

IBVM AND CJ UN EARTH DAY 2020

The global IBVM and CJ network share their perspectives
on what issues we should be prioritising this Earth Day

...according to representatives from India,
Canada, Australia, Peru, USA, Kenya and the UK

"We cannot continue to exploit the earth and its other life forms as objects instead of living subjects; and see all of us part of the Earth as one living organism." -IBVM, Lima, Peru

WHAT AREAS OF CLIMATE CHANGE DOES OUR NETWORK THINK WE SHOULD PRIORITISE?

With contributors from every continent, we asked them to share the perspectives of climate change that we need to address most. These include:



1. Gender Equality

We recognise the unique position of women, as one of the groups most affected by the climate crisis, but also a group is able to create the most change. The climate crisis is at the intersection of gender and health, employment, education, food security, collaboration and more.

"[Women and girls] are the best custodians of safeguarding our environment against adverse effects of climate change"
- Sr Eunive Njeri, Loreto Convent, Msongari, Nairobi Kenya



2. Water

We must ensure we have foresight in making clean, safe water accessible to all. This includes removing pollution from waterways, drought management and planning, and working with agriculture and industry.

"Water is very important for our lives. It is said that 'water is life'. In other word 'Jal hi Jeevan hai'."
- Srs. Ranjita CJ, Vandana CJ, Rekha CJ, Goretti CJ, Alaisri CJ and Roshmila CJ; Patna, India



3. Economy

We understand the role that a healthy economy plays in reducing poverty and improving livelihoods, and also how the economy is both a threat to and threatened by the climate crisis.

"Choosing to bring forth a cleaner, greener and resilient economy will be a great way in combating the crisis."
- Sr Eeshika Dutta Roy, Loreto Convent Asansol, West zone India



4. Youth

We acknowledge that the current population of young people is the largest the human population have ever seen. Youth are most likely to experience the effects of the decisions made today about the climate crisis. We must continue to give young people a platform to actively participate in acting for the climate.

"Once its impact intensifies over time, it is the children and young people of today who will face the worst effects."
- Mrs Ratna Ranjan, Loreto Convent, Dehli

Other important perspectives include:



Agriculture



Health



Biodiversity



Collaboration



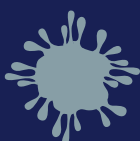
Energy



Food security



Pollution



COVID-19



Education



Indigenous knowledge



Waste



Tourism

"Let's pay homage to our Mother Earth by celebrating World Earth Day with our families across waters, boundaries, nations together." - Devoprya Dutta, Tarumitra India

WHAT ARE OUR ASKS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH WORLD EARTH DAY?

We call on leaders at the United Nations and our governments to combat climate change, with a focus on **INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION, MULTILATERALISM AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

"The United Nations should ensure that member states have strategies in place to make it possible for all members of society to engage in action for climate change." - Kathryn Keigher, IBVM, UK

"If all the Member States do not take seriously their commitment to the Paris Agreement, if the wealthier nations do not support developing countries in their efforts to work against climate change and if research and data collection is not a priority then we give our children and grandchildren a very grim future." - Libby Rogerson, IBVM, Australia

"We call on the UN to lead with a united voice and keep before the member states and the human family the serious consequences of lack of effective action, of collaboration and solidarity in the face of the climate crisis." - Cecilia O'Dwyer, IBVM UN NGO, New York



See full article at
bit.ly/IBVMDJEarthDay