

My Proposal for Thematic Panel  
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## **ECOLOGY IN THE EVANGELISATION MISSION OF THE CHURCH: ROMAN CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE**

The missionary activity of the Church takes place in a specific context. Biosphere is a new proposal for missionary commitment. It requires respect for the rich world of nature and teaches new use of the gifts of God. The problem of ecology and mission is complex and full of interdependencies. The encyclical *Laudato si'* of Pope Francis and the activities of both ecclesiastical and secular entities in this area have contributed to making some changes in the conduct of the mission. Many factors should be taken into account in the eco-mission theme, such as: climate change, degradation of the natural environment on individual continents, intergenerational solidarity, the issue of integral development and the concept of ecological conversion. Missionary work on different continents requires study of the natural environment. The best method is to promote human ecology open to transcendence, while respecting the whole context.

The ecological challenges of our time have become a specific area of the periphery in need of the light of the Gospel. On the other hand, the missionary activity of the Church has been somehow enriched by a key element of human life, which is the environment in which the recipient of the Gospel lives. These activities are mutual and Community. Hence the topic of ecology in a missionary context requires an integral approach.

There are no two crises, there is one socio-ecological crisis. In *Evangelii gaudium*, the pope proposes missionary reform. In *Laudato si'*, this idea is somehow extended to ecological conversion, „whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them” (LS 217).