Ecumenical Organizations at COP23

Speakers are available for interview and comment

WCC is a worldwide fellowship of 348 member churches which represents more than half a billion Christians around the world.

LWF is a global communion of 145 member churches in 98 countries representing more than 74 million Lutherans.

146 churches and church-related organisations working together on humanitarian, development and advocacy work.

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Ecumenical groups and climate change

Ecumenical action on climate change is global and diverse. Churches and church-related groups around the world are already dealing with the effects of climate change, from extreme weather events like typhoons and floods to long-term droughts and the failure of agriculture and fisheries.

In recent years ecumenical groups have been deeply involved in advocacy and action on climate change and have taken part in every Conference of Parties. The World Council of Churches and related groups have taken strong moral positions on the fossil fuel industry that generates emissions that cause climate change. Putting their money where their mouth is, they have divested from fossil fuels, withdrawing a pool of billions of dollars from the industry.

ACT Alliance works across the world on humanitarian responses to disasters that are related to climate change. ACT Alliance members also undertake long-term development initiatives that promote low-carbon development and adaptation with the many communities around the world already suffering the impacts of climate change.

The Lutheran World Federation, as well as deciding to not invest in fossil fuels, has run global campaigns building awareness and calling for individual and collective actions to stop climate change. Represented at each Conference of Parties by an all-youth delegation from Lutheran churches and climate projects, the LWF calls for intergenerational justice at the climate negotiations and to be in solidarity with those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. One thematic approach to its commemoration of 500 years of Lutheran Reformation is the theme “Creation - not for sale”.

Ecumenical groups and churches represented at COP23 that are no longer investing in fossil fuels:

- World Council of Churches
- The Lutheran World Federation
- Church of England
- Episcopal Church
- Methodist Church of Britain
- United Methodist Church
- United Reformed Ch of Scotland
- United Church of Canada
- Church of Sweden
- United Church of Christ, US
- The Uniting Church in Australia
- Presbyterian Ch of New Zealand
- Anglican Church of New Zealand and Polynesia
Ecumenical speakers available at COP23

Here is a small selection of delegates who will be available for interview in Bonn.

Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit
General Secretary
World Council of Churches

Rudelmar Bueno de Faria
General Secretary
ACT Alliance

Caroline Bader
Youth Secretary
The Lutheran World Federation

Khulekani Magwaza
Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Africa. LWF Council member

Isaiah Toroitich
ACT Alliance Global Advocacy and Policy Coordinator

Lasse Schmidt-Klie
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover. LWF Council Member

Athena Peralta
WCC Programme Executive for Economic and Ecological Justice

Rev. Henrik Grape
Coordinator, WCC Working Group on Climate Change

Dr Joycia Thorat
Co-chair of ACT Advisory Group on Advocacy