



## **INTER-RELIGIOUS COUNCIL of KENYA**

### **Exploring Religious Organizations' Impact on Health Sector Engagements in Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa Counties**

#### **Terms of Reference**

**April 2024**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Established as a society in 1983, the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), is a national coalition of all major faith communities (Christian, Hindu, and Muslim) in Kenya that works together to deepen interfaith dialogue and collaboration among members for a common endeavor to mobilize the unique moral and social resources of religious people and address shared concerns.

Being a membership organization, the IRCK works through umbrella bodies known as Religious Coordinating Bodies (RCBs) <sup>1</sup>which have a presence in all the Counties. The Council has facilitated the formation of Interfaith Networks in all 47 Counties that comprise members of the clergy as well as youth and women leaders for local-level advocacy and implementation of programmatic interventions.

The Council endeavors to fulfill the Vision “*Faith communities living in peace; united in social economic action in Kenya*”, being guided by the Mission: “*To promote a just society in Kenya through social economic transformation*”.

#### **II. BACKGROUND**

Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK) as part of a consortium with Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya), Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK), and Global Compact Network – Kenya (GCN-K) is implementing a program dubbed the **USAID United Society Against Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (USAWA) Program**. The goal of the program is to reduce fraud, waste and abuse for improved health service delivery in Isiolo, Kakamega, Kilifi, Mombasa and Nakuru counties. In IRCK, the “*United Society Against Fraud, Waste and Abuse (USAWA) Program*” will be implanted in the Peace and Governance Program which is one of the thematic areas in the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan.

#### **III. THE ACTION RESEARCH**

##### **a. Overview**

IRCK intends to conduct action research in the five counties of Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa to establish the nuanced dynamics of religious organizations engagement in the health sector and their experiences in addressing corruption. The research will further establish the linkages and partnerships between the faith groups and other actors such as the media, civil society,

the private sectors, and government (county and national government) in the health sector. The research will additionally entail assessing the integrity systems in place within the religious organizations and their effectiveness in promoting transparency and accountability. The purpose of the action research is to provide credible and up-to-date information on the presence, composition, spread and engagements of religious organizations in the health sector in the five target counties to inform strategic engagements and interventions aimed at creating public awareness of anti-corruption in the health sector.

A consultant will be engaged to conduct the research in the five target Counties. IRCK programs team will provide technical backstopping and quality control to the research process. The research will be guided by standard research procedures. Qualitative and quantitative data will be collected using Interviews, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), questionnaires, and desktop reviews. The report emanating from the process will be validated and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.

#### **b. Objectives of the Action Research**

**Overall Goal:** The overall goal of the research is to comprehensively understand the role and impact of religious organizations in the healthcare landscape of Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa by assessing their engagements in governance and service delivery processes, adherence to national ethics and ethos, and effectiveness of integrity systems within religious-run health institutions.

#### **Specific objectives of the action research include:**

- To assess the religious organizations engagements in governance and service delivery processes in the healthcare landscape of Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa Counties.
- To assess level of knowledge, attitude and practices of religious leaders, congregants and users of religious run health institutions to national ethics and ethos in Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa Counties
- To establish integrity systems within religious-run health institutions in Kakamega, Isiolo, Nakuru, Kilifi, and Mombasa Counties.

#### **c. Methodology for the Action Research:**

The action research will employ participatory approaches to ensure ownership from the target project participants. A consultant will be recruited to lead the process in consultation with the IRCK program team. The research will utilize a mixed methods approach in cooperating both quantitative and qualitative methods. Qualitative methods such as interviews, focus group discussions and observations will allow for an in-depth exploration of the Knowledge, Attitude and Practices. Quantitative methods will include surveys and statistical analysis to provide empirical data on the patterns and co-relation of the involvement of religious organizations in the health sector in the five target Counties.

#### **d. Scope of work**

The scope of work for this action research will include:

- Generation of a comprehensive inception report;
- Design methodology that includes sampling techniques for all target respondents;

- Development of tools that will include design, validation and testing of the tools;
- Engagement and training of data collection teams;
- Data collection and analysis;
- Reporting that includes the draft, validation and final report.

#### **IV. WORKING WITH INTER-RELIGIOUS COUNCIL OF KENYA**

The consultant will be available for conversations and meetings convened by the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya, and will work on timelines as agreed, and communicate where necessary.

#### **V. REPORTING DELIVERABLES**

The deliverables for the action research will include:

- *An inception report* with data collection and analysis plan, and template for reporting.
- Cleaned *final datasets* containing all data collected for the action research.
- The *action research report* incorporating inputs from the reviews and validation sessions.

#### **VI. RESPONDENTS**

The target respondents for the action research will include: religious leaders, professionals working in religious-run health institutions, individuals, and congregants in all segments of society including men, women, youth, children, people with disability.

#### **Timeline**

*\*This exercise is expected to take a maximum of 30 working days*

#### **VII. QUALIFICATION**

**Inter-Religious Council of Kenya is seeking a suitably experienced to undertake this assignment.**

- Consultant should have at least 10 years of demonstrable experience in leading (designing and undertaking) large-scale, country quantitative and qualitative action research or baselines and evaluations
- Post-graduate degree in research-oriented social sciences or relevant field.
- Ability to respond to comments and questions in a timely, appropriate manner
- Excellent verbal and written communication in English.
- Ability to work in diverse, multi-cultural teams; Coordination and facilitation abilities to work with action research taskforce.

#### **VIII. APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Qualified parties can submit the following:

- Letter of interest for the proposal
- A detailed technical proposal demonstrating and understanding of this ToR, including methodology, data management plan, team composition and level of effort, detailed timeline, submission of a detailed financial proposal and check-in moments
- Curriculum Vitae, along with sample(s) of previous work
- Applications can be sent to [info@irck.or.ke](mailto:info@irck.or.ke) by **19th April, 2024**.