

FAITH FOR EARTH



Dear Brothers and Sisters;

The historic [Faith for Nature: Multi-Faith Action](#) conference successfully concluded on 8 October 2020 with the adoption of a declaration “[Our Sacred Commitment](#)”. The declaration is a clear statement of commitment to action and is a huge support to the Faith for Earth Coalition. The conference focused on the role of values, ethics and moral responsibility towards nature based solutions. The conference was addressed by more than 30 high-level faith and thought leaders and attracted 450 participants from 60 countries and more than 6500 viewers of the live stream. We have engaged 30 high level speakers in spiritual and inspiring addresses and dialogue. In addition to the declaration, the conference included the following:

1. Launched the [Faith for Earth: A Call for Action](#) Book
2. Launched the Faith [Action on the SDG: Progress and Outlook](#) report
3. Launched the [Role of Environmental and Spiritual Ethics in Galvanizing Nature Based Solutions](#) paper
4. Launched [People and Planet: Faith in the 2030 Agenda](#) Policy Paper
5. Ms. Inger Andersen [Opening Speech](#) .

The report of the conference is under preparation and will be shared soon.



[G20 Interfaith Forum: Ecological challenges: rainforest protection and purposeful action to protect the environment 5:45 pm-7:45pm \(GMT + 3\): Friday 16 October 2020](#)

Environmental degradation, corrupt practices, encroachment on indigenous lands and rainforests, and other human rights violations present grave challenges around the globe. Most faith and indigenous communities embrace an ethical and spiritual responsibility to protect the environment. Their advocacy and promotion of sustainable management should be heard and heeded. Faith and indigenous communities drive urgent actions in many places that promise to restore degraded forests and increase afforestation and reforestation. Their commitments point to sustainable solutions in line with international standards and local development priorities in the effected environments.

Moderator :

- **Dr. Lara Hanna-Wakim**, Vice-Director of the Higher Center for Research, Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon

Speakers :

- **Dr. Iyad Abumoghli**, Director of the Faith for Earth Initiative and Principal Policy Advisor at United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
- **Prof. Pablo Canziani**, Professor of Environmental Science at the National Technological University, Regional College Buenos Aires, Argentina, and member of the Commission "Justice and Peace" of the Catholic Church in Argentina
- **Rt. Rev. Yoshinobu Miyake**, Chair of the Board at the International Shinto Studies Association
- **Ms. Marlita Poma**, Communications Officer at Interfaith Rainforest Initiative in Peru
- **Dr. Hayu Prabowo**, Director of Siaga Bumi; Chair of the Council of Ulama's environment and natural resources body; representative of Religions for Peace
- **Mr. Elias Szczytnicki**, Secretary General and Regional Director of Religions for Peace, Latin American and the Caribbean
- **Sri Swami Svatmananda**, Director of Sacred Divine Wisdom; KAICIID Fellow

Watch the [live stream](#)



Global Justice as a Framework for Eliminating Poverty - Series 3

Join us on Monday 19 October 2020 at 16:00 PM (EST). The Covid-19 pandemic should be viewed against the background of a much larger, chronic global crisis, which is arguably the "greatest existential threat of our time." Global climate change is making it impossible and undesirable for societies around the world to continue with their current lifestyles "as normal." Climate change is affecting the poor disproportionately: In Africa, where so many people are directly dependent on nature for their livelihood, the disruption of natural cycles is particularly life-threatening. Large swathes of the continent are becoming hotter and drier, making it more difficult to raise crops and livestock. Specifically, droughts, which have been a historic feature of the climate of parts of the continent, are now more devastating.

Keynote: Dr. Iyad Abumoghli, UNEP Faith for Earth, Kenya

Panelists :

- Dr. Nana Ama Browne Klutse, University of Ghana)
- Dr. Oluyede Ajayi, Lead Specialist - Agriculture and Climate Change- CTA
- Dr. Emmanuel Nyadzi, Wageningen University, Netherlands

- Dr. Camillus Kassala, Senior Research Fellow at Eastern Africa Statistical Training Center, Tanzania

[Register here](#) to participate.



Interfaith Green Festival.

The Laudato Generation members in Africa, came together on 25th September 2020, invited by the harmony Institute, in collaboration with Bahai community, Hare Krishna Temple together with high schools of Mercy, and supported by Faith for Earth, to actively engage students, religious and ordinary citizens to care for our common home. The participants considered a fossil free Africa. The Interfaith Green Festival gave space to climate activists, young children who have been very active in global climate strikes to celebrate earth and voice their concern over the use of environmental polluting industries. You can watch the recording of the festival on the [YouTube Channel](#) of the Office of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.



Indigenous Voices at the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology

The mission of the [Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#) is to inform and inspire people to preserve, protect, and restore the Earth community. In celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day in the USA, the Yale Forum recognizes and honors the contributions and achievements of Indigenous voices to environmental protection. Explore the [Indigenous](#) listing of the Yale Forum website to find:

- [Overview essays](#) that provide an introduction to Indigenous lifeways and ecology
- [Official Mother Earth statements](#) from Indigenous organizations and elders
- [Official Climate Change statements](#) from Indigenous traditions
- [Engaged projects](#) led by Indigenous communities doing hands-on work around the globe
- [Multimedia Offerings](#) and [YouTube playlist](#) about Indigenous peoples from various parts of the world and their struggle to preserve sacred sites and ceremonies.
- An extensive [Bibliography](#) listing works that feature the complex interplay between indigenous communities, place, and nature.
- [Advisory Group of Indigenous Specialists](#) for the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology



[Accreditation to UN Environment Assembly](#)

The numbers are increasing. Five more faith-based organizations have been accredited to UNEP. You can apply too for accreditation using the [New Online Accreditation System](#) and gain a consultative status within the [rules of procedure](#) of the [UN Environment Assembly](#), please refer to the criteria for accreditation as derived from Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure and submit your request accordingly . [Guidelines here.](#)

[Previous Updates can be found HERE.](#)

Warm wishes.

Iyad

[Faith4Earth Website](#)

Social Media Hashtag [# Faith4Earth](#)

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