



# Advocacy Update

Sent March 28, 2012

## **Sustainable Consumption and Production continued...**

As noted in last week's Social Justice: WRJ Advocacy and Programming, our resolution "Sustainable Consumption and Production: Learning to Live Together" states, "Climate change, resource scarcity, and conflict over resources have the real potential to harm the world's population and affect global security." The resolution advocates governmental and organizational action to create and support a cultural and economic system based on sustainable policies and practices for consumption and production of goods and services. [Read the full resolution](#) on the WRJ website.

In this resolution WRJ calls on its affiliates to "Mobilize their members and congregational members to improve knowledge and understanding of the environmental and social impacts of our consumption and production choices, practices and policies, and to make them more sustainable and socially responsible." How best can these goals be implemented? A few suggestions for sisterhoods follow.

Identify two or three women who are particularly concerned about environmental issues and global warming to form a task force on sustainable consumption and production. Ask them to study the issues related to sustainable consumption and production, using some of the following resources:

- [The UN Millennium Development Goals](#) fact sheet on ensuring environmental sustainability and the UN Division for Sustainable Development's comprehensive report *Trends in Sustainable Development, Towards Sustainable Consumption and Production*;
- [A UNESCO Education piece](#) on sustainable consumption;
- [The Food for Thought Curriculum](#) developed by the Union for Reform Judaism in partnership with Hazon; and [Oxfam's report](#) on its program to avert a food crisis in the Sahel region of Africa.

Ask the task force to prepare and present programming on the issues:

- Prepare material for brief discussions to open sisterhood board meetings;
- Plan a program using known local experts as speakers or contacting local organizations and agencies working on environmental concerns; and
- Plan an event, from the menu of fall holiday food justice programs provided by the [URJ and Religious Action Center](#) or consider holding an [Oxfam America Hunger Banquet](#).

Your women's group could also focus on greening your congregation or homes:

- Check-out the [URJ's website](#) on greening our communities;
- The [Hazon website](#) has good ideas for greening our holidays and meals;
- [COEJL's Earth Day resource](#) provides a detailed list for an environmental overhaul of our buildings; and
- [First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Campaign](#) has a Toolkit for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Organizations, with ways to promote healthy eating and fitness, and respond to hunger.

*For more information on WRJ and Social Justice, visit [www.wrj.org/social-justice-home](http://www.wrj.org/social-justice-home)*

**Watch for advocacy recommendations regarding sustainable consumption and production in next week's social justice e-mail!**