



FAITH FOR EARTH

NEWSLETTER
22 MARCH 2022

ARE YOU ENGAGED IN STOCKHOLM+50?

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Happy World Water Day.

The world's religions and spiritual traditions unanimously acknowledge water as a source of life. Each respects water as a blessing and a gift from (the) God(s), honour its sacred origin, and regard it worthy of reverence. Teachings reflect the fact that water is essential for life on Earth, and that water connects every aspect of life.

In religious practice, water is used for purification, initiation and fertility rites, for healing, and a variety of other purposes. Throughout the world religious leaders and FBOs have recognised the global water and sanitation crises and are working to address water scarcity issues, lack of access to clean water, water pollution as well as the cleanup and restoration of our oceans, rivers, lakes and their ecosystems.



STATE OF THE PLANET GLOBAL SURVEY STOCKHOLM +50

10 questions, 5 minutes. Help us capture the opinions of people around the world on the world's progress towards a sustainable planet.

This [survey](#) will inform the Stockholm+50 Global High-Level meeting [2-3 June in Stockholm](#).

This global meeting is intended to advance the implementation of the [UN Decade of Action](#) to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on climate change, the post-2020 global Biodiversity Framework, and green recovery plans.

It is a major opportunity to accelerate the implementation of action towards a sustainable planet for all.

[Survey](#) | Share on [Social Media](#)



THE 100-DAY JOURNEY HAS BEGUN

Yesterday, 21 March marked the historic kickoff of the [Save Soil movement](#), a global initiative initiated by Sadhguru to prevent soil extinction and bring the necessary policies to address this catastrophic issue facing humanity.

After garnering the support of [Caribbean heads of state](#), [high visibility press coverage](#), and [primetime interviews](#), Sadhguru will now spend the next 100-days travelling by motorcycle across 27 countries, covering 30,000km.

Starting in London, he will meet with citizens, leaders and experts in order to raise mass awareness & cultivate widespread support for soil-friendly policies.

Support the movement!

- [Save Soil Toolkit](#): an outline of relevant videos, assets, messages, and social media hashtags & handles.
- [Press Kit](#): an overview document describing the movement and its call to action.
- Reference Tweets:
 - [Message from Ibrahim Thiaw](#)
 - [Message from Iyad Abumoghli](#)
 - [World Food Programme in India](#)
 - [Message from WFP India's Bishow Parajuli](#)
 - [Sadhguru: 100 day kickoff](#)

WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIPS: THE RACE TO RESTORATION IS ON

The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is calling for [World Restoration Flagships](#) – the first, biggest or most promising examples of large-scale and transformative restoration.

[Here's how three world-class athletes](#) have joined the race to heal the planet.



Nirmal "Nimsdai" Purja, Husnah Kukundakwe and Molly Seidel call on leaders to act on promises: **Human ambition knows no boundaries. Our planet does.**



LEARN TO RESTORE YOUR COMMUNITY

Want to get started on restoration, but don't know how?

Explore the [Community Organizing Toolkit](#) and start nurturing the world you want to see tomorrow, today.

Upcoming Events

FAITH ACTORS ADDRESSING GENDERED IMPACTS OF CLIMATE AND CONFLICT EMERGENCIES

24 March 2022 | 8:00 - 9:30 AM EDT | [Register](#)

[The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers](#), [Christian Council of Mozambique](#), [the International Network for Engaged Buddhists](#), [Lutheran World Federation](#), [Resilience Research Training and Consulting](#), and [World Vision International](#) and Faith for Earth will highlight examples of faith actors leading the way in fighting the climate crisis and its specific impacts on women and girls and how this contributes to sustainable peace.

The overall goal of this event will be to inform the international community on how the faith community specifically is responding and addressing climate emergencies directly impacting women and girls and ways they can be further assisted to continue and bolster their efforts.

Faith for Earth calls for #Inclusive #ClimateJustice, urging faith institutions to uplift women and girl leaders in order to navigate the intersectional issues they face due to the triple planetary crises.



FAITH PLANS AND FAITH-BASED TREE PLANTING

30 March 2022 | [Register](#)

05.00 New York | 10.00 London

11.00 Paris | 12.00 Nairobi

14.30 Delhi | 16.00 Hanoi

Join UNEP Faith for Earth, WWF-UK Beliefs and Values Programme (BVP), FaithInvest & FaithPlans Long-term Programme [for a session](#) on how to **develop tree planting** as part of your long term environmental action plan.

This webinar will discuss trends in faith-based tree planting and the potential for tree planting to meet both religious and conservation goals.

Publication

GUIDELINES FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AT PUBLIC EVENTS

[Aviral – Reducing Plastic Waste in the Ganga](#) is a pilot project implemented in the two Ganga cities of Haridwar and Rishikesh in Uttarakhand, India with an objective to reduce plastic waste entering the environment.



The Guidelines were published in March 2022 as part of the [CounterMEASURE](#) phase II for management of waste at public events by Saahas NGO and Waste Warriors Society with inputs from GIZ.

UNEP Faith for Earth Initiative provided detailed insights, linking faith-based scriptures with a responsibility for waste management, and related good practices adopted by faith organisations across India. [Read the Guidelines](#)

Past Events

The image is a promotional poster for a UN CSW66 Side Event. At the top, it lists several partner organizations: PaRD (International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development), Canada, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada, BMZ (German Development Cooperation), and the UN 50th Anniversary programme. The main title of the event is "UN CSW66 SIDE EVENT: FROM THE GRASSROOTS TO THE GLOBAL: WHY CLIMATE ACTION NEEDS WOMEN, RELIGIOUS ACTORS & LOCAL PARTNERS". The date and time are "16th MARCH 2022, 11:00 - 12:00 EDT". Below this, a subtitle reads: "A high-level Side Event that brings together governments, intergovernmental agencies, and civil society, including religious actors & local partners, to propose the gender-responsive climate action needed at the UN Commission on the Status of Women and beyond." A "Register via Eventbrite" button is visible. The central image shows a group of women in traditional attire walking across a grassy field under a blue sky. At the bottom, there is a row of logos for various partner organizations including UN Women, UN Women Africa, UN Women Asia, UN Women Europe, UN Women Latin America and the Caribbean, UN Women Middle East and North Africa, UN Women South Asia, UN Women South-South and Gender Equality, UN Women Youth, UN Women's Fund, World Vision, CID, ACT Alliance, FCA, World Council of Churches, and World Council of Churches.

On 16 March, Prof. Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Director of UNEP Law Division shared her views on the role of faith leaders and their institutions in advancing environmental governance, inspired by their far-reaching networks of religious actors and local partners.

Speakers included:

- H.E. Lilian Chatterjee, High Commissioner of Canada in Barbados
- Helena Gualinga, Young Ecuadorian Indigenous Advocate
- Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, PhD, Secretary-General of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance
- Patriciah Roy Akullo, ACT Uganda Forum Coordinator
- Prof. Patricia Mbote, UNEP Director - Law Division

DARWIN INITIATIVE PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

Partners from UNEP, Danmission, Ponlok Khmer, representatives from Christian, Muslim, Buddhist and ethnic minorities together with the University of Göttingen and the University of Copenhagen held a two-day workshop in Siem Reap, Cambodia in order to design a joint project linking science and faith-based approaches to the conservation of endangered tree species and forests in Cambodia.



The workshop included a visit to a Monk Community Forest in Oddar Meanchey that seeks to:

- i) Train forest-dependent communities and local faith-based actors to map endangered trees using a smartphone app, drones, and a citizen-led forest monitoring program with freely available satellite imagery.
- ii) Develop DNA markers of endangered trees to select germplasm for conservation efforts and timber tracking in relation to the EU Timber Regulation.
- iii) Design a community-led and faith-based educational science centre, fostering dialogue and reflection on biodiversity conservation across community members, faith-based actors, students, and researchers.

For more information about this project, contact [Ernst](#) | [The Darwin Initiative](#).