



LAUDATO SI'
Action Platform



ARCHDIOCESE
OF BOMBAY

Steps for Our Laudato Si' Diocese Journey

Version 1 | January 2022

An Outcome Document of the Discernment Process undertaken in the
Archdiocese of Bombay



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LSAP

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This outcome document of the discernment process in the Archdiocese of Bombay has been compiled by Shawna Nemesia Rebello for the Archdiocesan Office for Environment with the support, perspective and insights of Bishop Allwyn D'Silva, Fr Luke Rodrigues SJ, the discernment process facilitators and members of the Laudato Si' Diocese discernment team. It incorporates content from the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) website and material made available to Bishop Allwyn (a member of the LSAP Parishes and Dioceses Working Group) as part of collaborative platform development.

about the LSAP

In 2015, Pope Francis released his landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'* - on caring for our common home, addressed to all people of goodwill. Exploring the ancient teachings of our faith in the light of today's ecological crisis, *Laudato Si'* teaches us that "everything is connected" (LS 91). As our relationship with our divine Creator has been neglected, human relationships have faltered, and our world has grown hotter, less stable, and more lifeless. As a result, we all suffer, and the poorest and most vulnerable suffer above all. We face a "complex crisis that is both social and environmental" (LS 139).

Yet, hope prevails. Pope Francis calls us to develop a "loving awareness" of this home we share and to act on the values we hold dear (LS 220). Standing on the firm ground of "three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour, and with the Earth itself," we commit to setting out "on the long path of renewal" (LS 66, 202). We embrace our rightful place in the "order and dynamism" that our Creator ordained, and we urgently embark on new ways of living with "creativity and enthusiasm" (LS 221, 220).

The [Laudato Si' Action Platform](#) (LSAP) empowers the universal Church and all people of good will to respond to *Laudato Si'*. It is a programme and associated website that equips Catholic institutions, communities, and families to implement *Laudato Si'*. The LSAP is sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, and aims to listen and respond to the cry of the Earth, the cry of the poor, and the cry of our children and future generations. Pope Francis' video invite to join the LSAP may be viewed [here](#).

On signing up to the LSAP, one begins an action-oriented seven-year ecological conversion journey in the spirit of integral ecology to achieve total sustainability. Actions are guided by seven cross-cutting Laudato Si' Goals that focus on redefining and rebuilding our relationship with each other and our common home, taking a holistic approach and calling for a spiritual and cultural revolution to realise integral ecology. Through the LSAP, communities in each sector create their own Laudato Si' Action Plans dedicated to advancing each of the seven Laudato Si' Goals through actions based on local knowledge and local realities.

The hope is to soon reach the critical mass needed for societal transformation.

Sectors served by the LSAP include:



the Laudato Si' Goals

The Laudato Si' Goals redefine and rebuild our relationship with each other and our common home. Their holistic approach acknowledges the planetary limits of all socio-economic systems and the human roots of the ecological crisis, calling for a spiritual and cultural revolution to realise integral ecology.





the Laudato Si' Goals

The **Response to the Cry of the Earth** is a call to protect our common home for the wellbeing of all, as we equitably address the climate crisis, biodiversity loss, and ecological sustainability.

Actions could include:

- ◆ adoption of renewable energies and energy sufficiency measures
- ◆ achieving carbon neutrality
- ◆ protecting biodiversity
- ◆ promoting sustainable agriculture
- ◆ guaranteeing access to clean water for all

The **Response to the Cry of the Poor** is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death, and all forms of life on Earth.

Actions could include:

- ◆ projects to promote solidarity, with special attention given to vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, refugees, migrants, and children at risk
- ◆ analysis and improvement of social systems
- ◆ social service programmes

Ecological Economics acknowledges that the economy is a sub-system of human society, which itself is embedded within the biosphere – our common home.

Actions could include:

- ◆ sustainable production and consumption
- ◆ ethical investments
- ◆ divestment from fossil fuels and any activity harmful to the planet and the people
- ◆ supporting circular economies
- ◆ prioritising care labour
- ◆ protecting the dignity of workers

The **Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles** is grounded in the idea of sufficiency, and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy.

Actions could include:

- ◆ reducing waste and recycling
- ◆ adopting sustainable dietary habits (opting for a more plant-based diet and reducing meat consumption)
- ◆ greater use of public transport
- ◆ active mobility (walking, cycling)
- ◆ avoiding single use items (e.g. plastic, etc.)

Ecological Education is about re-thinking and re-designing curricular and institutional reform in the spirit of integral ecology in order to foster ecological awareness and transformative action.

Actions could include:

- ◆ ensuring equitable access to education for all and promoting human rights
- ◆ fostering *Laudato Si'* themes within the community
- ◆ encouraging ecological leadership (students, teachers), and ecological restoration activities

Ecological Spirituality springs from a profound ecological conversion and helps us to “discover God in all things”, both in the beauty of creation and in the sighs of the sick and the groans of the afflicted, aware that the life of the spirit is not dissociated from worldly realities.

Actions could include:

- ◆ promoting creation-based liturgical celebrations
- ◆ developing ecological catechesis, retreats and formation programmes, etc.

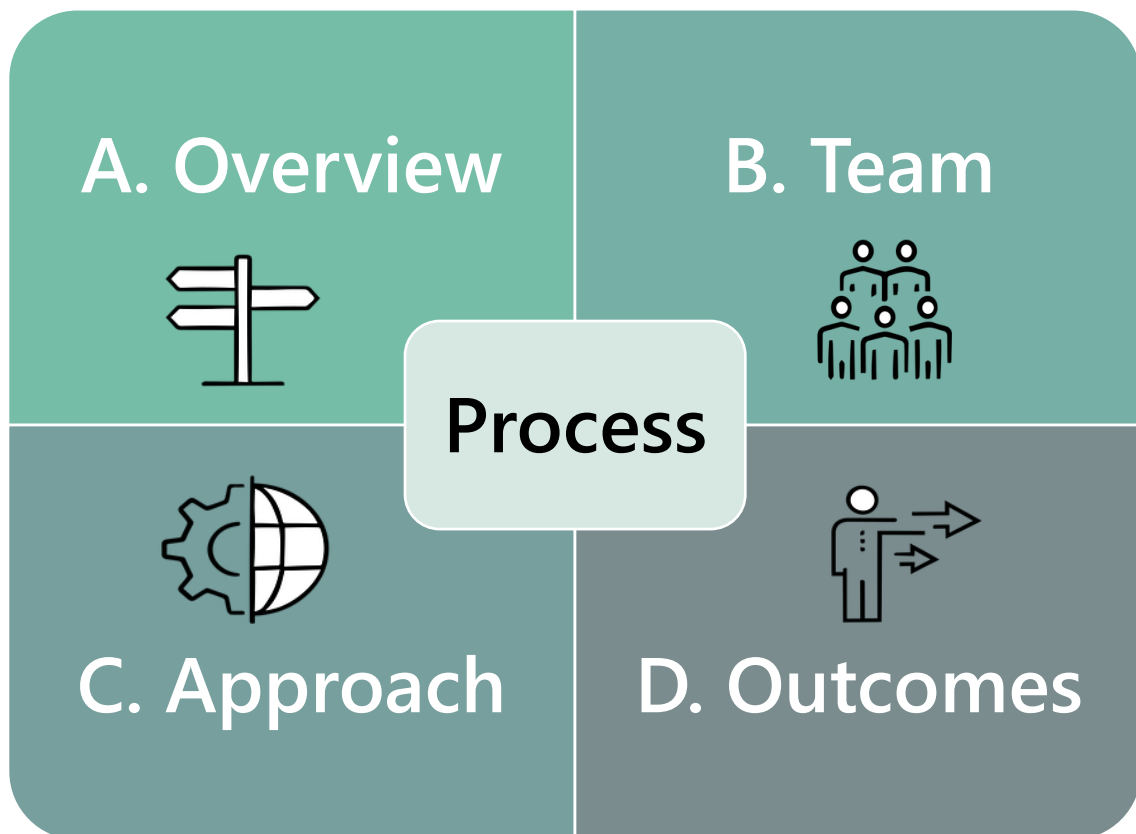
Community Resilience and Empowerment envisage a synodal journey of community engagement and participatory action at various levels.

Actions could include:

- ◆ promoting advocacy and developing people's campaigns
- ◆ encouraging rootedness and a sense of belonging in local communities and neighbourhood ecosystems



our LSAP Process





our LSAP Process

A. Overview

The Archdiocese of Bombay recognised the need to respond to the ecological crisis in 2013, establishing the Archdiocesan Office for Environment at the end of that year. Its Green Diocese Initiative was launched by Oswald Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, on 1st September 2018.

In April 2021, the Archdiocese of Bombay was chosen to be part of the LSAP's Parishes and Dioceses Working Group, being represented by **Bishop Allwyn D'Silva**. The LSAP recognises the collaborative value of such partnerships in its development, ensuring that the platform is rooted in lived experiences and local wisdom. After all, "new processes taking shape cannot always fit into frameworks imported from outside; they need to be based in the local culture itself" (LS 144).

Since committing to the LSAP begins with an essential discernment process that cultivates fraternity and welcomes the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Bishop Allwyn D'Silva initiated the discernment process for the Archdiocese of Bombay in July 2021. This process has been facilitated by management consultants **Leslie D'Souza** and **Pearl D'Souza McKenzie** of PrePearl Training Development Pvt Ltd. **Fr Luke Rodrigues SJ** (Head) and **Shawna Nemesia Rebello** (Consultant) of the Archdiocesan Office for Environment (AOE) coordinate the Laudato Si' Diocese journey in the Archdiocese of Bombay under the leadership of Bishop Allwyn D'Silva.

Discernment is vital since it leads to the discovery and enactment of integral initiatives that are ecologically transformative. The discernment process began in July 2021. Further consultations took place in August 2021 and October 2021.

On 16th November 2021, the Archdiocese of Bombay enrolled on the LSAP website.

To remain committed as a Laudato Si' Diocese, the LSAP requests:

- ◆ Completion of an annual self-assessment (data collection put on hold by the AOE)
- ◆ Uploading of a reflection on how diocesan values are connected to the Laudato Si' Goals (the AOE will prepare a refined version of this document in April 2022)
- ◆ Uploading of an annual Laudato Si' Plan that includes target outcomes and actions (the AOE will finalise a plan by June 2022)

In addition, beginning Lent 2022, the AOE will reach out to a representative parish from each deanery and accompany them on their Laudato Si' Parish journey, supporting these parishes on their ecological mission. The aim is to have these representative parishes, with the support of the AOE, accompany other parishes in the deanery in subsequent years. It is hoped that nearly every parish in the Archdiocese of Bombay starts their Laudato Si' journey by the end of the Archdiocese of Bombay's seven-year LSAP journey.

The AOE requests the support of the Archdiocese of Bombay's administrative and financial representatives, commissions, offices, deaneries, parishes, and other stakeholders in this endeavour.

May the Holy Spirit guide our actions in responding to the Laudato Si' Goals so that we effectively put our faith into action.

Laudato Si'!



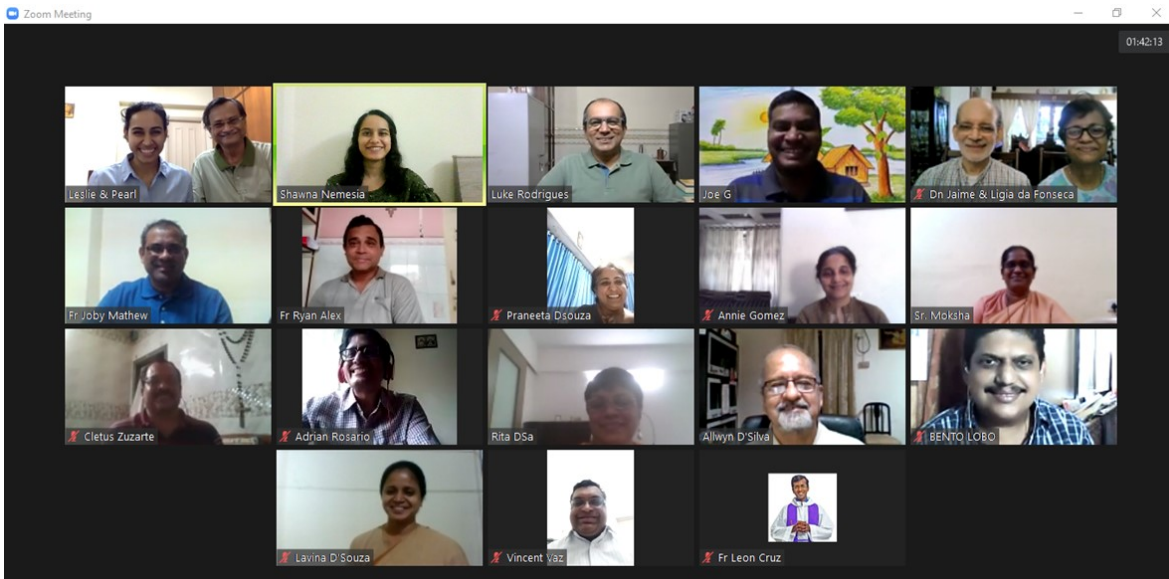


our LSAP Process

B. Team

The following persons have been part of the LSAP Diocese discernment team for the Archdiocese of Bombay:

1. Bishop Allwyn D'Silva (Bishop In-Charge)
2. Fr Luke Rodrigues SJ (AOE)
3. Shawna Nemesia Rebello (AOE)
4. Bento Lobo (Bombay Catholic Sabha)
5. Rita D'Sa (Bombay Catholic Sabha)
6. Sr Lavina D'Souza (Canossian Sisters)
7. Fr Joseph Gonsalves (Centre for Social Action)
8. Fr Joshua D'Souza (Commission for Ecology)
9. Fr Joby Mathew (Conference of Religious India)
10. Fr Leon Cruz SDB (Don Bosco Youth Services)
11. Deacon Jaime da Fonseca (Family Cell)
12. Ligia da Fonseca (Family Cell)
13. Annie Gomez (Lay Leader – Eco Ambassador)
14. Cletus Zuzarte (Lay Leader – Educator)
15. Annabel D'Souza (Lay Leader – Journalist)
16. Astrid Lobo (Lay Leader – Youth)
17. Fr Ryan Alex (Media Promotion)
18. Sr Moksha Anthonappa (Migrants)
19. Fr Vincent Vaz CSsR (Redemptorists)
20. Adrian Rosario (Small Christian Communities)
21. Praneeta D'Souza (Small Christian Communities)
22. Sunita Machado (Women's Commission)



Group Screenshot at the Discernment Session on 14-Aug-2021



Facilitators (PrePearl Training Development Pvt Ltd):

1. Leslie D'Souza
2. Pearl D'Souza McKenzie





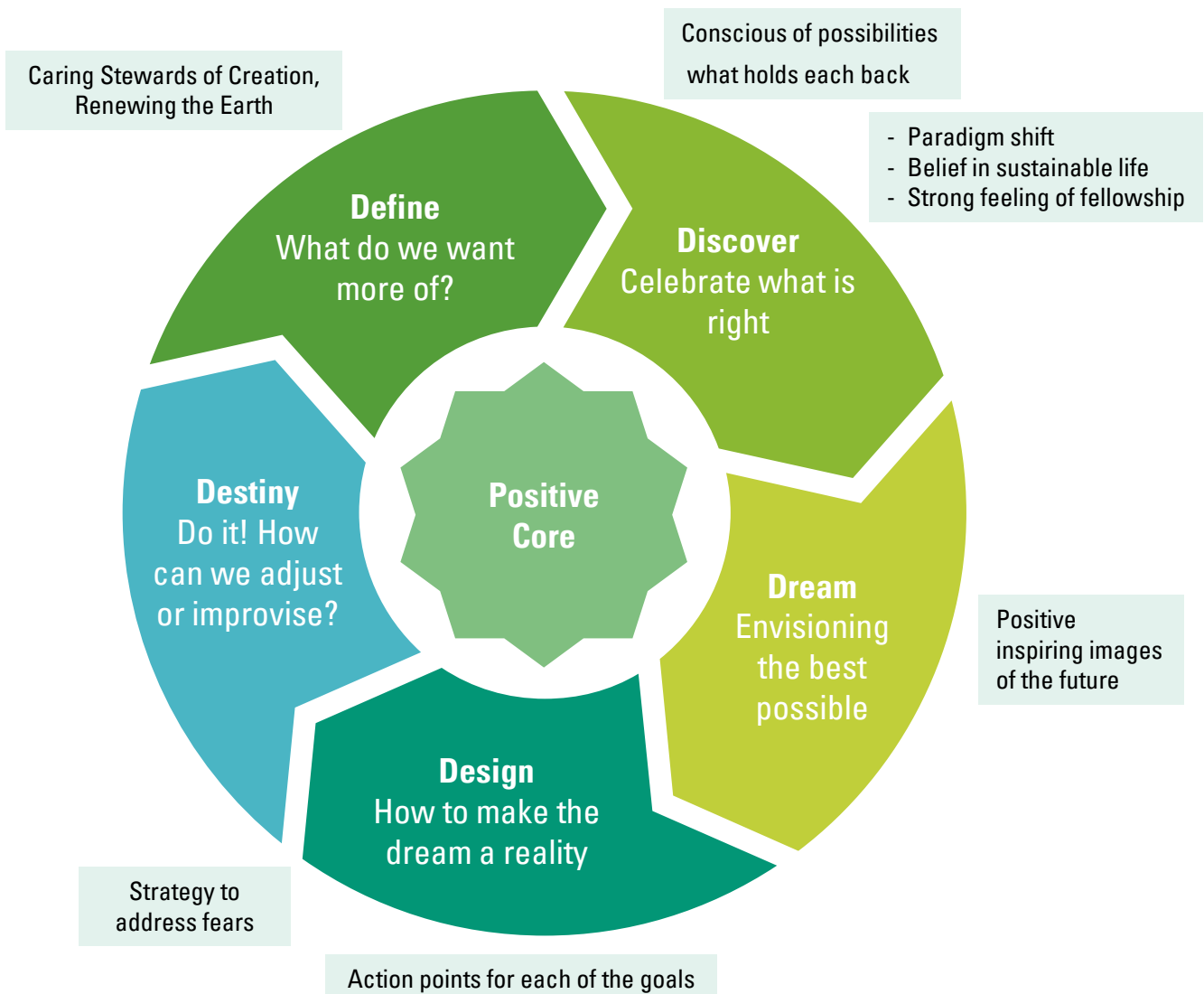
our LSAP Process

C. Approach

The Appreciative Inquiry process that guides change management has been used for the discernment process, invoking guidance of the Holy Spirit at all stages. It leverages rigour of inquiry, positive emotions and experiences to launch concrete plans.



5 D Appreciative Inquiry Process





our LSAP Process

D. Outcomes

Define

At the online session of 14th July 2021, participating team members arrived at a defining “provocative” statement - **Caring Stewards of Creation, Renewing the Earth** – that would serve to frame the diocesan discernment process.

On 7th August 2021, team members **cultivated fraternity** by sharing their inspiration to be part of the discernment and planning team, along with one hope and one fear. They then moved on to the next stage of the Appreciative Inquiry process.

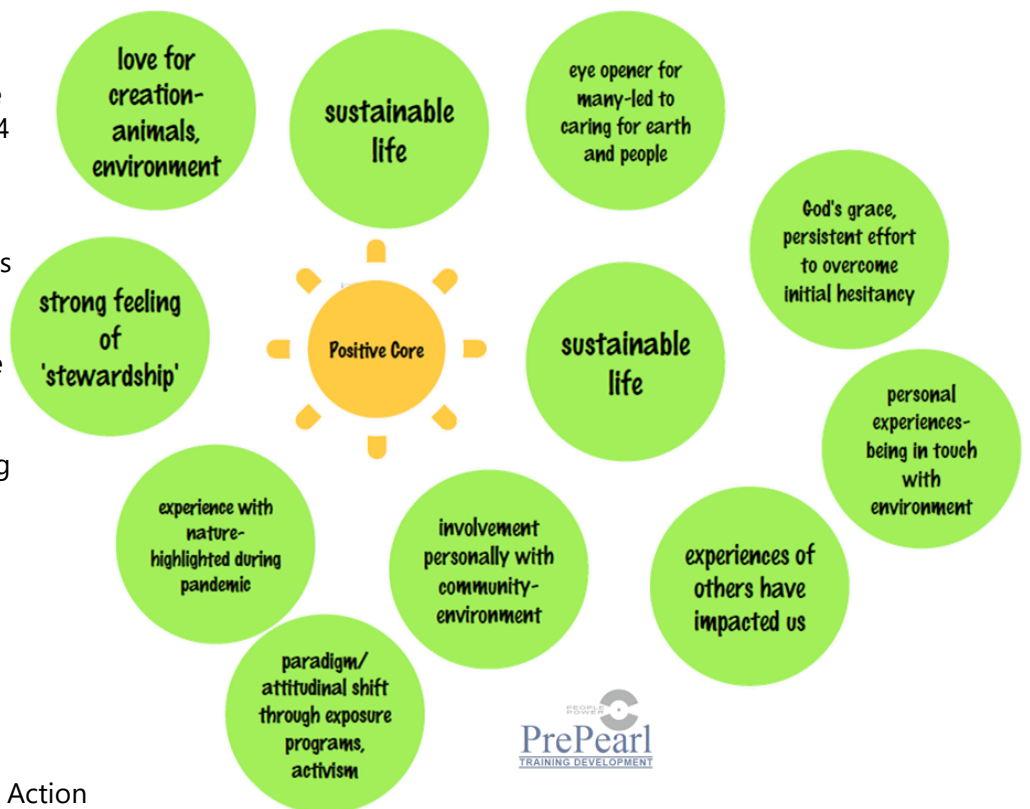
Discovery

Through recall and sharing of success stories of the best that has already happened and what worked, team members shared common themes about caring for the environment. This led to the uncovering of the **positive core** that is tapped into to overcome fear.

Preparation for the Dream and Define stages took place in the intervening week between 7-14 August 2021. The facilitators categorised the fears for addressal through four strategies; while team members uncovered aspirations by envisaging their highest aspirations for the Archdiocese of Bombay; and finding out what other organisations / communities globally are doing to show they truly care for the environment.

On 14th August 2021, the facilitators began the session with a recap, after which they presented the strategies to address categorised fears:

1. Sustaining Enthusiasm and Action
2. Overcoming Self-Doubt
3. Overcoming Resistance to Change
4. Instilling Collaboration and Commitment





our LSAP Process

D. Outcomes

Dream

At the online session of 14th August 2021, the participating team members recalled their aspirations and **shared themes and images of what they would like to see seven years hence** after the Archdiocese of Bombay has successfully completed its integral ecology journey through the LSAP. These shared dreams set the stage for what should happen to make them reality:



Define

With these dreams in mind, team members **prioritised and commented on how to achieve the Laudato Si' Goals** using the criteria of high impact, ability to mobilise, and commit by utilising the 'Three Box' strategy and the 'Voting with the Feet' technique. For this stage, team members worked with the actions developed earlier in May 2021 for the Archdiocese of Bombay by Bishop Allwyn D'Silva and Shawna Nemesia Rebello as part of collaborative LSAP development by Working Group members. The outcome of this part of the Define stage is presented in **Appendix I** (pages 15-23).

N.B.: As the LSAP has since refined the goals and list of suggested actions, the AOE will accordingly adapt the commented upon actions while creating the Laudato Si' Plan for the Archdiocese of Bombay in 2022.





our LSAP Process

D. Outcomes

Between 14-21 August 2021, team members worked in groups and **developed concrete action points for the four strategies to overcome fears**. This serves to overcome hurdles in implementation. The outcome of this part of the Define stage is presented in **Appendix II** (pages 24-26).

At the discernment session of 17th October 2021, participating team members:

1. Clarified the role of the AOE for deployment of the LSAP in the Archdiocese of Bombay
 - ◆ Awareness and communications about the LSAP
 - ◆ Persons / Organisations who will be involved
 - ◆ Capacity building
 - ◆ Mobilisation to get everyone involved





our LSAP Process

D. Outcomes

For mobilisation, the AOE will identify influential / mother parishes in each deanery, accompany and support these parishes on their LSAP integral ecology journeys. The parishes identified include:

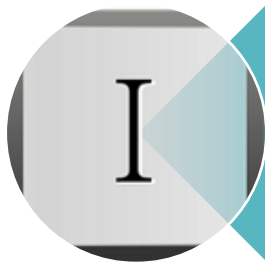
Deanery	Lead Parish Identified	Deanery	Lead Parish Identified
1. South Mumbai	Our Lady of Glory, Byculla	6. Borivli	Our Lady of Lourdes, Orlem
2. North Mumbai	St Michael, Mahim	7. Kurla	St Jude, Jeri-Meri
3. Bandra	St Peter, Bandra	8. Thane	St John the Baptist, Thane
4. Central Suburbs	St Anthony, Vakola	9. Bhayandar	Our Lady of the Sea, Uttan
5. Andheri	Holy Family, Chakala	10. Navi Mumbai	Sacred Heart, Vashi
11. Raigad Deanery (as a whole) – Sr Marina Fernandes and Team (Care for Creation Group)			

2. Developed the strategy for communication, participation and going into Mission Mode
 - ◆ The draft outcome document was sent to discernment team members for review after the session on 17th October 2021
 - ◆ A letter by Bishop Allwyn D'Silva (**Appendix III** – page 27) was sent on 28th October 2021 to priests and relevant stakeholders accompanying the invite letter of Cardinal Turkson (Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development)
 - ◆ An Advent calendar was disseminated on 24th November 2021 – although not directly related to LSAP deployment, it incorporates action elements of the Laudato Si' Goals
 - ◆ LSAP updates are regularly posted on the AOE's social media run by its Youth Media team
3. Established a pathway for consulting the people of God at the Deanery, Parish and Religious Institutes on the LSAP outcome document of the Archdiocese of Bombay
 - ◆ Initially slated for release on 15th November 2021, Bishop Allwyn D'Silva and the AOE will share this outcome document in February 2022 for consultations at deaneries, parishes and religious institutes in the Archdiocese of Bombay
 - ◆ The discernment team has agreed to take on a continuous monitoring and evaluation role and will meet every two months to review progress





Appendices



Comments on Possible
Actions for the Laudato Si'
Goals



Strategies to Address Fears



28-Oct-2021 Letter by
Bishop Allwyn D'Silva



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Protect the climate		
install solar panels	Get funding for installation of solar panels wherever possible	All parishes and institutions need to implement this
insulate buildings	Explore options to insulate buildings against heat and implement whatever possible	
buy renewable energy credits (where available)	Keep abreast of renewable tariff options and adopt from electricity distributors as and when feasible	
install efficient appliances	Replace only with efficient appliances and commit to retrofitting with efficient appliances wherever possible	Make people aware of this (e.g. LED lights)
Outcome: Restore and protect biodiversity		
Plant native trees in large numbers	Join native tree plantation drives, particularly those spearheaded by non-profits and indigenous communities	In our vicinity, societies we can have regular plantation drives
Plant large native gardens	Prioritise planting of native species over ornamental species	Planting medicinal plants, etc.
Remove invasive species	Avoid planting non-native and ornamental species wherever possible	
Practice regenerative agriculture	Adopt agroecological principles in church-owned farm land to the extent possible	
Protect pollinators (such as birds, bats, bees, and butterflies)	Set up bird feeders, bird baths, butterfly gardens in urban church lands and explore setting up an apiary in church-owned farm land	Educate people about this and implement wherever possible
Outcome: Protect waterways and land		
Ensure sensible fertiliser application	Eliminate use of chemical fertilisers in church-owned farm land	
Institute conservative irrigation models, such as drip irrigation	Ensure conservation irrigation and measures such as mulching to prevent evaporative water loss are used in church-owned farm land	
Plant buffers along coasts or streams	Support mangrove protection and conservation schemes of the government, non-profits and coastal communities	It can be promoted in our parishes, institutions
Remove or avoid impermeable surfaces like asphalt and concrete in gardens and around buildings	Avoid concretising surfaces and recognise those parishes which choose to de-concretise their premises	Starting with our Church, our institutions, our cemeteries we also ensure in other places
Institute regular litter-prevention and -removal campaigns	Join and lend support to cleaning and waste prevention awareness drives	Create awareness and insist it's done in our Churches and Societies
Pursue conservation schemes (such as donating land to conservation organisations, getting a conservation easement, or having land officially recognised as protected)	n/a	



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Protect all life		
develop a series of public educational events to encourage the defence of human life from conception to natural death; invite Church and / or secular decision-makers	Have at least one session per year at the diocesan-level on human dignity and the right to life	Yes we need to have but we propose a series of more consistent sessions rather than one per year. This can be done by CBOs in collaboration with the Archdiocese Human Dignity- Suffering of the Migrants
develop a series of public educational events to explore the past and current forms of slavery / human trafficking in the local area and implement an anti-slavery / trafficking campaign	Conduct awareness sessions on slavery and human trafficking especially during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic	Networking regularly with organisations like IJM, Talitha Kum whenever we come across such cases
Outcome: Ensure access to WASH services		
ensure members of the community have free access to clean water	Raise awareness on the pricing of water tankers; render support to installation and maintenance of community toilets	Networking with the local corporators
ensure members of the community are fully trained in hygiene best practices	Conduct training programmes for relevant groups	Conscientise people about saving water and emphasis on sanitation and hygiene
ensure women and men, local ethnic groups, and agriculture / livestock / family representatives play equal roles in planning all WASH projects	Render support to community representatives wherever possible	Connecting the community leaders to the required resources
Outcome: Promote and protect Indigenous stewardship		
ensure Indigenous people retain the rights to their lands and waters	Offer legal counsel where applicable to indigenous communities	Networking with lay organisations and legal aid centres
elevate the leadership (such as creating educational curricula with indigenous educators, hosting events with indigenous speakers, and seeking indigenous leadership in discussions of policy) of indigenous people on biodiversity and climate	Get indigenous speakers to give their perspectives at diocesan environmental events	Agree
Outcome: Ensure access to land and clean air		
ensure members of the community have regular free access to green space	Promote native gardens in parishes that are accessible to the community	Wherever possible only
ensure that children are protected from air pollution in places where they play and study	Conduct awareness sessions on indoor air pollution and its effects on children; encourage cycling and walking to their places of play and study	The poor have no other option other than to walk. Here it would be better to explore the effects of child labour and environment



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Grow solidarity with vulnerable people in the community		
do an audit of the community to identify challenges caused by failing social systems (such as hunger, homelessness, lack of employment) and who is likely to be most vulnerable (such as migrants, children, labourers, indigenous communities, etc.)	Focus on issues faced by migrants and vulnerable children; explore interventions through diocesan Migrants Commission and collaboration with UNICEF	This is a good possibility. Alongside it would be helpful if CBOs come together to share our resources in terms of knowledge, skills...
in solidarity with those affected by failed systems, develop programmes that address basic needs (such as a food pantry, homeless shelter, job interview clothing closet, mutual support group, etc.)	Maintain the diocesan job portal and recognise parishes that maintain community kitchens	Information of these resources would be helpful. We suggest a common website where we can have an access to this information. Through this site organisations who wish to collaborate can come together and pool in their resources
in solidarity with those affected by failed systems, develop programmes that address long-term inequality (such as language-training classes for migrants, job training program for the unemployed, financial literacy training for laborers, etc.)	Develop and maintain a diocesan-level skill training entity and hold periodic upskilling programmes in local languages	Centre for Social Action can take the lead for this
Outcome: Share resources and wisdom		
speak to elders to learn about the history of community challenges and collective practices that have helped to overcome them (such as shared prayer, community organising, community gardens, etc.)	Engage with elders and organise inter-generational events	This is helpful
identify social resources in the community (such as empty office space, a group of educators, etc.) and create projects or events that serve the wider public (such as offering office space to community groups, recruiting educators to lead training programmes, etc.)	Offer diocesan spaces for training programmes	This is a good suggestion at the same time tapping resources in the community would be helpful
as part of your budgeting process, define what is "enough" for your community (with a focus on spiritual richness and relationships) and if there are monetary resources, donate to projects that create equitable social systems or establish a long-term relationship with a "sister" organisation to fund social and ecological programs	Explore establishment of long-term relationships for funding	We can explore these possibilities
hold community-wide social or ecological action days (such as litter clean-up, garden planting, migrant welcome day) and create a plan for how to maintain momentum in this action for the long term	Observe dedicated action social and ecological days	We can observe such days and also be consistent in our efforts of follow-up



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Build and support the circular economy		
launch or promote communities (physical and virtual) that practice repurposing and revamping of goods	Feature such communities or enterprises in diocesan publications	Agree
purchase from retailers that use recycled materials in their production of goods	Identify and engage green vendors wherever possible	Agree
Outcome: Ensure financial investments are ethical and sustainable		
divest from fossil fuels and any activity harmful to people and the planet, or sign the pledge for no future investment	n/a: The Church in India cannot choose where to invest and is subject to government regulations	Agree
invest in socially responsible enterprises (e.g. renewable energy)		
choose ethical banking companies, such as cooperatively-owned financial institutions and those that offer financial products with clear social investment criteria		
choose ethical insurance companies, such as cooperatively-owned financial institutions and those that offer financial products with clear social investment criteria		
Outcome: Participate in the gift economy		
Teach and practice gift economy values (the free giving of goods and services without expectation or need of financial compensation) to young people in your life	Incorporate into catechetical material developed by the diocese	Free – value? Sense of entitlement?
Seek out opportunities to barter goods and services with neighbors, family members, coworkers, etc.	Attempt to put a gift economy in place for services rendered by diocesan representatives	Undermining positive role of capitalism; offer / sell eco-friendly gifts at a reasonable price
Outcome: Practise sustainable and fair purchasing		
support vendor selection / procurement processes that benefit businesses with ethical wages and standards and a commitment to sustainability, especially those led by representatives of marginalised communities	Identify green and ethical enterprises and maintain a database from which diocesan and parish bodies can select such vendors	Agree
take a 'total cost of ownership' approach to what you buy	n/a - can promote awareness but cannot necessarily justify excess cost when resources are strained	
make a sustainability shopping list for your home or workplace, prioritising products that have been certified as ecologically and socially sustainable	Budget for sustainable and fair purchasing wherever feasible	
purchase goods from local retailers, not from global or online retailers, whenever possible	Purchase local and discourage online shopping	
Outcome: Ensure dignity of workers		
Support good jobs with livable wages and benefits	Regularly review to ensure the diocesan wage and benefits scale is adequate	Agree
Support cooperative management practices in your workplace and / or education / teaching institutes	Support women-led cooperatives	Also need "men-cooperatives" due to rising unemployment
Ensure that those who perform "care labour" are well supported	Indirectly support by highlighting the value of care labour to promote the dignity of those engaged in it	Agree
Buy from cooperatives and other enterprises with a commitment to fair wages and standards for workers	Support purchasing from women-led cooperatives	Agree – after due diligence



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Improve sustainability in buildings		
install efficient lighting	Ensure only efficient options are installed when lighting is replaced	Priority 1: Introduction of solar panels
reduce use of heating and air conditioning	Avoid / limit use of air conditioners - ensure their regular maintenance; choose venues with greenery and natural ventilation whenever feasible	
install low-flow fixtures	Ensure only low-flow and water-efficient fixtures are installed when replacements take place	
improve the efficiency of appliances in use	Adopt general energy conservation measures geared towards efficiency whenever and wherever possible	
Outcome: Improve sustainability in transportation		
use electric vehicles	Subject to market availability and charging stations supplying renewable energy	In our parishes, institutions we need to use electric cars, bikes, etc. (Earth group)
replace flying with train travel, video conferencing, or other methods	Increase video conferencing in urban settings; adopt guidelines for when and which diocesan representatives can avail flight / train travel	Priority 1: Avoid unnecessary travel - Video conferencing
replace car trips with public transportation, walking, bicycling, or carpooling / trip chaining	Always encourage use of public transport and ride sharing	
Outcome: Improve sustainability in diets		
reduce food waste (before and after market)	Aim for zero food waste at diocesan events; donate / compost leftovers	Encourage this at marriages as well; Priority 1
compost such things as food scraps, manure and crop residues, and yard debris	Encourage and practise composting in the diocese	
buy food from local producers whenever possible	Always encourage diocesan canteens, food service providers and kitchen staff to buy local produce and from local markets	Order / buy from local community / Parish caterers; Priority 2
transition diet from meat-based to plant-based as much as possible	Limit non-vegetarian options at diocesan events; promote awareness of linkages between health, environment, antimicrobial resistance and rearing conditions of livestock-poultry to drive the transition to plant-based diets	
Outcome: Improve sustainability in consumer purchases		
eliminate the use of disposable plastic and styrofoam	Eliminate single-use disposables to the maximum extent possible; recognise parishes that have done so	Already being done in many parishes. E.g. Sacred Heart Church, Vashi
correctly recycle as much as possible (or collect recyclable items and sell them to a socially and environmentally responsible recycler)	Have recycling drives; recognise parishes that have established recycling tie-ups with environmentally responsible recyclers	
reduce purchases of new consumer goods	Adopt a less-is-more approach and evaluate all options including repair / repurposing / upcycling of existing goods before deciding to purchase	Priority 1



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Develop Laudato Si' learning opportunities		
develop and implement an LS education plan that reaches all members of the community	Diocesan LS-based Certificate Course for Eco Ambassadors - explore having deanery-wise and feasibility of getting recognition / parity with the Laudato Si' Animators Program	Wide publicity through parish portal
ensure members of the community are familiar with the local ecosystem (for example, they can name species, know the rhythms of the seasons, etc.)	Tie up with NGOs and experts to conduct biodiversity walks in diocesan premises on ecological days and during vacations	Green mapping
ensure members of the community are familiar with the science of the ecological crisis and its social dimensions	Conduct awareness sessions and the Certificate Course for Eco Ambassadors	Conduct online webinars (ABE targeting the leaders) in educational institutions
ensure members of the community are familiar with ecological virtues (such as sober use of resources, protection of the common good, etc.)		Conduct online webinars (targeting all Religious institutions in educational institutions)
develop opportunities for community members to learn about local ecology by restoring a piece of land	Explore feasibility and tie up with an NGO / experts for eco-restoration of Church-owned land	Laudato Si' garden / Bio gas plant
Outcome: Ensure education is community-led		
create ways for educators to connect with nature and to undergo ecological conversions	Conduct awareness sessions for teachers	Sunday school teachers and through ABE
create opportunities for youth-led LS events, either in the community or in public	Have at least one youth-led event every year	In collaboration with the Diocesan Youth Centre – Eco- Youthsav
develop mechanisms to publicly recognise young people for their leadership, including creating community internship or apprenticeship programs	Create internships with the Archdiocesan Office for Environment, Mumbai	Tie-up with various institutions, NSS Green champ award in diocesan level
Outcome: Ensure Laudato Si' themes are woven into the community's communications		
regularly highlight LS themes in newsletters/bulletins and on social media	Regularly publish LS-themed articles in the diocesan newsweekly and other publications; continue promotion on the diocesan social media handles	Create an LSAP page on the diocesan website to capture activities carried out at various level. Publish articles
encourage community members to pursue Laudato Si' Certificates	Commit to pursue the Laudato Si' goals in the diocese	Roll out an annual schedule and list out various activities they are evaluated and rewarded
Outcome: Ensure equitable access to education		
ensure frequently under-represented groups (such as girls and women, migrants, and people living in poverty) are educated	Raise awareness of empowering marginalised groups in the diocese	Women cell, SVP and other groups working with the tribals
ensure a wide variety of people shape the vision and implementation of education programmes	Get stakeholders to participate in drawing up educational programmes on ecology and environment	NGO and ABE
offer culturally appropriate modes of education (such as oral learning or dialogue circles) and/or offer alternative forms of education (such as experiential learning and apprenticeships)	Set up an apprenticeship-based skilling programme in the diocese	Inter school/ college competition
ensure that education includes promotion of human rights and dignity (such as the rights to life, to free expression, to peaceful assembly, to freedom from slavery, etc.)	Intensify the efforts of the diocesan Justice and Peace Commission to promote human rights	Youth meet (winter/summer)



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Celebrate the Season of Creation		
co-host a Season of Creation event with another community	Conduct or join at least one ecumenical event each Season of Creation	Get in touch with other Christian groups (from 2022)
pray for our social and ecological redemption in a public way during the Season of Creation	Have a special Mass or incorporate in the above	YouTube talk addressed to the Diocese. Messages to be read at Masses. Send the SoC prayer to parishes
develop a Season of Creation spiritual practice and observe it each year	Develop and promote observance of a spiritual practice based on the theme for each year e.g. carbon fast	Last year on Water. Will probably finalise this year's theme on 15 th Aug
publish annual statements of support for the Season of Creation via social media, community newspapers, or similar	Publish supportive statement in the diocesan newsweekly and website	Within the diocese
Outcome: Develop religious dialogue		
visit another Christian community to discuss your respective social and ecological initiatives	At least one visit per year to groups committed to care for creation	Greater involvement with NGOs. Visit their works
visit the place of worship of another faith tradition to discuss areas of agreement between your values on social and ecological issues	At least one visit per year to dialogue with people of other faiths	Through dialogue commission of diocese
Outcome: Encourage community reflection on Laudato Si'		
have the leader of the community speak to the community about LS	Have a video message released every year in May / June	Yes, we will do this
include LS themes in the celebration of liturgical moments	Incorporate in certain liturgies	Set up task force to create and source resources on liturgy One intention per Sunday. Other prayers. Focus on children
make LS study and prayer guides from organisations/groups available in the community	Direct community to the resources available on the LSM (GCCM) and Archdiocesan Office for Environment websites	Make a summary of LS, send to different groups. Promote reflection next year (to avoid clash)
Outcome: Pray in nature		
bless a natural space you own as a reflection/meditation area (such as a Laudato Si' Garden) and pray regularly outdoors, as Jesus did	Recognise parishes that have a dedicated natural prayer space	Identify 5 parishes. Later, more
host an outdoor prayer service with the community and / or the wider public	Recognise parishes that conduct outdoor prayer services	Create prayer services conducive to outdoors. Publicise. Eco recollections, retreats; Foster personal connect
create a prayer journal, bulletin board, or other way of recording and sharing prayers made in nature	Make available the above on social media	Website, newsletter, and through CCC
Outcome: Weave Laudato Si' themes into shared spiritual practices		
regularly include LS themes in shared prayers	Incorporate in the Holy Hour on First Fridays	task force as previously mentioned (community reflection outcome)
regularly include LS themes in homilies	Share themes with priests to incorporate in homilies	
regularly include LS themes in prayer retreats	Share themes with priests to incorporate in retreats	



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATORY ACTION (<i>refined to</i> COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT)		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Advocate for social and ecological causes		
identify a social/environmental policy focus based on your engagement in the goals of "cry of the Earth" and "cry of the poor"	Develop this policy for the Archdiocese of Bombay	Green / Eco Policy – parishes / schools / Religious Houses
organise public community events with officials to discuss advocacy issues	Invite officials to awareness events	Raise awareness – community issues
organise private meetings with officials to discuss advocacy issues	Meet officials with due caution	Network with BCS
maintain a regular review of local, regional, or national policies and share updates with the community; use this to inform engagement with decision-makers	Have a periodic review by experts - annually or every two years	Newsletter - GREEN
have the leader make public statements about advocacy issues	Make public statements with due caution	BCS – pressure group
Outcome: Engage the wider public		
organise social/ecological events (such as prayer services, educational events, or art celebrations) and invite people from the surrounding locale	Have more interfaith sessions	Parishes / SCC level – dialogue with religious leaders of other faith
regularly explore the local ecosystem as a group (for example by taking shared responsibility for a piece of land, by taking walks or hikes together, or by participating in citizen science projects)	Recognise groups who do so and feature them in diocesan publications	a. Highlighting the work of different groups b. Levels: Schools & colleges – hikes / science projects - Greenline
write for local newspapers (for example by suggesting a column in the local diocesan or secular newspaper or sending a letter to the editor) or comment on local news stories related to LS themes	Regularly get articles featured in the diocesan newsweekly	Examiner – Special column for LSAP



Comments on Possible Actions for the Laudato Si' Goals

Goal: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATORY ACTION (<i>refined to</i> COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT)		
Activity	Possible Actions for the Archdiocese	Comments
Outcome: Develop a social response to shared challenges		
collaborate with Church leaders to identify ways the Church can support your social / ecological programmes or groups (such as giving your group official recognition, promoting its work in communications, connecting it with existing programmes and resources, etc.)	Promote groups in diocesan social media channels; build a database and disseminate information	AOE – social networking sites Concrete – series of information on issues water, electricity, plastic
develop a community coalition to prepare for and respond to emergent social crises (such as instances of injustice, violence, etc.)	Intensify existing coalitions in the diocese	Connect with like-minded organisations – BCS / Church in the City / BEAG / Van Shakti...
develop a coalition with other groups in the local area; approach decision-makers in a united way to propose policy changes and request practical assistance	Intensify existing processes	Lobby groups
collaborate with Church leaders to identify ways the Church can support your social / ecological programmes or groups (such as giving your group official recognition, promoting its work in communications, connecting it with existing programmes and resources, etc.)	Promote groups in diocesan social media channels; build a database and disseminate information	AOE – social networking sites Concrete – series of info on issues water, electricity, plastic
Outcome: Develop resilience		
analyse the physical, social, and spiritual ways your community is likely to be affected by climate change and biodiversity loss; make a plan to resiliently prepare for those changes	Develop a resilience task force that will anticipate untoward events and identify resources to be tapped; ameliorate through coordination with civic authorities, dissemination of required information and deployment of resources to cover immediate needs so as to mobilise in a shorter time and more effectively; adapt to altered social/ecological changes through synodal and consultative processes with feedback from grassroots	a. Training youth – Disaster Response team / Relief work b. Increasing Volunteerism
ensure buildings are prepared for changes in heat, storm intensity, and sea-level rise	Explore acquiring funds for retrofitting	Target areas – models created for eco-friendly buildings – all parishes / schools / religious houses become eco-friendly Parishes, etc., Rainwater harvesting; Caritas India – tap funds
ensure members of the community are able to travel to other locations in the event of a weather emergency	Develop as a function of the resilience task force	Same as point 1 above

Strategies to Address Fears

SUSTAINING ENTHUSIASM AND ACTION	
What should be done	How (clear action steps)
Focus on external communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Currently the website, YouTube channels are not so active ◆ Regular updates to be posted/ circulated to create attention ◆ Creation of social media handles, active website
Continuous actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Formulating a plan of action - calendar of events for the entire year and reviewing on a quarterly basis
To inspire and mobilise Catholics to take care of our common home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To integrate ecclesiastical studies and Sunday school curriculum with ecology ◆ Sunday school syllabus-Yearly plan ◆ Bird feeder, composting, waste management (segregation and composting) conduct audits (water, energy and waste) green wall, carbon footprint and promote eco- friendly celebrations ◆ Make it mandatory to complete commitment towards nature and be eligible to receive sacraments ◆ Set goals - various individuals, community, parish, and diocesan
To foster solidarity among various communities (local, NGO, etc.) and religious institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organise annual Prithvi Parivar award ceremony, nature walk projects, install recycling and biogas units, conduct outreach programmes seminar and carry on various drives (plastic, e-waste, etc.)
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evaluate the progress by circulating forms and later provide feedback
Networking and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Upload videos, photographs of various activities on various social media, Prithvi Parivar portal
<p>Involvement of interested sections of the Catholic population</p> <p>Linking to involved groups that continue to exhibit a strong sense of commitment</p> <p>Focus on the positive and upbuilding the community on strong affirmative actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Each section like children, youth, adults and senior citizens get inducted into a 21-day programme (habit-forming) where through such continuous involvement will lead them to get committed ◆ Results-based planning and monitoring of the plans with a participatory approach of key stakeholders ◆ Acknowledging the good actions/ achievements of the involved persons through internal media coverage and also some incentive-based rewards ◆ Periodic critical and analytical reflection of the activities with the stakeholders participating actively in drawing further steps of actions ◆ Highlight case studies and stories of persons who are making a difference in the community ◆ Initiate a mentor - mentee process where the moulding of future persons are created and handheld to keep the perspective and struggle alive

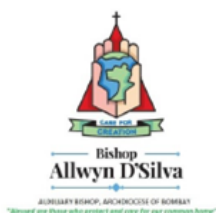
Strategies to Address Fears

OVERCOMING SELF-DOUBT	
What should be done	How (clear action steps)
Propagate Eco-spirituality (drawn up by experts and coordinated by LSAP Core Group) - highlighting the sin against the environment and the need for sustainable living for our own survival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sunday Homilies / Prayers of the Faithful / Special Prayers / Para Liturgy / Retreats (Clergy), and ◆ Social media messaging / YouTube Channels / WhatsApp (drawn up by Archdiocesan Communication Centre) - disseminated to various parish groups/associations
List of various activities to save the environment (NGOs can be enlisted for support) – No use of plastic, save water, rainwater harvesting, save energy, garbage segregation, composting, plant trees, hug a tree, reduce carbon footprint, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Create a short implementable list of activities with incentives at different levels: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Families / Homes; 2. Sunday Schools / Catholic Schools / Colleges (include Lessons on Ecology) 3. Catholic Institutions; 4. Parishes ◆ All consciously committed to organise small eco-friendly activities & initiatives
INSTILLING COLLABORATION AND COMMITMENT	
What should be done	How (clear action steps)
Get Groups (Cells and Associations) to work together Awareness and Recruitment of committed members through SCCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Create 1 Core Team – representatives from each Cell and Association at Parish level ◆ Projects to be supported by key persons along the way ◆ Choose / invite members who are already committed to the green movement ◆ Create Awareness ◆ Invite more members to join ◆ Create Sub-teams ◆ List of tasks to be identified with subtasks, as well; kind of a flowchart with due dates ◆ Specify milestones ◆ Due Dates should be assigned to the tasks ◆ Work to be delegated ◆ Accountability with delegations should be asked for ◆ Directions as far as possible to be given (with the freedom to encourage creativity) ◆ Monthly activities can be given (Send out suggestions for tasks to be done); e.g. eco calendar last year ◆ Recycling of the same material with new dates; Adding more ideas where possible / needed ◆ Use of the Season of Creation to start

Strategies to Address Fears

OVERCOMING RESISTANCE TO CHANGE	
What should be done	How (clear action steps)
<p>Dialogue and Communication with Stakeholders</p> <p>(Stakeholders: Deaneries, ABE, Various Commissions in the Archdiocese, various CBOs in Parishes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contextual Analysis: Engaging stakeholders in a contextual analysis of our given situation (in small groups at various levels) ◆ Inculcating Individual Awareness: of stagnation, of vested interests, of neophobia, of current and the future impacts if there is no change; Enabling persons to get into the process of self-introspection ◆ Collective Awareness: stagnation, of neophobia, of current and future impacts if there is no change. Using cartoons, doodles, virtual meetings, face-to-face meetings, strategising 2 or 3 concrete goals to work on. Sending communication through various forms of media ◆ Collaboration: Teamwork, networking, considering their fears as normal, and addressing it with compassion as we envisage a change of mindset therefore not pushing or forcing outcomes ◆ Clear Communication: Engaging in a dialogue for a change of mindset so that there is an ecological conversion, of specific goals from the groups, of the need to change
<p>Seeking ways for Inspiring and Influencing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Potential changes: Project the possible and potential changes – Having a platform to share the positive examples of others in order to inspire ◆ New paradigms: Showing that the care of the earth is <i>also devotional, sacramental, etc.</i> ◆ Offer standpoint: Of the victims- taking decisions considering how they affect us ◆ Stay Positive and supportive: Offer comfort and support to those who are fearful of change ◆ Creative thinking: Have formal and informal sessions to allow new ideas to flow- basically brainstorming at various levels

Letter by Bishop Allwyn D'Silva



28th October 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in God's Creation,

Greetings from the Earth,

I would like to share the good news regarding our Archdiocese of Bombay. We have been chosen an integrally important co-leader of efforts to build the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP).

The LSAP is a programme and associated website that equips Catholic institutions, communities, and families to implement *Laudato Si'* – Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on caring for our common home. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, the LSAP will begin to offer Laudato Si' Planning Guidelines from 14th November (the World Day of Prayer for the Poor) this year, with enrolments on the platform expected to continue till 22nd April 2022 (Earth Day) for the first cohort.

Serving as a member of the Dioceses and Parishes Working Group, the Archdiocese of Bombay has played an important part in shaping both the model and the content of the platform. We have been joined in this initiative by 22 persons in our diocese who began an on-going discernment process in July 2021 being facilitated by change management consultants Ms Pearl McKenzie and Mr Leslie D'Souza. The aim is to co-create and implement a Laudato Si' Plan which will enable the Archdiocese of Bombay to become a Laudato Si' Diocese.

Cardinal Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, stated in his letter dated 24th September 2021: "Pope Francis gifted us the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP), a seven-year journey of ecological conversion in action... The LSAP envisages an ongoing and shared journey with the goal of growing exponentially over the coming years of this crucial decade. The platform hopes to create a peoples' movement from below to contribute to the critical mass needed for radical societal transformation."

(continued...)

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All eligible Catholic sectors are warmly invited to review the existing resources on laudatosi'actionplatform.org and to discern their commitment to creating a Laudato Si' Plan. Those wishing to know about our diocesan discernment process, being coordinated by Fr Luke Rodrigues SJ and Ms Shawna Nemesia Rebello on behalf of myself and the Archdiocesan Office for Environment, may email ecoteam@aocbombay.org.

We will be updating you regularly about our process of discernment and action.

Thanking you for your cooperation,

Your collaborator in renewing God's Creation,



✠ Bishop Allwyn D'Silva
Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay



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This outcome document has been compiled by Archdiocesan Office for Environment (Archdiocese of Bombay) with the support, perspective and insights of the Laudato Si' Diocese discernment team, and content made available through the Laudato Si' Action Platform. Feedback, clarifications and comments via email on are encouraged and welcomed.