



Faith Plans Newsletter | April 2023

The world continues to face uncertainty, especially in the realm of finances. There is a general unease in the media, which focuses on rising costs, interest rates and inflation. Meanwhile, quietly and without fuss, behind the scenes, the work of faiths goes on. This newsletter highlights some of the good that can be achieved when faiths use their wisdom to create plans for a better future.

Our founding organisation, FaithInvest, has just published a white paper ['Faith-consistent investing and smaller organisations'](#). This will be of particular interest to any faith organisation which has chosen to include Key Area One: Faith-consistent use of assets, in their Faith Plan. The World Evangelical Alliance is keen to deepen its faith-consistent investing work and has just signed a collaboration agreement with FaithInvest to do just that, and in Asia traditional Chinese beliefs and values will guide the creation of a resource for lay Daoists.

A number of faith organisations are finalising their new Faith Plan, including one from AJVDC in Goma Catholic diocese of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). We will upload these plans to the [New Faith Plans](#) page of the website as soon as they are available.

Finally, as we prepare for [Earth Day 2023](#), we have compiled examples of what some of our partners and Faith Plans participants are doing would love to hear what you are planning, stories from people of faith around the world who continue to do all that they can to protect people and planet, and to share them with you in this newsletter, so please do keep sending us your news!

From the Faith Plans Team

New partnership with the World Evangelical Alliance



The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), the second largest network of Christians worldwide, connecting 600 million evangelical Christians, has signed a collaboration agreement with FaithInvest, the founders of Faith Plans. WEA and FaithInvest will work together to increase faith-consistent investing globally to achieve a more just and sustainable world.

This partnership includes many exciting initiatives, include a proposed major event in Geneva, Switzerland, in January 2024 which would bring faith-based investors together in an 'alternative Davos' to look at values-driven approaches to the economy, around the time of the World Economic Forum's annual meeting.

This partnership also aspires to support faith-based entrepreneurs and communities to develop enterprises designed to protect the environment and address social concerns. What makes this particularly interesting is the focus on aiming to develop investible enterprises to benefit people and planet. [Read more...](#)

FaithInvest offers guidance to smaller organisations



FaithInvest has just published a new white paper, focusing on how smaller organisations can begin to explore faith-consistent investing (FCI).

This [paper](#) explores the challenges these groups face by when they wish to adopt FCI but believe their limited resources might not stretch to meet their ambitions.

This white paper outlines a number of creative ways that they can achieve their goals. [Read more...](#)

[Download the white paper](#)

Goma group prepares to launch their Faith Plan

A group in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the AJVDC (Association des Jeunes Visionnaires pour le Développement du Congo) is in the final stage of preparing their Faith Plan. This group is situated in Goma Catholic diocese and their Faith Plan focuses on three of the Seven Key areas:

- Faith-consistent use of assets
- Education and Young People
- Lifestyles

Their ambitious seven-year plan aims to grow 1.6m trees, including trees for forestry, food production and cash crops, across 1,000 hectares of land. This plan has strong environmental impact as well as economic benefits for women and youth. It also includes a comprehensive capacity-building programme for faith leaders. The Faith Plan will be available on the [Faith Plans website](#) in the coming days.



Photo: Youth nurture tree saplings. The AJVDC have created an inspiring Faith Plan focusing on reforestation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

[Read new Faith Plans](#)

Harnessing traditional Chinese beliefs and values



Dr Lee Yiu-fai, Abbot of Wong Tai Sin Temple, met with FaithInvest's Martin Palmer last month. They discussed an initiative to use traditional Chinese beliefs and values to create a guidebook on investing, for lay Daoists.

Martin Palmer has been invited to speak at an international meeting in China in September this year. [Read more...](#)

Preparing for Earth Day 2023



We in the Faith Plans team are busy preparing for [Earth Day](#). This year's theme is 'Invest in our planet', a theme close to our hearts.

For many faiths and organisations, every day is like an Earth Day. We have compiled a number of examples of how faiths live out their values through their work, including a publication from UNEP's Faith for Earth Programme and the WWF's Beliefs and Values Programme, and Interfaith Power and Light's call to prayer for Earth Week. [Read more...](#)

Throughout Earth Day, we will be busy on Twitter, [@FaithPlans](#), so please do join the conversation online and let us know what you are doing to celebrate the day.



Faith Plans information series

We are delighted with the level of interest in our new, free, online information series for groups starting their Faith Plans journey.

When you register, the series is delivered to your inbox each week for nine weeks, with links to online resources, exploring the Seven Key Areas of Faith Plans.

It also provides guidance on how to create your own Faith Plan, and suggestions for what to do next.

[Register now](#)

Share your Faith Plan

If you have already developed your Faith Plan, or have a draft Plan ready to go, please let us know. If you would like to showcase your Faith Plan on our website, alongside those developed by other faiths around the world, you can upload it here.

[Upload your Faith Plan](#)

Stay in touch on social media

We love to hear about your activities for people and planet, especially this month for Earth Day, on April 23.

Do [follow us on Twitter](#) for the latest updates, and share your own news with us using the [#FaithPlans](#) hashtag, or via [@FaithPlans](#).



Faith Plans for People and Planet is a framework to help faith communities plan how to use their assets, investments and influence to drive positive action on the climate and environment.

Developed by FaithInvest and WWF's Beliefs and Values Programme, it is available to all faith groups via the [FaithPlans.org](#) website which has resources, guides and inspiring case studies.

Join the Movement of faith communities taking action to protect the planet!