



LWF Climate Justice Engagement – 2020 and beyond

October 2020 by Elena Cedillo

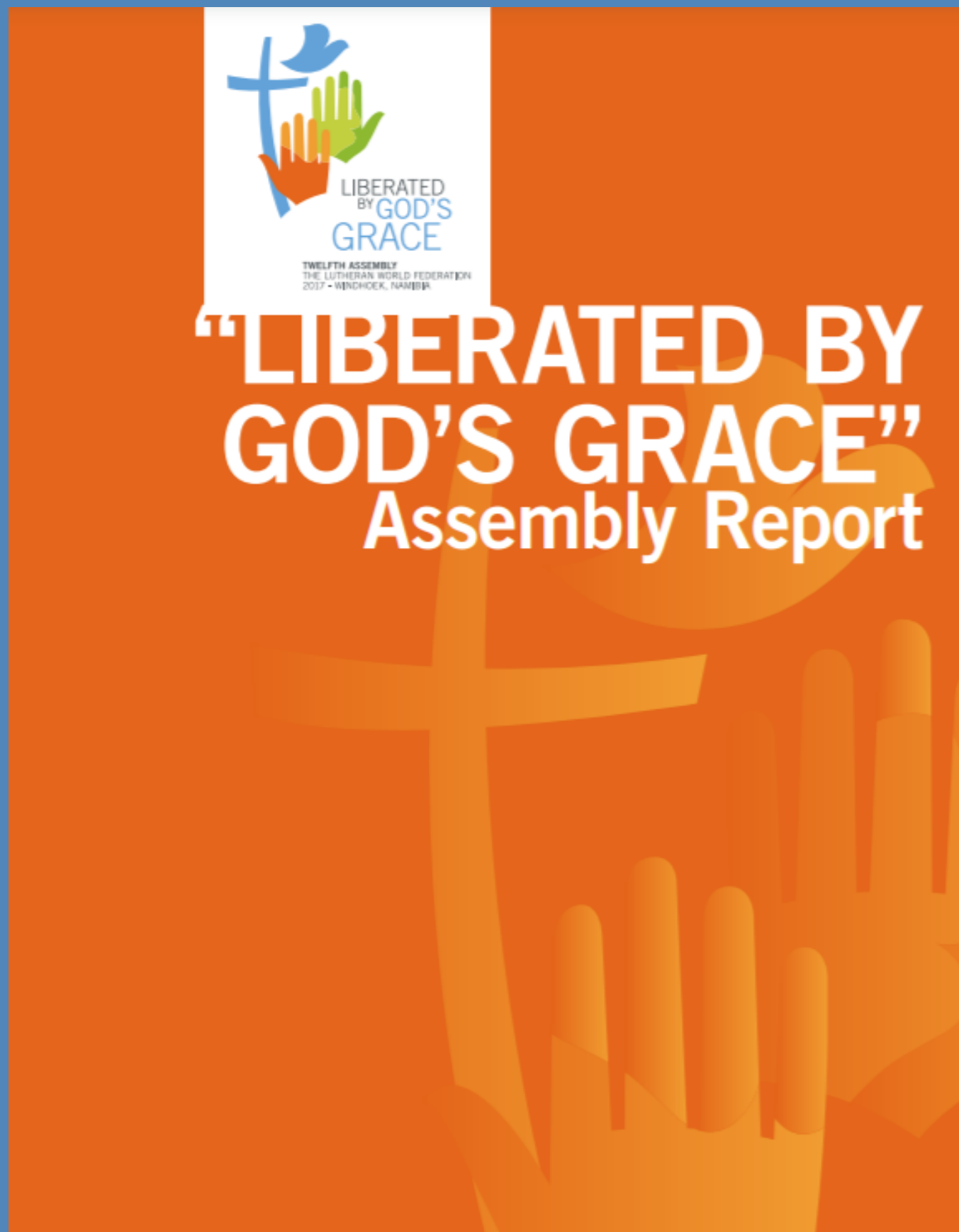


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Agenda

- LWF approach
- Where we are regarding SDG 13?
- Role of the faith communities
- What Faith communities are doing?

Strong commitment to addressing climate change



- ❑ **The Resolution on Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Forced Migration** recognized the effects of climate change as one of the migration drivers.
- ❑ **The Resolution on Climate Change** that calls upon the global communion to strengthen its efforts even more for climate justice, and reaffirms the 2014 public statement calling for the LWF to be carbon neutral by 2050.
- ❑ **The resolution on Sustainable Development Goals** call to develop concrete programs, to work on achieving the SDGs in their respective countries, and – engage governments and national or local organizations for implementation of SDGs
- ❑ **The resolution on Commercialization and Commodification of creation** acknowledge that climate change and biodiversity loss threatens the delicate balance of the Earth system.



Strategic Directions for Climate Justice
2019-2024



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A Communion
of Churches

Strategic Direction

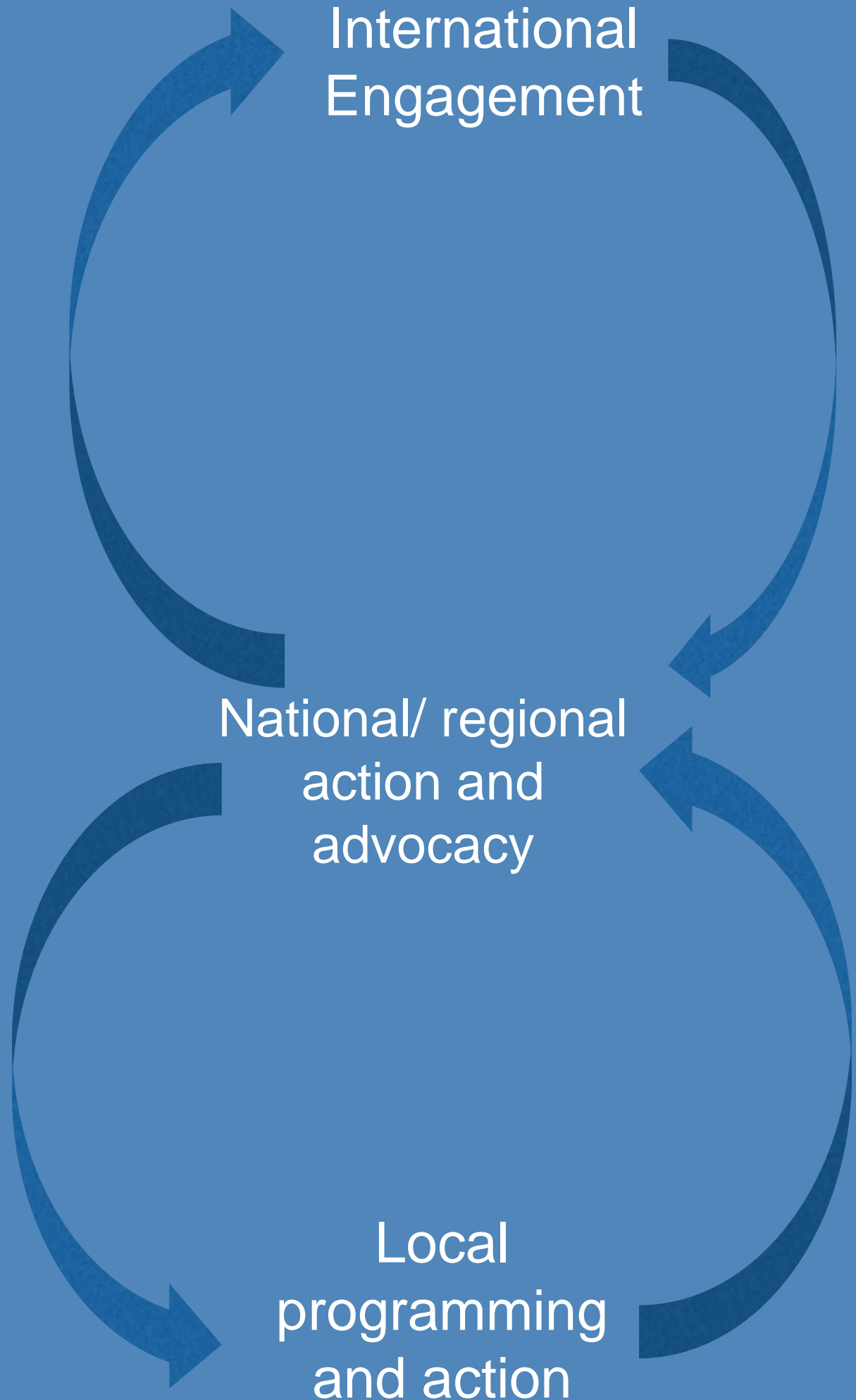
- Developed in 2018 as a result of the Namibia's assembly resolution that calls for strong involvement in Climate Justice.

Inspire and engage member churches for climate justice education and action

Contribute directly to climate mitigation and adaptation among the most vulnerable

Strengthen advocacy for adequate climate action at all levels.

Local to global to Local



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New ways of working and partnership to respond effectively to the needs of the most vulnerable people

LWF Climate Justice Action

LOCALIZING CHANGE

Amplifying the voices from CO, MC, CP for climate justice action
Accompanying MC and young people to lead climate advocacy processes

ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR ADVOCACY

Strengthening Capacity for climate justice action
Connecting local experiences and best practices to regional and global level

PUBLIC VOICE

Engaging with ecumenical and interfaith actors for climate justice action

SDG 13 – Climate Action is central to Sustainable Development Goals

"First, greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere are at the highest levels in 3-5 million years.

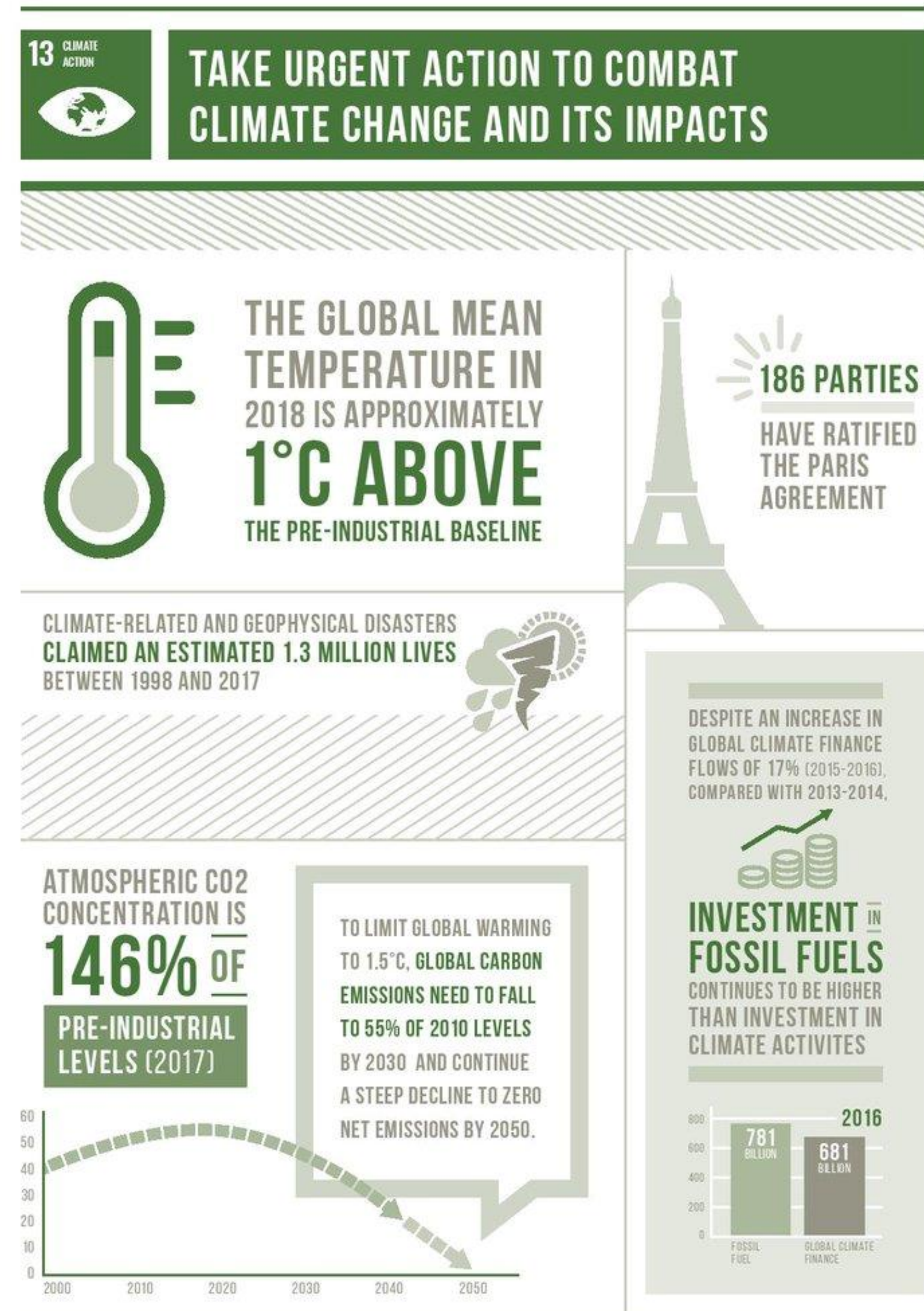
Second, the World Meteorological Organization reports that our planet will record the five warmest years on record from 2015-2019... heat waves in Europe, South Asia and elsewhere for yet more evidence of that.

Third, sea levels are not only rising – they are rising at an accelerated pace. Indeed, some scientists are already predicting that sea level rise could double from what is currently projected by the end of this century,"

2019, UN Secretary-General

Where we are regarding SDG 13?

2019, HLPF

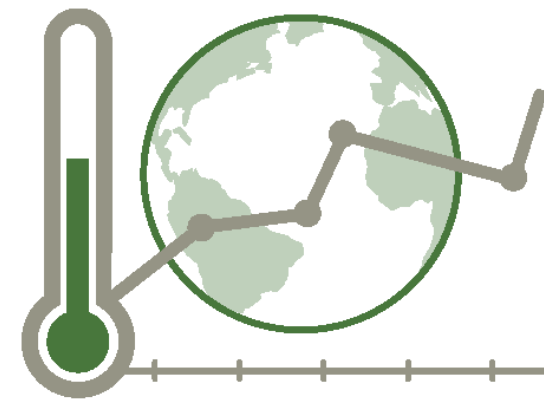




TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

BEFORE COVID-19

GLOBAL COMMUNITY SHIES AWAY FROM COMMITMENTS REQUIRED TO REVERSE **THE CLIMATE CRISIS**



2019 WAS THE SECOND WARMEST YEAR ON RECORD

GLOBAL TEMPERATURES ARE PROJECTED TO RISE BY UP TO 3.2°C BY 2100



ONLY 85 COUNTRIES HAVE NATIONAL **DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES** ALIGNED TO **THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK**

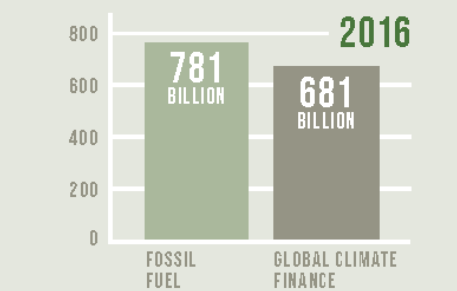
COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS



COVID-19 MAY RESULT IN A **6% DROP IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR 2020**

STILL SHORT OF **7.6% ANNUAL REDUCTION REQUIRED TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5°C**

CLIMATE FINANCE: **INVESTMENT IN FOSSIL FUELS** CONTINUES TO BE HIGHER THAN INVESTMENT IN CLIMATE ACTIVITIES



CLIMATE CHANGE CONTINUES TO EXACERBATE THE FREQUENCY AND SEVERITY OF **NATURAL DISASTERS**



MASSIVE WILDFIRES



DROUGHTS



HURRICANES



FLOODS

AFFECTING **MORE THAN 39 MILLION PEOPLE** IN 2018

And in 2020, Report before COVID-19 Impact

ROLE OF FAITH- BASED ACTORS

Unique selling point of FBO: provision of a moral compass and climate justice narrative in climate policy

Churches have contributed to mobilization for ambition and action in some countries, however little impact of churches in climate policies and gap capacity

Some churches have committed not to invest in fossil fuels and commit to their own process of de-carbonization.

Churches could be real climate champions in terms of own action, moral voice and as a dialogue facilitator

Churches have a strategic role to play in Christian blocker countries like US, Australia, Brazil, Korea, Russia

What Faith communities are doing?



Diploma on Climate Justice - 2018
Partnership: Lutheran Synod,
Lutheran University in El Salvador,
LWF.



“Leaving no one behind”



Climate Justice Advocacy and campaigns at a global level.



Climate Justice Advocacy and campaigns at a community level.





On behalf of the co-organizers, the
INTER-RELIGIOUS ALLIANCE FOR THE 2030 AGENDA
 invites you to a Side Event at the
2018 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)
“REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION TO TRANSFORM SOCIETIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: THE PERSPECTIVE OF FAITH COMMUNITIES”
Tuesday, 17 July 2018 1:30-3:00 pm
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave. Mezzanine, New York (Bet. 43rd and 44th Streets)
 Light refreshments will be served.
 Please RSVP to Elias Szczytnicki at elias@religionesporlapaz.org by July 13.

The side event aims to explore ways and means to foster coordination, cooperation and partnerships among faith-based organizations (FBOs), governments, the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) and UN agencies in accelerating the progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. During the side event, it will launch the “Shadow report on reducing environmental degradation to improving quality of life of communities”, which includes an assessment of the environmental situation in the region in light of environmental justice, as well as a compilation of good practices from FBOs that are evidence-based solutions to support the implementation of the SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15.

Organizing side events during global fora. HLPF.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

HOME SDGS HLPF STATES SIDS UN SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS TOPICS PARTNERSHIPS RESOURCES ABOUT

Faith communities in Latin America and the Caribbean delivering the SDGs and realizing the Decade of Action

Organizer: Religions for Peace

Co-Organizers: Inter-Religious Alliance for the 2030 Agenda; Latin American Catholic Episcopal Council (CELAM); Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean (SELACC); Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI); Action by Churches Together Alliance (ACT Alliance); Central America Program, Lutheran World Federation (LWF); Alliance of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches of Latin America (AIPRAL); World Vision; Regional Ecumenical Advisory and Service Center (CREAS)

FRIDAY, 10 JULY 2020
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
VIRTUAL (NEW YORK TIME)

SIDE EVENT

The side event will bring together representatives of faith-based organizations and UN officials to acknowledge the contributions of religious communities in Latin America and the Caribbean in accelerating and scaling up partnerships to deliver transformational impact of SDGs and to reflect on the response to COVID-19 crisis and its economic and social effects.

Spanish/English simultaneous interpretation will be available

“Leaving no one behind”

What Faith communities are doing?



Promoting dialogue between different stakeholders.
El Salvador 2017.



“Leaving no one behind”

Change will not come from governments alone –
Pioneering multi-stakeholder alliances are needed as
game changers Churches have a responsibility to go
zero-carbon and to innovate and enhance multi-
stakeholder cooperation at all levels

https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/2020/documents/2020_dtmj_national_climate_debate_en.pdf



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