**Laudato Si’ Action Plan - Process Involving Religious Congregations**

Religious Congregations are invited to partake in this process of conversion to integral ecology, as communities, Provinces and Institutes. To facilitate their involvement, USG and UISG are developing a support platform that avails:

1. ***A common, broad framework*** in which everybody will be able to partake: that consists of three basic elements, namely, (*a) making a public commitment*; (*b) making the transition to integral ecology*; (*c) journeying together*.
   * Religious communities and Institutes will be able to develop their customized process within the common framework. [1]
2. ***The possibility to contribute actively to the development of the Platform***, in *a participatory, bottom-up approach*. In particular, there is the possibility of joining different working groups.
   * ***“Promote LSAP within your Congregation and beyond”:*** this is an opportunity to raise awareness among Religious Congregations, their Provinces, communities and members of the Laudato Si’ Action Platform.
   * **"*Contribute to the development of LSAP":***
   * this invitation carries 4 possible areas of contribution, namely
     1. Defining the Laudato Si’ Goals (LSG): the 7 LSGs need to be detailed into practical actions that Religious communities and Institutes may consider taking to achieve Integral Ecology.
     2. Public Commitment: gathering materials and developing guides, templates and tools to facilitate the public commitment of religious communities.
     3. Transition to Integral Ecology: gathering materials and developing guides, templates and tools to facilitate the concrete journey of communities.
     4. Journeying Together: share, connect, collaborate and liaise with activities, programs, campaigns, movements; serve as a sounding board and offer guidance and expertise where needed.

[[1]](https://jpic-workshop.thinkific.com/courses/take/living-laudato-si/texts/20402438-the-process-involving-religious-congregations" \l "_ftnref1" \o ") In fact, the proposed process is informed by 4 basic criteria:

1. **The process should build on what Religious communities are already doing**: not only this means tapping their creativity and existing initiatives, but it is the only realistic way of building a movement for integral ecology.
2. **It should be simple and gradual enough to be manageable**: communities are often already overstretched, caught in-between many commitments and limited number of personnel. The process needs not scaring them away from making a commitment.
3. **It should be inspiring enough to motivate**: communities need to see in this initiative an opportunity to live their charism and their prophetic mission to the fullest.
4. **And flexible enough to suit different situations and contexts**: a process suggests a sense of direction and essential points of reference. For the rest, participants will have all the freedom of the children of God.