FAITH FOR EARTH



Faith for Earth Updates September 3, 2019



Dear Brothers and Sisters;

September seems off to a good start, especially with the 5 Summits (Climate, Health, SDGs, UNGA, and SIDS) being held in New York in the coming days, most notably the Climate Change Summit that you are all eager to contribute to and monitor its results.

What is UNEP doing at the Climate Action Summit?

- Over 34 CEOs from banks around the world will sign <u>UNEP Finance</u> <u>Initiative's Principles for Responsible Banking</u>. The launch event will take place at UN Headquarters on 22 September.
- UNEP will launch a special 10 year summary on the 10th anniversary of the Emissions Gap Report and an advance chapter of 2019 Emissions Gap Report which will be a stark, scientific analysis of the world's decreasing emissions.
- UNEP is working closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and <u>SEforALL</u> on the <u>Cool Coalition</u> as a Summit deliverable. A total of 23 countries are in the pipeline to announce their commitment to the development of National Cooling Action Plans. UNEP is shaping additional commitments with key private companies.
- **UNEP and CCAC** have been supporting the announcement by the Global Alliance to Significantly Reduce Methane Emissions in the Oil and Gas Sector by 2030. Companies will further make commitments to reduce methane emissions by 45% by 2025 and 60% to 75% by 2030.
- UNEP is supporting the **3% Club for Energy Efficiency** initiative where countries and companies commit to a 3% annual improvement in efficiency through policies, technical and financial support & inclusion in NDCs.
- UNEP has supported the gaming industry to come forward and make commitments at the Summit, asking them to generate 1 billion actions, go 100% carbon neutral and join the <u>Playing for the Planet Alliance</u>. The gaming companies that are already onboard represent circa 250 million players.

- As part of UNEP's support to the Resilience track the <u>Global Commission</u> on <u>Adaptation</u> will launch a preview of their flagship report as well as the launch of "A Year of Action".
- UNEP is facilitating the launch of a UN Secretariat wide Climate Action Plan and the <u>Greening the Blue report</u> which will highlight our commitment to carbon neutrality and our current achievements towards a sustainable UN.

UNEP and the Global Compact

The UN Global Compact provides a global framework through its 10 Principles for corporate sustainability and provides companies with a powerful platform for aligning themselves to take action. It is a highly respected community of some 12,000 businesses from 160 countries with a long-term perspective on sustainable development. The Compact's 10 Principles are derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labor Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Right at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the UN Convention against Corruption, all of which encourage businesses worldwide to adopt sustainable and sociallyresponsible policies and to report on their implementation. The UN Environment Programme seeks to align its private sector partners to the 10 Principles of the UN Global Compact. In 2018, UNEP signed a Letter of Intent with the UN Global Compact in which one of the areas of common interest stipulated in the letter is: "UN Environment to support private sector compliance to the UN Global Compact Principles". To find out more about the 10 Global Compact and its Principles, please visit: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/

Abrahamic Traditions in the MENA Region

As announced in a previously, Faith for Earth is partnering with the University of Connecticut to develop a compendium on Abrahamic traditions & Environmental change activities in the MENA region, following the workshop held in Greece (June 2019). One of the projects we committed to support is a mapping study of Abrahamic faith-based activities conducted in the MENA region to address environmental priorities.

We kindly invite you to share with us any ongoing project that you would be aware of, and its descriptive features such as:

- Funding and/or implementing faith-based organization, and partners

- Environmental priority addressed by the project (e.g. water scarcity, desertification, energy transition, biodiversity conservation etc.)
- Project document if available
- Contact person to reach out for further details

Please communicate with Adele Goncalves (<u>adele.goncalves@un.org</u>). Your help will be much appreciated.

Accreditation to UN Environment Assembly

If your organization is not yet accredited to UN Environment Assembly and if you are interested to be accredited and gain a consultative status within the <u>rules of procedure</u> of the <u>UN Environment Assembly</u>, please refer to the criteria for accreditation as derived from Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure and submit your request accordingly. <u>Guidelines here</u>.

Warm wishes Iyad

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Social Media Hashtag #Faith4Earth

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