

HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF GOD

REPORT

SENSING IN ST. AUGUSTINE PROVINCE OF AFRICA

How many groups:	List of topics:	Composition of groups (brothers, coworkers, clients/users, etc.)
10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="628 309 759 338">1. Health <li data-bbox="628 483 963 551">2. Living and Working Together <li data-bbox="628 696 919 725">3. Life of the Brothers <li data-bbox="628 837 871 866">4. Financial Crisis <li data-bbox="628 1043 963 1111">5. The Impact of Climate and Biodiversity Crisis 	<p data-bbox="991 309 1434 376">Brothers, Coworkers, Users, Health professionals, policy makers</p> <p data-bbox="991 483 1434 618">Brothers, Coworkers, Users, Health professionals, policy makers, Psychologists, Human Resource professionals</p> <p data-bbox="991 696 1246 725">Brothers, Coworkers</p> <p data-bbox="991 837 1434 927">Brothers, Coworkers, Accountants, Economists, Government officials, policy makers</p> <p data-bbox="991 1043 1434 1111">Brothers, Coworkers, Experts, activists,</p>

Topic chosen for the group: HEALTH

Why did you choose that topic?

It was crucial to choose Health because it directly affects the well-being and resilience of communities, aligning with our mission to support holistic human development and address pressing social issues worsened by climate and biodiversity crises.

What surprised you about the experience and what it generated?

The interconnectedness of physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, leading to a renewed emphasis on holistic care and community support initiatives to address health disparities and promote healing.

What did you discover? What have been your key insights on that topic?

Discovered disparities in healthcare access and outcomes among diverse communities, highlighting the urgent need for equitable healthcare systems and holistic approaches to well-being. Key insights include the integral role of faith-based organizations in promoting health education, community outreach, and advocacy for social justice to address root causes of health inequities.

What was confirmed for you?

We confirmed the pressing need for equitable access to healthcare services and holistic approaches to well-being, particularly addressing the challenges of healthcare disparities and disease prevention in marginalized communities.

What key questions has it enabled you to surface for your Province and the Order in the future?

1. How can we address the underlying social determinants of health, such as poverty and access to clean water and sanitation, to improve overall well-being in our communities?
2. What partnerships and initiatives can we establish to promote health education, disease prevention, and access to quality healthcare services, particularly in underserved areas?

Topic chosen for the group: LIVING AND WORKING TOGETHER

Why did you choose that topic?

Living and Working Together was chosen because fostering harmony, understanding, and cooperation among diverse communities promotes social cohesion and peace-building efforts in our communities.

What surprised you about the experience and what it generated?

The surprise about the experience were the resilience of brothers, coworkers and communities in overcoming social divisions and fostering a sense of unity, cooperation, and mutual support amidst diverse challenges, inspiring collective action for inclusive development and peace-building efforts.

What did you discover? What have been your key insights on that topic?

We discovered the complexities of intercultural dynamics and social cohesion within diverse communities, emphasizing the importance of mutual respect, dialogue, and collaborative efforts in fostering unity, peace, and inclusive development. Key insights include the potential of interfaith cooperation, grassroots initiatives, and solutions to address shared challenges and promote harmonious coexistence amidst cultural diversity.

What was confirmed for you?

The importance of fostering mutual respect, dialogue, and collaborative efforts to promote unity, peace, and inclusive development amidst cultural diversity was confirmed.

What key questions has it enabled you to surface for your Province and the Order in the future?

1. How can we promote intercultural dialogue and mutual respect to foster unity and social cohesion within our province?
2. What initiatives can we undertake to address social inequalities and promote inclusive development for all members of our communities and institutions?

Topic chosen for the group: THE LIFE OF THE BROTHERS

Why did you choose that topic?

The Life of the Brothers was chosen because it allows for reflection, spiritual growth, and strengthening of the community bonds among brothers, fostering unity and collective support in our shared religious journey.

What surprised you about the experience and what it generated?

The contribution of co-workers during discussion of the topic was surprising. Another surprise about the experience is the depth of spiritual growth and communal solidarity fostered through sharing personal journeys and reflections, generating renewed commitment to the principles of service, compassion, and brotherhood within the religious community.

What did you discover? What have been your key insights on that topic?

We discovered diverse experiences and perspectives shaped by unique cultural contexts and local challenges, fostering a deeper appreciation for the values of the Order that unite brothers across geographical boundaries. It was further discovered that there is unity and solidarity amongst Brothers hence maintaining a good team working spirit. The need for increased vocations. Key insights include the importance of adaptability, resilience, and collaboration in navigating the complexities of religious life amidst socio-economic disparities and evolving societal dynamics.

What was confirmed for you?

The commitment to community life, service and spiritual growth among brothers, transcending geographic boundaries and cultural differences was confirmed.

What key questions has it enabled you to surface for your Province and the Order in the future?

1. How can we ensure that our religious practices and community life are inclusive and respectful of diverse cultural backgrounds and individual experiences?
2. How do we sustain the Order in Africa?
3. What strategies can we implement to support the spiritual growth, well-being, and vocational discernment of our Brothers, while also addressing the unique challenges and opportunities present in each local context?"

Topic chosen for the group: FINANCIAL CRISIS

Why did you choose that topic?

It was vital to choose Financial Crisis because economic stability is crucial for our centres, community well-being, and addressing financial challenges aligns with our mission to support the vulnerable and promote social justice.

What surprised you about the experience and what it generated?

The surprise about the experience is the depth of economic vulnerabilities of our centres and within the communities, promoting a commitment to social justice and solidarity in supporting the most marginalized as well as our centres.

What did you discover? What have been your key insights on that topic?

It was discovered that, centres depend mainly on donations and government support for survival and so do not have funds to invest in existing capital ventures. Centres will not survive in the face of financial crisis since they are not financially resilient. We also discovered the disproportionate impacts on marginalized communities and vulnerable individuals. Key insights include the importance of seeking for funds to finance strategic profitable capital investments.

What was confirmed for you?

We confirmed the lack of strategic capital investment, financial fragility of centres as well as the impact on marginalized communities and the moral imperative for ethical financial practices

What key questions has it enabled you to surface for your Province and the Order in the future?

1. How can the province obtain the needed funds to undertake strategic capital investment projects?
2. What role will the Order play in order to support the province to acquire the required funds to support funding of strategic capital investment projects?
3. What role will the Order play in providing support to empower individuals, families and institution to navigate economic challenges effectively?

Topic chosen for the group: THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY CRISIS

Why did you choose that topic?

The Impact of Climate and Biodiversity Crisis was chosen because it addresses urgent threats to our environment and livelihoods, aligns with our stewardship of creation, and promotes sustainable development for our communities.

What surprised you about the experience and what it generated?

What surprised us about the experience is the depth of community resilience and the emergence of renewed commitment to environmental stewardship, fostering a sense of collective responsibility and solidarity in addressing these urgent challenges.

What did you discover? What have been your key insights on that topic?

We discovered the profound ecological disruptions and socio-economic vulnerabilities faced by local communities, highlighting the urgent need for collective action, environmental stewardship, and sustainable development practices. Key insights include the interconnectedness of environmental degradation with issues of poverty, food security, and social inequality, emphasizing the imperative for holistic approaches to address both ecological and human well-being.

What was confirmed for you?

Interconnectedness of environmental degradation with socio-economic vulnerabilities, underscoring the urgency of holistic approaches to address both ecological and human well-being was confirmed.

What key questions has it enabled you to surface for your Province and the Order in the future?

1. How can we integrate principles of environmental stewardship and sustainable development into our religious teachings and community practices to address the ecological challenges facing our centres?
2. What partnerships and advocacy efforts can we engage in to promote climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and social justice within our institutions, communities and beyond?"