



14 March 2012

In 2009, the United Nations Development Programme partnered with the Alliance of Religions and Conservation to encourage various faiths of the world to develop long-term initiatives to protect and nurture the environment. It is truly heartening to hear of the progress the global Sikh community has made in this regard, and it is even more inspiring to hear that the momentum seems to be growing.

As the global community prepares to address sustainable development in Rio in June, the EcoSikh movement serves as an inspiration to all those seeking to establish an ecological consciousness that celebrates nature. Please accept my best wishes for the success of the second annual Sikh Environment Day on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Olav Kjørven  
UN Assistant Secretary-General and  
Director  
Bureau for Development Policy