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# Youth Unite Against Corruption



Garissa County youth leaders pay attention during their workshop at the Garissa Teachers' Training Institute.

For many years the youth in Kenya have talked a lot about corruption in Kenya, but done little about it. They have great presence on social media sites like Twitter where groups like 'Kenyans On Twitter' (KOT) are both feared and dreaded in equal measure by those that cross their paths or are targeted for discussion.

But in the month of June, 2016 youth leaders from the Counties of Garissa, Mombasa, Kilifi, Makueni, Meru and Taita Taveta joined forces with the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) to learn more about their role in the fight against corruption – both at the County and individual level. The over 283 youth leaders representing different groups in their Communities, gathered in selected venues and underwent an intensive one-day sensitization and capacity building workshop to equip them with the skills necessary to prevent corruption from occurring and to expose the vice where it exists. Due to the tight programme, the youth leaders spent two nights at the hotels so that they could maximize on their time while there.

All the six County Governments where the workshops were held, fully supported the initiative and participated in the proceedings. The high-level Officials lauded the move by NACCSC to target a vulnerable sector of society that constantly bears the brunt of corruption as they transit from school to college and the job market. Speaking in Garissa on 23rd June, 2016 at the Garissa Teachers Training Institute, the youth vowed to work closely with the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steer-*>Continued on page 4.* 

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## **NACCSC Moves Closer to Kenyans**

The fight against corruption in Kenya can only be won if every citizen plays an active role in tackling this menace that continues to devastate our economy. However, for all people to join in the fight, there must be extensive sensitization and capacity building at the grassroots to equip them with skills to enable them identify the vice, prevent it from happening and ultimately aid in prosecution of those found to have indulged in the vice.

The National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) is mandated to undertake a nationwide public education, sensitization and awareness creation campaign against corruption aimed at effecting fundamental changes in the attitudes, behavior, practices and culture of Kenyans towards corruption. This is a preventive approach to the fight against corruption. In order to reach Kenyans effectively and to facilitate the implesub-Counties and representative of women, youth, religious sector and Persons Living With Disability. Their main function is to liaise with County Governments and other stakeholders in developing and implementing public, anti-corruption sensitization and awareness creation activities.

CACCOCs also monitor corruption in the implementation of public projects and programmes and provide information and a platform for members of the public to participate in the fight against corruption. They basically rally the communities to participate in local activities that promote transparency and accountability, as well as enable the people directly participate in the development agendas of their Counties at different levels.

In May 2016, NACCSC established three new CACCOCs in the Counties of Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo and Kisumu to bring the total to 22

countrywide. The members underwent a three-day sensitization and capacity-building workshop at the Queens Hotel in Eldoret town.

The intensive workshop was of-

Elgeyo Marakwet Deputy Governor H. E Dr ficially opened by Gabriel Lamaon discussing a point with NACCSC's Mrs. Elgeyo Marakwet Evalyne Rono during the official opening ceremony. Deputy Governor,

mentation of campaign activities, NACCSC has established grassroots bodies known as County Anti-Corruption Civilian Oversight Committees (CACCOCs) in 22 Counties. Their membership is drawn from individuals of high integrity, resident in the THE BROOM - JUNE 2016 H. E Dr Gabriel Lamaon who welcomed the initiative and pledged to work closely with the members to highlight corruption at the grassroots so as to effectively eradicate it. He said it was time Kenyans appreciated efforts by the National Government in fighting corruption at all levels of society, saying they must augment these efforts by guarding against the misuse of public resources meant for local development projects.

The Deputy Governor said the involvement of the public in decision-making at the County level was a role they must take seriously and participate in, for improved service delivery. During the workshop, participants were facilitated by Officers from NACCSC Secretariat, Kenya National Commission of Human Rights Commission (KNCHR), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and the County Government of Elgevo Marakwet.

They were sensitized on, among others, Understanding Corruption; Detecting and Reporting Corruption; GoK Procurement Procedures and Processes; Communicating Anti-Corruption Messages; and Social Audit and Corruption in the Project Cycle. Each of these topics is meant to equip them with skills to deal with corruption issues whenever they encounter them in the specific areas. On completion of the workshop, the members who are all volunteers, are expected to start working immediately under the guidance of the NACCSC Secretariat and supervision of Regional Anti-Corruption Coordinators. Their work is fully facilitated by NAC-CSC.Through the CACCOCs, NACCSC effectively undertakes its mandate among local communities using people they can easily identify with, speak the same language and understand their corruption issues. These CACCOCs

*>Continued on page 3.* 



# NACCSC Moves Closer to Kenyans (contd.)

#### *Continued from pg. 2*

attend public barazas and other forums, seizing the opportunity to sensitize wananchi on the role they can play to fight corruption.

The CACCOCs also offer anticorruption support mechanisms to local communities through the Integrated Public Complaints Referral Mechanism (IPCRM), a onestop online system that enables the reporting of complaints to six different institutions with different

mandates. CACCOCs receive and handle the complaints before the Regional Coordinators refer them through the system to the relevant Institution for resolution.

The six include NACCSC, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Com-Transparency Intermission, national (K), Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, Commission on Administrative Justice (also known as Ombudsman) and National Cohesion

Some of the CACworkshop COC participants paying keen attention to the facilitators.

and Integration Commission. Through this platform, Kenyans can report any complaint to any of the six Institutions which then refers the complaints not relevant to its mandate, to that Institution which can handle it. Complaints are acknowledged within ten days of being lodged, and thereafter the complainant deals directly with whatever Institution is handling the issue.

The e-system popularly know as 'Sema! Piga Ripoti!' will soon go public, enabling anyone with a smart phone to access its services hence cutting out the need to physically visit any of their offices.

CACCOCs The will then work with those people that may not be able to access internet connectivity as far as complaints concerned. are

# Archbishop Wabukala Bid Farewell

H. E President Uhuru Kenyatta was among the guests at ACK Archbishop Eliud Wabukala's retirement/farewell party at his Nairobi residence on Sunday 26th June, 2016. The President lauded the good work Dr Wabukala has done for the church and the Nation for the seven years he has been at the helm of the ACK church. The Outgoing Archbishop later handed over the reign of the ACK Church to Archbishop Jackson ole Sapit who won the hotly contested elections in May.

The President singled out the work of the Archbishop in the fight against corruption as Chairman of the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee and called on him

to be ready to serve the Nation in Vice Chair Rev. Jessie Mutura and other capacities when called upon. Members of NACCSC led by the

Director Mr David Gathii also attended the function.



H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta discuss a point with Archbishop Eliud Wabukala

# Youth Unite Against Corruption (contd.)

#### Continued from pg. 1

ing Committee to ensure corruption does not adversely affect service delivery by County officials to local residents. They agreed that preventing corruption from occurring is far more beneficial to Kenya than running after the corrupt who have already diverted and embezzled funds meant for development projects.

The youth also promised to involve themselves directly in the fight against corruption after gaining skills from the successful workshop, and said they would ensure the information gathered would trickle down and benefit all other youth in the County, enabling them to positively contribute to the development agenda of the County.

Speaking during the same function, the Garissa County CEC for Gender, Youth and Sports Mrs Jewahir Keynan advised the youth to form groups and seek funding for activities that will keep them busy as well as gain them financially. She said youth have innovative ideas they can exploit to benefit all other area residents, as well as hold their leaders to account for the usage of public funds.

On the same day 23rd June, 2016, the Taita Taveta County Ag. Youth Affairs Director Mr Alex Ojango called on youth in the County to embrace and practice National Values in order to win the war on corruption. He said that if national values are observed, corruption will not be an issue in Kenya.

He urged the young people to read Chapter Two of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) which expounds on culture noting that culture is the foundation of our

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values. Mr Ojango said this when he opened the NACCSC-sponsored anti-corruption workshop for Taita Taveta youth leaders at Coast Institute of Technology, Voi.

ment's commitment in partnering with NACCSC to ensure corruption does not negatively affect the County's development agenda.



Taita Taveta County youth representatives at the Coast Institute of Technology, Voi

Talking at the same function, Youth and Gender Officer Taita Sub County Mr Nathaniel Msongori encouraged young people to promote transparency in their undertakings as a way of fighting corruption. He compared corruption to dishonest exploitation which only takes place when transparency is lacking. He urged participants to be role models in the society by imparting the knowledge they get to those not in the meeting.

Speaking in Makueni on 21st June, 2016 at the Wote Technical Training Institute, the County Director for Youth and Sports Mr Boniface Muting'a urged the youth to embrace positive values and become part of the change that Makueni County is currently undergoing. He asked the youth to ensure they pass on all they have learnt in the workshop to their peers at the grassroots level so that the information can help shape them into responsible, law-abiding citizens devoid of corruption. Mr Muting'a pledged the Makueni GovernSpeaking during the same function, the County Assistant Director for Internship, Mentorship and Volunteering Mr Samuel Kaunde said corruption will only end if all residents played an active role in the fight.

He asked the youth to involve themselves in gainful employment through the various funding initiatives by the National Government, to avoid being idle hence vulnerable to crime. He also called upon them to register as voters and ensure they exercise their democratic rights during the forthcoming general elections and vote in development-minded persons of integrity. The sentiments were repeated in all other centres where the youth were capacity-built by NACCSC. From their interactions and feedback, it is clear that Kenyan youth have a big role to play in the fight against corruption. If they involve themselves in the decision-making processes at the County level, they can help Officials make good >Continued on page 5.

# Youth Unite Against Corruption (contd.)

decisions for the community and also implement projects and programmes that will benefit them.

"From their interactions and feedback, it is clear that Kenyan youth have a big role to play in the fight against corruption."

An informed citizenry, and youth in particular, can also hold their leaders to account by ensuring they utilize public funds responsibly. Enhanced transparency and accountability at the grassroots level can only lead to prudent utilization of resources. This positive cycle can only be achieved when Kenyans accept to adopt and practice preventive measures to curb corruption.



Makueni County Director for Youth and Sports Mr Boniface Muting'a receives IEC materials from NACCSC's Mrs. Alice Kindiga after the workshop official opening in Wote.

### **CACCOCs Re-launched**

They came from all the Sub-Counties in transportation that was hired to enable them participate fully in the activity. From early morning, a steady river of humanity trickled into the Embu University sports grounds and Wanguru County stadium, eager to witness in person the public launch of the reconstituted Embu and Kirinyaga County Anti-Corruption Civilian Oversight Committees (CACCOCs).

As the last bus dislodged its passengers, various entertainment groups kept the mood festive as Speakers lined up to address the gatherings. The launch was to be presided over by the respective County Government officials, led by the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC). Wananchi had come to learn how to fight corruption at the individual level, and how the CACCOCs would help them achieve this at the grassroots level. CACCOCs are grassroots creations of the National Anti-Corruption THE BROOM - JUNE 2016

Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) to involve citizens firsthand in the fight against corruption. Embu and Kirinyaga previously had CACCOCs but its membership was based on the previous district geographic boundaries. With the advent of Devolution,

E. Hon Martin Wambora pledged total support to the campaign and welcomed the initiative. He called on residents to join in the fight against corruption to esure the vice does not afflict service delivery in the County. He said the County Government would work closely



The re-constituted Embu CACCOC members who represent different sectors of society, during the launch.

NACCSC reconstituted all affected CACCOCs to ensure their membership was representative of the new County boundaries. So far, NACCSC has reconstituted six of the previous CACCOCs to bring the total number to 22. Efforts are underway to establish similar bodies in the remaining 25 Counties. During the Embu ceremony on 17th May 2016, the Governor H. with the CACCOCs to rally public participation in development programmes and projects, thereby promoting transparency and accountability as well as pudent utilization of public funds In neighbouring Kirinyaga County, the activity took place at the Wanguru County Stadium on 18th May, 2016. The occasion

>Continued on page8.

### Some of the Governors who Participated in NACCSC Activities From April to June 2016



H. E. Prof Paul Chepkwony Timbilwet, Governor of Kericho County



H. E Benjamin Cheboi, Governor of Baringo County



H. E Hon. Kinuthia Mbugua, Governor of Nakuru County



H. E. Hon Jackson Mandago, Governor of Uasin Gishu County



H. E Eng. Alex Tolgos, Governor of Elgeyo Marakwet



H. E Dr Cleophas Kiprop Lagat, Governor of Nandi County.

### **CACCOCs Re-constituted**

Two County Anti-Corruption Civilian Oversight Committees (CACCOCs) recently had their membership re-constituted to represent their County's administrative regions. The previous bodies were formed before Devolution hence their membership was drawn from the districts. With the new County geoCOCs, all the members attended a two-day capacity building and sensitization workshop to equip them with skills to undertake the campaign at the grassroots level. The Kisii workshop was held at the Zonic Hotel on 5th and 6th June, 2016 and was offficially opened by the County



Kisii County CEC Mrs. Peris Onsarigo with NAC Gathii during the In CSC Director Mr David workshop's official opening graphic and administrative boundaries, NACCSC saw the need to restructure all CACCOC memberships so that they are representative of all regions in their Counties. This will enable the campaign to be implemented across the County. Following re-constitution the of Kisii and Kakamega CAC-

Government CEC in charge of Public Service Mrs. Peris Onsarigo. She promised the County Govern ment's support in the fight against corruption and pledged to work closely with the CACCOCs.

at Zonic Hotel workshop held on 16th and 17th June 2016 at

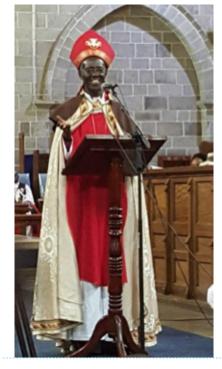
> Golf Hotel was officially opened by the County CEC in charge of Public Service and Administration Ms Rachel Okumu who said Kenyans suffer from poor service delivery due to rampant corruption. Flanked by the Kakamega Governor H. E Wycliffe

Oparanya, the CEC lauded NAC-CSC for establishing CACCOCs countrywide to augment County Government's efforts in fighting the vice as well as assist mobilize



Kakamega County CEC Ms Rachel Okumu with Governor H. E Wycliffe Oparanya during the workshop's official opening at Golf Hotel

citizens to say no to corruption. She however cautioned wananchi against bribing Officers to access services, saying the Officers were performing duties that they were paid a salary for. Ms Okumu said corruption can only decrease when all Kenyans embrace the rule of law and good values.



The Most Reverend Dr Eliud Wabukala, EBS, the 5th Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya during his retirement church service on 8th May, 2016 at All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi



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### CACCOC Re-launched

# (contd.)

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H. E. Hon Martin Wambora, Governor of Embu County reading his speech during the public CACCOC launch at Embu University grounds was graced by the Deputy Governor H. E. Hon. Julius Njiri who concurred that a multi-sectoral. approach to the fight against corruption would bring about the much needed solution to curbing the vice. He called on wananchi to assist the County Government by whistle-blowing incidence of corruption so that they can be addressed in a timely manner.

In her address, NACCSC Vice Chairperson Rev. Jessie Mutura urged all Kenyans to play an active role in the fight against corruption.

She said NACCSC has partnered with County Governments to enhance the campaign at the grassroots level through CACCOC activities. She said being a moral issue, corruption can effectively be fought when Kenyans embrace and practice positive values. The Vice Chairperson also challenged the CACCOCs to adopt corruption prevention measures that shall create an enabling en vironment for the realization of the objectives of devolution.



NACCSC Vice Chair Rev. Jessie Mutura addressing members of the public at Wanguru County stadium during the launch of the Kirinyaga CACCOC.

# **Radio Anti-corruption Campaign**

Residents of Rift Valley region recently had a unique opportunity to add their voices to the campaign against corruption via Kass FM Radio station which transmitted a three-month interactive programme in Kalenjin language starting from 17th March, 2016.



H. E. Hon. Dr Stanley Kenei Deputy Governor of Trans Nzoia



Kass FM Presenter Edwin Tanui who successfully hosted the radio programme

# **NACCSC Partners with County Governments**

In the month of April 2016, the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) held two high-level consultative policy meetings with the County Governments of Siaya and Vihiga. The aim of the visits was for NAC-CSC to seek partnership with the County Governments to jointly formulate and implement anti-corruption campaign strategies and activities at the grassroots level.

Through the visits, NACCSC was seeking to forge partnership with the respective County Governments to facilitate the formulation



NACCSC Chairman Rtd. Archbishop Eliud Wabukala addresses wananchi outside the Vihiga County offices flanked by the Governor E. Hon Moses Akaranga. and implementation of grassroots anti-corruption campaigns, and to rally public support in the activities. These initiatives are meant to act as corruption prevention measures that shall help create an enabling environment for the realization of the objectives of devolution.

The campaign strategies and activities include sensitization and awareness creation for county residents on what corruption is, forms, manifestations, its effects and action they should take whenever they came across graft. Specifically, the public will be encouraged to participate in the fight against corruption, become intolerant to corrupt practices and jealously guard against misuse of the resources that have been devolved for development and service delivery.



Siaya Governor H. E. Hon. Cornel Amoth Rasanga addresses the NACCSC delegation in his office during the visit.

During the meeting on 26th April, 2016 with Vihiga County Government officials, H. E the Governor Hon. Moses Akaranga called on the religious community to join in the fight against corruption by preaching against the vice.

He also called for the inclusion of ethics and integrity studies in the education syllabus from an early level to inculcate the right values in the young generation. The Governor said this will ensure Kenyans change their attitude towards corruption in a structured manner, and instead embrace positive practices and behaviour. On procurement, he said e-systems would help stem face-to-face contact, those curbing corruption.

Speaking during the same meeting, NACCSC Chairman Rtd. Archbishop Eliud Wabukala said it was important to empower Kenyans so that they can question the usage of devolved funds. This would ensure those charged with the responsibility of deciding how the funds are used, will do so in a prudent manner. The Chairman also called for leaders to be accountable and readily avail information when called upon to by wananchi.

On 28th April, 2016 NACCSC met with Siaya Governor H.E. Hon Cornel Amoth Rasanga in his office together with his County officials. In his address the Governor called for enhanced structures for accountability and public participation in all public projects. He challenged his Officers to utilize resources as planned, and ensure they involve local communities in project prioritization and budgeting process. The Governor also called for the inclusion of values as an examinable subject in the primary education curriculum to inculcate positive moral behaviour in the youth.

On behalf of NACCSC, the Ag. Director Mr David Gathii called for the identification and use of local role models to drive the grassroots anti-corruption campaign. He said people would easily relate to a person they know, and will be willing to adopt what they say. He reiterated that running after lost money was more expensive than preventing its initial theft, saying it is the wananchi who suffer most whenever public funds are misappropriated. Mr Gathii said it is time the narrative changed to show that the fight against corruption can, and will be won with the support of all Kenyans.

"Ethics and integrity studies should be included in the education syllabus"

Both County Governments promised to submit names of nominees to be considered as members of the to-be constituted County Anti-Corruption Civilian Oversight Committee which will assist in undertaking local activities.

# **Rallying Public Support Through Radio**

Since inception, the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) has undertaken many campaign activities which have encouraged Kenyans to take action against corruption, and supported the debate and culture of reporting corruption issues. The activities have also empowered people to demand for accountability and transparency in the conduct fight and prevent corruption.

NACCSC, through the Government Advertising Agency, then procured the services of Kass FM Radio Station to produce and transmit twelve (12) weekly onehour interactive anti-corruption talk shows spread over a period of three months. The talk shows, which were in Kalenjin vernacular



Guests at the Eldoret public forum from left Governor of Nandi County H. E Dr Cleophas Lagat; Baringo Deputy Governor H.E Mathew Tuitoek and NACCSC Chairman Archbishop Eliud Wabukala

of public affairs as well as demand for delivery of quality services. The Kass FM anti-corruption radio campaign is one such activity.

In May 2015, NACCSC held meetings with Governors and County Executive Committee members in the North Rift region to seek partnership and collaboration in the formulation and implementation of anti-corruption campaign strategies as well as rallying public support for the fight at the grassroots.

Amongst the strategies agreed upon with the County Governments of Baringo, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Kericho, Trans Nzoia and Uasin Gishu was the use of FM radio to disseminate anti-corruption messages to the area residents to empower them language, began on 17th March, 2016 and, thereafter, were transmitted every Thursday between 7.30 and 8.30 pm. The last programme was in the form of a Public Forum on 23rd June, 2016 and involved the transmission of a two-hour live radio programme from the Eldoret Town Hall, Uasin Gishu County.

Several high-profile guests were featured on the programme, with six Governors and one Deputy Governor appearing in the Nairobi Kass FM studios where the Host Mr Edwin Tanui moderated discussions. Others were key stakeholders in the sectors of fighting corruption, religion, judiciary and legislature. Thousands of radio listeners religiously tuned in and participated through social media platforms and telephone call-ins. So popular was the programme that Kass Media Group extended airtime for another three weeks, culminating in the Town Hall transmission that was packed with enthusiastic wananchi determined to make a personal difference in the fight against corruption.

Most participants in the programme thanked NACCSC for giving them the platform to dialogue with and hold their leaders to account on matters corruption. They said through the weekly programmes, their leaders got to learn of their grievances and promised to address them. Most issues discussed centred on the reluctance by some leaders in involving the public in crucial development issues (public participation); reduced revenue collection since County Governments took office, leading to dismal service delivery; absence of drugs in public health institutions as well as rampant nepotism as highlighted in some County Governments.

During the Eldoret town transmission, two Governors and three Deputies plus the NACCSC Chairman Archbishop Eliud Wabukala were in attendance. They were each allocated time to explain what they had done to address corruption issues raised through the radio programme over the last three months. On his part, the NACCSC Chairman explained strategies and interventions put in place at the County levels to enjoin wananchi in the fight against corruption. He also challenged leaders to involve wananchi in decision-making to ensure prudent use of public funds and accountability in service delivery. >*Continued on page11.* 

# Rallying Public Support Through Radio(contd.)

#### Continued from pg.10

NACCSC also called on wananchi to attend meetings whenever invited, to help prioritize projects and programmes to be implemented at the grassroots level.

They were also asked to monitor the implementation of these activities, to ensure funds are used for intended purposes. On the forthcoming General Elections, wananchi were urged to elect people of integrity and shun voter bribery.

Kass FM joins a long list of vernacular language radio stations that NACCSC has partnered with in the past to educate, create awareness and sensitize listeners on actions to take against corruption. This is a campaign that NACCSC intends to continue with, so that Kenyans can make individual decisions on how to fight the vice afflicting various sectors of the Kenyan economy.



Some NACCSC Members in the Eldoret live transmission with wananchi who participated in the programme

### 'Faith Communities Against Corruption'

On 8th April 2015, the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK) and the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NACCSC) signed a partnership agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) for joint interventions in the fight against corruption. In March 2016, a one-day workshop was held at the ACK Guest House, Nairobi that brought together IRCK, NACCSC and Religious Scholars to agree on how Faith-Based Communities can participate effectively in the campaign.

Kenyans are a religious people and the important position that Religious Institutions occupy cannot be understated. Religious institutions have the platform and enjoy the trust of the adherents. They are also the custodians of the moral values of the society. It is thus important that Religious Leaders continue to preach against corruption and promote ethical behaviour as well as the embrace and practice of the societal values.

"NACCSC strongly believes that the Religious Leaders are crucial in shaping the character of their followers and can positively influence their behaviour towards corruption."

A small team consisting of 12 members was constituted following the workshop, to develop scripture referenced anti-corruption messages. Several meetings later, they have now developed six draft anti-corruption scripture referenced messages with illustrations. The messages have been compiled into a 48-page booklet, A-5 size with coloured illustrations.

The booklet entitled 'Faith Communities Against Corruption' now awaits validation by both IRCK and NACCSC before production into the final version to be disseminated to faithful countrywide. This booklet is part of the implementation of the agreement and reflects, in a very powerful way, the depth of the strategic relationship between the two institutions.

NACCSC strongly believes that the Religious Leaders are crucial in shaping the character of their followers and can positively influence their behaviour towards corruption, thus making Kenya a better place for everyone.

# **Women Stand Up Against Corruption**

Traditionally, the Kenyan woman, like women in other African countries, performed roles of wife, mother, child-bearer, caretaker and food provider. They were prepared for these roles through traditional education which was largely a practical education through which one lived by doing and observing.

The girl was taught good manners and learnt such tasks as cooking, tending children, fetching water, collecting firewood, doing garden work like cultivating, sowing, weeding and harvesting. The woman's role was essential to ensure the wellbeing of the family.

Today, traditional ideas about the roles of girls and women restrict them from contributing to important development goals; especially in the areas of economic growth, nutrition and food security. Although the new constitution in August 2010 explicitly gave women the same legal rights as men, implementation of the laws remains an issue to date. On the average, women interact more with service providers in the health, water, agriculture and education sectors on a daily basis than their male counterparts as they pursue services on behalf of their families.

This makes them vulnerable to corruption as they provide care and nurture their families, hence the need to equip them with the capacity to fight the vice at the individual level. In realization of the above, the National Anti-Corruption Campaign Steering Committee (NAC-CSC) from early 2016 partnered with the largest grassroots women movement in Kenya today, Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO) to help equip their leadership with skills that will encourage them to take action against corruption – viewed as the cause of most poverty and underdevelopment in Kenya today.

NACCSC felt that being the custodians of family values and morals, women are best placed to furOn 6th April, 2016, NACCSC facilitated a three-day workshop for 60 women leaders from the Coast region Counties of Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Lamu, Tana River and Taita Taveta. The highly interactive sessions were tailored to equip the women with skills to enable them make informed decisions whenever faced with corruption.



Kisii County Governor H. E. Hon James Ongwae, flanked by (from his left) the Principal Secretary of Gender Affairs Mrs Zeinab Hussein, MYWO National Chair Mrs Rahab Muiu and NACCSC Ag. Director Mr David Gathii during the capacity building workshop for Kisii CACCOC members in a Kisii hotel.

ther the anti-corruption agenda from the family unit. They can easily influence moral and behaviour change through example and simple teachings, to children from a tender age. Corruption being a moral issue, NACCSC believes it can effectively be tackled with the adoption and practice of good values at both the individual and society level.

Thus in March 2016, NACCSC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with MYWO to, among others, sensitize their leadership on how to fight corruption from the family and grassroots level. MYWO has a countrywide membership of 4 million and is present in each of the 47 Counties, with networks at the Ward level. Its membership thus is well representative of womlevel. en at the grassroots

The skills were also to be passed down to the other women at the grassroots level, and their families at large. The workshops have since been rolled out to the Rift Valley, Nyanza and Western regions. To date, NACCSC has built the capacity of women leaders from 30 Counties and capacity building for the remaining 17 Counties in the regions of Nairobi, Central, Eastern and North Eastern will be rolled out in the financial year 2016/17. High profile chief guests officiated over the workshop opening and closing ceremonies, pledging total support for the initiative which is building the capacity of women to help in the development agenda at the grassroots. The Officials urged women, who are the majority voters, to avoid bribes during the electioneering period which often leads to the election of the wrong leaders.