About FECCLAHA

The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA) is a regional ecumenical organization consisting of churches and national councils of churches in the following countries of the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. It was formally launched in March 1999 and registered in Kenya in February 2001 to provide a platform for members to share perspectives on issues of common concern, particularly with regard to peace building and conflict transformation and to foster strong ecumenical cooperation in taking ownership and responsibility for problems in the region and proactively seek solutions to them.

Since its inception in 1999, FECCLAHA has remained consistent to its mission to enhance peace and reconciliation in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa by facilitating ecumenical cooperation and fellowship within the framework of holistic Christian ministry.

Vision, Mission and Objectives of FECCLAHA

FECCLAHA's vision is: The creation of communities that are inclusive, harmonious and living an abundant life in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa. Fundamental to our vision is the assumption that solutions to the issues of conflict must essentially come from within the region, with inhabitants taking ownership and responsibility for the problems and proactively seeking solutions.

The mission of FECCLAHA is: To enhance peace and reconciliation in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa by facilitating ecumenical cooperation and fellowship within the framework of holistic Christian ministry.

FECCLAHA's strategic objectives are:

- To provide a platform for interaction and solidarity building;
- To strengthen members’ capacity to articulate their needs and priorities in peace building and conflict transformation;
- To advocate and lobby on issues of peace, justice, reconciliation and human dignity;
- To incorporate research into ecumenical peace work;
- To facilitate effective learning and sharing of best practices and information among members, partners and other stakeholders; and
- To promote FECCLAHA’s institutional development and sustainability.

Structure of FECCLAHA

FECCLAHA’s structure is made up of the following:

- General Assembly;
- Executive Committee; and
- Secretariat.

FECCLAHA has a General Assembly composed of its members (churches and national councils of churches). The General Assembly is tasked with the approval of appropriate policies formulated and forwarded to it by the Executive Committee. The Assembly also elects the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee is in charge of formulating policies and giving instructions on matters of policy to the Secretariat. It also approves the programmes and budget of FECCLAHA on a yearly basis.

The Secretariat is in charge of the implementation of policy decisions made by the Executive Committee regarding the affairs of FECCLAHA. It also facilitates the day-to-day running of the office and programmes.

Thematic Areas of Focus

1) **Peace Building:**
   - Strategic Goal: To pursue social justice and sustainable peace in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa region.

2) **Governance and Public Accountability:**
   - Strategic Goal: To empower citizens to hold governments, national and regional institutions accountable and responsive to their needs and rights.

3) **Human Security:**
   - Strategic Goal: To address the threats of human security and the underlying causes of conflict in the region.

4) **Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Enhancement:**
   - Strategic Goal: To strengthen the capacity of the organisation to effectively meet its mandate.
Message from the Executive Director

I bring Christian greetings to you all and once again we are privileged to share with you another FECCCLAHA annual report for 2012.

The year 2012 was yet another important period of service in the life of FECCCLAHA and at the same time it was a transitional period that saw my joining the fellowship as its third Executive Director.

We continued with the journey of implementation of the current strategic plan (2009 – 2013) throughout the year. Almost on the last lap, FECCCLAHA accompanied and engaged various stakeholders in contributing to peaceful co-existence within the region. The summary below gives key highlights of the achievements made throughout the year:

- In an effort to show solidarity and enhance the work of National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB) in the promotion and protection of human rights, FECCCLAHA representatives made a solidarity visit to Burundi. The initiatives provided an opportunity for the visiting team and CNEB leadership to interact and learn more from other actors from government as well as Civil Society Organizations.

- In order to promote youth as ambassadors of peace, the Regional Youth peace building programme was equally strengthened with various interventions that ensured capacity building through trainings, and information and experience sharing.

- Under human security, FECCCLAHA continued with the fight against Gender Based Violence, this time with emphasis to the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1325) and the participation of women in peace building, governance and Constitutional making processes. Initiatives of empowering women were undertaken in collaboration with member Councils and Churches in South Sudan and Eastern DRC.

- It was time for FECCCLAHA to bring together focal point/Gender officials from the members to reflect and review their work on the Tamar campaign, an initiative that remains relevant and invaluable to the Churches in the region and beyond in breaking the silence on gender based violence.

- In order to heighten the campaign against Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), FECCCLAHA this time put emphasis on the issue of gender dimensions of SALW. Capacity enhancement was undertaken through a training workshop for focal point persons from the member Councils and Churches. The training was done in collaboration with the Eastern African Sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of women (EASSI).

- Another equally important area of focus is Governance and Public Accountability. In an effort to contribute to transparency and accountable governance, FECCCLAHA worked with the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB) and undertook a Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop for church leaders in Burundi and this culminated into launching of an anti-corruption campaign in Church and Society. Follow up initiatives will be undertaken by CNEB and its constituency members that were trained.

- Under the FECCCLAHA Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme emphasis was put on Kenya especially in preparation for the March 2013 general elections under Kenya’s new Constitutional dispensation. FECCCLAHA in collaboration with the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), carried out Training of Trainers in civic and voter education in the NCCK North Rift and Nairobi regions. Those that underwent the TOT went on to train other citizens on the same and this caused a multiplier effect within the communities.

- Similarly, at the invitation of our member, Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), FECCCLAHA empowered church leaders through a training of trainers’ workshop on accountable governance and people’s participation in the Constitutional making process in the United Republic of Tanzania.

- A number of initiatives were undertaken to enhance the institutional capacity of various organs of FECCCLAHA and to ensure effective networking and collaboration with partners.

The above were achieved amidst challenging contextual trends especially the deteriorating security situation in Eastern DRC that continued to displace and cause suffering to citizens under armed complexities. There were efforts by FECCCLAHA in collaboration with All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) to mobilize Church leaders from the region to respond to the crisis.

I wish to recognize and appreciate the efforts of my immediate predecessor, Mr. Fred Nyabera for the years he served the Fellowship. In the same spirit, I thank the former Ag. Executive Director, Mr. Mutua Mulonzya who effectively handled the transitional period until April 2012.

I take this opportunity to thank the members, the secretariat team, ecumenical partners, collaborating partners and other stakeholders for the continued support and accompaniment in our efforts to witness together in the promotion of peace and reconciliation in the region.

God bless you as you read, internalize and reflect on this report.

Elizabeth Zimba Kisiigha (Mrs.)
Executive Director
Peace Building

With the main focus of FECCLAHA being peace building and conflict transformation, Peace Building as a thematic area remains a key pillar within the organisation. The main aim of this programme is to pursue social justice and sustainable peace in the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa. Solidarity and pastoral visits remain a key mechanism through which FECCLAHA accompanies local churches in their engagement with various peace processes in the region. To this effect, FECCLAHA undertook a solidarity visit to Burundi. Additionally, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR) remains an important platform for FECCLAHA to adequately participate in the peace processes in the Great Lakes region. Efforts towards strengthening this partnership are underway with efforts towards finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organisations. Furthermore, to achieve sustainable peace in the region, FECCLAHA has worked towards strengthening its Regional Youth Peace Building Programme. To this end, FECCLAHA hosted a well attended and successful Regional Youth Consultation that brought together eight of the nine FECCLAHA member councils and churches. The following is a record of all the activities that were carried out and achievements during the year under Peace Building.

1) Solidarity Visit to Burundi in Collaboration with the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB)

Ecumenical Solidarity visits are key machinery in accompanying local churches as they engage with various peace processes in the region. In collaboration with the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB), FECCLAHA Executive Committee representatives and the Executive Director made a solidarity visit to Burundi in Bujumbura in December, 2012. The visiting delegation was composed of:

1. Rev. Dr. Leonard Mtaita – Chairperson of FECCLAHA and General Secretary of Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT);
2. Rev. Fr. Dr. Silvester Arinaitwe Rwomukubwe A.J – Member of FECCLAHA Executive Committee and Executive Secretary of Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC);
3. Mrs. Elizabeth Zimba Kisiigha - Executive Director, FECCLAHA.

Led by Rev. Juvenal Nzosaba and Bishop Eraste Bigirimana, the President and Vice-President of CNEB respectively, the delegation held interactive meetings with CNEB Legal representatives and staff. They also held meetings with Government agencies and Civil Society Organisations including Forum for the Promotion of Civil Society (FORSC), Ligue ITEKA, Independent National Commission for Human Rights, Observers against Corruption and Economic Injustices, Association of Women Rights
Defenders in Burundi (ADDF), Burundi Association for the Protection of Human Rights and Detainees (APRODEH), Association of Collective Women of Burundi (CAFOB), and National Commission for Land and Other Properties. Visits to these organisations provided space for exchange of ideas on how best to tackle human rights challenges in the country in an effective and coordinated manner. Further, the visits were an entry point for CNEB’s engagement and networking with other likeminded civil society organisations and government agencies.

Further, FECLAH above delegation had the opportunity to meet with the Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR), Professor Ntumba Luaba Alphonse, who was accompanied by the Programme Officer – Cross Cutting Issues and the Information Officer of IC/GLR Secretariat. In addition to receiving updates on the ongoing peace process in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and the peace mechanisms being applied in the states, the delegation also deliberated upon the relationship between FECLAH and IC/GLR. They discussed about reworking the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and considered it for finalization and signing will facilitate for FECLAH to be granted observer status and to streamline working relationship between the two organisations. They also explored the formation of a Church Forum with the aim of providing spaces for churches within IC/GLR framework. IC/GLR also pledged to find out if the National Coordinating Committee on Prevention of Genocide also involved Faith Based Organisations.

Among other areas of follow up, FECLAH Secretariat was tasked with the responsibility to pursue an observer status in the Parliament of East African Community. This will strategically place the organisation to play its role in lobbying and advocacy. FECLAH Secretariat was also tasked with strengthening the Great Lakes Ecumenical Forum (GLEY), which was a mechanism for Church leaders’ engagement and ecumenical accompaniment in the region.

### 2. Engagement with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (IC/GLR)

IC/GLR remains an important platform for FECLAH to make its contribution to peace and conflict transformation in the Great Lakes Region. Utilizing its good working relationship with IC/GLR, FECLAH participated in a High Level consultation of Ministers of Justice and Gender on Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Special Courts and the Launching of SGBV “Zero Tolerance Campaign” in the Great Lakes Region, which took place in July, 2012 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). As a follow up of the implementation of the Kampala Declaration on Sexual Gender Based Violence (December, 2011), the High Level Consultation was attended by Civil Society representatives, officials from the Ministries of Gender and Justice from the 11 member states of IC/GLR. The Ministers of Gender and Justice drafted a Communiqué with commitments to fast track domestication of the Protocols on SGBV, and Judicial Cooperation, the Establishment and Strengthening of Special Courts, sessions and procedures on SGBV.

This meeting ended with the launch of the “Zero Tolerance Campaign” on SGBV. To follow up this, member states were expected to undertake country launches of the campaign on 25th November, 2012, “The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women” and thereafter implement the agreed upon resolution/recommendations.

The IC/GLR is desirous of involving FECLAH in its regional forums addressing the illegal exploitation of natural resources. It is anticipated that FECLAH will utilize this partnership with IC/GLR to engage on natural resource management as a follow up to the IC/GLR Protocol on Natural Resource Management. FECLAH will also engage its members to further follow up and engage with the respective states and advocate for implementation of the IC/GLR commitments.

### 3) Regional Youth Peace Building Programme

“Many calamities befall our region as a result of the youth falling prey to negative forces. We have a responsibility therefore as the body of Christ to influence future generations positively.”

(Mrs. Emmy Mgyaliza, Honorary Treasurer, FECLAH Executive Committee)

In fulfilling its mandate of peace building and conflict transformation in the region, FECLAH endeavors to offer spaces for the participation of youth. The youth are a vital component in achieving sustainable peace in the region.

1) Regional Youth Peace Building Consultation

FECLAH organized a Regional Youth Consultation in September, 2012 that was held at All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC). The consultation hosted 9 participants, 8 of whom were representing FECLAH’s member national
Mr. Mulonzya presents trophies and football uniform to OJCD Chairperson, Ms. Aimee Balibuno in Goma, North Kivu.

Councils of churches and one participant was from OJCD, the group formed as a result of the Civic and Voter Education that was done by FECCLAHA in 2011 in North Kivu, Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). With the main aim of strengthening the youth programmes within member councils and churches, the consultations addressed the following:

1. Peace and Conflict in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa Region: The Role of the Youth;
2. The Role of the Youth in Preventing Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs);
3. Creating an environment for Youth Advocacy;
4. Establishing and running effective peace clubs: Lessons from DRC OJCD;
5. Youth and Transformative Leadership;
6. The Role of Social Entrepreneurship in Job and Wealth Creation.

The participants pointed out the importance of community tailored capacity building trainings and the importance of strengthening collaboration among the councils. The participants also felt that there was need for more spaces for experience sharing and exchange visits. These reflections have largely contributed to shaping of the Regional Youth Peace Building Programme plans, further strengthening the programme.

ii) FECCLAHA Facilitates Anniversary Celebration and Training of “Organisation Des Jeunes Chrétien Pour Le Développement” (OJCD)

OJCD was formed as a result of a civic and voter education training that FECCLAHA, through the Governance and Public Accountability Programme, held in Goma, North Kivu in 2011. The group comprises of youth largely from North Kivu who have come together to mainly mobilize other youth for peace. The celebrations marked their first anniversary since their inception. FECCLAHA participated in the anniversary celebration, which coupled with a training for the youth. This event took place in September, 2012 in Goma and was attended by 35 males and 36 females from Bukavu, Goma, Kalehe, Masisi and Rutshuru.

The training session, facilitated by Mr. Mutua Mulonzya, addressed conflict analysis where using the concept of the conflict tree, he trained the participants on how to differentiate the root causes, the proximate causes and the triggers of the recent escalation of the conflict in Eastern DRC. The participants were also trained on advocacy where they were enabled to identify duty bearers and right holder along with the urgent advocacy agendas and the relevant interlocutor(s)-duty bearers. They further learnt skills for identifying the appropriate means for each advocacy undertaking.

After the training, the OJCD held a thanksgiving worship service and prayer for peace in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on 9th September, 2012 at the Church of Jesus Christ the King of Kings, in Goma, North Kivu. This was attended by 25 males and 24 females from Bukavu, Goma, Kalehe, Masisi, and Rutshuru.

iii) Youth Newsletter

The youth newsletter was formulated as a platform for strengthening experience sharing. This year we had two issues in March, 2012 and August, 2012. In both editions we featured the OJCD (Young Christian Organisation for Development), in Eastern DRC. We also had a feature from the Youth Desk in the Secretariat calling for peaceful General Elections in Kenya. Additionally, we featured activities from Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) youth activities towards peace.

Efforts are underway to strengthen the newsletter, especially as a platform for sharing among the youth desks and creation of youth peace ambassadors in the region.

iv) Accompanying National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) Nairobi Region in Training on Devolved Governance

FECCLAHA facilitated a session on devolved governance during the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) Central Region Youth Conference that was held at Gachoire Girls in December, 2012. In attendance were 410 youth (265 female and 165 male) drawn from 13 Presbyteries that cover Kiambu and Murang’a Counties in Kenya.

This was as a result of a training of trainers’ workshop on civic and voter education and election observation that took place in Nairobi. The Presbyterian Church of East Africa in Kenya is a member of the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) and was represented in this workshop.
Human Security

Human Security thematic area of focus seeks to address the threat of human security and the underlying causes of conflict in the region. Under this theme, FECLAHJA focuses on Sexual Gender Based Violence and Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs). Tamar Campaign remains a valuable tool for advocacy against any form of gender based violence. Launched in 2005, FECLAHJA continues its efforts of strengthening its impact in the region among member councils and churches. FECLAHJA hosted a Gender Focal Point Consultation that aimed at not only evaluating the impact of the Tamar Campaign and strengthen their capacity in their efforts within the councils and churches. Additionally, proliferation of small arms and light weapons and its impact on security remains a concern in the region. In partnership with our member in Uganda, Uganda Joint Christian Council, FECLAHJA organized a workshop on “The Gender Dimensions of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)”. Low participation of women in peace building initiatives remains an underlying cause of human insecurity in the region, thus our focus on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UN SCR 1325) in South Sudan and Eastern Democratic Republic. The following is an account of the activities that have taken place and achievements throughout the year.

Gender Based Violence

1. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) in Juba, South Sudan

“"If you ignore women, you are ignoring more than 50% of the resources in the country." 
(Hon. Joy Kwaje, Chairperson, Committee of Information, Telecom, and Culture, National Legislative Assembly: Juba, South Sudan)

FECLAHJA in collaboration with our member in South Sudan, Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) organized two workshops on UN SCR 1325 in August and December, 2012. The workshops drew participants from Northern Bhar-El-Ghazal State – Awiel; Upper Nile State-Malakal; Central Equatoria State - Juba and Nimule; Eastern Equatoria State – Torit, Loa, Opari, and Juba; Western Equatoria State - Mundri; and Western Bhar-El-Ghazal-Wau. They represented the member churches of Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) which are the Catholic Church, the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan, African Inland Church (AIC), Episcopal Church of Sudan, and Sudan Pentecostal Church.

South Sudan is currently undergoing a Constitutional Making Process with the aim of coming up with a Permanent Constitution. The workshop focused on strengthening the women’s capacity within SCC to be able to make a contribution to the on-going Constitution Making process. Additionally, it aimed at creating a platform for sharing information on the progress of the Constitution and drawing up strategies and action points for the women in the Churches to participate in the process.

The workshops discussed topics on “Introduction to the United Nations Security Resolution 1325 and its relevance to the woman in South Sudan”, the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan: Identifying the Strengths and Weaknesses for women, the Role of Women in the Constitutional Making Process: Opportunities and Challenges, and a Reflection on strategies that women can put in place to facilitate their increased participation in the constitutional process in South Sudan. The facilitators of the workshops included Hon. Janet Ayaa Alex#, Hon. Joy Kwaje5, and Ms. Jackline Nasiwa6 among others.

4 Deputy Chairperson, Committee of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, South Sudan.
5 Chairperson, Committee of Information, Telecom, and Culture, National Legislative Assembly, South Sudan.
6 Programme Manager, Constitution Development Department, National Democratic Institute (NDI).
The following are the outcomes of the workshop:

a. A communiqué which in addition to reiterating the importance of the National Constitution Making Process emphasized the importance of recruiting the Women's National Coordinator. As a result, the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) Extra Ordinary General Assembly held in September 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya resolved to set up the National Women's office and recruit a National Coordinator.

b. Information sharing on the Transitional Constitution and the progress of the ongoing Constitutional Making Process;

c. Identifying possible entry points for the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) in the current Constitutional Making Process;

d. The workshop created useful networks for the SCC women to work with in their pursuit to participate in the Constitutional making process. For instance contacts were made with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), Juba office and the officer pledged support to the women and to further provide capacity in form of relevant information and materials.

FECLAAHA continues to give SCC general accompaniment in efforts towards reactivating the SCC National Women Coordinating Office.

2. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) in Bukavu, South Kivu

“The Lord came to set free those who were not free….The Church should ensure that the objective set in this resolution is met.”
(Rev. Gustave Kalaba, Eglise du Christ du Congo (ECC))

FECLAAHA in collaboration with the Church of Christ in Congo (ECC) held a two day workshop on the UN SCR 1325 in Bukavu, DRC in September, 2012. In attendance were 18 women drawn from different parts of Eastern DRC including Goma, Mwenga, Kalehe, Shambunda, Lubero, Kabare, Masisi, Beni, Walikale, Bukavu, Kinshasa, and other parts of Eastern DRC.

The workshop addressed different themes/topics including: The UN SCR 1325 and its relevance to the woman in Eastern DRC; The Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Congo: Understanding the Strengths and Weaknesses for Women;
Identifying the Limiting Factors to Women Participation in Governance Processes in the Democratic Republic of Congo; Best Practices in Women Participation: Lessons from Rwanda and Uganda: Reflections on Strategies that women can put in place to facilitate their increased participation. The main facilitators were Mr. Eric Kasuku Kalaba, an independent consultant and Mr. Maurice Namwira, the Executive Director of ‘Heritier de la Justice’.

As a result, the participants resolved that there was a need to carry out a theological reflection on Women and leadership that would target women and men Church leaders in ECC. This will adequately address the attitudes, beliefs, and norms within the Church that are hindering women participation and inclusion in decisions making positions not only in the political scene but also within the Church. It will also enhance the synergy between men and women working together towards ensuring increased participation of women in decision making.

3. Tamar Campaign - Gender Focal Point Consultation

“Through this campaign we have been able to unveil the evil of Female Genital Mutilation and thus suggest new ways to stop this practice, until now we have successes at 75%”. (Rev. Ngoy Leita Mwakilima, Women and Gender Representative, Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT))

The Gender Focal Point consultation offered a space for capacity building and sharing for the national councils’ gender representatives. In attendance were gender representatives from Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB), Sudan Council of Churches (SCC), and Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT).

With a focus on strengthening the participants’ capacity, two sessions seeking to address the link between masculinity and gender based violence and training in Contextual Bible Study in redemptive masculinity were held. Further, the participants were also trained on effective ways of managing the Tamar campaigns and documentation of success stories.

Additionally, the representatives shared success stories and challenges, pointing out clearly possible areas of accompaniment. These success and learning stories will be compiled into a booklet which will be shared within the region and among other partners, with the aim of replicating, inspiring, and strengthening the campaign across the region.

4. 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence

Guided by this year’s global theme “From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let’s Challenge Militarism and End Violence against Women!”, FEClLHA in collaboration with Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) marked this year’s 16 days of activism against gender violence held in Juba, South Sudan. Participants had a special prayer session which was coupled with Bible reflection by Rev. Edward Laku Waivai, from Sudan Council of Churches. Drawing his reflection from Luke 18:1-8, Rev. Laku asserted that it was important for women to persistently speak out against the social injustices taking place in the country. The session played an important role in raising awareness on the 16 Days to the participants.
Small Arms and Light Weapons

“With this training we are able to cater for the wellbeing of our neighbours and it's good to come together as Africans and be able to solve the problem. The peace of our neighbours is our peace”.

(Rev. Uziiya Matte, Kampala, Uganda)

1. FECCLAHA/EASSI engagement on Gender Dimensions of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs)

FECCLAHA in collaboration with Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) and Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) held a 5-day training workshop in Kampala, Uganda on “The Gender Dimensions of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)” in August, 2012. The training hosted 11 participants, of whom five of them were women. They were drawn from FECCLAHA member councils: Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), Protestant Council of Rwanda (CPR), National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB), Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea (ELCE), Sudan Council of Churches (SCC), National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) and Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT).

The overall goal of the training was to contribute to the improved knowledge on gender dimensions of SALW in East African countries, Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region. The training workshop’s objectives focused on enabling participants understand and appreciate gender dimensions of SALW. This included taking participants through the basics of gender concepts, introducing the regional and international instruments on SALW and looking at the correlation with regional and international Human rights. The workshop also aimed at equipping participants with skills that will enable them mainstream gender in SALW interventions, legislations, policies, and programmes. The participants reflected upon the impact of SALW on gender and sexual gender based violence and the role of women in peace processes through the lenses of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

In a bid to address concerns on small arms and development among pastoral communities, the workshop also addressed issues within the pastoralists’ communities, with the major area of focus being the Karamoja cluster. This discussion culminated into a joint action plan of initiatives that the four countries within the Karamoja cluster would focus on and this has been captured as a follow up activity under FECCLAHA accompaniment in the 2013 work plans of the Human Security Desk.

In addition to these, the participants attained practical skills on advocacy in gender and SALW, communication skills for advocacy, gender sensitive planning, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation. These skills will empower the participants to adequately participate in national processes at the country level. Participants expressed their appreciation of the workshop, stating that they had never thought about engendering the activities/programmes in their work on SALW within the council. Additionally, the workshop strengthened working relations with the member councils especially the host Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC).

8 These countries are Uganda, South Sudan, Kenya, and Ethiopia
Governance and Public Accountability

Governance and Public Accountability is a key thematic area of focus aiming at empowering citizens to hold governments, national, and regional institutions accountable and responsive to their needs and rights. This year the Advocacy, Governance, and Public Accountability desk focused on an Anti-corruption campaign in Church and Society, Training of Trainers workshops on Civic and Voter Education in different Counties in Kenya and training of trainers workshop on civic education for people’s participation in the constitution making process in the United Republic of Tanzania. The following is an account of these activities and the achievements attained:

Anti-Corruption Campaign in Church and Society Launched by the Churches in Burundi

“I was encouraged by your understanding of our context. This alone gives more strength and commitment in what we will have to do. We are not alone in that battle which is at the same time physical and spiritual. The change we need will have to start with ourselves to our homes and families, our areas of work, our churches and communities and we will get from there an invincible power to fight corruption!”

(Rev. Canon Seth Ndayirukiye, Diocese of Matana, Anglican Church of Burundi)

The Archbishop of Burundi10, the Most Reverend Bernard Ntahoturi, the legal representative and Bishop of the United Methodist Church of Burundi, Bishop Justin Nzoyisaba, the President of the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB), Rev. Juvénal Nzosaba and the General Secretary of CNEB, Bishop Noé Nseyiyimana were among church leaders and legal representatives of the members churches of CNEB who witnessed the launch of the anti-corruption campaign in church and society in the country on 19th October 2012 at the King’s Conference Centre in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The launch of the anti-corruption campaign in church and society was the culmination of a two day training of trainers’ workshop in which 34 participants11 drawn from the 17 provinces of the country adopted a plan of action for the anti-corruption campaign. The training workshop sought to achieve the following objectives: to examine the nature and extent of corruption in Burundi; to assess the adequacy of the anti-corruption measures undertaken by the government, non governmental organizations, churches and other concerned institutions and individuals and their impact; and to examine the strategies that the church should develop to positively influence policy making and undertake concerted anti-corruption action towards the eradication of the vice in the country.

The workshop entailed expert presentations on the following: ‘A deepening corruption crisis: the nature and extent of corruption in Burundi’ by Mr. Gabriel Rufyiri, the President of the Anti-Corruption and Economic Malpractice Observatory (OLUCOME) who was represented by Rev. Fr. Nicolas Niyonizigiye; ‘Biblical and ethical foundations for fighting corruption’ by Rev. Déogratias Nshimiyimana, the Country Director of the African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries, Inc (ALARM); ‘An assessment of anti-corruption institutions and the anti-corruption efforts of the civil society in Burundi’ by Mr.

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9  A testimony from one of the participants.
10  Anglican Church of Burundi.
11  27 men and 7 women (16 ordained and 18 lay).
Faustin Ndikumana, the President of the Words and Action for the Awakening of Conscience and the Evolution of Mindsets organization (PARCEM); and ‘The nature and extent of corruption within the church: experiences from the East Africa region’ by Mutua Mulonzya, the Regional Advocacy, Governance and Public Accountability Coordinator at FECCLAHA.

In the plan of action for the anti-corruption campaign in church and society, the participants outlined key commitments and gave clear timelines for implementation: These include:

- Individual commitment that is immediate to say ‘No’ to corruption (both the giving and receiving of bribes and engaging in any corrupt practices);
- Individual commitment to sensitize and influence own family, friends, colleagues and neighbours to say ‘No’ to corruption (both the giving and receiving of bribes and engaging in any corrupt practices);
- Undertake advocacy and lobbying of relevant government ministries such as the Ministry of Good Governance and the Ministry of Justice;
- Use of community activities to sensitize the people on corruption. These activities include: Ibikongwa Rusangi12 (‘Travail communautaire’) and local government meetings;
- Invitation of leaders of government anti-corruption institutions to church and civil society forums. These include: the Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Brigade; the Ombudsman; and leaders of the Burundi Revenue Authority among others;
- Awareness creation in schools through: development of training modules; training of teachers; establishment of anti-corruption clubs in schools; presentation of speeches on corruption in schools; and facilitation of intra-and inter-school competitions involving songs, debates, drawings, drama, essays and other artistic presentations on corruption;
- Engage in a prayer cycle of churches united against corruption;
- Collaboration with the media (Television, radio and print media both private and public) and develop media content for the anti-corruption campaign in church and society;
- Documentation of people’s experiences (testimonies) of corruption;
- Collaboration of civil society organizations involved in the anti-corruption work in Burundi through sharing of information, documentation of incidences of corruption, joint advocacy and lobbying of key government actors and the establishment of a network of organizations engaged in the fight against corruption in Burundi;
- Awareness creation in the community with clear targeting of different age groups with relevant messages and focus on change of attitude towards corruption; and
- Presenting petitions to the government on the enforcement of the legal framework against corruption; and
- Training of church leaders and administrators on transformative and servant leadership to be on the forefront of the anti-corruption struggle; and training of local leaders.

Participants were agreed on the urgent need to embark on intensive educational programmes to sensitize the people on the evils of corruption, to arouse their anger against corrupt practices and the perpetrators and to instill a sense of responsibility and duty in the people to elicit their cooperation in the fight against corruption.

In his closing remarks Archbishop Bernard Ntahoturi underscored the need for a new evangelization to fight corruption. He assured participants of the support of the church in the implementation of the plan of action and called on them to be the prime movers of the anti-corruption campaign, seek accountable governance and sensitize the people to empower them to hold the government and the anti-corruption institutions accountable and responsive to their needs and rights.

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12 Community work undertaken on Saturdays up to 11am.
Coverage of the workshop and launch of the anti-corruption campaign in church and society by the National Radio and Television of Burundi (RTNB) stimulated interest in the church’s anti-corruption work and viewers called the CNEB leadership urging them to speak truth to power on corruption and urgently implement the campaign. An interview given by Mutua Mulonzya on the concept of ‘lifestyle audit’ to check the susceptibility to engage in corrupt practices also elicited a lot of debate during the morning hour call-in programme of the Radio Publique Africaine.

Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme (EEAP)

1. **Training of Trainers’ Workshop on Civic and Voter Education and Election Observation in the North Rift Region of the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)**

“We cannot afford to give up. Let us speak out about the things that are not going well as per the Constitution of Kenya (2010). Let us be people of integrity, of good morals for we have to be the leaders we seek”. (Rhoda Chenang’at, West Pokot County)

Through the Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme (EEAP), the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA) facilitated the training of 3214 trainers from five counties in the NCCK North Rift region in civic and voter education and election observation. The training workshop took place at the Queens Garden Hotel, Eldoret from 7th to 9th November 2012.

The participants were drawn from the following member churches of the NCCK: Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK); Friends Church; Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG); the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA); and the Reformed Church of East Africa (RCEA). There were also participants from the Catholic Church.

The workshop sought to achieve the following objectives: to capacitate trainees with knowledge and skills in civic and voter education and election observation for an active and effective accompaniment of the electoral process; to strengthen trainees’ awareness of their rights and duties as citizens for them to make an informed choice in the electoral process; and to equip trainee’s with knowledge on the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and electoral laws on representation, elections, the devolved system of governance and leadership and integrity.

It involved expert presentations on the following: ‘Conducting Civic and Voter Education for Peaceful Elections’ by Kawive Wambua, the Executive Secretary of the Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO); ‘Devolved (County) Governments’ by Gideon Ochanda, a Governance Consultant working with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Kenya Office; ‘Representation and Electoral System and Process’ and ‘Leadership, Ethics and Integrity’ by Jennifer Gitiri, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya; and ‘The Electoral Cycle and Election Observation’ by Mutua Mulonzya, the Regional Advocacy, Governance and Public Accountability Coordinator, FECCLAHA.

Participants noted that civic education on the Constitution of Kenya (2010) had not been undertaken well and therefore there is need to educate the people to understand the progressive provisions in the constitution and the responsibilities that the constitution gives to the people. They also underscored the need to educate the people on the various elective positions in the forthcoming elections and the essential qualifications of those seeking the positions particularly at the County Government. They

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13 Through the Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme (EEAP), FECCLAHA seeks to capacitate its members for effective accompaniment of electoral processes. This entails provision of technical support to members in the facilitation of civic and voter education, establishment of domestic election observation processes and advocacy on election issues. The programme also entails independent international ecumenical assessment of the electoral processes in the region.

14 25 men and 7 women (5 ordained and 27 lay).

15 These are: Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Turkana, Uasin Gishu and West Pokot counties.
agreed to map the resources in their respective areas and seek to use community spaces in the delivery of civic and voter education.

The participants developed an action plan with practical, innovative and immediate concrete actions in which they will facilitate 12 civic and voter education forums in the five Counties each reaching over 100 people. The forums will build on ad hoc civic education undertakings in their places of work, schools, market places and in organized society groups such as: the ‘Sweetie’ merry-go-round groups in West Pokot County; the rite of passage celebrations in Uasin Gishu County; sensitization of groups involved in harvesting in Elgeyo Marakwet County; and sensitization of the Kenya Anglican Men’s Association and Mother’s Union (KAMAMU) in Nandi County. The participants committed themselves to actively advocate for a peaceful electoral process and encourage competitive and issue-based politics and tolerance in the North Rift region.

2. Training of Trainers’ Workshop on Civic and Voter Education and Election Observation in the Nairobi Region of the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

‘With the knowledge gained from the workshop, I will empower my family, community and the general public because sharing of information is very vital to mankind’. (Kenneth Adagala, Westlands Constituency, Nairobi County).

Through the Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme (EEAP), the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECLAAHA) facilitated the training of 35 trainers from two counties in the NCCK Nairobi region in civic and voter education and election observation. The training workshop took place at the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) St. Andrew’s Church Hall, Nairobi from 22nd to 23rd November 2012.

The participants were drawn from the following member churches of the NCCK: African Christian Church and Schools (ACCS); Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK); Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK); Friends Church; Full Gospel Church; Kenya Assemblies of God (KAG); Pentecostal Evangelism Fellowship of Africa (PEFA); and the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA). In the spirit of collaboration and networking there were also participants from the Catholic Church.

The workshop sought to achieve the following objectives: to capacitate trainees with knowledge and skills in civic and voter education and election observation for an active and effective accompaniment of the electoral process; to strengthen trainees’ awareness of their rights and duties as citizens for them to make an informed choice in the electoral process; and to equip trainee’s with knowledge on the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and electoral laws.
on representation, elections, the devolved system of governance and leadership and integrity.

It involved expert presentations on the following: ‘Conducting Civic and Voter Education for Peaceful Elections’ by Kawive Wambua, the Executive Secretary of the Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO); ‘Devolved (County) Governments’ by Gideon Ochanda, a Governance Consultant working with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Kenya Office; ‘Representation and Electoral System and Process’ and ‘Leadership, Ethics and Integrity’ by Jennifer Gitiri, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya; and ‘The Electoral Cycle and Election Observation’ by Mutua Mulonzya, the Regional Advocacy, Governance and Public Accountability Coordinator, FECCLAHA.

In his opening remarks, Michael Owino, Programme Officer at the DKA Austria\textsuperscript{19}/eRko Support Office, Kenya noted that the church is a strong institution in Kenya. He challenged the church to use its potential to mediate and advocate for peaceful elections. He also called on participants to demand immediate adherence to the provisions of Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) on leadership and integrity.

Participants were agreed that civic education has to be conducted differently if it is to increase the civic competence of the people and heighten their sense of civic duty and responsibility that the Constitution of Kenya (2010) emphasizes. They appreciated the cycle of civic political mobilization that entails awareness creation, analysis of relationships, plan of action, public and private action, sustaining action and amplifying results. Participants also committed to use language that humanizes all in civic education and to explore the use of social media.

In their follow up civic and voter education undertakings, participants gave commitment to sensitize the people on the need to pro-actively set the agenda for politics in their areas and insist on issue-based politics that address priority needs of the people. Drawing from Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and the legal framework for elections in the country, the participants committed to empower the people to develop criteria for vetting those seeking elective positions in the forthcoming general elections.

The participants developed a follow up plan of action in which they will negotiate for the allocation of a 15-20 minutes civic and voter education session in the worship services in their churches every Sunday. These session will be used to offer civic and voter education beginning with sensitization on the need to register as voters during the voter registration process and to later inspect the voter register. They will also target youth, women and men fellowships and Bible study groups that have weekly meetings. Captivating civic and voter education messages will also be disseminated through the bulletins shared during Sunday church services. Ad hoc civic and voter education will also be offered in social forums such as the meetings called by Chiefs and family gatherings and celebrations. The follow up civic and voter education undertakings of the participants were supported by FECLAHA and included the provision of a facilitator to a youth conference that took place in December 2012 in Githunguri, Kiambu County targeting over 400 participants.

In his closing remarks, Mutua Mulonzya challenged the participants to focus beyond the elections in their civic education. He challenged them to begin reflecting on how best to accompany the County governments particularly how to influence the legislative process at the County Assemblies, the appointments to the County Executive Committee and nominations to the boards of urban areas and cities.

3. Training of Trainers’ Workshop on Civic Education for Accountable Governance and People’s Participation in the Constitution Making Process in the United Republic of Tanzania

“We should tell the people that this constitutional review process is a major event in our history. We should not let it pass.”
(John Wambura, Mennonite Church, Tanzania)

At the invitation of the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), FECLAHA facilitated a training of trainers’ workshop on civic education for accountable governance and people’s participation in the constitution making process in the United Republic of Tanzania at the Mbezi Garden Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 13\textsuperscript{th} to 15\textsuperscript{th} November 2012.

The training involved 16 participants (5 women and 11 men out of which 4 were ordained and 12 lay) drawn from CCT member churches: African Inland Church (AIC), Anglican Church of Tanzania (ACT), Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT), Mennonite Church, Tanzania and the Moravian Church in Tanzania in the following areas: Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kibagwaa, Mbeya, Morogoro, Tabora, Tanga and Zanzibar.

The workshop build on the experiences of CCT and the Tanzania Christian Forum in accompanying the constitutional review process and had the following objectives: to undertake an audit of the constitutional review process; to learn from other civil society organisations in the East Africa region on effective engagement with constitutional review processes with particular emphasis on lobbying and advocacy with the Constituent Assembly on specific/contentious provisions and carrying out civic education on the Proposed Constitution in relation to the referendum; and to chart out clear action plans for the ecumenical engagement with the next phases in the constitution review process.

\textsuperscript{19} DKA Austria is the development cooperation agency of the Jungschar-the Catholic Children's Movement in Austria. The training of trainers’ workshop was generously funded by DKA Austria.
It involved expert presentations on the following: ‘The Constitutional Review Process: Progress, Challenges and Emerging Issues’ by Mr. Deusdedit Kibamba, the Chairperson of Jukwaa la Katiba Tanzania with Mrs. Jesca S. Mkuchu, a Commissioner in the Constitutional Review Commission, Tanzania as a discussant; ‘The Ecumenical Accompaniment of the Constitutional Review Process: Lessons Learnt and Required Engagement in the Next Phases of the Process’ by Evangelist Hubert Lubyama of CCT; ‘Effective Strategies in Engaging with a Constitutional Review Process with a Focus on Engaging with the Constituent Assembly, Civic Education on a Proposed Constitution and the Referendum on the Proposed Constitution’ and ‘Fundamental Provisions in Progressive Constitutions and the Role of the Church in Safeguarding a Culture of Constitutionalism’ by Hon. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, the Former Presidential Advisor on Constitutional, Parliamentary and Youth Affairs, Republic of Kenya and Associate Professor of Law, University of Nairobi; and ‘Contentious Issues in the Constitutional Review Process: Avenues for Lobbying and Advocacy with the Constituent Assembly and Other Influential Actors’ by Evangelist Hubert Lubyama of CCT.

The workshop appreciated that the constitutional review process: was arguably the first genuine involvement of the people in the constitution-making process in the country since independence; it is oriented towards broad popular participation through consultations and public debates; unlike previous processes, it has a guiding legal framework, the Constitutional Review Act, 2011; the provision for the President to present the Draft Constitution to a Constituent Assembly for the enactment of the Proposed Constitution. The Constituent Assembly that will be made up of the members of the National Assembly of the United Republic of Tanzania, the members of the House of Representatives of Zanzibar and 160 other members drawn from faith based organizations, non governmental organizations, political parties, institutions of higher learning, groups of people with special needs, workers associations, farmers, pastoralists and common interest groups offers an opportunity to iron out contentious issues in the Draft Constitution; and the provision for the validation of the Proposed Constitution through a referendum organized, conducted and supervised by the National Electoral Commission in collaboration with the Zanzibar Electoral Commission empowers the public to define the normative standards by which they desire to be governed.

The following were highlighted as some of the emerging contentious issues in the constitutional review process: the nature of the union between Tanzania Mainland and Tanzania Zanzibar with some people arguing that, ‘Koti likikubana livue’ (‘If a coat is too tight, remove it’); the place of the Kadhis Courts; ‘Mfumo Kristu’ the Judeo-Christian legal and justice system; and membership to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

The workshop decried the attempt by politicians and political parties to hijack the constitutional review process through preparing and coaching people on the submissions to make to the Constitutional Review Commission. It urged the CCT to: seize the opportunity offered by the Constitutional Review Commission and present the views of its member churches; participate in the Constitutional foras; undertake advocacy with the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs for a review of the Constitutional Review Act, 2011 to address noted ambiguities and other weaknesses; nominate good and dependable people to the Constituent Assembly; and reach out to different political actors and organized society groups with the aim of building consensus on contentious and divisive issues in the constitutional review process.

The trained trainers gave commitment to be the prime movers of CCT’s civic education on the remaining phases in the constitutional review process and to continue seeking accountable governance at their respective regions and nationally.
Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Enhancement

Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Enhancement aims at building the capacity of the organisation’s staff and members to effectively deliver on the strategic plan. Additionally, the activities under this thematic area also focus on facilitating and strengthening FECCCLAHA governing bodies, the Executive Committee and General Assembly in addition to acquiring sufficient resources within the organisation. This year, FECCCLAHA held two Executive Committee Meetings in Nairobi, Kenya, a three-day staff retreat in Mombasa, Kenya, and Programme communication support. Additionally, FECCCLAHA continued to participate in the ongoing Just World Exchange Programe as well as sponsoring various staff members for various trainings. The following is an account of the activities carried out under this programme during the year.

1. Executive Committee Meetings
The Executive Committee Meetings facilitate for effective overseeing the implementation of policies, programs, and resolutions by the General Assembly. The Committee therefore remains a core pillar for effective governance of the organization. During the year, FECCCLAHA Executive Committee met twice: March and October, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya.

It is during these meetings that the Executive Committee concluded the recruitment of the Executive Director, Mrs. Elizabeth Zimba Kisiigha who was appointed effective 1st May, 2012. The Committee also discussed the ongoing exploration of oil and gas and other minerals in the region, re-affirming the Secretariat to strengthen FECCCLAHA’s role and work on natural resource management. Further, it was resolved that FECCCLAHA needed to engage with other partners in responding to the situation in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Members also resolved that it was important for FECCCLAHA to apply for membership within the Act Alliance and ensure that the organization was an active player within its Kenya Forum. The Committee also resolved that the biannual General Assembly and the Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF) would be held during the month of October, 2013.

2. Staff Retreat
Staff retreats remain important mechanisms in strengthening the secretariat’s capacity to play its facilitation role in the sub-region. The staff retreat took place in October, 2012 in Mombasa, Kenya where members were involved in planning and budgeting for the next year programmes. The staff members were also trained on Sustainability, minute writing, reporting, and documentation. These are important skills in strengthening the programmatic and administrative departments of the organisation.

3. Programme Communication Support
The website remains an important entry point for FECCCLAHA partners and other stakeholders, necessitating the redesigning process which was completed in November, 2012. Efforts have been put towards creating a clean, organized, and professional looking site with a consistent theme that is using the company logo colours, heading and footers among others. The website is interactive and functional as a one stop information centre for FECCCLAHA. This can be accessed at www.fecclaha.org.

Further, in a bid to strengthen programme communication, the organisation published a newsletter for the first half of the year. This was shared widely among collaborating and funding partners and other networks. The newsletter is an important instrument as it does not only facilitate
networking but also sharing information among members and other stakeholders of FECCLAHA within and outside the region.

4. Staff Training
Staff capacity remains a crucial element in ensuring effective implementation of FECCLAHA’s strategic plan. Two members of staff (Both Male) were supported to undertake training namely; The Finance and Administration Manager trained in Finance Management and Accounting. The knowledge and skills acquired are enabling him in strengthening accountability, compliance and internal control systems. Additionally, the Administrative Assistant is undertaking a course in Political Science and Armed Conflict and Peace Studies at Nairobi University. The knowledge acquired so far has enhanced his ability to prepare program related documents and general coordination support to the programme staff.

Two members of staff participated in a Sustainability workshop that was organized by the DKA & ERKo Support Office in Nairobi, Kenya in June, 2012. The skills acquired were shared among staff members during the in-house training session at the staff retreat.

A third member of staff (Female) was facilitated to participate in a two weeks training on “Emerging Threats to Human Security in Africa” (ETHSA) organized by the African Centre for Peace and Security Training (ACPST). The training was held in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2012. This course enhanced and broadened her capacity and knowledge on the emerging issues on Human Security and especially in the countries of coverage by FECCLAHA. The training also provided new skills in proposal writing, and the use of social media for advocacy. Further, the training provided new links of networking for FECCLAHA. Resultantly, the ACPST newsletter issue of September 2012 featured FECCLAHA’s SALW training that took place in Kampala. This is a positive gain as the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) is a strategic and well recognized Think-Tank in Africa as regards Peace and Security.

Additionally, one female member of staff also participated in the fourth Feminist Leadership and Movement Building Institute. This was a five day course that was designed to strengthen feminist leadership, strategies, and collective power for social transformation in Africa. The Institute combined reflections on the current political landscape as well as past organizing strategies for women’s rights in Africa by using a trans-movement building approach. This offered an opportunity for learning and networking with like-minded organisations on issues on women.

Two members of staff (Both Male) were also facilitated to participate in a 3 days training on Financial Management which was mainly targeting Finance & Programme officers. This was organized by the Dutch Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation (ICCO) and took place in Eldoret, Kenya in September 2012.

5. FK Exchange Programme:
FECCLAHA has participated in the Just World Exchange Programme, spearheaded by the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), since 2008. This year marks the fourth round for FECCLAHA to receive and host participants from various countries in the region and beyond including Rwanda, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Norway. Guided by three pillars of Organisational Development, Network Development, and Individual Development, the exchange programme over the years has played a role in strengthening FECCLAHA’s members who have participated in the exchange programme. Additionally, FECCLAHA has strengthened its collaboration and partnership with other organisations.

In this round of exchange (2011-2012), FECCLAHA seconded Ms. Jeannette Uwizeye, FECCLAHA Regional Youth Peace Building Programme Coordinator, to live and work in South Sudan with Sudan Council of Churches (SCC). In her role as the Gender Justice Officer within the council, she has been instrumental in the reactivation process of the National Women Coordination Desk that had since been closed down in 2006 within the council. During the year, Ms. Uwizeye in conjunction with SCC staff held various meetings including a brainstorming meeting and a national women consultative forum, all of which helped in shaping the programmes plans and budgets for 2013/2014. This documentation is important as it will guide the National Women Programme in their endeavour to reactivate and strengthen the same.

Additionally, FECCLAHA sent out Ms. Caren Jepkoech Kiptoo, to work with Norwegian Church Aid- Great Lakes in Bujumbura, Burundi. Ms. Kiptoo whose term was extended, participated in two rounds of exchange, 2010/2011 and 2011/2012. In her capacity as a Partner Strategy Advisor, she has been working on various projects in various parts of Burundi.

FECCLAHA Secretariat hosted Mr. Richard Ndayambaje a Rwandan national who was formally working with Safer Rwanda. Attached to the Youth and Gender Desk within FECCLAHA, Mr. Ndayambaje contributed to the activities within the Regional Youth Peace Building Programme and the initiatives on women within the organisation. He also greatly contributed to strengthening of documentation, specifically photography.

The programme is ongoing, with FECCLAHA sending a participant to Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) in Norway and receiving a participant from South Sudan, to represent Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) during the 2012/2013 round of exchange.
Networking, Partnership, and Collaboration

1. Participation in World Council of Churches (WCC) Human Rights Defenders Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya, 9th to 10th January 2012

FECLAH A participated in the Human Rights Defenders meeting organized by the Human Rights Programme of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Nairobi, Kenya from 9th to 10th January 2012. The meeting brought together representatives of the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA), FECLAH A and the WCC and civil society representatives from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Sierra Leone to review the developments and human rights challenges in Africa.

The meeting appreciated the avenues the Human Rights Programme of the WCC offers for international advocacy on human rights violations with the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland and the United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA through the WCC-UN Liaison Office in New York, USA.

The following were identified as situations requiring urgent intervention: the Boko Haram crisis in Nigeria that has the potential to destabilize the whole West Africa region; and the plight of Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees in the Sinai desert, Egypt. Concerning the Boko Haram crisis in Nigeria, the meeting urged the WCC to work closely with the African Council of Religious Leaders (ACRL) and issue a statement calling for restraint and to mobilize eminent religious leaders in the region and undertake a pastoral/solidarity visit to the country.

Concerning the plight of Eritrea and Ethiopian refugees in Egypt, the meeting proposed urgent advocacy at the following levels: advocacy with the then military government of Egypt to respect its international obligations with regard to the treatment of foreigners in its territory including the protection of refugees; advocacy with the Muslim Brotherhood poised to form the next civilian government after the scheduled elections; dialogue with the Coptic Church on possible humanitarian interventions to ameliorate the situation of the refugees; advocacy with the Arab League and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for protection and strict implementation of durable solutions to the Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees crisis in Egypt; and advocacy with the United Nations Human Rights Council and organ transplant centres thriving on organs forcibly extracted from Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees in the Sinai Desert, Egypt.

2. Participation in the 5th General Assembly of the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA) and the Faith and Fish Conference with Artisanal Fishermen from West Africa, Tema, Ghana, 22nd to 26th February 2012

FECLAH A participated in the 5th General Assembly of the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECCIWA) and the faith and fish conference with artisanal fishermen from West Africa under the theme ‘It is not about quantity but the quality of food’ held in Tema, Ghana from 22nd to 26th February 2012. FECLAH A congratulated FECCIWA on its celebration of 18 years of conciliar ecumenism and the provision of diakonia ministry to the people of West Africa. The focus of the assembly and faith and fish conference was on: the peace and security situation in the region; and the sustainability of FECCIWA were also appreciated as timely.

The general assembly and faith and fish conference identified the following as key concerns in the region: land grabbing by multinational companies with the complicity of the governments of Liberia and Sierra Leone in which indigenous populations are displaced as the multinational companies pursue large scale agricultural production; the religious and ethnic conflict in Nigeria including the threat posed by Boko Haram to the region; and the threat to food and nutrition security and the livelihoods of artisanal fisherman due to overfishing by European trawlers and factory ships allowed to fish in West African waters through an exploitative agreement with the European Union (EU).

The general assembly and faith and fish conference called on churches to: focus on food and nutrition security; closely scrutinize and advocate for pro-people and pro-poor fisheries policies and food and nutrition security policies; and undertake regional, continental and global advocacy on food and nutrition security and on the political economy of exploitative agreements that African governments enter with multinational companies and multilateral institutions such as the EU on African marine and other resources.

3. EHAIA Workshop on Transformative Masculinity in Entebbe, Uganda

FECLAH A sponsored Rev. Awodi John from the Church of Uganda, which is a member of Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) to attend a workshop on Transformative Masculinity that took place in December, 2012 in Uganda. This was facilitated by FECLAH A collaborating partner Ecumenical HIV and AIDS Initiative in Africa (EHAIA). In addition to addressing issues of HIV and AIDS in Church and Society, Transformative Masculinity has become one area of the organisation’s competence.

Drawing participation from Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, Burundi, and Uganda, the workshop, the first of a kind to be held in Eastern Africa, aimed at introducing the concept of Transformative
Masculinity to senior Church leaders, HIV & AIDS practitioners within the ecumenical movement and theological educators. It also aimed at creating a platform for sharing ideas and comparing experiences in working with boys and men among secular non governmental organisations and churches and also introducing participants to the Contextual Bible Study Methodology in relation to Transformative Masculinity. Additionally, the workshop aimed at promoting dialogue between women and men in the ecumenical movement on how to work with boys and men for gender justice.

The workshop provided opportunity for challenging beliefs that participants could have taken for granted but which influence their perceptions on Masculinity. It also offered a platform to question the ideas behind the concepts, agenda and definitions of Transformative Masculinity.

The workshop focus on Transformative masculinity sought to equip and encourage the participants to work with boys and men to promote gender justice. This is because boys and men supporting and owning this process is critical in attaining any progress. At the end of the workshop, participants were asked to prepare work plans guided by the question “What must we do in our families, our communities, churches, institutions, and countries to promote Transformative Masculinity?”

4. Advocacy on the Armed Trade Treaty: World Council of Churches (WCC) Consultation on Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Africa

FECCAHLA joined other Church representative from Africa, members of Church-related bodies, and international experts from the Africa Union and other regional and international organisations in a consultation hosted by the World Council of Churches (WCC) in November, 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The consultation under the theme “Toward an Ecumenical Advocacy to Combat the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Africa”, sought to provide space for constructive and open dialogue on the situation of proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in Africa. Additionally, the three day consultation sought to develop common strategic advocacy priorities into action and strengthen ecumenical cooperation on advocacy work at the African Union, in collaboration with civil society.

Ms. Celine Bankumuhari, FECCAHLA Regional Human Security Coordinator, among other roles made an expert presentation on “SALW Proliferation in the Great Lakes Region” with a specific focus on the sub-regional insights on the impact of SALW proliferation in the region.

The consultation came up with a communiqué which emphasized on the importance of the World Council of Churches through the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA), the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Regional Fellowships of Christian Councils and Churches and other Christian Lay organisations to institute long-term ecumenical programmes on SALW and the Armed Trade Treaty (ATT). This would facilitate churches to, among other things, organize for media campaigns, pressure groups, promote regional fellowships dialogue with regional economic communities, and also make every effort to have SALW and ATT issues as an agenda in forth coming WCC and AACC General Assemblies in 2013. The communiqué also asserted the importance of ecumenical bodies opening dialogue with the Africa Union with the aim of establishing ways for Churches in Africa to collaborate with the AU so as to curb the negative impact on human life and property caused by proliferation of SALW.

5. FECCAHLA’s collaboration with Nairobi Peace Initiative (NPI)

FECCAHLA embarked on a consultation with Nairobi Peace Initiatives - Africa (NPI), the latter was exploring collaboration on a peace building programme in South Sudan. Two consultative meetings were held between NPI and FECCAHLA. As a result FECCAHLA filled in a questionnaire to assess its capacity to jointly implement the programme with NPI. FECCAHLA expressed interest and capacity to collaborate with NPI in undertaking peace work in selected states in South Sudan.

In the same spirit, NPI in collaboration with FECCAHLA and other partners undertook a research on informal militia groups in Kenya and how these would affect the general elections. FECCAHLA participated in this initiative and provided in put to the report and entire findings. The information gathered with regard to militia groups was disseminated and discussed during civic and voter education that FECCAHLA implemented in collaboration with National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) with an aim of contributing to peaceful elections.

6. Network for Ecumenical Organisations working on the Horn of Africa

In the spirit of networking, FECCAHLA in collaboration with American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Life and Peace Institute (LPI) among other partners, have formed a network for ecumenical organisations working on the Horn of Africa. Through coordinated and joint efforts, the network aims at strengthening interventions in Somalia/ the Horn of Africa through making deeper and wider impact in the region. Meeting quarterly, the ecumenical network offers a platform for learning and exchange creating a space for collaboration and networking for the organisations. This is a valuable network for FECCAHLA as we seek to strengthen our intervention in the Horn of Africa.

7. DKA & eRko Partners Sports Day

FECCAHLA joined DKA & eRko Kenyan partners during the Sports Day event that took place in August, 2012. The Sports Day was guided by the theme: “Peace for All, Bonding for Humanity”. Along with other Kenyan Partners, sports like volley ball, athletics, and football took place. There were also dances, poems, and music from various partners. FECCAHLA contributed a trophy which was presented to the winners of the day.
Financial Report

The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa (FECLAH) Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2012

Statement of Comprehensive Income

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<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Grant income</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td><strong>EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FUND SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</strong></td>
<td>(2,295,440)</td>
<td>1,539,467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairperson

Honorary Treasurer

Date 4th April 2013
FECLHA Members

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea
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Ecumenical Partners and Associates

Action of Churches Together (ACT)
Amani Forum: The Great Lakes Parliamentary Forum on Peace
Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa (AMECEA)
Africa Peace Forum (APFO)
All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)
African Council of Religious Leaders (ACRL)
Bread for the World
Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives (KAIROS)
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
Christian Aid
Church of Sweden
Dan Church Aid (DCA)
DKA Austria
East African Action Network on Small Arms (EANSA)
Ecumenical HIV & AIDS Initiative in Africa (WCC-EHAIA)

Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT)
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Inter Church Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO)
International Alert
International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)
Life and Peace Institute (LPI)
Lott Carey Baptist Mission
Nairobi Peace Initiative (NPI)-Africa
Nairobi Women’s Hospital–Gender Violence Recovery Centre
Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)
Pax Christi-Netherlands
Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC)
Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA)
St. Paul’s University, Limuru, Kenya
The Christian Organization Research and Advisory Trust of Africa
(CORAT-Africa)
The General Referral Hospital of Panzi (GRHP)
World Council of Churches (WCC)