



## **Institutional Reflection of Xavier Ateneo on Laudato Si' Journey**

Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan (Xavier Ateneo) is called to see and understand clearly that our socio-ecological crises are interconnected with our lifestyles and practices, some of which are environmentally harmful and destructive. Similarly, our positive approach of caring for our common home will redound to address these crises. As a university and learning institution, our mission is mainly on transformative education to help shift our current worldview from an economy-centered to an earth/ecology centered one.

Xavier Ateneo's embodiment of Laudato Si values is both personal/individual and institutional. Every member of our community has been trying to be faithful to these values as best as he/she could. The university also provides the lead and support through policies, research, support system, appropriate resources, and infrastructure to strengthen and widen the effectivity of the practices and to establish a "care for our common home" culture within the campus.

It is also Xavier Ateneo's mission to engage and work with partner communities, the government, and other stakeholders in sharing our academic competencies to address real-world challenges, particularly related to the environment and the people at the margins. Laudato Si has given us a deeper sense of strength and purpose in sustaining this mission. This has moved us to realize that our work is not only for social and sustainable development, but it is deeply spiritual.

Xavier Ateneo's current practices are researched-based, collaborative and above all sacrificing. Any change of lifestyle and culture demands sacrifices and the capacity of each one to endure the discomforts and pains along the way. Therefore individual, group and institutional prayer, reflection and discernment sessions should be sustained and promoted as a way of proceeding.

To move forward, there is a need for Xavier-Ateneo to see the various initiatives and programs in the same light: that our collaboration is more than the sum of individual efforts, yet each initiative is important. It is not just about us, but about the future of all/humanity and creation. The issues and challenges that we want to address are all connected as seen from the scientific, sociological, economic, and cultural perspectives.

We will continue to pray for God's grace to guide us in this journey. And we also ask the intercession of our Lady of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, patron of our University Church.

*Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!*

**Laudato Si University Committee**

Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan  
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