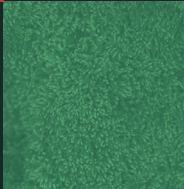




FAITH PAVILION

PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE



Introduction to the Faith Pavilion

Addressing the impacts of human-induced climate change requires interdisciplinary cooperation and efforts across all segments of society including from religious, spiritual, and indigenous traditions.

In recognition of this vital need for collaboration, the Faith Pavilion aims to serve as a platform for problem solving, partnership, and the proposal of holistic recommendations to advance environmental justice.

“We, as representatives of our respective faith, Indigenous, and wisdom traditions, acknowledge our collective duty to...support the Faith Pavilion at COP28, the first of its kind.”

**Interfaith Statement on Climate Action Towards COP28
November 6, 2023**





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 1

**DECEMBER 1ST
2023**



Faith matters in achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation

Soka Gakkai International

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will highlight Faith-Based Organizations' unique roles in achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) and discuss how FBOs can collaborate with other sectors.

Three FBOs will showcase their relevant activities and a large CSO network will make comments on them. The cases cover both Global North and South.

SPEAKERS



FLETCHER HARPER (MODERATOR)
GreenFaith
Executive

Fletcher Harper, an Anglican priest, is Executive Director of GreenFaith, an international, multi-faith, grassroots climate justice organization. A pioneer in the religious-environmental movement, he has led GreenFaith's development from a local organization based in the US to an international group with campaigns in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Fletcher is an Ashoka Fellow and author of GreenFaith: Mobilizing God's People to Protect the Planet.



MERYNE WARAH
GreenFaith
Global Director of Organizing

Meryne Warah is the climate change specialist and serves as Global Director of Organizing of GreenFaith. Meryne is a passionate and visionary leader who is on a mission to create a more just and sustainable world. She has over 10 years of experience in managing and implementing projects on gender, environment, and climate change across Africa. She has worked with diverse stakeholders, including inter-religious groups, civil society organizations, government agencies, and international partners, to advocate for policies and practices that promote social and ecological justice. Meryne is based in Kenya.





MARIA BARD
LM International
Head of Advocacy Africa

Maria Bard has served as Head of Advocacy Africa, LM International since February 2022. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition, Maria has worked as an advisor for Dr. Denis Mukwege and with many years of experience in monitoring the development in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



NOBUYUKI ASAI
Soka Gakkai International
Director for Sustainable Development & Humanitarian Affairs

Nobuyuki Asai joined Soka Gakkai's disaster recovery taskforce after the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011. For the climate issue he promotes awareness raising activity from the Buddhist perspective. He joins the leadership council of Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities and serves as a focal of the Japan CSO Coalition for Disaster Risk Reduction. In 2018 he published a thesis titled "Function of social capital embedded in religious communities at times of disaster: Cases of disaster relief activity by a Muslim community and a Soka Gakkai community in Japan" on Journal of Disaster Research.



Contribution of faith-based organizations to building climate resilience and adaptation - youth-led climate action

Lutheran World Federation

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

The session will highlight the value of faith-based organizations' practices, contributions, and groundwork in implementing climate adaptation and resilience measures. Through case study reviews, the panelists will relate their on-the-ground experiences and accompaniments of the most vulnerable to show the benefits of climate change resilience and adaptation. The discussion will connect the challenges and learnings into opportunities for creating new ways of tackling the impacts of climate to promote sustainable societies.

SPEAKERS



ELENA CEDILLO (MODERATOR)
Lutheran World Federation
Program Executive for Climate Justice

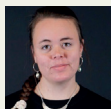
Elena Cedillo, currently LWF Program Executive for Climate Justice. She works on the promotion and implementation of innovative climate change projects such as adaptation-based mitigation, climate risk transfer options to address climate-related loss and damage, and the concept of non-economic loss and damage, and promotes advocacy on climate justice in various UN bodies. She is organizing and leading the LWF delegation to COP28. She has published research on adaptation practices and non-economic loss and damage; environmental perspectives and climate justice in Central America; analysis of climate action to respond to 1.5°C global warming with a focus on NDCs in Central America.



SANDRA OMBESE
Lutheran World Federation
Youth representative

Sandra Kwamboka Ombese, Communication Guru, Youth leader, Youth mobilizer, Climate activist. I am the founder of Plant Trees, Save Earth project. This project is about tree planting in order to save our environment, helps improve air circulation, prevent global warming, reduces soil erosion and boost fertility. It also acts as significant water catchment area since they hold more moisture, thus attracting rainfall. This project I hope to plant as many trees as possible, and empower many young Africans to create impacts in their local communities, in order to achieve the target of thousands and millions. Together we can.





JULIA RENSBERG
World Council of Churches
Central Committee member

Julia Rensberg is an Indigenous young person from Sweden fighting for climate justice and indigenous rights. Until recently, she was a board member of Sáminuorra, the Sámi national youth organisation. Today, she is the indigenous representative on the central committee of the World Council of Churches.



TINASHE GUMBO
All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)
Programme Executive for Economic and Ecological Justice.

Dr Tinashe Gumbo is the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) Programme Executive for Economic and Ecological Justice. He coordinates the work of the AACC's Africa Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice (AFAN-CJ) and the churches in Africa's work on public debt and corruption. He has worked in the ecumenical movement and civil society for nearly two decades with a particular focus on public debt, climate change, elections, national dialogue, the extractive sector, and program management in general. Dr Gumbo has researched and reviewed academic work on elections, politics, community-based activism, corruption, and human rights.



SHANTANU MANDAL
Brahma Kumaris
Youth Rep of the BK to UNEP

Shantanu is a radio presenter in Radio Madhuban with one of the prime time shows Yashasvi Bharat where he interviews Dignitaries who are Civilian award winners of Bharat (India). He is involved in developing environmental programs in the Radio. Shantanu has practiced Raja Yoga for over 20 years. He has a background in fashion design and holds a second bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. In 2019, Shantanu was one of seven youths to be funded by the UNFCCC to attend COP 25 in Madrid. Since then he has been representing the Brahma Kumaris Youth at a number of high profile environmental conferences. A UNFSS+2 Youth task force member, Shantanu lives a vegan lifestyle and believes that "Simplicity is Kindness."



Interfaith youth dialogue on climate justice - promoting resilience and hope

Church of Sweden

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space for an interreligious youth dialogue between youth representatives from different faith traditions and geographical regions on resilience and hope. This session will explore how we, as people of faith, strengthen resilience among youth in times of climate crisis. This session aims to discuss how we, as people of faith, can empower young people and ensure their participation in decision-making and implementation of initiatives that will build resilience. This session will discuss what kind of support focusing on youth is needed to increase their resilience.

SPEAKERS



HANNA SOLDAL (MODERATOR)
Act Church of Sweden
Advocacy advisor

Hanna works as an advocacy advisor for Act Church of Sweden, focusing on climate justice. She strives to mobilize the congregations and individual members of Church of Sweden to become climate ambassadors. Hanna holds a Master of Science in Ethnobotany, an interdisciplinary research field focusing on the relationship between humans and nature. She is also an active writer and opinion-maker.



SOFIE OHLSSON
Church of Sweden Youth
Youth delegate

Sofie is active as a youth volunteer for global justice through Church of Sweden Youth and Act Church of Sweden. As a youth volunteer, she works with focus on global issues, such as climate justice, on a local, national, and international level. She is an engineering student, enrolled in a master's degree on industrial ecology. Sofie is passionate about climate justice, the role of education for shaping our future and youth involvement.





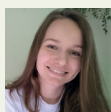
SHANTANU MANDAL
Brahma Kumaris
Youth delegate

Shantanu lives in England where he is supporting the international coordinating office of Brahma Kumaris in London. He has been representing Brahma Kumaris Youth at several high-profile environmental conferences since 2019. He is also the deputy chair for the IUCN CEESP Religion, Spirituality, Conservation and Climate Justice Specialist Group (RESPECC) and a UNFSS+2 youth task force member. Shantanu lived in the Brahma Kumaris headquarter at Mount Abu for more than ten years. He lives a vegan lifestyle and believes that “simplicity is kindness”.



PRIYANKA PATIL
Brahma Kumaris
Youth delegate

Priyanka works on regenerative agroecological and restoration projects in western India. She holds a Master of Science in Agriculture and is the founder of the ecological initiative Golden era eco services. Their mission is to build sustainable and spiritually empowered communities by educating people to heal themselves and their landscapes. Priyanka attended COY17 and is a member of the Food and Agriculture Working Group of YOUNGO and the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP (CYMG).



CARINE JOSIÉLE WENDLAND
Lutheran World Federation
Youth delegate

Carine is part of the Lutheran World Federation's youth delegation at COP28. She is a climate activist, member of the Evangelical Church of Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB) and the Climate Justice Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). She has organized climate justice campaigns in her own country by linking climate change impacts to the indigenous and intercultural issues, land, and nature.



Holistic Environmental Protection: Integrating Spiritual Wisdom for Sustainable Development

Sikhi Council

Time: 1:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Join our workshop at COP28 for an exploration of holistic environmental protection. Delve into the intricate bond between humanity and the Earth, seeking well-being for all living beings, including nature. In a world grappling with multiple crises and conflicts, there is a need for a transformational shift. Hosted by SikhiCouncil, this session offers an artistic journey into Gurbani's spiritual wisdom on environmental protection. Participants will then be enabled to discover how mental causes contribute to external pollution and find intuitive ways to recognize the interconnectedness of life and our shared role as Earth's guests. This perspective empowers us to move away from unsustainable growth-centric thinking, fostering a humble approach that considers the well-being of all sentient beings. Once we internalize this, we can transcend materialism and help establishing a Holistic Well-being Index (HWI) that measures development and prosperity by the well-being of all sentient beings. By merging wisdom with technical and political expertise, we can create a culture that prioritizes well-being over short-term material gains.

SPEAKERS



DILMOHAN SINGH
Sikhi Council
Member

Dilmohan Singh was born in India. He has an educational background in Information Technology, and lives in Australia. Currently he is working as Public Servant. Dilmohan Singh voluntarily serves Sikhi, one of the youngest world religions. He is part of the SikhiCouncil (www.sikhi.eu) team and co-founder of www.sikhteachings.com. Both initiatives specifically address young people and foster unifying human values and an ethically oriented humble lifestyle based on Gurmat, timeless spiritual wisdom, which is at the heart of Sikhi. Gurmat enables to live in harmony with oneself, humanity, the animal world, and nature.





HARPREET SINGH KHALSA
Sikhi Council
Member

Harpreet Singh Khalsa was born in India. He has an educational background in commerce, music, technology, and business. Currently he is working as Chief Data Officer at Edith Cowan University in Australia. Harpreet Singh voluntarily serves Sikhi, one of the youngest world religions. He is part of the SikhiCouncil (www.sikhi.eu) team and co-founder of www.sikh teachings.com. Both initiatives specifically address young people and foster unifying human values and an ethically oriented humble lifestyle based on Gurmat, timeless spiritual wisdom, which is at the heart of Sikhi. Harpreet Singh is also part of the team that developed the documentary: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6YcwZKkzd4> on virtual reality and spiritualit



AVNEEP SINGH
Sikhi Council
Member

Avneep Singh is a professional Chartered Accountant in India. Avneep Singh voluntarily serves Sikhi, one of the youngest world religions. He is part of the SikhiCouncil (www.sikhi.eu) team. He works with young people to help them understand their responsibilities towards Mother Nature through Sikhi. Avneep Singh is also a musician who expresses his devotion artistically. He recites Gurbani, timeless spiritual wisdom, which is at the heart of Sikhi.



SESSION DESCRIPTION

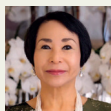
The Dubai Convergence represents a “unity in diversity” of many organizations coming together from different faith traditions, spiritual perspectives, nations, ethnicities, and disciplines all united in a common purpose and for a common cause. This combined “double session” offers an integration of many aspects at the intersection of faith, spirituality, climate crisis, gender, activism, governance, the arts and intergenerational equity. With a focus on integral ecology and the root interconnectedness of reality, these combined panels bring together indigenous wisdom, faith traditions, evolutionary spiritual perspective as well as deeper mystical insights that help us reimagine the current global ecological crises and reframe the narrative around solutions, equity, hope, justice and survival.

SPEAKERS



BENJAMIN BOWLER (MODERATOR)
Unity Earth
Executive Director

Ben is the Executive Director of UNITY EARTH, a global network empowering solutions for unity, purpose and peace.



MS AUDREY KITAGAWA
International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation (IAMC)
Founder and President

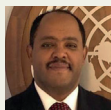
Audrey E. Kitagawa, J.D., is the President/Founder of the International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation, the President of the Light of Awareness International Spiritual Family, the Chair of the Anti-Racism Initiative and Co-Chair of the Gender Equality Working Group of the G20 Interfaith Forum, and the former Advisor to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict at the United Nations. She is a United Nations Representative for the United Religions Initiative, an Ambassador of Religions for Peace International, and Chair Emerita of the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns, A Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. She has been enstooled into the royal family as the Nekoso Hema, (i.e. Queen Mother of Development), of Ajiyamanti in Ghana, West Africa, and has a school which she helped to build named after her in her African name, the Nana Ode Anyankobea Junior Secondary School.





MR SURENDER SINGH KANDHARI
Guru Nanak Darbar Gurudwara Dubai
Chairman

Mr. Kandhari was born in 1948 in India. In 1976, Mr. Kandhari came to Dubai to grow the family business and formed the Al Dobowi Group. The group today is the leading management services provider in the UAE and has grown to have over 2000 employees and have a significant presence in Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Ghana, Europe, and Canada. He is also the Chairman of the Guru Nanak Darbar, Sikh Temple, Dubai – the First Sikh Gurudwara in the UAE; to name a few of his activities. He has attended the G20 Interfaith Summit held in the Gold Coast Australia in 2014 and in Malaysia in 2015 as a delegate of the UAE Government to promote Interfaith Harmony & Tolerance.



MUSSIE HAILU
URI
URI Representative at the UN (Africa office)
and the African Union, Former Ambassador

Ambassador Mussie Hailu is a peacebuilder who is working at national, regional, and international levels for peace, reconciliation, interfaith harmony, disarmament, the Golden Rule, world citizenship, right human relationships, and international cooperation for the preservation of the environment. He considers himself a Citizen of the World, believing strongly in the inter-dependence of human beings. He celebrates cultural diversity, seeing the differences in race, ethnicities, religions, politics, and nationalities as important elements of the one and indivisible humanity. He has served many national and international organizations, including the United Nations. Mussie also served as Diplomat in the rank of Ambassador and Special Envoy of the President of Burundi. Currently, he serves as URI Director of Global Partnerships, URI Representative at the United Nations and the African Union, and URI-Africa Regional Director. He is a founding member of URI.



SALMAN CHISHTY
Chishty Foundation
Founder and President

Syed Salman Chishty hails from the Chishty Sufi family of Ajmer Sharif, the Gaddi-Nashin (hereditary custodians) of the 11th century Sufi shrine of Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Hassan Chishty. His work involves the research of Sufi traditions and their interaction with global cultures and traditions. He is a regular participant at international conferences on interfaith dialogue and has represented the Chishty Sufi Order in the Middle East, Asia, the United States and the United Kingdom. A founding member of the Chishty Foundation, he has served as its director for the last five years. He has also written several articles on Sufism and spiritual understanding for various national and international publications. Chishty also has an interest in photographing the 'sacred' and captured his Sufi journeys across the globe. His work has been exhibited at various events and exhibitions.

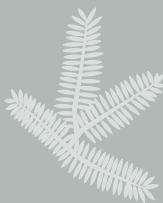




**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 2

DECEMBER 2ND 2023



Making case for equitable and coordinated funding streams - Case of Loss & Damage

Humedica e.V.

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide space for exchange of bridging ideas on loss and damage recognizing, integrative facets that include adaptation and mitigation finances, that are crucial to a more equitable climate considered risk and opportunity across the south north divide. In particular, the session will explore changing dynamics in localization politics across funding streams and make case to get most willing Governments move beyond tokenism, to walking the talk. Through narratives and stories from Pakistan, compelling case results will be shared.

SPEAKERS



MR. ULRICH NITSCHKE
PIRON Global Development Germany
Senior Advisor

Ulrich Nitschke serves as Deputy Director at PIRON, a German Advisory firm based in Bonn. He is a seasoned advisor for Strategy Development, communication and advocacy for many Faith Based Organization. Over the last 25 years, he undertook organizational and leadership development for both governmental and non-governmental cooperation levels. This included facilitation and moderation of development networks, including work with German Development Cooperation. Part of his mediation and moderation has seen him work with governmental and other players in MENA Region, Africa as well as Europe. He initiated the Go-MENA Sector Network focusing on the consequences and learning from the Arab Spring.



MR. JOHANNES PETER
Humedica e.V International Aid Germany
Executive Director

Johannes Peter is the Executive Director of humedica e.V Germany, and has over the last 5 years overseen humedica's International Humanitarian Response, Preparedness and Stabilization, in more than 31 countries spread across all continents. Prior that, he was the Head of humedica's Global Emergency Training & Deployment. His areas of expertise include Global Capacity Integration, Partnership Coalition Building, and Complimentary Humanitarian Cooperation. He holds a Business Administration Degree from Karlshochschule University Germany, and studied Entrepreneurship and International Relations at Misr University, Egypt. At community level, he served with the International Boy Scout movement. He is married and has two children.





MR. AHMAD IRFAN ASLAM
Ministry of Climate Change
and Environmental Coordination, Pakistan
Federal Minister

Mr. Ahmad Irfan Aslam, the caretaker Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Pakistan, is a seasoned lawyer with wide knowledge and expertise in legal field. He has expertise in dealing with international disputes and also led the International Disputes Unit in the Office of the Attorney General of Pakistan and served in foreign missions. Notably, he advocated significant cases for Pakistan, including Rikodiq, at various international legal platforms. Besides the ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination; he is also holding the portfolio of ministry of Law & Justice and Water Resources.



MR. QAMAR IQBAL
Pak Mission Society (PMS) Pakistan
Head of Localization and Programme Support

Qamar Iqbal is a development professional with 22 years of experience working with renowned international and national organisations in Pakistan. He has a diverse experience of program management, stakeholders' engagement both from duty bearers and rights holders, nexus practitioner, and climate justice activist. Mr. Iqbal is Head of Localisation at Pak Mission Society (a faith-based organisation working as a catalyst in Pakistan for capacity strengthening and mainstreaming the voice of faith actors at national, regional and international level). He is convening the NEAR (Network of south-led organisations) and Country Level Working Group of Charter4Change in Pakistan for moving forward the agenda of localization.



MS. KEHKSHAN JIBRAN
Pak Mission Society (PMS) Pakistan
Head of Business Development

Programme design and Business Development Professional with the educational background of Social Sciences, International Development and Engineering. She has been Leading the Business Department of Pak Mission Society and designing sustainable models on Climate Change, Entrepreneurship Development, WASH and DRR, and Community Outreach. She was the Pakistan youth representative for Asia Pacific Youth Network on Climate Change (AYCC) from 2009-2015. She led 3 researches and one of the researches is going to be published in the Oxford University, UK (Special Edition) on Christians and Christianity in Pakistan on Minority Inclusion and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem.



Mindfulness for Earth in Higher Education

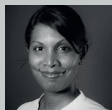
University of Connecticut

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will introduce the Mindfulness for Earth in Higher Education Initiative led by the University of Connecticut (UConn) in partnership with the Centre for the Advanced Learning of Mindfulness (CALM) and UNEP Faith for Earth Initiative. The session addresses the interconnection between contemporary environmental, spiritual, and mental health crises, and provides the participants with an opportunity to experience a short eco-contemplative practice. Furthermore, the panel explores Mindfulness for Earth as a strategy for the reduction of human consumption and natural resource extraction and highlights how M4E can contribute towards university sustainability goals.

SPEAKERS



KUMANGA ANDRAHENNADI, PH.D. (MODERATOR)
Centre for the Advanced Learning of Mindfulness (CALM)
and Mindfulness for Earth (M4E) Initiative
Founder and Director

Dr. Kumanga Andrahennadi is Founder and Director of the Centre for the Advanced Learning of Mindfulness (CALM) and Mindfulness for Earth (M4E) Initiative. Dr. Andrahennadi is a Mindfulness Researcher, Educator and Consultant with over 15 years of experience in delivering the specialized Mindfulness for Earth (M4E) programs in the West for public, private and government sectors including to Education (universities and schools), Police Organisations, Mental Health and Private Corporations and NGO's in the U.K., U.S.A., Europe and internationally. She is currently co-leading the Mindfulness for Earth (M4E) in Higher Education Initiative headed by the Office of Global Affairs at the University of Connecticut.





DANIEL WEINER, PH.D.
University of Connecticut
Vice President of the Office of Global Affairs
and Professor of Geography

Dr. Daniel Weiner is Vice President of the Office of Global Affairs and Professor of Geography at the University of Connecticut. He serves as the University's Senior International Officer (SIO) and is one of the longest serving SIOs in the country. Dr. Weiner is a development geographer with area studies expertise in Eastern and Southern Africa, Appalachia and the Middle East. His research areas include climate change, political ecology and participatory GIS. Dr. Weiner sits on the Boards of Capital Workforce Partners, the MetroHartford Alliance, the YMCA of Greater Hartford and is former President of the World Affairs Council of Connecticut.



DR. IYAD ABU MOGHLI
Faith for Earth Coalition of UNEP
Founder and Director

For around 40 years, Dr. Abumoghli has been focusing on sustainable development, interfaith collaboration, and innovation. He held senior level positions at the UN including as Regional Representative of UNEP in West Asia, Director of Innovation at UNDP's Regional Office for the Arab States, Environment Advisor at the Regional Facility in Beirut, Global Practice Manager for the Environment Group in New York, Assistant Representative of UNDP in Jordan. Dr. Abumoghli holds a doctorate degree in Engineering from University of Bath/UK, and an outstanding graduate of the Virtual Development Academy - Johns University.



CRYSTAL L. PARK, PH.D.
University of Connecticut
Professor of Clinical Psychology

Dr. Crystal L. Park is Professor of Clinical Psychology at the University of Connecticut. Her research focuses on coping with stressful events, including the roles of religious beliefs and meaning making in the context of traumatic events and life-threatening illnesses. Her recent work has focused on integrative approaches to health, especially yoga. She is co-principal investigator of an NIH-funded study of mechanisms of action through which yoga helps low back pain and an NIH-funded research network, Mind-Body Measures and Mechanisms of Emotional Wellbeing. She is co-author of Spirituality, Meaning, and Trauma and Co-Editor of The Handbook of the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality and editor of the journal Psychology of Religion and Spirituality.



Integral Ecology Faith-Based Journeys Towards Ecological Conversion: Sharing strategies for overcoming the dominant technocratic approach to climate change

Laudato Si' Research Institute

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This workshop session will be an interfaith reflexive dialogue that seeks to explore the different pathways in which diverse communities of faith have embraced and practiced the interconnectedness and care of all of nature, to protect and flourish our living planet and how that informs a different take on climate action.

SPEAKERS



DR CARLOS S. ZEPEDA (WORKSHOP LEAD)
Society of Jesus Trust of 1929 for Roman Catholic Purposes.
Laudato Si' Research Institute, Campion Hall,
Univ. of Oxford.
Assistant Director of Policy & Practice

Dr Carlos Zepeda is Assistant Director of Policy and Practice at the Catholic Jesuit and ecological inspired Laudato Si' Research Institute (LSRI), Campion Hall, University of Oxford . He works as a catalyst transforming the Institute's research on integral ecology into action with policy actors and civil society globally especially Indigenous and faith-based communities. His research explores the politics of sustainable development, integral ecology transformative research methodologies and their application across policies and practices in the global South. Carlos is Chair of the Faith for Earth Steering Committee at UNEP.



DR HUSNA AHMAD OBE (Workshop Co-Lead & Facilitator)
Global One
CEO

Dr Husna Ahmad OBE is the CEO of Global One 2015 which is a faith based International NGO focused on women. She has been appointed an Associate Professor at the Department of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham. She is a key Adviser of the newly inaugurated Global Muslim Business Forum GMBF. She is a member of the Multi faith Advisory Council to the UN Inter-agency Task Force on Religion and Development. Dr Ahmad sits on the Steering Committee of The World Bank's Moral Imperative Initiative. She also sits on the Steering Committee of the UN Environment Programme's Faith for Earth initiative.





DR. FACHRUDDIN M. MANGUNJAYA
(Workshop Co-Lead & Facilitator)
School of Graduate Program Universitas Nasional,
Centre for Islamic Studies Universitas Nasional
Professor and Chairman

Dr. Fachruddin M. Mangunjaya is an environmentalist, author, Associate Professor at the School of Graduate Program Universitas Nasional, and the Chairman of the Centre for Islamic Studies Universitas Nasional. Dr. Mangunjaya is a drafting member for the Islamic Declaration for Global Climate Change in Istanbul (2015), a Scholar Member of Al-Mizan Convenance for The Earth, and a member of the Advisory Group for Forum on Religion and Ecology, University of Yale, Advisory for Indonesian Biodiversity Foundation (Yayasan Kehati).



RUTABA TARIQ
Faith for Our Planet
Regional Programme Coordinator

Rutaba is an accomplished youth advocate and emerging scholar with an excellent track record in international affairs, youth empowerment, politics, and policy. She currently works as Regional Program Coordinator for Faith For Our Planet (FFOP), an international faith-based climate action NGO. At FFOP, Rutaba leads initiatives such as the groundbreaking Youth Interfaith Leaders Fellowship on Climate Change at Duke University, USA- one of the world's first fellowship of its kind. Her diverse career also includes key roles, such as Asia's Regional Coordinator for the International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS), Board Member for the Asia Africa Youth Government (AAYG) and as Country Coordinator for OIC's Official Youth Forum, in a position where's she's trained and reached over 50,000 young people around the world. At 25, she was appointed to consult and deliver OIC's first-ever youth policy to heads of states and ministers of its 57 member states.



**DR. ADIL NAJAM,
PRESIDENT OF WWF INTERNATIONAL**

Dr Adil Najam is the president of WWF International. He is a leading public scholar whose teaching, research and public engagement focuses on issues of global public policy especially those related to conservation and environment, sustainable and human development, and climate change in the Global South. Adil Najam is Dean Emeritus of the Frederick S.

Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and continues as Professor of International Relations and of Earth and Environment.

He previously served as Vice Chancellor of the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) in Lahore, Pakistan and as the Director of the Boston University Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future. Dr Najam has also taught at MIT and at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.



Faiths for a Fossil-Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty.

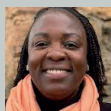
GreenFaith

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will introduce the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and its three pillars: an immediate end to new fossil fuel projects, an equitable phaseout of existing production, and commitments by historic polluters to a just transition.

SPEAKERS



MERYNE WARAH - FACILITATOR
GreenFaith
Global Organizing Director

Based in Nairobi, Kenya, Meryne has worked as Regional Coordinator with the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), where she coordinated PACJA's regional climate justice policy advocacy in 8 African countries. She also served as the Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change at the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
General Secretary

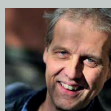
Rev. Bhagwan is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji. Appointed by the General Assembly in 2018 he has been active in reviving PCC relationships, recruiting new partners and increasing the organisation's visibility as well as introducing a five-year strategic plan. Rev Bhagwan holds a Bachelor of Divinity from the Pacific Theological College and a Masters in Theology from Korea.





HARJEET SINGH
Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty
Global Partnerships Director

Harjeet is a global expert on the issues of climate impacts, migration and adaptation and has been supporting countries across the world on tackling climate change. He is also Senior Advisor – Climate Impacts at Climate Action Network - International (CAN-I). Until recently, he has led ActionAid International's climate change work globally.



REVEREND HENRIK GRAPE
World Council of Churches
Senior Advisor on Care for Creation,
Sustainability and Climate Justice

Henrik has worked at the national office of Church of Sweden since year 2000, and as member of ECEN (European Christian Environmental Network) steering committee since 2005 and World Council of Churches (WCC) working group on climate change since 2006. He has been in the planning group of the Uppsala Interfaith Climate Summit (2008) and in the working group that drafted the Church of Sweden Bishops conference bishops letter on Climate Change 2014/2019. He has been a delegate in the WCC delegation to UNFCCC COPs since 2006 and the head of the delegation since 2016.



ALEXANDRA MASAKO GOOSSENS-ISHII
Soka Gakkai International
Representative to the UN, SGI; Programme Coordinator
for Environment & Climate Change

Alexandra works as Programme Coordinator for environment, climate change & biodiversity for Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a community-based Buddhist organization that promotes peace, culture and education. Her work focuses on the UN processes related to the environment, climate change and biodiversity. Based in Geneva, she is advocating from the perspective of human rights, public participation, and environmental and social justice. She is also a member of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration Advisory Board and a co-convenor of the Faiths for Biodiversity coalition.



Faith and Nature: Partners in Landscape Restoration and Nature-Based Solutions

GreenFaith

Time: 3:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Around the world, faith leaders and communities of faith are essential drivers in addressing the challenges of climate change adaptation and mitigation. In this session, distinguished panellists will highlight critical contributions by faith and faith leaders in restoration efforts in climate vulnerable communities. Panellists will also explore and showcase efforts of faith communities in fostering social cohesion and intergenerational dialogue to build foundational trust among communities tackling climate change impact. The aim of the event is to promote promising practices and strategic principles used by faith actors to enhance environmental sustainability and climate action.

SPEAKERS



NANA FIRMAN (MODERATOR)
GreenFaith
Senior Ambassador

Nana Firman is deeply passionate about the green and blue sustainability of this beautiful brown earth. She previously directed WWF-Indonesia's "Green Reconstruction" efforts during a post-tsunami period and developed an urban climate change adaptation/mitigation initiative. She is a LEAD Fellow in Green Economy and is also a Climate Reality Leader. Upon moving to the United States, Nana was featured in Azizah Magazine as one of the Muslim women active in the Green Revolution. In the last 11 years, she has been involved in encouraging the American Muslim community to practice eco-lifestyle which also prompted her to initiate Green Masjid Project for Islamic Society of North America. She was later named the White House Champion of Change for Climate Faith Leaders by President Barrack Obama and received the Alfredo Sirkis Memorial Green Ring Award for Climate Leadership from former Vice President Al Gore. Recently, she was featured in "One Earth: People of Color Protecting Our Planet" among 20 Earth Defenders and in "The World is Our Common Home" among 28 Environmental Activists from many parts of the world.

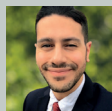


TONY RINAUDO
World Vision Australia
Principal Natural Resources Advisor

Renowned for his work on farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR), in 2018 Tony was recognised with the Right Livelihood Award for his influential contribution to promote - and uptake of - a simple, low cost, scalable method



of reforestation known as FMNR. Prior to his appointment to World Vision, Tony served as an agriculturalist and missionary in Niger from 1981 to 1999. There, he oversaw long-term rural development and contributed to a transformation in how Nigeriens farm, and the reforestation of over six million hectares of land, which still inspires re-greening movements globally.



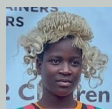
TARIQ AL-OLAIMY
UN Decade for Restoration Advisory Board
Board Member

Tariq Al-Olaimy is co-founder and managing director of an ecosystem of social and planetary enterprises with impact in over 100 countries, including; 3BL Associates, a people + planet strategy consultancy that has advised Nobel Peace Prize laureates and nominees, governments, and corporations on systems transformation; Diversity on Board, a platform promoting equity and responsible leadership on MENA region boards; Public-Planet Partnerships, a framework facilitating regenerative multi-species collaborations; and Recipes for Wellbeing, supporting impact organizations wholebeing. Tariq holds advisory and board roles with the World Economic Forum, UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (UNEP & FAO), The UN Climate Change High-Level Champions - Race to Resilience Campaign, 1t.org youth Hub, the Global Shapers Community, and the EAT Forum—the leading science-based global platform for transforming food systems.EERM



SETH APPIAH-KUBI
A Rocha Ghana
National Director

Dr. Seth Appiah-Kubi is the National Director of A Rocha Ghana. Seth has a strong experience and passion for conservation and the security of natural resources for communities that depend on them. He has been involved in conservation and creation care for almost 15 years and has been a key part in formulating the conservation models used by A Rocha Ghana, involving community-based conservation, conservation education and conservation research. Seth holds a PhD in finance and is a Chartered Management Accountant. He served on both national and international conservation committees, platforms and forums dealing with various protocols relating to the environment, biodiversity and natural resources.



SELESTINA STEVEN
World Vision
Child Advocate

As a 16 year-old, Selestina actively participates in the National Child Parliament, advocating for increased education funding, climate change action, and child protection. She is also an active member of the Bible club at her school as one way of enhancing her spiritual well-being. As a dedicated World Vision young leader, she collaborates with leaders to champion the well-being and rights of children, creating a brighter future for all. As a speaker for the Child Parliament, Selestina leads meetings with young parliamentarians, addressing challenges faced by children in her area and presenting them in parliament. She is a passionate advocate for climate change initiatives like reforestation and gender equality for girls in her community.



Intergenerational Dialogue on the Role of Youth in Adaptation

Climate YES! & Tearfund

Time: 4:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space to explore the role of young people in adapting to the changing climate. How will young people have good green jobs and decent livelihoods, particularly in Africa? What roles can faith groups play? This session will introduce some solutions and some ideas to scale them up, and seek more in a participatory way.

SPEAKERS



JESSICA BWALI (MODERATOR)
Tearfund & Climate YES
Global Advocacy Team Associate

Jessica is based in Lusaka, Zambia. She was a radio presenter and producer for United Voice radio in Lusaka, Zambia. Jessica has also worked on Pan African Radio (Lusaka) and Solwezi Radio (North-Western Province). She works on advocacy communications for Tearfund, Abundant Africa and Renew Our World. She was an African Ambassador of the Methodist Church at COP26. She is a member of the Climate YES ecumenical youth movement.





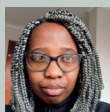
ERIC BAGENZI
Climate YES & RDIS
Chair, Climate YES Rwanda Hub
Director of Environmental Care, RDICS

Eric Bagenzi is a Rwanda National, dedicated and experienced professional with a background in Agriculture and Environmental studies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Soil and Water Management and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Management. He has over 8 years of diverse work experience, including serving as the Director of Environmental Care and Disaster Risk Reduction at RDIS, an NGO dedicated to Environmental Safeguarding and Sustainable Development. He has also participated in various climate change initiatives, including the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice and Climate Yes and serves as Chairman of Climate Yes-Rwanda Hub.



FRED NJEHU
Tearfund
Senior Policy Advisor, Pan African Advocacy

Fred is Tearfund's Senior Policy Advisor for Pan African Advocacy and is based in Nairobi, Kenya. He has worked on climate policy for many years, with Christian Aid and others before Tearfund, and is a COP veteran. Fred is currently researching green jobs and climate.



MANDISA GUMADA
Climate YES & Green Anglicans
Senior Policy Advisor, Pan African Advocacy

I am Mandisa Gumada, an Active Green Anglican and member of Climate YES South Africa, currently working as a Diocesan Children and Youth Coordinator in the Anglican Diocese of Natal (ACSA), I am a lover of Creation Care, passionate about children and youth development in and outside the church. I believe the voice of the young people need not just be listened to with regards to issues of climate change; but also to sanction immediate actions in order to not further be contributors of ignorant acts that see our world in devastation from environment disasters. My motto is: "We can ALL do better"



**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 3

DECEMBER 3RD 2023



Interfaith Feminist Climate Justice for the Human Right to a Healthy Society and Environment

Green Hope Foundation

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Nearly every community—religious, indigenous, or spiritual—impacted by climate change-induced disasters views nature as the primal maternal deity of giving and sustenance, and yet, they continue to exploit the environment, leading to gender inequity that disregards their human right to a safe society and environment. Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is projected to cause 250,000 additional yearly deaths from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress, having an amplified gendered impact on climate-vulnerable communities with weak health infrastructure. This event will host an interfaith and intergenerational panel to share positive interfaith actions being undertaken in climate-vulnerable communities globally.

SPEAKERS



KEHKASHAN BASU, M.S.M.
Green Hope Foundation
Founder-President

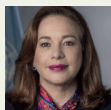
Kehkashan Basu, M.S.M. is an iconic environmentalist, champion of women and children's rights, TEDx speaker, author and musician. She is the recipient of Canada's Meritorious Service Medal and only Canadian to win the International Children's Peace Prize. She is a Forbes 30 Under 30, youngest Trustee of the Parliament of the World's Religions and United Nations Human Rights Champion. Kehkashan is Founder-President of Green Hope Foundation, which works across 28 countries, empowering 500,000+ people in the sustainable development process. She has spoken at over 500 United Nations and other global fora. She is currently an MBA Candidate at Cornell University.



DR. MANOJ KURIAN
WCC Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance
Coordinator

Dr Manoj Kurian is Coordinator of the World Council of Churches-Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, where he leads two Campaigns- Food sovereignty & sustainable agriculture and HIV and AIDS. A medical doctor from Malaysia, trained in Community Health and Health Systems Management, with 30 years experience working in the healing ministry from the grassroots, national and International arena. From 2015, apart from Coordinating WCC-EAA, he also Coordinates the WCC's Section on 'Ecological & Economic Justice' and is the focal person responsible for Asia. Following his postgraduate training in Community Health in India, he worked for seven years in church-related institutions across India.





H.E. MARIA FERNANDA ESPINOSA
GWL Voices
Executive Director

Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa is the Executive Director of GWL Voices. She was the President of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, has more than 20 years of multilateral experience in international negotiations, peace, security, defence, disarmament, human rights, indigenous peoples, gender equality, sustainable development, environment, biodiversity, climate change and multilateral cooperation. She has served Ecuador as Minister of Foreign Affairs (twice), Minister of National Defence, and Coordinating Minister of Natural and Cultural Heritage. She chaired the work of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States in Geneva, and at COP21 Paris.



DANIEL PERELL
Baha'i International Community
United Nations Representative

Daniel Perell is the Baha'i International Community's UN Representative. His areas of work include social and sustainable development, climate change and the environment, global citizenship, human rights, and the role of religion in society. He is formerly a Global Organizing Partner of the NGO Major Group and Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development. In 2010, Mr. Perell received a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and was admitted to the New York State Bar Association.



STEVE CHIU
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
United Nations Representative

Steve Chiu is Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation's Main Representative at the United Nations. In alignment with Tzu Chi'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.



Practical Faith Leadership in Addressing Climate Change

American Jewish Committee

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Under the COP28 theme of Food, Agriculture, and Water, American Jewish Committee (AJC) will convene a panel of global faith leaders to discuss local impact of global warming and reactions to scarcity in their respective communities. In this unique setting, attendees are invited to learn how communities uniquely apply particular and universal faith values, and how their leaders share best practices across religious and geographic boundaries.

SPEAKERS



RABBI NOAM MARANS
American Jewish Committee
Director, Interreligious and Intergroup Relations

Rabbi Noam Marans is American Jewish Committee (AJC)'s Director of Interreligious and Intergroup Relations. He served as chair of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), world Jewry's official dialogue partner with leading faith groups. He was the lead speaker offering Jewish perspectives when Pope Francis convened the world's religions in support of the environment in advance of COP 26. He is a graduate of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, which also recognized him with an honorary doctorate. Earlier this year, Seton Hall University honored Rabbi Marans with its Sister Rose Thering Award for outstanding interreligious leadership.





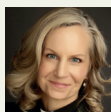
HIS EXCELLENCY SHEIKH AL MAHFOUDH BIN BAYYAH
Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace
Secretary-General

Sheikh al-Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah is the current serving Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace. For the past 10 years, he has also worked under the UAE's Minister of Foreign Affairs. A seasoned diplomat, he has been instrumental in establishing the Forum's flagship programmes including the Marrakech Declaration, the New Alliance of Virtue, and the Charter for Inclusive Citizenship in Arab countries.



SADHVI BHAGAWATI SARASWATI
Divine Shakti Foundation; Global Interfaith WASH Alliance
President; Secretary General

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, PhD is a spiritual leader, motivational speaker and social activist, based in Rishikesh, India. She is the Secretary-General of Global Interfaith WASH Alliance, President of Divine Shakti Foundation, Co-President of Religions for Peace, Director of the International Yoga Festival as well as author of #1 bestselling memoir, Hollywood to the Himalayas: A Journey of Healing and Transformation.



REVEREND CHRISTINE TRAINOR
St. Andrew's Church Abu Dhabi
Senior Priest

The Reverend Christine Trainor serves as the Senior Priest of the Anglican Church in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. She has worked in 12 congregations in the Episcopal and Anglican Churches, including St Bartholomew's Church in New York City, Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, and St. Paul's Cathedral in London. A graduate of Yale University Divinity School, Christine has written and contributed to 14 books on preaching, enriching prayer, and reading Holy Scripture critically and faithfully. She has won scholarships and awards for her preaching, and recently keynoted at a conference for children, youth and educators in the region from South India to Türkiye.



Localizing Faith Action for Human Security in the Face of Climate Change: An African Perspective

PARD Africa Voice

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

By focusing on the African perspective and integrating faith-based approaches, the session aims to enhance understanding, raise awareness of successful localized faith-based initiatives, strengthen collaboration, and develop recommendations and action plans to promote localized faith action for climate change adaptation and mitigation in Africa. Ultimately, the event seeks to contribute to sustainable development efforts and advocate for the integration of faith-based approaches into climate change policies and strategies in Africa.

SPEAKERS



EVANS NYESI
IFAGE And IDEA-Africa
Project Co-Ordinator

Evans Nyesi holds a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree in Development Studies (with Information Technology) from Maseno University, Kenya. He is currently pursuing a Master degree in Theology from Uganda Christian University. Evans has interests on the intersection between religion and public life. He is a social entrepreneur with experience in research and policy development, community system strengthening, interreligious dialogue and stakeholder engagement, training in non-formal education, facilitation, leadership, and management.



DINAH EWURADJOA OGARA
IFAGE And IDEA-Africa
Project Co-Ordinator

Dinah Ewuradjoa Ogara is the Programs Coordinator at the Institute for Development and Leadership in Africa (IDEA for Africa). Within the Partnership for Religion and Development (PaRD), she serves as a co-lead of the WECARE work stream and as the Coordinator of the PaRD Africa Voice forum. With a passion for fostering positive change in coastal cities across Africa, Dinah is an emerging researcher in the field of blue economy. Her expertise lies in sustainable land-sea planning and management, a critical focus area aimed at ensuring the well-being and climate resilience of coastal communities and their marine resources. Dinah holds B.A in Urban Planning (Hons), M.A Planning, MGEO in Urban Planning and management and is currently finalising her PhD in sustainable land-sea planning of coastal cities.





KARIMI KINOTI
African Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice
Member

Karimi is passionate about Africa's social and economic transformation with a keen interest in climate justice, environmental stewardship, and governance. Her vast career experience has included work in regional peace and security, global humanitarian action, community development, food security, inclusive market systems, sustainable energy access, and climate policy. Karimi has held several positions at Christian Aid, including as Head of Africa Division and Policy & Campaigns Director. She was Founding Director of FECCLAHA, a faith-based peacebuilding organisation and worked with the All-Africa Conference of Churches. She is an active member of the Africa Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice.



REV. LESMORE GIBSON EZEKIEL FICA, MAS, PhD
All African Conference of Churches
Director of Programs

The Rev. Lesmore currently serves as the Director of Programs at the All-Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) with its head office in Nairobi. He oversees and coordinates all programs of the organization. Rev. Lesmore holds NCE in Agricultural Science, BA in CRS, B.Th. (Hons), M.Th., Advance Master's in Ecumenism, and a PhD in Ecumenical Theology and Ministerial Studies. He is an unrepentant Pan-Africanist influenced by Afro-philosophy of "Ubuntu". He is known for his passion for a Just World rooted in Justice, Equity and Inclusivity.



IMAM SHEFIU ABDULKAREEM MAJEMU
Strength in Diversity Development Center
Executive Director

Imam Shefiu Abdulkareem Majemu is an indigene of Lagos State from Epe. He is the Chief Imam of the Islamic Platform Society of Nigeria and the Lagos State Public Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC), Magodo GRA, Lagos; Founder and Co-Executive Director of the Strength in Diversity Development Centre, and the Farmers Advocacy and Support Initiative in Nigeria. He is the National Co-Coordinator of the Inter-religious Coalition Against Corruption in Nigeria (ICACN); the Interfaith Partnership for Sustainable Development in Nigeria and the Chief Executive Officer of the Open Farm and Agro-allied Company Limited.



DENIS KODHE
Institute for Development and Leadership in Africa
Director General

Mr. Denise A.O. Kodhe is the immediate past Presiding Officer (President) of the African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council AU-ECOSOCC. He works for the Institute for Development and Leadership in Africa (IDEA) as the Director General. IDEA is a member of the General Assembly of the AU ECOSOCC, International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD). Mr. Kodhe is also a Member of the Advisory Group of the African Human Security Index (AHSI). As a Correspondent by profession Mr. Kodhe is a Member of the Kenya Editors Guild (KEG) which brings together leading and top media Editors from Kenya and from East and Central Africa.



Climate Change, Water and Peace: Adaptation Through Water Cooperation in an Interfaith Environment

UPEACE

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space to analyze the impact of climate change on water resources availability. This session will explore how joint efforts are necessary to address the increasing risk posed by climate change. This session aims to call for the adoption of water cooperation as an increasingly important component of national and regional climate change adaptation strategies and plans. This session will introduce the “we are water” model of water as a tool for peace and cooperation.

SPEAKERS



MOHAMED OSMAN
University for Peace
Representative in Somalia



GUSTAVO CAMPOS FALLAS
Costa Rica
Ambassador to Turkiye



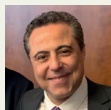
NURIA TESÓN
Journalist
Multi-media journalist



ABDIRAHMAN YUSUF HUSSEIN AYNTÉ
Ministry of International Cooperation, Somalia
Former Minister



HENRY L. DENEEN
Global Hope Network International
Executive Director in Geneva



MEDIATE ESKANDAR
Geneva Institute for Leadership and Public Policy
executive director





DAVID FERNÁNDEZ PUYANA
University for Peace
Ambassador to UN Geneva



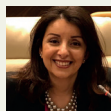
DAPHNÉ RICHEMOND BARAK
Reichman University
Professor at Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy, strategy



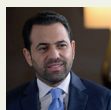
LEON SALTIEL
World Jewish Congress
Representative to UN Geneva



MOHAMED LEVRACK
University of Rouen-Normandie and UPEACE
Researcher & expert on mission



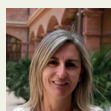
SOMIA DJACTA
ICESCO
Permanent Delegate to UNESCO



JUDGE MOHAMMED ABDELSALAM
Muslim Council of Elders
Secretary General



FRANCISCO ROJAS ARAVENA
University for Peace
Rector



CARMEN PARRA RODRIGUEZ
UNESCO Chair on Peace, Abat Oliba University CEU
Director



ALEX MEJÍA
UNITAR
Director of Division for People and Social Inclusion



FRANCISCO CHACÓN
Costa Rica
Ambassador to UAE



CARLOS GARRIGA
We are water foundation
Director



Moving Faith Forward: Youth Leadership and Faith-Based Climate Advocacy

Soka Gakkai International

Time: 4:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

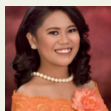
This session will provide a space for Youth leaders from faith and spiritual backgrounds who are engaged in high-level climate policy, including as national delegates and representatives of FBOs, to reflect on the role of faith in their work and to share key learnings, insights and practical tips.

SPEAKERS



MIRIAM SILVERMAN ISRAEL (MODERATOR)
UNEP Faith for Earth
Intern, Law Division

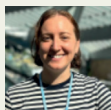
Miriam is a third-year dual degree student at the Fletcher School, Tufts University and the Harvard Divinity School where she studies international environmental policy, human security and the role of religious communities in responding to climate change. She focuses on climate adaptation and local resilience, as well as strategies for coping with climate grief for climate professionals. At UNEP, Miriam supports outreach to faith actors and coordination of the Faith Pavilion at COP28. Previously, she worked on international democracy and inclusive governance issues in Washington, DC.



PRECIOUS DONNA GIFT JAYNO
FIMCAP
COP28 Delegate

Precious Donna Gift Jayno is a 23-year-old civil engineer in Cebu City, Philippines. Her long membership in Chiro Pilipinas, a church-based youth organization, has molded her into a leader in the organization and in her barangay or village. Her exposure to the realities of her community led her to become the Head of the National Social Action Committee, which focuses on environmental protection and solidarity, for which she advocates. She believes that to love God and his creations means protecting the earth and its people. She is part of the COP28 delegation of FIMCAP, a network of catholic youth organizations.





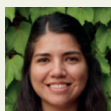
LUCY PLUMMER
Soka Gakkai International
National Youth Leader (UK)
and Youth Consultant at SGI UN Office

Lucy has worked professionally with and for youth in various roles at the national and international level for more than a decade. Lucy has a bachelors in Youth Studies and a masters in Sustainable Development, with her area of expertise being young people's participation in climate and environmental policy processes. Lucy has co-ordinated numerous youth engagement groups and projects on behalf of institutions and NGOs, including faith-based organisations and UN offices. She is currently serving as a Youth Consultant for the Soka Gakkai International Office for UN Affairs. Lucy is an advocate for youth inclusion at the UN and plays an active role in advancing young people's inclusion in climate processes as a member of the UNFCCC children and youth constituency group, YOUNGO.



TAAHIR BULBULIA
Government of Barbados
Barbados Youth Ambassador to the UN

Taahir Bulbulia is a youth leader from the beautiful island of Barbados. He possesses a Bachelor's in Sports Science with a specialization in Sport Management from the University of West Indies Cave Hill Campus. Taahir has a passion for youth, sports and national development. Taahir has served on the Cave Hill Guild of Students as the first ever Faculty of Sport Representative. In his tenure he founded the historic Sports Science Society, a student-based organization that seeks to promote the holistic benefits of sports to a nation and provide opportunities to learn, grow and develop in the field of sport. Taahir has also served as the Vice President of the Guild.



SILVANA MABEL PERALTA BOGARIN
Ministry of the Environment
and Sustainable Development of Paraguay
Technical Specialist for the Adaptation Department

Silvana has rich experience in analyzing and developing policies focused on climate change adaptation. She has helped update the National Adaptation Plan and led the construction of a roadmap for adaptation towards 2030 for her home country (Paraguay). Furthermore, Silvana has experience in capacity-building where she has developed training programs for indigenous and other vulnerable communities on ecosystem-based adaptation."



Afrodescendant People's Day: Hope and Resilient Communities Against Climate Change

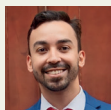
Global Coalition Against Systemic Racism and Reparations

Time: 5:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session is dedicated to tackling the pressing challenges confronting Afro-descendant communities in the face of climate change. Acknowledging their heightened vulnerability, we will emphasize the distinct impacts on the youth and Black women within these communities. The objective of this dialogue is to gather invaluable insights aimed at formulating an internationally recognized Afro-climate justice agenda. This agenda will play a pivotal role in fostering global cooperation to secure funding for projects related to damage and loss recovery. Furthermore, the session will place significant emphasis on enhancing the capacity of Afro-descendant communities to adapt and build resilience in the face of climate change.

SPEAKERS



ARIEL ROMERO

**Global Coalition Against Systemic Racism and for Reparations
Consultant for the Afro-Climate Justice Program**

Romero is a law professional with studies in political science. He is a specialist in sustainability, cooperation and planning with a gender perspective. Professionally he has served as an advisor in the Legislative Assembly, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and the Vice Presidency of the Republic of Costa Rica. He is currently a consultant on human rights and sustainability projects, and works for the Afro-Climate Justice program of the Global Coalition against Systemic Racism and for Reparations. Ariel is a young climate activist and works from two environmental organizations Green Wolf and Madre Tierra, where he directs environmental education, political advocacy and volunteer projects.



EPSY CAMPBELL

**United Nations Permanent Forum on People
of African Descent
President**

Epsy Campbell is former vice president of Costa Rica, having served from 2018 to 2022. She is currently the president of the United Nations Permanent Forum on People of African Descent and the president of the Pan American Health Organization's High-Level Commission on Mental Health and COVID-19. When serving as the Costa Rican vice president, she made history as the first Afro-descendant woman to hold such a prestigious position in the western hemisphere. As an Afro-Costa Rican leader, she has also been a two-time member of parliament and has served as minister of foreign affairs and worship. As an advocate against systemic racism, Campbell Barr leads the charge as the principal propeller of the Global Coalition Against Systemic Racism and for Reparations.





PAOLA ORTIZ

Afro-descendant Institute for Research, Study and Development Consultant

Paola Ortiz is a Government and International Relations professional with a specialty in Harvard Business School Executive Education. She is also a specialist in Local, Regional, and Economic Development. She has worked as a project coordinator for the ACUA-FIDA Foundation and is currently an integral environment professional for Ecopetrol, the largest energy company in Colombia. She is an activist and consultant in Afro-descendant organizations, and an expert in energy transition in Afro-descendant communities.



IGOR CORREA CAICEDO

**Council Permanent of Afro-descendants of the Americas
Executive Secretary**

He is the Executive Secretary of the Council Permanent of Afro-descendants of the Americas (COPAFRO) and President of the Mutual Banking of Opportunities (BMO). He has previously been an International Consultant for SGCAN; He has also been advisor-coordinator of the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia (Presidential Rights Program Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law). Currently, Mr. Correa, concerned about new forms of slavery, related to economic rights in the field of Human Rights, is developing, together with other collaborators, the first Bank of Mutual Opportunities in Colombia, as a community model for development socioeconomic and to promote financial freedom. Just as well, it comes promoting, together with other leaders in the region, from Washington DC, the creation of the First Economic Fund for Afro-descendant Development, before the Bank World. He is Co-Founder of the Global Coalition Against Systemic Racism and for Reparations



EMIGDIO CUESTA

**Afro-Colombian Pastoral Center Corporation - CEPAC
Coordination Team of Afro-Colombian Pastoral**

Born in Bojayá, Chocó. He is an Afro-Colombian Religious Priest and Missionary of the Divine Word. He graduated in Theology from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá headquarters. He is a specialist in Management from the Pontifical Bolivarian University / Missionary Institute of Anthropology. Since 2008 he is a member of the National Coordination Team of Afro-Colombian Pastoral, of the Afro-Colombian Pastoral Center Corporation - CEPAC. He is part of the National Convergence of Afro-Colombian Organizations, CNOA, since its inception and since 2005 he has served as its Executive Secretary. From his life experience he has closely followed the journey of the Afro organizations of the Atrato Medio Chocoano and Antioquia, accompanying the communities in the construction of life plans for the defense and enforceability of their right to exist with dignity as a differentiated ethnic group. strengthening their autonomy and resistance in their own territory.

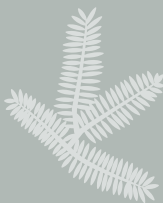




**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 4

DECEMBER 4TH 2023



Intersection of Financing, Ethics, Human Rights and Climate Justice: Vital Role of Faith Actors

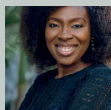
**All Africa Conference of Churches
Christian Aid**

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This panel event will critically examine the nexus of financing, human rights, and climate justice, from a faith and ethics perspective. During the event, we'll be asking important questions about the role of faith actors in mobilizing communities and advocating on climate justice issues. Our panel will be comprised of faith leaders, policy experts and negotiators, with expertise and experience advocating on climate justice and finance. We'll ask speakers to reflect on how their spiritual beliefs has motivated their own climate advocacy. We plan to invite a negotiator or Government representative to offer their reflections on important role of faith actors.

SPEAKERS



OSAI OJIGHO (SPEAKER / MODERATOR)
Christian Aid
Director of Policy and Campaigns

Osai Ojigho is responsible for leading Christian Aid's advocacy and public campaigning, and its research, policy, and learning in the UK and internationally. She has extensive experience working in international development, with civil society organizations, grassroots movements, feminist networks, youth groups, governments, donors, and inter-governmental agencies. She has actively engaged on key issues, including advocating for international justice before the UN, African Union, European Union, International Criminal Court, Inter-American System, ECOWAS, and the Pan-African Parliament. Her career spans various roles with Amnesty International, Oxfam, the African Union Mission in Mali and the Sahel, and Alliances for Africa.





IMAM MALLAM MOHAMMED ABOUDAKA
All Africa Conference of Churches
Member of Africa Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice

Imam Mallam Mohammed Aboudaka is an Islamic Religious Minister from Cameroon. Imam Mallam is a member of the All Africa Conference of Churches' Africa Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice (AFAN-CJ). He is the Imam of Buea and a former Muslim Chaplain at the University of Buea. Imam Mallam has been the Imam of Central Mosque Buea since 2007. He is the South-West Regional President of the Council of Imams and Muslim Dignitaries of Cameroon (CIDIMUC), Secretary General of South West Muslim Community (SOWEEMUC), and a Member of the Program for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCUMURA).



HENRIK GRAPE
World Council of Churches
Senior Advisor on Care for Creation, Sustainability
and Climate Justice

Henrik Grape has worked at the national office of Church of Sweden since year 2000, and as member of ECEN (European Christian Environmental Network) steering committee since 2005 and World Council of Churches (WCC) working group on climate change since 2006. He has been in the planning group of the Uppsala Interfaith Climate Summit (2008) and in the working group that drafted the Church of Sweden Bishops conference bishops letter on Climate Change 2014/2019. He has been a delegate in the WCC delegation to UNFCCC COPs since 2006 and the head of the delegation since 2016.



MERYNE WARAH
Greenfaith
Global Director of Organizing

Meryne Warah is the climate change specialist and serves as Global Director of Organizing of GreenFaith. Meryne is a passionate and visionary leader who is on a mission to create a more just and sustainable world. She has over 10 years of experience in managing and implementing projects on gender, environment, and climate change across Africa. She has worked with diverse stakeholders, including inter-religious groups, civil society organizations, government agencies, and international partners, to advocate for policies and practices that promote social and ecological justice.



Pastoral Care and Support for Negotiators

UUSC

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This side event leverages the unique role and power that faith leaders have in influencing and shaping the spirit of the negotiations. SB58 did not advance the goals of civil society and lacked the moral authority it needed for a productive and progressive discussion at COP28 to advance climate justice for those we serve. This daily interfaith-negotiator event will provide moral support through pastoral care to any negotiator as they need it to help the negotiations and closed room discussions bolster the collective courage, wisdom and care that our leaders possess.

SPEAKERS



REV. MARY KATHERINE MORN
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
President

After 30 years in faith-based leadership, the Rev. Mary Katherine Morn joined UUSC as President and Lead Executive Officer in 2018. She has helped to grow a number of progressive congregations serving their members and the larger community. Mary Katherine contributed to efforts for economic, racial, and social justice in Macon, Georgia at the Economic Opportunity Council/Headstart with the NAACP. She also worked deeply in the reproductive justice movement. In Nashville, Tennessee, she collaborated with the Interfaith Alliance and Industrial Areas Foundation. In Fairfax, Virginia, she worked with interfaith ministries addressing hunger and homelessness, collaborated with LGBTQI+ advocacy organizations, and served on the county's homelessness task force.





MERYNE WARAH
GreenFaith
Global Organizing and Campaigns Director

Meryne services as the Global Organizing and Campaigns Director at GreenFaith. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She previously worked as Senior Project Director at the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), where she coordinated PACJA's regional climate justice policy advocacy in 8 African countries. She also served as the Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change at the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
General Secretary

Rev James Bhagwan is the General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, a role he has held since 2018. He is an ordained Minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji and held the role of Secretary for Communications and Overseas Mission with the church between 2013 and 2017. He has a master's degree in theology majoring in Christian Social Ethics. He is a strong advocate for the Reweaving of the Ecological Mat as an issue of Pacific self-determination and a gift to the world.



DAY 4 - DECEMBER 4TH 2023

Climate-Forced Migration & Displacement, Faith & Indigenous Peoples

UUSC

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This panel will discuss how climate forced migration and displacement are occurring in various regions of the world, how government and multilateral responses are inadequate in protecting human rights protections and the role of faith and religious groups in supporting affected populations. It will also include how indigenous peoples are using their indigenous knowledge and values in responding to this critical issue and how Indigenous and religious values intersect.

SPEAKERS



RACHEL FREED (MODERATOR)
UUSC
Vice President & Lead Program Officer

Rachel Gore Freed is the Vice President of Programs at UUSC, a human rights lawyer, resource mobilizer, philanthropic connector, community organizer, and social justice educator. Rachel has spent her career working with communities organizing in the face of corporate capture, government inaction, and systemic injustice around the world. She has supported youth peacekeepers in Northern India, prosecuted rebel forces in Sierra Leone, and litigated against Exxon for violations of community rights in the United States. Rachel co-chairs the International Human Rights Funders Network and is an adjunct professor of law at Northeastern Law school's Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy.





REV. ALICIA FORDE
Unitarian Universalist Association
International Office Director

The Reverend Alicia Roxanne Forde serves with the Unitarian Universalist Association as the Director of the International Office. She is a graduate of The Iliff School of Theology and currently lives in Longmont, Colorado. Alicia was born and spent her formative years in Trinidad and Tobago. She identifies as an African descent queer, cis-gender female with deep roots in Tobago. She considers herself bi-cultural and is grateful that her formative years enabled her to cultivate a global perspective. Alicia is a certified Spiritual Director and has a strong interest in health and wellness. When she's not hiking, you can find her reading, working-out, or podcast-walking.



JOSEPH SIKULU
Pacific Climate Warriors
Pacific Regional Director

Joseph Sikulu is a Tongan man from Ha'apai and Vaini in Tongatapu. He grew up in Darug Country or Western Sydney, Australia as it is known today. He serves as the Pacific Managing Director for 350.org and serves as the Secretariat for the Pacific Climate Warriors. He is an Environmental, Cultural, and Queer activist finding his strength in the cross-section of these communities from people who like him are fighting to shift the narrative and create a more just and equitable world.



Islamic Social Finance for Climate Action

GreenPeace and UNHCR

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will explore the critical role of Islamic Social Finance in addressing global humanitarian and climate challenges. The main focus will be on the role of Islamic Social Finance in responding to displacement crises, with pioneering practices of UNHCR Zakat, Sadaqah, and Waqf in funding sustainable solutions. Moreover, the collaborative efforts between GEFI and Greenpeace Ummah for Earth in the realm of Islamic Finance and climate action will be shared to advance global climate efforts.

SPEAKERS



CAROLINE FARAJ (MODERATOR)
CNN
Vice-President; Editor-in-Chief, CNN Arabic

CNN VP, CNN Bureau Chief Dubai (UAE). Passionate storyteller/journalist for more than 30 years, launched CNN Arabic together with the first CNN bureau in the GCC in 2002. Holds an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science from City University of London. Interested in new media, youth creativity and freedom of expression.



KHALED KHALIFA
UNHCR
UNHCR Representative to the GCC

Senior Advisor & Representative to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). A professional humanitarian worker with more than 25 years of experience in relief and development. Khaled leads UNHCR's Islamic philanthropy activities globally and successful the Refugee Zakat Fund in 26 countries since 2017.





NANA FIREMAN
Greenfaith
Senior ambassador

Nana previously directed WWF-Indonesia's "Green Reconstruction" efforts during a post-tsunami period developing an urban climate change adaptation/mitigation initiative. She is a LEAD Fellow in Green Economy and is also a Climate Reality Leader. In the last 11 years, she encouraged the American Muslim community to practice eco-lifestyle which also prompted her to initiate Green Masjid Project for Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). She was later named the White House Champion of Change for Climate Faith Leaders by President Barrack Obama and received the Alfredo Sirkis Memorial Green Ring Award for Climate Leadership from former Vice President Al Gore.



PETER GOULD
Gould Studio
Founder & CEO

Peter Gould leads a strategic design team based in Sydney, Dubai & Jakarta. Gould Studio advocates for 'heart-centered design' to create meaningful brands, cross-cultural understanding and spiritually-inspired positive change. Over nearly 20 years, his clients have included United Nations, Greenpeace, Dubai Culture and a diverse portfolio from senior government projects to \$100m startups. He is a recipient of the Stanford Certificate of Innovation & Entrepreneurship and has lectured Design Thinking at the University of Technology, Sydney.



OMAR SHAIKH
Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI)
Director and Co-founder

Omar is a chartered accountant with over 15 years as a leading advocate for ethical and responsible finance with extensive experience in advising multiple governments and regulators on financial inclusion policy. Omar worked with EY London as a former Head of Islamic finance and launched the award-winning Edinburgh Ethical Finance Round Table series which led to the inception of the Ethical Finance Hub and GEFI. Omar established the Ethical Finance Summit, the Finance for nature project with UNDP, the interfaith Edinburgh Finance Declaration and others. GEFI launched the Path to COP26 campaign, bringing together stakeholders to advance climate finance.





GREEN SHEIKH

SHEIKH ABDUL AZIZ BIN ALI BIN RASHID AL NUAIMI

Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Ali bin Rashid Al Nuaimi is a member of the Royal Family of Ajman in the United Arab Emirates, as well as an Environmental Advisor to the Government of Ajman.

He has dedicated his life to creating a more sustainable and equitable future for all. With his tireless work in the field of environmental advocacy, he has earned the title of "Green Sheikh," and has become a leading figure in the global sustainability movement. He is the founder of the Green Sheikh Academy, which is dedicated to empowering leaders and future generations to create positive change and make a real impact on the world.

He has a PhD in Ecosystems and Cleaner Production from Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia, as well as a Master's Degree in Environment Management and Science and a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical-Petroleum Engineering.

He also graduated from the Royal Military Academy of Sandhurst, obtaining many certificates of Diplomas in Environmental and Leadership Studies along the way. Sheikh Abdul Aziz has authored several books on environmentalism, altruism, and personal development. His recent co-authorship with Luke Coutinho on the book "The Dry Fasting Miracle" is also noteworthy.

Faith-consistent investing for tackling climate and climate change-induced poverty

FIIND

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session aims to educate faith-based organizations (FBOs) on how to tackle climate change and poverty through faith-consistent investing. Aside from being charitable organizations, FBOs are also large asset owners and investing bodies (e.g., of capital, real estate, and land). As such, FBOs have immense power to help close the SDG funding gap and generate positive change. Unfortunately, these assets are often invested into businesses that are counter-productive to their mission and harm people and planet. This session will discuss how FBOs can realign their portfolio to their faith values, and which climate solutions effective and investable.

SPEAKERS



MAARTEN TOUSSAINT, BA, MBM
FIIND Impact Foundation
Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer (COO)

Maarten is co-founder and COO of FIIND Impact Foundation. Maarten has over 20 years of client services, project management and operations experience. He has worked in various roles as Partner, Owner, Operations Director, Client Services Director, and Management Team member at large global Brand Design agencies working for the largest global financials like ING. In his last role as COO he managed a company of 90 people, with approximately 85 projects running concurrently, for large multinationals. Maarten holds a BA from The Utrecht Business School (Economy and Communication) and a Master of Brand Management title from the Erasmus University Rotterdam.





DR. SOPHIE ROBÉ, CFA
FIIND Impact Foundation
Co-Founder and CEO

Sophie is co-founder and CEO of FIIND Impact Foundation, which supports institutional investors (including FBOs) in building impact investing mandates, sourcing values-aligned investments, conducting investment and impact due diligence on funds, and measuring impact. Prior to this, she founded and was co-CEO of Phenix Capital, an impact investing intermediary (2012-2020). In addition, she served as Director at Jupiter Asset Management in London (2002-2012) and a Vice President and Head of Quantitative Equity Analysis at Commerzbank Asset Management in Germany (1997-2002). She is a CFA Charter holder and has a PhD in Economics from the University of Kassel in Germany.



KARINA SOEMARWOTO
FIIND Impact Foundation
Impact Change Advisor

Karina is Impact Change Advisor at FIIND Impact Foundation. In 2021, the Foundation launched Faith Impact Project: grant-funded platform dedicated to mobilizing faith-based organizations (FBOs) into faith-consistent impact investing. Karina has led the research and writing effort throughout the project, alongside her focus on Islamic finance. Prior to working in sustainable finance, she was a physicist working in medical research at Leiden University Medical Center. Karina has an MSc in Physics and Business Studies, and an MA in Middle Eastern Studies from Leiden University. Karina knows English, Dutch, Indonesian and Arabic.



SOFIA BARTHOLDY
Church Commissioners for England
Responsible Investment Integration Director

Sofia is the strategic lead for the Commissioners' approach to climate change and RI integration, including impact/solutions. Her responsibilities include implementing a strategy to meet the Commissioners' Net Zero by 2050 target and working with the investment teams to monitor external asset managers' RI practices and sustainability outcomes of the underlying portfolio across ESG themes and asset classes. In addition, she is on the Board of Directors of the Transition Pathway Initiative Ltd and she co-leads the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Track at the Net Zero Asset Owners Alliance.



Harnessing Diversity: Gender, Faith, and Climate Change – Uniting for a Sustainable Future

Global One 2015

Time: 3:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space for cross-sectoral dialogue, collaborative strategies, and the empowerment of diverse voices to address climate change equitably and sustainably. This session will aim to highlight the role of gender-responsive and faith-based approaches in addressing climate change impacts as well as showcase successful initiatives and best practices that integrate gender, faith, and climate action. This session will introduce intersectional solutions, ethical imperatives, and diverse collaboration as keys to combat climate change equitably and foster a sustainable future. This session will explore the synergy between gender perspectives, faith-based initiatives, and climate action, highlighting the powerful potential of these intersections.

SPEAKERS



DR. HUSNA AHMAD (SPEAKER / MODERATOR)
Global One 2015
Chief Executive Officer

Dr Husna Ahmad OBE is the CEO of Global One 2015 which is a faith based International NGO focussed on women. She has been appointed an Associate Professor at the Department of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham. She is a key Adviser of the newly inaugurated Global Muslim Business Forum GMBF. She is a member of the Multi faith Advisory Council to the UN Inter-agency Task Force on Religion and Development. Dr Ahmad sits on the Steering Committee of The World Bank's Moral Imperative Initiative. She also sits on the Steering Committee of the UN Environment Programme's Faith for Earth initiative.



PROFESSOR JAGBIR JHUTTI-JOHAL OBE
University of Birmingham
Professor of Sikh Studies

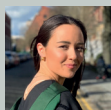
Jagbir Jhutti-Johal is a Professor of Sikh Studies in the Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham. She has over 25 years' experience in teaching and research, and provides extensive knowledge and experience in Sikh theology, inter-faith dialogue and contemporary issues, especially contested issues that confront the community, nationally and globally. Jagbir was a Commissioner on The Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life (CORAB), convened in 2013 by The Woolf Institute. She is regularly called upon by policymakers to provide a Sikh input into consultations. She is a steering group member on the UK Freedom of Religion or Belief Forum.





NOUHAD AWWAD
Greenpeace MENA
Ummah for Earth campaigner, and Global Outreach Coordinator

Nouhad Awwad is the Ummah for Earth campaigner and Global Outreach Coordinator at Greenpeace-MENA. She holds a BSc. in environmental health and a master's degree in Environmental Sciences with a concentration in environmental policy planning from the American University of Beirut. Nouhad also got a certificate from Duke University for completing the One Health Program; in addition, she attended a course on U.S Foreign Policy in Global Era at Elliott School of International Affairs at the University of George Washington University. In 2015, Nouhad started the Arab youth climate movement chapter in Lebanon and participated in COP21 then the years after she attended COP22, COP23, COP24, COP25, and COP26 as an observer.



ARIANNA ABDUL-NOUR
Head UK Youth Delegate to COP28, Carribean Climate
Justice Academy and Island Innovation
Youth Delegate and Project Manager

As the current Head UK Youth Delegate to COP28 with the Future Leaders Network, Arianna's work focuses on the effects of climate change on different communities around the world. In this role, Arianna heads the UNFCCC UK youth delegation team, negotiating with international delegates, ministers and academics to develop the United Nations climate change policy communiqué. Alongside this, Arianna is the Project Manager for Island Innovation, leading on global on projects that help advance innovation and drive sustainable change across island communities worldwide. Within this role, she leads the Innovation's Caribbean Climate Justice Leader's Academy (CCJLA), which trains young Caribbean citizens up in UNFCCC negotiations and grants them a fully funded opportunity to attend COP.



H.E. PROF. IBRAHIM SALEH AL NAIMI
Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue
Chairman

His Excellency, Dr. Ibrahim Bin Saleh Al-Naimi is currently the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Qatar. Prior to his appointment as the Undersecretary by the Emir of Qatar, His Highness, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, Professor Ibrahim Al-Naimi was the founder and President of the Community College of Qatar from 2008 to May 2018. Under his leadership, the college developed more than 17 associate and bachelor degree programs and grew to become the fastest growing higher education institution in the State of Qatar. He is Chairman of "Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue" since its establishing in 2007.



Women of Faith for Rights and Resilience: Taking Stock of Lessons Learned from Decades of Climate Action

Religions for Peace

Global Peace Initiative of Women

Time: 4:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

In this 90-minute session, Religions for Peace and the Global Peace Initiative of Women (GPIW), in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United States Institute of Peace (USIP), and University for Peace (UPEACE), will showcase Religions for Peace Guardians of the Rainforest video which highlights the critical role of Indigenous women leaders as they serve at the frontlines of protecting the world's remaining rainforests and upholding human rights amidst the climate crisis. This will be followed by an interactive panel discussion that addresses the intersectionality between women of faith, climate, and human rights, and explores opportunities to advance a multi-religious and multi-stakeholder Faith4Rights approach to ensure inclusive and sustainable climate advocacy and action

SPEAKERS



MS. DEEPIKA SINGH (SPEAKER / MODERATOR)

Religions For Peace

Associate Secretary General & Director Of Programmes

Ms. Deepika Singh is the Associate Secretary General and Director of Programmes at Religions for Peace, where she directs and monitors the overall programme strategy and implementation, work that is informed by almost two decades of professional experience in international affairs and development, including service in USAID-funded programmes in Nepal and consultancies with UNDP, UNICEF, and other international NGOs. At Religions for Peace, Deepika leads a team who ensure the effective implementation of programmes related to peace and security, human rights and sustainable development, across the Religions for Peace movement of Inter-religious Councils in more than 90 countries, and their Women of Faith Networks and Interfaith Youth Networks working at the local, national, regional and global levels.



PROF. DR. MOHAMMAD SIRAJUDDIN SYAMSUDDIN

Indonesian Council Of Ulama

Chairman Of CDCC

Dr. Syamsuddin is Professor of Islamic Political Thought at National Islamic University, Jakarta. He served as President of Muhammadiyah, the largest modernist Islamic organisation in Indonesia (2005-2015), as well as President (2014-2015), and Chairman of the Advisory Council of Indonesian Council of Ulama (2015-2020). He serves as the Chairman of the Center for Dialogue and Cooperation among Civilizations (CDCC), and Chairman of World Peace Forum in Jakarta. He initiated the creation of Indonesia's Movement to Save the Earth and serves as Chairman of its Steering Committee.





DR IBRAHIM SALAMA (VIRTUAL)
UN Office Of The High Commissioner For Human Rights
Chief, Human Rights Treaties Branch

Dr Ibrahim Salama is the Chief of the Human Rights Treaties Branch at the Office of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), where he also leads the 'Faith for Rights' programme. Previously, he headed the UN Secretariat for the preparatory process of the 2009 UN World Conference Against Racism (Durban Review Conference), and was also an independent expert of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development.



MR. MIHIR MATHUR
Desta Research Llp, Gpiw
Founder; Consultant

Mihir collaborates with various organisations, and groups of people to advance climate action initiatives. Employing a systems thinking approach, he assists philanthropies, non profit organisations, and private companies in adopting a holistic perspective towards sustainability. His journey into the realm of sustainability began during his time in the financial markets, and since then, he has been tirelessly engaged in discovering models for a more equitable and sustainable world. Mihir's passion for sustainability extends to his creative endeavours. He does theatre and creates music to use the power of art to convey the critical message of sustainability



MS. PRADNYA MATHUR
Global Peace Initiative Of Women
Consultant

Pradnya is on the path of exploring and learning the wisdom of Mother Earth. She uses Systems Thinking as a core approach to understand current problems and formulate plausible solutions for developing sustainable ecosystems. She has worked on solutions to water overexploitation like community-based water budgeting, water use efficiency, and regenerative agriculture. With 12 years of sustainability experience across various sectors, she recognises the essence of climate wisdom and founded "Dharinya – Wisdom for Earth Healing". She believes individual healing and Earth wisdom are pivotal, emphasising the shift from linear to holistic thinking for systemic solutions and conscious living.





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 5

**DECEMBER 5TH
2023**



DAY 5 - DECEMBER 5TH 2023

Advancing Understanding for Our Common World

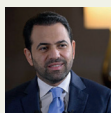
Muslim Council of Elders

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session discusses strategies of how faith-based organizations and religious figures can promote understanding at the local, national, and international levels and will highlight how meaningful collaboration across religions is crucial to advancing environmental justice

SPEAKERS



JUDGE MOHAMED ABDELSALAM
Muslim Council of Elders
Secretary-General

Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam is Secretary-General of the Muslim Council of Elders, an international independent organization dedicated to promoting peace among Muslim communities, and between Muslim and non-Muslim communities. He assisted in drafting the Document on Human Fraternity, a historic declaration signed by His Holiness Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar on February 4, 2019. Pope Francis awarded Judge Abdelsalam papal knighthood for his services towards spreading acceptance and interfaith dialogue. He is the first Arab and Muslim to be awarded this accolade.



REVEREND JOHNNIE MOORE
Congress of Christian Leaders
President

Rev. Johnnie Moore is president of JDA Worldwide and president of the Congress of Christian Leaders. Rev. Moore's many awards and honors include the Simon Wiesenthal Center's prestigious Medal of Valor. He was twice appointed to the US Commission for International Religious Freedom by the President of the United States, serving across the Biden and Trump administrations.



SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space to hear indigenous perspectives on the climate crisis. Distinctively, the dialogue will be in Spanish with English translation, through which we hope to honour non-English speakers at COP28. Bishop Julio of Panama and Jocabed Solano of the Guna people will host a dialogue about what can be learned from indigenous spirituality, use of the land, relationships in community and business. The session aims to enrich our mindsets, moving away from what has damaged indigenous land and ways of life for centuries, and now are damaging all of humanity.

SPEAKERS



THE RT REVD JULIO MURRAY
Anglican Communion (Anglican Consultative Council)
Bishop of the Anglican Episcopal Diocese of Panama and
Anglican Communion Climate Change lead

Bishop Julio Murray was previously Primate of Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America (IARCA). Locally in Panamá, Bishop Julio has been very actively involved with the Government as member of the High-Level Dialogue for the Bicentennial Pact. He is also President of Panamá's Ecumenical and Interfaith Committees. On behalf of the Anglican Communion, he Chairs the Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN) and took part in COP 25 in Spain, COP 26 in Glasgow, COP 27 in Egypt. At COP26 he was invited to speak on the BBC's Sunday Programme and in several interfaith initiatives. He also serves as Board Member of the Anglican Alliance and Chair of Phase III for the Lambeth Conference Steering Committee.



MS. JOCABED SOLANO
Memoria Indígena
Co-Director

Jocabed Solano is from the Gunadule nation, an Indigenous people which are one of seven original ethnic groups in Panama. She is a missionary with United World Mission and her work involves walking with and learning from Indigenous peoples; facilitating processes of dialogue with Indigenous peoples, starting from the narratives and memories of these Indigenous peoples; encouraging Indigenous peoples to write and record the stories of their communities Christian women and men among them; articulating Indigenous theological approaches that emerge from and for Indigenous communities; and recognizing the good news of Jesus interwoven into the identities of Indigenous peoples in Abya Yala (America).



DAY 5 - DECEMBER 5TH 2023

Overcoming barriers to a just transition

Inclusive Capitalism

and Anglican Consultative Council

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will facilitate dialogue between faith actors, finance institutions, business leaders, and states on how to make the just transition a reality. It will address the issue of overcoming barriers to investment in climate mitigation and adaptation in emerging markets. In addition, it will focus on the role business can play in driving a just transition. It will offer the start of a conversation about the challenges and opportunities that will be involved and aim to create opportunities for further discussion and development of relationships and collaboration across sectors to transition to a net-zero economy.

SPEAKERS



LYNN FORESTER DE ROTHSCILD
Council for Inclusive Capitalism
Founder/CEO/Co-Chair

Lady Lynn Forester de Rothschild is Founder, Co-Chair, and CEO of the Council for Inclusive Capitalism, a global not-for-profit which catalyzes actions that transform capitalism and make economies and societies more inclusive, dynamic, sustainable, and trusted. She founded the Council with about 20 business leaders at a meeting with His Holiness Pope Francis in 2019. Lynn is also the Chief Executive of E.L. Rothschild LLC and a member of the Board of Directors and Nominating & ESG Committee of The Estée Lauder Companies. She previously served on the boards of The Economist Group, Gulfstream, General Instruments, Bronfman-Rothschild, and Weather Central.





H.E. WAVEL RAMKALAWAN
Republic of the Seychelles
President

Wavel Ramkalawan is a Seychellois politician and Anglican priest who has served as the president of Seychelles since 26 October 2020. Ramkalawan was an opposition MP from 1993 to 2011 and 2016 to 2020. He also served as the Leader of the Opposition from 1998 to 2011 and 2016 to 2020.



ARCHBISHOP JULIO MURRAY
Anglican Communion
Anglican Bishop of Panama

Archbishop Julio E. Murray is the Anglican Bishop of Panama. He was elected Diocesan Bishop in a Special Convention in 2000 and is a member of the Afro-Panamanian Religious Organizations; precursor of the Celebration of Black Ethnicity Day in Panama since May 30, 2002; as well as the National Council of Black Ethnicity since 2005. Archbishop Murray is the vice president of the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of the Central Region of Americas.



ERIC FRANCIA
ACEN
President and CEO

Eric Francia is the President and Chief Executive Officer of ACEN Corporation. Under his leadership, Ayala established its energy platform from a standing start in 2011, to become one of the largest renewable energy platforms in the region. Eric is also a Senior Managing Director and member of the Management Committee and Investment Committee of Ayala Corporation. Eric earned a Master's Degree in Management Studies at the University of Cambridge and received his undergraduate degree in Humanities and Political Economy from the University of Asia & the Pacific.





REV. JOHNNIE MOORE

Rev. Johnnie Moore is president of JDA Worldwide and president of the Congress of Christian Leaders.

Rev. Moore's many awards and honors include the Simon Wiesenthal Center's prestigious Medal of Valor.

He was twice appointed to the US Commission for International Religious Freedom by the President of the United States, serving across the Biden and Trump administrations.



DAY 5 - DECEMBER 5TH 2023

**Supporting Children displaced due to the climate crisis
through Community-based faith-sensitive responses**

Arigatou International

Time: 3:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space to reflect on the integration of faith sensitive approaches in mental health and psychosocial support for children on the move. The session will also present concrete recommendations and resources.

SPEAKERS



DR. KATHLEEN RUTLEDGE
Queen Margaret Univ.
Lecturer



MARY NJERI
World Vision International
Director, Global Hunger Response at World Vision



DAY 5 - DECEMBER 5TH 2023

A Just Transition for Africa: Mining, Technology Minerals, and Climate Change Mitigation

**Jesuit Justice and Ecology
Network Africa**

Time: 4:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Organized by the Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network - Africa (JENA) and Caritas Africa, this 50-minute session at COP 28 delves into the intricate balance between the extraction of technology minerals, vital for modern solutions to climate change, and the ethical considerations of such practices. As the quest for technology minerals drives mining activities, the challenge is ensuring that this transition remains just and sustainable. Drawing from diverse theological perspectives, the session emphasizes faith's pivotal role in molding environmentally and ethically responsible mining practices. Participants will merge faith-based insights with practical challenges, crafting pathways for an equitable, technological, and environmentally conscious future.

SPEAKERS



FR. CHARLES CHILUFYA
JENA
Director

Fr. Charles Chilufya, an African Jesuit priest, has directed the JCAM Justice and Ecology Office (JEO) since 2018. JEO champions economic, social, migration, gender, and climate justice in Africa, bridging global policies with local African challenges. They also promote collaboration across apostolic sectors on justice and ecology. Before this, Fr. Chilufya taught business and economics at Zambia's Copperbelt University and served as University Chaplain.



FELIX CHIPOTA MUTATI
Government of the Republic of Zambia
Minister of Technology

Felix Chipota Mutati, is a distinguished Zambian politician, chartered accountant, and the leader of the Movement for Democratic Change party. Although he didn't contest in the 2021 Zambian general election, President Hakainde Hichilema nominated him as a Member of Parliament and subsequently appointed him as the Minister of Technology and Science on 17 September 2021. Mutati's political experience is extensive, having previously held key ministerial roles such as the Minister of Works and Supply under Edgar Lungu, Minister of Energy and Water Development under Levy Mwanawasa, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry under Rupiah Banda, and Minister of Finance from 2016 to 2018.





PROF THOMAS POGGE
Yale Global Justice Programme
Director

Thomas Winfried Menko Pogge is a renowned German philosopher born on 13 August 1953. He serves as the Director of the Global Justice Program and holds the Leitner Professorship of Philosophy and International Affairs at Yale University. Additionally, he is associated with the University of Oslo as the Research Director for the Centre for the Study of the Mind in Nature and is a Professorial Research Fellow at Charles Sturt University's Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics. Pogge contributes as an editor for the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy in social and political realms and is a distinguished member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters.



KETAKANDRIANA RAFITOSON
Transparency International - Initiative Madagascar (TI-MG).
Director

Ketakandriana Rafitoson, with a Ph.D., is the Executive Director of Transparency International - Initiative Madagascar (TI-MG). She boasts an impressive educational background, having earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from IEP Madagascar and another in Applied Social Sciences for Development from UCM. Since taking the helm at TI-MG in 2018, Ketakandriana has been instrumental in driving the organization's vision and mission. Beyond her professional duties, she remains deeply involved in various social movements and associations and is passionate about independent research.



DR. ANTOINETTE TSIBOE-DARKO
University of Ghana
Research Fellow

Dr. Antoinette Tsiboe-Darko is a renowned research fellow and lecturer at the University of Ghana. After earning her Bachelor of Arts in Social Science with a focus on Geography from the University of Ghana in 1999, she advanced her studies at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, achieving a Master of Philosophy with a specialization in social change in developing countries. Her groundbreaking PhD research sought to harmonize the oil and gas sector with economic activities in Ghana's coastal communities. Dr. Tsiboe-Darko has also led pivotal community engagement initiatives across the Ghanaian coast, extracting invaluable insights. Her profound understanding of the fishing and oil industries presents a model for their symbiotic coexistence, championing sustainable progress in both realms.



A Case Study in Faith-Based Advocacy and Witness: The Episcopal Church, The Gwich'in People and 'The Place Where Life Begins

The Episcopal Church

Time: 5:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will introduce a multi-decade effort by members of The Episcopal Church to stand in solidarity with the Gwich'in People of Alaska, the majority of whom are Episcopalians, in their effort to prevent drilling in a fragile portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The panelists will also describe parallel efforts in solidarity with the people of Kivalina Village, an Indigenous Alaskan community that has experienced early, total loss and damage of their island home. Like the Gwich'in, the residents of Kivalina are majority Episcopalians.

SPEAKERS



THE REVEREND MELANIE MULLEN
The Episcopal Church
Director, Office of Reconciliation,
Justice and Creation Care

Rev. Melanie Mullen serves as The Episcopal Church's Director of Reconciliation, Justice & Creation Care – charged with bringing the Jesus Movement to the concerns of the world. Prior to joining the Presiding Bishop's staff, she was the Downtown Missioner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia, leading a historic southern congregation's missional, civic, and reconciliation ministries. Before receiving her Masters in Divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary, she studied history at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, with a Bachelors and graduate program in Africana Women's Studies at Clark Atlanta University. Melanie worked in campaign fundraising and development, raising more than \$10 million for leadership PACs, the Congressional Black Caucus, and US Congressional and gubernatorial races from Louisiana to Connecticut; and she served as Development Associate for the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, with a focus on poverty advocacy.





THE RIGHT REVEREND DR. MARC ANDRUS
The Episcopal Church
Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of California and Head of COP28
Presiding Bishop's Episcopal Church delegation

Marc Andrus is the 8th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California. Raised among the hills and lakes of East Tennessee, he early developed a love for the beauty of the Earth and a commitment to protect it. Trained for the Episcopal priesthood at Virginia Seminary, Marc served in several settings before becoming Bishop Suffragan of Alabama in 2001 and embarking on a journey of learning and advocacy in race relations and environmental advocacy. Elected Diocesan Bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of California in 2006, Marc has grounded his work in a variety of justice areas in a life of contemplative prayer. Beginning with the 2015 UN Climate Summit in Paris, Marc has led Episcopal delegations to subsequent global climate summits. He also serves on the interfaith coordinating council for the COP28 Faith Pavilion. Marc and Sheila Andrus live in San Francisco and are the parents of two adult daughters. Marc co-authored with theologian and activist Matthew Fox the award-winning *Stations of the Cosmic Christ*.



MS. SUSIE FARIA
The Episcopal Church
Policy Analyst, Office of Government Relations

Susie Faria is a life-long Episcopalian and clergy kid from Massachusetts and was previously an intern before beginning this role at OGR. Prior to joining this office, she obtained her B.A. in Global Studies with minors in International Relations and Arts and Communications, while traveling the world with Long Island University Global, studying in Central America, Europe, and Australia. Her experiences abroad developed and curated her passion for the environment, history, international relations, and interreligious relations. In 2021, she attended the UN Conference of Parties (COP26) as a part of the Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's virtual delegation and has been honored to join COP27 and COP28 as a staff member.



DELIA R. HECK, PH.D.
Ferrum College, Virginia
Professor of Environmental Science

Dr. Delia Heck earned her PhD in Geography from the University of Washington. She is the Director of Institutional Effectiveness and a Professor of Environmental Science at Ferrum College. She teaches courses in Environmental Science, Eco-Justice, GIS, and Sustainability. She works on issues of environmental justice and racism as a member of The Episcopal Church's Taskforce for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism. Dr. Heck is also a member of Episcopal Relief and Development's Climate Resilience Community of Practice. Her summers are spent leading Ferrum College's Smith Mountain Lake Water Quality Monitoring Program.

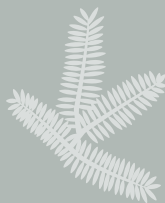




FAITH
PAVILION

DAY 6

DECEMBER 6TH 2023



DAY 6 - DECEMBER 6TH 2023

Religious Philanthropy : A Catalyst for Climate Action

**World Evangelical Alliance
& Faith For Our Planet**

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

The event is dedicated to exploring how religious philanthropy can play a transformative role in bridging the global climate financing gap. It will include the launch of a report co-produced by Faith For Our Planet (FFOP) and Duke Divinity School (DDS) at Duke University, followed by an interaction panel discussion on the values and traditions found in the Abrahamic traditions, and their communities incredible potential to mobilize trillions of dollars' worth of religious charity towards climate finance. The panel will explore the role religious leaders and communities can play in tandem with governments, civil societies, and global financial institutions to make that happen.

SPEAKERS



RUTABA TARIQ
Faith For Our Planet
Regional Programme Coordinator

Youth advocate and emerging scholar with an excellent track record in international affairs, youth empowerment, politics, and policy. She currently works as Regional Program Coordinator for Faith For Our Planet (FFOP), an international faith-based climate action NGO. At FFOP, Rutaba leads initiatives such as the groundbreaking Youth Interfaith Leaders Fellowship on Climate Change at Duke University, USA- one of the world's first fellowship of its kind. Her diverse career also includes key roles, such as Asia's Regional Coordinator for the International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS), Board Member for the Asia Africa Youth Government (AAYG) and as Country Coordinator for OIC's Official Youth Forum.





MAHA QASIM
Zero-Point Partners
CEO

Maha, CEO of Zero-point Partners, an advisory firm for sustainability, boasts 13+ years in climate, sustainability, and climate finance. Formerly a Pakistan Country Advisor for global development, she secured Green Climate Fund accreditation for a renewable energy firm. Her roles at Engro Corporation included environmental assessments, carbon credit registration, and CSR projects. Maha's expertise spans ESG reporting, TCFD, SASB, and more. She has authored numerous publications on climate change and co-authored papers for the Asian Development Bank Institute. Maha holds a Yale School of Environment master's and a Princeton University BSE in Civil and Environmental Engineering.



CHRIS ELISARA
Sustainability Center, World Evangelical Alliance
Co-founder

Dr. Chris Elisara, VP of Strategic Development at Thriving Cities Group, is a renowned urban design and placemaking advocate with a rich history of revitalizing American cities. He's played key roles in the Congress for the New Urbanism and UN-Habitat, including leading the World Urban Campaign. As co-director of the World Evangelical Alliance's Sustainability Center, he represents over 600 million evangelicals globally at prestigious international platforms like the World Economic Forum and the United Nations. Dr. Elisara also co-founded First+Main Films and international film festivals dedicated to city transformation storytelling. His current projects include the "Faith for Cities" grant and consulting for the World Economic Forum's "Faith in Action." He's dedicated to creating thriving, spiritually vibrant cities.



HON. PHILDA NANI KERENG
Republic of Botswana
Minister of Environment and Tourism

Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation & Tourism of Botswana. She has been instrumental in the development and adoption of the Botswana's first Climate Change Policy and Strategy. She has also been a Project Officer for Community Development of the Action for Economic Empowerment Trust, a local partner of the US African Development Foundation (ADF), working closely with rural on ecotourism projects. Her grassroots knowledge of the Botswana's society led UNICEF to appoint her as Child Protection Officer to drive the national programme on orphan care and child services in collaboration with NGOs and CBOs. In parallel to her state responsibilities, she is an Associate Pastor in a local church and offers counselling and life coaching for families, women and young people.



Al-Mizan A Covenant for the Earth to Life

**Islamic Foundation for Ecology
and Environmental Sciences**

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Through a panel discussion, a brief overview Al-Mizan's journey will be promoted with the aim of launching this seminal movement in the future. Other speakers on the panel will bring the Covenant "to life" describing key principles of the Covenant as it relates to: inspiring a global interfaith movement to enhance environmental action, values-based education, youth advocacy and engagement, and driving landscape restoration driven by Islamic tenants.

SPEAKERS



DR IYAD ABUMOGHLI

**Faith For Earth – United Nations Environment Programme
(UNEP)**

Founder Director

Dr. Iyad Abu Moghli is the founder and director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Faith for Earth Initiative. He has more than 35 years of experience with international organizations, the private sector, and scientific institutions. Dr. Abu Moghli's expertise focus on strategic planning, sustainable development, natural resources management, knowledge and innovation, and interfaith collaboration. Before joining UNEP, he served for 14 years in the United Nations Development Programme.



FAZLUN KHALID

**Islamic Foundation for Ecology & Environmental Sciences
Founder Director**

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.





OTHMAN ABD-AR-RAHMAN LLEWELLYN
National Centre for Wildlife
Ecological Planner

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).



AISHAH ALI ABDALLAH
Wilderness Leader & Environmental Educator

Aishah Abdallah is a wilderness leader and environmental educator who conducts outdoor activities informed by the wildland ethics of Islam. She is a member of the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication and has received the 2019 IUCN CEC Excellence Award for the West Asia Region. Aishah helped lead the 2017 Zawiyah Rosales symposium-retreat in Spain and delivered presentations to the 2010 WANA Forum in Jordan and for ICESCO at the 2016 Crans Montana Forum in Morocco. In 2013, Aishah received a Conservation and Environmental Grant from the Ford Motor Company to design the first ecologically based wilderness leadership curriculum for the Arabian Peninsula.



KAMRAN SHEZAD
Islamic Foundation for Ecology & Environmental Sciences

Kamran Shezad sits on the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development (UN IATF) and previously served on the Civil Society & Youth Advisory Council to the Presidency of COP26. A strong advocate of using faith-inspired approach in guiding behavioural change. Kamran is a grassroots environmental activist and social justice campaigner, he has worked with a diverse range of faith groups and has produced toolkits, practical guides and mobilised communities for climate action. Kamran is a Chartered Environmentalist, awarded by the Society for the Environment.



Pastoral Care and Support for Negotiators

Pastoral Care and support for negotiators UUSC

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This side event leverages the unique role and power that faith leaders have in influencing and shaping the spirit of the negotiations. SB58 did not advance the goals of civil society and lacked the moral authority it needed for a productive and progressive discussion at COP28 to advance climate justice for those we serve. This daily interfaith-negotiator event will provide moral support through pastoral care to any negotiator as they need it to help the negotiations and closed room discussions bolster the collective courage, wisdom and care that our leaders possess.

SPEAKERS



REV. MARY KATHERINE
Unitarian
President

After 30 years in faith-based leadership, the Rev. Mary Katherine Morn joined UUSC as President and Lead Executive Officer in 2018. She has helped to grow a number of progressive congregations serving their members and the larger community. Mary Katherine contributed to efforts for economic, racial, and social justice in Macon, Georgia at the Economic Opportunity Council/Headstart with the NAACP. She also worked deeply in the reproductive justice movement. In Nashville, Tennessee, she collaborated with the Interfaith Alliance and Industrial Areas Foundation. In Fairfax, Virginia, she worked with interfaith ministries addressing hunger and homelessness, collaborated with LGBTQI+ advocacy organizations, and served on the county's homelessness task force.





MERYNE WARAH
Republic of the Seychelles
Global Organizing and Campaigns Director

Meryne services as the Global Organizing and Campaigns Director at GreenFaith. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She previously worked as Senior Project Director at the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), where she coordinated PACJA's regional climate justice policy advocacy in 8 African countries. She also served as the Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change at the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference
General

Rev James Bhagwan is the General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, a role he has held since 2018. He is an ordained Minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji and held the role of Secretary for Communications and Overseas Mission with the church between 2013 and 2017. He has a master's degree in theology majoring in Christian Social Ethics. He is a strong advocate for the Reweaving of the Ecological Mat as an issue of Pacific self-determination and a gift to the world.



The Role of Fossil Free Places of Worship in the Transition to Renewable Energy

Brahma Kumaris

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

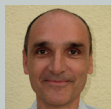
Join our innovative session to engage with clean technology experts and faith-based organizations, uncovering the latest advancements and possibilities for informed decision-making. We will discuss the profound impact of individual choices on the environment and the power of collective action. A visionary mindset is needed to inspire sustainable practices within communities, with faith leaders playing a pivotal role in connecting faith and environmental stewardship with clean technologies like solar power and wind energy. Faith leaders bridge gaps, fostering collaboration and influencing policy changes toward a sustainable, renewable energy future.

SPEAKERS



SONJA OHLSSON (MODERATOR)
Brahma Kumaris
Climate Director

Sonja Ohlsson is the national coordinator of Brahma Kumaris in Denmark and is a meditation teacher with the Prison Service in Copenhagen. In 2009, Sonja was instrumental in developing the Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative in order to add the inner dimension to discussions at the UN climate change and biodiversity conferences. She has been actively participating in the annual COP climate conferences since 2009, and the biannual biodiversity COP since 2012. Sonja conducts green retreats for the BK community around the world, and has also travelled with the lecture series on Healthy Mind, Healthy Planet



GOLO J. PILZ
Brahma Kumaris
Advisor Renewable Energy

Golo J. Pilz from Germany/India joined Brahma Kumaris in 1984 and is the advisor on renewable energies. He has carried out more than 25 R&D projects in solar cooking, energy storage and thermal power generation. In the last 20 years, Golo has been participating regularly at UN Climate Change Conferences. He is an experienced meditation practitioner and advocates sustainable solutions through an ethical and value-based approach. In 2021, Golo co-founded the meditation platform Yogis for Future. This initiative invites like-minded people to meditate and create good thoughts and intentions for the well-being of humans and the planet.





ABDULLA MOHAMMAD BAOBEID
Nahda Makers,
Executive Director

Abdulla Baobeid is a climate change and sustainable livelihood practitioner in Yemen. Abdulla works with local communities to design and implement interventions in sustainable energy, capacity building, local manufacturing solutions, and food production. Abdulla's work takes into consideration the latent potential of the communities to find ways to improve adaptive capacity, especially in communities that have been heavily impacted by conflict and environmental degradation. Abdulla holds a master's degree in sustainability sciences.



CAITLYN HUGHES
Solar Cookers International
Executive Director

Caitlyn Hughes is the Executive Director of the non-profit Solar Cookers International (SCI) whose mission it is to improve human health, economic well-being, women's empowerment, and the environment by promoting climate-friendly solar cooking for vulnerable populations worldwide. SCI works to address the challenge affecting approximately 1 in 3 people worldwide who cook over open fires by providing a healthier and safer solar cooking solution. SCI leads through advocacy, research, and strengthening the capacity of the global solar cooking movement



KENNETH NANA AMATOENG,
Abibimman Foundation
President

Kenneth Nana Amoateng, the Executive Director of AbibiNsroma Foundation and a Policy Advisor for Sustainable Development in local communities, possesses extensive experience in providing policy support and building capacity for civil society organizations in collaboration with policymakers. Kenneth oversees multiple local SDGs networks in Ghana, focusing on empowerment, education, climate change, human rights, peace-building, and project management. Additionally, he volunteers his time to support numerous youth-led civil society initiatives addressing a range of sustainable development issues. Kenneth is also a board member of GHACCO – Ghana Alliance for Clean Cooking and holds the position of an Elder in the Pentecost church



Increasing trust and transparency for a socially just energy transition under the Paris Agreement

CIDSE, Fastenaktion Misereor

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will explore the important role of transparency in fostering trust among actors drawing from recent studies in various countries and contextualize the findings regarding local climate action and just energy transition with experiences from Germany and Indigenous Communities of the Brazilian Amazon region. Together with the panel and the public, we will discuss the implications for the UNFCCC processes and the Global Stocktake.

SPEAKERS



LYDIA LEHLOGONOLO MACHAKA
CIDSE
Energy & Extractivism Officer

Lydia Machaka is the Energy and Extractivism Officer at CIDSE, an international family of Catholic social justice organizations in Brussels. She is responsible for coordinating the CIDSE working group and relations with member organizations striving to achieve climate justice and transformative energy systems. She also follows and supports policy processes at the UNFCCC and EU levels and represents CIDSE on various platforms, while ensuring knowledge sharing and networking with partners and allies of CIDSE, the Catholic Church and beyond. Lydia is enthusiastic about challenging herself and others to find transformative solutions ranging from the complex policy level to everyday life situations.



DAVID KNECHT
Fastenaktion Switzerland
Program Manager Energy & Climate Justice

David Knecht graduated in international economics. After developing an energy efficiency project in Kenya, he now co-manages the program on Energy and Climate Justice at Fastenaktion Switzerland. The program aims at driving efforts on a just energy transition in Brazil, Colombia and Switzerland. David follows the UNFCCC processes closely, with a special focus on Carbon Markets and Transparency questions. In this role he co-coordinated the collaborative research project on NDC Transparency.



The Role of Fossil Free Places of Worship in the Transition to Renewable Energy

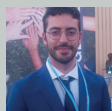
Interfaith Power and Light, LINGO

Time: 3:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space for interfaith discussions around environmental stewardship. This session will explore the role of faith and places of worship in the transition to renewable energy. This session aims to showcase the unique potential of places of worship to influence people as centers of culture, spirituality, education and community life. This session will introduce the work of leading figures working around these topics, as well as the example of emerging fossil free places of worship, spanning different continents and religions.

SPEAKERS



FRANCESCO LOYOLA
Leave it in the Ground Initiative (LINGO e.V.)
General Manager

Francesco is the general manager of the Leave it in the Ground Initiative, and has been following the Fossil Free Zones project for a number of years. He has lived most of his life in Rome, Italy, and has worked in climate and environment protection in several countries.



DR. FACHRUDDIN M. MANGUNJAYA
Ummah for Earth
Ally

Dr. Fachruddin M. Mangunjaya is an environmentalist, author, lecturer and Chair of the Centre for Islamic Studies at the Universitas Nasional. He was a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (2018-19) and was on the drafting team for the Islamic Declaration for Global Climate Change in Istanbul (2015). He is an advisory member of Siaga Bumi, a member of the IUCN-WCPA Specialist Group in Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas, is on the Advisory Council for the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative in Indonesia and is on the Advisory Group for the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology.





REV. SUSAN HENDERSHOT
Interfaith Power & Light
President

Rev. Susan Hendershot is the president of Interfaith Power & Light (IPL), an organization with a mission to mobilize people of faith and conscience to take bold and just action on climate change. IPL works in all 50 states and U.S. territories with a reach of 22,000 faith communities across the U.S. Rev. Hendershot graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies from Bethany College in West Virginia. She went on to undertake a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology. She is ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).



DR. HANAA AL-BANNA
Ummah for Earth
Ally

Dr. Hanaa Al-Banna is a specialist in SDGs, Corporate Social Responsibility, and sustainability. She holds the positions of lecturer and module leader at Northumbria University London, International Initiatives Manager at Global One, and adjunct lecturer at Hamad Bin Khalifa University. Hanaa serves as an executive committee member of the United Nations funded program, “the Alliance of NGOs and CSOs for South South Cooperation,” where she plays a crucial role in empowering organisations within the Global South. She was listed as one of the 100 most influential people in the MENA region for both 2020 and 2021.



DR. HAYU PRABOWO
Ummah for Earth
Ally

Dr. Hayu Prabowo is Chairman of the Environmental & Natural Resources Agency of the Indonesian Ulema Council, National Facilitator of Interfaith Rainforest Initiative Indonesia, and Chairman of Inter Agencies & International Relations Department of the Indonesian Council of Mosques. He earned a Doctorate degree in Islamic economics and finance, and is pursuing a second doctorate in Qur’anic Science. During his tenure, he initiated 6 fatwas on environmental issues and is currently finalizing the fatwa on climate change. He also initiated the ecomasjid (environmentally friendly mosques) program to integrate Islamic teachings with the environmental issues of the daily lives of people.



Clergy tell their stories from the frontlines of the climate crisis

ICSD, GreenFaith

Time: 4:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Many clergy find themselves on the frontlines of the climate crisis. At COP28, they will tell their stories and how their faith communities have been impacted by floods, fire, drought, and tornados, and how they respond as faith leaders, not only to rebuild, but to try to curb climate emergency by changing patterns of consumption within their faith communities.

SPEAKERS



DAVID MIRON WAPNER (MODERATOR)
Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
Board Chair

David has served in this position since 2013. He engages at climate COPS, and leads Sustainable Technology Projects at Yoyah Group. For 12 years he managed US-Israel Science & Technology Commission. He co-founded the BrightSource Energy and was board chair of Heschel Center for Sustainability. He was president of Jerusalem's leading Reform synagogue, Kehilat Kol Haneslama, and board member of Jewish National Fund for 8 years. The Los Angeles native moved to Israel in 1978.



RABBI YONATAN NERIL
The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
Founder and Director

Rabbi Yonatan highlights nexus between religion and ecology and mobilizes faith communities to climate action. He authored the bestselling *Eco Bible: An Ecological Commentary on the Hebrew Bible*. He is a member of UNEP's Faith-based Advisory Council and has co-organized 12 interfaith environmental conferences in USA and Israel. Yonatan advances faith-based renewable energy innovation in developing world and facilitated development of a solar field on church lands in Mozambique. Raised in California, Yonatan completed his MA and BA from Stanford University. He received rabbinical ordination in Israel and lives with his wife, Shana, and their two children in Jerusalem.





BISHOP MARIKA MARKOVITS
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweden
General Secretary

Bishop Markovits is a bishop of the Diocese of Linköping, which has long been engaged in environmental work, according to the “Roadmap for the Climate”, a strategy document that aims to make the diocese climate positive by 2030. Markovits is a former member of Stockholm municipality council for Agenda 2030. Before being ordained as bishop, she was the cathedral dean in Stockholm. Markovits is an author of several articles on social justice, as director of Stockholm City mission between 2004 and 2019.



REV. FLETCHER HARPER
GreenFaith
Executive Director

Fletcher Harper is an Anglican priest and the Executive Director of GreenFaith, an international, multi-faith, grassroots climate justice organization. A pioneer in the religious-environmental movement, he has led GreenFaith's development from a local organization based in the US to an international group with campaigns in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Fletcher is an Ashoka Fellow and author of GreenFaith: Mobilizing God's People to Protect the Planet.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
Bishop

Rev. Bhagwan is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji. Appointed by the General Assembly in 2018, he has been active in reviving PCC relationships, recruiting new partners and increasing the organisation's visibility as well as introducing a five-year strategic plan. Rev Bhagwan holds a Bachelor of Divinity from the Pacific Theological College, and a Masters in Theology from Korea.





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 8

DECEMBER 8TH 2023



Planting the Seeds of Human Fraternity – Building Bridges for a Greener Tomorrow

Zayed Award for Human Fraternity

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

- This session offers a profound exploration of the role of human fraternity in addressing climate change, featuring prominent speakers and community changemakers.
- The session will discuss how cultivating solidarity and shared responsibility can contribute to a more sustainable future. Gain insights into the essential policy frameworks for sustainable development and the crucial role of community leadership in supporting grassroots projects.
- The session will explore the intersection of human fraternity and environmental sustainability, where the speakers will provide valuable perspectives on translating these values into action, issuing compelling calls to action for collective responsibility in protecting the environment.

SPEAKERS



LENAH HASSABALLAH
CNN Business Arabia
Editor

Presenter and editor in CNN Business Arabic, she previously worked as a presenter and journalist at AlArabiya News Network. She moderated multiple panels discussing sustainability, economy, and technology.



MS. SHAMSA ABU BAKAR FADHIL « MAMA SHAMSA »
Zayed Award for Human Fraternity 2023 Co-Honoree
Honoree

Zayed Award for Human Fraternity 2023 honoree Ms. Shamsa Abubakar Fadhil is a Kenyan peace mediator and community mobilizer. Known as 'Mama Shamsa', she is being recognized for nurturing youth in her home country and saving young people from lives of violence, crime, and extremism, by providing them with counseling, care, training and entrepreneurial opportunities. To combat widespread criminal activities in Mombasa, she pioneered a comprehensive campaign to reform affected youth that contributed to the transformation of over 10000 youths. After receiving the Award, she established the Zayed Microenterprise Seed Support Program to support entrepreneurship in her community.





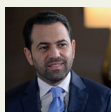
H.E. MR. MIGUEL ANGEL MORATINOS
United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) – Zayed Award for Human Fraternity Judging Committee Member 2023

He is the UN Under-Secretary-General holding the post of High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) since January 2019-present. Mr. Moratinos has committed his professional and political career to international relations and development cooperation and peace and security notably as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain (2004-2010) and the European Union Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process (1996-2003). During his tenure as Foreign Minister, Spain presided over the UN Security Council in 2004, held the chairmanships-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe and the Council of the European Union.



ADAMA DIENG
Zayed Award for Human Fraternity
Former UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide
Zayed Award for Human Fraternity Judging Committee member 2021.

Since July 2012 to 2020, Adama Dieng has served as the United Nations Secretary General Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. In January 2019, Mr. Dieng was appointed by the UN Secretary-General to chair a Working to produce the UN Strategy and Plan of Action to Address and Counter Hate Speech. He has promoted the adoption of the Plan of Action for Religious Leaders to Prevent Incitement to Violence that could lead to Atrocity Crimes known as the Fez Plan of Action, which was launched by the UN Secretary-General Guterres on July 14th 2017. Before his current appointment as Special Adviser of the Secretary-General, Adama Dieng served as the Registrar of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for more than 12 years.



JUDGE MOHAMED ABDELSALAM
Zayed Award for Human Fraternity
Secretary-General of Zayed Award for Human Fraternity

Judge Abdulsalam served as the former Advisor to the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Professor Ahmed Al-Tayeb for over eight years and assisted in drafting the Document on Human Fraternity signed by the Grand Imam and Pope Francis in Abu Dhabi in February 2019. In the same year, Pope Francis awarded Judge Abdelsalam the Order of Pope Pius IX Knight Commander for his services towards spreading tolerance and interfaith dialogue. He is the first Egyptian, Arab, and Muslim to be awarded this accolade. He is the Secretary-General of the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity, Secretary-General of the Muslim Council of Elders and a member of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity, Al-Azhar Center for Interreligious Dialogue, Religions for Peace Organization based in New York, and the Egyptian Family House.



Religion, Youth and Environment: A Global Response through Local Action

ACWAY

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

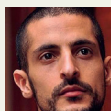
ACWAY represents a strong network of young practitioners from different parts of the world working in the field of interfaith and intercultural peacebuilding. This session will introduce ACWAY's youth engagement model anchored by the Interfaith Development Goals (IDGs). This presentation will showcase how global interfaith engagements, facilitated through ACWAY global forums, directly impact grassroots interfaith practices and projects implemented by ACWAY Fellows to address issues of climate change and environmental protection. The session will introduce personalized experiences, and propose potential solutions by youth reflecting on interfaith dialogue and ways to deepen the impact in their communities through global climate cooperation.

SPEAKERS



UZAIR BEN-EBRAHIM (MODERATOR)
ACWAY
Head of Programs

Uzair Ben-Ebrahim is an educator, linguist, facilitator, decolonialist, visual artist, poet, and the Program Officer for A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY). Uzair works in the realms of curriculum design, social justice advocacy, inter-religious dialogue, and decoloniality in South Africa. He was a board member of the Cape Town Interfaith Initiative (CTII) and a facilitator for GOAL (Giving Opportunities to Aspiring Leaders), creating dialogue spaces for people of faith. He has also done work for the Muslim Jewish Interfaith Coalition (MJIC), and has facilitated interreligious dialogues for the Taizé Community, an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity.



RAWAAD MAHYUB
The Muath Trust Official
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Mr Rawaad Mahyub is the CEO of the Muath Trust Official and a former Director of 'A Common Word Among the Youth' (ACWAY). ACWAY brings together over 100 young people from over 85 countries, of different religions/traditions, who have delivered more than 200 local and national activities. Rawaad has been working in the field of humanitarian & social development for over 15 years, with a particular focus on engaging young people to promote change through civic activism. He graduated with a joint honours degree in Chemistry and an executive MBA. He is originally from Yemen, lives in the UK and has two children.





GRESHMA P. RAJU
ACWAY, URI, Religions for Peace

Greshma Pious Raju is a young peacebuilder with several years of experience in interfaith dialogues and environmental peacebuilding. Greshma is the founder of Ecopeace Teen Cafe, an online transformative education program for teenagers, where she focuses on caring for the community, environmental protection, social justice and nonviolent communication. She earned Master of Arts in English from Indira Gandhi National Open University, India, and a Master's degree in International Peace Studies from the United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica. She believes small acts of love and compassion will create positive changes in the global community.



ABHAYJEET SINGH SACHAL
Break the Divide ; ACWAY
Founder ; ACWAY Fellow

Abhay Singh Sachal is a 21-year-old Canadian humanitarian whose work resides at the intersection of climate change, ecoanxiety, mental health, and spirituality. He is the founder of Break The Divide, a non-profit organization based on principles of environmentalism, sustainability, and reconciliation that focuses on fostering empathy and understanding to inspire action projects in communities. He created the framework “apathy to empathy to action” as he seeks to build ways in which young people can connect and learn from one another in an increasingly polarized world, allowing them to build empathy for realities that they have never faced, and empowering them to transform that empathy into concrete actions that advance the creation of harmonious and abundant futures.



LILIYA KHASANOVA
ACWAY
Head of Operations

Liliya is a post-doctoral researcher in international law and a member of the Executive Committee of A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY). She held several academic positions with Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School and Stockholm Center for International Law and Justice conducting research on international peace negotiations and human rights. As an ACWAY fellow, Liliya drafted Interfaith Development Goals (IDGs), organized several youth Forums and held trainings for youth on various topics such as interreligious and intercultural dialogue, peacebuilding, and human rights.



SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space to share the Abrahamic Family House’s experience in interfaith dialogue and partnership, focusing on the potential for raising awareness and engaging young people in addressing global challenges, both individually and collectively. The discussion will explore how faith can serve as a platform for youth to acquire essential knowledge, skills, and values, enabling active participation in climate dialogue. The primary objective of this session is to highlight the significance of interfaith initiatives in enhancing youth engagement and serving as a catalyst for restoring hope within the field of climate action. Furthermore, the session will introduce the role of faith communities in the COP process.

SPEAKERS



H.E. OMAR SAIF GHOBASH
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Ambassador to the Holy See

H.E. Omar Saif Ghobash was appointed Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on April 2023, and UAE Ambassador to the Holy See on May 24, 2022. Previously, he held the post of Assistant Minister for Cultural Affairs since October 2019. At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs H.E. oversees the UAE’s relations with Central America and Caribbean region countries. H.E. was appointed Ambassador of the UAE to France on November 24, 2017 and Ambassador to the Russian Federation in 2008. H.E. began his career in the UAE Mission to the United Nations.



ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHE ZAKHIA EL KASSIS
Apostolic Nunciature to the United Arab Emirates
Apostolic Nuncio to the United Arab Emirates

A Lebanese Catholic Archbishop, diplomat, and Maronite archbishop. He currently serves as the Apostolic Nuncio to the United Arab Emirates. He is holding a doctorate in both civil Law and church Law. He joined the diplomatic service of the Holy See in 2000, and has served in the Apostolic Nunciatures in Indonesia, the Sudan and Turkey and at the Foreign Relations office of the Secretariat of State in the Holy See. On 2018 Pope Francis appointed him as Titular Archbishop of Rusellae and named him Apostolic Nuncio to Pakistan. He received his episcopal consecration in St. Peter Basilica on 19 January 2019. On 3 January 2023, His Holiness Pope Francis appointed him as the first resident Apostolic Nuncio to the UAE. On 3 March he arrived in Abu Dhabi and started his mission. On 16 August he presented his Credential Letters to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at Qasr Al Watan.





RABBI DAVID ROSEN KSG, CBE
Abrahamic Family House
Special Advisor for Interfaith And Jewish Affairs

Rabbi David Rosen, former Chief Rabbi of Ireland, has served for more than twenty years as the International Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, and taken leave to serve as Special Advisor for Interfaith and Jewish Affairs to the Abrahamic Family House. Among his many honorary positions, Rosen is an international president of Religions for Peace, the world interfaith body; and is a member of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel's Interfaith commission. Awards that he has received for his interfaith work include a Papal knighthood and a CBE (Commander of the British Empire) from the late Queen Elizabeth II.



ABDULLA AL SHEHHI
Abrahamic Family House
Acting Executive Director

Acting Executive Director of Abrahamic Family House, overseeing its ambition to foster peaceful coexistence for generations to come. Alongside key stakeholders, he enables communities to thrive, facilitating interfaith dialogue and ensuring welcoming and informative visitor experiences. Abdulla's career has been devoted to developing spaces for gathering and cultural enrichment. After starting with the Special Projects Team at Abu Dhabi City Municipality, he managed the development of landmark public projects at Miral, including Wahat Al Karama and Qasr Al Watan. Reflecting his passion for transformational public spaces, Abdulla holds an MSc in Urban Planning from New York's Columbia University.



The Ethical Foundations of Climate Action: Integrating Bhagavad Gita's Teachings to Empower School Students in Combatting Climate Change

ISKCON Punjabi Bagh

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

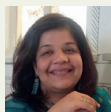
This session will explore the power of value-based education in shaping the future of our planet. By showcasing a successful model that intertwines values education and environmental stewardship. This session aims to bring the Value Education Olympiad into the spotlight as an exemplary educational initiative, designed to empower students globally and foster a sustainable mindset. Created by ISKCON under the Faith for Earth program by UNEP, the Olympiad focuses on intertwining values-based learning with environmental consciousness. This session will introduce an esteemed educational initiative by ISKCON under Faith for Earth initiative by UNEP that empowers students worldwide to embrace and embody essential values while making a positive impact on the environment

SPEAKERS



KARUNA CHANDRA DAS
ISKCON Punjabi Bagh
Vice President

I am Karuna Chandra Das (Karan Kohli), Vice President ISKCON temple, Punjabi Bagh, Delhi, Project head, International Value Education Olympiad program. Following are my experience and expertise skills: 13 years of experience in youth counselling, preaching and management of Temple activities. 13 years contribution in development cooperation. Involved in sustainability initiatives in Temple.



DR SURUCHI MITTAR
ISKCON Punjabi Bagh
Devotee, Team Member

I have more than two decades of experience as a University professor, strategy consultant, an author, as a coach who has shaped many organisations in their strategy formulation, crafting and designing policies country wide for the upliftment of the people. Have worked with organisations like UKaid, ILO, GIZ, UN-ITC GENEVA for empowering women and children. I have been a core team member of International Value Education Olympiad



Amplifying the voice of smallholder farmers in shaping Adaptation Policy; A Faith Based Response

Organization of African Instituted Churches

Time: 3:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

The session will take the form of a panel discussion and will involve interfaith leaders, technical experts, and academicians. It aims to challenge common perceptions of faith institutions' roles in addressing climate change. It will emphasize the need for the involvement of farmers in climate discussions, sharing the benefits for the wider community. The session will also explore innovative approaches to making data accessible for smallholder interventions in response to climate change. Gender disparities resulting from climate change will be addressed, and solutions proposed. The session will highlight climate change's impact on smallholder farmers, women, and children, aiming to amplify their voices and build a movement of faith communities to respond effectively to climate change.

SPEAKERS



MR. JOSHUA KITAKULE
Interreligious Council of Uganda(IRCU)
Secretary General

Mr. Joshua Kitakule currently serves as the Secretary General of the Interreligious Council of Nigeria of Uganda where he coordinates and plans the delivery, processes and IRCU Programs. His leadership at IRCU has been instrumental in fostering dialogue and cooperation, making him a valuable asset in the promotion of smallholder farmer voices in clim



REV. NICTA LUBAAL
Organization of African Instituted Churches(OAIC)
General Secretary

Rev. Nicta Lubaale, the General Secretary of the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC) in Nairobi, Kenya, since 2007, brings over two decades of experience in faith-based community mobilization. He has been a driving force in HIV/AIDS initiatives and food security programs, fostering collaboration among churches and farmers' organizations. His contributions to the Africa Interfaith Initiative on SDGs have been instrumental in aligning faith communities with sustainable development goals. Presently, Rev. Lubaale's work focuses on empowering citizens to influence public service delivery in Africa by working with faith communities across diverse socio-political contexts. As a speaker, he will emphasize the importance of integrating farmers' experiences and insights into climate policy decisions for greater inclusivity and effectiveness.





REV. PHYLLIS BRYD
Organization of African Instituted Churches(OAIC)
Director, Just Communities

Rev. Phyllis is the Director of the Just Communities Programme. Her dedication is focused on good governance, poverty alleviation, environmental justice, and fostering communities where people can live with dignity. Additionally, she serves as the coordinator of the Young Adult Volunteer program for the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, facilitating the placement of young adults from the USA in Kenya for service. With her extensive experience in community development and her role in supporting smallholder farmers in adapting to climate change, Rev. Phyllis will be a valuable speaker emphasizing the critical role of faith leaders and institutions in climate adaptation for smallholder farmers.



ARCHBISHOP DR. DANIEL C. OKOH
Organization of African Instituted Churches(OAIC)
and Christian Association of Nigeria(CAN)
International Chairman(OAIC) & President(CAN)

Most Rev. Daniel Okoh, the General Superintendent of Christ Holy Church International, has been actively engaged in ecumenical and interfaith activities for over two decades. His roles include National President of OAIC (Nigeria Region) and National Vice-President of the Christian Association of Nigeria. He has served on various boards, including Good News Theological College and Seminary in Ghana, and the African Council of Religious Leaders. His extensive experience spans religious, educational, and political domains, Promising valuable insights into the session of amplifying the voices of smallholder farmers in shaping adaptation policy through faith-based approaches



PROF. IYABODE O. DUDUSOLA
Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
Associate Professor

Prof. Iyabode O. Dudusola is an Associate Professor at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Her expertise lies in the intersection of climate change and gender dynamics, particularly in farming communities. With a deep understanding of the unique risks climate change poses to women and children, she advocates for gender-responsive climate policies. Prof. Dudusola's extensive research and work highlight the importance of addressing gender disparities in climate adaptation strategies. Her insights and expertise will be instrumental in emphasizing the critical need for policies that empower and protect the well-being of women and children in the face of climate change challenges.



Religions in Action for Forests, Climate and Indigenous Peoples: Innovations from the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative in Brazil, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Peru.

Interfaith Rainforest Initiative

Time: 5:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

The world's religions are making forest protection and restoration a priority strategy in addressing climate change. Through the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI), senior religious leaders are rallying their communities to act, educating their communities to become advocates for forest protection and restoration, and calling on governments and the private sector to adopt policies that protect forests and the rights of indigenous peoples. The event will feature innovations from IRI country programs in Brazil, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Peru on their work in five countries that contain 70% of the world's remaining rainforests.

SPEAKERS



CARLOS VICENTE
IRI Brazil
National Facilitator

Carlos Vicente is a forest engineer (Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro – UFRRJ) and holds an MBA in Natural Resources Management (Costa Rican Institute of Business Administration – INCAE). He has vast experience in Brazilian Amazon issues, having served as State Secretary for Forest & Traditional Populations in the State of Acre, Director of the National Forestry Program at the Minister of Environment of Brazil, Technical Adviser for former-Environmental Minister Marina Silva. He leads the IRI Brazil country program.



BLANCA ECHEVERRY
IRI Colombia
National Facilitator

Blanca Echeverry is a lawyer by profession, an advisor to the Inter-Religious Council of Colombia, and a delegate on the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church. An activist for Human Rights in her country, she served as National Coordinator to accompany displaced communities to advocate for their rights. Previously, she worked for more than 20 years with the Ombudsman's Office of Colombia where she served as Deputy Ombudsman for Indigenous Affairs and Ethnic Minorities and Public Defender. She leads the IRI Colombia country program.





MATTHIEU YEL BONKETO
IRI DRC
National Facilitator

Reverend Bonketo was the National Director in charge of Forest and Climate at the Church of Christ in Congo and was also responsible for defining the ECC policy, advocacy and mobilization of member communities for sustainable forest management and climate change mitigation. Reverend Bonketo is the founder and coordinator of Defense of the Environment (CEDEN) NGO and brings in 17 years of project planning, management, evaluation and advocacy for the protection of tropical forests and the rights of local communities and indigenous people. He leads the IRI DRC country program.



HAYU PRABOWO
IRI Indonesia
National Facilitator

Dr. Hayu Prabowo has been the chairman of Environment and Natural Resources body of the Indonesia Council of Islamic Scholars since its inception in 2010. He also serves as the Chairman of National & International Affairs and Environment Department of the Indonesia Council of Mosques. He is also a founder green Islamic boarding school (ecoPesantren) and lecturer and a researcher in Islamic economic and finance with the interest in sustainable finance and impact investment. He leads the IRI Indonesia country program.



LAURA VARGAS
IRI Peru
National Facilitator

Laura Vargas has served as Executive Secretary of the Interreligious Council of Peru and co-Secretary of the Judeo-Christian Fellowship since 2009. She brings 30 years' experience working with the CEAS of the Catholic Church of Peru, 16 of which was as Executive Secretary; following this post, she was asked to assume the area of the Social Doctrine of the Church. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors of World Vision Peru, Pax Christi Peru, and as head of the human rights team of the El Departamento de Justicia y Solidaridad (DEJUSOL). She leads the IRI Peru country program.

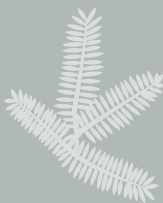




**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 9

DECEMBER 9TH 2023



Living spirit or commodity? Traditional and faith-informed perspectives about land and land use in disasters and climate events

I-DIEM

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will explore the various perspectives on land and land use among indigenous and other historically marginalized communities as they contrast with Western and American institutions. We will explore the spiritually informed context regarding land use and long-term implications that arise from stakeholders holding different viewpoints on the role of land in a cultural setting. During disasters, the loss of land has profound spiritual and cultural significance for many communities, whereas institutions primarily engage in bureaucratic processes with complex criteria and individualized care. This session will focus on the juxtaposition between varying views of land, particularly in disaster settings.

SPEAKERS



CHAUNCIA WILLIS
Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency
Management (I-DIEM)
Co-Founder & CEO

Chauncia Willis, CEO and Co-Founder of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM), is a certified Emergency Manager, Professional Coach, and Cultural Diversity Professional with 20+ years of experience, spanning disaster management, national security event planning, leadership coaching, immigrant and refugee outreach, and DEI training. Chauncia leads the integration of equity into disaster policies and practices to enhance cultural competence and reduce bias's impact on underserved groups. She is a recognized national expert who has testified before the U.S. House of Representatives on DEI issues, and authored "Stretching: The Race towards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in America".





MARCUS COLEMAN

**United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Director of DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood
Partnerships**

Marcus Coleman serves as the Director of the Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. With over 15 years of experience, he excels in fostering public-private collaborations with faith-based and non-profit organizations. In this role, he leads a team dedicated to enhancing equity in emergency management and climate resilience, bolstering safety in worship spaces, and advising emergency management, first responders, and national security professionals on engaging faith-based and community groups within DHS. His contributions include responding to various disasters and spearheading crucial agreements. Coleman also serves on several boards and projects.



ANTOINE RICHARDS

**Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency
Management (I-DIEM)
Chief of Staff**

Antoine Richards, Chief of Staff, has nearly a decade of experience in healthcare and emergency management. His expertise spans public health, community outreach, public affairs, DEI, and research. Currently pursuing a doctorate in Emergency Management, his research focuses on the intersection of public health, emergency management, community resilience, and social determinants of health. He is the co-Lead of the Diversity, Equity, and Racial Inclusion Initiative for AHEPP and holds an MPH degree from Morehouse School of Medicine and a BS in Communication from Kennesaw State University. These and other achievements exemplify his commitment to improving outcomes for vulnerable populations.



CAMILA TAPIAS

**SPIN Global
Global Disaster Resilience Specialist**

Camila Tapias is a global leader focused on leveraging public-private partnerships, building national and international strategies to increase local capacity for disaster risk reduction, and prioritizing technology to achieve equitable outcomes. She holds a master's degree in Public Administration and Crisis and Emergency Management from The George Washington University. At SPIN Global, she is a Global Disaster Resilience Specialist, where she leads the Business and Industry and International practice areas. She also serves as a US and Global Board member with ARISE, the United Nations' largest private sector alliance for disaster resilient societies.



Climate and Nature: Strengthening Advocacy and Action

Faiths for Biodiversity

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

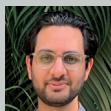
The Nature and Climate crisis are deeply interconnected. The science shows us that we cannot solve one without the other. To date, however, action and advocacy on these areas remain siloed from each other. This session will explore how we can strengthen advocacy and action for both through collaboration and partnership with a range of stakeholders.

SPEAKERS



ALEXANDRA M GOOSSENS-ISHII
Soka Gakkai International
Programme Coordinator

Alexandra works as Programme Coordinator for environment, climate change & biodiversity for Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a community-based Buddhist organization that promotes peace, culture and education. Her work focuses on the UN processes related to the environment, climate change and biodiversity. Based in Geneva, she is advocating from the perspective of human rights, public participation, and environmental and social justice. She is also a member of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration Advisory Board and a co-convenor of the Faiths for Biodiversity coalition.



GOPAL PATEL (ONLINE)
Bhumi Global
Director

Gopal D. Patel is a faith-based environmental activist, campaigner and consultant. For more than a decade, he has spearheaded environmental initiatives that engage 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 also co-chair of the United Nations Multi-faith Advisory Council and co-chair of the Advisory Board to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.





SUSAN HENDERSHOT
Interfaith Power & Light
President

Rev. Susan Hendershot is the president of Interfaith Power & Light, a US national non-profit organization with a mission to inspire and mobilize people of faith and conscience to take bold and just action on climate change. She is a preeminent voice in the religious environmental movement.



NICHOLAS PANDE
Anglican Communion
Environmental Policy Lead

Nicholas is the Environmental Policy lead at the Anglican Communion Office at the United Nations. He is also the Global Facilitator of Communion Forest – a global initiative on ecosystem conservation, restoration and protection by Churches of the Anglican Communion. Nicholas has a background training on agronomy with a passion for care for creation.



ALBERTO PALLECHI
World Resources Institute
Acting Director, WRI Faith and Sustainability

Alberto is Acting Director, WRI Faith and Sustainability. 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.



How to Mobilise Your Faith Community Towards Land Restoration

81.1 UNCCD

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

85% of the world population believe in a faith or a religion. This event will spotlight the power of collaboration between different faiths for a common cause: land restoration. Through meaningful interfaith exchanges from leaders and representatives from various faith communities and religions, we aim to explore the shared values that underpin our responsibility to care for the Earth. This event is a platform to bridge gaps, strengthen understanding, and foster cooperation in the pursuit of a healthier planet.

SPEAKERS



MATTHEW HASSAN KUKAH
Catholic Diocese of Sokoto
Bishop

Bishop Kukah leads the Catholic Diocese of Sokoto, Nigeria. He obtained his ordination as Catholic Priest in 1976. Between 1999 and 2001 he served as a member of the Nigerian Investigation Commission of Human Rights Violations. From 2004 until his nomination as bishop he worked as a parish priest of Saint Andrews's parish in Kakuri, he was secretary of the National Political Reform Conference (2005) and from 2005 onwards he has been serving as the chairman of the Ogoni-Shell Reconciliation. Additionally, between 2007 and 2009 he worked also in the committee for electoral reform set up by the Nigerian government.



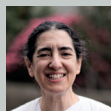


SRI SRI RAVISHANKAR

The Art of Living

Founder

Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar is a globally revered spiritual and humanitarian leader. He is the founder of Art of Living and has spearheaded an unprecedented worldwide movement for a stress-free, violence-free society. Through a myriad of programs and teachings, a network of organizations including the Art of Living and the International Association for Human Values, and a rapidly growing presence across 180 countries, Gurudev has reached an estimated 500 million people. Gurudev has developed unique, impactful programs that empower, equip and transform individuals to tackle challenges at global, national, community and individual levels.



MAUREEN GOODMAN

Brahma Kumaris

Programme Director for the Brahma Kumaris UK.

As Programme Director for the Brahma Kumaris UK, Maureen works with diverse communities in building spiritual capacity in times of transition. She has a deep interest in the spiritual and ethical dimensions of climate change and the connection between our inner state of being and the state of our Earth. She has a long-term involvement in inter-religious dialogue and represents the Brahma Kumaris on the Board of World Religious Leaders of the Elijah Interfaith Institute, is a Spiritual Ambassador to The Living Peace Projects and she is also part of the Strategic Circle of the Spirit of Humanity Forum.



DAY 9 - DECEMBER 9TH 2023

Faith in action for climate justice in addressing Loss & Damage

**Christian Aid, CIDSE, SCIAF,
Maryknoll, KOO, Church of Sweden**

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This event bring together a diverse panel of speakers, including faith leaders and policy experts, to discuss the policy developments around the funding, governance and operationalization of the loss and damage fund. We'll focus on the important role of faith actors in driving climate action, hearing from faith representatives from global south countries experiencing the impact of loss and damage first-hand. Speakers will also explore the concepts of justice and global solidarity from a faith perspective and its relevance to loss and damage, looking at both economic and non-economic impacts for communities.

SPEAKERS



CHIARA MARTINELLI (MODERATOR)
CAN Europe
Director

Chiara Martinelli is the Director of Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe since October 2021. CAN Europe is Europe's leading NGO coalition fighting dangerous climate change and is the regional node of the global alliance CAN International. With over 180-member organisations active in 38 European countries, representing over 1,500 NGOs and more than 47 million citizens, CAN Europe promotes sustainable climate, energy and development policies across Europe. Chiara has more than 16 years of experience in the development cooperation sector and prior to joining CAN Europe, she was a Senior Advisor at CIDSE, the International Family of Catholic Social Justice Organisations.





MAUREEN GOODMAN

Brahma Kumaris

Programme Director, Brahma Kumaris, UK

Maureen works with diverse communities in building spiritual capacity in times of transition. She has a deep interest in the spiritual and ethical dimensions of climate change, the nature of harmony, and the connection between our inner state of being and the state of our Earth. She has long term involvement in inter-religious dialogue and represents the Brahma Kumaris on the Board of Religious Leaders of the Elijah Interfaith Institute and is a Spiritual Ambassador to The Living Peace Projects. Maureen is part of the Strategic Circle of the Spirit of Humanity Forum, offering a safe space for dialogue among leaders and change-makers seeking transformation based on core human values.



BISHOP MARIKA MARKOVITS

Church of Sweden (Evangelical Lutheran)

Bishop

Marika Markovits is a bishop of the Diocese of Linköping. It is one of the diocese with an active environmental work since far back. The diocese work is guided by "the CoS's Roadmap for the Climate", a strategy document in which one of the goals is for the diocese to be climate positive by 2030. Marika Markovits is former member of Stockholm municipality council for Agenda 2030. Before being ordained as a bishop, she was the cathedral dean in Stockholm. Marika Markovits is an author of several articles on social justice, as director of Stockholm City mission between 2004 and 2019.



ARCHBISHOP JULIO MURRAY

Anglican Communion

Anglican Bishop of Panama

Archbishop Julio E. Murray is the Anglican Bishop of Panama. He was elected Diocesan Bishop in a Special Convention in 2000 and is a member of the Afro-Panamanian Religious Organizations; precursor of the Celebration of Black Ethnicity Day in Panama since May 30, 2002; as well as the National Council of Black Ethnicity since 2005. Archbishop Murray is the vice president of the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of the Central Region of Americas.



SESSION DESCRIPTION

The session aims to come up with recommendations that enhance community and public participation in the field of environmental and human solidarity. The session will introduce an open discussion about the future of youth movements and initiatives within the framework of adaptation mechanisms and climate change and how to enhance them and achieve climate justice between the north and south of the Mediterranean. The approach is to relate how can climate change relate to our faith and solidarity.

SPEAKERS



YOUSSEF AROOG

**Mediterranean Youth Foundation for Development - MYF
Founder**

Youssef is a Mediterranean Civil Activist specializing in European experiences in youth empowerment and founder the Mediterranean Youth Foundation for Development in Egypt and Estonia. He has five years of experience establishing and managing youth movements and organizations. For the last five years, he focused on conceptualizing new youth projects, coordinating with civil society organizations and international agencies on youth projects, and supporting larger youth volunteerism and community participation efforts in Egypt. I managed and developed several projects locally and regionally to enhance the cultural & youth cooperation in the Euro-Med region. My foundation won the King Hamad International Prize for Youth Empowerment in 2020 as the first Egyptian youth foundation to win the award since its launch. Also, the recipient of the United Nations Prize for Innovation and Intercultural Dialogue 2021.





MOHAMED AGEEZ
Youth Think Green
Partnerships manager

Mohamed Ageez is a highly accomplished Business Development and Partnerships Manager at youththinkgreen Egypt, where he specializes in developing sustainable business activities in sustainability Entrepreneurship and Consultation.

With a keen interest in policy and innovation, Ageez also serves as the Head of Management and Collaboration at TISLabs, an organization that empowers territorial and public innovation systems through innovative science-based research. As a Researcher in policy and innovation management, Ageez is actively involved in mobilizing Egyptian innovation system capabilities for SMEs project. He is also a representative of YOUNGO, the Official Constituency of UNFCCC for youth and children, in the Youth Advisory Group in the Green Jobs for Youth Pact with United Nations.



NERINGA TUMĖNAITĖ
Mediterranean Youth Foundation for Development - MYF
MYF Advisor in Charge of Youth Participation and Climate Action

Neringa is a Ph.D. candidate at SOAS University of London and a visiting Fulbright Schuman fellow with the Roma Program at the FXB Center for Health & Human Rights, Harvard University. Her research delves into the role of youth participation in advancing climate justice. In addition, Neringa is the director of Humanity Consulting and an advisor to the Mediterranean Youth Foundation.

Previously, Neringa worked in Myanmar for the EU's External Action Service and served on the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe, focusing on Roma youth participation and North-South cooperation. Neringa holds a BA in Creative Industries from Vilnius Tech and an MSc in Violence, Conflict, and Development from SOAS, where she investigated the role of the media in furthering structural discrimination against the Roma people in Lithuania and the Rohingya in Myanmar.



Pastoral Care and Support for Negotiators

UUSC

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This side event leverages the unique role and power that faith leaders have in influencing and shaping the spirit of the negotiations. SB58 did not advance the goals of civil society and lacked the moral authority it needed for a productive and progressive discussion at COP28 to advance climate justice for those we serve. This daily interfaith-negotiator event will provide moral support through pastoral care to any negotiator as they need it to help the negotiations and closed room discussions bolster the collective courage, wisdom and care that our leaders possess.

SPEAKERS



REV. MARY KATHERINE
Unitarian
President

After 30 years in faith-based leadership, the Rev. Mary Katherine Morn joined UUSC as President and Lead Executive Officer in 2018. She has helped to grow a number of progressive congregations serving their members and the larger community. Mary Katherine contributed to efforts for economic, racial, and social justice in Macon, Georgia at the Economic Opportunity Council/Headstart with the NAACP. She also worked deeply in the reproductive justice movement. In Nashville, Tennessee, she collaborated with the Interfaith Alliance and Industrial Areas Foundation. In Fairfax, Virginia, she worked with interfaith ministries addressing hunger and homelessness, collaborated with LGBTQI+ advocacy organizations, and served on the county's homelessness task force.





MERYNE WARAH

GreenFaith

Global Organizing and Campaigns Director

Meryne services as the Global Organizing and Campaigns Director at GreenFaith. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She previously worked as Senior Project Director at the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), where she coordinated PACJA's regional climate justice policy advocacy in 8 African countries. She also served as the Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change at the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN

Pacific Conference

General

Rev James Bhagwan is the General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, a role he has held since 2018. He is an ordained Minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji and held the role of Secretary for Communications and Overseas Mission with the church between 2013 and 2017. He has a master's degree in theology majoring in Christian Social Ethics. He is a strong advocate for the Reweaving of the Ecological Mat as an issue of Pacific self-determination and a gift to the world.



Faithful Stewardship: Addressing the Climate Crisis in Blue Food Systems

**Jesuit Justice and Ecology
Network Africa**

Time: 5:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Blue food systems, including aquaculture and fisheries, mainly in the Global South, face climate change impacts with limited financial support. Despite providing 20% of animal-source protein to 3.3 billion people, this sector gets minimal climate adaptation funding, risking malnutrition in impoverished areas. With only \$2 billion allocated in two decades, these systems risk collapse from increasing climate challenges. Financing for blue foods must prioritize social and ecological resilience, respecting social justice. However, with weak governance and threats to food security from external practices, there's an urgent need for restructured investments, involving small-scale actors, to ensure coastal state food security. Partnering with JENA and PACJA, we explore faith-based solutions for these challenges.

SPEAKERS



FR. CHARLES CHILUFYA
Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network – Africa (JENA)
Director

Chauncia Willis, CEO and Co-Founder of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM), is a certified Emergency Manager, Professional Coach, and Cultural Diversity Professional with 20+ years of experience, spanning disaster management, national security event planning, leadership coaching, immigrant and refugee outreach, and DEI training. Chauncia leads the integration of equity into disaster policies and practices to enhance cultural competence and reduce bias's impact on underserved groups. She is a recognized national expert who has testified before the U.S. House of Representatives on DEI issues, and authored "Stretching: The Race towards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in America".



DR. ATTOH
International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
Climate Adaptation Specialist

Dr. Attoh is a Climate Adaptation Specialist at the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) with over 10 years of experience spanning Africa, Europe, and Asia. He's dedicated to fostering a climate-resilient society, especially aiding low- and middle-income countries in combating climate extremes and food and water insecurity. His interdisciplinary approach focuses on understanding climate variability and its impacts. Before IWMI, he worked at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and served as a Research Partner at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Dr. Attoh holds a PhD in Climate and Environmental Science and has contributed to several peer-reviewed publications.





Bishop Wilybard Lagho
Catholic Diocese of Malindi, Kenya
Bishop of the Diocese of Malindi

Bishop Wilybard Lagho began his philosophical studies at St. Augustine's Senior Seminary in Mabanga (1980-1982) and later pursued Catholic Theology at St. Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary in Nairobi (1982-1986). Ordained as a deacon in December 1985, he became a priest for the Archdiocese of Mombasa in April 1987. Between 1987 and 1988, he served as an assistant pastor, later leading parishes and overseeing youth and vocational pastoral activities in Mombasa. By 1994, Lagho earned a Master's in Religious Studies from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa in Nairobi, continuing his studies in Cairo and Rome. In 1998, he specialized in Arabic and Islamic Studies in Rome. Upon returning to Kenya, he held various educational and pastoral roles, eventually becoming the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Mombasa by 2008. Lagho was involved in interfaith dialogue, leading the Coast Interfaith Council of Clerics from 2011 and consulting for the Papal Council for Interreligious Dialogue (2008-2014). In December 2020, Pope Francis appointed him as Bishop of Malindi, with his episcopal consecration occurring in March 2021.



Dr. Joseph Mithika Mwenda
PACJA
Executive Director

Dr. Joseph Mithika Mwenda, popularly known as Mzalendo, meaning "patriot" in Swahili, is a renowned Kenyan climate advocate and co-founder of the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA). Born in 1973 in Meru County, Kenya, Mwenda studied at Moi University and pursued postgraduate studies in public policy at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. A passionate voice for over a decade in the climate change movement, he represents African civil society in key international committees, such as the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility. Recognized globally, Mwenda was named among the 100 most influential figures in climate change policy and received the Sierra Club's Earth Care Award in 2019 for his significant contributions to environmental conservation.



Tanin Kuntai
Jesuit Hakimani Centre
Programme Lead: Integral Ecology

Tanin Kuntai holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Development Communication and is pursuing a Master's Degree in Research and Public Policy. She's completed short courses in Climate Justice, Food Systems, and Data Science. Tanin works at the Jesuit Hakimani Centre as a Programme Lead for Governance & Advocacy and Integral Ecology. She and the organization have influenced government policies to represent rural communities' voices and needs in Kenya and beyond. Notable contributions include the Warehouse Receipt Bill in Kakamega and Kisii Counties, the Agriculture Crop Bill Policy Brief in Kitui County, and the Food Security Bill at the national assembly level. Tanin has led research in various national projects, guided by a personal constitution that emphasizes effective use of her talents, skills, and time while owning the consequences of her decisions.





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 10

DECEMBER 10TH 2023



Ethical Development Pathways For Climate Resilient Food Systems

Tzu Chi Foundation

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Recognizing the need for a whole of society approach to address an equitable and just transition towards localized and climate resilient food systems, and the critical role that behavior change plays in this process, this session will bring together aspirational and inspirational game changing solutions, uniting faith and spiritual voices, in order to provide insights and narratives based on ethical development pathways for climate resilient food systems.

SPEAKERS



DEBRA BOUDREAUX
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
Chief Executive Officer

Debra Boudreaux, CEO of Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation USA. As a senior volunteer with the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation, Debra has more than 30 years of experience working on major projects related to charity, medical care, education, and humanitarian aid. Debra was previously the CEO of Tzu Chi Medical Foundation. She leads Buddhist and Catholic interfaith dialogues and also serves as the co-chair of Multi-faith Advisory Council with the UN Interagency Task force for Religion and Sustainable Development.



YOUSSEF NASSEF
UNFCCC
Director of the Adaptation Programme

Youssef Nassef is the Director of the Adaptation Programme at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). He has led the adaptation workstreams under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change since their inception. He possesses over 30 years of experience in diplomacy and international environmental policy and is a seconded diplomat from the Egyptian Foreign Service. He holds a Doctoral degree in International Technology Policy and Management and a Master's degree in International Environmental Policy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.





HARJEET SINGH
Climate Action Network International
Head of Global Political Strategy

Harjeet Singh is a global expert on the issues of climate impacts, migration and adaptation and has been supporting countries across the world on tackling climate change. He is a member of the United Nations' Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management (TEG-CRM) under Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. He has served as a board member of Climate Action Network International (CAN-I) and the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR). Harjeet has co-founded Satat Sampada, a social enterprise that promotes sustainable and environmental solutions such as organic food and farming in India and beyond.



CRISTINA TIRADO
Adjunct Professor
UCLA Institute of Environment and Sustainability

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, and is member of the UNFCCC Research constituency and adviser on Climate and Health for several UN organizations.



Consolidated development and interfaith efforts to preserve natural resources impacting food security – a case from Egypt

Brot für die Welt

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

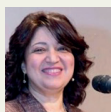
This session will showcase best practices, practical experiences and learnings in interfaith climate work from Egypt. By giving the platform to faith-inspired technical experts, this session will explore how the fostering of local climate-adapted, people-centred food systems is supported by interfaith dialogue work on the ground. To that end, learnings from the faith-based development organisation CEOSS will be discussed. More generally, this specific work will be situated into the wider context of creation care as a chance for interfaith cooperation in Egypt.

SPEAKERS



MR FERDINAND GIRKE (MODERATOR)
Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World, BfdW)
Senior Advisor Climate Change, MENA Region

Having worked with local partners, in the Middle East for six years, Mr. Girke is very familiar with the potential that interfaith work can unleash. Holding a MSc in Environment and Development from London School of Economics and Political Sciences, he currently builds a climate justice support programme for partners in the MENA region. Himself from the Lutheran tradition, Mr. Girke has, over years of cooperation, come to appreciate the strong faith-based commitment of CEOSS in their work, which joins climate action and interfaith dialogue work in a unique manner.



MS MARGRITE SAROUFIM MINA
Coptic Evangelical Organization
for Social Services (CEOSS)
Sector Director for Local Development

Holder of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; working for CEOSS since 1990. Mrs. Saroufim is representing CEOSS in the Egyptian National Alliance for Civil Development Work. She leads a sector of 120 dedicated staff in various developmental fields, with food systems and resource conservation playing a major role. Per her position, she carries out a leadership role in planning, strategies development, program designing, team leadership, and project management at the Macro level, with people's welfare and their dignified life in the core.

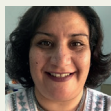




MS HEBA YOUSRY

**Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS)
Local Interfaith Dialogue Forum Programs Manager**

Holder of a Bachelor of Social Service. Joined CEOSS in 1994, and currently responsible for managing the local interfaith dialogue programme in various Egyptian governorates in several capacity building programs for media professionals, religious leaders, academics, CSOs, and governmental institutions, in order to equip them as agents of change and peacemakers in their communities. Her role is also to build relationships and lead youth to adopt local initiatives that address various trending issues like facing hate discourse, climate changes and others.



MS RANIA RASHAD PEAKER/INTERPRETER

**Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS)
Lead Funding Manager**

Holder of a Bachelor of Economics from the American University in Cairo (AUC). Joined CEOSS in 2005 and through her long years of work was especially involved in programs pertaining to agriculture, rural development, food security, and environment. She is involved in dealing and building relationships with various donor organizations, such as EU, USAID, international and faith-based organization, and embassies. Currently responsible for leading CEOSS' funding team and providing technical assistance and training for fundraising, proposal writing, and grants administration.



MR MAGED BOULOS

**Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS)
Deputy Manager for Rural Development
in Upper Egypt governorates**

Holder of a Bachelor of Commerce, Helwan University. 23 years' experience in various CEOSS developmental fields, with focus on rural development, designing and implementing initiatives in the fields of environment and preserving natural resources. Also building capacities of CSOs and cooperatives in managing projects on developing agricultural production through good agricultural practices and digital extension to adapt to climate changes. Also, projects that achieve food security, especially Ezra'a (Cultivate) Initiative with support from the National Alliance for Civil Development Work.



Faith communities have a moral imperative to address Water-food-climate Justice.

Anglican Communion-WCC

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

- Climate change cannot be addressed in isolation. The nexus between food, sustainable agriculture, water and climate change is vital.
- This session will provide a space for practitioners, heads of faith communities for deeper and concrete climate action.
- This session will explore nexus between water, food and climate change and highlight good practices of the faith communities.
- This session aims to highlight good practices on climate justice by faith community.
- This session will introduce increased collaborations between faith communities, multi-actors and governments to address climate change, especially highlighting the nexus.

SPEAKERS



NICHOLAS PANDE
Anglican Communion
Environmental Policy lead for the Anglican Communion

Nicholas is a member of the Anglican Church of Kenya. He is an agronomist with over 10 years' service to the Anglican Church in the areas of disaster resilience and response, food security and environmental stewardship. He worked with the Anglican Development Services of Kenya for 7 years before joining the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa where he served as the technical lead on environmental stewardship, disaster resilience and food security for 4 years before joining the Anglican Alliance.



THE RT REVD JULIO MURRAY
the Anglican Episcopal Diocese of Panama
Bishop of Diocese

Bishop Julio Murray is the diocesan bishop of the Anglican Episcopal Diocese of Panama and previously Primate of Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America (IARCA). Locally in Panamá, Bishop Julio has also been very actively involved with the Government as member of the High-Level Dialogue for the Bicentennial Pact. He is also President of Panamá's Ecumenical and Interfaith Committees. On behalf of the Anglican Communion, he Chairs the Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN) and took part in COP 25 in Spain, COP 26 in Glasgow, COP 27 in Egypt. At COP26 he was invited to speak on the BBC's Sunday Programme and took part in several interfaith initiatives. He also serves as Board Member of the Anglican Alliance and Chair of Phase III for the Lambeth Conference Steering Committee.





PROF. PEDRO ARROJO-AGUDO
UN Human Rights Council
UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights to water and sanitation

Prof. Pedro Arrojo-Agudo is the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. He was appointed by the Human Rights Council in September 2020 and started his mandate on 1 November 2020. Previously, from 2016 to 2019, Arrojo-Agudo served as an elected member (MP) of the Spanish Parliament during its eleventh and twelfth legislature, during which he was part of the International Cooperation Committee working on human rights. Arrojo-Agudo was Professor in the Area of Fundamentals of Economic Analysis at the University of Zaragoza (1989-2011), and has been professor emeritus since 2011.



DINESH SUNA
World Council of Churches
Coordinator, Ecumenical Water Network

Dinesh Suna is the coordinator of the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Water Network and based in Geneva. He has worked for more than 2 decades on ecumenical diakonia, especially on water justice issues. He has spoken at various international conferences and forums, including the G20 Interfaith Forum in Tokyo 23. He has also written a reflection on the WCC's water justice ministry. He is also a co-chair of the PaRD workstream on water, environment and climate action.



JOCABED SOLANO
Memoria Indígena
co-director

Jocabed Solano: is from the Gunadule nation, an Indigenous people which are one of seven original ethnic groups in Panama. She is co-director of Memoria Indígena and a missionary with United World Mission. Her work in part consists of walking with and learning from Indigenous peoples; facilitating processes of dialogue with Indigenous peoples, starting from the narratives and memories of these Indigenous peoples; encouraging Indigenous peoples to write and record the stories of their communities and also the stories of the Christian women and men from among them; articulating Indigenous theological approaches that emerge from and for Indigenous communities; and recognizing the good news of Jesus and how it is interwoven into the identities of Indigenous peoples in Abya Yala (America).



Listen to Those Who Listen to the Earth: A Plea for an Urgent Ethical Blue Framework by Indigenous Populations and World Religions

GLOBETHICS

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will provide a space for a genuine dialogue and networking opportunities, engaging with religious, indigenous and UN perspectives. It will also explore the conditions of moving from a shared ethical and faith-based ecological-water narrative to the common commitment towards the environment, aiming to bring to the forefront the voice of the indigenous communities, as disproportionately impacted by crisis, and being holders of traditional knowledge and ethos that should be part of the global policy discussion and challenge it. Moreover, the session will introduce open access publications on the interfaith engagement for water and environmental justice.

SPEAKERS



PROF. FADI DAOU (MODERATOR)
GLOBETHICS
Executive Director

Fadi Daou is the Executive Director of Globethics, fostering ethical leadership for a just, inclusive and sustainable world. He is also co-founder and former chairperson and CEO of Adyan Foundation, nurturing religious social responsibility for peace and sustainability. He is a senior expert, speaker and advisor for policy dialogue, and professor of geopolitics of religions and interreligious relations. Among his latest publications: *Divine Hospitality and Human Fraternity* (with Nayla Tabbara), 2023; and: *Religious Engagement in Global Affairs* (editor, expected end 2023). Fadi Daou is Laureate of the Elevate Prize for Global thinkers and change-makers.



PROF. NAZILA GHANEA
UN
Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

Ms. Ghanea is Professor of International Human Rights Law and Director of the MSc in International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford. Though her nearly 30-year career has been rooted in academia, Ms. Ghanea's academic work has often connected with multilateral practice in international human rights law. She has contributed to networks interested in freedom of religion or belief and its interrelationship with other human rights, and advised states and other stakeholders. She has taken every opportunity to support the promotion and application of principled understandings of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief.





REV DR JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
General Secretary

Rev. James Bhagwan descends from Indentured Labourers brought through Modern Slavery by the British from India to Fiji. An ordained Methodist minister, he serves as General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, who advocate on Climate Justice with a focus on Non-Economic Loss and Damage and accompaniment for displaced and relocated communities. He is a volunteer crew member of the traditional voyaging canoe - the Uto Ni Yalo- and a strong advocate for guardianship of the ocean; a Pacific champion for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, and collaborated on the multi-religious "Faith and Science: An Appeal for COP26".



PROF. DICKY SOFJAN
Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies,
Professor

Dicky Sofjan's teaching and research interests include Islam, religion and politics, ethics and sustainability. He is currently a Deputy Coordinator for the Eco-Pesantren Project, supported by the Templeton Foundation and also a CEO of PT Charisma Natura Irfani, a company that manages the Nglanggeran Eco-Village in Gunung Kidul, Yogyakarta. In addition, Dr. Sofjan serves as Indonesia's Regional Consul and has been engaged in many inter-religious initiatives of Indonesian Ministries of Religious Affairs and Foreign Affairs. He is International Board Member of Globethics, based in Switzerland, and is a member of the Educational Exchange Committee of the American-Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF).



MR KESHOE ISAIAH
MAIN Network
Founder

Keshoe Isaiah is a youth climate and environmental champion, Climate grassroots Storyteller and indigenous advocate from the Maasai community in Kenya. He is the founder of MAIN Network which amplifies the voices of indigenous and local communities in regards to climate crisis through storytelling and other projects. Moreover he is among the Focal activists at Fridays For Future Kenya, a youth advisory board at climate storytelling lab, Penn State University initiative and the current Mock COP Country Focal Point.



Eco-Affinity: Water and Climate Activism through Contemplative and Faith-Based Practice

AHAM Education

Time: 4:00 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

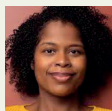
We are Nature. We are all made of the same stuff as Earth. Just like “hurt people, hurt people,” “hurt people, hurt the planet.” Thus, healing the planet is not separate from healing ourselves. This session features AHAM Education’s documentary Healing People Heal the Planet and an exploration of mindful awareness, eco-affinity and unity of nature, society and economy as catalysts for sustainable, nature-positive, nonviolent and transformative outcomes for people and planet, rather than fear, anxiety-driven action fueled by disconnection and polarization. Our dialogue features perspectives from government, youth, indigenous and faith leaders from the Americas.

SPEAKERS



KNELLEE BISRAM (MODERATOR)
AHAM Education
Founder

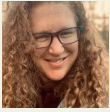
CEO of AHAM Education, dedicated to building coalitions and partnerships that foster mindful, resilient communities. As Representative to the United Nations, she brings a nature-based, mindful approach to meeting global challenges affecting children, women, marginalized communities in education, water and climate justice. Knellee is a certified mindfulness, peace education and mind body medicine facilitator and co-creator of the B.Nature program. She coaches activists, politicians, business, community, youth and BIPOC leaders in English and Spanish throughout the Americas. She holds a BA in languages, and MA in International Relations and Latin American Studies.



REVEREND DALLAS CONYERS
US CAN
International Liaison

Rev. Conyers is a board member of the USCAN network, and Climate Advocacy Lab. She is also a co-chair of the JEDI committee of USCAN, a co-lead of the policy committee of the Midwest Building Decarbonization Coalition, a member of The Black Church- The Green Movement and a Op-Ed Project 2021 Public Voices Fellow on the Climate Crisis. She is a Certified Sustainable Agriculturalist, Beekeeper, Internationally Certified Yoga/Pranayama/Meditation Instructor, and Licensed Nurseryman.





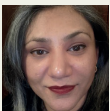
SUSANNAH TUTTLE
North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light
Eco-Justice Connection Director

Susannah is the Director of the NC Interfaith Power & Light (NCIPL) campaign for over a decade and in 2020 launched the Eco-Justice Connection. She received a Masters of Divinity degree from the Unitarian Universalist Seminary – Starr King School for the Ministry at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. Susannah is a founding member of the Southeast Faith Leaders Network (SFLN) and is an active member of the US Climate Action Network. She currently serves on the Executive Board of the Southeast Climate & Energy Network (SCEN), the Advisory Boards of Carolinas Integrated Sciences Assessment (CISA), and UNC Law School's Center for Climate, Energy, Environment, and Economics (CE3).



CRYSTAL CAVALIER KECK
7 Directions of Service
Co-Founder

Crystal Cavalier-Keck is co-founder of Seven Directions of Service with her husband, and citizen of the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation in Burlington, North Carolina. She is a board member of the Haw River Assembly, the Women's Resource Center in Alamance County, and Benevolence Farm. Crystal is an alumnus of the Sierra Club's Gender Equity and Environment Program and Women's Earth Alliance (WEA) Accelerator for Grassroots Women Environmental Leaders. She has a PhD in Organizational Leadership focused on Missing Murdered Indigenous Women in Gas/Oil Pipelines in frontline communities. Her current projects center on burden, exposure, risk, and health disparities among American Indians in environmental justice communities, and dismantling inequities in BIPOC communities to achieve sustainable food systems and food justice.



ARTI AHLUWALIA
Ecocivilisation
India Chair

Arti Ahluwalia is the India Chair for Ecocivilisation, a global movement in 45 countries aimed at nurturing the 5 ideas that build civilizations, namely Society, Beings, Consciousness, Relationships and Land. She is a family business owner in the construction sector and an active speaker at the various Industry Councils in India. As a passion project, Arti has created The BE WELL Village, a multi-stakeholder Behaviour & Well-being nurturing framework for adolescent children & their ecosystems spread across 7 states in India. BE WELL responds to challenges like radicalisation, suicide, life goal clarity, academic and behavioral competency gaps by engaging with 'one teen at a time and the entire ecosystem together'. She is an active contributor within the Co:Do Project, an ethical AI assisted platform for worldwide change makers to find each other & collaborate towards common goals through a digital and boundary agnostic platform. She serves as the United Nations Commons Cluster strategy coordinator & as its Chief Editor for the High Level Political forum and the SDG Summit.



‘Science-based Targets for Faith’: advancing a global standard for FBOs to measure, manage, and report GHG emissions.

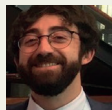
World Resources Institute

Time: 5:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Science-based targets’ are emissions reduction targets set by organizations that are in line with the science-derived goals of the Paris Agreement. This session will introduce the key concepts of ‘Science-based Targets’ and their possible applications to faith-based organizations. It will also present a guidance document for faith-based organizations; showcase examples where FBOs have successfully implemented Science-based Targets methodologies for climate mitigation. The session hopes to advance understanding and spur a discussion with audience about the main challenges and opportunities for FBOs to engage on climate mitigation efforts through the assets they own or control.

SPEAKERS



ALBERTO PALLECCHI (MODERATOR)
World Resources Institute (WRI)
Acting Director, Faith and Sustainability

Alberto Pallecchi is Acting Director of WRI Faith and Sustainability, an initiative which supports faith-based projects in the area of sustainability and enables faith-based communities to build capacity for locally led solutions to sustainability challenges. Prior to joining WRI, Alberto worked with the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA, ACP-EU) and the European University Institute (EUI). He holds a cum laude master's degree in political science from La Sapienza University of Rome, a second master's degree in international communication from Hanze University of Groningen, and a bachelor's degree in political science from Roma Tre University.



UWE S. BRANDES
Georgetown University
Professor

Uwe S. Brandes is professor of the practice, faculty director of the Urban & Regional Planning Program and faculty director of the Georgetown Global Cities Initiative. Brandes is a scholar-practitioner in the field of urban design and sustainable urban development, with more than 25 years of experience in the planning, design, and development of new buildings, the public realm, and community development partnerships. Projects completed under his direction have received national awards from the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Urban Land Institute.





FEDERICO MARIA BUTERA (ONLINE)
Saint Peter's Basilica Environmental Sustainability project
Member of the Scientific Committee

Federico Maria Butera is professor emeritus of the Polytechnic of Milan where he taught Environmental Technical Physics. He has carried out research in the sector of the rational use of energy and renewable sources in the built environment. He participated in the activities of the International Energy Agency in the field of energy efficiency and coordinated European projects on the same topics; he collaborated with UN-Habitat on issues relating to the sustainable development of urban settlements. He is the author of over 200 scientific articles, 13 books and manuals, multimedia products and around a hundred informative articles in newspapers and magazines.



OLIVIA WILKINSON (ONLINE)
Joint Learning Initiative on Faith
and Local Communities (JLI)
Director of Research

Olivia Wilkinson is the Director of Research for the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), an international collaboration on evidence for faith actors' roles in the humanitarian and development sectors. She directs JLI's research work, collaborating with partners from UN agencies and governments, such as UNICEF and UNHCR, to faith-based organizations and NGOs, including Islamic Relief and World Vision, and in collaboration with universities such as the University of Leeds and University College London.





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 11

DECEMBER 11TH 2023



Exploring Religious Resistance to Climate Action

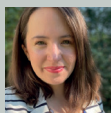
A Rocha International & ICSD

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Religious communities are expected to provide the moral ground to address the climate crisis and to mobilize their members to take up meaningful and transformational climate actions. Nevertheless, some major religious circles across various faith traditions, in both the Global North and Global South, have demonstrated resistance, even hostility toward climate actions. To understand the various reasons behind such resistance would be the needed first step to break down the barriers. This session will explore the reasons for religious resistance to climate conversations and action, and showcase opportunities for changes and progress. Voices from major faith traditions will share how they are handling these particular challenges, and successfully mobilize their communities to action.

SPEAKERS



KATHLEEN MAXWELL (MODERATOR)
Faith in Place / Interfaith Power & Light
Communications Senior Coordinator

Currently a graduate student at Duke University on Environmental Economics & Policy and Energy & Environment, she has been serving in the last six years at Faith in Place / Interfaith Power & Light as Communication Coordinator, reaching out the communities. As a Lutheran she deeply cares about the powerful role that people of all faiths and spiritualities play in advocating for a more just and equitable world.



VANESSA NAKATE
Rise Up Movement
Founder

Vanessa Nakate is a climate activist from Uganda. She was the First Fridays For Future climate activist in Uganda and founder of the Rise up Climate Movement, which has mobilized tens of thousands youth in Africa, amplifying their voices. Her work includes raising awareness to the danger of climate change, the causes and the impacts. She spearheaded the campaign to save Congo's rainforest, which is facing massive deforestation. This campaign later spread to other countries from Africa to Europe. She is working on a project that involves installation of solar and institutional stoves in schools. She holds a degree in Business Administration in Marketing from Makerere University Business School. Vanessa was one of the young climate activists who were chosen to speak at the COP25 gathering in Spain, and she was one of 20 climate activists who penned a letter addressed a letter to the participants of the World Economic Forum in Davos, calling on them to stop subsidizing fossil fuels.





RABBI YONATAN NERIL
Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
Founder and Executive Director

Rabbi Yonatan highlights nexus between religion and ecology and mobilizes faith communities to climate action. He authored the bestselling *Eco Bible: An Ecological Commentary on the Hebrew Bible*. He is a member of UNEP's Faith-based Advisory Council and has co-organized 12 interfaith environmental conferences in USA and Israel. Yonatan advances faith-based renewable energy innovation in developing world and facilitated development of a solar field on church lands in Mozambique. Raised in California, Yonatan completed his MA and BA from Stanford University. He received rabbinical ordination in Israel and lives with his wife, Shana, and their two children in Jerusalem.



BRIAN WEBB
Christian Climate Observers Program
Co-Director

Brian Webb serves as the Director of Campus Sustainability at The College of Wooster, where he leads the college's efforts to promote environmental stewardship at an institutional level. Before coming to Wooster in August 2023, Brian worked at Houghton University, where he helped achieve a 46% carbon footprint reduction in just ten years and taught such courses as Environmental Communication, Environmental Public Policy, and God, Country, and Climate Change. Brian holds an undergraduate degree in French, a master's degree in Experiential Education, and a second master's degree in Sustainability and Environmental Management from Harvard Extension School. Brian also serves as an active leader in the faith-based environmental movement and co-directs the Christian Climate Observers Program, which mentors emerging faith leaders at the COP. His research centers around the intersection between climate policy, environmental communication, and faith communities in the United States and elsewhere.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
General Secretary

Rev. Bhagwan is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji. Appointed by the General Assembly in 2018 he has been active in reviving PCC relationships, recruiting new partners and increasing the organization's visibility as well as introducing a five-year strategic plan. Rev Bhagwan holds a Bachelor of Divinity from the Pacific Theological College and a Masters in Theology from Korea.



Youth, Climate Anxiety & The Role of Faith

Bahu Trust

Time: 11:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Exploring climate anxiety and trauma suffered by young people as a result of the climate crisis. We will examine the role of faith, whether in modern times it plays a role in bringing about healing. We will hear the testimonies and explore the coping mechanism of young people involved negotiation spaces at COP and in their respective professions.

SPEAKERS



KAMRAN SHEZAD (MODERATOR)
Bahu Trust
Executive Director

Kamran Shezad is the Executive Director Bahu Trust, a network of 22 mosques in the UK. He sits on the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development (UN IATF) and previously served on the Civil Society & Youth Advisory Council to the Presidency of COP26. A strong advocate of using faith-inspired approach in guiding behavioural change. Kamran is a grassroots environmental activist and social justice campaigner, he has worked with a diverse range of faith groups and has produced toolkits, practical guides and mobilised communities for climate action. Kamran is a Chartered Environmentalist, awarded by the Society for the Environment



LUCY PLUMMER
Soka Gakkai International (SGI)
National Youth Leader (UK)
and Youth Engagement Consultant

Lucy has worked professionally with and for youth in various roles at the national and international level for more than a decade. Lucy has a bachelors in Youth Studies and a masters in Sustainable Development, focusing on young people's engagement with sustainability and sustainability-based development. Lucy has co-ordinated numerous youth engagement groups and projects on behalf of institutions and NGOs, including faith-based organisations and UN offices. Lucy is an advocate for youth inclusion at the UN and plays an active role in advancing young people's inclusion in climate processes as a member of the UNFCCC children and youth constituency group, YOUNGO





TAIMUR ASHFAQ

Anglican Communion

Children and Youth Coordinator - Anglican Diocese of Natal

An experienced professional in Pakistan's energy sector, his core dedication lies in advancing Pakistan's energy industry aligning with the UN SDG, with particular focus on enhancing food security and addressing climate change. Influenced by his participation in Strategic Leadership Fellowship at Al-Sharq Forum, Taimur is deeply committed to bridging the nexus between energy, climate change, and education to drive community-driven behavioral shifts. He expanded his knowledge through a Summer School on Climate Change at the National University. In 2022, he authored a research paper in line with COP-26 commitments, specifically addressing energy security and Greenhouse Gas Reductions in Pakistan. Presently, his focus centers on actively promoting climate change awareness, advocating for efficient energy utilization, and fostering the integration of Renewable energy into national grid.



MANDISA GUMADA

Anglican Communion

Children and Youth Coordinator - Anglican Diocese of Natal

Mandisa Gumada, an Active Green Anglican currently working as a Diocesan Children and Youth Coordinator in the Anglican Diocese of Natal (ACSA), She is lover of Creation Care and is passionate about children and youth development in an outside the church. She believes the voice of the young people need not to be just be listened to with regards to issues of climate change, but to also be heard then sanction immediate actions in order to not further be contributors of ignorant acts that sees our world in devastation from environment disasters. Her motto is: "We can ALL do better"



Call to Action: Joint Commitment of Faith-Based Actors for Climate Justice

GreenFaith International

Time: 12:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

Many clergy find themselves on the frontlines of the climate crisis. At COP28, they will tell their stories and how their faith communities have been impacted by floods, fire, drought, and tornados, and how they respond as faith leaders, not only to rebuild, but to try to curb climate emergency by changing patterns of consumption within their faith communities.

SPEAKERS



DAVID MIRON WAPNER
Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
Board Chair

David has served in this position since 2013. He engages at climate COPs and leads Sustainable Technology Projects at Yoyah Group. For 12 years he managed US-Israel Science & Technology Commission. He co-founded the BrightSource Energy and was board chair of Heschel Center for Sustainability. He was president of Jerusalem's leading Reform synagogue, Kehilat Kol Haneshamah, and board member of Jewish National Fund for 8 years. The Los Angeles native moved to Israel in 1978.



RABBI YONATAN NERIL
The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
President

Rabbi Yonatan highlights nexus between religion and ecology and mobilizes faith communities to climate action. He authored the bestselling Eco Bible: An Ecological Commentary on the Hebrew Bible. He is a member of UNEP's Faith-based Advisory Council and has co-organized 12 interfaith environmental conferences in USA and Israel. Yonatan advances faith-based renewable energy innovation in developing world and facilitated development of a solar field on church lands in Mozambique. Raised in California, Yonatan completed his MA and BA from Stanford University. He received rabbinical ordination in Israel and lives with his wife, Shana, and their two children in Jerusalem.





BISHOP MARIKA MARKOVITS
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweden
General Secretary

Markovits is a bishop of the Diocese of Linköping, which has long been engaged in environmental work, according to the “Roadmap for the Climate”, a strategy document that aims to make the diocese climate positive by 2030. Markovits is a former member of Stockholm municipality council for Agenda 2030. Before being ordained as bishop, she was the cathedral dean in Stockholm. Markovits is an author of several articles on social justice, as director of Stockholm City mission between 2004 and 2019.



REV. FLETCHER HARPER
Green Faith
Executive Director

Fletcher Harper is an Anglican priest and the Executive Director of GreenFaith, an international, multi-faith, grassroots climate justice organization. A pioneer in the religious-environmental movement, he has led GreenFaith’s development from a local organization based in the US to an international group with campaigns in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Fletcher is an Ashoka Fellow and author of GreenFaith: Mobilizing God’s People to Protect the Planet.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
Pacific Conference of Churches
Bishop

Rev. Bhagwan is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji. Appointed by the General Assembly in 2018, he has been active in reviving PCC relationships, recruiting new partners and increasing the organisation’s visibility as well as introducing a five-year strategic plan. Rev Bhagwan holds a Bachelor of Divinity from the Pacific Theological College, and a Masters in Theology from Korea.



Pastoral Care and Support for Negotiators

UUSC

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This side event leverages the unique role and power that faith leaders have in influencing and shaping the spirit of the negotiations. SB58 did not advance the goals of civil society and lacked the moral authority it needed for a productive and progressive discussion at COP28 to advance climate justice for those we serve. This daily interfaith-negotiator event will provide moral support through pastoral care to any negotiator as they need it to help the negotiations and closed room discussions bolster the collective courage, wisdom and care that our leaders possess.

SPEAKERS



REV. MARY KATHERINE MORN
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
President

After 30 years in faith-based leadership, the Rev. Mary Katherine Morn joined UUSC as President and Lead Executive Officer in 2018. She has helped to grow a number of progressive congregations serving their members and the larger community. Mary Katherine contributed to efforts for economic, racial, and social justice in Macon, Georgia at the Economic Opportunity Council/Headstart with the NAACP. She also worked deeply in the reproductive justice movement. In Nashville, Tennessee, she collaborated with the Interfaith Alliance and Industrial Areas Foundation. In Fairfax, Virginia, she worked with interfaith ministries addressing hunger and homelessness, collaborated with LGBTQI+ advocacy organizations, and served on the county's homelessness task force.





MERYNE WARAH
GreenFaith
Global Organizing and Campaigns Director

Meryne services as the Global Organizing and Campaigns Director at GreenFaith. She is based in Nairobi, Kenya. She previously worked as Senior Project Director at the Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), where she coordinated PACJA's regional climate justice policy advocacy in 8 African countries. She also served as the Programme Officer for Gender, Environment and Climate Change at the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya.



REV. JAMES BHAGWAN
PACIFIC Conference of Churches
General Secretary

Rev James Bhagwan is the General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches, a role he has held since 2018. He is an ordained Minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji and held the role of Secretary for Communications and Overseas Mission with the church between 2013 and 2017. He has a master's degree in theology majoring in Christian Social Ethics. He is a strong advocate for the Reweaving of the Ecological Mat as an issue of Pacific self-determination and a gift to the world.



Sustainability in the Quran and Sunnah

**Mohamed Bin Rashid Center
for Islamic Culture**

Time: 2:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session is aimed to provide a brief introduction about sustainability in the Quran and Sunna, which are the main religious resources for muslims. Religions play a big rule in adjusting and ruling the societies behaviors, so we take it as a strong basement to spread our values within our muslims societies and share the other brothers in humanity. In the other hand, the sustainability takes a big position in IACAD projects and initiations, and according to that this session will present some of those smart projects.

SPEAKERS



MOHAMED IBRAHIM SAEED FARSI
Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department
Senior Grand Researcher

Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim Al-Farsi was born in Dubai 1980 and graduated from the UAEU in 2003 from Humanities and Societies Collage. In 2008 Master Graduated from Jordan University in Hadith. In 2013 Graduated from Jordan University in Hadith as well>

2004 – 2013 worked as T.A. at UAEU.

2015 – 2016 Senior Grand Researcher at IACAD.

2016 – 2022 the head of research and society survey section at IACAD.

2022 – Now Senior Grand Researcher at Mohamed Bin Rashid Center For Islamic Culture (part of IACAD).



SESSION DESCRIPTION

This session will explore working of Aham Brahmasmi through Scriptures of Hinduism to promote UNEP Faith for Earth Initiative. This session aims to promote UNEP Faith for Earth Initiative. This session will introduce Hinduism way of Ecosystem Restoration.

SPEAKERS



LOKESH KUMAR SHARMA (MODERATOR)
Aham Brahmasmi, India
Founder & President

Mr. Lokesh Kumar Sharma, a UNEP Faith for Earth Councillor and Advisor to UNEP Faith for Earth Youth Council, started his environmental social work in the year 2016 by working for Sustainable Development Goal No. 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation). In year 2018, he founded "Aham Brahmasmi" a religious organization based Hinduism and currently, 15 frontal organisations are working on many Social Environmental and Religious projects in more than 350 Districts of India. He also drafted more than 50 Legal Bills for Ecosystem Restoration, which are pending before Indian Parliament for Introduction, Discussion, Passing and enacted as Law.



ROMA SHARMA
Global Alliance for Ecosystem Restoration
Founder & Chief Financial Officer

In year 2021, she founded an organisation namely, "Global Alliance for Ecosystem Restoration" to address the issues related to Ecosystem Restoration. The organisation is working dedicatedly as an umbrella platform for individuals and organisations who are working for the factors affected our Earth's Ecosystem. She is also working on a project focusing on women empowerment through 5R Concept of Ecosystem Restoration.





CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI
Aham Brahmasmi, India
Convenor

Mr. Chandra Prakash Joshi is a elected sitting representative from Chittorgrh, Rajasthan Lok Sabha of Parliament of India. He introduced several Legal Bills for conservation of Environment and Water Resources of India in Lok Sabha of Parliament of India. He is also promoting Ecosystem Restoration through promoting various individuals, activities and organisations working for the cause.



MEGHNA TYAGI
Aham Brahmasmi, India
Translator/Convenor

Meghna Tyagi is a devoted environmentalist and sustainability enthusiast. With a background in environmental engineering and a passion for preserving our planet, she worked on various projects to shift our focus towards a healthier planet and foster heightened awareness of pressing environmental concerns. She is working with Aham Brahmasmi with Dedication to diminishing our ecological footprint and paving the way for a greener, more sustainable world and future.



NITIN SAXENA
Global Alliance for Ecosystem Restoration
Translator/Convenor

As a Media professional, he accredited over 30 years active experience in print and broadcast with over 4000 bylines having appeared in different English language newspapers and magazines of reputed media houses including The Hindustan Times, India Today Rashtriya Sahara Groups besides making documentaries on different subjects. Since the inception of GAFER, he is working as a Convenor (Media) and look after Eco-Naarad and SDG Sansad Projects and did multiple workshops on environment.



A Visual Expression of Humanity's Values

Bahai International Community

Time: 4:30 pm

SESSION DESCRIPTION

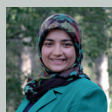
This is an interactive artistic workshop that aims to highlight humanity's shared values across themes and constituencies working on climate justice. We will explore intersecting issues such as gender equality, youth and food systems etc. This workshop has the potential to generate new partnerships and collaborations based on these shared values.

SPEAKERS



SAPHIRA RAMESHFAR (MODERATOR)
Baha'i International Community
Representative to the United Nations

Saphira Rameshfhar currently serves as a Representative of the Baha'i International Community to the United Nations Headquarters in New York, leading engagement on gender equality and climate justice. Saphira currently serves on the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women to the United Nations in New York and serves as a Co-Chair of their Young Professionals program. Saphira is a graduate of Oxford University.



NOUHAD AWWAD
Greenpeace MENA
Global Outreach Coordinatorr

Nouhad Awwad is the Ummah for Earth campaigner and Global Outreach Coordinator at Greenpeace-MENA. In 2015, Nouhad started the Arab youth climate movement chapter in Lebanon. She was elected as YOUNGO focal point for 2017 in which she works to empower young people so that they have a voice at UNFCCC conferences, as well as to promote youth participation in climate change projects at the local and national levels.





**FAITH
PAVILION**

DAY 12

DECEMBER 12TH 2023



Faith, Scripture and Living in Ecological Balance

Time: 10:30 am

SESSION DESCRIPTION

In light of the ecological challenges facing humanity, how can faith communities shift their foci toward 'ecological conversion' as the religious imperative of our time?

The ecological crisis is a crisis of religion just as it is a crisis of ecology. This is because religion is needed to solve the crisis, and unless religion gets involved religion will cease to be relevant for the future.

This session will explore how clergy and religious institutions can be empowered to teach, preach, and act to curb climate change and reveal religious practice that is ecologically grounded.

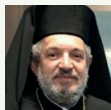
SPEAKERS



DAVID MIRON WAPNER

**The Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development
Board chair**

David Miron Wapner serves as the board chair of the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development. A native of Los Angeles, he moved to Israel in 1978. Today he is responsible for Sustainable Technology Projects at the Yoyah Group, a company focused on strategic planning. For twelve years he managed the US-Israel Science and Technology Commission. He was part of the founding team of BrightSource Energy, a world-leading solar energy company. He served as board chair of the Heschel Center for Sustainability, was president of Jerusalem's leading Reform synagogue, Kehilat Kol Haneshamah, and served on the Jewish National Fund board.



METROPOLITAN SERAFIM KYKOTIS

**Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa
Archbishop**

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Serafim (Kykotis) of Zimbabwe is the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Zimbabwe and Angola in Africa, part of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa. Prior to that he was Metropolitan of Johannesburg and Pretoria (2001-2010) and Metropolitan of Kenya and Tanzania (1997-2001). He was one of the Vice-Presidents of the All Africa Conference of Churches. He is a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches. He represents His Holiness Pope and Patriarch Theodoros II at UN, AU, EU and the climate COPs and at interreligious dialogues.





JOCABED REINA SOLANO MISELIS
Memoria Indígena
Director

Jocabed Reina Solano Miselis, from the Gunadule Indigenous nation in Panama, is a theologian, activist, and the Director of Memoria Indígena. She is registered as a co-researcher at the University of the Western Cape for the project on “An Earthed Faith: Telling the Story amid the ‘Anthropocene.’” She is part of Indigenous Caucus on Climate Change and part of Renew our World. She participated in Cop25, 26, and 27. In Cop25 she was among the indigenous negotiators. She speaks and writes widely on creation care, the relation with mother earth in guna perspective, climate change, and indigenous rights.



KHOJESTE MISTREE
Zoroastrian Studies
Managing Trustee

Khojeste P. Mistree is one of the world's leading authorities on Zoroastrianism and ecology. He is a Trustee of Zoroastrian Studies, the Bombay Parsi Punchayet, the Athravan Educational Trust, and the World Alliance of Parsi Irani Zarthoshtis. Through his work, he has promoted about a religious renaissance in the Zoroastrian community. As a preserver of ancient Zoroastrian heritage, he has worked ceaselessly to get each and every one of the 46 fire temples and one priestly seminary in Mumbai declared as heritage structures. He lives with his wife in Mumbai.



BISHOP MARC ANDRUS
Episcopal Diocese of California
Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Ph.D. is the eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California. Raised among the hills and rivers of East Tennessee, Bishop Marc developed an early love for the beauty of God's creation and heard a call to help protect it. As Bishop of California, he leads The Episcopal Church's delegation to the annual UN Climate Conference (COP) and serves as Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry's representative to the Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN). He is the author of two critically-acclaimed books. Bishop Marc lives in San Francisco with his wife, Dr. Sheila Andrus.

