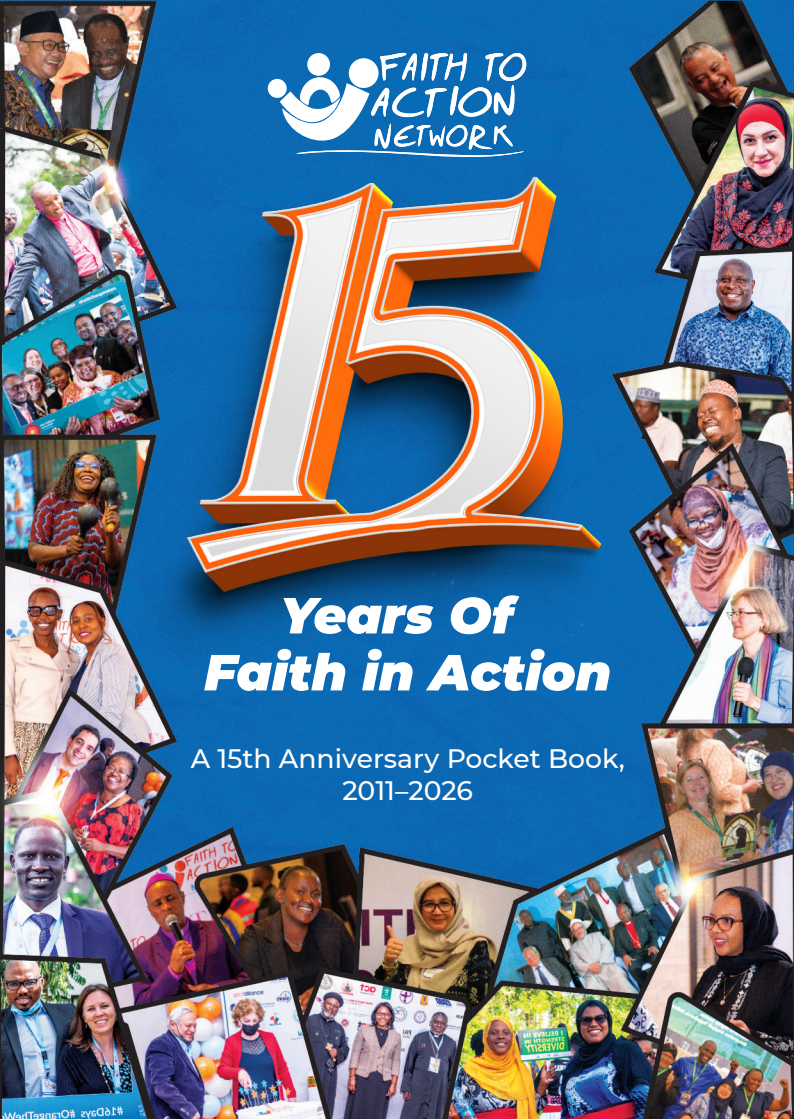




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Years Of Faith in Action

A 15th Anniversary Pocket Book,
2011–2026





**Years Of
Faith in Action**

A 15th Anniversary Pocket Book,
2011–2026



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30 MILLION+

people reached with faith-sensitive
family health information





“
**Faith has
been the
compass,
and action
has been
the
destination.**
”



Our Story

What happens when faith leaders from around the world decide to stop talking past each other, and start working together? You get Faith to Action Network.

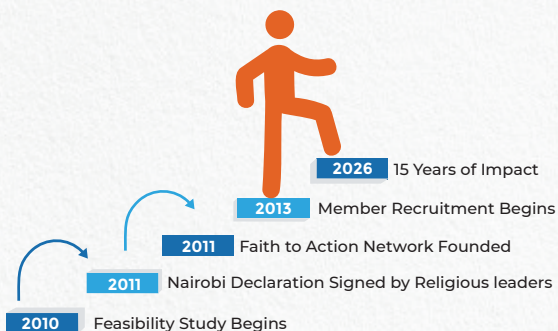
It began in October 2010, when a bold idea took root: a feasibility study and participatory consultations to explore what it would look like to work globally across faiths to improve family health and wellbeing. The momentum was unstoppable. In June 2011, religious leaders from diverse faiths and regions gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, and signed a ground-breaking Interfaith Declaration, now known as the Nairobi Declaration, committing to support families' access to health information and services. By November 2013, founding partners had begun recruiting new members to expand the Network.





Fifteen years on, the Network has blossomed into something remarkable: a southern-led global interfaith network of member and partner institutions spanning the Baha'i, Buddhist, Confucian, Hindu, Christian, African Traditional, and Muslim faiths.

Anchored by a secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya, the Network is deeply committed to southern leadership, the strengthening of civil society, decolonisation of global partnerships, peacebuilding, and supporting interfaith leadership in the pursuit of social justice.



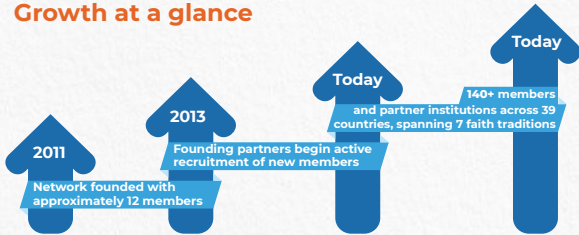


Membership Growth

The growth story is extraordinary. Founded in May 2011 with just around 12 members, the Network has grown into a global community of interfaith membership and partner institutions across 39 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, a powerful signal of its growing legitimacy and reach. In 2025, Faith to Action Network adopted a new Constitution that marked another important milestone in its institutional growth. The revised Constitution introduced individual membership, opening the Network to experts, practitioners, academics and other individuals who share its vision and values. This significant step broadened the Network's membership model, creating new opportunities for thought leadership, technical expertise and deeper engagement with individuals committed to advancing health and wellbeing, gender justice, peaceful, Just and inclusive communities, and climate justice alongside member organisations.



Growth at a glance



Regional Hubs: Bringing the Network Closer to its Members and communities

To organize the membership and address issues in a more coordinated way, Regional Hubs have been established as living extensions of the Secretariat, built to carry leadership, learning and action straight into the hands of our members.

Across regions, the Hubs turned individual effort into collective strength, uniting members across countries, faith traditions and sectors around a shared purpose. They became meeting grounds for dialogue, classrooms for peer learning, and launchpads for advocacy that reached governments and regional institutions with one unified voice.





Some of the issues we have championed together include family health and wellbeing, gender justice, peaceful coexistence, freedom of religion or belief, ending child marriage, positive masculinities, women's

empowerment, comprehensive sexuality education, social cohesion, peacebuilding and humanitarian response each addressed the Faith to Action way that is rooted in culture, guided by faith, led by community.

The Hubs didn't just respond to challenges, they built people. Emerging leaders, Faith actors and found mentors. Local evidence found its way into national and global rooms where decisions and policies are made.

Today, the Regional Hubs beat at the heart of who we are. They prove a simple truth: sustainable change grows from local roots, strong partnerships, shared learning, and communities trusted to shape their own solutions.

As we look ahead to the next fifteen years, the Hubs will keep doing what they do best growing our reach, deepening our roots, and turning local voice into global impact.





From a single idea to a global network of local action; here's where you will find us:

- Eastern Africa Hub
- Southern Africa Hub
- Western Africa Hub
- MENA Hub (Middle East & North Africa)
- Asia Hub
- Global Youth Hub

*And on the horizon... we are excited to grow our footprint into **Europe** and **Latin America** carrying the same spirit of local leadership and shared purpose to new shores.*



From a single idea in Nairobi to a global movement

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Biannual Interfaith Conventions- convening power

Convening Faith for Collective Action: F2AN's Interfaith Conventions

In a bid to enhance learning, create opportunities for cross pollinating ideas and enhance collective advocacy voice, Faith to Action Network once again established a new flagship, Biennial Interfaith Conventions. This flagship gathering brings together faith leaders, faith-based organizations, civil society actors, policymakers, and development partners from across regions and traditions. So far F2AN has held 4 conventions which provide a unique platform for mutual learning, reflection, collaboration, and solidarity, strengthening the collective efforts of faith communities to address shared global challenges.

The Interfaith Conventions have created spaces for meaningful



dialogue on issues at the heart of the Network's mission, including family wellbeing, gender justice, peacebuilding, inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Through bringing diverse faith voices into conversation, the conventions have helped break down barriers, build partnerships, and inspire collective action rooted in shared values of dignity, compassion, justice, and respect.

The conventions have also served as important moments for knowledge exchange and showcasing innovations from F2AN members and partners across the globe. From grassroots initiatives to global advocacy efforts, participants have shared experiences, strengthened networks, and explored new approaches to advancing peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.

Through these gatherings, F2AN continues to demonstrate the power of faith communities working together not only as recipients of change, but as active contributors and leaders in shaping solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Key highlights include:

- Bringing together diverse faith traditions and regions to strengthen collaboration and mutual understanding.
- Providing a platform for faith actors to share innovative approaches and lessons from their communities.
- Strengthening partnerships between faith leaders, civil society, governments, and international actors.
- Amplifying the role of faith communities in advancing justice, peace, inclusion, and sustainable development.





Thematic Areas: How We have Grown

Faith to Action Network's work has deepened as much as it has widened. What began as a single focus has grown into three interconnected thematic areas, underpinned by a cross-cutting commitment to evidence.



Family Health and Wellbeing - the founding theme (since 2011)

The Network's original mandate was mobilising faith communities to support families' access to accurate, faith-sensitive health information and services.

For years, the role faith actors could play in family health was overlooked. Engagement between the health sector and faith communities was informal, inconsistent, and rarely coordinated.

That changed at the International Conference on Family Planning, where faith actors from across traditions came together around a shared vision: a platform to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in ways aligned with faith values. That gathering led to the Nairobi Declaration and the birth of Faith to Action Network.

Fifteen years later, the narrative has shifted from exclusion to partnership. Through collective advocacy, faith-informed voices have helped shape over 47 policy changes supporting



family health, gender justice and women's rights. Along the way, we have built the evidence base too, producing studies on SRHR, social norms and behaviour change, and teenage pregnancy that have helped governments and partners design better community programmes.

And the numbers tell their own story:



728

Faith leaders have publicly championed family health and wellbeing



30 Million+

People reached with health information through faith-connected outreach



Over **47 policy changes** supporting family health, gender justice and women's rights.

A story of impact: Kenya's DESIP Programme

Working alongside government and faith-based health facilities through the Delivering Sustainable and Equitable Increases in Family Planning (DESIP) Programme, we helped bring family planning services to thousands of women and girls in underserved communities.

Between 2019 and 2020 alone:

- **132,000+** women of reproductive age reached with family planning services
- **143,000+** couple years of protection achieved
- **80% increase** in service uptake in targeted communities

Beyond the numbers, this work changed how families talk about child spacing, maternal health and adolescent wellbeing.

Faith leaders became messengers of change weaving health into sermons, dialogues and outreach, dispelling myths, encouraging male engagement; and helping communities access life-changing information and services.



Today, faith actors sit at national, regional and global tables shaping health strategies and inclusive policy. What began as a call for engagement has grown into a movement built on trust, evidence and partnership.



Looking ahead, our journey continues: deepening work on social and gender norms, co-creating solutions with communities, strengthening faith-based research, and preparing faith leaders to engage new frontiers including the intersection of faith and artificial intelligence.

Fifteen years on, one truth stands clear, **faith and health are not opposing forces they are powerful allies** in building healthy families and thriving communities. And the journey continues.

2 Gender Justice and Women's Rights- 2019

Turning faith communities into frontline champions for women's rights engaging faith actors in evidence-based advocacy, policy influence, and challenging harmful norms.

Fifteen years ago, many of the communities we serve were wrestling with deeply rooted inequalities. We began in spaces where conversations about women's bodily autonomy, leadership, and dignity were often met with silence or resistance. Women carried heavy burdens but had limited voice in decision-making. Harmful practices



were defended as culture or faith. In many spaces, speaking about women's rights felt uncomfortable, even controversial.

Yet we believed that faith could be a force for justice, not silence.

Together, we chose a different path, and began difficult conversations.

We worked alongside faith leaders to re-examine long-held interpretations, challenge harmful norms and to promote dignity for all, equity, and shared responsibility. Through dialogues in churches, mosques, and community halls, we created spaces where scripture and justice could meet. We supported faith champions who began addressing women's rights and gender justice issues from the pulpit and in pastoral counselling. In several counties, local faith actors became trusted advocates for policy change, contributing to national and regional conversations that strengthened gender justice and women's rights.



We also invested in young women themselves. Through mentorship, training, and safe forums, many found their voices and stepped into leadership. Women have risen as leaders within faith spaces. Some have gone on to lead community initiatives, engage policymakers, and shape public debate. Others simply live with a renewed sense of worth and agency, and that quiet transformation is just as powerful. Young women have found the confidence to speak about their bodies, their rights, and their aspirations. Men and boys have joined as allies, embracing positive models of masculinity rooted in respect and shared responsibility.



What gives us hope is not only the policies influenced or the programmes delivered. It is the shift and transformation we have witnessed in hearts and attitudes. Men and



boys speaking about positive masculinity. Faith leaders defending survivors. Congregations standing against violence. Faith communities that once hesitated to address gender injustice are now championing equality and dignity. Conversations that were once whispered are now spoken openly. Partnerships between faith institutions and women's rights movements are stronger than ever.

Fifteen years have shown us that faith can be a force for equality. When we listen, learn, and act together, change is not only possible, it is sustainable. It has taught us that

gender justice is not a foreign idea. It is deeply aligned with our shared values of compassion, fairness, and love for neighbours. As we look ahead, we remain confident that the seeds planted across our communities will continue to grow into a future where every woman and girl lives with dignity, safety, and full participation in society.

3 Peaceful Just and Inclusive Communities- 2017

Harnessing the power of interfaith and intercultural dialogue to reduce polarization, build tolerance, and transform conflict into cooperation is another area of focus for F2AN.

Faith leaders are among the most trusted voices in any community and Faith to Action Network has harnessed that trust to prevent conflict, strengthen social cohesion, and advocate for inclusive governance. Through this thematic



area, F2AN has turned faith communities into active agents of peace, equipping religious leaders with the tools to address the root causes of conflict while promoting dialogue, reconciliation and justice.

One of the Network's flagship initiatives, the Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action (JISRA), has worked across



Africa and Asia to strengthen peaceful coexistence and freedom of religion or belief. Bringing together Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Traditional African Religion and other faith communities, F2AN has created safe spaces for dialogue, addressed religious discrimination, and built trust across diverse groups turning local faith actors into catalysts for preventing violence and resolving conflict.

Knowing that sustainable peace needs everyone at the table, F2AN has intentionally amplified the voices of women and young people equipping them as mediators, dialogue facilitators, and community mobilizers whose leadership has strengthened resilience and inclusive decision-making across communities.

F2AN has championed evidence-based advocacy, engaging regional and global process such as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), governments and international partners to elevate the role of faith actors in addressing violent extremism, shrinking civic space, and social exclusion. At the same time, the Network has invested in strengthening its members from within through training, peer learning and regional communities of practice that help faith-based organizations design and sustain peacebuilding initiatives rooted in local realities.

In Indonesia, F2AN found an innovative way to bring divided communities together: the environment. The EcoBhinneka Muhammadiyah initiative used ecological stewardship as a platform for interfaith dialogue, showing that

shared concerns like climate resilience could build trust across religious lines. Faith leaders used environmental conservation to open conversations on coexistence and mutual respect proving that peacebuilding can grow from common ground as much as from conflict resolution.

Fifteen years on, one truth is clear: faith is a powerful force for peace. By choosing dialogue over division and inclusion over exclusion, F2AN has helped build stronger relationships across communities and empowered local peacebuilders to lead lasting change.

Looking ahead, F2AN aspires to deepen this work expanding the role of faith actors in conflict prevention, scaling innovative, locally-led approaches, and building resilient communities equipped to navigate the complex challenges of an increasingly interconnected world. The vision remains simple and enduring: societies where diversity is embraced, and every person can live with dignity, freedom and hope.



Cross-cutting: Climate and Environmental Justice: Mobilizing Faith Communities for a Sustainable Future

In 2024, F2AN introduced Climate and Environmental Justice as a cross-cutting thematic area, recognizing that the climate crisis is increasingly shaping the realities of communities around the world and influencing the very issues that F2AN has worked on for many years.

F2AN recognizes that challenges such as health, gender inequality, poverty, displacement, and conflict do not exist in isolation. They are deeply interconnected and are increasingly being shaped by climate realities. Climate change is affecting access to food and water, increasing vulnerabilities among women and marginalized communities, contributing to displacement and resource-based tensions, and placing additional pressures on already fragile social systems. Understanding these interconnected realities requires holistic responses that address not only environmental challenges, but also the social, spiritual, and justice dimensions of climate change.

As a global faith network, F2AN believes that faith actors have a unique and essential role in responding to the climate crisis. Religious leaders and faith-based organizations are deeply rooted within communities, often serving as trusted voices, custodians of values, and mobilizers of collective action. Across faith traditions, teachings on stewardship, care for creation, compassion, and responsibility towards future generations provide a strong foundation for advancing climate justice.

F2AN's vision for engagement in Climate and Environmental Justice is to strengthen the faith sector's contribution to ecological transformation by connecting spiritual values with practical action. The Network seeks to support faith actors to understand the links between climate change and social justice, promote environmentally responsible practices within faith communities, advocate for vulnerable populations affected by climate change, and foster collaboration across faith traditions and sectors.

This thematic area builds on F2AN's existing commitment to peaceful, just, and inclusive communities, gender justice, and family health and wellbeing. By integrating climate perspectives across these areas, F2AN aims to advance more holistic approaches that recognize that a healthy environment is fundamental to human dignity, equality, peace, and sustainable development.

Through partnerships, learning exchanges, advocacy, and support for locally led innovations, F2AN seeks to equip faith communities to become champions of climate resilience and environmental justice. The Network envisions a future where faith actors are not only responding to the impacts of climate change but are actively shaping solutions mobilizing communities, influencing public discourse, and contributing to a more just, sustainable, and resilient world.

The introduction of Climate and Environmental Justice reflects F2AN's continued evolution as a network that responds to emerging global challenges while remaining grounded in its core belief: that faith can be a powerful force for transformation, justice, and collective action.



Advocacy Wins by Thematic Area

Family Health and Wellbeing

Since 2011, Faith to Action Network has influenced 47 policy changes in support of family health and wellbeing and women's rights. In Ghana, advocacy from Network members contributed to family planning being included in the National Health Insurance Act in 2015. In Kenya, women's health-seeking behaviour improved dramatically hospital birth deliveries doubled, and use of family planning services surged.



Gender Justice and Women's Rights



The Network convened 11 continental and regional faith consultations to shape the African Union's Gender Strategy and the East African Legislative Assembly's Sexual and Reproductive Health bill ensuring women's voices were written into the laws of the

continent. A landmark 2024 publication on Women's Rights in Islam offered fresh insight into the liberating power of faith. Through strategic alliances, the Network brought 25 participants from 14 countries to the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

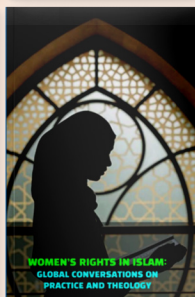
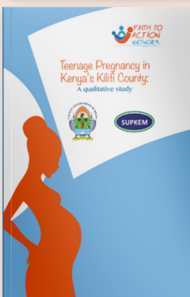
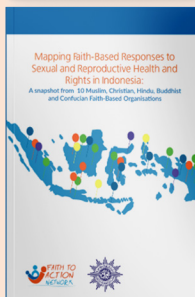
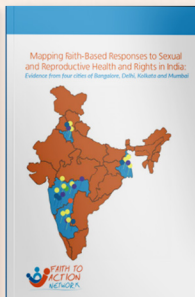
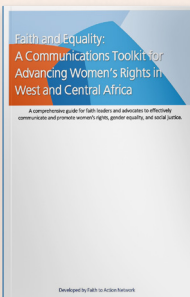
Peacebuilding

Through the Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action (JISRA), the Network has showcased the power of religion to provide peace and inclusion including a partnership with Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims on legislative and policy actions that disproportionately impact freedom of religion and belief of Muslim Minorities in Kenya. The Network and its members reached at least 25,000 young men and women with interfaith and intercultural interventions across six African countries.





Our Tools for Faith Engagement





Looking Forward

Building on the foundations laid over the past decade and a half, F2AN is committed to strengthening its role as a global faith network that connects, equips, and amplifies the voices of faith communities working for healthier families, gender justice, peaceful and inclusive societies, climate and environmental justice, and resilient communities.

First, we will place our members at the very heart of the Network and make that membership stronger, more connected, and more dynamic than ever before. We will continue strengthening our regional hubs as vibrant spaces where members collaborate, learn, innovate, and lead collective action. We will embrace digital transformation by creating a membership ecosystem that connects every member, increases visibility, and enables meaningful participation regardless of geography. Most importantly, we will transform our Network into a true community of practice, where experiences, innovations, and lessons from one member become shared knowledge that strengthens the entire Network.

Second, we will sharpen and amplify our collective advocacy voice. We will develop a unified advocacy agenda that reflects regional priorities while advancing shared global goals across our thematic areas. As global discussions increasingly focus on pandemic preparedness and response, F2AN will work to ensure that faith actors are recognized as indispensable partners in building resilient health systems,



strengthening community trust, combating misinformation, and supporting equitable access to health services during times of crisis. Through practical advocacy tools, capacity strengthening, and coordinated campaigns, we will equip every member to influence policy, mobilize communities, and champion change from local communities to regional and global decision-making spaces.

Third, we will strengthen our culture of learning, innovation, and knowledge sharing. We will invest in capturing the knowledge and innovations emerging from our members, transforming them into practical models that can be adapted across different contexts. This will include documenting faith-led approaches to community resilience, emergency response, climate adaptation, and pandemic preparedness. To sustain this learning, F2AN will establish a digital Learning Management System that serves as a living repository for training resources, research, tools, case studies, and peer learning ensuring that the Network's knowledge continues to grow and inspire future generations of faith leaders and practitioners.

Finally, we will build a stronger and more sustainable Network for the future. Lasting impact requires resilient institutions. F2AN will strengthen its organizational sustainability by diversifying its partnerships, investing in innovative resource mobilization approaches, and supporting enterprise development initiatives that reinforce the Network's long-term resilience. Guided by good stewardship and accountable leadership, we will continue building an institution that is equipped not only to respond to today's challenges but also to seize tomorrow's opportunities.

These are not separate ambitions they are one shared vision, a Faith to Action Network that is stronger from within, more influential in the world, richer in learning, and steadfast in its commitment to mobilizing faith for healthier families, gender justice, peaceful and inclusive societies, climate and environmental justice, and resilient communities.









**Connect with us and
partner with us!**

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