Call to Action

At the United Nations Climate Summit in 2014, Pope Francis told world leaders they had an ethical responsibility to act as a united community. This year he published an encyclical—a frank, powerful and much-talked about letter that describes the environmental crisis facing humanity. His call to action marks a historic opportunity to meet this monumental challenge head-on.

“Never have we so hurt and mistreated our common home as we have in the last two hundred years.”

-POPE FRANCIS

Four themes from the Pope’s encyclical clearly speak to climate change. We’re using these themes as guides for content you’ll see throughout the campaign.

OUR COMMON HOME

Pope Francis describes the earth as our common home. We all have responsibility to care for it, and to ensure its survival.

“Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations.”

CREATION IS SACRED

“Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness.”

“Through the greatness and the beauty of creatures one comes to know by analogy their maker”

(Wis 13:5)
THE HUMAN ROOTS
Pope Francis clearly states that we, as members of the human race, are responsible for the crisis at hand.

“It would hardly be helpful to describe symptoms without acknowledging the human origins of the ecological crisis. A certain way of understanding human life and activity has gone awry, to the serious detriment of the world around us.”

More poignantly, Pope Francis defines rich countries as having the most devastating effects on the poorest countries of the world.

“The warming caused by huge consumption on the part of some rich countries has repercussions on the poorest areas of the world, especially Africa, where a rise in temperature, together with drought, has proved devastating for farming.”

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE
The situation is dire, and the Pope has given us a challenge: To unite as one human family to find solutions that will mitigate climate change.

“The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change ... Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home.”

Pope Francis has identified young people as key to building a better future.

We all have a responsibility to accept this challenge.

We know we have been part of the problem. Now we can be part of the solution. Join us and stand in solidarity with people in the developing world who are already suffering the impact of climate change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO IAMCLIMATECHANGE.ORG.

“The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.”

-POPE FRANCIS

don tok village, kampot, lies beside a river estuary and is often flooded by sea water, a consequence of climate change during the last few years.

photo by sean sprague for CRS

don tok village, kampot, lies beside a river estuary and is often flooded by sea water, a consequence of climate change during the last few years.

photo by sean sprague for CRS

alicia diaz crosses the river otero as she heads to her home in repechique among the sierra madre forests in chihuahua, mexico. diaz along with 12 other women, in the indigenous community of tarahumara, oversee a plant nursery where they are growing seasonals crops such as tomato, cabbage, lettuce, pumpkin and garlic in efforts to increase their food supply.

photo by hilda m. perez for CRS

“the urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.”

-POPE FRANCIS

get involved
iamclimatechange.org
#IamClimateChange