

**KENYA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE**  
**COMMISSION FOR PASTORAL AND LAY APOSTOLATE**



**SEVEN YEAR'S STRATEGIC PLAN**  
***(JANUARY 2012 TO DECEMBER 2018)***

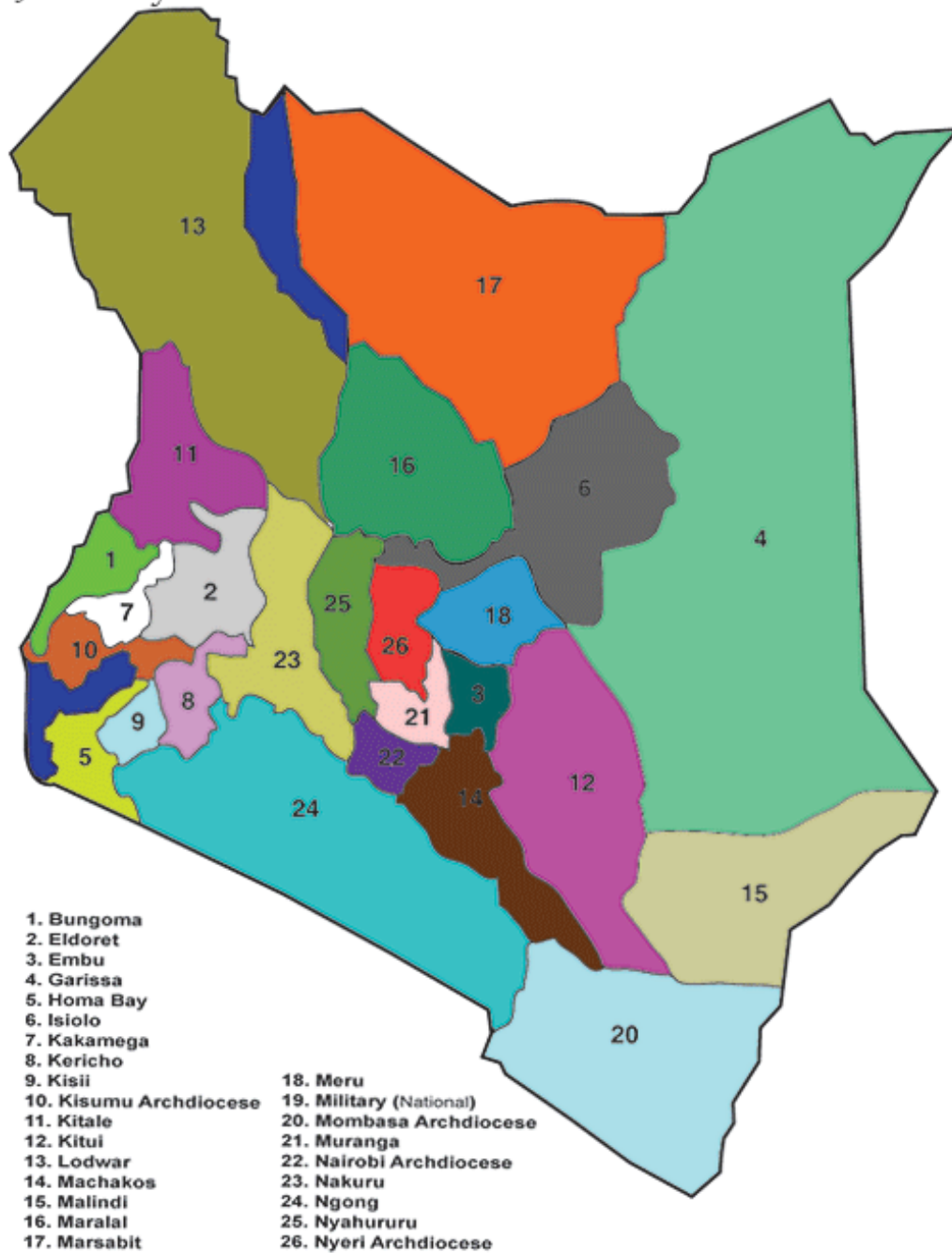
**PASTORAL APPROACH TO;**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CARE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **KENYA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE (KEC)**

The Kenya Episcopal Conference (KEC), a permanent institution, is the assembly of the Catholic Bishops in Kenya united and exercising together their Pastoral offices over Christ's faithful, as shepherds of the Catholic Church in Kenya which they together promote by forms and means of Apostolate suitable to the circumstances of place and time, in accordance with the law, to promote the greater good which the Church offers to all mankind (CIC 447). The authority of the Kenya Episcopal Conference is vested in the Ordinary and Extra-ordinary Plenary Assembly. Currently there are 26 Catholic jurisdictions spread over 4 metropolitan provinces among them, 4 Archdioceses, 20 Dioceses, 1 Apostolic Vicariate and 1 Military Ordinariat

## 26 Catholic Dioceses of Kenya January 2006



**DATA OF CATHOLIC  
POPULATION IN KENYA**

Arch /diocese	Number of Faithfuls	Number of Priests	Number of Parishes	Number of Educational institutes	Number of Hospitals/Clinics Charitable institutions	Organized groups CMA,CWA, YOUTH
Bungoma diocese	595,655.00	67	29	879	24	3
Eldoret diocese	487,547.00	69	41	788	81	3
Embu diocese	341,842.00	63	16	281	21	3
Garisa diocese	7,000.00	16	6	8	14	3
Homa Bay diocese	423,408.00	49	27	97	158	3
Isiolo Vicariate	35,789.00	15	12	73	14	3
Kakamega diocese	443,360.00	103	34	520	252	3
Military ordinariat		9	21			3
Kericho diocese	234,335.00	44	21	205	29	3
Kisii diocese	486,479.00	35	16	724	317	3
Kisumu diocese	463,100.00	73	34	866	107	3
Kitale diocese	180,000.00	54	24	14	15	3
Kitui diocese	258,000.00	60	24	440	17	3
Lodwar diocese	69,145.00	49	21	305	38	3
Machakos diocese	898,871.00	138	58	1079	499	3
Malindi diocese	23,577.00	32	16	16	8	3

Maralal diocese	43,386.00	30	12	140	11	3
Marsabit diocese	25,859.00	28	12	81	12	3
Meru diocese	765,410.00	145	54	960	72	3
Mombasa Archdiocese	262,000.00	65	43	142	14	3
Murang'a diocese	788,645.00	94	35	366	20	3
Nairobi Archdiocese	1,323,320.00	527	108	229	70	3
Nakuru diocese	242,144.00	118	42	109	36	3
Ngong diocese	82,552.00	66	29	232	15	3
Nyahururu diocese	320,000.00	49	29	49	25	3
Nyeri Archdiocese	76,900.00	83	31	108	45	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,878,324.00</b>	<b>2081</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>8711</b>	<b>1914</b>	

The above information is for the year 2010. Is taken from the Symposium of Episcopal conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM) directory, 24<sup>th</sup> edition, 2010.

1. In all the 26 Catholic dioceses in Kenya, we have three major Ecclesial Associations (Catholic Women Association, Catholic Men Association and Youth.)

3. The structure of the Catholic Church begins with the family (Basic Church), Small Christian Communities (Comprised of an average of 12 families each), Local Church or out station composed of Small Christian Communities, a zone, a parish, deanery, diocese, Ecclesiastical province and the national coordinating organ( the Kenya Episcopal Conference)

4. The Catholic Church in Kenya plays an active role in offering charitable services to all God's people without discrimination. In all Her projects, the Church gives prominence to Sustainability and avoids any move towards dependency syndrome. Local contribution by target groups, beneficiaries and stake holders in encouraged

#### **LOCAL CONTRUBUTION DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.**

1. The Kenya Episcopal Conference will provide office space, office equipment and stationery

- They will provide professional staff for the project implementation and subsidize their remunerations.
- They will provide Theologians who will facilitate development of the Pastoral letter on environmental care and protection
- They will use diocesan and National print and electronic media in publicity and campaign for environmental care and protection
- They will allow the project to be implemented in their National and diocesan Shrines, parishes, educational institutions and charitable institutions
- They will allow subsidized use of diocesan Pastoral centers for Capacity building programs
- Staff in our diocesan and national shrines will be used to manage the project especially seed multiplication and tree growing.

## 2. Capacity building target groups

- They will take care of their transport expenses in all workshops and seminars
- time spent during workshops will be a local contribution. No allowances will be given.
- in every training, participants will pay a registration fee of Kshs.500.
- All people trained at national level will give the training at other levels without expecting a pay.

## **INVOLVEMENT OF THE KENYA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CARE AND PROTECTION**

- we have some Catholic institutions that promote farming and environmental care-eg. Baraka farm In Nakuru
- the Church participates In district trade fares and demonstrate on environmental care and protection
- In both the National and diocesan Shrines, tree planting is going on though In a minimal way.
- In most of our institutions tree planting has been done but not to the expected extend
- When giving relief food during famine, we have a programme called food for work. Here people are given food after digging terraces in their fields and in other cases planting trees.
- In all projects being implemented by the Kenya Episcopal Conference, environmental care and protection is considered a cross cutting issue hence given prominence
- A national consultative meeting for Catholic Men Association and for Catholic Women Association was successfully held in Malindi diocese from 1st to 5th December 2011 were members were sensitized about the environmental protection care, protection and sustainability project.

-Sensitization workshops and seminars on Environmental care and protection have already been done in Kisumu metropolitan dioceses( Kisumu Archdiocese, Homabay diocese, Kisii diocese, Kakamega diocese, Lodwar diocese, )

## **PROJECTIONS**

A national Consultative meeting for the project implementation plan, monitoring and evaluation is scheduled to take place by March 2012. It will be attended by the Bishop Chairman, KEC Commission for Pastoral and Lay Apostolate, members of the National Coordinating office, National leaders of Ecclesial Movements and Associations and Rectors of our National and diocesan Shrines.

## 3. KEY PARTNERS.

-The Kenya Episcopal Conference Commission for Pastoral and Lay apostolate deals with church partner agencies who are purely concerned with Evangelization.

They include Mission Aachen, Missio Munich, and Propagation of faith. We emphasize on making the Church in Kenya to be self-reliant . These is being realized through organizing fundraising targeting all agents of Evangelization. Initiation of Income generating projects at all levels is also given province.

### **THE SECRETARIAT**

The KEC Catholic secretariat is the National administrative, facilitative and coordinating arm through which the KEC implements and coordinates various Pastoral programs at the National level and undertakes all those responsibilities which express the mission of the Catholic Church in Kenya. It is composed of the Secretary General who is the Executive Officer of the Conference and the Staff of the secretariat comprising the National Executive Secretaries of the Commissions and their assistants.

### **MANDATE OF THE KEC CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT**

KEC- Catholic Secretariat (Office of the Secretary General) was established in 1961. It is the national administrative, facilitative and coordinative arm of the Kenya Episcopal Conference. The bottom line focus is to support Dioceses in enhancing their capabilities for effective implementation of projects and programmes at the grassroots. It draws its vision and mission from Christ's mandate adopted by KEC **“You shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8)**

### **VISION**

To be efficient, effective, affective and faithful national administrative, facilitative and coordinative arm of Kenya Episcopal Conference in support of the integral pastoral mission of the Catholic Church in Kenya

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Inspired by the mandate of Jesus Christ “You shall be my witnesses”(Acts 1:8) lived by the Kenya Episcopal Conference and guided by the Word of God, Magisterium and the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church, The KEC-Catholic Secretariat is committed to quality coordination, facilitation and provision of modern technical support to Dioceses and other Catholic institutions of Holistic Evangelization.

### **CORE VALUES**

- i.** Catholic Identity and witness, **“You shall be my witnesses”** (Acts 1:18)
- ii.** Faithfulness to the Catholic teachings
- iii.** Respect of the Dignity of the human person
- iv.** Integrity
- v.** Accountability and transparency
- vi.** Charity and service to all
- vii.** Building peace through Justice and Peace
- viii.** Communion and partnership

A Commission is a body constituted by the Bishops Conference for a specific mission of the Church to study, recommend and implement its findings in accordance with its mandate.

A Commission comprises of at least two Bishops. Each Commission also has a National Executive Secretary who is the technical advisor and secretary to the Executive Committee of the Commission. The Secretary General is a member of all Commissions.

Currently we have 15 Commissions and 2 Non Commissions

1. Commission for Liturgy
2. Commission for Doctrine
3. Commission for Pastoral and Lay Apostolate
4. Seminary Episcopal Commission
5. Commission for Missions
6. Commission for Clergy and Religious – Liaison Committee
7. Catholic Justice and Peace Commission
8. Commission for Education and Religious Education
9. Commission for Social Communications
10. Commission for Ecumenism
11. Commission for Interreligious Dialogue
12. Commission for Development and Social Services/Caritas Kenya
13. Catholic Health Commission of Kenya
14. Commission for Refugees, Migrants & Seafarers
15. Commission for Finance
16. NON COMMISSIONS 1.Canon Law National Office 2.Family Life Office

### **COMMISSION FOR PASTORAL AND LAY APOSTOLATE**

The commission is charged with the responsibility of promoting pastoral work in the country. This is done through capacity building in pastoral work, initiation of pastoral projects, resource mobilization, coordination, lobbying and advocacy. All agents of Evangelization at National and diocesan levels (Clergy, religious and Laity) are targeted.

Environmental Care and Sustainability is given prominence in All Pastoral Projects being implemented by the Catholic Church in Kenya. This is done in fulfillment of the command of God given to Man “*The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it*” (Genesis 2:15)

### **SITUATION ANALYSIS IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CARE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

#### **ASSETS**

Land , Shrines, Churches, schools, homes for the physically challenged, seminaries and other assets owned by the Catholic Church in Kenya will be helpful during the project implementation



## **STRATEGIC ISSUES**

- 1) Lack of coordination of environmental care and protection initiative in the Catholic Church
- 2) Lack of sufficient awareness , advocacy and commitment to responsible stewardship of the environment in Kenya
- 3) Deforestation problem and negative consequences of both land erosion and water retention.
- 4) Use of wood for fuel and burning clay bricks /pots
- 5) Bush burning, charcoal production and tree felling.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**

1. To enhance coordination of Catholic Church in Kenya initiatives in environmental care and protection right from family ,Small Christian Community up to National Level
2. To sensitize and educate Kenyans on their urgent role of stewardship in environmental care and protection through proper management of environmental resources on a sustainable basis
3. To re-generate about 20% of forest cover in degraded National/diocesan Shrines, church compounds and church institutions land in the country, emphasizing water conservation trees around water sources. This will benefit nature and Kenyan population as a whole as they enjoy and experience God's presence in a well managed environment.
4. To come up with sustainable land and water management projects that will challenge adults, youth and children to cherish environmental care and protection.
5. To come up with environment friendly sources of energy.
6. To build partnership with other like-minded organizations in the Country and provide opportunities for exchange programs.

## **STRATEGIES**

- 1) National consultative and planning meetings on environmental care and protection
- 2) Bishops' pastoral letter on environmental care and protection
- 3) Use of print and electronic media in promoting environmental care and protection
- 4) Capacity building training in environmental care and protection Creation of Catholic Education day
- 5) Incorporating education on environmental care and protection in our primary schools Pastoral Programme instructions(PPI)
- 6) Seed multiplication as an income generating project
- 7) Rainwater harvesting projects-Water tanks for use in tree nursery management
- 8) Tree planting and agro forestry
- 9) Promoting use of Solar heating panels, bio gas and locally produced-energy – efficient stoves
- 10) Introduction of Catholic environment day
- 11) Networking with other religions, the government and NGOs in those areas that ensure environmental care and protection
- 12) Project follow-up monitoring and evaluation

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

The project will be implemented within the Church structure right from family, Small Christian Community to National level. It will be incorporated in the Church Evangelization, sensitization and capacity building programs. The forestation component will have to do exclusively with agro-forestry, involving community households planting trees in and around farms.

Diocesan tree nurseries will be managed throughout the project period using part of the proceeds got from sell of seedlings by Men, Women and Youth groups managing diocesan tree nurseries. The balance will be used for their sustenance and initiation of other relevant projects

In the third year of project implementation period, community sensitization will be done on the need of coming up with different sources of energy that include: Use of Solar heating panels, biogas and locally produced energy efficient stoves.

Environmental friendly income generating projects for youth out of school will be initiated to avert destruction of trees. This will include: Farming, entrepreneurship, to list but a few.