

Water

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Baha'i

There are already examples of devotional gatherings in local communities that have chosen as their theme 'care of the earth' or 'the environment'. Prayers, sacred writings and meditations during the devotional have elaborated this theme. Several children's classes offer acts of service to their communities. In some cases this action has been planting a community garden or cleaning up a stream or river. As this program is developed and used in communities throughout the world, such initiatives will be based on a better understanding of climate issues and the relevant Bahá'í perspective. Study, action and reflection on such action will result in a coherent framework for action on the subject of climate change.

Buddhists Shanghai

In our daily lives, for example, this involves actively promoting the idea of.... water conservation; calling people to start with small personal actions such as saving water as they wash, saving electricity, and not wasting food. All of these would also bring benefit to public welfare.

* As far as possible, consider solar power as the supply for heating the monastery's rooms and water in winter

Encouraging monks, nuns and monastery staff to save energy including water, electricity and gas etc:

- *Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth or rubbing soap during shower;
- *Fixing dripping taps, and repair broken or leaking pipes in time;
- *Only taking the amount of water you need

*Less bottled water should be consumed. Empty plastic bottle should be recycled.

1. On the second Sunday of each month to organise seminars on environmental issues, working on the "Mother River Care Project" for Shanghai's Suzhou River.

6. PROTECTING THE RIVER

The Buddhist monasteries in Shanghai will remain actively involved (and extend their involvement) in the "Mother River Care Project" to protect the Suzhou, the mother river of Shanghai. This involves regularly organising people to clean up the bank of Suzhou River to maintain its cleanliness.

Christian

Australian Catholics

- Cut down on, or eradicate if possible, plastics, high energy use, use of hydrocarbons, luxury items from abroad, the use of bottled water and to buy ethically made and produced clothing.

Alexandria and All Africa

- Encouraging responsible use of water.

At the same time, efforts will be made to promote and display, in a specially prepared exhibition area, ecological projects and proposals from the industrial sector, that offer sources of energy from the sun, water and wind.

- The Agreement of the Johannesburg Meeting (2002) that stresses priorities in managing
 - Water
 - Health
 - Energy
 - Agriculture
 - Protection of biodiversity
 - Managing ecosystems

The Patriarchate of Alexandria notices the increasing pressures on the environment world-wide. These are, among others, the rapid increase of population, urbanization, drought, climatic changes, lack of water, desertification, desolation, pollution and the loss of biodiversities.

- In activities of sectors in the framework of Environmental Instructions with the organizing of different environmental measures such as,
- the protection of the resources of water

IN PARISHES

- There must be organized programmes for the recycling of paper, glass and metal and the conversion of organic waste.....
- The saving of resource of water.

Armenian Church

As a part of its strategic plan to overcome poverty, the Republic of Armenia prioritised the country's recent environmental challenges as follows:

- (vi) Efficient management and use of water resources, the restoration of Lake Sevan's ecological balance, and relevant measures to ensure the preservation of its natural balance,

The objectives of the activities implemented during the last decade in rural and remote areas were aimed at reducing poverty by supporting income-generating activities and improving the environmental situation by introducing sustainable management practices in agriculture, water use and land degradation.

The project for the installation of solar powered water-heating systems, integrated into centralised heating and hot water supplies, is implemented in cooperation and on a co-sharing basis with the WCC Armenia Interchurch Charitable Round Table Foundation

and the United Nations Development Programme/ Global Environment Foundation's (UNDP/GEF's) "Armenia - Improving the Energy Efficiency of Municipal Heating and Hot Water Supply" project. The total budget of the project is \$35,500 USD. The subcontractor of the project is "SolarEn LLC" - a specialized organisation with extensive experience in assembling and installing hot water supply solar-powered systems in Armenia.

The 60 square meters of the solar panels will satisfy the hot water demand for the 90 students and seminary staff, providing annually 1,500 cubic metres of around 45⁰C hot water, thus will spare the annual use of 10,000 cubic metres of natural gas. Apart from the environmental impact, this project also has an ideological angle, as it will demonstrate the leading role of the Church in using alternative energy resources with the view of its expansion in the country.

Thanks to this project the Church of St. Lazarus is now surrounded by five hectares of the newly planted fruit garden. Having ensured uninterrupted water supply by the WCC-ART, the main problem of irrigation was successfully resolved.

Presbyterian Church of Cameroon

Mission Statement

The Presbyterian Church in Cameroon commits to promote life through community action for water, clean air, flora and fauna. We undertake to minimize loss through maximal use of resources that encourages renewal, replenishment and abundance. We have covenanted to uphold the integrity of creation for abundant life for the world.

Recently, Cameroon has witnessed major deviations in the patterns of her two seasons – the rainy and the dry seasons. The irregular occurrence of the seasons adversely affects agriculture, water production, health, energy and the economy. These sectors directly touch on the lives and the livelihoods of the average Cameroonian and a fall in the overall development in these sectors usually provide a recipe for poverty especially for the rural poor communities which constitute the majority of the population of Cameroon.

During periods of prolonged dry season as was the case in 2005 to 2007 in Cameroon, the water levels of wells and water points dried up and many communities experienced

a higher incidence of water related diseases as well as untold suffering in trying to meet their domestic and industrial needs. In Douala, the economic capital of Cameroon, the government was forced to launch a water facility at the outskirts of the city to exploit water from the river Mungo to salvage a worsening water crisis.

In 2008 and even in 2009, prolonged rains in some parts of Cameroon led to soil erosion of alluvial soils in many agricultural communities. In other parts of Cameroon, many communities experienced mud slides such as that which occurred in Limbe covering the road leading to the lone Oil Refinery in Cameroon. Another major mud slide occurred in the metropolitan city of Bamenda washing away a section of the entire highway linking the city to the rest of the country. Still in Bamenda, the residence of the Governor of the North West region was threatened by a major mud slide on the hills housing the Governor’s residence. In August and September 2009 floods in the coastal cities of Limbe and Douala destroyed many properties and brought untold hardship to the residents. In Yaounde, the capital city, floods in parts of the city led to the death of at least 4 people in 2007 as reported by the media.

Strategic Direction for Action

II. Ecosystem Management

- Water and Water Catchments Protection

1.1 Encourage efficient use of water and exploitation of rain water harvesting

Water and Water Catchments	1.1 Identify Communities with water shortages and problems	1.1 Number of communities identified	2010
	1.2 Identify and protect water catchments of communities	1.2 Number of water catchments protected	2011 – 2015
	1.3 Identify and develop water sources for communities	1.3 Water sources developed	2011 – 2017
	1.4 Establish and map out land use system for communities	1.4 Number of Communities with land use map	2010 – 2017
	1.5 Promote and protect rivers,	1.5 Number of rivers protected	2010 - 2017

	streams and other water bodies against abuse and over exploitation		
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Fish farming	1.1 Train communities in fish pond development for fish farming	Number of Communities trained	2010 - 2013
	1.2 Build capacities of fish farmers in sustainable fish farming in lakes, rivers and in the ocean	Number of farmers trained	2012 – 2016
	1.3 Support fish farmers with tools and other fishing gears	Number of farmers supported	2012 – 2016
	1.4 Collaborate with research institutions on developing modern techniques for fishing in different water bodies	Cooperation Agreement signed	2012 - 2016

- 1.1 Encourage urban development in communities that respect appropriate use of hills, rivers, wetlands and water sources.

CBCEW

Plastics – As much as possible the use of plastics should be phased out, especially bottles of water and unnecessary packaging. Plastics cause many problems in the natural world because of their persistence in landfill or floating at sea.

The National Justice and Peace Network

The National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales, a liaison body of the CBCEW, has taken on a serious commitment to address environmental issues, particularly since 2005 when its annual conference focused on environmental justice. It now has an Environment Working Group and has incorporated environmental education and campaigning into its development plans. Its 2010 conference will focus on food security. Diocesan groups have been involved in such initiatives as the ‘Ark’ campaign on

climate change, Progressio's work on food and water security, CAFOD's mining campaign and the Jesuit Refugee Service work on environmental refugees. The work of the NJPC is essential to the success of this initiative and we will encourage Catholics to support them.

7. Assets

The buildings and land holdings associated with the Catholic Church of England and Wales could helpfully be the subject of environmental audits and sensitive rebuilding/renovation that takes concern for the natural world into account; for example, by implementing standards that require us to care about energy use, water, recycled materials.

Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

While our efforts in the coming years will focus primarily on climate change, we will not neglect other important and pressing environmental concerns including air, water and land pollution. In both cases (climate change and broader environmental degradation) it is poor communities that suffer the worst consequences.

Church of England

The Head of Environmental Challenge was asked to review the Diocese's operations and risks (including financial risks) associated with environmental hazards especially climate change. A risk assessment was carried out of potential flooding of churches and the diocesan office from rising water levels in the Thames. IT and paper in Diocesan House have been reviewed. Only very environmentally friendly paper is now used. Computers on being replaced are reconditioned for re-use in Africa.

- Expansion of the scope of *StF* from climate change mitigation with successive phases to cover water and biodiversity first, then other wider issues including transport, waste, land and food. This extension of the scope of the campaign began at the Lambeth Palace Milestone Day on 11 June 2009.

There is interest and support for church partnership in this area from organisations such as Groundwork, National Energy Action and Natural England, as well as the Environment

Agency which largely carries statutory responsibility for fluvial management. Local water supply companies should also be involved.

Church of South India

Our Programmes to Become a Green Church

These include: Green Diocesan Awards, Green Parish Award , Green School Awards, Green Home Awards, Diocesan Ecological Convention, Environmental Rally, Rainwater Harvesting,

Besides other plants, emphasis will be given in promoting the planting of Vetiver, Jatropha and Mangroves. These three plants are all ecologically significant, especially in the context of Global warming and the shortage of groundwater.

4. Green Water Charging: We will promote the digging of mud pits in all the lands of our churches and on the land of our congregations in order to harvest rain water which will recharge the ground water. Bore wells that form the major source of India's water supply are now beginning to run dry. Digging for them is getting even deeper and costlier. Groundwater accounts for nearly 40 per cent of the available water resources in India, meeting 85 per cent of the rural requirement and 50 per cent of urban and industrial needs. But most states are experiencing an alarming fall in water table as groundwater is being over-exploited. There is need for mandated water harvesting and recharge zones in urban areas. There is also need to recharge deep aquifers and prevent their over-use. India gets an average of 600 mm of rainfall a year. This means a total precipitation of 4,000 billion metric tonnes—a mini sea of water deluging us every year. **Yet, as much of 75 per cent of this is lost due to run-offs.** As a result many parts of the country are water-stressed and in danger of turning into water-scarce regions in the next 30 years. That may sound far off but the interim could be harsh with daily battles over water. There is an urgent need to improve water-harvesting systems and put the deluge to more productive use. As part of the CSI Synod programme for June 2009 each member was asked to dig one pit to harvest rainwater falling on their rooftop. This was needed to help to stop desertification, and to encourage people to be more thoughtful of where their water comes from.

We are thankful to our Bishop for encouraging the Diocese to be a green Diocese, for educating people to avoid the use of plastics and to use paper bags, and for educating the people to use the VermiComposite in agricultural fields and not to waste water. A

rainwater harvesting project has been proposed and is planned before the 2010 monsoon.

Thoothukudy Nazareth Diocese has the motto: Cleaner and Greener Villages. It is strengthening eco-clubs in schools and Colleges, encouraging plastic-free villages and towns, supporting rallies of students and youth, making time for planting of trees, promoting eco-awareness for pastors and Church leaders, and participating in a rainwater harvesting programme.

Karnataka Northern Diocese is adopting a village, and undertaking rain water harvesting.

Talk to a Christian farmer about the issues he or she faces in working the land lovingly. Water - so ordinary, so taken granted - is a wonderful gift from God. Examine your water-use habits. How can you save water?

Encouraging rediscovery of old agricultural techniques: Modern methods of agriculture with their inputs of chemical fertilizers and pesticides may lead to pollution of groundwater and other problems. Such pollution can produce health problems for human and animal populations. Chemical fertilizers fail to sustain the natural nutrients in the soil, resulting in reduction of crop productivity and eutrophication of surface waters. Often in the past, pests were controlled and the nutrient status of the soil maintained by practices such as crop rotation, inter-cropping, multiple cropping, etc. It is necessary to identify successful traditional practices and upgrade them as appropriate in order to develop or recover appropriate site-specific technologies which enhance crop productivity without degrading the environment.

1. PARTNERSHIPS AND ECO-TWINNING

“Gather information on soil contamination, air and water pollution and endangered species and make it available to church members. Invite learned persons to speak at your church” From the CSI Eco-Resources book.

1.SAVE WETLANDS

There are over 27,000 wetlands across the country that are rich in biodiversity, recharge groundwater, preserve flora and fauna and are a source of livelihood for those who live around them. But these are fast disappearing because of growing urbanisation and industrialisation. They also face the danger of heavy pollution from sewage and industrial units. There is an urgent need to save these water bodies. After making an inventory and assessing their condition, the state governments must take steps to restore them.

6 SAVING RIVERS

The condition of India's rivers is a barometer of the state of the environment. The rivers are dying. Most are highly polluted with domestic sewage, industrial effluents and an erratic waterflow. With global warming, the stress levels on the country's key rivers will only exacerbate. Both, the Centre and the states will have to launch serious drives to revive the ecosystems.

Presbyterian Church of Ghana

Ghana, a nation on the West Coast of Africa is greatly affected by the negative effects of injurious Climate Change. The problems associated with the adverse effects of climate change in Ghana like the rest of Africa is already obvious in the following areas:

- Increased flooding, sea erosion of the coastal belt, rising sea levels, intrusion of seawater into freshwater areas and the loss of wetlands.

Jesuits

Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology in Frankfurt, Germany, consists of a seminary, a university and a community house for Jesuits. Much has been done in recent years to address energy use, water consumption and CO2 emissions:

An efficient water management to separate drinking water from water for toilets and laundry has been introduced

A combined heat and power unit has

New Psalmist Baptist Church

This Plan attempts to set NPBC's activities to date, and NPBC's future plans within that Alliance of Religions and Conservation ("ARC") 7-Year Plan framework. This Plan builds on past and current activities, such as NPBC's participation in clean water and medicine delivery projects in Kenya, our partnership with Kenyan church congregations and our participation in United Nations Environment Program ("UNEP") policy discussions.

Members of the Foreign Mission Ministry (FOM) began their educational mission work in Kenya in 2006 while training with a partnering church from the United States. Members of the team participated in projects to help combat poverty and disease which resulted from water scarcity, and water contamination. During their training, members of FOM and assembled and programmed a 14 station computer laboratory in a primary school in Kenya. These types of programs will continue.

NPBC has a host of corporate partners who will bring resources to the church to help the congregation and community implement new practices. For example, regarding our corporate partners, we have engaged Micro Water Facility, from the Netherlands and Catholic Earthcare Australia to collaborate with NPBC and the Redeemed Gospel Church in Nairobi, Kenya to begin alternative sanitation systems in Nairobi, Kenya.

Polish Orthodox

3. Practical ecological actions at educational institutions:
 - a) Continuation and introduction of stricter waste selection as well as water and energy conservation policy at the Ortodox Theological Seminary in Warsaw;
 - b) Introduction of stricter water conservation policy and energy conservation at other Orthodox monastic communities in Poland;

3. More intense reflection on elements of *ecothology* in worship of the Orthodox Church may be supported by ceremonies of:
 - traditional seasonal blessing of farmlands,
 - blessing of water,
 - blessing of bread, wine, rain of wheat and oil (*gr. artoklasia*) and

- Eucharist as liturgical manifestation of human care for natural environment entrusted to people by God.

We will attempt to cause revival of traditional spring/autumn farmlands blessing in all countryside parishes and more often blessing of water and *artoklasia* in all parishes.

. Through the booklet on sustained development perceived by Eastern Christianity as well as one on 'methodology' of environmental protection in a household („Let's begin with ourselves" – the home oriented programme of environmental protection out of the house), the faithful will be encouraged to carry out environmental audits of their households and to undertake appropriate practical action (for example use of environmentally friendly detergents, reducing water consumption by installing "stoppers" in toilet cisterns, going for shopping with a carrier bag, etc.). The booklets may be supplied to every Orthodox family during traditional pastoral home visits after Epiphany Feast.

Specialists in law, water management, land management, education waste management, ecology, sustained development working at higher education institutions in Bialystok will be invited to help in further development, improvement and realisation of the Seven Year Plan.

Religious Organisations Along the River

Since 1996 major initiatives have been:

- Collaborated and partnered with local and national organizations to address environmental issues around water, waste management, land use, etc;

Recognizing the importance of having both a local and global awareness of issues, and in the context of its mission statement, ROAR is committed to:

- Sustainability, especially around Earth's natural resources, such as water, air, land, and, in particular, with properties "owned" and / or used by our congregations;

- Partners who have philosophy and goals similar to ROAR, including: Hudson Riverkeeper; Sierra Club Lower Hudson Chapter; New York State Interfaith Power and Light; Sustainable Hudson Valley; Scenic Hudson; ROW (Religious Organizations on Water); Clearwater; and Garrison Institute and others.

1. Inform, educate and advocate for local issues that address: rights of land, water and air; water quality; safety of Indian Point Nuclear Plant; sustainable practices; use of land “owned” and / or used by ROAR member Congregations;

Lutheran Church of Tanzania

Specific Objectives for the project are as follows:

- To implement community education on environmental conservation.
- To restore and conserve forests all over Kilimanjaro Region, emphasizing water conserving trees around water sources.

10. Over-use of water and land resources	1. Popularize water-efficient WCs 2. Devise and implement life-support uses for waste water
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To restore and conserve forests all over Kilimanjaro Region, emphasizing water conserving trees around water sources.

Daoist

b. Water and vegetation

Water and vegetation – trees, plants and gardens – are the basic conditions for constructing harmonised Daoist Ecology temples. We must protect the water resources around temples to the greatest extent possible, and this includes dealing with domestic sewage in scientific and sensitive ways. We will create special posters and booklets to help pilgrims, visitors and local householders reduce the pollution in the nearby water resources.

Temples with restaurants and lodging places should manage these places in ways that are kind to the environment, saving water and energy, and reducing the use of disposable tableware.

Interfaith

Interfaith Power and Light

TRP has developed a model that can be used to encourage social change in a quick and profound way. The success of our established affiliated Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) network provides a good model on climate protection and could be mobilized anew to address other issues, such as human health and the environment, water conservation, or food production.

GreenFaith US

We feel particularly strongly about the importance of this goal. We know that most poor communities in the US suffer from substantial environmental health threats, whether through air pollution, water pollution, or toxic exposures. Most religious groups that choose to engage environmental concerns do not focus their attention on these issues, despite their importance. We hope to play a meaningful role in increasing the level of religious leadership in these areas.

Jewish

Rabbis should be strongly encouraged to engage with and formulate theological and legal positions on environmental issues including environmental justice, e.g. by presenting them with halakhic and public policy questions on issues such as energy efficiency, switching to renewable energy sources and water consumption.

Canfei Nesharim provides Torah-based activities, program resources, and divrei Torah which relate environmental themes to seven different times of the Jewish year: Sukkot and water, Chanukah and energy, Tu b'Shevat and the

environment, Purim, Passover, Counting the Omer, and the Three Weeks.

Arad... With incentives in the form of government subsidies for developing the Negev, some of the cleanest air in the world it has become a focus for plans to build a model eco-city with planning, energy, water and transport systems that can serve as a template for building sustainable cities in a variety of different environments and climates worldwide.

In Arad:

1. Building a team of city designers, water transport, land use and energy experts around the Arad “Desert Greens” project.

A 2008 national advertising campaign to save water after four consecutive drought years led to marked reduction in household consumption.

EcoSikh

Gurdwaras/Sikh Organizations:

□ Start rainwater harvesting programs: You can learn more about through the Centre for Science and Environment’s Rainwater Harvesting Initiative. The Initiative provides a rainwater harvesting manual and has Raincentres located around India:

<http://www.rainwaterharvesting.org>

Invest in copper storage pots to kill enteric bacteria in water: see Appendix A

Appendix

A: Use of Copper Storage Pots to Kill Enteric Bacteria

The Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT) in Bangalore has undergone systematic testings of the role of copper pots in purification of water – testing ecoli bacteria in copper pots and also (with a view to families who could not afford such pots) in pots in which copper coils had been placed. The study indicated that E.coli gets completely killed within 12 hours of inoculation into water stored in copper pots. It also demonstrated that the continuous presence of the pot was not necessary to cause the kill, as the water stored for 24 hours in copper pots, by itself was able to kill

the organisms. The levels of copper (< 1035 ppb) that had leached into water were within the World Health Organisation (WHO) permissible limits.

Storing water in copper pots offers the benefit of providing drinking water free from E.coli. Its efficacy on the other water-borne organisms could be explored further. Since copper pots may not be affordable to many, viable contraptions using copper may be designed to provide a costeffective, decentralized purification method to the rural and urban population. WHO estimates that four million children under the age of five die each year from diarrhoea, mainly in developing countries. Infectious diseases caused by pathogenic bacteria, viruses and protozoa or by parasites are the most common and widespread health risk associated with drinking water. Some of the microorganisms causing waterborne infections are bacteria such as E.coli, Salmonella typhi, Shigella spp., Vibrio cholerae, viruses such as, Enterovirus, Hepatitis A and E virus, Norwalk virus, Rotavirus and protozoa such as Entamoeba histolytica.

<http://www.frlht.org/research.htm>