



Report from the Women Faith and Climate Network Collaboration Workshop on:

Scaling up Women-led Sustainable Agriculture through Collaboration among diverse women-led faith networks

On June 2, 2025, the Women, Faith, and Climate Network launched the first of a three-part virtual workshop series titled "Scaling Up Women-Led Sustainable Agriculture Through Collaboration Among Women-Led Faith Networks." The event brought together women of faith from around the world to exchange practical experiences and deepen collaboration in addressing climate change through sustainable agriculture.

A total of 184 participants registered for the session, reflecting strong interest in faith-based, women-led climate action. The workshop featured contributions from Najat Mohamed ([Global One](#)), Lenah Mwangi ([Uzury Empowerment Network](#)), Sr. Maamalifar Poreku and Sr. Josephine Kwenga ([International Union of Superiors General - UISG](#)), and Margaret Ahona ([Organization of African Instituted Churches](#)).

These women of faith shared local knowledge, good practices, and grassroots efforts to address environmental challenges through sustainable, community-based agriculture. The primary goal of the session was to encourage replication and scaling of successful approaches through increased collaboration among women-led faith networks.

Key Takeaways:

There was a lively exchange among Workshop participants about women-led sustainable agricultural practices, and brainstorming about specific next steps.

As Sister Maamalifar reminds us, "agriculture is life," and must be treated as a holistic activity engaging body, mind, soul, and psychology.

Participants emphasized that no single agricultural method holds all the answers. From fruit trees and mulching to permaculture and soil enrichment, what's needed is an integrated approach. These practices build upon each other, and the real opportunity lies in women supporting one another to combine them—layering biodiversity with climate resilience and nutritional health. A promising entry point is through the lens of food and healthy diets.



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Good Practices That Can Be Expanded Through Collaboration:

1. Integrated, Sustainable Agriculture – Combining mulching, permaculture, crop rotation, indigenous planting, and soil restoration.
2. Seed Preservation – Protecting and sharing local , and especially indigenous seeds to support biodiversity and long-term resilience.
3. Climate-Resilient Crops & Water Management – Prioritising drought-resistant varieties and smart irrigation systems like drip irrigation.
4. Health and Nutrition-Centred Farming – Framing agricultural choices around healthy diets to improve uptake and impact.
5. Holistic Farming Approaches – Viewing farming as a spiritual and psychological act, not just a livelihood.
6. Faith-Based and Community Collaboration – Leveraging spiritual values and networks for scale.
7. Increase access to meteorological information so that farmers are able to make informed decisions on water harvesting, this is because weather patterns are changing and the rainfall is coming in storms then it disappears creating a dry spell that affects crops development.
8. Prioritize organic farming be prioritized while at the same time fostering strong partnerships to actualize sustainable agricultural systems
9. Encourage farmer to farmer networks as this will enable knowledge transfer
10. Establish digital knowledge platforms for online training for farmers as well as provision of agricultural extension services
11. Establish demonstration farms that will enable training for farmers as well as knowledge transfer
12. Put emphasis on growing legumes as they are more nutritious as well as improving soil

Examples of Collaborative Scaling:

- WORK TOGETHER - Sister Josephine in Kenya described a model where multiple congregations and organizations work together, in a consortium, sharing knowledge and resources to strengthen impact. This model of inter-congregational/community collaboration could be replicated elsewhere.
- PLANT TREES - Manpreet from Eco Sikh illustrated a compelling model of scale: starting in one region of Punjab, they planted forests with the support of corporations who cared for the saplings for the first year or two. These forests then became self-sustaining. Today, the model is being adapted and expanded across India and in countries like the UK, US, and Canada through local Eco Sikh chapters, each contextualized to the local



environment. Collaboration between faith-based organizations, corporations, and communities was key to this success.

- MEET IN PERSON - A follow up in -person meeting in Nairobi was proposed to be organized by Organization of African Instituted Churches and Catholic Sisters . 29 participants signed up during the Workshop to attend
- TRAIN ORGANIC FARMERS - Margaret Ahona spoke about organic farming and offered to host visitors at the Tuesday weekly training session at their farm
- PUBLICIZE FAITH BASED APPROACHES /SPIRITUALITY OF FARMING EG - Najat from Global ONE shared the Islamic Farming Toolkit as a tool to support replication
- DIGITAL UPSKILLING - Participants were interested in learning more about the IT and AI training offered by Lenah Mwangi Uzury Empowerment Network to young women farmers . She provided her contact info : +254715322842
- INCREASE FUNDING RESOURCES
 - The Africa Diaspora Network was mentioned as source of support for sustainable ag work of Catholic Sisters
 - Lucy Kaburia highlighted existing Financing programs for regenerative agriculture in Kenya, offering potential financial resources for scaling

Reflections , and individual feedback on the Collaboration Workshop

The shared wisdom affirms: when women lead, action follows. Networking, unity, and shared knowledge are essential ingredients for scaling these practices. One participant asked, “How do we ensure, as women, we support each other?” One Sister said : “ we cannot rely on the men or we will get nowhere fast! The answer lies in coming together—across faiths, geographies, and disciplines—to steward the land, seed by seed, with care and collective strength.”

“What particularly stood out to me was the session's evolution from a formal learning environment to one that fostered active relationship building. It was wonderful to see members feeling inspired to collaborate right then and there.”

“I thought the event yesterday was excellent. Yes some tech challenges, but also wonderful to be over-subscribed. Overall, really enjoyable and good!”

“I was impressed by the overwhelming response with the huge number of participants, the interest on the topic speaks loud about the need for the initiative.”

“I think the organisation, the necessary information and moderation were very good. I think the zoom link cause a bit of a problem but that is technical issues that are sometimes difficult to foresee before”

“I feel we have become a network of Sisters in this Agenda.”



Workshop Resources:

- **Full Recording:** <https://youtu.be/p7V5rCvgKKM>
- **Presentations and resources:**
 - Najat Mohamed
 - Islamic Farming: A Toolkit for Conservation Agriculture
 - Lenah Mwangi
 - Sr. Maamalifar Poreku and Sr. Josephine Kwenga
- **Speaker Interventions (Pre-Recorded):**
 - Margaret Ahona: <https://youtu.be/iz1b-s5g2ss>
 - Najat Mohamed: <https://youtu.be/FjpM6PikhNQ>
 - Sr. Josephine Kwenga: <https://youtu.be/CQo-JVmcFqA>

Upcoming Workshops in the Series

Workshop 2 – June 24, 2025 : Mobilising the Grassroots for Environmental Action through Eco Champions: Lessons from the Anglican Communion

- **Registration:** <https://jliflc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/jliflc/event.jsp?event=573&>

Workshop 3 – July 22, 2025 : Radical Partnerships for Strengthening the Nexus between Women of Faith & Women-Led Renewable Energy Practices

- **Registration:** <https://jliflc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/jliflc/event.jsp?event=578&>