McKinney Climate Fellow Application  
Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development  
Laudato Si’ Action Platform Project

The Vatican’s Laudato Si’ Action Platform

Our organization is an Indianapolis ‘branch’ of the global Roman Catholic Church’s Vatican Dicastery (Department) for Promoting Integral Human Development. In July 2022, John Mundell, President of Mundell & Associates in Indianapolis, was named by Pope Francis to be the Global Director of the Laudato Si’ Action Platform, a Vatican-led, action-oriented program inspired by Pope Francis’ encyclical “Laudato Si’ On Care of Our Common Home”. LSAP is intended to support and empower individuals, families, communities and institutions to begin a journey of ecological conversion by achieving total sustainability through the accomplishment of seven Laudato Si’ Goals. The LSAP’s aim is to listen to “listen to the cry of the earth, the cry of the poor, and the cry of our children and future generations.”

Mr. Mundell has been involved since 2015 in the development and implementation of the LSAP and aided the Vatican in the launching and first year assessment. The LSAP was launched by the Vatican in November 2021, and after one year of engagement, has enlisted more than 6,000 individual participants and organization with an initial reach of 2.5 million people. During 2022-2023, an additional effort will be added to LSAP – the planning and data gathering for the creation of a Roman Catholic Church Sustainability Report. This effort will include a global team of data gatherers and analysts who will compile continental, country, diocese and parish level energy data as well as information gathered from the participants of the LSAP, to provide a ‘baseline’ of where the Church is currently.

This will all be part of the recent effort by the Vatican, which announced on October 4th, 2022, the Feast Day of St. Francis, that the Holy See, on behalf of Vatican City State, has joined the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), adopted in 1992, and the Paris Agreement signed in 2015.

Additional information about the current status of the LSAP can be obtained from www.laudatosiactionplatform.org.

Additional background on the vision for the LSAP and the selection of the LSAP director can be found in:

EWTN New:  
https://youtu.be/VxOKLNS--QI

Catholic Climate Covenant:  

Catholic New Service:  

DEVEX for Development:  
Intern Position Summary
During the expected internship, the McKinney Climate Fellow would join a Vatican team of 3 in Indianapolis, 2 in Rome, and 8 worldwide to support the development and data gathering process.

Expected duties will include:

- Providing mapping and data compilation support for the report process.
- Interacting with the global team to assist in energy calculations and the development of evaluation processes.
- Attending weekly global meetings to discuss status and develop plans.
- Work with expected GIS mapping, database and data analysts to evaluate data trends.
- Development of ‘SMART’ systems that may be used to help fill identified data gaps.
- Miscellaneous support activities in communication with global sustainability groups including dioceses, parishes, health care networks, religious congregations, universities, schools and businesses.

Qualifications:

- Student must be detail-oriented, and comfortable with keeping track data from a variety of sources throughout the world including baseline assessments from different Catholic groups.
- Student must have knowledge/some experience with GIS systems and/or spatial mapping systems.
- Student must have experience in sustainability work and/or coursework in sustainability studies.
- Student must have experience in Microsoft Office products, including Access, and be able to pick up using other related programs.
- Student must have effective written and oral communication, especially to convey big sustainability ideas to a wider population.
- Student must be self-motivated and work from guidance of their supervisor while also bringing ahead the project through their own initiative.
- Student will need to prioritize and manage multiple tasks at one time.
- Student must be knowledgeable, and/or have some experience or coursework in data analysis, basic statistical evaluation; familiarity with ‘big data’ analysis; knowledge of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning a plus.
- Student must have a passion for combating global climate change and seeking solutions.

Potential Impact to Sustainability Program
The LSAP includes 7 sectors groups for achieving sustainability: Dioceses/Parishes; Individual/families; religious orders; hospitals/health care center; educational institutions; organizations/groups; and economic realities (businesses). The Catholic church has approximately 1.3 billion baptized Catholics, 640 archdioceses, 2,851 dioceses, 221,700 parishes, 221,400 schools (70,000 preschools, 50,000 secondary, 100,000 primary) serving 62 million students at the preschool (7.3 million), primary (34.6 million) and secondary (20.3 million) levels, and 1,358 Catholic universities (6.6 million students) worldwide as of 2020. The Catholic Church is the largest non-government provider of health care services in the world, with around 1,800 clinics, 16,000 homes for the elderly and 5,500 hospitals worldwide.

The McKinney Fellow(s) will have the opportunity to work on a project with a large global reach which will be in its second year of operation, with existing connections on all continents.

Specific benefits from hosting one or more McKinney Climate Fellows Include:

- Additional support staff for a large global project with great needs.
- Additional support for data analysis, evaluation and communication needs.
Compensation
- Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks starting no sooner than late May and ending no later than mid-August.

Feedback and evaluation
- The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- The McKinney Climate Fellows Program supports the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Application instructions
- To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute’s website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email the Environmental Resilience Institute at eri@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Friday, January 13, 2023.