

**Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar**  
**Apostolic Directions**  
**2022-2026**

**Apostolic Vision**

The Conference aims to build up the Society of Jesus in Africa and Madagascar into a prayerful, discerning and apostolic community of Jesuits and collaborators, and to foster union, communication, effective leadership and planning towards a common vision and the universal mission of the Society (GC35, D.5, n.18.a).

**The Conference**

- ✚ includes all the Major Superiors having jurisdiction in ACE, ANW, AOC, AOR, MDG, RWB and SAP, as well as in any other areas assigned by Father General as part of JCAM, together with the Conference's President appointed by Father General with the status of Major Superior.
- ✚ serves as a space where Major Superiors discern and coordinate those parts of our life-mission that are of interprovincial concern;
- ✚ achieves its objectives through the practice of discernment, collaboration and networking (GC36, D.2, no.3);
- ✚ assumes responsibility for the implementation of the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society announced by Father General which provide the orientation for this Plan.

**Guiding Principles: Discernment, Collaboration and Networking**

In the conception and implementation of this plan, “discernment, collaboration and networking offer three important perspectives on our contemporary way of proceeding.” These perspectives will help achieve apostolic flexibility and effectiveness (GC36, d. 2, no. 3).

- ✚ *Discernment* “offers the spiritual base that enables our apostolic planning.” (GC36, d. 2, no. 4).
- ✚ We recognise the decisive role of our partners in the vitality of the Society's mission today and desire to strengthen our *collaboration* with all those who contribute to and play significant roles in Jesuit ministry. (GC36, d. 2, no. 6).
- ✚ *Networking* builds on a shared vision and requires a culture of generosity, openness to work with others and a desire to celebrate successes and to provide vision and leadership for collaborative mission. (GC36, d. 2, no. 8).

**Apostolic Directions**

**1. Develop, Sustain and Expand the Networking and Collaborating Capacity of the Conference by prioritising and strengthening the following initiatives:**

- ✚ Jesuit Association of Secondary and Basic Education in Africa and Madagascar (JASBEAM)
- ✚ Formation Delegates and Vocations Directors
- ✚ Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities in Africa and Madagascar
- ✚ Network of Safeguarding and Child Protection Officers
- ✚ Jesuits in Science
- ✚ Ignatian Youth Ministry

**Key milestones, outputs and deliverables; by 2026 JCAM has:**

- facilitated regular annual and biannual events/activities for each network

## **2. Enhance and Strengthen the Leadership Capacity of Jesuits and Collaborators in the Conference, Especially in Formation**

- ✚ Design and implement an Ongoing formation programme for formators, including orientation programme for new formators in Common Formation Centres
- ✚ Design a leadership programme for Jesuits who are serving as superiors of larger communities, administrators and directors of work in charge of apostolic ministries, and Ignatian partners and collaborators serving in works and ministries of the Society of Jesus, with particular focus on skills and capacity for discerning leadership

Key milestones, outputs and deliverables; by 2026 JCAM has:

- established annual or bi-annual ongoing formation and orientation programme for formators in CFC
- organised biennial Leadership Colloquium

## **3. Anticipate and Provide for the Needs of the Universal Society**

- ✚ Renew and Strengthen JCAM's Commitment to the Commissio Mixta by assigning Jesuits to the apostolic initiatives discerned on the platform of the Commissio Mixta
- ✚ Plan and organise a joint meeting and apostolic immersion with JCEP
- ✚ Assign Jesuits to the universal works of the Society with priority to Jesuit Refugee Service and the Region of Guyana-Jamaica

Key milestones, outputs and deliverables; by 2026 JCAM has:

- ongoing joint discernment and planning with JCEP
- made sufficient Jesuit personnel available for the discerned needs of the universal Society

## **4. Promote a Consistent Culture of Protection and Safeguarding**

- ✚ Strengthen the integrated training and formation programme in safeguarding for Jesuits and partners, with emphasis on all levels of formation from novitiate to tertianship, to attain minimum standards of safeguarding and sustain progress to levels of awareness, concern, compliance and commitment

Key milestones, outputs and deliverables; by 2026 JCAM has:

- facilitated the creation of fully functioning safeguarding commissions in the provinces and region of JCAM
- implemented the 4 phases of protection and safeguarding, including the creation of a Community of Practice for Safeguarding in Africa
- ongoing formation and support programmes for Jesuit communities and Jesuit works through the Jesuit Centre for Safeguarding in Africa (JCSA) and Ubuntu Child Safeguarding and Protection (UCSAP)

## **5. Promote research and advocacy initiatives on climate change with particular focus on the Congo Basin**

Key milestones, outputs and deliverables; by 2026 JCAM has:

- commissioned research on aspects of ecological concerns in the Congo Basin
- initiated evidence-based advocacy initiatives
- facilitated joint planning on ecology through the network of social ministries (JENA) in JCAM

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The President and Major Superiors through JCAM Consult and Plenary Meetings will:

- ensure publicity and awareness of this apostolic plan across the Conference and the universal Society;
- track and manage inputs, activities and deliverables to ensure implementation;
- regularly assess results and outcomes of this apostolic plan.