

Job Description

Senior Advisor - Catholic Investing

Background

FaithInvest was established in 2019 to support faith communities and institutions to align their investments more closely with their beliefs and values. Through its membership and outreach programmes, it works to build bridges between faith communities and the world of finance and investments.

This post is designed to deepen the work of FaithInvest with one of the major faith groups, namely Catholicism. It aims to build capacity specifically in the area of faith-consistent investing in the Catholic world as well as building more general capacity around Catholic perspectives on how the international financial sector needs to reform in light of multiple global challenges. The post will be situated within FaithInvest, and work closely with a number of key Catholic entities including the Vatican COVID Commission. The role will be line managed by the Director of Movement Building in FaithInvest.

The Role

Over the next two years, the joint role will advance this by the following actions which encourage high level education, outreach and organising on strategies to support faith-consistent investments within the Catholic world:

- Further the development of Catholic faith-consistent investment guidelines and principles;
- Support the COVID commission to develop concrete positions related to investments, financial reform and post-covid recovery;
- Lead in the organisation of tailored events, webinars, workshops to further high level conversations between leading Catholic entities and key external bodies on faith-consistent investing such as CEOs of finance institutions;
- Ensure consistency of approach between key Catholic initiatives with investment dimensions such as the Laudato Si Action Platform;
- Develop a roll out plan linked to the Laudato Si Action Platform to support the socialisation of faith-consistent investment guidelines in Catholic dioceses around the world;
- Leverage the influence and resources of key Catholic institutions to source and catalyse direct investments in mission-aligned opportunities;
- Connecting those involved in advancing faith-consistent investing with direct projects and initiatives emerging from partnership with the Vatican and other Catholic groups.
- Foster connections and support the development of initiatives focused on the socially responsible use and/or repurposing of assets – principally financial, property/real estate under the oversight of Catholic dioceses around the world;
- Link Catholic action on this with the action of other Christian traditions primarily but also with key actions within all major faiths.

Key Responsibilities

- Respond to incoming requests to FaithInvest on all aspects of Catholic faith-consistent investments;
- Support in the drafting, roll out and further development of Catholic faith-consistent investment guidelines, including impact investing;
- Engage with the Vatican COVID commission on issues related to investments, financial reform and post-covid recovery;
- Work within leading Catholic entities to ensure coherence between faith-consistent investing principles and the internal Investment Committee guidelines;
- Build connections that support the socialisation of faith-consistent investment guidelines in Catholic dioceses around the world;
- Lead in the organisation of events, webinars, workshops to support socialisation of guidelines globally and further the high level conversations between the Vatican and key external bodies on faith-consistent investing;
- Prepare regular short briefings for FaithInvest CEO and media;
- Contribute to wider FaithInvest programmes, bringing the Catholic perspective and experience;
- Identify and facilitate opportunities for direct investment and/or application of Vatican resources to catalyse a new investment "praxis".

Person specification

We are seeking a highly motivated individual with knowledge and experience of the international financial sector, and particularly with experience of ESG, SRI and/or Impact Investing sector to lead this work. The person will be committed to driving forward the discussion on faith-consistent investing within the Catholic Church and faiths more generally. The position will be based from home, with occasional travel to Rome and/or the UK as required (and COVID restrictions allow).

Skills

- Ability to write fluently and prepare succinct reports and papers for broad readership within faith and finance communities;
- Excellent communication skills and capacity to lead workshops and webinars remotely;
- Highly organised and proven ability to manage significant projects;
- Ability to use CRM and manage high level contacts effectively;
- Conversational fluency in and an ability to read Italian and/or Spanish;

Knowledge

- Master degree in Economics with specialisation in investments/finance or related discipline and/or equivalent professional experience;
- Technical knowledge of the impact investing, ESG, Socially Responsible Investing areas;
- Knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching and how it relates to finance and investments;
- Broad knowledge of the global financial sector and contemporary discussions around reform in light of sustainability and climate change;
- Familiarity with sourcing, underwriting and structuring impact investments helpful, but not essential;
- Good networks within the Catholic investing community.

Experience

 Significant professional experience working in areas related to ESG, Socially Responsible Investment and/or Impact Investing (most likely minimum of 7 years); - Experience engaging faith groups (not necessarily Catholic) in discussion around faith, values and investments;

Aptitude

- Ability to act with initiative and to collaborate across teams at a distance;
- Well-organised and able to work to deadlines under pressure;
- Ability to work with discretion, confidentiality, conscious of highly sensitive nature of work;
- Committed to the vision of Pope Francis, as expressed in Laudato Si caring for our common home.

Role Location

The role is based remotely, working from home, and a flexible and adaptable approach is needed on a weekly basis as FaithInvest work with partner organisations across various time zones. The ability to work at least four times a week within core UK working hours (12pm – 5pm UK time) is essential. When circumstances allow, the role will involve travel to Rome, Ireland and the UK on a regular basis. Must have the right to work, and be based, in the UK or Ireland.

Contract

The role is offered as a fixed purpose 2 year contract, with evaluation after 6 months. The second year is dependent on a successful evaluation and on funding being confirmed.

Salary Range

£60,000 - £80,000 per annum (Gross salary).

Negotiable, based on experience.

Automatic enrolment into the employer's pension scheme.

Holiday Entitlement

20 working days per annum in addition to the UK public holidays (or local public holidays where based).

Application Process

To apply please send your CV and a cover letter to jobs@faithinvest.org. Please quote "Catholic Specialist" in the subject line.

Please note that CVs sent without a cover letter will not be considered.

Application Deadline: 12 midnight BST Wednesday 23 June.