



## **Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event**

### ***Faith-based Solutions for the Pact for the Future and Beyond***

20 September 2024 | 9:30-11:00 am | Church Center for the UN, 2nd floor

Organized by: ImPACT Coalition on Faith-based Solutions, Co-sponsored by:  
UNEP and the UN Multi-faith Advisory Council

#### **Background on the event (one paragraph)**

The ImPACT Coalition on Faith-based Solutions was launched during the Civil Society Conference at the UN Office in Nairobi on 10 May 2024. This coalition comprises faith, religious and spiritual, including young people, advocating for the inclusion of faith-based language and common values across faiths in UN documents. Faith, religious, and spiritual actors, with their deep-rooted presence in communities and commitment to universal values of peace, justice, compassion, and human dignity, are uniquely positioned to contribute to finding solutions to global challenges.

#### **Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)**

- UNAOC does advocate for inclusion in interreligious dialogue to support peacebuilding and social cohesion
- The Pact draft is talking about inclusive just societies and the role of faith communities is a mission in the Pact, if the UN wants to rebuild trust and communication, faith communities are the best to do it.
- Key themes particularly resonate within the religious community, coming from a women-based INGO “we are picking up the pieces” and addressing those who “have fallen through the cracks.” “We bring to the table the spiritual angle, we bring to the people hope... because we believe in something greater than us”.

- Need a holistic approach with implementation on the ground and action-based research projects. We need to share research such as what the Joint Learning Initiative (JLI) is doing more widely
- Multilateralism is becoming increasingly inclusive, a new paradigm of government for the UN supports CSO contribution at the top and implementation at the bottom with “faith organizations providing a moral canvas for all of us”
- “People of faith are the sound of civil society, young people are the drumbeat of that sound... they keep us going”
- iDove youth leaders are countering violent extremism, emphasizing “nothing about us without us” with a focus on young people leading the process and having ownership, need to utilize the “training of trainers” model to scale up and out.
- Need to raise our voices as faith organizations and civil society, need to leverage our technical capacities as organizations working on the ground (capacity-building mechanisms and training for those on the ground to understand and “speak the language” of multilateral policy/advocacy needed for advocacy work)
- Need to reassess and recommit ourselves as people of faith to our values before speaking with global leaders about what should be done differently (apply fundamental values to the global context).
- The coalition’s statement was shared advocating for an intersectoral approach in line with the UDHR, and urging leaders to take bold, decisive, collective actions with a focus on trust, respect, tolerance, and peace.

#### **Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)**

- Create a compendium of UN resolutions and documents which reference the role of faith actors.
- Widely share the Pact for the Future with our local constituencies to raise awareness of it to work in solidarity with Member States to fulfill its Actions.
- Sharing the Statement by the Faith-based Solutions ImPACT Coalition “From Greed to Deeds– A Call to Action from the Faith Community to Global Leaders” recommitting to work in solidarity toward the fulfillment of the mandate of the United Nations and strengthening of the multilateral system.
- Legacies of colonialism are still felt in a different form. While pleased in the shift and direction of the Pact strengthening the focus on peace, the last few years have shown cracks in the UN due to actions of member states. We need to see how member states respond, see if there are penalties that can be placed, address lack of member state participation, and improve access acknowledging difficulties due to the UN’s location in the Global North

#### **Webpage to find more information:**

[A #FaithForward Summit of the Future \(unep.org\)](https://www.unep.org/faithforward)