

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa and the Focolare Movement invite you to the first International Conference of its kind in Africa, to be held at Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi from 26th to 28th January 2011 on the theme: **"Economy of Communion: A New Paradigm for African Development"**, with the participation of economists and other experts from around the world.

The Economy of Communion (EoC) involves entrepreneurs, workers, managers, consumers and experts in the world of finance. It was launched in 1991 in São Paulo/Brazil by Chiara Lubich (foundress of the Focolare Movement) with the aim of building and showing a society where, following the examples of the first Christian community in Jerusalem, "there was not a needy person among them" (Acts 4:34).

The EoC businesses are the pillars of the project. They freely commit themselves to putting their profits in common, dividing them into three parts with the following corresponding goals:

- To support the development of persons and communities that find themselves in need through shared projects based on reciprocity, subsidiarity and communion;
- To spread the culture of giving and of reciprocity;
- To develop the businesses themselves, creating jobs and wealth, orienting all internal and external business life towards the common good.

In addition, the EoC gives life to industrial parks in the "small towns" of the Focolare Movement aiming at showing a living laboratory of an economy of communion.

The Conference will be a moment of research and dialogue in search of insights for a new model of economic development.

www.edc-online.org/en/ • www.focolare.org

Economy of Communion: A New Paradigm for African Development

Contact

Charles Besigye • Festus Musau

Catholic University of Eastern Africa
P.O. Box 62157 – 00200 Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 (0)20 2525811–15

+254 0721 897368

+254 0713 713816134

E-Mail: pr@cuea.edu

Homepage: www.cuea.edu

Geneviève A. M. Sanzé

E-mail: gsanze@yahoo.fr

Tel: +225 06 16 20 51

+225 22 44 04 37

Local Contact:

International Conference

Catholic University of Eastern Africa
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University of
Eastern Africa

