

2019 ICSD Jerusalem Symposium Survey Responses

Summary

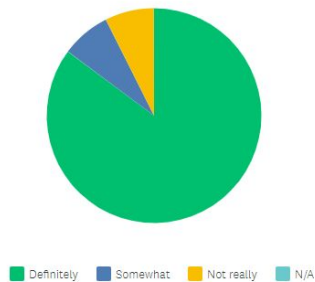
- A well attended conference (105 attendees throughout the day) and most respondents staying for the whole day
- Good interfaith representation with a group of 8 Bedouins representing Islam and substantial Christian (60%) and Jewish participation (30%)
- Very positive feedback regarding the 5 minute presentations and outdoor session
- Request for more interactive sessions in future
- The practical aspects of ecology were appreciated by respondents, showing how they could personally incorporate these into their lives

Survey Responses

- 1) 27 of the 105 attendees (one quarter) responded to the post Symposium survey
- 2) Over 92% of respondents felt that the Symposium improved their understanding of the connection between religion and ecology

Did the Symposium improve your understanding of the connection between religion and ecology?

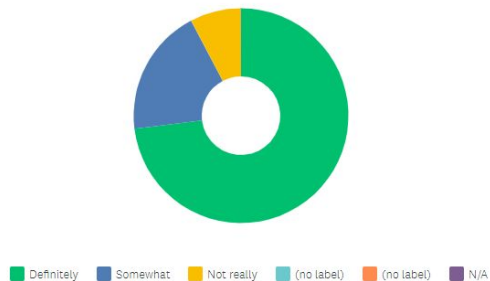
Answered: 27 Skipped: 0



- 3) 92% also felt that the interfaith panel of religious leaders was meaningful, interesting and informative

How did you find plenary session 1 with the panel of religious figures --was it meaningful, interesting and informative?

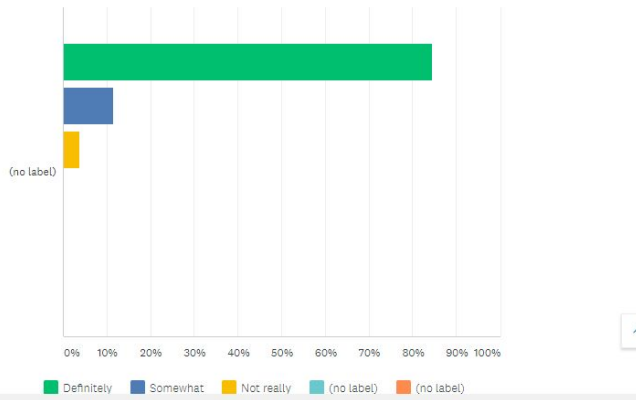
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4) Over 96% of respondents particularly enjoyed the session of nine, five minute presentations

How did you find the second session with the five minute presentations by nine speakers--were they meaningful, interesting and informative?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 1



5) All respondents who attended the outdoor walking tour enjoyed it and felt it was meaningful

6) Equally, all those who attended the final session where participants shared their learnings from the Symposium, found it valuable and insightful

7) When respondents were asked what they specifically took away from the Symposium, their answers included:

- a) I have learnt so much regarding the shift of perspective. Because I come from Papua New Guinea where we have all we wanted in abundance my people pay less attention in preserving the environment not knowing that they can contribute to the danger of every being on earth. I admire your concern for our global Village.
- b) It opened up possibilities of integrating this in many areas of citizen-life as well as professional spheres
- c) Many things, especially the common goal
- d) Seeing that people are motivated and interested
- e) Interesting to learn about what is going on
- f) The ecology issues are for one and for all. Our mother earth has to be protected and well kept for the future generation whatever their beliefs.
- g) to watch over the creation
- h) We need to join hands to save planet earth - there is much we share in common - this can be the starting point for building a better world...
- i) Understanding of Urban Farming and Composting

- 8) When asked what was the strongest feature of the event, the following answers were received:
- a) The 9 speakers (5 min presentations) - [NB this was chosen by 5 respondents]
 - b) The meeting with the Sheikh Hassan Abu Guliyoum [chosen by 2 respondents]
 - c) Information that reflects on the environmental perspectives of different religions comparing them and how they deal with the issues
 - d) The Panel discussion
 - e) Yuval Sherlo presentation, 5 min presentations in general
 - f) Meeting with others, Brother Steve presentation
 - g) The variety of faiths/views in conversation. Networking
 - h) The Urban farming talk
 - i) Sharing at the end was a strong moment
 - j) Outdoor tour, panel, 5 mins presentations
 - k) Sense of sharing and belonging
 - l) Composting and urban gardens presentations
 - m) The diversity of the attendants was remarkable!
 - n) The introduction, the development of the topic and conclusion: the real activities to do in order to keep our mother earth safely.
 - o) I felt happy to see us coming from different religions beliefs to share our experiences in taking care of what God has given us
- 9) When asked what practical action participants would take following the Symposium, the following answers were received:
- a) Maybe to compost
 - b) to try my best in bringing my contribution in raising awareness about the care of creation
 - c) To live simply and to recycle...
 - d) Reduce plastic and get involved
- 10) Suggestions on how to make next year's Symposium even more relevant included:
- a) More interactive sessions (three respondents)
 - b) Engage the speakers in the planning of the event
 - c) Bring more participants to the program and leaders representing all religions
 - d) More serious lectures with (religious) texts
 - e) More info on what is being done to improve sustainable development and how we can get involved volunteering or campaigning
 - f) The closing session may have flowed better in small groups
 - g) How to think about root causes of environmental degradation. The Eco-economy and loss of spiritual. Could include a joined mindfulness moment to connect our inner spaces.
 - h) Making the conference in a more accessible place or starting later
 - i) More examples of activities. Better Tech support
 - j) More about priorities and time. Perhaps the day was a little too long

- k) Further concrete data on climate change and what we can do about it
- l) More practical sessions with hands on opportunities
- m) Learn about the impact of industries on human life, what is the contribution of the religions on safety and environment? How can we make a visible act like planting trees, in public places, the impact of means of transport on ecology, war and ecology
- n) Five minutes to the speakers were not enough according to me to give chance for interactions
- o) Better speakers and more diverse topics; shorter day; more interaction in smaller break out sessions; better representative of Muslim community

11) 63% of respondents stayed for the whole day

I stayed for

Answered: 27 Skipped: 0

