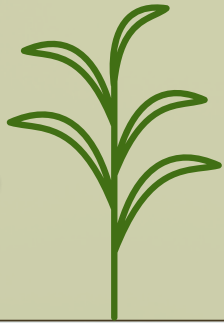


ORCIE Offerings

COP30 Edition
December 2025



ORCIE is the Office of Religious Congregations for Integral Ecology, where Catholic religious congregations are collaboratively increasing their impact on policy change for ecological justice and reconciliation.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT ORCIE!



This Christmas, we celebrate the gift of community and the hope that brings us together. In Jesus Christ, we see the light that invites us to walk in solidarity, justice, and peace. At ORCIE, we believe change happens when we recognize how deeply people and creation are connected and we act together for integral ecology. May this season bring peace to your hearts and spark new possibilities for the year ahead, as Christ's message of love and renewal inspires us to care for our common home and strengthen the bonds that unite us.

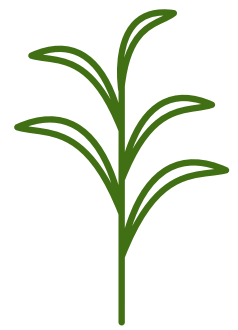
In 2026, let's keep building bridges of dialogue and action—grounded in our worldview of integral ecology, where care for people and care for the planet go hand in hand.

The ORCIE Team

**facebook.com/orcie.org
Instagram: @orcie.bcrei**



IN COALITION



ORCIE at COP30

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“In the midst of a world that is in flames...this Conference should become a sign of hope, through the respect shown to the views of others in the joint endeavor to search for common language and consensus.” *Pope Leo XIV message to COP30, November 7, 2025*

During ten days of dialogue, meetings, and collective mobilizations, ORCIE staff---Genevieve and Sasquia--- actively engaged in the 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Belém, Brazil on November 10-21.

Our participation at COP30 reaffirmed the importance of embedding integral ecology in global climate discussions and advancing policies that promote justice for people and the planet. In close collaboration with Climate Action Network Canada (CAN-Rac), we actively followed the UNFCCC negotiations on climate change mitigation, finance and the just transition.

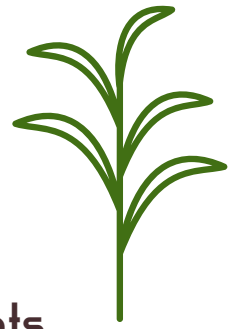
We engaged with Canadian MPs, Senators, Ministers and delegates, worked alongside partners such as Development & Peace and KAIROS, built connections across international Catholic and civil society networks, and participated in gatherings that lifted up the voices and struggles of civil society, social movements, and the Church in Brazil.

"Being at COP30, I saw how—amid the complex jargon of international negotiations—civil society and Indigenous peoples kept insisting that simple language means real solutions. Their clarity cut through the rhetoric, reminding us that justice is not found in technical terms but in the lived realities of those most impacted." — **Sasquia Antúñez Pineda**, ORCIE Advocacy & Communications





ADDING OUR VOICE



Highlights from Delegation Activities and Key Engagements

Advocacy with Canadian high-level Delegates

ORCIE met with Canadian government representatives on multiple occasions during the first week of COP30, including Hon. Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Steven Guilbeault, former Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture, Bloc Quebecois MP Patrick Bonin, and Nova Scotia Senator Mary Coyle.

While the two Cabinet Ministers' time in Belém was very short, we were able to join fellow Canadian civil society organizations pushing for greater ambition and coherency in Canada's claim to climate leadership. Top of mind was the news coming from Canada on new pipelines!

We asked: How can the Minister celebrate Canada's new methane regulations while planning to abandon the oil and gas emissions cap and provide subsidies to LNG expansion?

ORCIE engaged Canada's chief negotiator, Jeanne-Marie Huddleston on the Belém Action Mechanism (BAM), pressing Canada to support the new coordination process designed to align finance, social justice and labour rights with climate goals in the implementation of just transition plans.



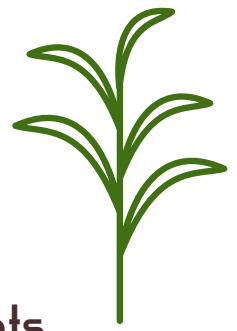
Hon. Julie Dabrusin and Canada's chief negotiator, Jeanne-Marie Huddleston meeting with Canadian civil society delegates



From left to right: Elen Fonseca, St. Paul University, Hon. Julie Dabrusin, and Sasquia Antúñez Pineda, ORCIE



ADDING OUR VOICE



Highlights from Delegation Activities and Key Engagements

ORCIE's Voice in Partnership with Catholic Networks

A major highlight was Sasquia speaking at a panel “Responding to the Global South Catholic Bishops Conferences’ Call for Climate Justice”, organized by a coalition of Catholic organizations — including the Maryknoll Sisters, Medical Mission Sisters, Claretian Missionaries (Proclade), VIVAT International, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada and KAIROS Canada.

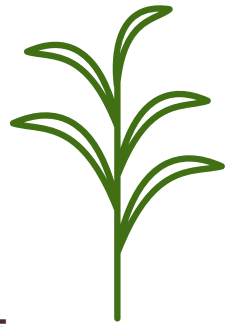
This powerful document urged the Global North to address ecological debt, phase out fossil fuels, and reject false solutions to the climate crisis. During her response, Sasquia highlighted her perspective on ecological debt and ORCIE’s commitment to integrating the urgency of this call for justice. We are keen to join the Catholic Churches of the Global South to build a historic North-South coalition for climate action and to support the new Ecclesial Observatory on Climate Justice, based in the Amazon. See what our partners at Development & Peace shared about the event: [COP30: Development and Peace — Caritas Canada reaffirms its commitment to global ecological justice | Development and Peace](#)

The unprecedented presence of Catholic lay people with cardinals, bishops, and Catholic organizations at COP30 highlighted the Church’s strong commitment to ecological justice and synodality culminating in a [joint declaration](#) that ORCIE proudly endorsed. ORCIE is looking forward to supporting continued collaboration, fostering connections toward COP31, and strengthening the links between our various national efforts.





IN COALITION



Highlights from Delegation Activities and Key Engagements

The Prophetic Voice of the Global South People!

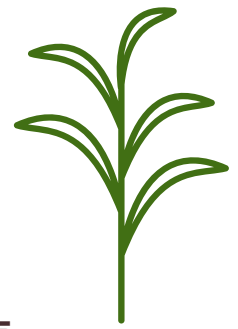
Our meaningful time spent with the **Sisters of St. Joseph (congregations of Chambéry, Rochester) in Belém** grounded our COP experience in the realities and perspectives of people living and working with the people of Brazil. These new relationships deepened our understanding of how to 'live out' integral ecology and strengthened our resolve to build bridges between communities in the Global North and South in pursuit of climate justice.

Our experience at COP30 reaffirmed that the path to climate justice must be shaped by the prophetic voices and realities of the people of the Global South. Each morning sitting at the same table we learned firsthand about the resilience of indigenous and marginalized communities confronting climate impacts and repression on a daily basis. The sisters' lived experience, rooted in faith and integral ecology, offering the sacraments and serving front-line and remote communities as social workers, counsellors, economists and health care workers, provided a lens through which global negotiations could be understood not as abstract policy debates but as an urgent matter of survival.





IN COALITION



Highlights from Delegation Activities and Key Engagements

The Prophetic Voice of the Global South People!

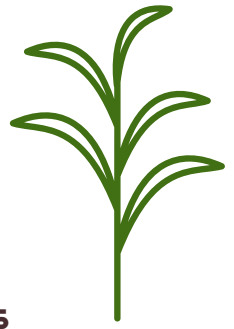
The Peoples' Summit (Cúpula dos Povos – CDP) held in parallel to the UN negotiations highlighted the leadership of grassroots social movements and Indigenous peoples of the Amazon, whose wisdom and resistance are essential to pushing forward the call for climate actions that move from rhetoric to real and just solutions. Accompanying the Sisters of St. Joseph, we participated in this powerful forum for solidarity and civil society mobilization in the face of extractivism and increased repression of environmental activists. On Nov 15th ORCIE joined more than 70,000 people in the march for climate justice, standing shoulder to shoulder with grassroots movements, indigenous communities and people of faith.

These encounters reconfirmed how our advocacy must go beyond technical solutions—it must honor the spiritual, cultural, and ecological knowledge of those most affected.





IN COALITION



Highlights from Delegation Activities and Key Engagements

The 'Indigenous COP'?

Hosting COP30 in Brazil, near the mouth of the Amazon, was meant to draw attention to Indigenous peoples who are at the forefront of the fight against climate change. Globally, they endure the direct consequences of global warming and suffer the greatest violence from our extractivist capitalist system. A record number of Indigenous people were in Belem for COP30 (up to 6,000!), thanks to Brazilian initiatives to include as many local peoples as possible, but only 360 individuals secured accreditation for the restricted area for official negotiations.

"The Answer is Us" is the call of the peoples of the forest, the waters, the countryside, and the cities for global mobilization for climate and life, where, in the lead up to COP30, voices from different territories across Brazil united to affirm: 'this world is ours, and we have the answer to the crisis'! The unique knowledge of Indigenous peoples offers us the solutions to climate problems. Read the [Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Peoples and Communities of Brazil and the Amazon Basin](#).



Photo credit: ACT Alliance



"Ideally, we would participate as negotiators within the official country delegation, right? That would make a real difference. It would make this a different COP". — **Toya Manchineri**, coordinator of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (Coiab)

Working with Indigenous Climate Action and KAIROS in Canada, ORCIE is learning how to use our privilege to bring the work of Indigenous communities on the ground into colonial spaces like the UNFCCC. Read more about the experience of Canadian Indigenous people participation and the importance of affirming the rights of Indigenous peoples across all COP30 decisions.

<https://www.indigenousclimateaction.com/cop30>

By weaving together relationships with the Sisters of St. Joseph based in Brazil, Indigenous people in Canada, and international Catholic networks, ORCIE is committed to ensuring that Canadian climate advocacy reflects the interconnectedness of our global community. Elevating these perspectives is not only an act of solidarity but also a prophetic call to reshape climate governance in ways that prioritize justice, equity, and care for our common home. Our ongoing work will continue to prioritize the voices of communities most affected by the climate crisis, ensuring that Canada's climate policy reflects both global responsibility and local realities.



IN COALITION



What We Learned from COP30 Outcomes

At COP30 in Belém, governments arrived with an agenda intended to advance work on multiple files: adaptation, loss and damage, climate finance, climate change mitigation, information transparency, technology, and gender equality. Early in the negotiations, however, this agenda was significantly reshaped. Parties proposed additional agenda items to get to the real issues, and the Brazilian Presidency introduced a **“Mutirão package”** — drawing on an Indigenous concept of collective action — that bundled together politically sensitive issues such as trade, climate finance, and developed countries’ significant obligations.

This shift absorbed much of the political energy at COP30 and resulted in an incomplete package of outcomes. While some progress was made, several core priorities — particularly strong global adaptation outcomes and a clear commitment to transition away from fossil fuels — were weakened, fragmented, or postponed to future processes.

COP30: The Work Still Unfinished

Fossil Fuel of the Day Award — CANADA: Climate Action Network awarded Canada the **“Fossil of the Day”**, highlighting the gap between Canada’s public climate commitments and its actions at COP30. The award pointed to Canada’s failure to support strong language on fossil fuel phase-out and to demonstrate leadership proportionate with its responsibility as a high-income, high-emitting country. This is the first time Canada has been called out in such a public way since Stephen Harper was the Prime Minister. Read more here about why Canada so deserved this regrettable award: <https://climatenetwork.org/resource/fossil-of-the-day-award-canada/>



Fossil Fuel Phase-Out Absent from Outcomes: Despite strong advocacy from many countries and civil society organizations, COP30 failed to deliver a clear commitment or roadmap to phase out fossil fuels. References to fossil fuels were excluded from the final package, reflecting ongoing resistance from some Parties and underscoring a persistent disconnect between climate science and political decision-making.

Missing Links and Fragmentation: ORCIE and many other groups have emphasized how COP30 outcomes lacked coherence across key areas. Connections between finance needed for **mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage** were weak, and the final decisions did not provide an integrated pathway aligned with the scale and urgency of the climate crisis.



IN COALITION



What We Learned from COP30 Outcomes

COP30 Wins: What Gives Us Hope

Just Transition Rising — Belém Action Mechanism (BAM): One of the most significant outcomes of COP30 was the agreement to establish the Belém Action Mechanism for a Global Just Transition (BAM). Civil society organizations, like ORCIE, supported the BAM as a step toward operationalizing a just transition that centers equity, human rights, labour protections and the rights of Indigenous Peoples. To date the UN negotiations on the just transition have been about definitions and the editing of texts, whereas this new coordination mechanism focuses on implementation and the sharing of ‘how to’ enact a just transition. BAM represents an important recognition of the power of civil society and the importance of climate solutions that prioritize people and communities.



Momentum Beyond the UNFCCC — the Fossil Fuel Phase-Out Conference: In response to stalled progress within the UNFCCC, **Colombia and the Netherlands** announced the First International Conference for the Phase-Out of Fossil Fuels, based on the extensive work of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty initiative. The conference is scheduled to take place in Colombia in April 2026 and will advance international cooperation on a planned, equitable fossil fuel phase-out — signaling growing momentum for action outside formal COP negotiations. Can't wait to see Canada participate!

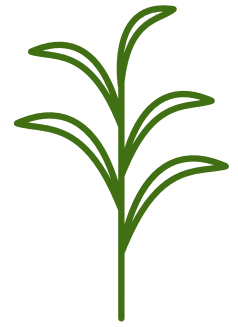


Civil Society and Faith-based Leadership: Across COP30, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and frontline communities, including faith-based organisations, played a crucial role in pushing for justice-based outcomes with negotiators from all 193 countries. Their advocacy was key in advancing just transition principles and in continuing to challenge governments to align climate commitments with real action.





IN COALITION



What We Learned from COP30 Outcomes

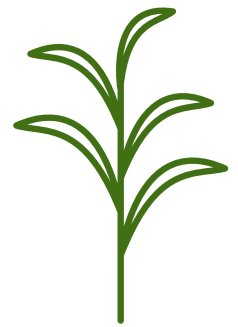
COP30 delivered partial progress but fell short of what climate justice and science demand. As the world moves toward COP31, pressure is growing — both inside and outside the UN process — to translate justice-focused commitments into concrete, accountable action for mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage.

COP30 reminds us that climate negotiations are also moral tests, not just political processes. Delayed action and weakened commitments have real consequences for the poor, Indigenous Peoples, and communities least responsible for the climate crisis. Guided by Laudato Si', ORCIE continues to call for courageous, justice-centred leadership that protects our common home and future generations.





RESOURCES



- **Just Transition Rising (BAM)** – Overview of the Belém Action Mechanism for a Global Just Transition.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Gr3O5w_b-sscVrWdS5FX8LBGpoLOM9PcyBl4zM_mODc/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.k3agollmt6xg
- **Just Transition Rising Event Portal** – Resources and events related to BAM and global just transition efforts. <https://climatenetwork.org/updates/event-portal/just-transition-rising/>
- **Fossil Fuel Phase-Out Conference** – First International Conference for the Phase-Out of Fossil Fuels, announced by Colombia and the Netherlands. [Colombia and The Netherlands Announce First International Conference for Fossil Fuel Phase Out — The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative](#)
- **Belém Political Package** – Official COP30 decisions, including climate finance, adaptation, mitigation, and the Mutirão Decision. <https://unfccc.int/cop30/belem-political-package>

Signing On for Justice at COP30

ORCIE joined several key statements around COP30, amplifying calls for climate justice and a just transition. These joint statements reflect our commitment to solidarity, ecological stewardship, and global equity. **We invite congregations to add their voices.** Explore the full list and learn how to join on our website: <https://orcie.org/our-work/signing-on-for-justice-at-cop30/>

Upcoming: From COP30 to Action - ORCIE's Webinar

Post-COP30 Analysis & Spring Advocacy

Join us on Feb 12th as we unpack the outcomes of COP30 and explore how they will shape ORCIE's advocacy priorities in the coming months.

Sign up for the webinar here:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tTlvnj8MTgeGWP6VFKtv-A#/registration>



ORCIE at COP30: Insights and Future Advocacy Paths



Thursday February 12, 2026

1:00 - 2:30 pm (EST)

Register here: [On Zoom](#)

WEBINAR

Speakers



Genevieve Gallant
Executive Director



Sasquia Antúñez Pineda
Advocacy & Communications



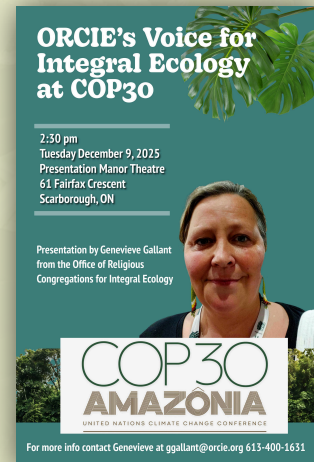


TAKE ACTION



ORCIE's Voice for Integral Ecology at COP30

On December 9th, Genevieve visited Presentation Manor in Scarborough to share her perspective on COP30 and next steps for our work in Canada. With strong participation from the Our Lady's Missionaries and Scarboro Foreign Missions, among other members of religious congregations, Genevieve led a discussion about the importance of legislative advocacy and the urgency of the moment. The session was also an opportunity to **launch a paper parliamentary petition as part of the Turn Debt Into Hope campaign on debt cancellation**. Toronto MPs get ready!



ON THE HILL

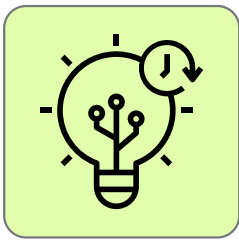
Insights from Senator Rosa Galvez: ORCIE at CCL Webinar

ORCIE recently joined a Citizens' Climate Lobby education webinar with **Senator Rosa Galvez**, who is reviving the Climate Aligned Finance Act (CAFA). Drawing on her recent participation at COP30, Senator Galvez shared key insights and strategies for aligning finance with climate action. ORCIE also had the chance to ask her specific questions about the Act's provisions and next legislative steps.

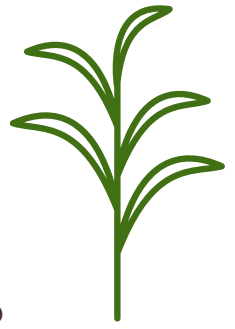
You can watch the full webinar here:

<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/education-senator-galvez-on/>





LOOKING AHEAD



How can we stand out & reach more religious congregations?

As we wrap up the year, we want to hear from you!

As the year comes to a close, in this Christmas season, we invite you to share your thoughts with us. Your feedback is valuable and will help us improve our efforts in the year ahead.

Would you take a quick five-minute survey to share your thoughts on our ORCIE Offerings and let us know what you'd like to see in 2026? Your feedback is essential and will help shape our future newsletters. What do you want to see more of, what do you want to see less of? **Let us know by completing the survey here:** <https://forms.gle/FiNyaRHeuefB2irc8>





WHO IS ORCIE?

- Congrégation des Filles de Jésus, Région Canada
- Congregation Notre Dame, Visitation Province
- Congregation of Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary
- Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
- Jesuits of Canada
- Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
- Presentation Sisters
- Soeurs franciscaines missionnaires de l'Immaculée-Conception
- Sisters Faithful Companion of Jesus
- Sisters of Charity, Halifax
- Sisters of Holy Cross
- Sisters of Mercy
- Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions
- Sisters of St. Joseph, Canada
- Sisters of St. Joseph, Toronto
- Sisters of St. Joseph, Sault Ste. Marie
- Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish
- Sisters of St. Martha, Charlottetown
- Society of the Sacred Heart
- School Sisters of Notre Dame

JOIN US!



ORCIE invites religious congregations who are interested in joining to reach out to:

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