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## Faith Plans Newsletter | February 2024

The headliner for this month's newsletter is the much-anticipated launch of *Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth*. This scholarly yet accessible document is described as 'a call to action for Muslims and non-Muslims alike to embrace their role as custodians of the Earth and to work towards a more sustainable and equitable future for all beings.'

Read on to find out more!

- Discover how **Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth** reveals how Islam can be a driving force for sustainable development.
- Register for the next cohort of the very popular **Faithful Finance** training course from FaithInvest, coming May 2024.
- See Faith Plans partner **Hajjat Sebyala Aphwa** in action at COP28.
- Sign up to GreenFaith's new **Multi-Faith Climate Finance Pledge**.
- Discover a Swahili resource to accompany **Laudato Si'**.

We love to hear stories from people of faith around the world who continue to do all that they can to protect people and planet, so please do keep sending us your news and updates!

*From the Faith Plans Team*



*Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth*, was launched in Kenya on 27 July. This highly-anticipated publication is 'a call to action for Muslims and non-Muslims alike to embrace their role as custodians of the Earth and to work towards a more sustainable and equitable future for all beings.'

A rich blend of scientific and scholarly Islamic thinking, this ground-breaking covenant will both enable and facilitate the Muslim world to take immediate and impactful action to tackle the triple environmental crises of global climate change, loss of biological diversity and pollution. It contains a series of ambitious pledges, as well as multiple calls to action across areas such as education, governance, charitable giving and more.

*Al-Mizan* is a must-read for anyone concerned about our planet and the environment.

[Read the full story](#)



FaithInvest's Mathew Jensen, CFA, introduces Faithful Finance

The sell-out course *Faithful Finance* from Faith Plans founder FaithInvest began yesterday and will run until the end of March 2024.

By popular demand, registrations have now opened for the next cohort, which begins on Tuesday 7 May and runs every Tuesday until the end of May.

*Faithful Finance* is ideal for anyone interested in the Faith Plans framework, but particularly those of you who are focusing on Key Area 1: Faith-consistent use of assets.

Faiths own more than 8% of the world's land as well as managing hospitals, schools and community projects. These activities all involve making financial decisions around banking, insurance and stewarding your resources. *Faithful Finance* will give you the tools to ensure that your faith values are embedded in these decisions.

A limited number of bursaries will be available for the May cohort. For more information, visit [FaithInvest Training](#), or click below to register.

[Register now](#)



Photos courtesy of Hajjat Sebyala Aphwa

We were delighted to see that Hajjat Sebyala Aphwa, Director of Energizing Solutions in Uganda, attended COP28 in the United Arab Emirates last year.

This photo collage, above, provides a flavour of her work at the COP and in the Faith Pavilion. She is, as always, carrying a potted sapling of a tree or a bush, representing the need for action on the environment. Thank you for sending us these images, Hajjat!



Photo: GreenFaith, from the Faiths for Climate Justice Campaign, May 2023

### Multi-faith climate finance pledge from GreenFaith

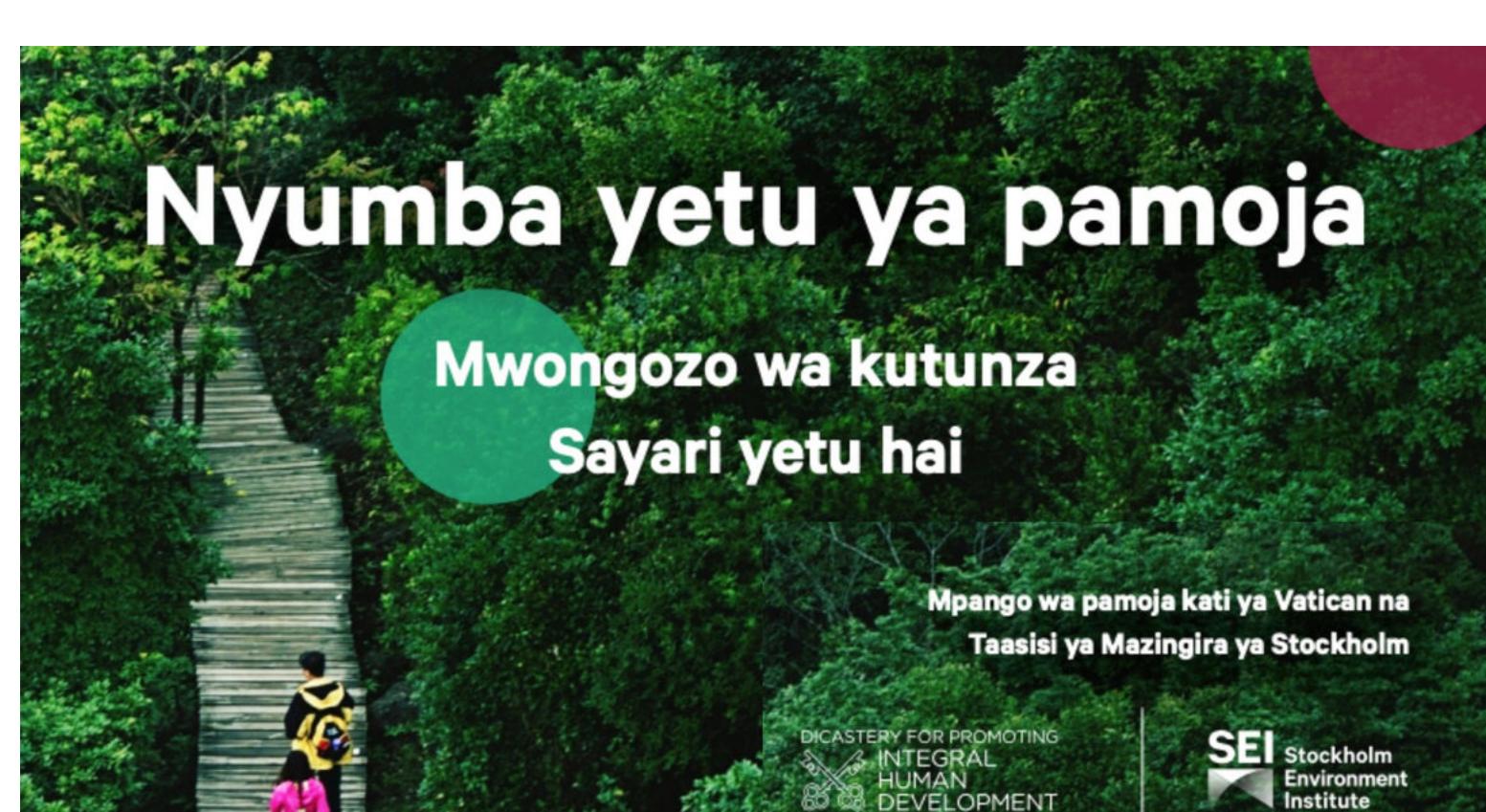
This month, GreenFaith launched a multi-faith finance pledge, asking religious institutions and people of diverse faiths to call on banks and asset managers to commit to phase out finance for fossil fuel projects by 2030.

The pledge also calls to accelerate investments in equitable climate solutions. It also stipulates that progress must be verifiable and consistent with a 1.5 degree future.

The call for commitment goes one step further than a petition: signatories also declare they will move their funds to another bank or asset manager whose financing is aligned with this goal, if their banks and asset managers fail to meet, or to progress towards, this goal.

Read more about the pledge on the GreenFaith website.

[Read more](#)



A new guide to *Laudato Si'* has been released in Swahili from the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI). It summarises evidence on environmental issues and is designed to inform, inspire hope, and stimulate debate and action.

Inspired by Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'* and written by the SEI in association with the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this guide is the result of an exciting collaboration between the scientific and spiritual communities.

It sets out essential facts and solutions on key topics, along with advice on how communities can respond. It is, in effect, a guide to implementing the calls to action in *Laudato Si'*.

You can read and download the resource in Swahili from the SEI website, and it's also available in English, French, Portuguese, Italian, Spanish and Greek.

[Read more](#)

### Faith Plans information series



Register for our free information series, delivered to your inbox each week for nine weeks. You will receive links to many useful resources and explore the Seven Key Areas of Faith Plans.

We also give you the tools and resources to help you create your own Faith Plan.

[Register now](#)

### Where did the Faith Plans framework originate?

The Faith Plans framework was established by FaithInvest and WFP's Beliefs and Values Programme, to help faith communities to drive positive action on the climate and the environment by using their assets, investments and influence.

FaithInvest's Programme Team posts weekly about related to faith-consistent investing (FCI). Topics include research relevant to faith-based asset owners. To see the posts, click [HERE](#).

#### Interested in FCI updates?

If you would like to learn more about faith-consistent investing, consider subscribing to the FaithInvest newsletter.

As a subscriber, you will receive updates every 6-8 weeks with news, information and resources, plus invitations to attend special events.

It's easy to become a FaithInvest newsletter subscriber. Just sign up on the FaithInvest website [HERE](#).

### 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!

Follow us on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) for the latest updates, and share your own news with us using [#FaithPlans](#) or [#FaithsTakeAction](#) or [@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 WFP'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.

Faith Plans is an initiative of FaithInvest. Visit [FaithInvest.org](#) for more information.

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

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