



# UGANDA JOINT CHRISTIAN COUNCIL (UJCC)



*That they may be one....((John 17:21)*

## What is UJCC?

Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) is an *ecumenical* organization that was established in 1963 and registered as a trustee under the Trustees Incorporation Act. Its current membership comprises the Church of Uganda, the Roman Catholic Church and the Uganda Orthodox Church, which together constitute about 78% of Uganda's population. UJCC was established after Uganda's independence in 1962 at a time when the country was undergoing a transition politically, economically and socially.

The environment in which UJCC was established was characterized by bitter conflicts between and among faith communities during the colonial era, which challenged the three religious leaders who recognized a need for Christians to witness together and live in harmony. Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) is an associate of and affiliated to Fellowship of Christian Churches in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA); All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC).

The Uganda Bible Society, Uganda Joint Medical Stores, and the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund (ECLOF) (Uganda) are associate members of Uganda Joint Christian Council.

### **Vision**

A world where Christians jointly witness to bring about integral transformation

### **Mission Statement**

To promote consensus among Christians in Uganda to uphold Christian values and address issues of socio-economic justice and other matters of concern through joint research, advocacy and networking.

### **Motto**

Growing and serving together

### **Core Values**

Uganda Joint Christian Council core values include; Christian love, Integrity, Unity, Justice, Reconciliation, Peace, Truthfulness

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION (2018 – 2023)**

### **Theme**

'Positioning for Holistic and Sustainable Change'

### **Goal**

Enhanced social and economic transformation of Christians in a holistic, efficient and sustainable manner (Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023)

## **CORE PROGRAMME AREAS**

### **ECUMENISM AND INTERFAITH**

**Objective:** Strengthen and consolidate the practice of Ecumenical fellowship and collaboration among member churches as well as enhance interfaith engagement with people of various faiths.

### **Key result areas**

- Enhanced functionality of regional EJAC
- Increased ecumenical fellowship and collaboration at grass root level
- Enhanced theological understanding and reflections among member churches on ecumenism
- Enhanced interfaith engagements

### Key interventions

- Train staff, EJACs and working committees on ecumenism and functions of EJACS (e.g. Byelaws).
- Extend ecumenical outreach activities to the grass roots.
- Enhance public awareness about Ecumenism at grass root level.
- Continue to develop interfaith dialogue and collaboration on issues of common interest (e.g. World Interfaith Harmony Week, Christian Muslim Relations, Islamic Banking & Economy, etc.)
- Support and facilitate ecumenical activities at regional and grass root level, including Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, World Interfaith Harmony Week, World Women's Day of Prayer, Ecumenical Public Way of the Cross (EPWC)s.
- Produce and disseminate ecumenical IEC materials to member churches, EJACs, and other stakeholders.
- Hold Ecumenical Theological Commission platforms among the Theological Institutions of Member Churches.
- Organise and coordinate ecumenical retreats for UJCC organs including the Secretariat staff and regional EJACs.
- Organize inter-faith dialogue, joint planning & implementation with other religious denominations.



*Ecumenical journey by the Religious Leaders*

### HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

**Objective:** Advocate for and promote policies and programs that contribute to good governance.

#### Key result areas

- Increased demand and initiatives aimed at ensuring political and social accountability.
- Increased participation of citizens in promoting good governance and holding leaders accountable.
- Enhanced respect for human rights, observance of rule of law and adherence to the principle of constitutionalism.
- Enhanced capacity of EJACs to mobilize citizens to participate in influencing government policies and Programmes on natural resources (Oil, Gas and Minerals).

## Key Interventions

- Facilitate EJACs to monitor local government Programs with emphasis on issues of transparency and accountability.
- Develop appropriate training materials on civic education and democracy monitoring.
- Build the capacity of Ecumenical Joint Action Committees (EJACs) on civic education, democracy monitoring, and public expenditure tracking and election observation.
- Coordinate consultations among member churches and other CSOs on bills before Parliament and other emerging issues of legislative and policy nature.
- Review existing policies and legislation relevant to UJCC's thematic areas.
- Advocate for ratification and domestication of relevant human rights instruments.
- Coordinate and facilitate presentation of memoranda and petitions on key advocacy issues with relevant Committees of Parliament and to other relevant government ministries and agencies.
- Monitor Government compliance with laws, policies, regional and international instruments ratified by Uganda.
- Advocate for prompt and fair compensation of the people affected by oil and gas exploration and mineral extraction.



*UJCC staff take part in election observation Affairs*



*UJCC engaging with Parliament Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs*



UJCC monitor gives an update on the situation of the affected persons in the Oil area Buseruka, Hoima



UJCC monitor chats with a woman in Kosiroi mining area, Moroto



**Youth in Kosiroi mining sites, Moroto**



**Youth loading Mable on a truck in Rupa mining site, Moroto**

## SOCIAL PROTECTION

**Objective:** Promote active participation, inclusion and access to social and economic services.

### Key result area:

- Enhanced productivity and employability of the youths.
- Improved access to quality health and education services.
- Enhanced capacity of communities to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women and children.
- Improved income and health of women and out of school girls.
- Improved policies on education, health and gender.

### Key interventions

- Advocate for investment in technical and vocational training for the youth.
- Support member churches to provide life skills training to the youth.
- Conduct dialogue and campaigns on the role of youth in development.
- Develop and implement exchange programmes for the youth.
- Develop and implement youth mentorship programmes.
- Develop and implement youth entrepreneurship/business training programmes.
- Develop and disseminate IEC materials on family life and parenting skills.
- Engage the Ministry of Education and other relevant agencies on matters regarding provision of quality education and teaching of Christian Religious Education in Church founded schools.
- Support EJACs to implement family life education activities in their respective communities.
- Support screening of cervical cancer in UJCC's areas of operation.
- Support community campaigns and dialogue meetings on the prevention of violence against children.
- Promote awareness campaigns against gender-based violence.
- Support women groups to access microfinance, business/ entrepreneurship skills and financial literacy.
- Support establishment of IGAs e.g. improved seeds, planting materials, small animals by women and out of school girls.



*UJCC participates in the 16 days of activism Against Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Barr subcounty, Lira district*



*Women during capacity building workshop in Kaberamaido district*



*Pupils in Dokolo District acknowledge being members of UJCC by show of hands during a training on women and girls' rights*



*Training pupils on women and girls' rights in Kaberamaido District*

## PEACE BUILDING & HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT

**Objective:** Promote policies, programs of peace and reconciliation and contribute to humanitarian efforts

### Key Result Areas

- Enhanced capacity of religious and community leaders to influence development, implementation and monitoring of peace-related policies.
- Increased capacity of EJACs and member institutions to manage conflicts peacefully.
- Enhanced tolerance of diversity within and between communities.
- Increased community safety and control of proliferation and misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).
- Enhanced capacity to respond to humanitarian needs of people in conflict situations.

### Key Interventions

- Scale up construction of peace villages.
- Support grass-roots and national structures for peace (Peace Committees, peace clubs and national reconciliation forums).
- Organize and facilitate peace camps for the youth, women, religious and cultural leaders
- Build the capacity of regional EJACs in mediation, trauma healing and management of conflicts.
- Train EJACs on conflict resolution and management.
- Promote peace dialogue and inter-cultural exchange visits.
- Train EJACs on conflict resolution and management.
- Support microenterprises and small businesses that contribute to social reconciliation and inter-ethnic/inter-religious cooperation.
- Create awareness on peace and reconciliation through documentation and use of electronic and print media.
- Organize peace conferences and symposiums at both regional and national level.
- Conduct advocacy campaigns against proliferation and misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures for humanitarian support.
- Bench mark current humanitarian support best practices.
- Seek out opportunities to partner with humanitarian development agencies.



*Host communities and refugees in Parolinya settlement, Moyo district performing Music Dance and Drama and a Foot ball team aimed at peace building for harmonious co-existence*

## **INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Objective:** Strengthen the institutional capacity of UJCC and its organs.

### **Key Result area**

- Strengthened UJCC’s policies and operational systems.
- Increased capacity of UJCC to generate own revenue and diversify funding base.
- Improved organizational learning and knowledge management.

### **Key Intervention**

- Develop and/or Review and operationalize UJCC policies (gender, HIV/AIDS policy, etc.)
- Facilitate and conduct orientation workshops for members of the UJCC organs on their roles and responsibilities.
- Conduct capacity needs assessment for members of UJCC various organs.
- Develop and implement capacity building strategy for UJCC various organs.
- Operationalize UJCC’s communication and advocacy strategies.
- Develop and implement UJCC visibility strategy.
- Create document management systems to enable effective retrieval of core documents.
- Establish mechanisms for obtaining systematic feedback from beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- Operationalize UJCC Business Plan.
- Finalize and implement fundraising strategy.
- Enhance networking, collaboration and partnership with like-minded organizations.
- Engage in collaborative evidence-based research with higher education institutions and research institutions.
- Seek out opportunities for developing pathways that streamline knowledge sharing
- Bench mark best practices of like-minded organizations.

For further details contact the Executive Secretary  
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UJCC is a member of

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