Factsheet: Summer 2015

PEACEBUILDING

Rejecting Violence in the Name of Religion

Involving Youth and Women in Conflict Resolution
Nigeria

- 150 Christian and Muslim women, and 150 Christian and Muslim youth trained at the KAICIID workshop on using dialogue to prevent conflict during and leading up to the 2015 Nigerian general elections.
- Organized at the request of Archbishop of Abuja John Onaiyekan and Alhaji Idris Musa, Sarkin Jiwa
- KAICIID is planning future activities in Nigeria in cooperation with the Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Conflict Resolution
Central African Republic

- Monsignor Nzapalainga, the Archbishop of Bangui, and Imam Omar Kobine Layama, the President of the Islamic Community of the Central African Republic work with us to contribute to conflict resolution and reconciliation.
- KAICIID supports the Platform of Religions hosting a multi-religious radio station, coursework and workshops. The radio broadcasts counteract hate speech and promote cooperation and respect.

Preventing Atrocity Crimes
Morocco

- With the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention, KAICIID organized a religious leaders’ forum that issued an “Action Plan to Prevent Incitement to Atrocity Crimes.”
- The Action Plan prioritizes countering hate speech, strengthening interreligious education and engaging political leaders. At five regional meetings over the coming year, the Action Plan will be refined and adopted at a religious leaders’ summit in 2016.

United against Violence
Lebanon

In May 2015, KAICIID convened in Beirut a follow-up meeting of the November 2014 Conference “United against Violence in the Name of Religion,” which called upon religious institutions and governments to actively work together to counter the narrative of terrorism. Islamic and Christian religious leaders from Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and Lebanon, and representatives from the Yazidi community in Iraq, met this time to revisit the conference recommendations, and to show how they are implemented in concrete projects. KAICIID-supported programs for social cohesion and education related to religious and cultural diversity in Iraq and Syria were discussed. KAICIID’s cooperation with international and regional institutions like UNDP, UNESCO, and the UN Office for the Prevention of Genocide were also presented. Participating religious leaders also proposed special projects to encourage knowledge-sharing and cooperation in the promotion of dialogue understanding, and mutual collaboration on the basis of global citizenship.
Empowering Future Religious Peacemakers

KAICIID International Fellows Programme (KIFP)

KAICIID offers future religious leaders the interreligious dialogue skills they need to become active peacemakers. Through its Fellows Programme, now in its second year, KAICIID trains mid-career Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Muslim and Jewish teachers from religious education institutions around the world. Over the course of one year, combining in-person and online training, they acquire the tools they need to prepare their own students to become leaders in interreligious dialogue. The Fellowship Programme also creates a global community of interreligious dialogue peacemakers and peacebuilders.

In its first year, Fellows from seventeen countries were trained in dialogue, mediation and peacebuilding. Currently, KAICIID Fellows 2015 are implementing projects and courses at their respective institutions and communities. Their graduation is scheduled for December 2015, when they will also welcome the new cohort of Fellows.

A three-month training programme for youth in Myanmar, which comprises visits to religious places of worship; a training project among women and youth leaders from faith-based organisations in Nigeria; fellowship programmes in Sri Lanka and India; and a book co-authored by two Fellows, a Hindu and a Muslim, that relates their experience in the programme, are some of the projects currently being implemented.

The applications to take part in the 2016 KIFP are now open to education professionals working in institutions that train future religious leaders. For more information, please visit www.kaiciid.org.

KAICIID’s Peace Mapping Project is an interactive, online database that shows where people are working to build respect among communities through interreligious dialogue.

The Peace Mapping Project, currently in pilot testing, is a tool for students, researchers, policymakers and dialogue experts to learn about organisations that are committed to interreligious dialogue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dialogue between Muslims and Christians – Greece: Sept. 2015
Countering Online Hate Speech – Jordan: Sept. 2015
Right Start Foundation Training – Morocco: Sept. 2015