



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

FAITH FOR EARTH

FBO DISCOVERY SESSION – 27 AUGUST 2020

Consolidated feedback from Breakout groups



Table of Contents

Background	2
Meeting Statistics:.....	3
Agenda	3
Discussions	4
Question 1: What systemic changes do you see necessary to enable your group/organization to engage in transformational societal shifts towards more sustainable outcomes?	4
Question 2: What would you expect from UNEP to contribute to that shift?	7
Question 3: How could your organization work with UNEP to contribute to that shift?.....	11
List of Registered Participants	16
List of Facilitators and Rapporteurs.....	22

BACKGROUND

The development of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) for the period 2022-2025 has come to a critical juncture.

UNEP's next MTS is being developed against an unprecedented opportunity: to ensure that, as nations invest in building back a better world from the current COVID-19 pandemic, their efforts do not merely recover the unsustainable economic models of yesterday, but help us build a healthier, greener and more resilient economy that is centered on human and planetary wellbeing.

UNEP recognizes that the Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS) have a critical role to play in this transition and, more broadly, in achieving UNEP's emerging vision. Engagement with Faith-based organizations (FBOs) and faith communities have been gaining momentum over the past few years as they introduce different value-based perspective to environmental sustainability. The planetary challenges of climate change, nature loss and pollution – the centerfold of such vision – will require broad systemic shifts, particularly in our global consumption and production patterns, coupled with sound policy changes that will create the necessary structure and enabling conditions to support it. Some of the most prominent sectors where these systemic shifts must occur include energy production and consumption, food systems, infrastructure and the built environment and the extractive sectors. However, broader shifts must also be expected in the form of conducive changes to our financing, market and legal systems, as well as our digital and technological ecosystems.

In this context, UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative with the support of Policy and Programme Division, wishes to organize a 'Discovery session' to engage the FBOs around the thinking towards UNEP's emerging vision for its next MTS. Similar sessions have been conducted with the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) and the Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEA), and other major groups and stakeholders which have proved very successful for UNEP to outline its emerging vision and gather feedback and thoughts on the broad transformational changes that must happen, within and outside UNEP, to pave the way towards achieving that vision.

The session is envisaged as an opportunity for UNEP to reach out to transformative partners from the FBOs that have an important role to play under the current global climate; to engage them in an exchange of views over their role as change agents to achieve the systemic transformations that

support UNEP’s emerging vision for the planet, including in a post-pandemic context, their related needs and enabling conditions; and ultimately feed the resulting inputs into the development of the MTS.

MEETING STATISTICS:

Total number of registered participants: 166
 The participants Represent: 133 Unique organizations
 Of which 47 are accredited FBOs.
 Female 41%
 Male 59%
 Number of Countries: 37
 North America: 31%
 Europe 30%
 Africa 23%
 Asia and the Pacific 14%
 Latin America 2%
 Number of religions and congregations: 12
 Interfaith organizations: 40
 Education and Research Centers: 19
 Number of individuals attending the actual meeting: 128
 Facilitators and Rapporteurs: 20
 50% female and 50% male
 25% young faith leaders

AGENDA

Faith Based organizations – discovery session – 27 August

15:30 -15:40	Iyad Abumoghli Faith for Earth Director	Quick intro on FBOs
15:40– 15:55	Ebrahim Gora Deputy Director of the Policy and Programme Division	Future of UNEP, Covid 19, why we are engaging Presentation on MTS, how it comes together
15:55 – 16:10	Steven Webb Transformation Advisor	Overall Moderator Questions to be answered Dividing into 10 groups Technology used
16:10-16:15	Any clarifications	
16:15 – 17:15	10 working Groups Facilitators and Rapporteurs (Please see table below)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What changes do you see necessary to enable transformational shifts in your sector towards more sustainable outcomes? Please think global and long-term. 2. What would you expect from an organization like UNEP to contribute to that shift? 3. How could your organization work with UNEP to contribute to that

		shift?
17:15 – 18:00	Reporting back by groups rapporteurs Moderated by Steven Webb	3 -4 minutes' report back by each group rapporteur and general discussion
18:00 – 18:20	Concluding Remarks and closure	All
18:20 – 18:30	Joyce Msuya	Closure

DISCUSSIONS

QUESTION 1: WHAT SYSTEMIC CHANGES DO YOU SEE NECESSARY TO ENABLE YOUR GROUP/ORGANIZATION TO ENGAGE IN TRANSFORMATIONAL SOCIETAL SHIFTS TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES?

- Human Dignity and human rights need to be addressed as cross cutting issues in relationship to climate change, and all environmental issues
- GDP isn't the best indicator for human wellbeing
- For the transformation of human behavior and the perception of reality and the relationship with the environment- we need to raise awareness about the different stakeholder
- We need to focus on the role of indigenous communities, who manage 80% of the resources. for the management of resources in a sustainable way.
- Role of women and gender in the global picture as drivers for transformation and moving towards the society we want
- Not everyone is taking action: we need broader media coverage to reach all stakeholders: youth, women, men, professionals etc. We need to push all communities to work on environment and talk more about this
- Making environmental protection look cool!
- Attention on African States and the vision of Africa leaders
- Attention on NDCs realization
- Make people aware how our action reach our neighbors
- Monitor that resources have been used properly
- Need for attention on local ecology
- Thinking global and long term
- Structurally challenge the anthropocentric development work to an eco-centric view e.g. consider shifting assessment monitoring planning to factor in the wellbeing of all ecosystem constituents.
- Rethink our consumption - it is currently too high by changing our attitude and lifestyles towards the planet.
- Justice – decrease the attitude of consumption to the natural systems especially in the developing world.
- Education (in the broadest sense including lifelong learning) is key: to accomplish transformational shifts and transformative change. We need more actors to join in these efforts. Education that empowers and encourages self-reflection on life.
- Encourage the widest range of partnerships across all levels of the society and various actors to promote the achievement of the SDGs. Inspire, empower faith leaders to advocate for the environment and support the implementation of the SDGs. We have a role to provide scientific evidence to enable faith-based contribution.

- Governments provide UNEP with the mandate to work with faith-based organizations going forward.
- Potentials that could be adopted from the Catholic Church, but apply to other faith communities:
 - Universality that is rooted in locality to combine the global with the local
 - Numbers: If only half of the faithful adopted eco-friendly approaches would have significant impact. There is need to localize nationally and even lower e.g. the parish model.
 - Human understanding, scientific understanding, and unification of policies and skills that focus on the poor, the weak and the neglected.
 - Have a community-building effect: let us not be strangers to each other.
- Religions can rely on the multidimensional approach in contrast to the scientific studies alone, we could consider emotional and spiritual dimensions since societal transformation requires motivations that will not come from scientific information.
- Education and science related to climate change and the environment should be given first priority by having collaborative frame work for transformation in order to achieve economic, social and environmental recognition.
- The natural world and the environment are impacted by human's distractions of nature coursing climate change that has gone around and impacted food production UNEP should consider this before its worse
- UNEP should come up with policies to prevent or reduce human activities in the environment if not protecting it.
- Collect information through the internet and share the same to institutions working on environmental issues and to member states.
- Human health depends on the environment we need turn around ourselves and give the environment priority that will give holistic life.
- We need an ecological conversion that calls for our Christian fundamental values of caring for God's creation through Climate action. in the Global Catholic Climate Movement, we are guided by the Catholic Social Teaching and Laudato si
- Important aspects of intersectionality and gender equality. Transcending socio -economic and geographical differences. Working towards a transformational shift.
- Using SDG's as focus to be able to prioritize
- Creating a common language – also between different faiths, convictions and lifestyles
- Food waste/storage/distribution issue
- Preservation of trees/forests/native species
- Increase sustainable lifestyle education
- Soil conservation measures to ensure the protection of people's livelihoods
- Consider economic de-growth, strengthen financial solutions and outcomes
- Food choices: buy local, go for the food with smaller carbon footprint
- We need to ensure that cost is not a barrier to entry in making better environment
- Increased better monitoring of pollution for decision making actions
- Strengthen financial mechanisms, world environment situation room participation.
- How can we find common language between business or other organizations and faith actors and communities to ensure we are including faith communities and their networks on the ground in multi-stake holder action on environmental protection?
- How to establish the bridging faith, cultural gaps
- Scientific data through science analysis and solution approach model practice
- There is no mention of people and citizen, voices need to be heard clear, if unheard, there will be no participation by the people, clarity needs to be made.

- In support of Marc's renewal of 'Earth's Sacredness - the strategy language could lay greater emphasis on protecting/caring for' the environment, sacred nature on which our lives depend, **stronger language than 'living in harmony with nature'**.
- Speaking from Caritas, there's an ongoing debate within the Catholic Church to sensitize people around the urgency of a paradigm shift in the way our relationships with the Sacred, our neighbor. The Creation evolve to make changes happen
- Personal transformation leading to transforming systems.
- We must first all grasp the importance of the threat of climate change. This is the issue, we do not at all see the vital importance of creation care, thus we do not prioritize an effort.
- Our deep traditions that help individuals and communities grieve can be brought to bear for ecosystem loss and species loss and damage for human communities.
 - Address issues of over-consumption/sustainability: green recovery from pandemic, divestment from fossil fuels, less catering to corporations
 - Prioritize more voices from south, gender inclusion/integration women and people of color much more engaged; climate justice element
 - Support work of communities/empowerment, creating connections between communities; capitalize on current changes; local communities and voices amplified,
 - Shift in understanding between humanity and nature, from faith perspective; awareness of nature as expression of God's will/faith
 - internalization of external costs; property rights rel seeds, local community empowerment and small-scale production, which is more in touch with biodiversity
- COVID-19 & climate crisis both are rapidly producing further disaster to become more complex and deadly. Everyone is affected, but not everyone is affected equally.
- Building capacities & strengthening adaptation capability of building social, cultural, natural, ecological and economical capital to improve wellbeing improvement to address the next development challenges of minimizing climate change & global warming vulnerabilities, maximizing disaster risk informed resilient development as global solidarity is crucial to leave no one behind
- Urgently is required the resilience pathways to strengthen health systems, there need to trigger food system, WASH system, immunity system, education system about economies & livelihoods for all. Thus, there need to be a greater need of cross sector engagement & universities, institutes to find gap & analysis to strengthen the ecosystem
- There must be local action, innovation & inclusion of multi-stakeholder engagement connecting community-science-water- nature-culture- lives- livelihoods-lifestyle
- The results of inaction in the coming decades are too devastating to contemplate. The problem with this reason is that although governments may agree, they are focused on immediate needs.
- There are enormous economic opportunities for production and installation of systems of solar and wind production, for transportation, etc. etc. The problems with this are that although governments may agree, corporations are unrelenting in pressuring governments to de-regulate controls and corporations avoid the start-up costs of installing new climate friendly technologies.
- Social changes need to go through:
 - Local level: Institutionalization of new behavior that should be spread.
 - Institutional level: At national or regional level to create international moral pressure.
- Change in mentality (neurological): Care of our common home requires sharing with the members of the community to ensure global change
- Sustainable Development Goals need to be engrained into all faith based organization strategy plans and into their own transformational goals.

- The re-exploration and promotion of faith values, need to be realigned with sustainability and care for the planet. A reflection on why faith groups.
- A shift in individual micro system values to focus on purpose, self-discipline, love, care, sacrifice and persistence.
- The promotion of sustainable growth, bringing together businesses, politics, faith groups and civil society to bring about value change.
- Faith based organizations are still predominantly growth driven, economic growth is in fashion rather than sustainable growth. There needs to a method of where organizations and business can obtain both.
- The planet is seeing narrowing consumption patterns. The production of goods are produced in areas not suitable for its production. There is a requirement for the promotional of local and ethical consumption.
- Connecting faith leaders to international conferences and summits.
- At the root of the ecological crisis is an unjust and unsustainable, extractive economic system. Therefore, there is a need to move to a different kind of economy - a circular, healing, restorative, sustainable, life-giving economy. This entails deep-seated transformations in the way we produce, consume, distribute, and invest.
- Behavioral changes are necessary, but also financial and economic policies must support and enable the conditions for societies to live sustainably, simply and with dignity.
- Discussion of climate change frequently tends to focus on political, economic, and technical issues rather than human influence and impact. However, the truth is that creation care is a profoundly religious, even spiritual matter’
- Religions have a role to play in terms of promoting common values and spiritualities that undergird the behavioral transformations, e.g.
 - All creation is sacred
 - Stewardship – care for the earth
 - Care for the most vulnerable - equity
 - Love and peace
 - Harmony with the divine, with ourselves, with others, with nature
- “Science,” not sciences, plural, was emphasized in the MTS presentations. It is not apparent from the presentation and UNEP’s draft mid-term strategy document that other relevant sciences—political science, behavioral sciences, economics, etc., are adequately incorporated in UNEP’s work. We suspect this is an oversight (i.e. they are incorporated), therefore they should be highlighted in the strategy and the documents. Moreover the contributions of other sciences should be strengthened in the MTS.

QUESTION 2: WHAT WOULD YOU EXPECT FROM UNEP TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT SHIFT?

- Rights of indigenous people, management of resources and use of science and living in harmony with nature.
- Make multilateral agreements binding?
- For multilateral environmental agreements, the role of UNEP is part of the whole different international organizations
- Role of Local communities and religions to identify the local solutions they want to engage in
- Expecting overall leadership concerning local environment
- SDGs were created with the help of the UN and UNEP have an amazing role
- GDP the standard of human wellness but it doesn’t translate into wellbeing. We are addressing the issues by using the wrong the indicator

- The role of UNEP could be supporting grassroots movements, who are essential groups for change to happen
- There is so much focus on high level and private sector rather than grassroots movement
- Policy shift and engaging member states on policies regarding environment perspective, food system, food safety, chemicals used and the follow up to ensure local communities are engaged. Follow up on coherence
- UNEP could suggest inventive ideas and share creative projects in other countries, suggesting collaborations
- Exchange of good practices
- Networks on global leadership: Not so many nations are putting the recognition of faith leaders in their missions especially in terms of the SDGs.
- Recognize the inter-faith borrowing rooted in the indigenous peoples as the custodians of the different traditional practices. IPBES is a model to emulate in recognition of local communities and indigenous knowledge and enabling such an attitude change – UNEP needs to start informing policy this way.
- Communication and awareness phrasing: UNEP could partner with a greater and more diverse range of partners to facilitate education and empowerment.
- Policy and scientific knowledge transfer: UNEP could midwife the transfer of policy and scientific evidence to the communities at the local areas. Case on point, UNEP could use the faith actors to “midwife” the transfer of policy and scientific evidence to organizations less privileged.
- Working with other agencies by sharing their knowledge.
- Unep should come up with scientific framework for pickups to start with the FBOS and the civil societies involvement in policy making for each and every country to abide.
- UNEP to work in collaboration with the civil societies and FBOS by involving local communities and the indigenous people to participate in the initiative by mobilizing them to better understand on how climate change and the environment is affecting their daily lives.
- Some governments tend to oppress the indigenous people. UNEP should formulate a policy among member states to enable them have a voice concerning their lives.
- UNEP could provide support by providing a scientific vocabulary. FBO’s can provide the ‘faith vocabulary’
- UNEP should convene in advance 2021 COP26 talks and connect with spiritual / faith leaders and through that gathering express the common vocabulary conversations on climate (see <http://faithsciencealliance.org/>)
- Willingness to involve many different people. Also, indigenous people and marginalized groups
- UNEP has a role to play in holding power to account. Quite often local people or organizations feel very distance from their own governments or state level decision makers.
- Facilitate dialogue between religious communities/leaders with the financial and economic sectors.
- To facilitate FBO collaboration between governments, think tanks, UNEP experts with local level actors such as village committees.
- To bridge the gap between the scientific and the theological discourse so that there is better collaboration between the two.
- To make knowledge and expertise on climate and environmental solutions available and accessible to all.
- Provide network support and general collaboration.
- A convening platform for mapping out all stakeholders.
- To create a network of think tanks
- To signpost FBOs towards relevant funding opportunities
- Promotion of social entrepreneurship

- UNEP should include faith leaders using their expertise and connections with local grassroots communities
- UNEP should act as a catalyst in inspiring faith organizations to support SDG's e.g. Faith for Earth and <https://www.faihtinvest.org/about>
- Strengthening and encouraging FBO's in taking action towards a global Faith for Earth coalition
- Working locally but also globally.
- UNEP need to see where religion & science agree in a broader sense. <http://faithsciencealliance.org/>
- UNEP should use the massive organizational power and resources of the Faiths to spread the message of environmental crisis and mobilize their followers
- UNEP to Support On finance - Vatican Laudato Si. 900 million (\$ or EUR??) is changing focus. Pope is a strong environmentalist. already creating change. already happening.
- UNEP to invest (time) in environmental, grassroots projects.
- A greater engagement in the listening to the experiences of elders and how grass root projects actually work. Success stories are important but also the effects of colonialization. (Understanding the effects of the 'Doctrine of Discovery')
- UNEP to be a bridge for greater global presence. UNEP can help faith communities to understand where to put money and resources
- UNEP should support community- based funds, educational and training institutions seeking to empower communities and produce leaders that can engage the spiritual and practical change in the community
- UN should empower FBOs as adaptors of digital change
- Generation XYZ : Adaptor for change Z, Generator X , Conductor Y
- UENP can integrate or initiator of SDG 17, taking the leadership around the goal.
- It would greatly help if UNEP could push a general change in the UN with respect to sector involvement. Beginning with the October 2018 IPCC report there have been high-level UN calls for business and local governments to join with UN.
- UNEP can employ a story-telling narrative of how faith-based organizations are leading on this issue? A multi-faith approach to demonstrate what is being done.
- Start at grassroots, but we must work towards the community level too.
- Consider UNEP collaborate with youth from Christian and catholic by putting faith and science together.
- Urgency: Should act more like we are in an emergency,
- Include other aspects of knowledge, not just on science, but other knowledge- indigenous; protection for climate migrants; immediate emissions reforms
- Lift up role models of effective action; Promote best practices, highlight stories from global south
- Provide networking for capacity building; Strengthen local, regional and national leaders to understand scientific framework clear summaries of both science and spiritual **values**
Capacity building for local faith-communities; climate displacement;
- Help small faith-based organizations with environmental awareness/integration
- Relationship with creation and each other, attitudinal change to "do more with less", be a regional hub to highlight best practices, doing more with less - local "boots on the ground"
- Platform to strengthen networks and serve as sounding board, also set example by reducing costs, travel, etc.
- Focus on reality of biodiversity loss
- Greater focus on civil society
- UNEP to develop and promote social protection & provision, repositioning readiness now for CORONA & combating climate risks & disasters in future. There has a dire need of

skill-building, and to ensure local action & financing towards shift. Need for transformation with innovation to maximize benefit & minimize loss and damages.

- Building Community Assets & Promotion of ecosystem-based climate change resilient integrated livelihood models connecting community with saving life, livelihoods & security , promoting nature based solution & action in harmony with nature in addition with education on environment & bio-diversity consevation, circular economy, green energy adoption of low carbon development strategies, technology transfer & familiarisation of the sustainable food system as part of innovation under SCP .
- Enabling Environment & Setting up an institutional process for learning, management, research, micro-macro linkage and sustainability that includes Community institution building, Knowledge transformation,
- UNEP should come out with best investment , best effort, time & resources towards people & planet in connecting with universitites/institues in bringing out solutions for community resilience & better adaptation to climate crisis, vulnerability & minimize pollution.
- The scale of the climate crisis & climate induced disaster requires new ways of working, and innovative partnerships. UNEP to ensure interventions go to scale and efforts to positive transformation, where the impact will be greatest & ensure to combating climate crisis as people first. Certainly, this contribution will add value to achieving SDGs & sustainability together.
- UNEP could and should act as a catalyst for bringing about this unified Faith effort by encouraging and inspiring the Faith leaders of all the main denominations of Christianity and the other World Religions, to resolutely join forces for saving the life sustaining biosphere and planetary environment. The upcoming **October Global UNEP Conference under the title of Faith for Nature**, and with the Church Centre in Skálholt, Southern Iceland, as its hub, is certainly pointing to the way forward, in this promising direction. The Global event is designed to lay the foundation for inter-faith collaboration for sustainable and regenerative development to achieve the SDGs. The concept and objectives of this conference will be in support of the fifth United Nations Environment Assembly to be held in February 2021 in Nairobi with the overall theme “*Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*”. The Faith for Nature Global Conference will have the following objectives and outcomes: **A.** Identify the relevance and way forward in mobilizing values, ethics, spirituality and faith-based action to achieve the SDGs. **B.)** Empower faith-based organizations in taking action for the SDGs and to cooperate for sustainable and regenerative development, with a view to endorsing the establishment of a global Faith for Earth Coalition.
- The General Secretary of the UN, the Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarch could convene the other heads of communions (worldwide) to accomplish the first three changes listed above.
- The General Secretary of the UN could “launch” Faith for Earth by convening the recognized heads of faith (interfaith) prior to the 2021 COP talks so that, on the days of the COP talks, hundreds of thousands of religious gatherings all over the world would hear a common word, rallying people of every faith perspective to affirm that protecting our common home is a necessary expression of faithfulness.
- UNEP can contribute to this shift by building genuine and key partnerships – prioritizing vulnerable communities and lifting up grassroots voices
- UNEP needs to continue and deepen its Finance Initiative to help build an equitable and sustainable financial and economic architecture that will prioritize, among others, urgently needed investments in sustainability. On a deeper level, we need to redefine what we mean by wealth and risk to account for social and ecological goods and bads.

- UNEP needs to deepen engagement in so-called nature-based solutions to climate change and the biodiversity crisis, particularly protection of rainforests and agro-ecology. Develop MEAs and partner with faith communities and Indigenous Peoples in these areas.
- UNEP needs to challenge growth paradigm and GDP.
- UNEP should continue with awareness-building and capacity-building on the importance of ecological issues – focus on educational institutions, youth and children
- UNEP needs to ensure a space for FBOs to engage government at UNEP assemblies and other fora.
- Expect from UNEP is that continue involving faith groups/Churches/ more in environmental development plans and interventions.
- UNEP needs to understand the complexity of the FBO sector. For example, there is an FB-Private Sector and an FB-Investment sector and BOTH need engagement with UNEP.
- Can FBO's be incorporated into the World Environment Situation Room, or can we form a "FBO-WESR"?

QUESTION 3: HOW COULD YOUR ORGANIZATION WORK WITH UNEP TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT SHIFT?

- Denominational leaders (Heads of Communions and Bishop level leaders) need to unite and - with one voice (across denominations) – issue a statement such as the Religious Declaration of Unprecedented Climate Emergency.
- Denominational leaders (Heads of Communions and Bishop level leaders) and all clergy must routinely address the intersectionality of environmental injustice, economic injustice and racial injustice
- We need to share a common goal to work from ground level or grassroots level so that we can collaborate with faith and religion group together, and we can share the results in the next coming UNEA or COP.
- Local clergy must make a vocational commitment to devote at least 10% of their time (better yet, 25%) addressing the climate crisis and rallying their congregations to do likewise. (As discussed in Rooted and Rising
- Congregations must adapt weekly worship so that worshipers are regularly inspired and given the courage to utilize all their resources and abilities to end humanity's use of fossil fuels. (See "Worship as a Pathway to Freedom" in Jim Antal, Climate Church
- Our foundational religious texts call us to support UNEP programs of environmental protection including reduction of greenhouse gases.
- Religious communities have moral authority and capacity to mobilize communities for transformation. How to work together with UNEP to leverage this? Mapping of religious communities could be starting point.
- FBOs can and must contribute to advocacy for key environmental and economic policy changes; morale imperative for building an ecologically friendly financial and economic system. UNEP and FBOs can bring together UN agencies, international financial institutions, banks, and communities together to promote just and sustainable investments for instance.
- Churches and other religious institutions are also economic actors, e.g. have assets and pensions, operate banks. Work with UNEP FI to exchange good practices, develop projects, and identify and promote the conditions that support value-based investing in agro-ecology and renewable energies.
- Joint research and capacity-building programmes at local and regional levels that help bridge science and faith

- Mutual sharing of knowledge, e.g. on circular economy, green entrepreneurship and sustainable finance, etc.
- Promote sustainable practices, e.g. planting trees to celebrate key events, solar-powered and green buildings, water-harvesting, agro-ecology, green buildings, biogas, organic composting, etc. Note: partnering with UNEP gives these aforementioned practices more credibility so that governments and business will take them seriously
- The importance of creating and sharing a common language. We need consensus on what terms mean. Suggestion to create a “Faith for Earth” glossary
- Create networks in different countries so people can contact each other without the interference of governments
- Maybe the international network of people working on implementation of the projects in local communities (religious, government, NGOs, business, women) will help. They can exchange experiences and support one to another.
- Having partners around the world to make a difference in the different communities we live in
- If we work through hierarchy, it doesn't work -Vertical cooperation
- We've created advocacy groups in our organizations and beyond create webinars to promote togetherness and mobilization drawing on FBOs moving forward together to create mobilization
- Churches have a lot to contribute as they have big space in the society in contributing to the SDG
- Protection of Tropical forests in which UNEP is engaged as well as FBOs, UNEP could make contributions
- Looking ahead UNEA 5, FBOs organizations should be able to contribute
- FBOs communities can reach many people and engage children
- Faith communities should be recognized for their development potential. If environmental issues form part of their agenda/ catechesis, then we will reach more people. Also, we need to engage children through schools in the conversation
- Assist accredited FBOs to understand their role as accredited organizations in influencing policy and the global environmental agenda through the existing nine major groups.
- Create a platform to enable faith leaders to share their views on the global policy at the local levels.
- Through an existing consultancy, engaging with UNEP is powerful in the sense that it enables reaching out to faith communities albeit on case-by-case.
- Creating confidence: acknowledging that it is important to work on active philosophical discourse as faith communities.
- From an academic angle, contributing to the complex scientific knowledge and evidence.
- Keeping cross-communication between civil society engaged with UNEP and the human rights forums can build important bridges.
- Commitment to the SDGs by academic institutions – info coming from UNEP is very helpful in education.
- Promotion of digital dialogue and education through short films and discussions. Digital content is key.
- Living and being true to the promise of not leaving anyone behind in the implementation of the sustainable development goals by encouraging new partnerships and bringing on board the mind sets within the civil society, FBOs and the private sector.
- UNEP and the faith communities and faith based organization should cooperate to express the visions of good sustainable lifestyles contributing to giving, especially, the young generation hope.
- FBO's and the connection with indigenous people in South America create a stronger bridge

- Our role in speaking out for those who don't have a voice. Many people – not just indigenous people – are afraid to speak out for fear of reprisals. Using scientific evidence to support the indigenous communities. This can be done thematically – Sanitation, Forestry, Water, Health & Welfare, Agriculture, Microfinance / Village Banking (and so on).
- Organizations – in general -can support UNEP by providing hands on experience.
- CSO & communities are grossly impacted by COVID-19 & recurrent climate crisis. Thus we must invest our best effort, time & resources towards people in expressing solidarity at this critical time, towards better advocacy, implementation, influence policy for better grounding . However, both COVID-19 Pandemic & climate crisis have given us a huge opportunity to rethink the way we work, educate our children, and even our cultural customs, faith & to realign towards social, economic, environmental sustainability.
- Engagement in 'saving god's creation/ the earth' - connection with nature. 'faith in nature'. Community service on a regular basis – interfaith, interreligious dialogue
- Organizing webinars so that people can speak up and tell their stories. or faith leaders speaking out for those who have no voice
- Greater cohesion between the diverse organizations and UNEP.
- Working thematically – sharing expertise but also giving training and working towards sustainable lifestyles and a healthy 'Life-climate'
- FBO's can influence government policies can also have a role in education
- FBOs as adaptors of digital change
- FBO grass root early education, people change not climate change
- Early start environmental education
- Participation, engagement, opportunity, involvement, FBO can answer.
- The Anglican Environmental Network is preparing a global reforestation effort that will be Anglican Communion wide.
- In depth interviews, may help. or we can organize a session of sharing our methodology in saving our mother earth.
- Empower people to know what is happening about the PARIS agreement and climate changes, especially on the biodiversity, indigenous and people on the communities.
- Faith base must communicate with the grassroots to bring in ideas and natural programs, we should not lose this connection. Faith for earth should provide promotion materials, translate knowledge into action.
- Story telling of transformation
- Ability to translate SDGs to the language and theology of our communities – so many resources!
- Ecological centers to educate and tell stories
- Database of local communities
- Environmental ministries, advocacy
- Would like to hear more of what UNEP would like to hear from us
- Islamic farming; "Greening the Hajj"; refugee women/hygiene
- Values education and strategies
- Variety of tools around fossil fuel divestment, systems for Hindu temples to be more sustainable; Green Ramadan- focus on eco-conscious practices;
- Provide religious language to promote fossil fuel divestment
- Provide information/facts related to refugees, strengthening networks; lobbying governments
- We have local evidence and facts from what is happening, and can engage local entities with faith perspectives
- Link to and strengthen collaboration with the Arctic Circle.

- Support the global conference to be held by Iceland and UNEP “Faith for Nature-Multi-Faith Action.
- Support the Global Faith for Earth Coalition to be established by UNEP.
- The General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ (leader of ~1,000,000 members and ~5,000 congregations across the United States) is ready to contribute to these initiatives.
- Faith Based Organizations should mobilize our members to demand that our governments support relevant multilateral programs such as UNEP and also make commitments by joining multilateral treaties.
- To strengthen FBO’s engagement with UNEP attention needs to be given to bridging/transforming the faith/science divide in BOTH communities. Currently this divide is a significant cultural barrier and challenge for FBO’s to effectively onboard the UNEP agenda.
- FBO’s are multinational orgs, thus they can be allies in “preventing the further erosion of multilateralism [that] will prove essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda.”
- Suggest a dialogue be organized between UNEP and FBO’s to understand and explore this further.
- Need to bring Evangelical/FBO academic institutions and individual scientists into the dialogue and knowledge generation process at UNEP. Currently Evangelical academic institutions are absent, so there’s a lot of room engagement.
- On-ramping and/or cooperation for gathering, importing, and collaborative use of religious environmental data.
- UNEP officials and experts welcome and accept invitations to speak at FBO conferences and events. Thankfully this is occurring with Faith for Earth. Increased support of FBO’s through such actions by UNEP (i.e., speaking at FBO conferences, etc.) will aid in actively building relationships between UNEP and FBO’s.
- FBO’s need to be intentionally included in the ethical and governance dialogue and frameworks being developed regarding digitalization and technology. The WEA has experience in this area and can assist and be involved.
- FBO’s can be allies of change. When religious communities are convinced change is good we act. Thus, FBO’s can be allies and levers of change/transformation when aligned with religious values and beliefs.
- FBO’s can assist with gender equality. The WEA has experience in this area and can assist and be involved.
- Within URI the CC’s (Cooperation Circle’s) are working towards consensus and ‘connecting the dots’
- Research shows that FBO’s can deliver effectively and cost effective services. UNEP needs to be open to funding FBO orgs to deliver projects and/or be included as project partners.
- Will an FBO typology of projects be developed? The WEA can help with that task.
- What are the FBO impact metrics/dashboard, etc. for evaluating UNEP’s FBO work?
- FBO bring human dignity and human rights to the core of sustainability indigenous right
- Within Christianity there is a need to renew the sense of the Earth's sacredness.
- Plant trees across religion, to reserve the green environment.
- Start promoting 17 goals for SDG to uphold the earth charter.
- Buddhist Tzu Chi foundation has been actualizing the goals of coexisting with the earth. we emphasize in recycling and turning trash to treasure, we reinforce on low carbon lifestyle by living the change within people with faith.
- Every House of Worship were to save 10% of their energy use, we could make a large impact. While at the same time that House of worship could share strategies, message etc to member homes, schools, offices, etc.

- The whole world Christian community, through its leaders and front-runners, Pope, Patriarchs and leading Bishops of all denomination urgently need to unite in a concerted effort with guiding and encouraging words and deeds to save the planet from the consequences of the dare climate change.
- They also open-mindedly must react to the wakeup call and necessity of also joining forces with the heads and leaders of the other main world religions for this very same purpose. ‘The contribution of religious faith must be unhesitatingly to confront the essential immorality of lifestyles and economic systems that are based on the conquest and selfish abuse of nature and of others, and that are indifferent to injustice and ecological repercussions. Faith proponents must also courageously face, expose and oppose the inextricable connections between peace with the earth and peace on earth, rejecting the insanity of spiraling military expenditure and the continued reliance on nuclear weapons...’
- They also need to recognize and promote the wisdom of Indigenous Peoples who have a deep and longstanding traditional knowledge of the environments that are their ancestral homelands. And also see in their spirituality and wisdom guiding lines for the wellbeing of all created life and the earth and cosmos intended for the generations to come.’
- Denominational leaders (Heads of Communion and Bishop level leaders) need to unite and - with one voice (across denominations) – issue a statement such as the *Religious Declaration of Unprecedented Climate Emergency*. Among other things, it states, “Further delay in addressing climate change is a radical evil that as people of faith we vigorously oppose.”
- Denominational leaders (Heads of Communion and Bishop level leaders) and all clergy must routinely address the intersectionality of environmental injustice, economic injustice and racial injustice.
- Denominational leaders (Heads of Communion and Bishop level leaders) must offer their clergy unambiguous support for the following:
 - Local clergy must make a vocational commitment to devote at least 10% of their time (better yet, 25%) addressing the climate crisis and rallying their congregations to do likewise. (As discussed in *Rooted and Rising*, see “Fighting Climate Change – Our Responsibility, Our Vocation, Our Salvation” by Jim Antal)
 - Congregations must adapt weekly worship so that worshipers are regularly inspired and given the courage to utilize all their resources and abilities to end humanity’s use of fossil fuels. (See “Worship as a Pathway to Freedom” in Jim Antal, *Climate Church, Climate World*.)
- FBO in Antigua helps in the public education and awareness process and these churches have numbers, are sustainable organization and involved in social activities to empower people, their health and the environment
- Bank Plastic – Has an expertise on faith based approach to plastic reduction. Would like to work with UNEP to increase its work on reducing plastics in the ocean.
- IFEES/EcoIslam – Has almost 4 decades of experience of working on climate action around the world. Would like to work with UNEP to support Islamic countries with theological expertise and developing strategies to combat climate change and environmental degradation.
- Govardhan Eco Village – Has expertise on local level sustainable living practices and living in harmony with nature. Set up a network of faith inspired eco villages for sharing of good practices.
- Bahu Trust – Has expertise in working with both Muslim and non-Muslim communities on simplifying the language of climate change. Reaching grassroots communities in urban areas to promote climate friendly living. Would work with UNEP to collaborate with religious communities around the world to produce educational material. Also, happy to work with UNEP to develop a global faith inspired youth movement.

LIST OF REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

No	Surname	First Name	Country of Connection	Institution	Position/Title
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6	Shezad	Kamran	United Kingdom	Bahu Trust	Director	Rapporteur
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