

World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center calls for a rethink in our relationship with nature in view of the Covid-19 pandemic

Bonn, 4 May 2020

In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, the World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center (WEASC), based in Bonn, Germany, is calling for a fundamental rethink of our relationship with nature. As part of the global Christian "Renew Our World" campaign, WEASC published a statement calling for, among other things, stronger regulation of the global trade in wildlife products.

"The Covid-19 pandemic can be a real eye and heart opener," said Matthias K. Boehning, Director of WEASC, *"if we read the signs of the times and let actions follow".*

The statement addresses, among other things, the problem of destruction and fragmentation of natural habitats and the unsustainable, often unregulated and often illegal use of wildlife and wildlife products, which contributes to the disruption of ecosystems. *"The fact that this also increases the likelihood of transmitting pathogens from wildlife to humans is an important message that must be heard and understood in times of the global Covid-19 pandemic,"* said Boehning.

Together with numerous other Christian organizations from all over the world working in the fields of development, justice and creation care, the World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center affirms in the text of the statement: *"We believe that God has created an interdependent world within which humans have a responsibility to use the gifts and resources contained in the natural world wisely, cautiously and sustainably."*

Further information:

- [Renew Our World Statement and accompanying interview \(video + transcript\)](#)
- [WEA Sustainability Center](#)
- [Renew Our World campaign](#)

Press contact:

World Evangelical Alliance Sustainability Center (WEASC)
Matthias K. Boehning, Director
Am Platz der Vereinten Nationen
Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 2
53113 Bonn/Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 228 - 30 42 63 59
mboehning@worlddea.org
Twitter: @weasc
Instagram: @creationstewardship

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