

# DECEMBER 2022 BRIEFS



## **SPECIAL FESTIVE FEATURE**

**Festive Greetings**

**Staff Updates**

**Ministry Highlights**

**2023 in Perspective**





## *National Director's Note*

Praise be to the Lord for providing for this ministry for the last 49 years since the registration of FOCUS Kenya. Christmas reminds us of the greater provision He has supplied through the birth of the Lamb. What manner of love the Father has allowed us to be His children! In 2022, we have experienced God's favor in numerous ways. God has expanded our scope of ministry and allowed us to reach more institutions. He has also blessed our ministry with great impact on students and fresh graduates. By faith, God has supplied finances generously and has more people to labor in this ministry among our Associates. Evidently, our initiatives have been blessed throughout the year and we have had the privilege of seeing the fruit of our labor.

This festive season, we thank every stakeholder for participating in our story. Thank you for your prayers for the Secretariat and the ministry. Thank you for attending our forums and keeping us encouraged. Thank you for volunteering to mentor the students and support their initiatives. Thank you for giving financial and in-kind gifts to the furtherance of the ministry.

From all of us at the Secretariat, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. May the Lord refresh you and your family and bless you abundantly. May the favor of our Lord be upon you and may He establish the works of your hands for you in 2023 (Psalm 90:17).





For over 20 years, we have partnered with other IFES Movements in Africa, Asia, South America, and Europe through the Interact Exchange program. This program is coordinated by NKSS, our sister Movement in Norway through the Hald International School, and funded by the Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (NOREC).

This November, we were happy to host the partners after a 2 year break due to COVID. The partners from ABUB in Brazil, UCU in Colombia, BSFB in Bangladesh, and NKSS in Norway had a wonderful time of fellowship, strategizing, and learning from each other and FOCUS Kenya.

Thank God for this continued collaboration that has seen many young leaders equipped and shaped for cross-cultural engagements and international work. Thank the Lord for the progress of the exchange students we are hosting in Kenya this year.



Fellowship with the representatives at FOCUS Center in Kasarani



Partners meeting moments in Kenya with representatives from 5 countries in November.

FOCUS Kenya signed a partnership MoU to help support Students Ministry work in Southern Sudan. It is a privilege for us to partake in the mission of God to South Sudan students. From the 5th-9th December, IFES EPSA Regional Associate staff Mr. Simon Masibo and the National Director, Mr. Simon Kande traveled to Juba to meet key stakeholders in FOCUS SS. The SS Secretariat has 5 staff currently, the GS and four STEM staff. We are trusting God for the recruitment of a local Campus Ministry Coordinator.

In April 2023, we hope to send a Missionary Staff from Kenya to serve in FOCUS SS. Pray for a breakthrough in the recruitment of a new staff and the missionary staff FOCUS Kenya will send. Pray also that these efforts will result in effective discipleship of students and graduates and in return enrichment of the communities in SS. We are trusting God for financial and in-kind gifts for the support of the ministry in SS.



The FOCUS SS staff team with the IFES EPSA Regional Associate staff Mr. Simon Masibo and FOCUS Kenya's National Director, Mr. Simon Kande in Juba





## EVANGELISM PARTNERSHIPS

In the early 80s, Evangelistic Teams began with the noble idea of home district evangelism. Over the years, 14 of the Evangelistic Teams have grown to form national bodies to coordinate their evangelism across the country and great growth in various institutions. FOCUS Kenya held a consultation meeting in October, bringing together 12 ET national leaders.

From the meeting, a taskforce was formed to address emerging issues on operational effectiveness. This partnership will enhance Christian witness on campus and beyond. We pray that the result of the meetings and engagements will lead to harmonious operations of ETs in the CUs, more students burdened with evangelism, and more associates participating in the mentorship of students in missional lifestyles.

May the Lord grant us favor in addressing trends in the campus outreaches, to preach the gospel with love and faithfulness.



Highlights from the meeting with ET national bodies heads at FOCUS Center





Highlights of students on Thika Road for the Hatua Walk in November.



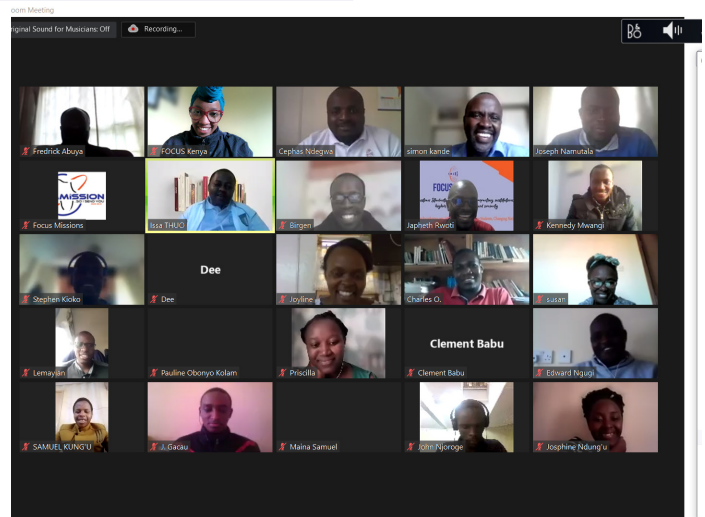
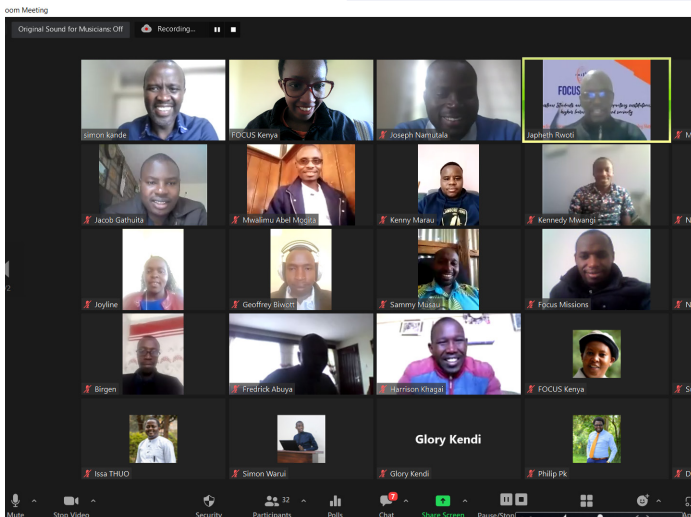
Highlights from the Hatua Fundraising Dinner in December

With over 55,600 students reached by FOCUS this far, we are convinced of the need for infrastructural development in FOCUS Kenya. Expanding our capacity increases our ability to reach students more efficiently for a deeper impact as we grow statistically. This vision, the Hatua initiative, envisions rigorous training and mentorship of at least 10,000 students each year. Since 2018, we have run several initiatives to resource for the project.

In the last two months, we had very successful fundraising events across three Regions. Central Rift Region had a stakeholders' fellowship and fundraiser in November. In Northern and Southern Nairobi, there was a students' walk in November with around 420 students participating and a dinner for Associates in December. Factoring in the economic inflation, it will cost us Ksh 300M to purchase land in every region and complete the construction of the Students' Center at the head office. Cumulatively, we have raised Ksh 63.6M in cash and Ksh 18M in pledges for Hatua.

Thank the Lord for this generous supply and pray that more partners will appreciate the vision of Hatua. Thank God for the partnership we enjoyed from the Royal Media Services and Hope Media, among others for helping us increase awareness of Hatua among more stakeholders.





Virtual staff review meeting in November with CMFs and admin staff

2 years ago, we launched the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan at FOCUS Kenya. In line with our culture, we have 2 reviews every year to assess our implementation and highlight the milestones and areas of growth. From the 23rd to 26th of November, we had our last staff meeting of 2022. Sharing ministry reports, feedback and reflections enhances our learning and capacity for effectiveness. We thank God for the success of the meeting and pray for the grace to execute the way forward for the coming year.

To wrap up the year, we had all 91 staff gather at the Kasarani Students' Center for STEM retreat from 13th-16th December. In addition to stock taking for the STEM year, the retreat was also for developing capacity for the staff in ministry skills and doctrinal issues around our ministry. Staff had the chance to debrief together, share ideas and engage in the mentorship of the STEM staff. Pray with us for continued joy in our service. Pray also that we will be refreshed for ministry in 2023 to God's glory.



STEM Retreat at FOCUS Center in December, with 91 FOCUS staff



## STAFF UPDATES

It is with great joy that we notify you of the following staff changes (transfers) in the secretariat. Thank God for the expansion of our ministry and the availability of ministry workers. Pray for these colleagues, for God to give them the grace to serve in their new capacities.



Mrs. Grace Kinyua  
Finance and Administration Director



Mrs. Mercy Kihara  
Associates Ministry Director



Mr. Peter Parsimiti  
Northern Nairobi Regional Coordinator



Mrs. Josephine Ndung'u  
STEM Coordinator



Mr. Andrew Malele  
CMF North Rift Region



# ASSOCIATES EASTER RETREAT 2023

The Easter Retreat is a platform for FOCUS Associates to reconnect, and build capacity for Students' Ministry. Associates alongside their families gather to refresh and mentor each other. We have not had this retreat for the last 3 years, but we are very eager to run it in 2023.

We would like to invite all Associates for our Easter Retreat from the **7th-10th of April 2023 at Mombasa Continental Resort**. The theme for the retreat is Building Communities for Impact. Please save the date, and prepare to come with your friends and family. To register, use <https://focusms.co.ke/easter-retreat/register> The charges are as follows (in Ksh):

Single room occupancy - 31,000

Tripple- 60,000 (20,000pp)

Kids sharing with parents- 12,000

Double/Twin-48,000 (24,000pp)

Day-scholars- 8,000 (whole period)

Kids not sharing with parents- 18,000



Highlights from the last Associates Easter Retreat in Arusha, 2018

# NLMS

The National Leadership and Mentorship Summit (NLMS) is coming up on 2nd -6th January 2023 at the Cooperative University of Kenya (Karen). The Summit theme is *Value based Leadership for Effective Service*. The summit will feature plenaries, workshops, prayer sessions, mentorship sessions and games. We are inviting associates who would like to mentor students to come on **Thursday 5th January from 10:00am-4:00pm**. The associates will be grouped with students to share their experiences and lessons in their lines of work/ministry.

To register as a mentor visit <https://conferences.focuskenya.org/mentors/register>



In 2023, FOCUS Kenya will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary! We have lined up celebration events to celebrate God's faithfulness over the last fifty years, tell the story of His faithfulness, and connect and re-connect with all stakeholders who have been part of this journey.

Through the year-long celebrations, we hope to share the new dimensions of our transformational agenda, ignite a fresh passion for student ministry, and establish new partnerships. We will launch the anniversary celebrations on January 5th during the NLMS at 7:00pm. Students and associates will be informed on participation during the unveiling of the FOCUS at 50 launch.

Thank the Lord for this milestone in FOCUS Kenya as you pray for the success of the 50th anniversary initiatives.

### MINISTRY GALLERY

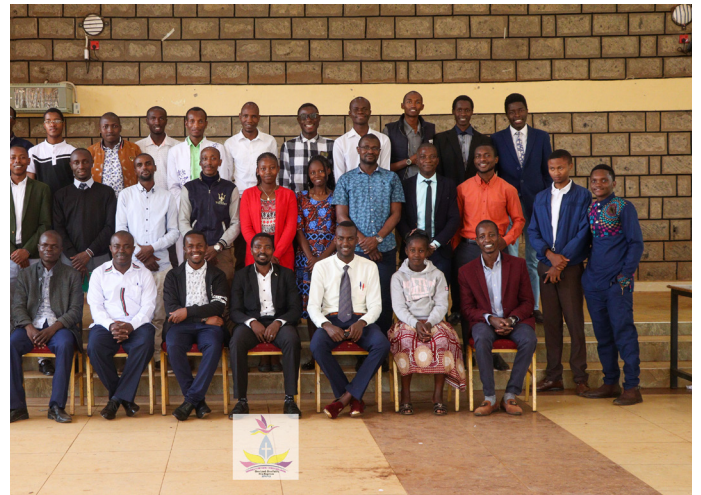


Students in Western Region gathered for the Regional Students' Executive Committee at JOOUST.





Associates in South Coast Branch gathered for goat eating and mentorship meeting with 30 students in attendance



Group mentorship Sunday for students in Embu University featuring Associates and Students in November.



FOCUS Weekend in North Rift Region featuring Students sports' day (left) and Associates joining for Sunday Service (right) at the University of Eldoret



# CONTACTS & SUPPORT

Cheques can be written in favor of: Fellowship of Christian Unions

## COOP BANK

A/C 0112 8098 6335 00  
Zimmerman  
Branch

## ABSA

A/C 0948 2074 00  
Market  
Branch

## DIASPORA

give.ifesworld.org  
Mpesa Wave Number  
+254 702 909 982

## STANDARD CHARTERED

A/C 0102 0730 83700  
Harambee Avenue Branch

## MPESA

payments.focuskenya.org  
Pay Bill No: 412 412 | A/C Name: support



WR

Western Region (Kisumu)  
0724 997 059

PR

Pwani Region (Mombasa)  
0724 997 056

CR

Central Rift (Nakuru)  
0724 997 057

NR

North Rift (Eldoret)  
0724 997 058

MR

Mt. Kenya (Nyeri)  
0728 067 067

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