Task Sheet 8. The Environment

Suggested Task
Think about how your faith relates to the scientific understanding of the natural world, and whether/how you connect religion and science.

As a tandem pair, discuss between you the approach of your religion to the natural world, its origin and destiny, and the human role within it.

Aim
To explore the relationship of your faiths to scientific and environmental questions, as well as what technological options you may use or refuse in a different way from those who do not share your faith commitment.

Objectives
On your own and with your partner define your objectives for this tandem exercise.
What do you want to learn?

Consider asking yourself
How does my faith speak of the origins of the world?
How does this account relate to a modern scientific worldview?
According to my faith tradition, how should human beings relate to the natural world?
Should every technological advance be applauded? If not, why not?

Consider asking your tandem partner
You may ask all or none of the suggestions above plus:
Does your religion’s theoretical attitude to the world translate in practice into actions that differ from the norm? If so, how easy or difficult is this to sustain in a society where your faith is in the minority?
Do you see people beyond your faith who hold similar views to yours about the environment as allies?

Things to reflect on together
- What are our similarities? Why?
- Where do we differ? Why?