

# BEST PRACTICE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

# KISUMU COUNTY

#### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT? Uphold, Operationalize and Defend the Constitution and What about its Protections for Citizens 'To Maximise Citizens' Economic & Social Benefit? **Benefits** Protect Citizen From Harm Both Constitution Foreign or Domestic **Protect** Distribute Benefits Equitably **Distribute Purpose of** Government Create Enabling Environment for Citizens to Create/Pursue **Enabling Enviromt** Opportunities for Wealth Creation & Self Development Resource **M**ngmt Manage Our Resources Responsibly for this and Future Generations <sup>©</sup>Wohoro Ndohho, Public Finance Consulting, 0715 782 678 Governance & Ethics in the Public Service



# World Bank in its World Governance Indicators publication ..

"...the manner which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development

"...the traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised"

"...the use of institutions, structure of authority and even collaboration to allocate resources and coordinate or control activity in society or the economy"

#### Therefore, Governance is:

- the manner which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development, including...
- traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised and....
- the structures of authority including collaborative ones to allocate resources and coordinate or control activity in society or the economy"

#### **GOVERNANCE** is about...

# Running...

- An Organization
- An Entity
- A Corporate Body
- A GOVERNMENT





#### **INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS:**

6 World Governance Indicators used by the WB to define best practice & thus to measure the quality of Governance

- I) Voice & Accountability
- 2) Political Stability & Lack of Violence
- 3) Government Effectiveness
- 4) Regulatory Quality
- 5) Rule of Law
- 6) Control of Corruption
- a) Kenya?....

#### What are KENYA-SPECIFIC Governance Benchmarks?

# Chapter 10 - Constitution of Kenya 2010 - requires:



**10.** (I) The national values and principles of governance in this Article **bind all** State organs, State officers, public officers and **all persons** whenever any of them—

- (a) applies or interprets this Constitution;
- (b) enacts, applies or interprets any law; or
- (c) makes or implements public policy decisions.

What are they?

What are the implications for applying them in Kenya?

#### What are KENYA-SPECIFIC Governance Benchmarks?

# Chapter 10 - Constitution of Kenya 2010



j) Equality

b) National unity

k) Human rights

c) Sharing and devolution of power

I) Non-discrimination

d) The rule of law

m) Protection of the marginalised

e) Democracy and participation of the people

n) Good governance

f) Human dignity

o) Integrity

g) Equity

p) Transparency & accountability

h) Social Justice

q) Sustainable development

i) Inclusiveness

# Would you add anything to them?



- q) Responsiveness to Citizens concerns?
- r) Financial Transparency?
- s) Whistleblower protection?
- t) \_\_\_\_\_
- u) \_\_\_\_\_
- v) \_\_\_\_\_
- w) \_\_\_\_\_
- x) \_\_\_\_\_
- y) \_\_\_\_\_
- z) \_\_\_\_\_

#### What are Ethics?

#### **Webster Dictionary:**

The discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation

#### **Oxford Dictionary:**

Moral principles that govern a person's behavior or the conducting of an activity

#### **So Ethics**

- Deal with the 'Self' the person
- Are rooted in morality
- Govern Behaviour
- Determine Choices in an activity

#### In Philosophy:

#### **Aristotle:**

Virtues are dispositions to act in ways that benefit both the person possessing them and that person's society

#### Kant:

"Duty is central to morality"

Ie we are bound from our knowledge of our duty as rational beings to obey categorical imperatives to respect other rational beings

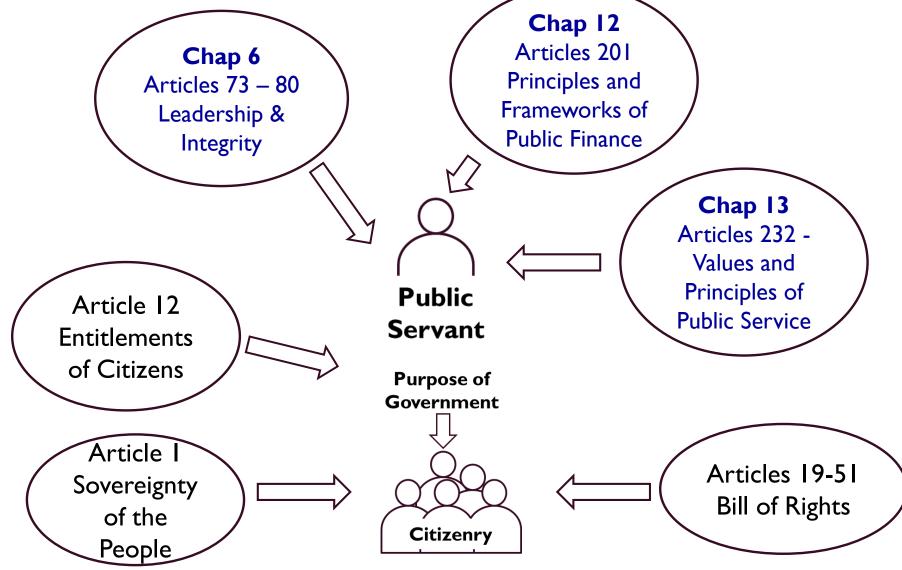
#### Jeremy Bentham (Utilitarianism)

The guiding principle of human conduct should be the greatest happiness or benefit of the greatest number

Ethics in Public Service Should Impact Governance where <u>Standards of</u> <u>Behaviour for Public Servants</u> are Set by the Constitution and Given



**Effect in Subsidiary Legislation** 



## **Values & Principles of Public Service**

- high standards of professional ethics;
- efficient, effective and economic use of resources
- responsive, prompt, effective, impartial and equitable provision of services
  - involvement of the people in the process of policy making (public participation)
    - accountability for administrative acts;
      - transparency and provision to the public of timely, accurate information;

fair competition and merit as the basis of appointments and promotions, subject to...

representation of Kenya's diverse communities; and

- affording adequate and equal opportunities for appointment, training and advancement, at all levels of the public service, of
  - men and women;
  - the members of all ethnic groups; and
  - (iii) persons with disabilities.

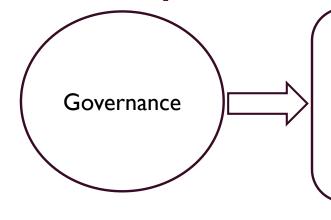




These values and principles of public service apply to the public service in all State organs in both levels of government; and State corporations.

Governance is only as good as the quality of and Strong Adherence to Ethics in the Daily Conduct of the Public Servant





#### **Government**

Structures, of Authority Systems, Procedures + Legal Frameworks & Imperatives



Purpose of Government

Citizenry



# Person (Self) Public Servant

Moral Principles within +
Internalizing Legal
Imperatives & Rules +
Personal Commitment



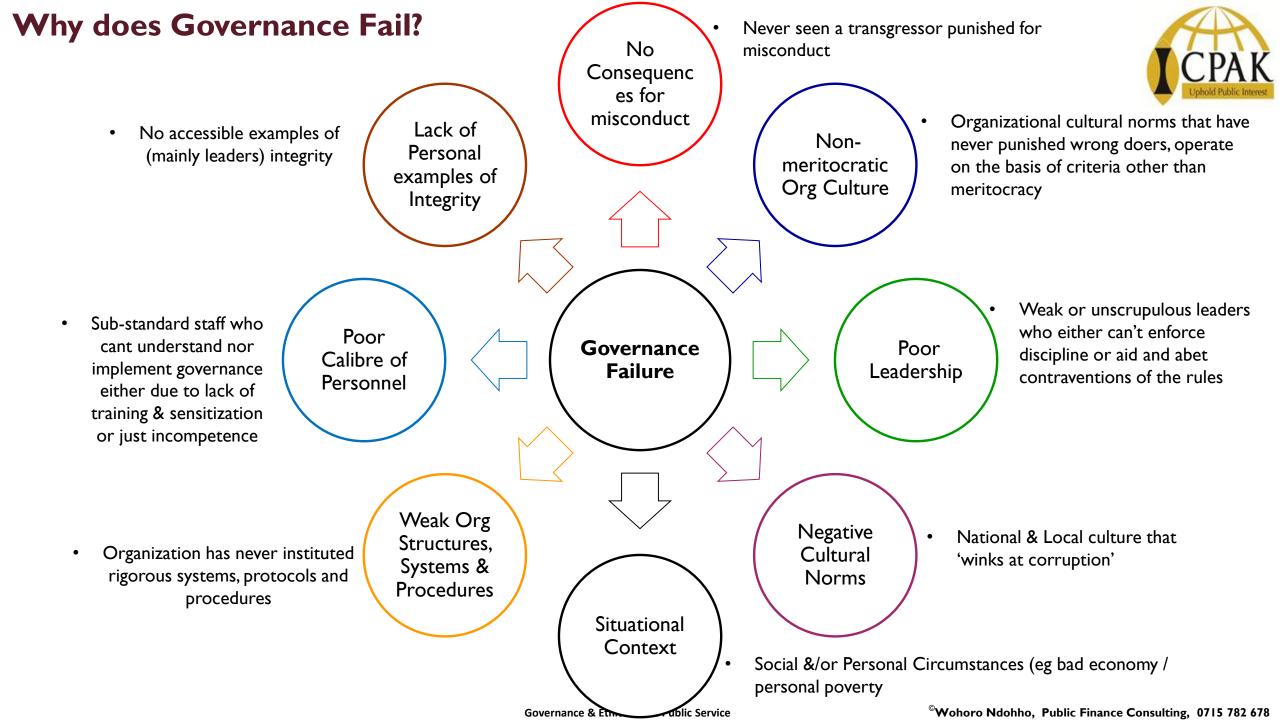
Citizen Benefit

Citizen Harm

#### **Purpose of Government**

Effecting the Constitution Economic Empowerment? Elimination of the 3 evils of: Ignorance, Poverty & Disease?

**Ethics** 



#### Incentive & Punishments? What is a better motivator for Governance?



#### Remember this?

Which one applies to Govt/Institutions? & Is it different for Individuals?

#### In Philosophy:

#### **Aristotle:**

Virtues are dispositions to act in ways that benefit both the person possessing them and that person's society

#### Kant:

"Duty is central to morality"

le we are bound from our knowledge of our duty as rational beings to obey categorical imperatives to respect other rational beings

#### **Utilitarianism (Jeremy Bentham)**

The guiding principle of human conduct should be the greatest happiness or benefit for the greatest number. I.e. while motivation for good governance for governments/organizations is mainly utilitarian; For individuals, it is largely about the fear of adverse consequences

#### **IN ESSENCE:**

**Common Good incentive** to ethics

Inherent/innate affinity to 'do the rational thing'

**Transactional, reductionist**(for Governments not Individuals)

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## Incentive vs Punishments? Which is more effective in ensuring compliance?

#### Fear of Adverse Consequences

It is evident that Fear of Adverse Consequence is a stronger incentive to governance compliance than the promise of reward. It is therefore reasonable to invest in **stronger governance enforcement mechanisms** to make good governance the norm rather than the exception

#### Other Motivating factors for Staff and Organizations including Government:

- Religion, Culture and Personality => Strong role in determining inner moral compass that directs action.
   Awareness of this helps growth
- However, Quality education, Strong Professional Training and Leadership Training greatly enhances the caliber of public servant to enforce good governance.
- Commitment to personal legacy, professional standing, community stature, strong role models (including ongoing mentoring arrangements),
- Commercial & Social necessity: Market Credibility and Customer loyalty. A strong promise-keeping reputation undergirds share holder value better than necessarily strong marketing structures.
- Personal & commercial Appreciation of the opportunity cost of bad governance in lost opportunities and customer mistrust especially at a time of falling incomes
- Intergenerational Equity reasons for safeguarding resources

Thinking => Behaviour
Behaviour => Thinking
The place of Law & Systems in
Changing Behaviour

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Constitution 2010:
Defines what being Kenyan is.
Powerful if practiced daily

III
Culture & Religion
Understanding the interplay
between
the Rule of Law and Culture

IV
Thought => Action => Habit
=> Character => Destiny.
Governance is a CHOICE!

# Finally Knowing One's Purpose is the "Why" to Good Governance - Whether in Government or Private Sector -



## For

## **KISUMU COUNTY**

### **Vision:**

A peaceful and prosperous County where all citizens enjoy a high-quality life and a sense of belonging.

### **Mission:**

To realize the full potential of devolution and meet the development aspirations of the people of Kisumu County



# THANK YOU!