Linking VIVAT to Laudato Si’ Goals and SDGs
VIVAT FOCUS AREAS

- Eradication of Poverty
- Empowerment of Women
- Sustainable Development
- Culture of Peace
Eradication of Poverty

- **Improve the living standard and human dignity** of all impoverished people;

- Support the implementation of the **Copenhagen Declaration’s** commitments to Social Development.

- Address the many effects of poverty, with a special focus on:
  - migration,
  - anti-human trafficking,
  - internally displaced people
  - empowerment of marginalized groups such as indigenous communities, girls and women,
  - education of children, and
  - working with people living with HIV-AIDS.
Empowerment of Women

VIVAT International

- Works to eliminate violence against women & girls
- Supports the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action
- Promotes gender equality and women empowerment (SDG 5)
Sustainable Development

- One of the highest priorities of VIVAT International is advocating for the integrity of creation.

- Commitment to Sustainable Development includes
  - Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)
  - Climate Action (SDG 13)
  - Protection of Biodiversity – lands, forests, water, and sea (SDGs 14 & 15)
Culture of Peace

- Culture of peace and non-violence is a commitment to peace-building, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, peace education, education for non-violence, tolerance, acceptance, mutual respect, intercultural and interfaith dialogue, and reconciliation (SDG 16)

- VIVAT is committed to defending and promoting life, dignity, and human rights through social justice ministries (JPIC)
Laudato Si’ Goals

1) Response to the Cry of the Earth
2) Response to the Cry of the Poor
3) Ecological Economics
4) Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles
5) Ecological Education
6) Ecological Spirituality
7) Community Engagement and Participatory Action
Response to the Cry of the Poor

- **Protecting all life** through educational events
- Delivering **WASH** (Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene) **services** by ensuring access to clean water, training community members in hygiene practices, and ensuring diverse community members plan WASH projects
- Promoting and **protecting indigenous leadership** by ensuring indigenous communities have the right to their land and by elevating indigenous leadership
- Delivering **access to land** and **clean air**
- Delivering programs to **address basic needs** and
- Delivering programs to **address failed systems**
Response to the Cry of the Earth

- **Protecting the climate** by installing solar panels, insulating buildings, buying renewable energy credits where available, and installing cleaner or more efficient cookstoves or appliances

- **Protecting biodiversity** by planting native trees, planting native gardens, removing invasive species, practicing regenerative agriculture, and protecting pollinators

- **Protecting waterways and land** by ensuring sensible fertilizer use, instituting drop irrigation and other conservative irrigation models, and planting waterway buffers
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ecological Economics</th>
<th>Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>➢ Building and <strong>supporting the circular economy</strong> by launching trading communities and purchasing from retailers that use recycled materials</td>
<td>➢ Improving <strong>sustainability in buildings</strong> by installing cleaner or more efficient lighting, reducing the use of heating and air conditioning, and installing low-flow taps</td>
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<td>➢ Ensuring <strong>financial investments are ethical and sustainable</strong> by divesting from fossil fuels, investing in socially responsible enterprises, and choosing ethical banking and insurance companies</td>
<td>➢ Improving <strong>sustainability in transportation</strong> by increasing the use of electric vehicles or bicycles and by replacing air and auto trips</td>
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<td>➢ Practicing <strong>fair and sustainable purchasing</strong> by supporting ethical businesses, making a sustainability shopping list, and purchasing from local retailers</td>
<td>➢ Improving <strong>sustainability in diets</strong> by reducing food waste before and aftermarket, composting, buying food from local producers when possible, and transitioning from meat-based to plant-based meals</td>
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<tr>
<td>➢ Ensuring the <strong>dignity of workers</strong> by supporting good jobs with liveable wages and benefits, supporting cooperative management practices, and buying from cooperatives and other ethical enterprises</td>
<td>➢ Improving <strong>sustainability in consumer purchases</strong> by eliminating the use of disposable plastic and styrofoam, correctly recycling as much as possible, and reducing purchases of new consumer goods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecological Education</td>
<td>Ecological Spirituality</td>
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<td>Developing Laudato Si’ learning opportunities by implementing a <strong>Laudato Si’ education plan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Celebrating the Season of Creation</strong> by co-hosting a Season of Creation event with another community, publicly praying for our social and ecological redemption during the season, and <strong>publishing annual statements</strong> of support for the Season of Creation</td>
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<td>Creating opportunities for youth-led events, and developing mechanisms to publicly recognize young people for their leadership</td>
<td>Encouraging community <strong>reflection on Laudato Si’ themes</strong> by having the leader of the community speak about them, including them in the celebration of liturgical moments, and making study and prayer guides available</td>
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<td>Weaving Laudato Si’ themes into the community's communications by regularly highlighting them in newsletters/bulletins and on social media and by encouraging community members to develop Laudato Si’ Plans</td>
<td><strong>Praying in nature</strong> by blessing a natural space as a reflection/meditation area and regularly praying there, hosting an outdoor prayer service</td>
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<td>Delivering equitable access to education, offering culturally appropriate and/or alternative forms of education, and ensuring that education promotes human rights and dignity</td>
<td>Invite local media to cover up your eco-spirituality activities</td>
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Community Engagement and Participatory Action

- **Advocating for social and ecological causes by**
  - identifying a social/environmental policy focus,
  - organizing public and/or private community events with officials to discuss advocacy issues,
  - maintaining a regular review of policies and sharing updates with the community, and
  - having a community leader make public statements about advocacy issues

- **Engaging the wider public by**
  - organizing social/ecological events,
  - regularly exploring the local ecosystem as a group
  - writing for local newspapers or commenting on local news stories related to Laudato Si’ themes

- **Developing a social response to shared challenges**
  - by collaborating with leaders to identify ways the Church can support your social/ecological programs
  - developing a community coalition to prepare for and respond to emergent social crises

- **Developing resilience by**
  - Analyzing the physical, social, and spiritual ways your community is likely to be affected by climate change and biodiversity loss
  - making a plan to resiliently prepare for those changes
  - ensuring buildings are prepared for changes in heat, storm intensity, and sea-level rise
- Response to the cry of the Poor: Migrants, IDPs, refugees, IPs, people living w/ HIV-AIDS
- Ecological Economics
- Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles
- Community Engagement and Participatory Action
  - SDG 1, 2, 8, 10, 17

- Live out a non-violence lifestyle
- Promote education for non-violence, tolerance, acceptance, mutual respect,
- Community Engagement and Participatory Action
  - SDG 16, 4, 17

- Ecological Economics
- Women Empowerment
  - SDG 5, 10, 17

- Response to the cry of the Earth (climate, biodiversity, land, water & sanitation)
- Ecological Spirituality
- Adoption of Sustainable Spirituality
- Community Engagement and Participatory Action
  - SDG 6, 13, 14, 15, 17
To be considered

- Identify issues/themes for advocacy concerning Laudato Si Action Plan and build/form issue-based groups focusing on:
  - Poverty eradication
  - Women empowerment
  - Sustainable development
  - Culture of peace