

The Governance Program

About the project:

Over the past few decades under increasing pressures of globalization, African countries have faced extraordinary economic, social, and political challenges. A growing body of literature suggests that the single most important factor in the relative success of different countries in overcoming the challenges and improving development trajectories has been the quality of governance. We define governance as the institutions and processes through which the economy and society are regulated, public resources are allocated, and government decisions are enforced. In the coming decades, continued growth, sustainability and stability will increasingly depend on steady improvements in all of these areas.

The need for suitable options and methodologies that may contribute more effectively and efficiently to sustained economic growth and to the equitable distribution of the benefits of development remains central in debates concerning public governance. Realizing the goals of the Millennium Declaration and the United Nations Development Agenda also call for public administration systems and processes that are transparent, accountable, and responsive while engaging citizens proactively. The Kenyan basic development blueprint, the Vision 2030's political pillar envisions an issue-based, people centered and accountable political system.

In response to this, the Governance Program aims to work towards promoting initiatives such as conflict management, counter corruption, devolution and local governance, development of key executive institutions of government, legislative development, civil society development, media development, and information and communication technology. All these have a bias towards furthering sustainable natural resource management.

The specific objectives

Enhance citizen awareness on the existing governance Structures and avenues of Representation of the people including marginalized groups such as women, persons with disabilities and minorities

Facilitate citizen engagement with the development of the policy and legislative framework in local governance structures, especially engagement of women, persons with disabilities and minorities.

Promote accountability and transparency in the Devolved structures (citizen scorecards, accountability fora, oversight committees)

Promote the adoption of legislative and policy frameworks that guarantee the realization (respect for, promotion of and fulfillment) of all human rights particularly ECOSOC rights for all especially marginalized groups such as women, persons with disabilities and minorities.

The impact

Communities effectively participating in local governance in line with best practices and with respect to human rights.

The target Groups

The program targets women, men, youth, and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), minorities and communities living in marginalized areas. The program concentrates mostly in the coastal region but contributes to national issues of interest to the Eco Ethics Kenya's constituents' interests.

The approach

The three key main delivery methodologies are: Human Rights Based Approach Capacity Building Policy Advocacy Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning