## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING YOUR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN KENYA?

There are several benefits that come with registering your non-governmental organization (NGO) in Kenya.

Some of these key advantages to registering your NGO in Kenya include the following:

- 1. Legal recognition: Registering your NGO will ensure its legal existence and recognition under the laws of Kenya thus granting your organization a distinct legal identity, allowing it to enter into contracts, own property, and engage in various activities as a recognized entity.
- 2. Credibility and trust: Registration enhances your NGO's credibility and legitimacy in the eyes of stakeholders, including donors, partners, and beneficiaries. It demonstrates your commitment to transparency, accountability, and adherence to legal requirements, which can help build trust and attract support.
- 3. Provision of access to funding and resources: Many funding agencies, both local and international, require NGOs to be registered to be eligible for grants and other forms of financial support. Registration will improve your chances of accessing donor funding, government grants, and resources that can assist your organization in implementing its programs effectively.
- 4. Tax exemptions and incentives: Registered NGOs in Kenya may be eligible for tax exemptions or benefits, such as exemptions from income tax, import duties on certain items, and value-added tax (VAT) on specified goods and services. These incentives can significantly reduce operational costs and allow you to allocate more resources towards your projects and initiatives.
- 5. Enhanced partnerships and collaborations: Registration opens up opportunities for partnerships and collaborations with other organizations, both within Kenya and internationally. Many potential partners, including government bodies, corporate entities, and other NGOs, prefer to work with registered organizations due to the assurance of legal compliance and accountability.
- 6. Greater influence and advocacy: Registered NGOs have a stronger voice and platform for advocacy and lobbying for policy changes and societal improvements. Being a recognized entity gives your organization more credibility and standing when engaging with government institutions, policymakers, and other stakeholders to advocate for the rights and welfare of the communities you serve and intend to serve.
- 7. Protection of assets and liabilities: Registration offers a degree of legal protection by separating the organization's liabilities from those of its members or founders. This separation ensures that personal assets of individuals associated with the NGO are generally not at risk in case of legal disputes or financial liabilities incurred by the organization.
- 8. Official documentation and reporting: Registering your NGO involves complying with specific reporting requirements and submitting regular financial and programmatic reports. This helps ensure transparency, accountability, and proper governance within the organization, which is essential for maintaining the trust of donors, supporters, and regulatory authorities.

Other than the above listed advantages, there are other benefits accruing from specific regulations, laws, and policies.

It is advisable to consult our experts at <u>GND Consult</u> for more information on registration and benefits available to NGOs and foundations registered in Kenya.