



PROCMURA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

JANUARY-DECEMBER



www.procmura.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
LEGAL FRAMEWORK/POLICIES AND STRATEGIES	6
INTRODUCTION	7
1.0. CENTRAL OFFICE MATTERS	7
1.1. The European Liason Committee (ELC) and The Executive Committee Meetings.	7
INTERACTIONS WITH PARTNERS	9
PROCMURA signs a new partnership with Stefanus Alliance International (SAI).	9
2.0. PROGRAMMES FOCUS	11
2.1. CORE PROGRAMME	11
Learning and Skills Development	11
2.2. DESIGNATED PROGRAMMES	15
Women and Girl Child Empowerment	15
Youth and Religious Tolerance	17
Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding	23

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ease in COVID-19 protocols and restrictions provided more opportunities for the physical implementation of several programmes this year 2022 in comparison to those carried out in 2021. This report covers programmes and activities executed from January to December 2022. During the year, the organisation had several meetings and discussions with a number of its stakeholders both at the international, regional and country levels. This included the signing of a new partnership agreement with Stefanus Alliance International (SAI), which would see PROCMURA coordinate a Network for FoRB trainers in Sub Sahara Africa, Reviewing and mapping new partnership agreements with some of her partners that visited the central office, Church of Sweden, Kerk in Actie and Bread for the World, and finally signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen its relationship with different councils and churches at the country level.

Notable among the critical issues addressed in the year was organising the Mid-term evaluation of the Current strategic plan 2020–2024 that brought together PROCMURA technical and resources persons, Area Advisers, Chairpersons, ICMR graduates and experts to review the progress of the plan as well as the structure of the organisation amid plans for conducting a General council in 2023 which would, among other vital matters, look into a constitutional review as well as the future and sustainability of the organisation.

Finally, on the programmatic front, several programmes and activities were successfully implemented under the five major programmatic areas of the strategic plan: learning and skills development, Women and Girl Child Empowerment, Youth and religious tolerance, Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding, and Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB).



Summary of the significant outcomes for the year:

- New partnership agreement with Stefanus Alliance International (SAI).
- Structured working relationships with more Churches and Councils of Churches through the Memorandum of understanding.
- Enhanced Christian – Muslim relations capacity for at least 100 church leaders in various PROCMURA constituencies.
- Launch of a Continental ICMR platform by PROCMURA that will address emerging issues in Christian-Muslim relations in the continent.
- Establishment of Women empowerment Centres by PROCMURA in partnership with Churches in South Sudan and Kenya to address issues of concern, particularly those from vulnerable communities. The Centres target Christian and Muslim women and girls and promote peaceful co-existence in the community.
- At least 500 youths were trained and commissioned as PROCMURA youth peace ambassadors in different countries.
- The PROCMURA chapter in learning institutions has been established in 10 universities.
- Interreligious community peace networks were established in Nigeria, Cameroon, and Kenya.
- Launch of the Sub-Sahara Africa FoRB trainers network in Africa by PROCMURA and Stefanus Alliance International.

Summary of significant impacts

- Structured working relationship with churches has led to collaboration and partnership in implementing programmes and activities, empowering the church with knowledge and skills in Christian-Muslim relations and witness in a multi-religious context.
- Women and girls in IDP camps and vulnerable communities in Malakal, South Sudan and Turkana Kenya have a sustainable livelihood by producing basic necessities for their use, such as sanitary towels and underwear for their children. This has improved human dignity and provided economic empowerment to women and girls.
- Peaceful environment and Mutual tolerance on Campus during election periods, as an impact of the activities of the PROCMURA chapters in learning institutions. This enabled mutual understanding between students from diverse religious backgrounds.
- PROCMURA Youth peace ambassadors are now peer educators in their communities. For example,

In Cameroon, they are advocating for the Christian community in Maroua to be allowed access to rental houses by Muslim landlords.

- Calm, Peace and Mutual tolerance among targeted communities in Kenya during the 2022 general elections, which were often marred by violence.
- Youth becomes active peace agents in informal communities in different countries; Kenya, Nigeria, Cameroon and South Sudan.

Despite the successes, we also faced challenges and learned some lessons that will be included in our programming going forward. Among others include

- Encourage all Area committees to partner with local stakeholders such as churches, the National council of churches, and others to ensure ownership and sustainability of interventions;
- It is essential to develop criteria to assist in documenting the change stories at the local level to showcase the impact of PROCMURA's work;
- A key and essential lesson is the documentation of short stories and case studies of day-to-day happenings in small booklets and pamphlets is a better strategy to keep the church informed about Christian-Muslim relations and not necessarily academic articles from ICMR scholars and graduates, as recommended before.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK/POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

Legal framework/policies

The various projects presented in this report were carefully designed to fit in and contribute to the five major programmatic areas under the current strategic plan. More importantly, the activities carried out under each project have collectively contributed to achieving the general and specific objectives for the year 2022. All the projects and activities were implemented under the universal programming policies and specific legal frameworks of each focus country and context, which among others, include:

- The Constitutions of the countries we are working in;
- The National Policies on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management of the focus countries;
- The National Cohesion and Integration Acts;
- Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Acts;
- The National/County Action Plans on countering/ preventing violent extremism;
- Gender mainstreaming rules and freedom of religion Acts;
- Ensure a gender balance and female participation of at least 40% to 60 % in all PROCMURA's programmes.

Strategies

- Establish Baseline surveys and participation criteria;
- Community-based approach (CBA) and DO NO Harm approach
- Strategic partnership with key stakeholders, ensuring participatory communication;
- Empowering Area Committees for project implementation at the grassroots level;
- Promote social/ community cohesion and Christian-Muslim relations;
- Diaparxis approach to practically build bridges;
- Capacity enhancement and awareness raising through various projects and activities;
- Religious peacebuilding approach.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Log frame and theory of change as instruments for monitoring and evaluation. Surveys, interviews, focus groups, secondary data etc. (qualitative and quantitative) instruments for evaluation. (start, mid-term and end-term evaluation. Monitoring is continuous).

Global focus

- The Programmes and projects contribute mostly to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) 16 and the African Union Agenda 2063; ASPIRATION 4 and 5.

INTRODUCTION

The ease in COVID-19 protocols and restrictions provided more opportunities for the physical implementation of several projects during the year under review compared to 2021. PROCMURA, just like the rest of the world at large, is struggling to overcome the challenges posed by the world pandemic and looking towards better strategies to enhance the implementation of projects at the grassroots levels through the active participation of its Area committees. This report covers activities implemented from January to December 2022. The report highlights general administrative matters at the Central Office, programmes and activities implemented at the country and regional levels, challenges and lessons learned, and outcomes/impacts.

1.0. CENTRAL OFFICE MATTERS

1.1. The European Liason Committee (ELC) and The Executive Committee Meetings.

The European Liaison Committee (ELC) Meeting

The European Liaison Committee is an annual meeting held at the beginning of each year to bring PROCMURA partners and friends across Europe to receive updates and reports from the Central office and simultaneously share the trends and status of Christian- Muslim relations in Africa and Europe. This year the meeting was held virtually and addressed several issues. Several Mission organisations, such as the Church of Sweden and the Church of Scotland, were going through restructuring, developing new strategic plans, and redefining their programmatic focus and priorities across the regions. More important was the participation of the PROCMURA Area Advisers and chairpersons at the ELC meeting, which was applauded and seen to be innovative as it provided an opportunity for both Area Advisers as well as partners to interact and get a better understanding of contextual issues of each organisation and country this time the focus was on Nigeria, Cameroon and South Sudan.

Executive Committee Meetings

Several executive committee meetings were held during the year. These were conducted virtually and physically. This meeting brings PROCMURA critical leaders at the constituency and regional levels of the organisation to deliberate on the organisation's running as well as take significant decisions on behalf of the council. The executive committee oversees the running and management of the Central office, which is tasked with the day-to-day running and implementation of programmes at the grassroots. Top on the agenda of the meeting was PROCMURA's General Council, which had been deferred to a later date as it had been affected by some of the challenges caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. The committee also met to give way to the review of its constitution, which would be endorsed by the council and finally to appraise and assess the performance of the current Strategic Plan, which was mid-way. It gave way to a midterm review and evaluation of the programmes. The Committee members concluded and agreed that the General Council would be conducted by mid-2023.

On the other hand, several working committees were established to follow through with the constitutional review as well as oversee the organisations structures and sustainability, which were both critical issues given the current state of things globally, with many partners and donors being affected by the Ukraine war leading to a significant economic downturn affecting economic resources and the sustainability of many organisations.

Mid-Term Evaluation and Organisational structure evaluation.

In November 2022, PROCMURA brought together its key stakeholders, among them Executive committee members, Chairpersons, Area Advisers and consultants from all its constituent countries, to go through a midterm evaluation of the 2020-2024 strategic plan, finalise the process of the constitutional review, look at the organisational structure and roles of various committees in implementation and management as well as discuss new modalities and considerations for the upcoming General Council among other significant issues.

The major Action points included;

- A committee was appointed to package the major constitutional reviews and suggestions.
- A concept note to be developed for the upcoming general council, which will be held in 2023;
- A committee was put in place to look at the recommendations from the mid-term evaluation and suggested structural adjustments for the organisation and financial sustainability.

INTERACTIONS WITH PARTNERS

Visits from partners

Several partners visited the central office to discuss emerging issues in the partnership, including; reviewing partnership agreements, signing new partnership agreements and strengthening relations with PROCMURA as an organisation.

PROCMURA signs a new partnership with Stefanus Alliance International (SAI).



On the 3rd of March 2022, PROCMURA entered a new partnership with Stefanus Alliance International, a Norwegian Christian Mission and Human Rights organisation. The partnership would focus on establishing a regional network for FoRB trainers in Africa. The network will create a platform where FoRB trainers can come together as resource persons to share experiences and best practices on freedom of religion across the continent.



Some PROCMURA and Stefanus Alliance International staff at the PROCMURA Central office

Church of Sweden:



The delegation from the Church of Sweden was represented by Mr Peter Stevenson and Sofia Olson. They informed PROCMURA that Act Church of Sweden could not continue with the Core budget funding and, going forward, preferred specific project funding that is in line with their strategic focus and focal countries of interest.

Kerk In Actie:



The Central office was also glad to meet Rev Rev. Hette Domburg, the new Program Officer – for the Africa team who had recently joined Kerk Ina Actie, Hette had never been to the Central office in Nairobi, and it was a privilege for him to meet and interact with the Central office staff. He reiterated Kerk in Acties' commitment and support towards PROCMURA's work, especially on the Core programmes and the personnel development Scholarship programme, which enabled Theologians from PROCMURA constituencies to study ICMR and serve as resource persons to the churches on matters of Christian- Muslim relations

Bread for The World;



Ms -Friederike Tieman, the Programme Officer of Continental Projects & Networks/ Africa from Bread for the World, also visited the Central office more than once during the year. She focused on the current project being implemented with PROCMURA on the publication of resource material and capacity building and discussed new guidelines on funding and projects for partners.

United Societies for the propagation of the Gospel (USPG).



Finally, Ms Fran Matte, Regional manager for Africa from USPG, paid a visit to the Central office and discussed PROCMURA's programmes and sustainability. Ms Fran shared the good news that the management of USPG had waived off the remaining Festina loan granted to PROCMURA, enabling the organisation to sow the seed of financial sustainability through the construction of the current central office block in Nairobi.

PROCMURA staff, on their part, also had the opportunity to visit and interact with Mission Afrika and other partners in Denmark, such as the Center for Church Development (CKU) Danmission and other Danish partners. This enabled PROCMURA to strengthen its partnership relations and participate in the partners' programmes interacting with them at different levels.

We thank all our partners for their continued support and commitment to PROCMURA's work. The continuous engagements have enabled us to review and look at new strategies for carrying out our work. They were timely and crucial, especially for the organisation's future and sustainability. They also enabled the organisation to get support for respective projects that were implemented during the year.

2.0. PROGRAMMES FOCUS

2.1. CORE PROGRAMME

The core business of PROCMURA is to strengthen the capacity of the churches to witness the gospel and have constructive engagement with Muslims for peace and peaceful co-existence. This programmes focus on intra (Christians only) Church leaders, women and youth and enables them as Christians to witness in an interfaith environment to promote and not unduly jeopardise the spirit of good neighbourliness.

Learning and Skills Development

The following workshops and meetings were conducted under this programme in the year under review;

Islam and Christian-Muslim relations (ICMR) Graduates and Expert's platform conference in Arusha, Tanzania

PROCMURA organised a three-day hybrid (physical and virtual) continental ICMR workshop under the theme: "Continental Analysis of Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa: Challenges & Opportunities as Existential Realities of the Past, the Present, and the Foreseeable Future" to, among other things, create space for and bring together all Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations graduates and experts from across the continent and beyond in a concerted effort of making sure that they are not only interconnected but also have a coordinated approach in addressing contemporary issues in Christian-Muslim relations in Africa.



ICMR graduates and expert meeting in Arusha, Tanzania

Consultative meetings for ICMR Graduates and Experts at the Country level in Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ghana

Members of the ICMR platform from the above-listed countries had meetings at country levels, discussing emerging issues in Christian-Muslim relations in their specific country contexts. Major resolutions in the sessions included: supporting the work of the Area Committees; ICMR graduates should link their churches and institutions to PROCMURA's work and write stories that will inform the churches on the emerging trends.

Area Committees and Area Advisers orientation workshop

The Central office organised an Area Advisers and chairpersons' workshop to orient them on the annual work plan for the Year 2022, which is structured to address the issues raised in various forums. Implementation strategies were re-echoed in the orientation and the active participation of Area Committees in project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Consultative meetings for newly established Area Committees; Cameroon, Uganda, and Malawi

The General adviser of PROCMURA held several consultative meetings, visited some of the newly established Area Committees, and provided them with guidelines on the role of the Area committees and the country level and the specific responsibilities of the leaders of the committee, especially the chairperson and the Area Adviser. The committee members were taken through the vision, Mission, and Mandate of the organisation. The committees pledge their commitment to the course of PROCMURA, which they find relevant as it speaks to the events in their various countries and contexts.

Launch of the PROCMURA Editorial Board

PROCMURA appointed the Editorial Board that will oversee the research and subsequent publications of research papers by the Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations (ICMR) graduates and experts from across Africa and beyond. The Editorial Board brings a wealth of renowned and experienced scholars and experts in Christian-Muslim relations who will assist in developing thematic areas on the graduates, and experts will base their research on publication. They will also be tasked with editing the materials produced to ensure that they are within the principles and ethos of what PROCMURA is and stands for. Members of the board are drawn from Africa and Europe, taking into consideration gender balance. (See the PROCMURA website for details)

Capacity building workshop for Church leaders in South Sudan

PROCMURA brought together 40 church leaders from more than ten church denominations at the Protection of Civilians in Malakal for a consultative meeting on Unity, Peace, and Development on the 16th of October, 2022. The meeting took place at the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCSS) in the Protection of Civilians Church hall. The church leaders discussed the challenges facing them as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Malakal and their role in ensuring peace among the South Sudanese in the IDP camps.

The IDPs are hosted in Malakal by the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in the Protection of Civilians section. The consultation led to the agreement by the church leaders to work together as a unit in supporting the new arrivals at the camps and raising awareness among the people on the importance of peace and peaceful co-existence in the camps.



Seasonal School for Church leaders in Northern Nigeria

A seasonal school for Christian church leaders, women and youth was organised in Nigeria north in the city of Kaduna to examine the challenges facing Christians in northern Nigeria critically. Several key Church leaders had committed to an action plan, having attended the first and second editions of the seasonal school held in Nigeria to ensure that they have a continuous forum to receive knowledge and skills on emerging issues in Christian-Muslim relations. This will enable them to be abreast with current matters and, at the same time, share their experiences and best practices. The follow-up seasonal school was co-hosted by the Anglican and ECWA and Methodist churches bringing at least thirty church leaders within the proximity of Kaduna.

Denominational workshop for Church leaders in Eldoret, Kenya

PROCMURA, in partnership with the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) Diocese of Eldoret, conducted a capacity-building workshop for church leaders in the ACK Guest House in Eldoret themed “Exploring challenges and opportunities for mission in a religiously pluralistic context” on 24th – 25th October 2022. The workshop brought together 30 church leaders in the diocese of Eldoret, some of whom were chaplains in schools, priests in parishes, and heads of departments.

The workshop aimed at empowering church leaders with knowledge and skills to enhance their ministries in pluralistic contexts. The workshop was also an opportunity for PROCMURA and ACK Eldoret Diocese to establish a working relationship to enhance PROCMURA’s goal of establishing working relationships with churches across her African constituencies. The two parties agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding.

Denominational workshop for Christian women in Eldoret, Kenya

Apart from the church leaders meeting in ACK Eldoret Diocese, PROCMURA also brought together 30 women leaders from across the diocese for a consultative meeting on “Empowering women in the church as pillars of development in the society.” The two days consultative meeting took place on 27th – 28th October 2022 at the ACK Guest House in Eldoret. The women were able to identify critical areas in which PROCMURA and the Women’s desk in the diocese can work together to build the capacity of the women as pillars of development in society. They both agreed to have a capacity-building workshop for women leaders in January 2023.



Capacity building for women, ACK Eldoret Diocese

The significant outcomes of the Learning and Skills Programme.

- Graduates and scholars have written papers for publication as resource materials to be used by the churches;
- Some PROCMURA Area Committees at the grassroots have identified specific areas in the strategic plan which will address their current realities;
- The Editorial Board is reviewing papers for publication;
- Church leaders and women in Eldoret, Kenya, and South Sudan gained more knowledge and skills in missions in a multi-pluralistic context;
- A Memorandum of understanding has been signed with some churches, learning institutions and the National council of churches in Kenya, Ghana, and Cameroon.

2.2. DESIGNATED PROGRAMMES

PROCMURA's designated programmes and projects are aimed towards; Christian and Muslim cooperation and collaboration to address issues of common concern to the two communities and the society at large.

Through this programme, PROCMURA can work with all community stakeholders, cutting across Civil Society, secular continental, regional and state /government actors, as well as learning and religious institutions in the area of Conflict prevention /transformation, peacebuilding and reconciliation.

The following were conducted under the designated programmes in the year under review;

Women and Girl Child Empowerment

2022 International Women's Day

This Year 2022 International Women's Day was celebrated under the theme "changing climates: equality today for a sustainable tomorrow." This called for a recognition of the role of women in addressing climate change and other environmental challenges. PROCMURA's theme for this year's celebration was "Religion and Climate change: the voices and actions of religious women."

At PROCMURA, our focus this year was more on the African religious woman (the woman of faith). We celebrated women of faith who have practically contributed toward the quest to drop global warming by using religious teachings to educate other women in local areas on the religious, ethical responsibility towards the environment. We also celebrated the girl child and women empowered by PROCMURA and have maximised their potential by making their voices heard and their actions and contributions to be seen in various areas of life. Women across PROCMURA's constituencies wrote reflections combined and edited into an article published on the PROCMURA website.

Establish Women Empowerment centres in Turkana and West Pokot counties of Northern Kenya

PROCMURA believes that the empowerment of women and the girlchild is a critical factor in addressing some of the challenges faced by women as the girls eventually grow from the tender teenage age to mature women within no time. To mitigate these challenges, and the unprecedented rise of teenage pregnancies among vulnerable communities in Africa, among other effects of violent conflicts, accentuated the need for PROCMURA to have active discussions under its women programme to address the plight of the girl child. In late December 2021 and early January 2022, PROCMURA, in partnership with the reformed Church of East Africa and partners in Germany from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany, began a mission to roll out and establish women empowerment centres through the churches in the far northern part of Turkana Kenya which is one of the difficult terrains in the country. It established centres in Paroo, Sarmach (West Pokot County) Lokichar, and Kainuk (Turkana County). In addition to these, three (300) hundred girls and young women from the above communities of Turkana and West Pokot received a “Kike Health Kit” with reusable sanitary towels and accessories for the girls’ use which were also given as a donation to the girls. The RCEA Rehabilitation and Development Department will oversee the project.



Some PROCMURA staff at the Women Empowerment centre in Turkana, Kenya



Establishment of Women and girl child empowerment Centre in IDP POC Camp in Malakal, South Sudan counties of Northern Kenya

Later in the year, PROCMURA continued with the vision and goal of women empowering more and more women across its constituencies in Africa. This time, the journey was to Africa's youngest nation, South Sudan. Bringing together brought together 40 Christian and Muslim Women in The United Nations (UNMISS) protection of Civilian (POC) camp in Malakal, South Sudan. For a weeklong programme in mid-October 2022. Partnering with the Presbyterian church in the POC camp and with support from Mission 21 from Basel, PROCMURA again reached out to the women and girls in The UNMISSION managed camp to empower them for their sustainable livelihood under the theme "Empowering women and the girl child in the community for sustainable development in the society." The capacity building workshop took place at the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan in the Protection of Civilians Church hall. The women shared their experiences and challenges, living as IDPs in Malakal and called upon PROCMURA and all stakeholders to work with them in addressing some of the challenges. Some of the difficulties highlighted were poverty, Gender-based Violence, intolerance, and Trauma, among others. PROCMURA donated 20 sewing machines to contribute to women's economic empowerment in the IDP camp. The women will use the sewing machines to make reusable sanitary towels to address the menstrual challenges of girls and women and other items sold for income generation.

In addition to the capacity building, another 300 girls were brought together and trained on various issues touching on Women and their sustainability, not living out a session on sexual and reproductive health education, which was vital and paramount for the young school-going girls. Other topics were also on mental health and well-being of the girl child. The girls were then given the Kike health kit to help them with their menstruation which is one of the challenges posed to most girls in marginalised communities.

Youth and Religious Tolerance

Youth and skills development

The capacity of at least 60 youths was enhanced and imparted with knowledge and skills through the PROCMURA printing and documentation department, which has remained a resource to PROCMURA and, more significantly, to the youth. Practical skills in creative arts, design printing, and documentation remain fundamental and instrumental for the youth. PROCMURA can engage and create a suitable platform for the youth through this programme. The youths were selected across various church denominations and Muslim groups within the informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya. Fifteen (15) youths were trained each quarter of the year: Jan-March, April-June, July-September, and October-December.

Religious tolerance in learning institutions

Consultative meetings with learning institutions

Various meetings were held between the management of PROCMURA and that of the Technical University of Kenya (TUK), Moi University, and St Paul's University. Top of the agenda of these meetings was the partnership to support the PROCMURA chapters, the work plan for the chapters, the constitution and the official launch of the PROCMURA chapters in the institutions.

Launch of PROCMURA TUK chapter

THE PROCMURA Technical University of Kenya (TUK) chapter was launched on the 9th of June 2022 at the Technical University of Kenya's (TUK) main hall. PROCMURA, in collaboration with the TUK, launched the PROCMURA TUK chapter to address issues of peace and peaceful co-existence among students in the institution. The event brought together more than hundred and fifty students and deans of students from the Technical University of Kenya, St. Paul's University Limuru, Umma University, Mt. Kenya University, and the Kenya Methodist University.

The students were commissioned as peace ambassadors.



Launch of TUK-PROCMURA Chapter

The youth peace ambassadors' role is to sensitise the youth masses and the larger community in learning institutions and communities on religious tolerance and peaceful co-existence. The PROCMURA TUK chapter members were therefore commissioned to advance PROCMURA's agenda of peace and tolerance in the learning institution and beyond.

Launch of Moi University PROCMURA Chapter

PROCMURA launched the PROCMURA Moi University chapter as a club on the 26th of October, 2022. The PROCMURA management and the Office of the Dean of Students for Moi University presided over the launch. Fifty (50) students and some University administration representatives witnessed the launch.



Moi university, PROCMURA Chapter

Launch of St Pauls University PROCMURA Chapter

PROCMURA launched the St Pauls PROCMURA university chapter on Thursday, the 17th of November. The occasion brought together 50 students, both Christians and Muslims, as members, the management of the university represented by the Dean of students, the Dean of the faculty of theology, the director in charge of the ICMR master's programme, and the PROCMURA management accompanied by the Area advisers, most of whom are graduates of St. Pauls university and PROCMURA executive committee members.

Religious tolerance in communities

Awareness raising and capacity building for the youth on peaceful elections in Kenya

PROCMURA continued to partner with critical actors in Kenya to sensitise the youth on peaceful elections and hold awareness-raising and capacity-building forums and workshops in the suburbs of Nairobi. The youth were sensitised on promoting tolerance at the community level, their civic and constitutional rights, and the importance of peaceful elections in the country. It was important for the youth to be active agents of peace in the communities to safeguard their well-being and future.

Youth camp on religious tolerance in Kampala, Uganda

The youth and religious tolerance programme addresses religious intolerance, radicalisation, and violent extremism among the youth in communities through PROCMURA youth camps and other dia-praxis activities.

PROCMURA, in collaboration with the Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), brought together forty (40) Christian and Muslim youth leaders drawn from churches, mosques, and learning institutions in Kampala, Uganda, for a two-days youth camp with the theme “promoting religious tolerance for sustainable peace and development in Uganda.” The camp provided a safe space for the youth to build trust and meaningful relationships with one another to shape their attitudes towards the religious other, demystifying misconceptions of the religious other and promoting religious tolerance.

Youth camp on religious tolerance in Nairobi, Kenya

The youth camp in Kenya took place on February 9th -11th, 2022 and brought together 40 youths in Nairobi, Kenya, selected from churches and Mosques from the Kamukunji informal settlement. The youth were engaged for three intensive days with lectures and outdoor activities. The youth were exposed to the religious other, shared the same sleeping spaces, cooked, ate, studied, played and carried out assignments and activities. (See details on the PROCMURCA 2022 youth camps report)

Youth camp on religious tolerance and peacebuilding in Maroua, Cameroon

The extremism North region of Cameroon is a Muslim-majority area in terms of religious affiliations. The region is absolutely a crossroad of trading routes and cultures. Despite this reality, this region is among the poorest areas in the country and has experienced various violent conflicts, including ethnic and tribal conflicts and religious conflicts.

The rise of Christian revivalist (born again) and Muslim fundamentalist movements are rapidly changing the religious landscape and paving the way for religious intolerance, as each group claims superiority over the other by using derogatory words on each other. The emergence of Boko Haram extremist groups in the north and extreme northern regions, combined with already existing communal tensions, has continued to challenge the spirit of religious tolerance in the region. This reality has kept PROCMURA on her toes to develop innovative and effective mechanisms for addressing this situation, one of which is the youth camp on religious tolerance and peacebuilding in Maorua, Cameroon. The camp brought together forty-six (46) Christian and Muslim youth from the churches and mosques from Maroua for a 2-day encounter from the 17th and 18th of October 2022.

The activities included presentations by the youths, religious leaders, and conflict experts on the practice, the challenge, and the limits of religious tolerance. The youths were also schooled on conflict analysis and conflict management techniques. It was interesting to listen to the actual experiences of the youth on religious intolerance in the community as they narrated several challenges, one of which is the difficulties faced by non-Muslims in accessing rental houses from the Muslim majority community, who are mostly the landlords.



Cameroon youth camp on religious tolerance in Maroua, the youth in activities

Youth camp on religious tolerance in Juba, South Sudan

PROCMURA brought together 40 Christian and Muslim youth from various Church denominations, mosques, and learning institutions in South Sudan for a youth camp themed “Christian and Muslim Youth of South Sudan for Religious Tolerance, Peace and Peace and Development.” The youth camp took place from 11th to 12th October 2022 at Jebel Lodge in Juba, South Sudan. The youth engaged in indoor and outdoor activities involving interactive discussions and team-building activities. At the end of the camp, the youth were commissioned as PROCMURA Youth Peace ambassadors and were awarded certificates of participation.



A group photo of participants in the South Sudan youth camp

Youth camp on religious tolerance in Kaduna, Nigeria

The youth camp in Kaduna, Nigeria, took place from 23-24 November 2022 and brought together hundreds (of 100) Youths (50 Muslim and 50 Christians), Male and Female, to practically engage each other in the ethnoreligious conflicts in the northern part of the country and map out strategies of addressing the crisis. The indoor sessions were emotional as the youth analysed and expounded on the effects of religious intolerance on their families and them as youths.



Group 1, group discussion, Kaduna, Nigeria youth Camp.

The session turned out to be a healing and reconciliation session; after the youth poured out their worries, they decided to work together to stand against practices and teachings that promote religious intolerance in Kaduna, northern Nigeria. The youth engaged in indoor and outdoor activities involving interactive discussions and team-building activities. At the end of the camp, the youth were commissioned as PROCMURA Youth Peace ambassadors and were awarded certificates of participation.

Youth camp on religious tolerance in Tanzania

The Tanzania youth camp has been planned, and everything has been put in place to have it in February 2023. Youth will be selected across church denominations and Muslim groups. The PROCMURA Area Committee in Tanzania will collaborate closely with CCT to implement the project.

The primary outcome of the Youth and religious tolerance programme.

- TUK-PROCMURA, Moi PROCMURA and St Paul's PROCMURA chapters were launched, and the members were commissioned as peace ambassadors;
- Youth in South Sudan, Cameroon, Uganda, Kenya and Nigeria gained skills in promoting religious tolerance and were commissioned as PROCMURA peace ambassadors;
- Youth forums for peace at community levels have been established;
- Action plans developed.

Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding

Interreligious Seasonal School on Prevention/Countering Violent Extremism and Conflict in the Greater Sahel Region and its Environs for Sustainable Peace and Development in the African Continent

PROCMURA is concerned about the increased religious-related conflicts witnessed in the Great Sahel Region and its environs, threatening the peace, security, and development of the region, as well as the neighbouring countries that have, so far, been enjoying some level of stability and growth. The region continues to face various challenges: political upheavals, insecurity, and social and economic challenges leading to poverty and unemployment, among others. Terrorist organisations, including Boko Haram, al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and others, contribute to the violence and instability of the region.

As a result, PROCMURA urgently brought religious leaders across the region for Interreligious Seasonal Schools to enable them to look into the issues affecting the region from a religious peacebuilding approach. The Interreligious Seasonal School, which took place in Lome, Togo, from 10th to 13th May 2022, brought together over fifty (50) participants across the expansive Sahel region and its neighbouring countries, which included; Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal, Cameroon, Guinea, Benin, Togo, Chad, and Ghana. Participants comprised Religious leaders, State actors, the Political class, women leaders, youth leaders, peace activists, and media practitioners.

The participants were trained on a religious peacebuilding approach that anchors on the Christian and Muslim religious values of peace, love, and justice to shape people's world views and bring about individual conviction and transformation necessary to influence the moral, social, and political spaces or climates. This approach also saw training on the secular peace conflict analysis and peace build approach.

PROCMURA “chai Na Amani” campaign for Peaceful elections in Kenya

Violence around the time of elections is common in Kenya and other countries across Africa and the region at large. Most elections in Kenya have been marred with post-election violence creating untenable complex situations for the citizens. Since the introduction of multiparty politics in 1992, all successive elections have been highly competitive and polarised mainly because political parties and coalitions are organised along tribal lines. The youth have been primarily identified as one of the social groups most visibly engaged and used to perpetrate and spread violence.



Peaceful election campaigns in Kenya headed by the Team-Leader of PROCMURA

Given this context and situation, PROCMURA, through support from its partners in Germany Mission Einewelt and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany, deemed it necessary and essential to join with other stakeholders who were propagating for peaceful elections during before and after the electioneering period—crafting an engaging peace campaign dubbed Chai Na Amani (loosely translated to ‘talking over a cup of tea for peace’).

The campaign aimed at educating and sensitising members of the public, especially the youth, on the need and importance of maintaining peace ahead of, during and after the General Elections that were held on the 9th of August, 2022. The campaign, which took ten days of door-to-door visits and engagement with the community, targeted the communities that had over the years experienced violence during elections, such as Kibra, Mathare, Kawangware, and Kamukunji using Peace Caravans, focus group discussions sharing experiences and best practices over a hot a cup of tea, and football matches among others. It is essential that as a result of these campaigns, PROCMURA made the clarion call to all and sundry to join together and talk peace and contribute to the need for peace, as without peace, there can be no development. While the elections were peaceful, PROCMURA celebrated this achievement and contributions during the International Day of peace.



The PROCMURA peace tournament in celebration of the successful peaceful 2022 elections in Kenya

ToT Capacity building workshop for religious leaders in Juba, South Sudan

Forty Christian and Muslim leaders were brought together for a two days workshop on “The role of Religious Leaders in Preventing/Managing Conflict for Peace and Development in South Sudan” on 13th and 14th October 2022 at the Regency Hotel in Juba. The workshop aimed to build the capacity of religious leaders as agents of peace and development in South Sudan, which has been affected by long-term violent conflicts. The Religious leaders discussed in detail the implications of the Unity government’s extension of the Peace Agreement by 24 months and its effects on the people of South Sudan. They agreed that it is their role to enlighten the people at the grassroots in understanding the context of the extension and strengthening peace and social cohesion during the extension period and beyond. At the end of the workshop, the religious leaders were awarded certificates of participation. The religious leaders also formed a Christian-Muslim Network in South Sudan to promote unity between Christians and Muslims in South Sudan in addressing issues of Conflict prevention/Management, promoting peace and development.



A Group photo of religious leaders in South Sudan

Diapraxis sporting activities for youth in South Sudan

In addition to the capacity-building workshops, the PROCMURA team, through the outdoor forums, also engaged Christian and Muslim youth in South Sudan in sporting activities. The youth are involved in mentorship programmes, team-building exercises, and other games like football. These activities helped build trust among them, inculcate good working relationships, promote tolerance, and build new bridges.

The primary outcome of the conflict prevention and peacebuilding programme

- More knowledge was shared on the drivers and nature of the crisis in the Sahel region and South Sudan;
- Capacities were enhanced in conflict analysis and religious peacebuilding;
- Participants understood the role of religious leaders in peacebuilding;
- Country action plans were developed to help address some of the conflicts discussed;
- Participants stated commitment;
- Interreligious community peace networks were established.

Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB)

Francophone West Africa regional training of trainers (TOT) workshop on FoRB

The workshop, which took place in Lome, Togo, from 8th to 11th May, brought together stakeholders, including Christian and Muslim religious leaders, women, youth, government representatives, traditional authorities, and the media from Togo, Benin, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Senegal to build their capacity in championing and promoting FoRB across the region.

The 25 participants were taken through various FoRB modules to gain knowledge, build skills in promoting FoRB, and develop the right attitude towards FoRB. The topics discussed included, an introduction to FoRB and an elaboration on FoRB as a human right, FoRB from a faith perspective, biblical and qur'anic justification for FoRB, women in the development of FoRB, and skills in the promotion of FoRB among others.



Group photo of participants for the Francophone West Africa regional FoRB training

East and Southern Africa Regional Training of trainers (TOT) workshop on FoRB in Uganda;

The TOT took place in Kampala, Uganda, from the 14th to the 17th of August, 2022. The training brought together 46 participants of religious leaders, women, youth, legal practitioners, and the media from Five (5) East and Southern African Countries of Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Tanzania. Topics discussed include the following: Introduction to FoRB, Limitations to FoRB, FoRB from a legal perspective (Human right), FoRB in faith Perspectives (Christianity), FoRB in faith Perspectives (Islam), Group Discussions and case studies on FoRB violations, Government restrictions, social hostility and FoRB, FoRB and women, FoRB Experiences from the Field, and skills in promoting FoRB. The training ended with a closing ceremony. The reading of the statement of commitment, presentation of action plans, evaluations, and presentation of the certificates of participation marked it.



Participants engaged in activities in the East and southern African regional FoRB TOT in Uganda

Celebration of religious and cultural diversity in Maroua, Cameroon

Freedom of religion or belief (FoRB), a universal human right, is violated worldwide in various ways. Most strategically, Violent extremist groups kill people and destroy properties under the excuse of religious differences. They sometimes use the differences between religions or cultures and the diversity in the community to influence people to fight against each other, leading to intolerant behaviour and human rights violations, one of which is freedom of religion or belief (FoRB). For PROCMURA, religious and cultural diversity and many others are blessings, not a curse, and should be celebrated to enhance social cohesion. The celebration event brought together more than one hundred and fifty (150) participants from Maroua, Mora, Mokolo, Meme, Garoua, and Kousseri. The participants comprised youth, women,

Christian and Muslim religious leaders, traditional leaders, and representatives of the PROCMURA inter-religious networks and government institutions. This event took place on the 20th of October, 2022.



Celebration of Cultural and religious diversity in maroua, Cameroon

Celebration of religious and cultural diversity in Nairobi, Kenya

The celebration of religious and cultural diversity in Nairobi, Kenya, which took place on Friday the 11th of November, took a continental approach which was different from the celebration in Cameroon, which was a community approach. The aim of this celebration was the same as that of Cameroon, which was to enhance community cohesion by recognising and celebrating our diversity.

The event brought together more than 200 people: Christian and Muslim religious communities, traditional leaders, government agencies, and chiefs from around Nairobi, and cultural/ethnic representation of the Kenyan people. Representatives from various groups spoke on the importance of diversity and peaceful co-existence

The various religious and cultural groups did presentations in dancing, singing, recitation of the Quran, and bible memory verses. The event then took a continental approach as delegates for the executive committee meeting and Area advisers showcased their traditional regalia from various countries. The take-home message was that diversity is not a problem but a blessing and must be celebrated.



Celebration of cultural and religious diversity in Kenya

Celebration of religious and cultural diversity in Kaduna, Nigeria

The Kaduna locality in northern Nigeria is known for its continuous ethnoreligious violent conflict. Negative ethnicity in the area is playing strongly and negatively on religious people, where some ethnic groups are associated with particular religions insinuating that anyone outside that ethnic group or the religious order is not a good friend.

PROCMURA, after working with the various groups in Kaduna via the seasonal school project on ethnoreligious conflict, different humanitarian aid to southern Kaduna, and most importantly, the FoRB training of trainers workshop, it was time to bring the community together to celebrate this religious and cultural diversity. It was a heartwarming celebration as participants, especially religious leaders, pledged to live in peace and peaceful co-existence.

Launch of the sub-Saharan Africa FoRB trainers network

PROCMURA coordinated the launch of the sub-Saharan Africa FoRB trainers network. It was a hybrid meeting, which physically brought FoRB trainers in Kenya to the PROCMURA conference hall while the rest of the trainers across the continent joined online. The meeting took place on the 15th of November, with 86 trainers attending the launch and expressing their willingness to cooperate with other trainers. The meeting ended with the coordinators' appointment to pilot the network's work.



Launch of the Sub-Saharan Africa FoRB trainers network

The primary outcome of FoRB programmes.

- Capacities were enhanced on FoRB;
- participants identified FoRB violations in their contexts and discussed the way forward;
- Participants developed country action plans to help intervene and address identified violations;
- Participants stated commitment;
- Participants celebrated their diversity;
- the sub-Saharan Africa FoRB trainers network was Launched, and coordinators were appointed.

PROCMURA Ambassadors recognition/awards.

Apart from the youth ambassadors commissioned in various countries this year. There was no ambassador awarded this year. The selection was made, and the recognitions and awards will be conducted in 2023

Research, literature, and documentation

The organisation continued to conduct research and documentation in various areas, especially in Christian-Muslim relations and encouraged the ICMR experts through the platforms to share and allow the organisation to combine and publish contextual and emerging trends in Christian- Muslim and publish this information for various stakeholders, including churches and learning institutions. Promotional items and booklets such as magazines, newsletters and articles, as well as regular updates, were also shared and published on PROCMURA's website and social media platforms. Specific Project reports were published and shared with partners and stakeholders through the PROCMURA documentation and printing centre.

Monitoring and Evaluation.

PROCMURA continues to work towards building sound monitoring and evaluation that will enable it to create an elaborate and impactful theory of change in its programmatic focus. This area remains of high need and importance, especially at the grass-root level, where several challenges are faced, and more capacity, knowledge and skills need to be given. Nevertheless, a Log frame and theory of change were developed to monitor and evaluate each project, including surveys and interviews for qualitative and quantitative data.

As several projects were coming to an end during the year-end term, evaluations were conducted in line with the projects; this included the project on Freedom of Religion or Belief FoRB project with CKU, where an external Consultant was hired as well as a mid-term evaluation of the current strategic plan conducted with a focus on implantation strategies weakness and challenges as well as a review of the organisation's structure.

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

- Lack of financial resources to support projects at the grassroots is a significant challenge for PROCMURA, and the Area committees accessing suitable partners remains a huge problem today.
- Area committees and Advisers also have limited resource mobilisation skills and tend to look for or expect external funding instead of locally generated resources.
- The high dependence on international partners and funding of projects has created a tendency to shift interventions to match donor or partner priorities.
- There is a disconnect between some Area Committees and their local churches, which affects ownership and the sustainability of some projects.

- Area committees need to partner with local stakeholders such as churches, the National council of churches, and others to ensure ownership and sustainability of interventions;
- There is much impact happening at the grassroots in terms of shifts in perception and attitude, which are not measured and reported. It is essential to document the change stories at the local level to showcase the impact of PROCMURAS work;
- The articles written by ICMR scholars and graduates are essential and educative but will not meet the need of the local churches because of their academic natures. Documentation of short stories and case studies of day-to-day happenings in small books and pamphlets is a better strategy to keep the church informed about Christian-Muslim relations.
- The ability to come up with measurable impacts based on long-term and short-term projects, especially how to measure attitudes and develop a theory of change, can sometimes be a challenge we are now addressing in the programmatic focus.

Opportunities

- Develop strategies on local resource mobilisation for ownership of the programmes and activities
- Collaboration and networking with like-minded partners for mutual learning. Identify initiatives to work together and partner with others
- Develop more learning resources on Christian-Muslim relations and share them with key stakeholders to propagate PROCMURA's work.
- Formation of new consortiums, regional networks and thematic areas with like-minded partners and organisations to implement projects.
- Use of Digital platforms and ICT approaches as the world has moved into a technological era.

CONCLUSION

We are happy to report that despite challenges facing many organisations here and there, especially o here and there, there have been a lot of improvements and approaches used to carry out our work and become more dynamic in our methods. This has made the projects this year more impactful, successful and promising.

We appreciate the collaboration of the churches, mosques, and, most importantly, the Area Committees, Area Advisers, and the Executive Committee for their support and availability in carrying out the projects and programmes at the grassroots.

We equally extend our gratitude to our partners for their continuous support and collaboration. We have learned a lot from the experiences of this year, especially from the mid-term evaluation of the 2020-2024 strategic plan. Lessons learned will be incorporated into the remaining years of the strategic plan.

