



INSTITUTE OF  
**SISTERS of MERCY**  
OF AUSTRALIA & PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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**Media Release**

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### **The Institute Launches ‘An Integrated Approach to Sustainable Living’**

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea has launched its Sustainability Policy – ‘An Integrated Approach to Sustainable Living’ via a livestream broadcast earlier this afternoon.

The policy was officially launched by Institute Leader Sr Berneice Loch, as part of a thirty minute web broadcast that included a representation of the Sisters who had developed the document (Srs Deirdre Gardiner and Mary Tinney ) and an example of those who have been modelling some of its core values and strategies as part of living sustainably in their community (Srs Patricia Powell and Margaret Adams). Sr Elaine Wainwright, Institute Mission and Ministry Executive Leader, provided an introduction and welcome.

In launching the policy, Sr Berneice said it is the product of a great deal of thinking, education, action and commitment over many years by many people.

“It is not a beginning but a special milestone along the journey that Sisters of Mercy, and those who walk with them have been taking over these many years. It is not a beginning nor is an ending. We did not set out to write a policy, be it ever such a fine piece of work. Rather we set out to make this Institute, ISMAPNG, an organization, a living reality, which is about the Care of the Earth, in which Caring for the Earth is a recognised characteristic of each member and of every activity. So we hope the policy will be a stimulus to take us further on the journey,” she said.

The policy aims to achieve sustainable living across seven key areas – energy, water, waste, transport, procurement, investment and infrastructure.

It provides a framework for personnel and ministry partners to develop policies, programs and procedure which will contribute to achieving these overarching objectives.

The launch has been recorded and is available for viewing on the Institute website –

[www.institute.mercy.org.au](http://www.institute.mercy.org.au)

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