



# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Religious Communities and Sustainable Development

Points of Departure for a Post-2030 Development Agenda


**Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**

**08 – 11 June 2021**

**online / hybrid event**

We kindly invite you to submit your **abstract of 200–300 words** to **Ms Indah Harahap** ([theorcsd@hu-berlin.de](mailto:theorcsd@hu-berlin.de)) **until 31 March 2021**.

Notice of acceptance will be sent out shortly thereafter. Accepted contributors will be asked to submit their full papers and/or presentations until 31 May 2021.



We kindly invite the submission of abstracts for the international conference Religious Communities and Sustainable Development – Points of Departure for a Post-2030 Development Agenda. The conference will take place as a combined physical and online event. It will also serve as the inaugural conference of the International Network on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development (IN//RCSD), a transdisciplinary international research network. The event is organized by the Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

The conference will discuss the path of the emerging research field on religion and sustainable development, which gained momentum with the UN 2030 Development Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. The aim of the conference is to discuss state of the art research, take stock of the field and to identify sub-fields requiring further attention. The conference seeks to reflect on the modes of knowledge production in this transdisciplinary field shaped by scholars, practitioners, policymakers and religious communities.

Moving forward, we will seize the opportunity in 2021 – still nine years from reaching the closing point of the Agenda 2030 – to look back on how religious communities have been included in reaching the goals for 2030 and to look towards and beyond the end of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. What will be the role of religious communities for sustainable development in the future? Will the ‘religious turn’ in development policy and cooperation last beyond 2030? Taking the impact of religious communities on sustainable development seriously, how would a new development agenda need to be shaped to reflect this impact?

Contributions with the following focus will be particularly welcome:

- » Contributions presenting state of the art empirical research in the field of religion and sustainable development;
- » Contributions on religion, public health and development, particularly in view of the corona pandemic;

- » Contributions taking stock of the field and identify sub-fields requiring further attention;
- » Contributions investigating the modes of knowledge production in the field;
- » Contributions exploring the inclusion of religious communities in the Agenda 2030 and reflecting on the ‘religious turn’ in development theory, policy and practice; and
- » Contributions identifying the implications of the religion and sustainable development debate for a post-2030 development agenda.

Papers presented will be considered for publication in the new open access journal *Religion & Development*. The first issue will be published at the conference, thereby launching the journal as high quality transdisciplinary and international publication outlet.

The conference is **transdisciplinary**. It seeks to bring together scholars from various disciplines (inter alia theology, religious studies, development studies, anthropology, economics, politics, sociology). Qualitative and quantitative approaches are welcome; all contributions are expected to be open to inter- or transdisciplinary conversation. Moreover, the conference seeks to facilitate mutual dialogue between **academia, policy and practice**. Extra-academic experts and practitioners are encouraged to submit contributions and to participate.

We especially encourage **excellent young researchers** to bring forward innovative research approaches and findings. The workshop is planned to be held as a hybrid event, combining online and in-person formats depending on the pandemic situation at the time. If in-person attendance is possible, a limited number of **travel and accommodation grants** will be available for those participants who do not receive funding from their institution. If you would like to apply for a grant, kindly indicate whether you will require full or partial funding (e.g. accommodation only).

Part of the conference is the annual “**Lecture Series on African Independent and Pentecostal Approaches to Theology and Development**”. Three high profile African church leaders will hold keynote lectures in the evenings of the conference days.