

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Reconnecting to Nature is key to meet Paris Agreement, politicians told

The UN climate conference participants including negotiators and politicians are being invited to connect with Nature in order to energise the negotiations and lead to transformative action at Conference of Parties (COP25) and beyond.

This year, massive youth protests have caught politician's attention. While Nature has been expressing itself through various heatwaves, forest fires and freak oceanic waves.

The Listening to the Earth (L2E), a new initiative is calling upon everyone to genuinely listen and reconnect with Nature. The initiative is grounded in the conviction that we cannot solve the climate and environmental crisis without restoring our innate relationship with Nature.

A growing number of voices are rising to affirm that technical and scientific solutions will not suffice. "We need a cultural and spiritual transformation", famously stated James Gustave Speth, the influential American environmental lawyer and advocate who founded the World Resources Institute.

"The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed and apathy, and to deal with these we need a cultural and spiritual transformation and we scientists don't know how to do that," said Speth.

L2E is hosting online Nature-related moments of mindfulness every morning, just before negotiations open. Everyone is able to join the event virtually to empower politicians. Participants in the COP are invited to begin their meetings with a silent moment of mindful connection to the Earth.

"The aim is to collectively tune into the wisdom & power of Nature during key political events on the environment", said founder Charlotte Dufour.

A motivated group of volunteers launched this initiative in the run-up to the United Nations Climate Action Summit, which took place during the UN General Assembly in September.

"We know that it will take more than political discussions and technocratic ideas to implement the Paris Agreement on climate change", explains James Lloyd, Director of the Nature4Climate coalition and active supporter of Listening to the Earth. "We must reconnect with Nature."

Musonda Mumba, Chief of the UN Environment Programme Terrestrial Ecosystems Unit and incoming chair of the Global Partnership on Forests and Landscapes Restoration, reminds us: “Our forefathers living on the land and indigenous peoples around the world have always known that: when Nature thrives, we thrive. They see themselves as custodians and caretakers of Nature because they know that when we take care of Nature, She takes care of us.”

Living largely in urban settings and indoors, we have lost touch with the elements. We are disembodied from our larger body, the Earth. The patterns of disharmony we see in Nature are echoed in our bodies, with diseases like cancer, auto-immune disorders and other chronic disease - symptoms that life is turning against life itself.

“Nature is the master of complexity, adaptation, resilience, creativity and renewal. She can guide us, inspire us, and comfort us. We all know the peace, grounding and expansion that comes from walking in a forest, looking at the ocean, hearing a bird’s song, breathing fresh mountain air,” said Ms Dufour.

Nurturing this connection is essential to support the behavior change required of policy makers, businesses and consumers to curtail the environmental crisis we face.

“We need to remember we are part of Nature and work with Nature to solve the crisis we face,” adds Myra Jackson, Earth Rights activist and expert on the UN Harmony with Nature Programme.

Editor’s note:

Everyone can join daily and [Listening to the Earth](http://www.listeningtotheearth.world) virtually

People are encouraged to organize [Listening to the Earth](http://www.listeningtotheearth.world) events in their local community

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