THE FAITHS

How they are already ensuring sustainable development & why

LOVE

COMPASSION

CELEBRATION

are central
Faiths feed millions upon millions of people...
...if not billions of people...
Faiths care for them through schools...
Faiths manage the land and the assets...
For centuries, the heart of faith practice has included...
Compassion! Hospitals! Healing! Education! Wisdom! Management! of assets! Search for justice!
SDGs:

17 GOALS

6 KEY THEMES

Justice & Equality
Lifestyle
Education
Creation
Water
Energy
We propose an 18th SDG – CELEBRATION
The 17 goals are a wonderful vision of what could happen
But we need to celebrate our achievements.
Because the SDGs will be delivered by people giving their time and energy. So we need to celebrate these gifts.
That means giving thanks to God...
to communities and supporters...
and to partners and volunteers.
LIFESTYLE
Daoists have re-introduced the old custom of following a vegetarian diet twice a month.
Christian farmers in Uganda are practising a form of sustainable agriculture called Farming God’s Way...
...and also in Kenya and Tanzania.
Muslim farmers launched their own faith approach to sustainable agriculture, Islamic Farming, in Kenya...
...and also in Uganda and Tanzania.
Farmers are on the frontline of climate change.
The Shinto idea of a Great Tree Wall of Japan...
...is rooted in their vision of living with nature.
EcoSikh has a vision of living sustainably.
The Armenian Orthodox Church has developed a Green Hospitality and Green Waste programme.
Greening Hajj is a huge lifestyle movement that is sweeping through Muslim communities worldwide.
Sheikh Qaribullah, head of Qadiriyyah Movement in Kano, Nigeria, discusses greening pilgrimage
50% of all schools are linked to faiths.
The first Faith-based Education for Sustainable Development Toolkit was launched in East Africa...
...and declared an example of best practice by UNESCO.
Hindus are promoting greener lifestyles to their followers.
Catholic youth are being mobilised to take action.
Daoists are planning summer camps for young people.
WATER
In Indonesia 28 Muslim women’s groups are taking action on water sanitation and hygiene.
The Hajjar Guide helps Muslim children to understand the preciousness of water and its proper use.
In India, Hindus campaign to clean the Ganges River.
Places of worship are installing alternative energy.
80% CARBON REDUCTION TARGET BY 2050
Climate change is a moral and spiritual issue.
An Islamic Fatwa against illegal logging and wildlife poaching was issued in Indonesia and is spreading.
Central to all is that our use of what God has given us should benefit all of God’s creation.
15% of the world’s forests are seen as sacred.
70% of National Parks were originally sacred!
JUSTICE & EQUALITY
In Tanzania and Uganda, churches are working on programmes to give women economic independence.
$5 million

THAT’S WHAT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY PUTS INTO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN THE USA
PARTNERSHIP
84% of people say they belong to a faith.

50% of all schools are linked to faiths.

Together, faiths are the third or fourth largest investing group on the global stock market.
So the question is not: ‘Why are you working with the faiths?’ The question is: ‘Why are you not?’
CELEBRATION
The SDGs will be undertaken primarily not because of funding but because people believe they are important. That should be celebrated. We should say thank you.
And that is the world of faiths in relationship to the SDGs.

Martin Palmer, Secretary General, Alliance of Religions and Conservation
The UN Faiths Meeting: Faith in the Future,
Bristol, 8 September 2015