



**NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE**

*Fighting Crime through Research*



# THE ISSUE



A National Crime Research Centre Publication



## **Vision**

**"To be a World Class Crime Research Institution"**



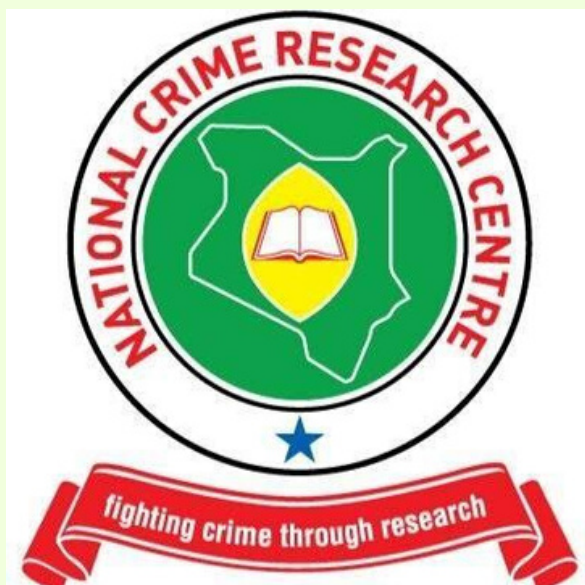
## **Mission**

**"To provide quality and authentic research into causes of crime and its prevention with a view to achieving a crime free society."**



## **Mandate**

**"To carry out research into the causes of crime, its prevention and to disseminate the research findings and recommendations to Government Agencies concerned with the administration of criminal justice, NCRC's stakeholders and the public."**



## Editors Note

Welcome to our first issue of **National Crime Research Centre (NCRC)** newsletter dubbed **THE ISSUE**.

I am honored to introduce the first edition of NCRC's newsletter the goal of which is to provide our stakeholders with a concise yet comprehensive picture of all the news generated by the Centre. I begin by thanking every individual who contributed to the success of this newsletter.

One of the most exciting announcements in this edition is the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between NCRC and the Kenya Institute of Bankers (KIB). This partnership brings the banking sector close to the working around crime research.

The Newsletter also highlights the Young Researchers Programme, an Initiative by the Centre, to mentor young external research resource persons and students studying relevant degree courses with components of research in the Humanities and Social Sciences to grow their interest and experience in research processes.

Further, this inaugural newsletter introduces Performance Contracting (PC), a tool introduced by the Government of Kenya to improve service delivery in the Public Service.

I hope you enjoy reading this inaugural publication of The Issue





## THE NCRC GOVERNING COUNCIL



**HON. JUSTICE (RTD) PAUL  
KIHARA KARIUKI**  
**CHAIRPERSON**



**PROF. SYLVIA KANG'ARA**  
**GC, MEMBER**



**MR. DICKSON MAGOTSI**  
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**MR. GERARD WANDERA**  
**DIRECTOR/CEO**  
**SECRETARY**



# THE NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

By Nancy Naburuki

## NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE



### ELECTION CRIMES AND OFFENCES IN KENYA



## NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE



### GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN KENYA



## NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE



### EMERGING CRIMES: THE CASE OF KIDNAPPINGS IN KENYA



## Publications by the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC)

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) is a State Corporation domiciled at the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government. The Centre, established by an Act of Parliament (The National Crime Research Act 1997 CAP 62 Laws of Kenya) was formerly based at the Office of the Attorney General and its key mandate is to carry out research into the causes of crime, its prevention and to disseminate the research findings and recommendations to Government Agencies concerned with the administration of criminal justice, NCRC's stakeholders and the public.

The effectiveness of NCRC's mandate requires its collaboration with key players in the Criminal Justice System. It is based on this that the President Uhuru Kenyatta through Executive Order No. 1 of 2018 moved NCRC to be domiciled at the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government. This strategic move was towards ensuring that the Centre works closely with the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and the Government Chemist. Since then, this enhanced cooperation has provided a huge impetus to the government's agenda of justice delivery in the country.

Under the leadership of its Governing Council chaired by the Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya Hon. Justice (rtd) Paul Kihara Kariuki and its Director/CEO, Mr. Gerard Wandera, the Centre continues to work behind the scenes towards promoting productivity, efficiency and effectiveness in the collective national efforts of preventing and combating crime, and its negative effects in the country through crime research.

The Governing Council comprises of sixteen members drawn from key agencies within the criminal justice system in Kenya namely: Office of the Attorney General, Judiciary, National Police Service, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya Prisons Service, Probation and Aftercare, Children Services, both Public and Private Universities and Non – Governmental Organizations. The Governing Council is Chaired by Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya. The Council operate through four committees namely:- Research and Development; Finance and Administration ;Legal and Audit.

Since its inception, NCRC has delivered over 30 research reports which have been key in policy formulation. Some of the notable impacts from NCRC's research work include:

- i) The findings and recommendations of the Centre's report on "Election Crimes and Offences in Kenya" launched in November, 2016 were widely used to mitigate on election crime offences in Kenya's 2017 General Election.
- ii) The County Government Policy on Sexual and Gender Based Violence largely borrowed from the findings of the Centre's report on Gender Based Violence.
- iii) The report on Community Service Orders (CSO) in the Meru High Court Administrative Jurisdiction, Kenya contributed to an increase in placement of offenders to CSO with Tharaka Nithi leading with 46 per cent.
- iv) The report on Human Trafficking in Kenya has been instrumental in the preparation of Standard Operating Procedures and Preparation of a Police File on Human Trafficking Cases spearheaded by UNODC as well as training on Child Trafficking for Children Officers in Kenya.
- v) The report on Capital Offences and Punishment in Kenya and Public Perception on Retention and Abolition of Death Penalty in Kenya has informed the Judiciary to question and rule on the 'mandatory Death Sentence in Kenya' as being unconstitutional.



**Some of the publications by the National Crime Research Centre in Collaboration with partners/Stakeholders**

The Centre aims at becoming a world-class crime research institution and this calls for continual update and upgrade of its systems, methods and practices to meet the highest standards within its allocated resources as possible. Further, the Centre, as its mandate requires, publishes research reports online at [www.crimeresearch.go.ke](http://www.crimeresearch.go.ke) and avails hard copy information upon visiting the Centre or the Kenya National Library Services.



## NCRC PAYS COURTESY CALL TO CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND COORDINATION OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

By Mark Shiundu



**Members of NCRC's Governing Council during a past meeting**

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) Governing Council made a courtesy call to the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of interior and Coordination of National Government Dr. Fred Matiang'i.

The meeting came following Executive Order No.1 of 2018 which made operational changes on the location of NCRC moving it from Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice to Ministry of Interior and Co-ordination of National Government.

During the meeting, the Cabinet Secretary commended NCRC for its exemplary work attributing it to the strategic leadership by the Governing Council. Dr. Matiang'i also reiterated on the need for collaboration between agencies under the Criminal Justice System focus being NCRC, Government Chemist and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

The Centre's Performance Contract for Financial Year 2019/2020 was also signed during the meeting.

The Governing Council comprises of sixteen members drawn from key agencies within the criminal justice system in Kenya namely: Office of the Attorney General, Judiciary, National Police Service, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya Prisons Service, Probation and Aftercare, Children Services, both Public and Private Universities and Non – Governmental Organizations. The Governing Council is Chaired by Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya. The Council operate through four committees namely:- Research and Development; Finance and Administration ;Legal and Audit.

## PERFORMANCE CONTRACT

By Nancy Naburuki and Mr. Ronald Ruwa



**National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) Director/CEO Mr. Gerald Wandera with Mr. Joel K. Bett from the Performance Contracting Unit and NCRC PC Co-ordinator Mr. Ronald Ruwa during evaluation of NCRC's Performance Contracting for Financial Year 2018/2019 at NCRC Offices.**

Performance Contracting (PC) was introduced by the Government of Kenya as a tool to improve service delivery in the Public Service. Since its inception in 2004 where only a few State Corporations were participating, more organizations including all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are now required to implement the Performance Contract.

It requires organizations to work towards set targets, draw out service charters and implement them to full realization for quality services to citizens. The process entails; Review of Performance Contracting Guidelines; identification of performance targets; pre-negotiations consultations; intra/ inter-sector hearings; negotiations of performance targets; vetting of performance contracts; signing of performance contracts; implementation and execution of the contracts; monitoring and reporting; mid-year review; real time performance evaluation and public announcement of the performance evaluation results.

Since its inception, the National Crime Research, as a State Corporation, has been undertaking activities in line with the requirements of the Performance Contract. In the Financial Year 2018/19, the Centre was evaluated by the Performance Contracting Management Unit; the Centre garnered a composite score of 2.9052 rated as very good. Among the key areas where NCRC performed excellently included implementing activities under National Cohesion and Values where 100% was achieved. Guided by the PC, NCRC has undertaken a corruption risk assessment and developed a corruption risk mitigation plan. Further, cross-cutting issues under the PC include resolution of public complaints, disability mainstreaming and prevention of HIV/AIDS.

The Centre is currently implementing the Performance Contract For Financial Year 2019/2020.





**Interns working at the Research Pool of the National Crime Research Centre**

The National Crime Research Centre has continued to work towards mentoring the youth of the Republic of Kenya. Through the Public Service Internship Program (PSIP), an initiative of the Public Service Commission (PSC), the Centre received 13 interns in the calendar year 2020.

Whilst at the Centre, the interns are provided with hands-on experience which expands their knowledge horizon on the research process thus giving them a competitive advantage in the job market. They participate in collection of data, data coding, analysis of information and are further oriented in basic report writing.

Their areas of profession include: Criminology and Criminal Justice (5), Actuarial Science (3), Business Management (2), Procurement (1), Law (1) and Forensic Science (1).



**Interns working at the Research Pool of the National Crime Research Centre**



The Public Service Internship Programme (PSIP) is a Government initiative designed to offer the opportunity for college graduates to acquire and develop valuable technical and professional skills while gaining work experience. The programme is also aimed at inculcating in the interns values and principles of public service; and to promote ethical conduct.



**Students drawn from various schools across the country under the Pupils Reward Scheme (PURES - A mentorship programme under the Presidency) during their visit to NCRC**

Similar to the PSIP is a program initiated by the NCRC dubbed the Young Scholars Researchers Program (YSRP). The YSRP is a program that has engaged students from Rongo University, Nairobi University and students under PURES program. Its core objective is to mentor young external resource persons or students from educational institutions on research processes. This is aimed at sparking their interest and further expanding their knowledge horizon on crime research.

The mode of delivery of the YSRP is two-fold which includes:

1. Research processes practical sessions conducted at the Centre by Centre's experienced Research Staff, scholars and practitioners in the Governing Council, other NCRC-invited experienced scholars and practitioners in the criminal justice system and Centre's senior and experienced external research resource persons.
2. Outreach crime research thematic presentations/discussions conducted in universities by Centre's experienced Research Staff, scholars and practitioners in the Governing Council, other NCRC-invited experienced scholars and practitioners in the criminal justice system and Centre's senior and experienced external research resource persons.



# CYBER HYGIENE AT WORKPLACE

By Rose Weru



Just like washing hands can minimize the risk of infection from bacteria or viruses, cyber hygiene can protect against infiltration and data loss. However, it goes well beyond virus infection. Digital hygiene encompasses a variety of security measures, and every employee has a role to play, which is why it's so startling that a 2017 survey by Dell revealed 72% of employees would share sensitive or confidential information.

## 1. Use Security Software

All devices should have an antivirus installed. The software should be updated, and the antivirus software should always be running to do its job.

## 2. Avoid Email Risks

Emails can be the source of viruses and other malicious attachments as well as phishing attacks. (Phishing is the fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details by disguising oneself as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication). Scan any files that you download from email (most security software does this automatically). Verify the source of any email before clicking links. This is especially true if it appears to come from a financial institution, governmental department, or partner. You may be able to look for informative signs of phishing such as the wrong logo, typos, misuse of your name, or a URL that doesn't match the organization's actual website. You can also access these websites directly or call businesses to verify the source of the email.

## 3. Close Tabs to Prevent Tabnapping

Tabnapping is a type of phishing attempt in which an already-opened tab is switched with a phishing attempt. When you return to the tab and log in, you may be giving your information to scammers. Close unnecessary tabs so you can keep an eye on them. Your browser will perform better, too.

#### **4.Protect Information over the Phone**

Scammers attempt to gain access to information over the phone as well. It may be difficult to avoid these calls if you frequently receive calls for unknown numbers. Just like with email attacks, you can make a point to call the person or business in question using their verified phone number to do business or to report a scam.

#### **5.Use Passwords Smartly**

Set up new accounts with strong and unique passwords. Use a password organizer tool if it's difficult to remember these passwords. A password on a sticky note provides anyone who has access to your desk access to your computer. Change passwords frequently and after any potential hack. The IT team may force frequent password changes or send reminders. Ensure that no one knows your password or sees you use it.

Keep devices locked whenever not in use, even if you're just running to the bathroom for a moment. This is doubly important when you are using a personal device at home at work or bringing a company device home to continue work.

#### **6.Work Only on Company Devices**

If you're provided a device to work from, do not use your personal devices to work. This can leave you vulnerable because the IT team cannot control the setup of your personal devices to ensure good cyber hygiene.

#### **7.Connect to Networks Securely**

Avoid public networks when possible. Do not send sensitive information over these networks.

#### **8.Hide Screens**

Keep screens covered so that anyone who should not have access to the information on the screen can see it. This includes when you're away from the device as well as when you use it.

#### **9.Install Only Trusted Software**

Only install software from trusted sites. Don't bypass installation security to install software on your device.

#### **10.Back Up Data**

Data should be frequently backed up and backed up to multiple sources. For example, data can be backed up to an external hard drive and the cloud( e.g using your emails.

#### **Reference.**

<https://www.serianu.com>

<https://ca.go.ke/>



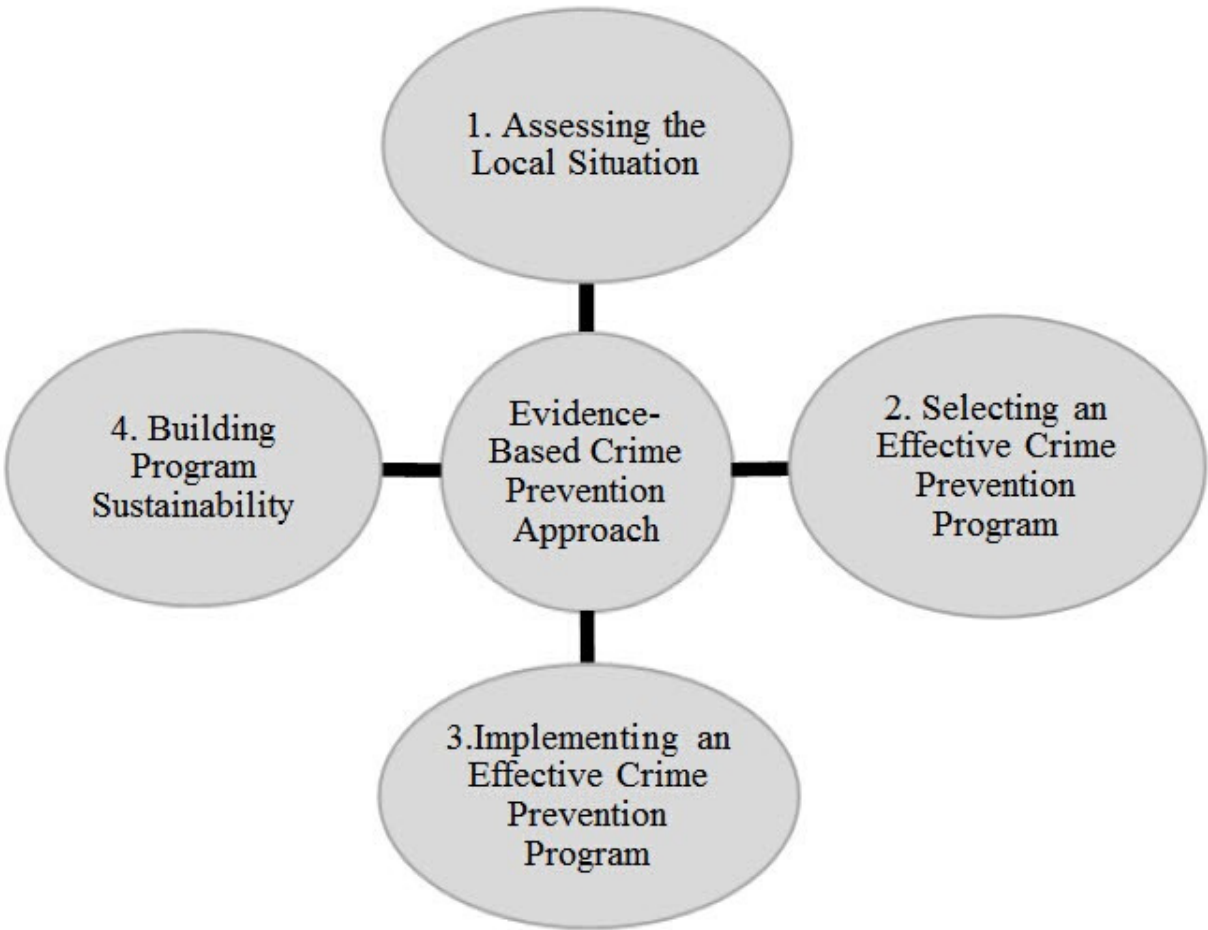
# Crime prevention should always take a transdisciplinary approach

By Dr. Victoria Gioto

A quick survey on the current state of development in the world today depicts a picture of individuals faced by insecurity around their environs. Insecurity is a key result to deaths and suffering which ranges from lack of a safe, secure and conducive environment to operate in. According to the Kenyan constitution, national security is highlighted as:

- 1.The protection against internal and external threats to Kenya’s territorial integrity and sovereignty, its people, their rights, freedoms, property, peace, stability and prosperity, and other national interests.
- 2.It shall be promoted and guaranteed in accordance with the following principles—
  - i. National security is subject to the authority of this Constitution and Parliament;
  - ii. Shall be pursued in compliance with the law and with the utmost respect for the rule of law, democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms;
  - iii. In performing their functions and exercising their powers, national security organs shall respect the diverse culture of the communities within Kenya; and

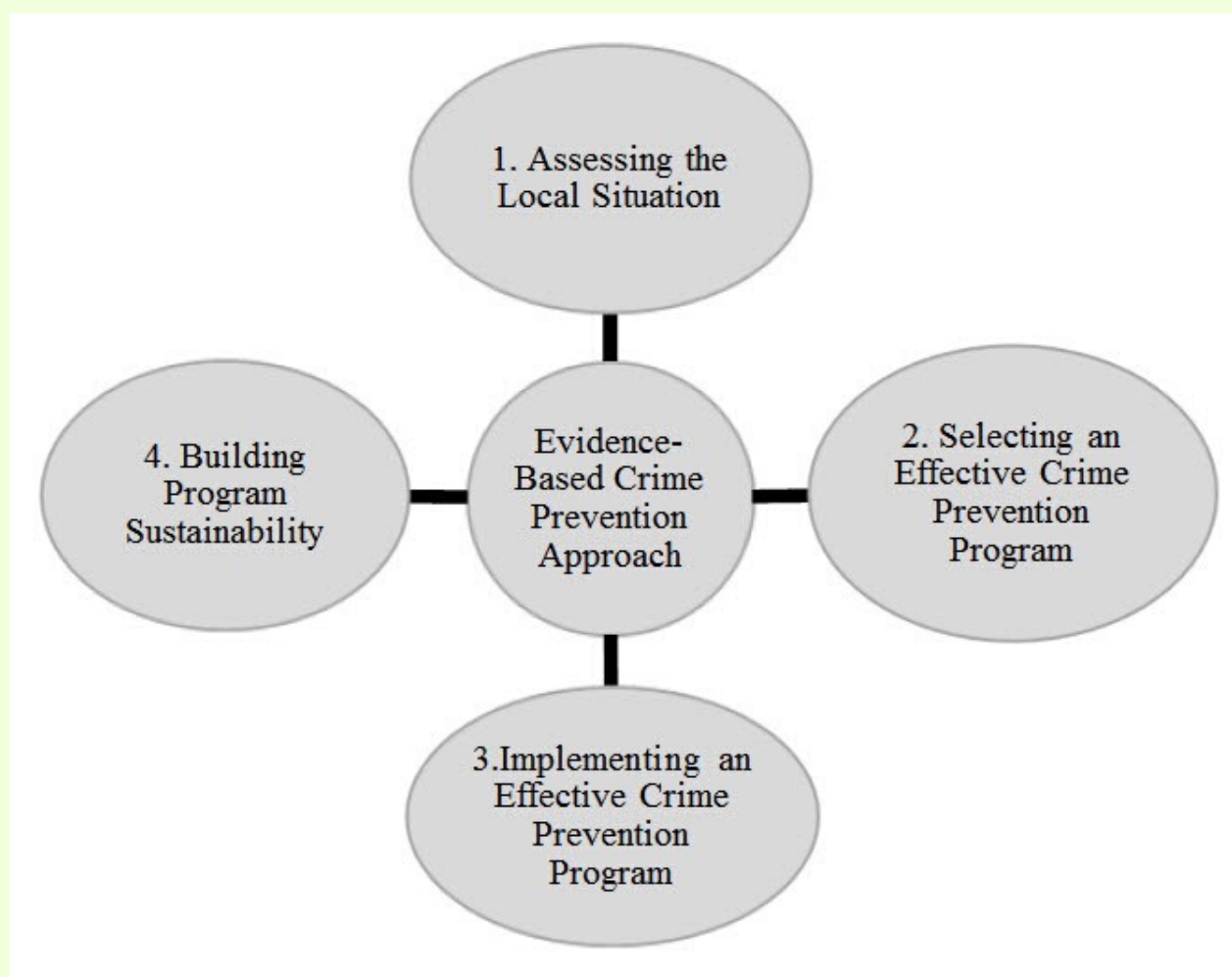
Transdisciplinarity is widely documented as a research strategy that crosses many disciplinary boundaries to create a holistic approach. It applies to research efforts focused on problems that cross the boundaries of two or more disciplines, and can refer to concepts or methods that were originally developed by one discipline, but are now used by several others, such as ethnography, a field research method originally developed in anthropology but now widely used by other disciplines.



SOURCE: GUIDE FOR SELECTING AN EFFECTIVE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMME

The Belmont Forum elaborated that a transdisciplinary approach is enabling inputs and scoping across scientific and non-scientific stakeholder communities and facilitating a systemic way of addressing a challenge. This includes initiatives that support the capacity building required for the successful transdisciplinary formulation and implementation of research actions.

To this end borrowing from the transdisciplinary approach “Model” for us to have a crime society we need to approach crime from all disciplinary point. This will entail the public availing the required information, the scientist developing models and working on all possible solutions by building different scenarios, the academia adding up to the existing knowledge, the practitioners giving their angle of experience and to crown in the crime prevention being actively implemented. This whole some approach is likely to ensure our society prosper to the next decade and implement an effective crime prevention programme.



**SOURCE: GUIDE FOR SELECTING AN EFFECTIVE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMME**



## NCRC Partners with Kenya Institute of Bankers (KIB)

By Bundi Mbaya and Nancy Naburuki



**National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) Director/CEO Mr. Gerald Wandera with Kenya Institute of Bankers(KIB) Executive Director Mr. Gilbert Alela signing an MoU that will bring a robust partnership between the two organization at NCRC offices.**

The National Crime Research Centre(NCRC) has signed a Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the Kenya Institute of Bankers (KIB)

Speaking during the event, NCRC's Director/CEO Mr. Wandera thanked the team for the work done to achieve the partnership adding that theirs is need for concerted effort towards giving the required advisory. Mr. Wandera further added that the institutions' vision of the MoU will be a driving factor towards achieving the fruits of the signed MoU.

In his speech, Kenya Institute of Bankers CEO Mr. Gilbert Alela commented on the power of synergy when institutions collaborate." This partnership comes with new energy to move forward; with positive intent, we can move forward as a team and achieve much," Mr. Alela said.

The MoU seeks to bring the KIB closer to NCRC to unravel economic crimes in the banking sector and to further put to book new crime statistics within the sector.

The Kenya Institute of Bankers (KIB) is the "Professional umbrella body" for the Banking and Finance sector with a primary responsibility of upholding the integrity of the Banking profession by promoting Acceptable Banking Standards by certifying professional banking education, training and providing consultancy/counselling, codes of conduct and continuing professional development programmes.









**UPCOMING**

# EVENTS

## NATIONAL CRIME CONFERENCE, 2020

The National Crime Research Centre will be hosting its first ever National Crime Conference in 2020. The Conference will bring together key stakeholders within the Criminal Justice System to exchange ideas, experiences and best practices in crime management.

Further to this, the Conference seeks to interrogate current public safety insights, lessons and challenges in the administration of crime and violence management in the country. Plans for the Conference are underway and dates will be communicated soon.

Dates of the Conference will be announced soon.

## RESEARCH STUDY: POMAC PARTNERS WITH NCRC

The National Crime Research Centre will be collaborating with The Power of Mercy (POMAC) in conducting a research study on **Best Practices and Risk Assessment in the Pardon Process**.

The study is at its preliminary stages of planning.

## RESEARCH STUDIES

in 2019, The National Crime Research Centre conducted two key research studies:

1. A Baseline Survey on Land Related Crimes in Kenya
2. Charitable Children Institutions in Kenya

Coding of questionnaires for both studies is ongoing and launch dates will be announced in our next edition of The Issue.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **A. Who is the National Crime Research Centre?**

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) is a State Corporation under The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government established by an Act of Parliament, the National Crime Research Act 1997 CAP 62 Laws of Kenya. The Centre is mandated to carry out research into the causes of crime, its prevention and to disseminate the research findings and recommendations to Government Agencies concerned with the administration of criminal justice, NCRC's stakeholders and the public.

### **B. What mechanisms have been put in place by NCRC to ensure quality control in research work?**

1. The Centre's research activities are carried out by a team of professionally trained research experts.
2. The Governing Council and the Research and Development Committee approves all research themes/topics and closely supervises and validates the entire processes of proposal development, data collection, coding, cleaning, entry, analysis, report writing and dissemination.
3. Governing Council comprises experienced practitioners and scholars in public service, academia, NGO's and agencies in the administration of criminal justice.
4. All research reports are subjected to a process of peer review and validation by experts, practitioners from public service, private sector, NGO's and academia.

### **C. Is National Crime Research Centre part of the National Police Service?**

No. NCRC is an independent government agency from the National Police Service. Its Research Officers are only involved in crime research work and not the work of police officers such as detection and investigation of crime and criminals. Further to this, NCRC researchers carry out research into the efficacy and adequacy of criminal investigation and prosecution agencies, the penal system and the treatment of criminal offenders.

### **D. What is the NCRC Mobile Phone Crime reporting Application?**

The NCRC Mobile Phone Crime Reporting Application is a national mobile phone-based platform that gives members of the public opportunity to report crime incidences in their localities. The application is a paradigm shift in fighting crime through research by use of pocket technology (mobile phone).



### **E.What are the functions of the Governing Council?**

The Centre's Governing Council is responsible for policy and programme direction. Its specific functions are to:

1. Formulate research policies and programmes of the Centre.
2. Direct the research activities of the Centre with a view to ensuring that its objectives as per the NCRC Act, Cap 62, No. 4 of 1997 LoK are achieved.
3. Plan and organize fund-raising activities to generate funds for the Centre.

### **F.What is the NCRC Mobile Phone Crime reporting Application?**

The NCRC Mobile Phone Crime Reporting Application is a national mobile phone-based platform that gives members of the public opportunity to report crime incidences in their localities. The application is a paradigm shift in fighting crime through research by use of pocket technology (mobile phone).

### **G.What are the key objectives of the NCRC?**

Section 5 of the National Crime Research Act gives 8 core objectives of the Centre which include to:

1. Carry out coordinated research into, and evaluate the impact of programmes pursued by the agencies responsible for the administration of criminal justice
2. Collate all crime related data.
3. Carry out research into any criminal activity and in particular:
  - a. Crime causation and prevention;
  - b. Group or culture related crimes;
  - c. Socio-political and economic causes of criminal behavior including drug trafficking, peddling or addiction;
  - d. The modus operandi of persons engaged in any criminal activity;
  - e. Juvenile delinquency;
4. Carry out research into deviations from the criminal justice system with a view to increasing the awareness and responsibility of the community in the rehabilitation of criminal offenders;
5. Carry out research into the efficacy and adequacy of criminal investigation and prosecution agencies, the penal system and the treatment of criminal offenders;
6. Disseminate its research findings through publications, workshops, seminars, the mass media and other appropriate means of dissemination;
7. Communicate its research findings and recommendations to the agencies of Government concerned with the administration of criminal justice, with a view to assisting them in their policy formulation and planning;
8. Liaise with any other research bodies within or outside Kenya engaged in the pursuit of similar or related research.

# NCRC's Mobile Crime Reporting App



## FEATURES OF NCRC'S MOBILE CRIME REPORTING APPLICATION



### 1 DESCRIPTION OF CRIME INCIDENCE

The App Allows you to capture all details pertaining to the crime incidence



### 2 LOCATION OF CRIME INCIDENCE

The Mobile App allows you to include the location of crime. This includes the County and sub-county of crime occurrence.



### 3 TIME OF CRIME OCCURENCE

To facilitate immediate response and for data capture for purposes of crime mapping, the app allows you to provide the exact time of the crime occurrence.



### 4 UPLOAD OF EVIDENCE IN PDF, AUDIO OR PHOTO

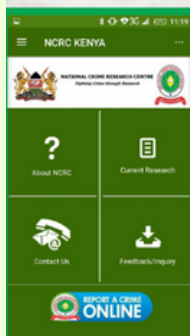


The app allows you to attach and upload PDF, audio, photo and ms word files as evidence of the crime being reported.



### 5 DOESN'T REPLACE POLICE OCCURENCE BOOK

The App does not in any way replace the Police Occurrence Book.



## DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

The NCRCKENYA App is available to all smartphone users.

WWW.CRIMERESEARCH.GO.KE

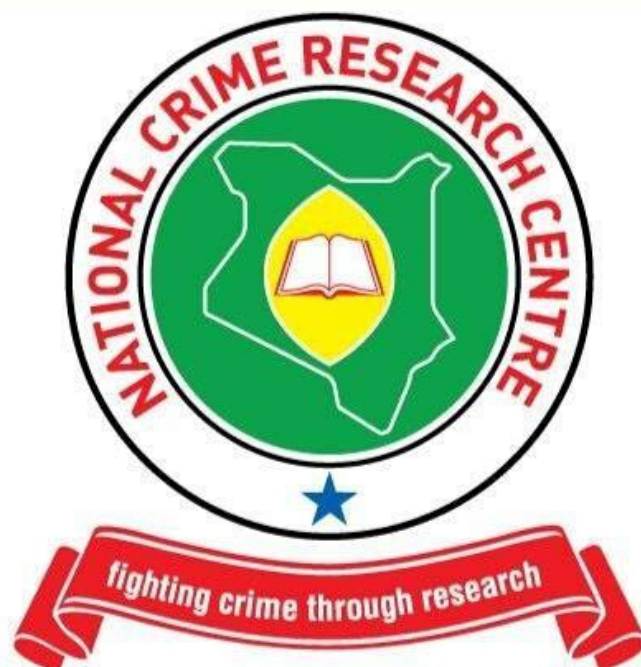
## About NCRC 's Mobile App

- It allows users to report crime digitally
- It uses data to make communities more inclusive and safer.
- It allows users to report crime as it happens in their specific localities
- It is available in English version

## How do I install the App?

The App is available to all smartphone users:

- Android Operating System phones, visit Google Play store, search NCRC Kenya App and install in your phones
- Iphone Operating System, visit Appstore, search NCRC Kenya then download and install in your handset.
- Windows Operating System ,visit Windows Store, search NCRC Kenya then download and install in your handset.



# CONTACT US

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NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE/ THE ISSUE 1 / VOLUME 1

# *THE ISSUE*