



16 May 2022

Care for Our Common Home becoming the norm for Jesuit ministries

Jesuit ministries are making rapid progress at embedding Care for Our Common Home into their 'business as usual'.

When Pope Francis says that care for our common home is “everyone’s responsibility”,¹ we hear this as applying to all of our ministries.

Fr Quyen Vu SJ, Provincial of the Society of Jesus in Australia

In June 2021, the Society of Jesus in Australia Ltd (SOJA) released a [Laudato si' Action Plan Framework](#) to assist its ministries plan, work and report on their efforts to care for our common home. After just six months:

- ☑ 91% of ministries had appointed a contact person;
- ☑ 68% had developed a Care for Our Common Home team; and
- ☑ 41% had an action plan to progress Care for Our Common Home.

2021 was a difficult year with the impact of COVID and decreasing income and numbers of volunteers. It is the passion of our staff and volunteers to care for our common home that is the most significant ingredient in our ministries progress.

The 2021 findings show that a few ministries are well advanced while many are just starting out on their care for our common home journey. I believe that with support all will be able to make a meaningful contribution to caring for our common home.

Fr Quyen Vu SJ, Provincial of the Society of Jesus in Australia

Care for Our Common Home is a priority found in the Society of Jesus Universal Apostolic Preferences (2019-2029) and in the Australian Province of Society of Jesus Apostolic Plan (2019-2025).

SOJA believes that each ministry is best placed to decide when/how it will take action. There is also a clear expectation that all ministries will report annually on their care for our common home activity. These annual reports will provide a valuable 'snapshot' of the different pathways and achievements of the 22 SOJA ministries in caring for our common home.

The SOJA Care for Our Common Home Project Officer and Committee continue to support, resource and coordinate SOJA ministries to care for our common home.

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¹ Pope Francis (2015 Encyclical Letter *Laudato si'* of the Holy Father Francis on Care for Our Common Home https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html <accessed 05 May 2022> and *Laudato si'* #14, 79, 95, 205