

# LAUDATO SI' ACTION PLATFORM **ACTION PLAN**

**Evangelize Encounters with Christ in All Creation**

**February 20, 2024**



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# LSAP PROCESS

The Archdiocese of Chicago Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) Action Plan begins where its LSAP Reflection document ended — with PROCESS.

## SEE—JUDGE—ACT

Central to all our actions in inculcating the teachings of Laudato Si' and implementing the Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP) is the wisdom found in the SEE-JUDGE-ACT model.

This method of social analysis and action is based on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. It consists of three steps:

### SEE

Observe the social reality and the situations of injustice that affect society.

To genuinely “see” something is an activity that involves more than capturing a glimpse of an environment or the condition of a person. Seeing requires a full array of sensory input. Hearing, smelling, tasting and touching all play supporting roles in our observation of creation if we are to experience the lived reality of individuals and communities.

### JUDGE

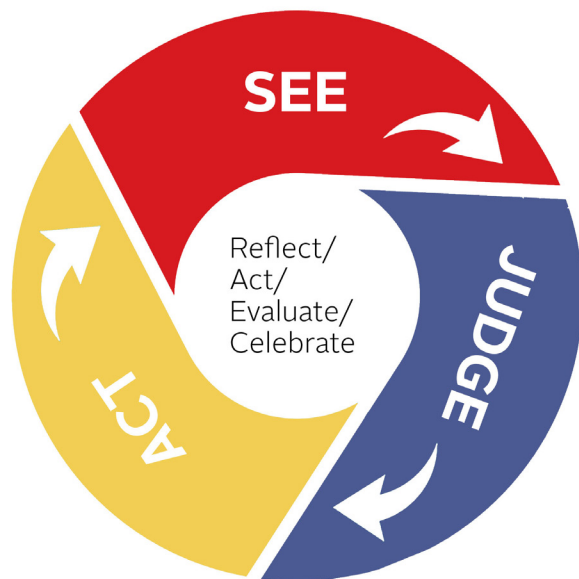
Evaluate the causes and consequences of the problems using the criteria of faith and reason and the guidance of the Church's social doctrine. Social analysis and theological reflection are necessary components.

A plethora of information bombards us as we work to evaluate what we observe, navigating truths, half-truths and falsehoods. Sometimes we second guess ourselves and our judgements are all too human. It is in these doubt-ridden situations that we need to look to our faith and prayer, scripture and tradition and turn to the wisdom of those who have gone before us with the understanding that our judgements will impact future generations.

### ACT

Decide and implement the actions that are needed to transform the situation that is contributing to suffering and injustice and promote the common good.

Realism is an essential component of action. The enormity of our present reality can be numbing, but pausing to pray for the wisdom to know what is doable, what may cause us to stretch and what is seemingly impossible is always prudent. The adages about going after the low hanging fruit and stopping the hemorrhage are generally good places to start, remembering that taking no action is in fact an act.



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# LSAP GOALS



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# LSAP DESIRED OUTCOMES

## **RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH**

- Protect the climate.
- Protect and restore biodiversity.
- Protect waterways and land.

## **RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR**

- Protect all life.
- Ensure access to WASH services.
- Promote and protect indigenous stewardship.
- Ensure access to land and clean air.
- Grow solidarity and vulnerable people in the community.
- Share resources/wisdom.

## **ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS**

- Build and support the circular economy.
- Ensure financial investments are ethical and sustainable.
- Practice fair and sustainable purchasing.
- Ensure the dignity of workers.
- Participate in the gift of economy.

## **ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES**

- Improve sustainability in buildings.
- Improve sustainability in transportation.
- Improve sustainability in diet.
- Improve sustainability in consumer purchases.

## **ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION**

- Develop Laudato Si' learning opportunities.
- Ensure education is community-led.
- Ensure Laudato Si' themes are woven into communications.
- Ensure equitable access to education.

## **ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY**

- Celebrate the Season of Creation.
- Encourage community reflection on Laudato Si'.
- Pray in nature.
- Weave Laudato Si' themes into shared religious practices.
- Develop religious dialogue.

## **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT**

- Advocate for social and ecological causes.
- Engage the wider public.
- Develop a shared response to shared challenges.
- Develop resilience.

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# LSAP INTEGRATED ACTION

## RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH

**Outcome:** Protect the Climate.

**Action:** Transition to Renewable Energies (LSAP 1.1 – 1.3).

- **Phase 1:** Electric Usage: Connect with stakeholders, assess, quantify, audit and prepare for transition in select diocesan buildings and up to six parishes considered energy efficient.
- **Phase 2:** Consult with solar professionals familiar with various solar array systems, community solar and funding.

## RESPONSE TO THE CRY OF THE POOR

**Outcome:** Ensure members of the community have access to WASH services.

**Action:** Ensure access to clean water (LSAP 2.3).

- **Phase 1:** Continue working with the Catholic Conference of Illinois on the Pastoral Statement on Water Quality and Sustainability.
- **Phase 2:** Identify high-risk areas of the AOC for lead contamination and set up pilot information/awareness-raising program.

## ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS

**Outcome:** Ensure financial investments are ethical and sustainable.

**Action:** Better align AOC investment practices with USCCB's Socially Responsible Investment Guidelines (LSAP 3.3 – 3.4).

- **Phase 1:** Develop an ethos of impact investing within the Finance Department and its Investing Sub-Committees with a focus on transitioning AOC's energy portfolio to renewable energies.
- **Phase 2:** Resource expertise to educate and advise in planning, development and implementation of the transition.

## ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

**Outcome:** Improve Sustainability in Consumer Purchases.

**Action:** Eliminate the use of disposable plastic and Styrofoam (LSAP 4.11).

- **Phase 1:** Audit the use of single-use plastics and Styrofoam to determine where and when these materials are most frequently used. Consider all uses, such as preparing and serving meals, events and hospitality.
- **Phase 2:** Develop policy for all departments regarding the use of single-use server ware.

## ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION

**Outcomes:** Develop Laudato Si' learning opportunities.

**Actions:** Develop and Implement a Laudato Si' Action Platform education plan (LSAP 5.1).

- **Phase 1:** Develop an integrated educational curriculum that fosters the teachings of Laudato Si'/LSAP and ecological virtues.
- **Phase 2:** Facilitate professional development to integrate LSAP Goals and teachings of Laudato Si' across all educational disciplines.

## ECOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY

**Outcomes:** Weave Laudato Si' themes into religious practices.

**Actions:** Regularly include Laudato Si' themes in shared prayers to recover a spiritual vision of God's creation (LSAP 6.11).

- **Phase 1:** Develop a Laudato Si' vehicle within the AOC's internal communication channels where Pastoral Center Staff can respond to weekly/monthly prompts that promote reflection on the places and people that bring them closer to God.
- **Phase 2:** Launch Laudato Si' vehicle within the AOC's internal communication channels where staff can blog in response to weekly/monthly prompts that promote reflection on the themes and goals of Laudato Si'.
- **Phase 3:** Gradually transition prompts to reflections on the connections between the LSAP themes/goals and their responsibilities at home and at work to care for our common home.

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND EMPOWERMENT

**Outcome:** Advocate for Social and Ecological Causes.

**Action:** Identify an ecological social/environmental policy focus (LSAP 7.1).

- **Phase 1:** Conduct an audit of issues of concern in the diocese. If possible, base this audit on archdiocesan efforts in the areas of "Response to the Cry of the Poor" and "Response to the Cry of the Earth."

**Outcome:** Develop a Social Response to Shared Challenges.

**Action:** Develop a community coalition to prepare for and respond to emergent crises (LSAP 7.11).

- **Phase 2:** Create or join alliances of local groups such as Catholic or other faith agencies or civil society organizations to encourage more just social and environmental policies together.



# LSAP ACTION CYCLE: GOAL 1

## LSAP Action Cycle Goal 1 — Respond to the Cry of the Earth

VISION	Evangelize Encounters with Christ in All Creation					MISSION	Incultate <i>Laudato Si'</i> throughout the Local Church				
DESIRED OUTCOME	Protect the Climate					SUGGESTED LSAP ACTION	1.1 - 1.3 Transition to Renewable Energies				
PHASE 1	Examine electricity usage; Connect with AOC stakeholders, assess and quantify baselines, audit readiness, and devise pilot to transition to alternative sources					ANCILLARY LSAP CONNECTIONS	Cry of the Poor; Ecological Economics; Ecological Education, Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles; Community Resilience & Empowerment				
BUSINESS CASE	<p><i>Why do this project? WHAT is exciting and compelling about the future?</i></p> <p>Concretize the values of the Church, serving as a vehicle for evangelization, increased parishoner engagement, good stewardship, and protection of Earth.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	<p>Define</p> <p>Measure</p> <p>Analyze</p> <p>Improve</p> <p>Control</p>	<p>Connect agents to establish efficiency, and readiness to pilot buildings and a group of LSAP enrolled parishes.</p> <p>Establish energy usage baselines manually or using software tools and recommended by professionals in the energy sector.</p> <p>Results of Level 2 Energy Audits in identified diocesan and parish buildings. Examine funding sources including government programs and other avenues.</p> <p>Establish collaborative relationships between LSAP Co-Facilitators, AOC Operations designees, and other stakeholders; increased understanding by AOC of parish LSAP implementation desired willingness</p> <p>Present findings in report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders</p>	<p>Align diocesan operations with Catholic Social Teaching as promulgated in <i>Laudato Si'</i> and decarbonize expenditures, support of parishes and other AOC entities in their implementation of LSAP.</p> <p>Model integral ecology through collaborative efforts and DMAIC to other diocesan buildings and to a second cohort of parishes.</p>	<p>Determine needs and next steps to expand DMAIC to other diocesan buildings and to a second cohort of parishes.</p>	
		1	2	3	4	5					
		1	2	3	4	5					
		1	2	3	4	5					
		1	2	3	4	5					
GOAL STATEMENT	1	2	3	DMAIC: "Plan the work; work the plan."		SCOPE	WHAT are the parameters?				
<p><i>OUTCOMES to be accomplished?</i></p> <p>Join global efforts to lower temperatures and protect climate through lower carbon emissions from diocesan and parish buildings</p>	1	2	3	<p>Increase energy efficiency, decrease costs</p> <p>Increase diocese-parish collaboration on energy usage and savings</p>		<p>Open communication with all stakeholders with focus on achieving desired outcomes for our common home</p> <p>Introduce in-person LSAP Co report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>	<p>Submission of report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>				
OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT	1	2	3	<p>Assessment report detailing current energy usage and development of plans to maximize efficiencies in selected AOC buildings and pilot parishes</p> <p>Connections made with various diocesan stakeholders, LSAP Co-Facilitators, select group of parish LSAP Champions, and Operations Directors.</p> <p>Development of communication-tool to on-board other AOC facilities and additional parishes for Phase II.</p>		<p>Open communication with all stakeholders with focus on achieving desired outcomes for our common home</p> <p>Introduce in-person LSAP Co report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>	<p>Submission of report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>				
<p><i>VALUE for the Local Church? For the Action Team?</i></p> <p>Assessment report detailing current energy usage and development of plans to maximize efficiencies in selected AOC buildings and pilot parishes</p>	1	2	3	<p>Connections made with various diocesan stakeholders, LSAP Co-Facilitators, select group of parish LSAP Champions, and Operations Directors.</p> <p>Development of communication-tool to on-board other AOC facilities and additional parishes for Phase II.</p>		<p>Open communication with all stakeholders with focus on achieving desired outcomes for our common home</p> <p>Introduce in-person LSAP Co report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>	<p>Submission of report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders to define parameters of Phase II</p>				
PROJECT PLAN	Tasks/Expectations					TEAM MEMBERS	Champion				
<p><i>HOW to complete project?</i></p> <p>1. Work with Legal and Operations functionalities to understand the current contracts, agreements, and operating procedures regarding energy consumption in the AOC.</p> <p>2. Present best practices for data collection based on recommendations of energy professionals; consult with other dioceses, especially "corporate soles"</p> <p>3. Select diocesan buildings and pilot parishes to collect data to establish baselines (24 month running totals); KWHs, therms, and costs for each.</p>	<p>1. Work with Legal and Operations functionalities to understand the current contracts, agreements, and operating procedures regarding energy consumption in the AOC.</p> <p>2. Present best practices for data collection based on recommendations of energy professionals; consult with other dioceses, especially "corporate soles"</p> <p>3. Select diocesan buildings and pilot parishes to collect data to establish baselines (24 month running totals); KWHs, therms, and costs for each.</p> <p>4. Conduct Level 2 Energy Audits using best practices</p>					<p>WHO is on the team?</p> <p>Champion</p> <p>LSAP Facilitator</p> <p>Process Owner</p> <p>Process Expert</p> <p>Process Expert</p>	<p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>TBD</p>				
START DATE	TBD					EWG Member	AOC Member	AOC Member	AOC Member	V-1 LSAP Parish Champion	
END DATE	90 days after start					V-2 LSAP Parish Champion	V-3 LSAP Parish Champion	V-4 LSAP Parish Champion	V-5 LSAP Parish Champion	V-6 LSAP Parish Champion	
ACTUAL PHASE COMPLETION	5. Using data and audit recommendations, outline efficiency plans that ready buildings for alternative energy sourcing					TBD					
TBD	6. Report findings to key stakeholders to define parameters for Phase 2; plan communication to second cohort of parishes and diocesan buildings					TBD by Team					

# LSAP ACTION CYCLE: GOAL 2

## LSAP Action Cycle Goal 2 — Respond to the Cry of the Poor

<b>VISION</b>	Evangelize Encounters with Christ in All Creation					<b>MISSION</b>	Incultate <i>Laudato Si'</i> throughout the Local Church					
<b>DESIRED OUTCOME</b>	Ensure access to WASH services					<b>SUGGESTED LSAP ACTION</b>	2.3 Ensure members of the community have access to clean water					
<b>PHASE 1</b>	Clean Water: Continue to work with the Catholic Conference of Illinois on "A Precious Gift: Pastoral Statement on Water Quality and Sustainability"					<b>ANCILLARY LSAP GOALS ADDRESSED</b>	Cry of the Poor; Ecological Economics; Ecological Education, Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles; Community Resilience & Empowerment					
<b>BUSINESS CASE</b> <i>WHY do this project? What is exciting and compelling about the future?</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>DMAIC "Plan the work; work the plan."</b>	<b>Define</b>	Connect stakeholders to establish scope, identify diocesan buildings and parishes in high-risk areas for lead contamination, inform parishioners especially parents of young children of risks, work with City agencies to secure free home tests and filters.				
	Concretize the values of the operations with Church, serving as a vehicle for evangelization, increased parishioner engagement, and protection of the most vulnerable.						<b>Measure</b>	Test water in identified locations, especially in buildings where children are present				
	Align diocesan operations with Catholic Social Teaching as promulgated in <i>Laudato Si'</i>						<b>Analyze</b>	Data from parish locations				
	Model integral ecology through collaborative efforts and support of parishes and other AOC entities in their implementation of LSAP						<b>Improve</b>	Relationships with key City of Chicago, Cook County, and Lake County to protect the most vulnerable in compromised neighborhoods				
							<b>Control</b>	Present findings in report to COO, Vicar General, and other key stakeholders				
<b>GOAL STATEMENT</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>PROJECT SCOPE</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Start Point</b>	<b>End Point</b>			
<b>OUTCOMES to be accomplished?</b>	Protect people living in areas where safe drinking water is neither accessible nor free.					Health risks associated with consumption of contaminated water	<b>WHAT are the parameters?</b>					
<b>OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>3</b>	Open communication with all stakeholders with the LSAP focus on achieving desired outcomes for our common home						
<b>VALUE for the organization? For the project team?</b>	Assessment report identifying high risk communities for lead contamination					A concrete action that allows parishes to reach out into neighborhoods surrounding parishes for help in spreading the word and handling distribution of test kits and, later, filtering kits						
<b>PROJECT PLAN</b>	<b>Tasks</b>					<b>TEAM MEMBERS</b>	<b>Champion</b>	<b>Process Owner</b>	<b>Process Expert</b>	<b>Process Expert</b>	<b>Process Expert</b>	
<b>HOW to complete project?</b>	1. Using resources developed by City of Chicago and the Health Department, identify parishes in areas with highest lead pipe concentration					<b>WHO is on the team?</b>						
	2. Work with pastors and parish councils in identified areas					<b>Member</b>	<b>AOC Member</b>	<b>AOC Member</b>	<b>AOC Member</b>	<b>AOC Member</b>	<b>V-1 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	
<b>START DATE:</b>	TBD						<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>END DATE:</b>	90 days after start						<b>V-2 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	<b>V-3 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	<b>V-4 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	<b>V-5 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	<b>V-6 LSAP Parish Champion</b>	
<b>ACTUAL END</b>	5. Connect with agencies offering testing kits and filtration equipment					<b>OUTSIDE RESOURCES</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>TBD</b>												