

#### 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



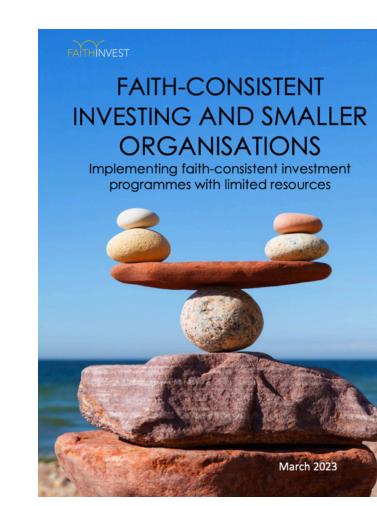
The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), the second largest network of Christians worldwide, connecting 600 million evangelical Christians, has signed a collaboration agreement with FaithInvest, the founders of Faith Plans. WEA and FaithInvest will work together to increase faith-consistent investing globally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

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.

Geneva, Switzerland, in January 2024 which would bring faith-based investors together in

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



white paper, focusing on how smaller organisations can begin to explore faithconsistent investing (FCI). This <u>paper</u> explores the challenges these

FaithInvest has just published a new

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

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.

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



inspiring Faith Plan focusing on reforestation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Photo: Youth nurture tree saplings.

The AJVDC have created an

#### Dr Lee Yiu-fai, Abbot of Wong Tai Sin Temple, met with

Harnessing traditional Chinese beliefs and values



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...



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...

conversation online and let us know what you are doing to celebrate the day. **Faith Plans information** series

Throughout Earth Day, we will be busy on Twitter, <u>@FaithPlans</u>, so please do join the



### information series for groups starting their Faith Plans journey.

We are delighted with the level of

interest in our new, free, online

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.

create your own Faith Plan, and suggestions for what to do next.

It also provides guidance on how to

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

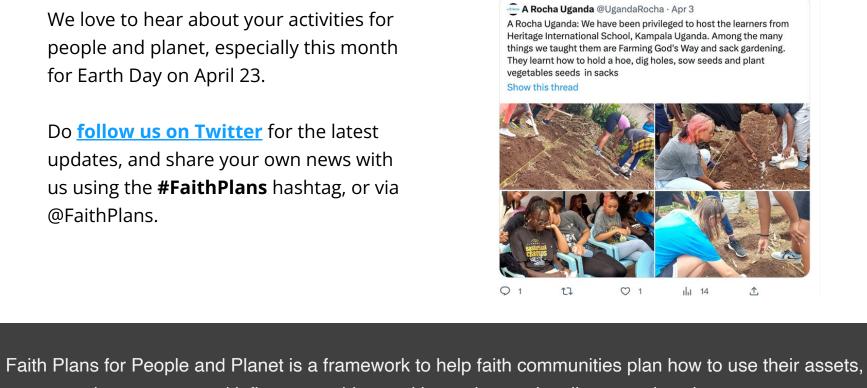
developed by other faiths around the world, you can upload it here.

Upload your Faith Plan

Stay in touch on social media FaithPlans - For People and Planet @FaithPlans · Apr 4 Great to see this practical sharing of knowledge from our partner

people and planet, especially this month for Earth Day on April 23. Do <u>follow us on Twitter</u> for the latest updates, and share your own news with us using the **#FaithPlans** hashtag, or via @FaithPlans.

We love to hear about your activities for



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.

 $(\rightarrow)$ 

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



an initiative of FaithInvest