on in the field of chemicals and waste. She was the EU lead negotiator on climate finance in the period after Paris and leading up to Katowice. She has also had roles as COP president for the 7th Conference of the Parties for the Stockholm Convention and for the third ministerial meeting on integrated chemicals policy (ICCM3). Her last assignment was at the Swedish Mission to the UN in New York leading the work together with India on the Industry transition track ahead of the Climate Summit in September 2019.