

Faith-based Advocacy at the UN

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2020 Faith Call to Action for the UN Summit on Biodiversity

Faith Call to Action for Biodiversity

The natural world is a vital source of humanity's collective flourishing, and in its grandeur can be found signs of the Divine. Throughout history, and in all parts of the world, nature is the physical loom upon which the tapestry of culture, civilization, and peace is woven. Religious and spiritual traditions compel us to care for creation, of which we are an integral part, with love, respect, and reverence.

We grieve the excessive use of natural resources that disrupts the balance of ecosystems and acknowledge our shortcomings in aligning our actions with the values and tenets of our traditions. Yet we also recognize the immense power of faith to bring about radical positive change by imparting hope and summoning the courage necessary for billions to respond to the challenges and crises before us.

As people of faith and spirit, we have a responsibility to ensure our communities cultivate an appreciation for the natural world. Transformation comes through nurturing faithful attitudes and approaches that create sustainable patterns of individual lifestyles and collective actions. Committing to spiritual wisdom and scientific truth, we can return to a more integrated relationship with the earth, where there is abundance for all, scarcity for none, and human life thriving in harmony with the natural world.



UNITED NATIONS

**FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT 2021**

ACTION TRACK #1:
**ENSURE
ACCESS TO
SAFE AND
NUTRITIOUS
FOOD FOR ALL**



ACTION TRACK #2:
**SHIFT TO
SUSTAINABLE
CONSUMPTION
PATTERNS**



ACTION TRACK #3:
**BOOST NATURE-
POSITIVE
PRODUCTION**



ACTION TRACK #4:
**ADVANCE
EQUITABLE
LIVELIHOODS**



ACTION TRACK #5:
**BUILD RESILIENCE TO
VULNERABILITIES,
SHOCKS AND STRESS**



The background of the entire page is a photograph of several tomato plants. The plants are supported by vertical wooden stakes. They are covered in green leaves and have numerous tomatoes in various stages of ripeness, from bright green to deep red. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is natural and fresh.

Faith + Food Coalition

[About](#) [Events](#) [Action](#)

[Join The Community](#)

Faith + Food Coalition

Putting faith in the fact that we can
sustainably feed everyone on the
planet.

Overview

Increase since 2014/15

Advocacy eco-systems for different topics

Significant number of faith groups involved

Various opportunities to engage

Examples of current FBOs

- Saint Egidio Community
- Muslim for Progressive Values
- Parliament of the World's Religions
- Religions for Peace
- Baha'i International Community
- Jewish Theological Seminary, USA
- World Evangelical Alliance
- World Vision International
- Tzu Chi Buddhist Foundation
- KAICIID Dialogue Centre
- The Archbishop of Canterbury
- The International Center for Religion and Diplomacy
- Joint Learning Initiative
- Caritas Internationalis
- ACT Alliance
- Church of Latter Day Saints/LDS
- FinnChurchAid
- World Council of Churches
- United Religions Initiative
- World Jewish Congress

Key Moments & Processes

UN General Assembly

High Level Political Forum

United Nations Environment Assembly

United Nations Environment Programme Faith for Earth initiative

UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP26

Advantages

Organise side events

Issue statements and responses

Network and partner with other FBOs and civil society

Engage with UN entities

Engage with Member States

UN accreditation

Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

UN Department of Global Communications (DGC)

United Nations Environment Assembly

UNFCCC Observer Status

Faith Coalitions & Groupings

Committee of Religious NGOs

UNFCCC Interfaith Liaison Committee

Faith and Biodiversity UN Coordination Group

