Strategies for Christian-Based Institutions in fighting corruption

- Bible study groups and peer groups as a platform of instilling values and good morals among Kenyans.
- Religious leaders should use the pulpit to deliver messages against corruption.
- To work with structured groups in the church to teach against corruption.
- Demand accountability from both State and non-State actors.
- To be good role models.
- To partner with other organisations for capacity building in fighting corruption.
- Use of FBOs media to reach the masses.
- To develop and disseminate Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on ethics, integrity and anti-corruption.

This brochure is developed through a partnership between the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK).

The umbrella organizations under IRCK are:
- National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)
- Hindu Council of Kenya (HCK)
- Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK)
- Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUP-KEM)
- Organization of African Instituted Churches – Kenya (OAIC-K)
- Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB)
- National Muslim Leaders Forum (NAMLEF)
- Seventh Day Adventist Church (SDA)
- SHIA Ithna Asharias

An Initiative of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and the Christian Institutions
Introduction

Religious leaders under Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK) have established a strategic partnership with the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) that aims at combatting corruption.

Christian leaders seek to network and educate their followers on the importance of upholding integrity in all spheres of life.

Acknowledging the corruption menace

According to Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2018 ranking, Kenya is among the most corrupt countries in the world, it is at position 144 out of 180.

The Faith Based Organisations (FBO) recognize that corruption is a vice which continues to shutter the moral fabric of nation and must be fought by all means including the word of God.

Corruption as a behavioral/ moral problem

Corruption thrives because individuals both in leadership and the general public compromise their values in day to day undertaking.

The backdrop of moral decay in our nation has culminated to the partnership of both FBOs and EACC to speak very strongly in one voice that every Kenyan citizen should embrace Christian values in order to overcome the corruption menace.

Manifestations of corruption

Biblical perspective through which we categorize the different manifestations of corruption in our society

• Favoritism (James 2:1; Deuteronomy 16:19)
• Bribery (Exodus 23:8)
• Looting of public resources (John 12:6)
• Murder (Exodus 20:13)
• Leadership wrangles (1 Corinthians 3:3-9)

Mainstreaming integrity, values and morals through religious institutions

Integrity, values and morals are life components that make a just, fair and complete society.

Christian institutions are to take their position of teaching, nurturing and mentorship of ethical conduct as well as upholding integrity among their faithfults and in the nation as a whole.

Role of Christian leaders and their congregants

• Live an upright life (1 Timothy 4:12)
• Instill good morals and ethical practices (2 Timothy 6:11 – 12; Matthew 5:13)
• Be beacon of justice and speak against vices (Proverbs 21:3)
• Stand out for equity (Matthew 7:12)
• Stand out as role models (1 Corinthians 11:1)
• Be content (1 Timothy 6:6, 10)
• Be agents of truth (Genesis 39)

Consequences of corruption

Corruption is evil and those who engage in it attract suffering to themselves, their families and the society. Some of the consequences of corruption are:

• Slow or no development
• Exposing family to shame
• Imprisonment
• High cost of living among the citizenry
• Rejection by God
• Erosion of morals and values
• Stigma
• Physical and spiritual death