

2024

Annual Report





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ABBREVIATIONS

AI	Artificial Intelligence
ASEAN-IPR	Association for Southeast Asian Nations - Institute for Peace and Reconciliation
AU-ECOSOCC	African Union Economic, Social, and Cultural Council
AU-IFDF	African Union Interfaith Dialogue Forum
CAR	Central African Republic
DJF	Dialogue Journalism Fellowship
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EuLeMa	European Muslim Leaders Majlis
ForB	Freedom of Religion and Belief
ICoC	Interfaith Code of Conduct
IDFP	Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace
IDN	Interfaith Dialogue Network
IPDC	Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation in the Arab World
ITHRAA	KAICIID-supported Coexistence Content Enrichment Initiative
KFIN	KAICIID Fellows Institutional Network
KIFP	International Fellows Programme
MCR2030	Making Cities Resilient 2030
MFAC-IATF	Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the UN Interagency Taskforce on Religion and Sustainable Development
MINUSCA	UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
MJLC	Established the Muslim Jewish Leadership Council
PaRD	International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development
PCRC	Plateforme des Confessions Religieuses de Centrafrique
RCDP	Regional Citizens' Dialogue Programme
SDGs	UN Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNAOC	United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme



KAICIID

at a Glance

COUNCIL
OF PARTIES



Austria, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Spain and the Holy See as a Founding Observer



OUR
MISSION



MISSION

To promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a means of building understanding, respect, and peaceful coexistence among people of diverse beliefs and cultures.

We empower individuals and communities to engage in constructive and respectful dialogue, develop conflict prevention and mediation skills, and build diverse networks of trust and cooperation.

OUR
VISION



VISION

A peaceful world where people of different religions and cultures live together in harmony, recognising their shared humanity and working towards common goals.

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS



5

Major religions represented on the Board of Directors:

- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism



IMPACT
OF OUR WORK



8,000+ Dialogue practitioners trained



540+ Fellows graduated from 93 countries



10 Interreligious networks established and supported



6 Dialogue platforms established and supported around the world



17 Formal partnership agreements

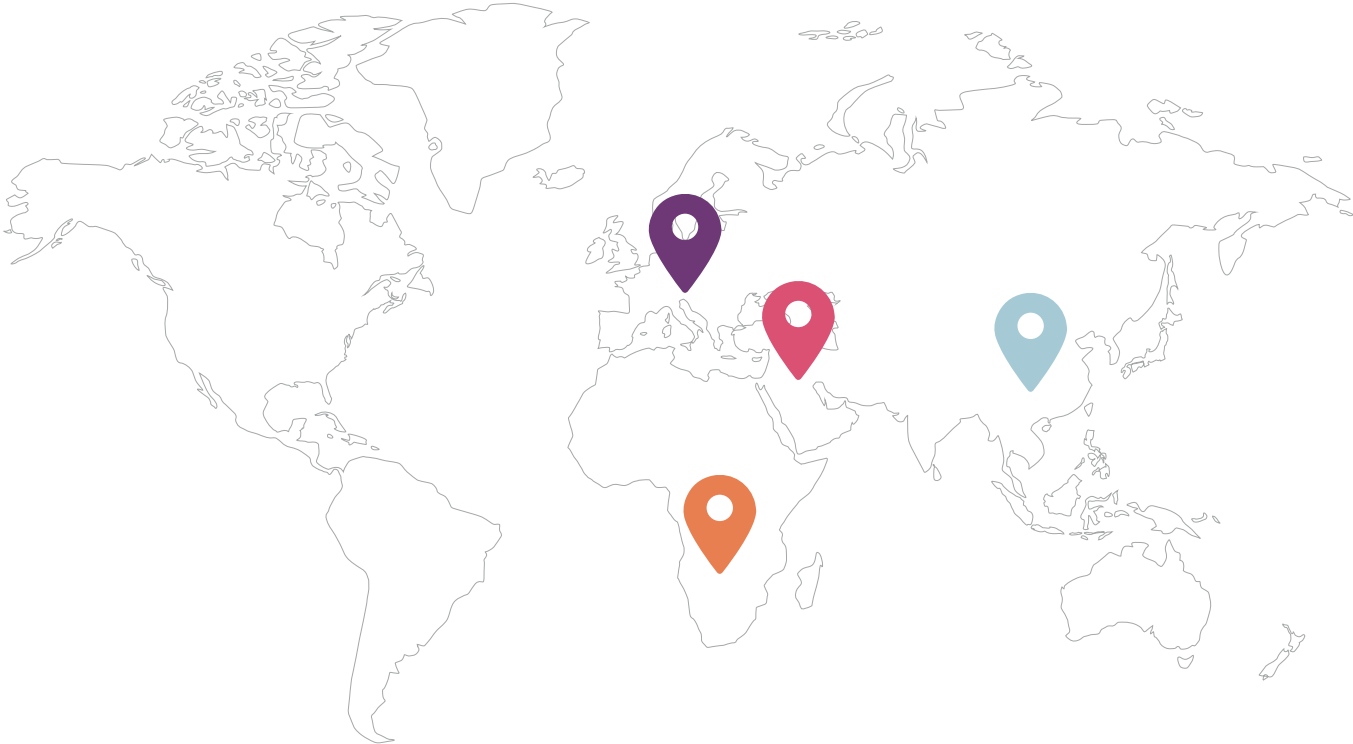


20+ Project-based cooperation and licence agreements

WHERE
WE WORK



Whether due to religious differences or conflict over land or resources, dialogue is essential in jointly overcoming challenges. KAICIID’s programmes promote social cohesion through dialogue in communities around the world. We build platforms where sustained dialogue can take place in conflict-prone situations and societies in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and Europe.



ESTABLISHED AND SUPPORTED NETWORKS AND PLATFORMS



Africa Region	Link
Regional Citizen Dialogue Programme (RCDP)	Link
Central African Republic: Peace Journalists Network	Link
Central African Republic: Plateforme des Confessions Religieuses de Centrafrique (PCRC)	Link
Nigeria: Network of Policy Makers to Support Reconciliation, Peace and Security in Nigeria	Link
Nigeria: Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP)	Link
Arab Region	
Interreligious Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation in the Arab World (IPDC)	Link
Network for Religious Christian and Muslim Faculties and Institutes in the Arab World (NFRI)	Link
Social Media Regional Network	Link
Asia Region	
Southeast Asia Dialogue Cities Network	Link
Europe Region	
Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC), supported by the European Muslim Leaders Majlis (EuLeMa)	Link
Network for Dialogue	Link



WHAT
WE DO



WE DEVELOP CAPACITY

Dialogue training is at the forefront of many of our programmes. Through e-learning and online resources, our Fellows Programme and partnerships with organizations such as the World Organization of the Scout Movement, we work with dialogue experts around the world to give people the tools to mainstream dialogue in their communities.

WE CONVENE

As a convener, we establish and support interreligious networks and dialogue platforms around the globe, host conferences, local workshops and other fora. We bring together religious leaders and policymakers to promote dialogue as a fundamental aspect of policymaking aimed at tackling global problems such as climate change, inequality and poverty. We aim to recognise and promote the invaluable contributions of religious communities to peace and development, and to work with them to solve global challenges.

WE PROMOTE DIALOGUE IN POLICY AND PRACTICE

Dialogue brings transformative change to individuals and communities, bringing mutual understanding and respect, thereby fostering social cohesion across societies. To ensure the longevity and sustainability of our work, we support organizations and institutions to infuse dialogue into their policies and practices in alignment with their unique missions and mandates. Through events, platforms and initiatives, we build robust partnerships between policymakers, who have the legislative power to shape inclusive policies, and religious leaders, who have an unparalleled ability to reach people in the most challenging corners of the world. We focus on ensuring that policies reflect the needs and contributions of diverse religious and cultural leaders and communities, including women and youth.

WHO WE ARE



STAFF UPDATE

TOTAL STAFF

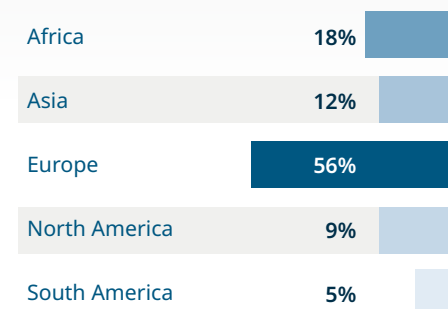


STAFF NATIONALITY

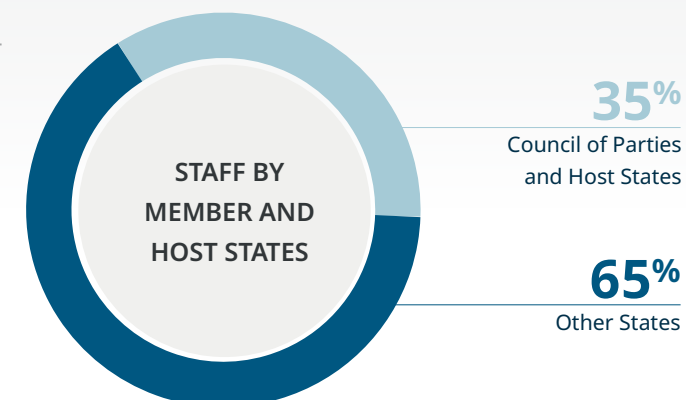
KAICIID's multinational staff come from



BY CONTINENT



BY COUNTRY



Foreword

CHOOSING CONNECTION IN A WORLD THAT PULLS US APART

At a time when conflict and crises seem to dominate every headline, it is easy to feel powerless. From wars and economic turmoil to the escalating impacts of climate change, the challenges facing our communities are profound. It is easy to retreat, to build walls, to prioritise the immediate and the familiar. Yet, I believe that this very moment demands the opposite: a courageous choice for connection, a deliberate act of reaching out to those who seem most different from ourselves.



Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro,
Acting Secretary
General, KAICIID

The work of KAICIID and its partners over the past year is a testament to the human capacity for empathy and understanding, even in the midst of chaos. It is about the tangible, life-saving power of dialogue.

I have witnessed dialogue rebuild communities through:

- **Breaking cycles of violence:** When conflicts seem intractable, dialogue opens pathways for de-escalation. In Nigeria, Interfaith Dialogue Units have brokered agreements in some of the country’s most conflict-prone areas, bringing together Christian and Muslim leaders to mediate local disputes. In Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, inter- and intra-religious dialogue allowed religious leaders to begin building resilience against extremism in their communities, with the goal of returning to long-term regional stability.
- **Countering the rise of extremism:** In a world of increasing polarisation, equipping institutions and individuals with dialogue tools builds resilience against extremism. In response to heightened tensions in the Middle East, prominent Jewish and Muslim leaders from the Muslim Jewish Leadership Council and the European Muslim Leaders Majlis have been working together to counter rising antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred through public engagement, advocacy, and youth-focused initiatives such as the Young Ambassadors Programme.
- **Stopping hate speech and reducing tensions:** Words are often flash-points for conflict. In the Arab Region, over 50 Dialogue Journalism Fellowship-trained journalists produced ethical and inclusive media content that fosters understanding. In the Central African Republic, the KAICIID-established Network of Conflict-Sensitive Journalists is working to curb inflammatory speech and promote peaceful narratives.
- **Amplifying marginalised voices:** Dialogue creates space for those too often excluded. In Europe, young refugees and migrants shared their personal stories through photography. The “Through Our Eyes” exhibitions have opened conversations, challenged stereotypes, and promoted understanding. Meanwhile, the *Women’s Voices* webinar series continued to highlight the role of interreligious and intercultural dialogue in addressing systemic barriers faced by women in peacebuilding, policymaking, and cultural life.
- **Bridging divides:** Global challenges require approaches that connect local realities with broader multilateral frameworks. KAICIID positioned itself to ensure grassroots efforts are linked to international policy by continuing to play an active role in the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to

the United Nations Interagency Taskforce on Religion and Sustainable Development, and its Working Group on Multilateralism and Global Governance, which engages faith-based actors in key United Nations processes, including the implementation of the Pact for the Future. Our long-standing partnership with the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation has supported government officials in institutionalising dialogue as a governmental tool in maintaining peaceful coexistence.

Meanwhile, over 540 KAICIID International Fellows Programme alumni, including religious leaders, policymakers, educators, civil society and media representatives, apply transformative dialogue in their communities, with this year’s Latin American Fellows cohort expanding the reach of interreligious dialogue across regions.

It is easy to dismiss dialogue as a soft approach, but it is, in fact, a deeply pragmatic one. It is the hard work of building trust, fostering understanding and creating space for collaboration. It is the foundation of multilateralism. As we move forward into a new year, let us embrace dialogue not as a last resort, but as the first tool in our toolbox as we build a more just, peaceful world.

Ambassador António de Almeida Ribeiro

Acting Secretary General, KAICIID



Organizational Update

CHAPTER

1

EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

This year has been marked by escalating conflicts, deepening socio-political divisions and growing challenges to social cohesion and sustainable development worldwide. In response, KAICIID has maintained its commitment to promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a means of bridging divides and building inclusive societies.



A key milestone was the KAICIID Global Dialogue Forum. Held in May in Portugal, the Forum, themed *Building Alliances for Peace in a Rapidly Changing World*, convened religious and secular leaders to discuss how transformative dialogue can address global challenges.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS FOR GLOBAL IMPACT

This year saw a renewed push for multilateralism. The United Nations Secretary-General urged world leaders to strengthen global cooperation through a Pact for the Future, building on key frameworks such as the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda. KAICIID's partnerships and work in convening religious leaders, policymakers and other faith-based and secular actors is strongly aligned with these goals.

At the KAICIID Council of Parties meeting in Lisbon in September 2024, Member States, and Portugal as guest of the Chair, reaffirmed their intent to secure Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly and strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies. Achieving Observer Status is a key priority in KAICIID's Strategic Plan 2024–2027. KAICIID's leadership engaged in high-level discussions with United Nations representatives and international partners to advance this goal.

KAICIID Global
Dialogue Forum

Outreach missions to New York, including bilateral meetings during the High-Level Political Forum in July, and the United Nations General Assembly



High-Level Week in September, garnered strong support for KAICIID's work and mission. KAICIID's leadership also participated in the 6th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue and Global Summit of Religious Leaders, both events in Baku, Azerbaijan; 9th International Fatwa Conference in Cairo, Egypt; and Peace and Development in the Group of 7 (G-7) Countries, held in Lisbon, Portugal.

International
Partnership on
Religion and
Sustainable
Development (PaRD)

Additionally, KAICIID maintained active representation in international, including United Nations-affiliated platforms and networks, such as the Working Group on Multilateralism and Global Governance within the Multi-Faith Advisory Council to the UN Interagency Taskforce on Religion and Sustainable Development (MFAC-IATF).

In February, KAICIID hosted the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) Spring Leadership Meeting in Lisbon. As one of the three co-chairs representing the multilateral organizations' constituency, KAICIID engaged with diplomatic representatives, religious leaders, and local stakeholders, in discussions on PaRD's 2024 Operational Plan and key initiatives.

In March, KAICIID participated in the Multi-Religious and Multi-Stakeholder High-Level Forum in New York, hosted by Religions for Peace. This event brought together global partners to reflect on the role of faith-based organizations in addressing contemporary global issues. As part of the forum, KAICIID

celebrated the contributions of *Women of Excellence in Multireligious Action*, including former KAICIID Board member Dr. Kezevino Aram and KAICIID Fellow Rev. Sr. Agatha O. Chikelue.

KAICIID also supported the IV Edition Mafra Dialogues, organised by the Institute for the Promotion of Latin America and the Caribbean and co-sponsored by KAICIID, together with other partners. The conference is dedicated to peace diplomacy and strategic dialogues, including interreligious and intercultural dialogue. The event brought together leading voices on conflict resolution, human rights and diplomacy.

Furthermore, KAICIID participated in the Steering Group of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, which was hosted by the Finnish Ambassador to the United Nations. Discussions focused on evaluating the Network’s achievements over the past decade and advancing the implementation of its 2020–2025 Strategy.

In August 2024, as a Steering Board member, KAICIID contributed to the G20 Interfaith and PaRD Annual Forum on Religion and Sustainable Development in Brasília, Brazil. Under the theme *Leave No One Behind: The Well-Being of the Planet and Its People*, the forum explored how interreligious dialogue and faith-based organizations can drive sustainable development.

In September, KAICIID supported the Trilateral Partnership of Regional Faith-Based Networks for the SDGs – Arigatou International, Religions for Peace and World Vision, – in organising a side-event at the Summit of the Future.

The event emphasised the importance of religious collaboration in shaping multilateralism that is rooted in human fraternity. Additionally, as part of its partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), and membership in the UNAOC Group of Friends, KAICIID attended the High-level Meeting of Members, held in New York, USA.

In November, KAICIID participated in the Sixth Global Network of Religions for Children Forum, hosted by Arigatou International in Abu Dhabi. KAICIID co-led a session, which highlighted the role of interreligious dialogue in fostering inclusivity and protecting children. The event concluded with the Abu Dhabi Declaration, emphasising faith-based cooperation in education and peacebuilding.

On the sidelines of the Forum, KAICIID renewed its partnership with Arigatou International through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in November 2024. This renewal builds on the organizations’ collaboration on the 2023 Ethics Education Fellowship, which spanned two continents, six countries, benefitting hundreds of teachers and thousands of students.

Also in November, KAICIID renewed its MoU with the UNAOC at the 10th UNAOC Global Forum in Cascais, Portugal. In December, following two years of successful cooperation in training ASEAN officials in interreligious and intercultural dialogue, KAICIID and the Association for Southeast Asian Nations – Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) signed an MoU.

Sixth Global Network of Religions for Children Forum



IV Edition Mafra Dialogues



PARTNERSHIPS
IN NUMBERS



24

Collaboration Agreements signed with partners for implementation of activities



17

Formal partnership agreements through MoUs and letters of intent, with educational, international and intergovernmental institutions



REPRESENTATION IN

3

International networks and platforms and member of 10 of their thematic working groups, including on SDGs 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

KAICIID operates under the guidance of two main governing bodies: the Council of Parties and the Board of Directors.

The Council of Parties, comprising KAICIID's founding Member States – the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Spain, with the Holy See as a Founding Observer, fulfil several essential functions. This includes appointing the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, approving the annual work programme and budget, appointing members of the Board of Directors and endorsing partnerships that align with KAICIID's mission.



COUNCIL OF PARTIES

In 2024, the Council of Parties continued to pursue the Centre's expansion objectives by mandating the Secretariat to further its enlargement efforts. The Special Session of the Council of Parties, held in September 2024, focused on amplifying KAICIID's global impact. The Council approved KAICIID's Strategic Plan 2024–2027, cementing the Centre's direction and goals for the next four years, and endorsing international agreements with the ASEAN-IPR, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, and the United Nations Development Programme in the Philippines.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Centre's Board of Directors has been essential to the Centre's mission, contributing to the strategic direction of the Centre and representing KAICIID on the global stage.

Appointed by the Council of Parties in June 2024, the current Board of Directors held its first Regular Session in Lisbon, Portugal, in November 2024. This newly appointed Board comprises distinguished religious leaders from five major religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism.

The Directors also act as ambassadors to the Centre. For example, in November, Reverend Khan represented the Centre at a conference hosted by the Christian Study Centre in Lahore, Pakistan, while H.E. Metropolitan Emmanuel supported KAICIID's Cities for Inclusion workshop in Xanthi, Greece.



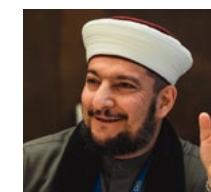
His Eminence Metropolitan Emmanuel

is currently the Chair of the Board. Nominated by the Orthodox Church, he has been a long-time friend and supporter of KAICIID, serving on its Board since the Centre's inception. His Eminence dedicated his career to interfaith dialogue and serves as the Metropolitan Elder of Chalcedon.



His Virtue Prof. Dr. Allahshukur Pashazade

serves as the Sheikh ul-Islam of the Caucasus, advocating for peaceful coexistence in intrareligious and interreligious dialogue initiatives. His Virtue has been re-elected as a Board member.



Dr. Abdel-Wahab Ahmed Hassan Taha Al-Sammerai

is an Islamic scholar and Imam in Iraq known for fostering dialogue among Iraqi youth. Before serving as a Board member, Dr. Al-Sammerai was a KAICIID Fellow and a supporter of KAICIID's Arab Region Programme.



Reverend Kosho Niwano

shares the Buddhist faith and teachings of the Lotus Sutra with leaders world-wide and guides worshippers at the Great Sacred Hall in Japan. Granddaughter of Rissho Kosei-kai founder Nikkyo Niwano and daughter of President Nichiko Niwano, Reverend Niwano continues her family's legacy of compassion and interfaith dialogue.



Father Laurent Basanese

from the Catholic Church, is an Official of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, and an accomplished academic, recognised for his work in Arab Christian Theology and as a professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University.



Rabbi Jacqueline Hazel "Jackie" Tabick

brings her vast experience from roles within the Movement for Reform Judaism and the World Congress of Faiths.



Reverend Canon Rana Khan

from the Anglican Church is actively involved in promoting interfaith understanding through community initiatives in the United Kingdom.



Sheikh Muhammad bin Abdul Wahed bin Abdullah Al-Arifi

serves as an advisor to the Minister of Islamic Affairs in Saudi Arabia. His Excellency's work as a religious scholar focuses on interfaith diplomacy and religious education.

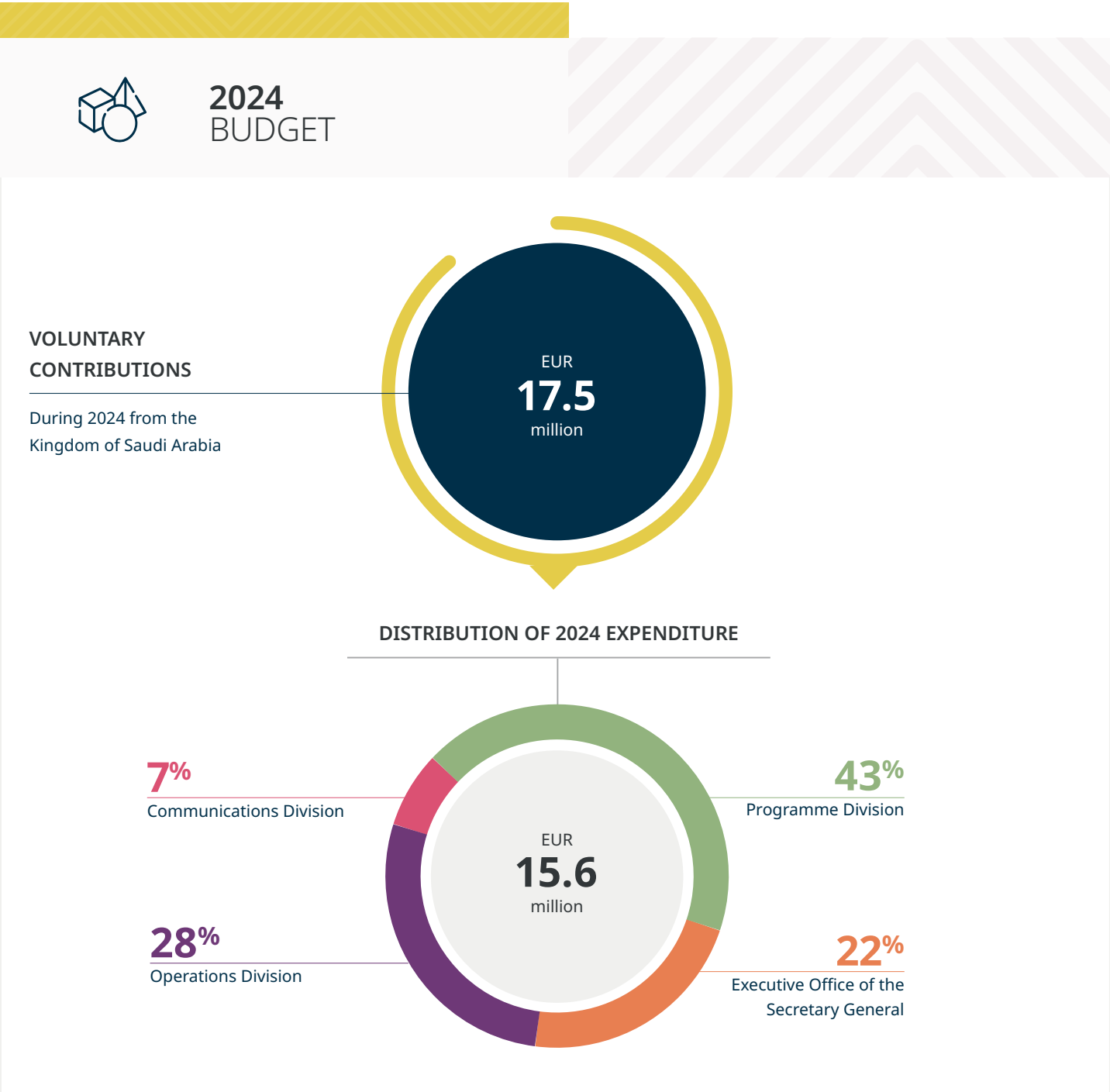


Tharmalingam Sasikumar

is active in Switzerland and Sri Lanka, contributing to interreligious collaboration and Hindu community leadership at the House of Religions in Bern.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Council of Parties approved KAICIID's 2024 budget of EUR 17.5 million, covering the programmes and activities of the Centre for the year. The budget was funded by voluntary contributions received during 2024 from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. KAICIID's total expenditure in 2024 was EUR 15.6 million (subject to the final audit of the 2024 financial statements).



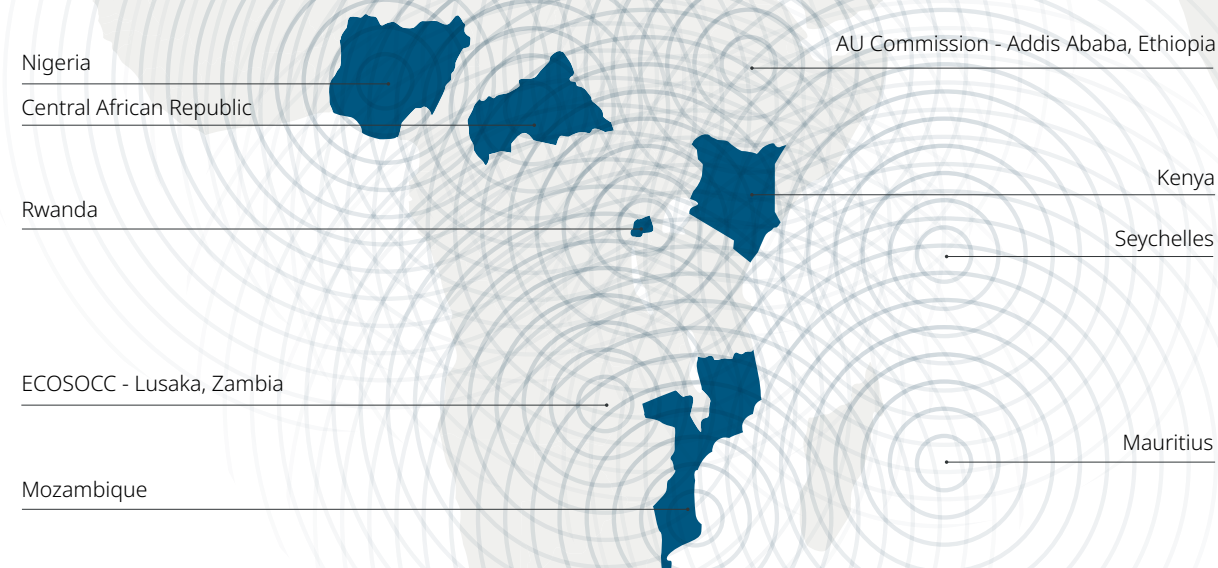
Promoting Interreligious Dialogue Locally

CHAPTER

2

KAICIID addresses global challenges through community-driven dialogue solutions tailored to regional contexts. Each of the Centre's four regional programmes in Africa, the Arab region, Asia and Europe responds to local challenges – political instability, conflict, migration and environmental stresses – by promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a means of strengthening community resilience, building social cohesion, and supporting inclusive governance.



AFRICA
REGION

In KAICIID's focus areas in Africa, deep-rooted inequalities, religious and ethnic divisions and shrinking civic space continue to fuel instability and hinder peacebuilding. Political unrest remains a challenge, particularly within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Military takeovers and the ousting of democratically elected leaders have raised serious concerns for the United Nations, the African Union and the broader international community.

In response, KAICIID continued to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a tool for peacebuilding. These efforts included supporting platforms that foster inclusive dialogue and build trust, helping to lay the foundation for conflict prevention, social cohesion and participatory governance.

REGIONAL

KAICIID empowers individuals and communities to foster social cohesion and peace through interreligious and intercultural dialogue. To that end, KAICIID partnered with the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, the Dante Centre for Leadership and Journalism and the West Africa Civil Society Forum

to launch the **Regional Citizen's Dialogue Programme (RCDP)** in February, in Abuja, Nigeria.

The programme – which is aligned with the ECOWAS Vision 2050, the African Union's Silencing the Guns by 2030 initiative and Agenda 2063, and the SDGs – helps foster participatory governance and prevent unconstitutional changes of government across West Africa. The RCDP amplifies the voices of citizens, civil society organizations, faith-based organizations and other religious actors, enabling them to play a more prominent role in preventing political instability.

With KAICIID's support, the RCDP organised a side event in July at the **2024 ECOSOCC Citizens Dialogue Forum** in Accra, Ghana. Attended by 37 representatives of West African civil society organizations, the workshop explored strategies to prevent unconstitutional changes of government.

KAICIID also continued its partnership with the African Union Economic, Social, and Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOCC) by supporting its annual "Citizens' Forum on Democracy and Institutional Resilience". The event gathered over 250 participants to discuss democracy, governance and institutional resilience. A key plenary session analysed Africa's democratic landscape, with the Chair of the African Union Interfaith Dialogue Forum (AU-IFDF) highlighting the role of religious leaders in upholding democratic values.

Reinforcing its commitment to peace and social cohesion, KAICIID also partnered with the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate to co-organise the inaugural **AU-IFDF Steering Committee meeting** in November. Additionally, KAICIID and the AU-IFDF continued their work in Mozambique, supporting interfaith dialogue and efforts to build lasting peace in the region.

KAICIID has partnered with the World Resources Institute to leverage the role of religious actors and faith-based organizations in the realisation of SDG 2

Regional Citizen's Dialogue Programme (RCDP)

ECOSOCC Citizens Dialogue Forum in Accra





AU-IFDF Steering Committee Meeting

on ending hunger through improved food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture. KAICIID and the World Resources Institute held a **workshop in Kigali, Rwanda**, for over 25 committed faith-based organizations, with several related government representatives in attendance. During the workshop, participants exchanged their experiences on how faith-based actors can make the greatest impact in preventing food loss and food waste, thereby



REGIONAL IN NUMBERS

	250	Participants representing civil society, religious leaders and policymakers attended the ECOSOCC Citizens' Forum
	37	Civil society representatives attended the workshop on preventing UCGs organised by RCDP
	30+	Participants from the AU-IFDF Steering Committee, interfaith organizations and African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate
	25+	FBOs in Rwanda working on increasing food security

increasing food security in their communities. These contributions provide evidence-based and practical approaches – catered specifically to faith-based organizations – to effectively tackle food loss and food waste.

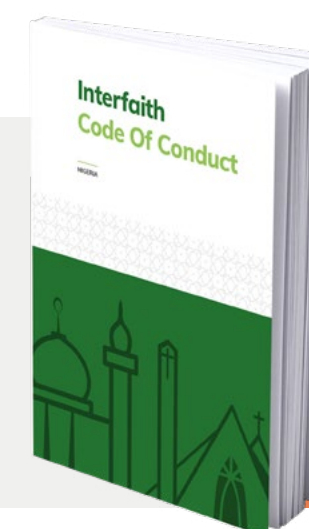
NIGERIA

Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace

In 2024, KAICIID continued to support the Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP) in Nigeria and its 10 **Interfaith Dialogue Networks (IDNs)**. The IDFP convenes religious leaders (predominantly from Christian and Muslim communities), and Nigeria's key partners and stakeholders engaged in advancing peace and security in the country. The IDNs serve as the primary antenna offices of the IDFP and provide monitoring, reporting and response to incidents of hate speech and escalating tensions. These early warning systems empower religious leaders to immediately step in and de-escalate tensions within their communities.

Key activities in 2024 included the **6th Annual Interfaith Peace Conference** in March in Kaduna, Nigeria, hosted for the first time by a federal state, a pivotal step towards ownership of interfaith collaboration at the state level. The conference was attended by Governor Uba Sani, Deputy Governor Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe and other senior state government officials. Other milestones included the **IDFP General Assembly** in July, as well as quarterly meetings of the Executive Council and Central Coordination Committees, which focused on strengthening the IDFP's governance. To that end, the IDFP finalised its constitutional review and began developing a long-term sustainability and resource mobilisation strategy.

The IDFP also reviewed the **Interfaith Code of Conduct (ICoC)** in Nigeria. KAICIID facilitated a review workshop and met with the ICoC Committee. Suggested revisions include updating headings and standardising religious scriptures used



The **Interfaith Code of Conduct (ICoC)** serves as a basis of cooperation between religious leaders and members of the interfaith community in Nigeria. The codes are supported by Christian and Islamic scriptures, representing the core values of the two faiths. The ICoC aims to prevent, mitigate and resolve violence and conflict by dispelling stereotypes and preventing ethnic and religious profiling, thereby fostering interfaith understanding, strengthening relations and promoting unity and peaceful co-existence.

throughout the Code, as well as translating the ICoC into four local languages to allow for wider dissemination among local communities.

In October, KAICIID visited the **Pigba Internally Displaced Persons Camp Primary School and Nursery**, established and supported by the IDFP since 2019. The school currently serves 450 pupils aged 3-16, providing primary education alongside an interreligious curriculum which fosters mutual respect and peaceful coexistence among young people.

Pigba Primary School and Nursery



IDFP
IN NUMBERS



10 IDNs in 10 Nigerian states



450 Pupils aged 3–16 years educated at Pigba Internally Displaced Persons Camp Primary School and Nursery

Freedom of Religion and Belief Monitoring Mechanism

This year marked the completion of the first phase and the launch of the second phase of the Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB) Monitoring Mechanism. Piloted in partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, The Kukah Centre and the Nasrul-Lahi-il Fathi Society of Nigeria, the project equips faith leaders, policymakers and civil society representatives with the tools to effectively monitor, document and report FoRB violations. This strengthens local capacity to advocate for legal and policy reforms.

The first phase concluded with the public launch of the report, **“Freedom of Religion & Belief in Nigeria: A Survey”**. Conducted across six states in northern and southern Nigeria, the survey provides a baseline for improved reporting by systematically collecting data on religious discrimination. The launch was followed by community-level sensitisation workshops in Benin and Jos. Attended by over 150 policymakers, religious and traditional leaders, media professionals and civil society representatives, these workshops strengthened participants’ commitment to FoRB principles.

Beginning in late 2024 and building on the baseline survey, the second stage of the project focuses on fostering respect for religious diversity in Nigeria. This includes developing a FoRB monitoring framework and establishing a stakeholder network to systematically track and document violations. The resulting data will inform comprehensive reporting, data-driven advocacy and policy recommendations aimed at strengthening protections for religious freedom.



FORB IN NUMBERS



150

attendees of the ForB sensitisation workshops

FORB NIGERIA SURVEY

643 Survey and interview respondents from across 6 states: Ebonyi, Edo, Kano, Plateau, Osun and Sokoto

48%

Muslim

3%

Not provided

49%

Christian

RELIGION

42%

Women

1%

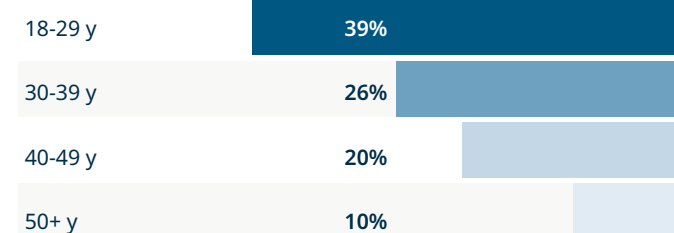
Not provided

57%

Men

GENDER

AGE GROUP



KEY VIOLATIONS REPORTED



Denial or violations of right to belief and worship

- Local government restrictions on building places of worship (Kano, Sokoto)
- (Threat of) destruction of religious buildings (Ebonyi)
- Denial of right to attend places of worship, and engage in religious practices (Ebonyi, Edo, Kano, Plateau, Osun)
- Coercion to perform religious practices or forced conversion (Ebonyi, Kano)



Denial or violation of rights on the basis of religion or belief

- (Threats of) destruction of property of minority religion individuals (Sokoto)
- Systemic barriers to social amenities and infrastructure (Kano)
- Systemic barriers to education and job opportunities (Edo, Kano, Plateau, Osun, Sokoto)



Lack of government action in response to denial or violation of rights

- Lack of government action when reporting ForB violations (all states)



Plateforme des Confessions Religieuses du Centrafrique (PCRC)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Throughout 2024, KAICIID built on its existing partnerships in the Central African Republic (CAR), including with the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and National Reconciliation, which is a branch of the government responsible for the set-up of the country's peace infrastructure, as well as the University of Bangui, the highest educational institution of the country. The Centre also maintained working relations with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA).

KAICIID continued its technical and operational support for the main interreligious organization in the country, **Plateforme des Confessions Religieuses du Centrafrique (PCRC)**. The platform brings together the highest Catholic, Muslim and Protestant faith leaders in CAR.

In November, KAICIID supported the PCRC's first General Assembly since the COVID-19 pandemic. The General Assembly, together with a Sustainability Workshop organised by KAICIID for PCRC representatives, laid the foundation for the development and implementation of a comprehensive sustainability action plan.

The PCRC supports **local antennae offices**, which have de-escalated violence in highly volatile provinces, including Berberati, Sibut and Kaga-Bandoro. The offices intervene on issues covering community sensitisation and anti-hate rhetoric, allowing for the safe return of formerly displaced community members. Their success lies in the ability of representatives from CAR's diverse faith communities to present a unified stance on peaceful coexistence while maintaining strong relationships with local government and traditional authorities.

As a result of the PCRC's advocacy and collaboration with the **Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and National Reconciliation**, the antennae offices

will be complemented by **Local Peace and Reconciliation Committees**. The committees aim to prevent and manage conflict and facilitate the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees. KAICIID has ensured the inclusion of religious leaders in the committee structures, and the use of interreligious dialogue as a tool for conflict transformation. The CAR Fellows Alumni chapter will conduct dialogue training.

In 2024, the KAICIID-established Network of Conflict Sensitive Journalists (*Reseau des Journalists Sensibles aux Conflicts*) was officially registered as a non-governmental organization, ensuring sustained operations in CAR. Additionally, KAICIID's training and support helped the Network retain key partnerships, such as with the High Council of Communication, and secure new collaborations, including a cooperation agreement with MINUSCA – the United Nations peacekeeping operation in Birao and Bocaranga.

As part of KAICIID's strategic objective to bridge interreligious and intercultural dialogue theory with practical application, the Centre continued to support the **University of Bangui** in integrating interreligious dialogue into its master's programme on Conflict Resolution. Piloted in 2023, this multi-year project strengthens dialogue-based conflict resolution in CAR. With an increasingly diverse student body, the inclusion of interreligious dialogue in the curriculum has fostered coexistence among students of different faiths, providing a critical avenue for preventing future conflicts.



University of Bangui



PCRC IN NUMBERS



88

Students taught interreligious dialogue at University of Bangui



SUPPORTED

16

Antennae offices of the PCRC



FACILITATED

4

community-level dialogues: 3 in the Equatorial region, 1 in Bas-Oubangui



INVOLVING

311

community members



120

Religious and community leaders and other representatives trained in preparation for 2 newly created Local Peace Committees

67%

Religious and community leaders

8%

Local authorities

25%

Youth



50%

Women



50%

Men

TYPES OF
PARTICIPANTS



IMPACT STORY

Nigeria's Interfaith Dialogue Networks: Restoring Peace and Building Trust, One Community at a Time

In Nigeria's most fragile states, where tensions between religious and ethnic groups threaten to erupt into violence, transformation is underway. Since 2019, Interfaith Dialogue Networks (IDNs), supported by the Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace (IDFP), have been at the forefront of local peacebuilding. The ten operational state-level IDNs are adapted to their local context, applying the core principles of dialogue to provide diverse and complex conflicts with tailored, community-based solutions.

One story from Rivers State captures the spirit and success of this grassroots movement. In a community gripped by militancy and vigilantism, a local security initiative required all residents to take an oath at a traditional shrine to affirm their commitment to peace. But for many Christians and Muslims, the act of swearing before traditional deities clashed deeply with their faith. With threats of expulsion looming, the community's religious minorities found themselves at a crossroads between belief and belonging.

Drawing on a network that includes leaders from both major faiths, traditional authorities, security forces, and civil society, the Rivers State IDN stepped in. They listened to all sides, acknowledged the community's urgent need for safety while honouring the diverse religious convictions at play, successfully negotiating for faith groups to affirm their peace commitments in alignment with their own spiritual practices, removing the requirement to use the shrine, building trust and demonstrating the effectiveness of inclusive security solutions.

In Benue State, where farmer-herder clashes are often perceived through a religious lens, the IDN reframed the tensions as shared socio-economic challenges, leading to peace agreements and joint celebrations of religious holidays that have strengthened communal bonds. In Plateau State, the IDN successfully mediated land disputes and recurring violence between ethnic groups, facilitating formal peace pacts endorsed by both community representatives and government officials, reducing hostilities and fostering reconciliation.

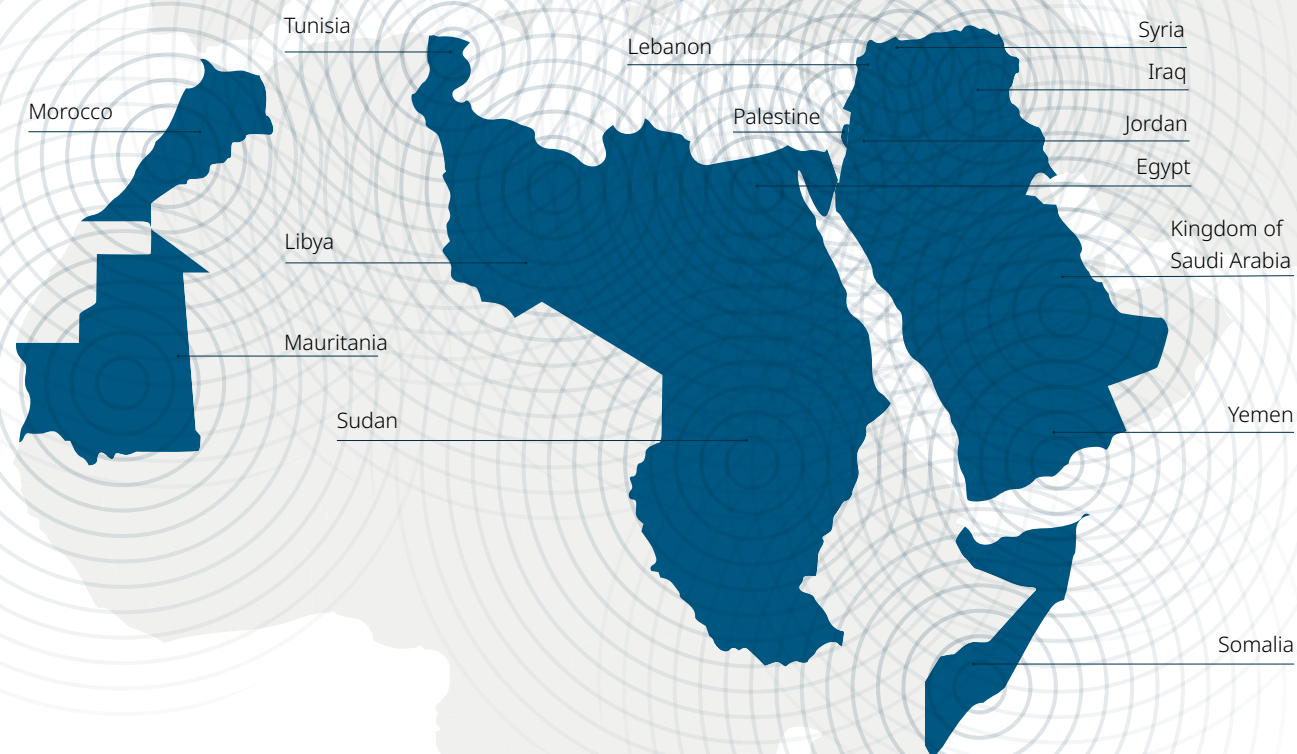
Meanwhile, in Kaduna State, the IDN has institutionalised interfaith dialogue by securing a seat on the state's Peacebuilding Commission and launching weekly radio programmes that promote messages of unity and coexistence. Embedding peacebuilding into the everyday lives of citizens, not only mitigates conflict, but actively shapes a culture of peace from the ground up.

The impact of the IDNs demonstrates that sustainable peace must be community-based, inclusive, and interfaith-driven. As one Muslim IDN Co-chair in Niger put it when he offered his own land for a Christian church:

"Nowhere in our holy books does it say others must be denied their place to worship."

This is the quiet power of dialogue. And in the most fragile corners of Nigeria, it is changing the story from fear and fragmentation to one of shared humanity and hope.



ARAB
REGION

The KAICIID-supported platform in the Arab Region is the Interreligious Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation (IPDC). Launched in 2018, the IPDC is made up of 23 members, being the highest religious authorities from Christian and Muslim institutions across the Arab region. These leaders are active in implementing KAICIID's vision, advocating for the rights and inclusion of all communities in the Arab World and combating hatred and sectarianism, and are committed to jointly address threats to peaceful coexistence.

Key programmes implemented by KAICIID in the Arab Region in cooperation with IPDC are She for Dialogue, Dialogue Journalism Fellowship, the Dialogue360 project and the Youth Forum on Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue.

DIALOGUE360

In 2024, KAICIID continued the Arab Region's flagship programme, Dialogue360. Since 2020, each year, following an open call for proposals, KAICIID identifies exceptional grassroots partners from across the region, providing grants and capacity-building support to help implement their initiatives. The selected initiatives aim to apply dialogue to building bridges between diverse religious, ethnic, and cultural communities in the Arab Region, with a focus on four thematic areas:

- fostering social cohesion, common citizenship and peaceful coexistence
- preventing and countering hate speech
- increasing resilience through crisis response
- promoting the protection of heritage and religious sites

In 2024, KAICIID supported the initiatives of 25 partners from 12 countries across the Arab Region. These initiatives addressed heritage protection through policy advocacy in Yemen and Iraq, and the promotion of shared identity through interfaith youth visits in Egypt. Media initiatives – such as podcasts in Lebanon, videos and short documentaries in Jordan and Yemen, and radio episodes in Somalia and Sudan – amplified messages of tolerance. Nearly 100 workshops across the region built local leadership in dialogue and peacebuilding, with community-led action and civic initiatives in Egypt.



Interreligious Platform for Dialogue and Cooperation (IPDC)

Initiatives countered hate speech, including through a directive in Yemen urging religious leaders to avoid inflammatory rhetoric, intra-faith dialogues in Iraq and Somalia, and youth-focused outreach led by female community leaders in Morocco. In Mauritania, language and diversity training supported migrant children's integration, while radio and dialogue campaigns in Iraq and Somalia built community resilience.

In Tunisia, artists and educators collaborated to embed values of coexistence and gender equality into schools through art. In Egypt, young Christians and Muslims visited sacred sites and shared religious celebrations, while in Lebanon, Druze and Syrian refugee women took part in community dialogue and advocacy to support social cohesion efforts.

From September to November, D360 initiatives featured in three of **KAICIID's webinars**, including *Talking Faith Online: Navigating Religious Literacy in Digital Media* in September and *Preserving Cultural Heritage and Sacred Sites: A Path to Peace through Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue* in November.

The October webinar titled ***Promoting Peace in Iraq: The Role of Education in Interfaith Understanding***, showcased the “Our Common Heritage” initiative. Developed by the Experts for Development Organization in collaboration with the Renewal Youth Organization for Development and Peace, the initiative sought to mitigate the impact of hate speech and extremism on the rich religious and cultural heritage of Taiz governorate in Yemen. The initiative used a multi-pronged approach to raise awareness and foster collaboration – a digital advocacy campaign complemented workshops for government agencies, civil society organizations and community leaders focusing on collaborative strategies, as well as a research paper and documentaries on the destructive impact of hate speech and extremism on religious and cultural landmarks.

D360 Initiative – Somalia

D360 Initiative – Yemen



DIALOGUE360 IN NUMBERS



25

Dialogue360 partners from 12 countries



IMPLEMENTED
25
initiatives

IMPLEMENTATION LOCATION

Egypt	12%	
Iraq	12%	
Jordan	8%	
Lebanon	12%	
Libya	4%	
Mauritania	4%	
Morocco	8%	
Palestine	4%	
Somalia	4%	
Sudan	4%	
Tunisia	8%	
Yemen	8%	
Regionally	12%	

IMPACT OF INITIATIVES



- 1 Network of religious leaders, local policymakers and civil society representatives
- 7 Meetings held (Egypt)
- 8 Dialogue sessions with religious and community leaders (Jordan and Morocco)
- 4 Policy papers produced (Iraq and Yemen)
- 3 Advocacy campaigns held (Yemen)



- 1 Youth camp (Egypt)
- 4 Youth social initiatives (Egypt)
- 9 Religious site visits, in 7 cities (Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon)
- 4 Awareness campaigns (Iraq, Morocco and Somalia)



- 39 Podcasts (Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, Yemen and regionally)
- 18 Videos and short documentaries (Jordan and Yemen)
- 15 Radio episodes (Somalia and Sudan)



- 2 Books (Egypt and Yemen)
- 1 Research Paper (Iraq)
- 1 Training Manual (Morocco)



- 1 Art exhibition (Tunisia)
- 12 Carvings and 1 wall painting (Tunisia)
- 12 Illustrations and 1 map (Somalia and Iraq)

84%

Subnational

12%

Regional

4%

National

GEOGRAPHIC
SCOPE

40%

Common
citizenship

44%

Countering
hate speech


AREA OF
ENGAGEMENT

12%

Protection of
heritage and
sacred sites



4%

Response
to crises



SHE FOR DIALOGUE: BEST PRACTICE CASE STUDY FOR FAITH-BASED GENDER EMPOWERMENT

Launched in 2022, She for Dialogue is a programme that has tackled pressing topics in the region relating women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming within the framework of interreligious and intercultural dialogue. The programme continues to serve as an example of best practices, with a She for Dialogue initiative being showcased as a case study in PaRD's publication, "Faith-sensitive Approaches to Gender Equality and Empowerment."

DIALOGUE JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP: ANCHORING JOURNALISM IN DIALOGUE

The Dialogue Journalism Fellowship (DJF) programme, launched by KAICIID in 2022, has become a cornerstone for promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue across the Arab region. Over the years, the programme has trained 56 journalist fellows from 15 Arab Region countries, supporting them with training, mentorship, and small grants to implement their initiatives locally, nationally or regionally. These initiatives demonstrate the fellows' ability to apply

dialogue journalism principles in practical settings and have included inter-faith media campaigns, policy advocacy, and community storytelling projects. The DJF programme has created a network of committed journalists equipped to report on sensitive topics with integrity and a focus on peacebuilding.

In 2024, KAICIID built on the achievements of the DJF programme, initiating the development of the **Dialogue Journalism Charter**. KAICIID drew on the knowledge and experiences of the DJF journalists, who participated in a series of collaborative workshops and consultations to craft a regional framework for dialogue journalism. The Charter sets out ethical guidelines for reporting on religious and cultural issues, advancing journalism that fosters dialogue and understanding by promoting peace, inclusivity, and social cohesion in media narratives across the Arab Region.

In complement to the DJF, in February 2024, KAICIID participated as a knowledge partner at the **Saudi Media Forum** – a yearly event that attracts up to 11,000 participants. The Centre moderated panel discussions on building strategic partnerships for peacebuilding and diversity in the media, and the work of women journalists in shaping media narratives for peace and inclusivity. KAICIID also conducted a training session for journalism students in countering hate speech and promoting peaceful narratives through dialogue. Interactive side-stage sessions showcased youth-led initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue and countering hate speech, such as the "Coexistence Content Enrichment Initiative (ITHRAA)" initiative, which fosters coexistence and tolerance through digital content creation.

Saudi Media Forum

Promoting Peace in Iraq Webinar





DJF IN NUMBERS



SINCE 2022

56

Journalists trained



FROM

15

Arab Region countries



24

Initiatives implemented



ACROSS

14

Arab Region countries



COVERING

4

themes: interfaith media campaigns, policy advocacy and community storytelling projects

WORKING CROSS-REGIONALLY

In October, KAICIID facilitated the participation of five peacebuilding experts from the Arab and Southeast Asia regions at the **International Conference on Women, Peace, and Security** in Manila, Philippines. The event provided a platform for policymakers, academics and civil society leaders to exchange best practices. KAICIID also hosted a side event where delegates from Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan and Syria shared how interreligious and intercultural dialogue informs their local peacebuilding work. They highlighted the importance of faith-based actors and cross-regional partnerships in addressing conflict.

In November, KAICIID supported Ven. Napan Thawornbanjob – a KAICIID Fellow and interfaith leader from Thailand – to speak at the **UN Climate Conference (COP29)** in Baku, Azerbaijan. He joined a panel on interfaith collaboration for climate resilience at the Faith Pavilion.



IMPACT STORY

Enriching the content of coexistence between followers of different religions

The 2024 Saudi Media Forum was a chance for two award-winning journalists and fellows of KAICIID's Dialogue Journalism Fellowship (DJF) to present their KAICIID-supported "Coexistence Content Enrichment Initiative (ITHRAA)". Yemeni journalist Abdulrazzaq Al-Azazi and Iraqi journalist Zaid Al-Aseel launched the initiative in May 2023 under the umbrella of the Electronic Organization for Humanitarian Media – a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 2020 by Al-Azazi, producing digital content to promote and disseminate a culture of peace.

For journalists, ethically reporting on issues of faith in a culture that does not embrace religious diversity is daunting. Something Al-Azazi and Al-Aseel understood well when they independently enrolled in the 2022 DJF programme. During the programme, the two fellows shared the observation that extremist content was trending on Google searches, contributing to the spread of misunderstandings, stereotypes, fear, and mistrust among followers of different religions. This prompted a partnership to develop, as part of their DJF fellowship, an initiative that raised awareness of religious diversity and peaceful coexistence among followers of different religions in the Arab Region.

ITHRAA started with the premiss that in this digital age, people turn to Google with questions about other religious – "Will people of other religions go to hell?", "Is being sympathetic to people of other religions a sin?" – where they are likely to find hateful content that fosters division. The initiative counters this

misinformation by producing digital content that answers the most common of these questions in civil, ethical and humane language. So far, ITHRAA has produced text articles, awareness posters and podcasts, all published on the Electronic Organization for Humanitarian Media platforms.

What differentiates this initiative from others seeking to inform and teach about interfaith coexistence, is its innovative technological approach. Not only does ITHRAA identify the most frequently asked questions using Google tools, it applies Google's algorithms to elevate its responses to the top of the search engine results, eliminating one-sided discourse, and amplifying positive content that promotes pluralism and social cohesion.

The ITHRAA initiative was immediately recognised, being shortlisted by the 2023 Adyan Foundation Award as one of the best initiatives in the field of interreligious dialogue. In 2024, it was further recognised by the Intercultural Achievement Award of the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs for its technological innovation and its sustained efforts to spread messages of peace among Arabic-speaking individuals worldwide. Some 340 projects competed for the Intercultural Achievement Award, with the ITHRAA Initiative receiving a special appreciation award. It is the first time since the award was announced in 2014, that it was presented to an initiative coming from the Arabian Peninsula.



ASIA REGION



In 2024, Southeast Asia faced ongoing challenges stemming from political transitions, regional security concerns and increasing socio-economic disparities. Rapid urbanisation has further reshaped social dynamics, exacerbating religious intolerance, misinformation and hate speech, and increasing the urgency in incorporating inclusive dialogue in efforts toward social cohesion. In 2024, KAICIID's Asia Region Programme implemented initiatives to strengthen interreligious and intercultural dialogue, promote digital peacebuilding and equip policymakers, educators and youth leaders with tools to foster resilience and social harmony.

PROVIDING INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE TRAINING TO SOUTHEAST ASIA OFFICIALS

In 2024, KAICIID, in partnership with the **Association for Southeast Asian Nations – Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR)**, continued its training programme for ASEAN officials on interreligious and intercultural dialogue. In November, a five-day session in Malaysia brought together 26 participants from across the region, representing government ministries, academic institutions, interfaith organizations, non-governmental organizations and think tanks.

The training module, co-developed by KAICIID and regional experts, was tailored to the diverse cultural and political contexts of ASEAN Member States. It combined theory with practice through workshops, case studies, site visits and



Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue Training for ASEAN Officials

dialogue sessions. Key themes included principles of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, dialogue design and facilitation, conflict transformation, policy development and engagement between policymakers and religious leaders. KAICIID and ASEAN-IPR have also developed an Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue Curriculum which has been approved by ASEAN Member States.

The continuing success of the training and broader collaboration between KAICIID and ASEAN-IPR resulted in the signing of a collaboration agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding.

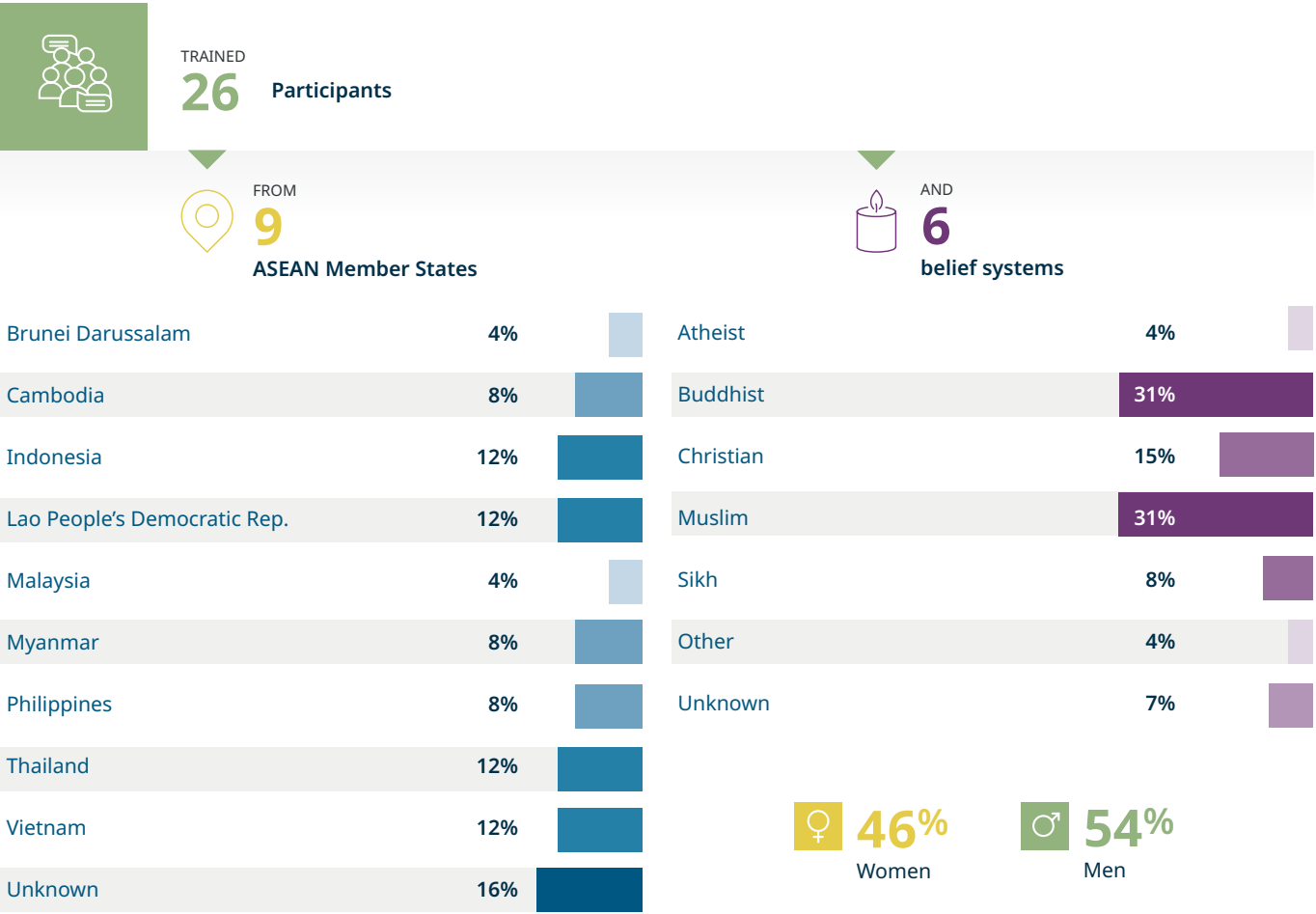
SOUTHEAST ASIA DIALOGUE CITIES CONFERENCE AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

In September, KAICIID, in partnership with Ateneo de Davao University and its Al-Qalam Institute, hosted the second **Southeast Asia Dialogue Cities Conference** in Davao City, Philippines. The conference brought together over 70 participants, including government officials, civil society representatives, religious and youth leaders and academics from cities across Southeast Asia.

Southeast Asia Dialogue Cities Conference



ASEAN OFFICIALS TRAINING IN NUMBERS



Participants discussed the inclusion of women and youth in peacebuilding, combatting misinformation in online spaces, and leveraging interreligious and intercultural strategies to strengthen urban resilience and social cohesion. Participants also discussed the role of religious leaders in fostering dialogue and faith-based contributions to environmental sustainability.

Throughout 2024, the three thematic working groups – Youth in Interreligious Dialogue, Women in Interreligious Dialogue, and Research – shaped activities linked to the Southeast Asia Dialogue Cities Conference programme.

In September, KAICIID collaborated with the Ateneo de Davao University to support the **Women Leaders in Inter-Religious Engagement** seminar. The seminar brought together 27 women peacebuilders from five Southeast Asian cities to exchange experiences, enhance their dialogue skills and develop strategies for strengthening interfaith and intercultural engagement in their communities. Aligned with the themes of the Dialogue Cities Conference, the seminar explored the intersection of culture, religion and conflict resolution, with a particular focus on gender inclusion in peacebuilding. Participants discussed the barriers to meaningful interreligious and intercultural dialogue from a gender perspective and emphasised the need for stronger institutional support and policy advocacy.

In April, **Southeast Asia Youth for Humanity**, a youth engagement initiative within the Dialogue Cities framework, held a Strategic Planning Workshop in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The workshop, supported by KAICIID in partnership with Gusdurian Network Indonesia, brought together 27 youth leaders from five Southeast Asian cities to refine the youth initiative’s vision, mission and

strategic direction. Participants developed a three-year plan focused on collaboration with women leaders, religious and government actors and academia.

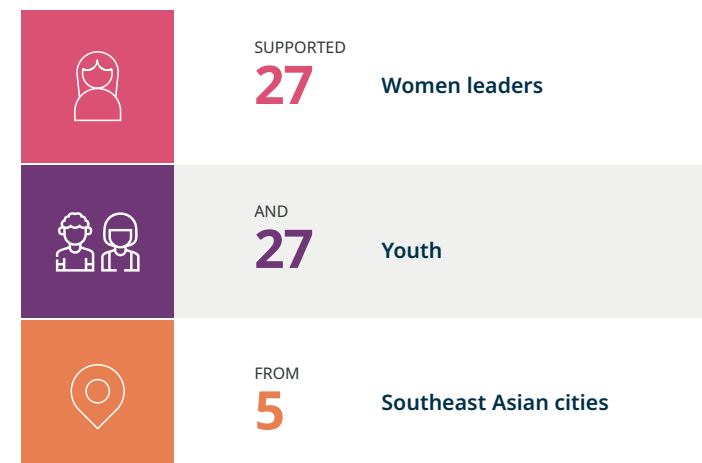
SOCIAL MEDIA AS A SPACE FOR DIALOGUE

The Social Media as a Space for Dialogue Programme empowers interreligious and intercultural dialogue influencers and champions across South and Southeast Asia to counter hate speech and divisive content online. Through interactive training sessions, networking opportunities and campaign development, the initiative has strengthened participants’ skills in narrative analysis, peacebuilding and interfaith engagement on digital platforms. Since its inception in 2022, the programme has successfully built a growing regional network, fostering sustained collaboration and knowledge exchange to combat harmful online discourse.

In September, KAICIID supported the national level **Training of Trainers in India** on using ethical artificial intelligence to strengthen social media impact and counter hate speech. The event brought together 22 academics, including professors, researchers and PhD students, from leading Indian universities. Participants learned how to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to analyse social media trends, address misinformation and apply ethical practices in digital peacebuilding. The training led to the development of a collaborative academic publication on AI’s role in promoting respectful online discourse, set to be released in 2025.



DIALOGUE CITIES CONFERENCE IN NUMBERS



Training of Trainers,
Swat Valley, Pakistan

In October, with KAICIID’s support, Girls United for Human Rights conducted a **Training of Trainers in Swat Valley, Pakistan**. It brought together 35 participants including religious leaders, grassroots activists, journalists and social media influencers, to build skills in digital advocacy.



SOCIAL MEDIA AS A SPACE FOR DIALOGUE IN NUMBERS

INDIA INITIATIVE

TRAINED 22 Academic professionals from universities across India

64% Women **36%** Men

5+ Academic institutions engaged in AI-driven peacebuilding research

1 Collaborative research book on AI and countering hate speech (in progress)

PAKISTAN INITIATIVE

TRAINED 35 Participants in Swat Valley, Pakistan

46% Women **20%** Men **6%** Unknown

1 Digital peace campaign launched during the training

700+ Estimated indirect beneficiaries through participant outreach

250 Young women reached through follow-up sessions

ETHICS EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP

Ahead of signing a new Memorandum of Understanding with Arigatou International, KAICIID continued its collaboration on the Ethics Education Fellowship, which integrates ethics education into national curricula across Southeast Asia and promotes peace and inclusion.

In June, the Fellowship entered its second phase, following a successful 2023 pilot in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Mauritius, Nepal and Seychelles. This phase expands the Fellowship to more schools, trains additional educators and refines teaching methodologies to ensure lasting impact. It also focuses on developing new resources, advocating for policy integration and establishing a Community of Practice for ongoing knowledge exchange.



IMPACT STORY

Multiplying the Impact of “Social Media as a Space for Dialogue”

In Swat Valley, Pakistan, where digital spaces are often fraught with misinformation and division, a group of 35 individuals came together to transform social media into a tool for peace. This diverse group included religious leaders, Jirga council elders, minority Sikh community members and transgender individuals. In October, Girls United for Human Rights (GUHR), supported by KAICIID, hosted a *Training of Trainers on Social Media as a Space for Dialogue*. The training was led by Hadiqa Bashir, a young human rights activist and KAICIID Master Trainer, who has dedicated her life to fostering inclusivity and combating harmful narratives in Pakistan.

Among the participants were Gulalai and Uzair, two young changemakers from the Swat Valley who initially hesitated to engage in discussions around online extremism and hate speech. After connecting with others and hearing powerful stories, especially from marginalised communities facing online hate, they recognised the urgency of digital advocacy. Inspired, they pledged to reach at least 100 young people in their networks with messages of peace and dialogue.

Armed with new skills in content creation, narrative-building and online engagement, they quickly got to work. Gulalai began leading conversations at her school, helping young girls understand the dangers of online misinformation and hate speech. Uzair, drawing on his position as a student leader, organised workshops to encourage boys and young men to challenge extremist narratives and promote interfaith harmony.

Within weeks, they had reached 50 additional youth, who are now equipped to use social media for good. Gulalai and Uzair's journey has just begun, but their story reflects the multiplying potential of young leaders as powerful voices of peace in their communities.

EUROPE
REGION

Europe faced a complex landscape in 2024, shaped by persistent challenges and rising tensions. Global instability and intersecting crises continued to strain social cohesion, including migrant and refugee integration efforts. Meanwhile, persistent conflicts – particularly in Ukraine and the Middle East – fuelled societal polarisation and a surge in hate speech targeting religious and ethnic groups.

Amid this climate, KAICIID intensified its work across Europe, partnering with and convening secular, Jewish, Muslim and other faith leaders to foster dialogue, challenge discrimination and promote mutual understanding. Through carefully designed programmes and platforms, KAICIID is contributing to migrant and refugee inclusion, and countering hate speech, anti-semitism and anti-Muslim hatred. KAICIID is fostering social cohesion in the region by promoting interfaith collaboration and shaping inclusive policy at the highest levels.

European Parliament
Policy Talks

FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE: ADVANCING INCLUSION THROUGH INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

In recognition of the Centre's alignment with the European Union's (EU) commitment to “unity in diversity”, as well as to inclusive and regular dialogue between EU institutions and religious actors and faith-based organizations, the **European Parliament** hosted two rounds of KAICIID-organised high-level **Policy Talks** in November and December 2024 in Brussels, Belgium. Co-sponsored by Members of the European Parliament and attended by the Vice President of the European Parliament, these sessions convened 120 participants from EU institutions and faith-based organizations.

The Policy Talks explored practical strategies for cultivating a “welcome culture” through interreligious dialogue and creating shared spaces for religious and secular actors to promote shared values of peaceful coexistence. Religious leaders in particular, being respected and vested with moral authority and influence within their communities, were highlighted as crucial contributors.

In parallel to the Policy Talks, KAICIID's **Cities for Inclusion** initiative, by creating safe spaces for interreligious dialogue, offered practical tools for supporting migrant communities and advocating for inclusive and equitable policies. The first workshop of the initiative, held in Belgrade, Serbia, focused on “Inclusion of Refugees and Migrants in the Western Balkans”. Religious leaders from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and North Macedonia explored ways to build trust and support integration to mitigate the deepening societal divides resulting from migration challenges.

In Xanthi, Greece, a workshop themed “Inclusive Leadership: Bridging Communities and Empowering Youth”, co-organised by local religious institutions and coordinated by the non-governmental organization FM-EPICHEIREIN

brought together religious leaders, government officials, educators, and youth to tackle marginalisation and promote shared leadership for social cohesion.

The KAICIID **University Talks** “In Dialogue with Academia” workshop and paper series was launched in Belgrade in November 2024. At the event, 55 students, religious leaders and migration experts examined strategies to support social cohesion in the Western Balkans. In Rome, Italy, KAICIID delivered lectures on the role of religion in migrant integration and the power of interreligious dialogue in shaping inclusive public policy as part of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute **Summer School on Migration and Human Rights**.



MUSLIM JEWISH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL: UNITED AGAINST HATRED AND INTOLERANCE

Incidents of antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred rose sharply across the continent, often amplified by online misinformation. The EU Agency for Fundamental Rights observed dramatic spikes in antisemitic attacks after 7 October 2023, with some organizations reporting increases of over 400 per cent. In the United Kingdom, Tell Mama, a monitoring agency for hate crimes, recorded 6,313 cases of anti-Muslim hate in 2024. This was a 43 per cent increase from the previous year.

KAICIID is committed to address these alarming trends by challenging stereotypes and fostering understanding. A key expression of this commitment is KAICIID’s support for the Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC), which acts as a foundation for the collaboration of Jewish and Muslim communities in Europe.

One of the key moments in 2024 was the release of the **Sarajevo Declaration**, a joint statement from the MJLC Board reaffirming the sanctity of human life, condemning violence against the communities of the other faith, and reaffirming Muslim-Jewish solidarity and cooperation across Europe. The declaration was released in May at a gathering of Muslim and Jewish communities, youth groups, religious leaders, policymakers, civil society and international organizations in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Meeting in Brussels, Belgium in November–December, senior religious leaders from the **MJLC** and the **European Muslim Leaders Majlis (EuLeMa)** reaffirmed their commitment to combating antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred through dialogue and policy advocacy.

MJLC at the European Parliament Policy Talks



MJLC Ambassadors Programme

One of the outcomes of the MJLC platform is the Ambassadors Programme, which is a mentorship initiative that brings together young Muslim and Jewish community leaders from across Europe, guiding and empowering them to work together using interreligious and intercultural dialogue as a tool to build trust and social cohesion between their communities.

In March, KAICIID provided two young Ambassadors the chance to attend the **Fundamental Rights Forum 2024**, held by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. At the Forum, the two actively participated in the KAICIID-organised “Empowering Collaboration” session, where they reflected on their journey of cooperation and transformation as individuals and as Ambassadors working to bring their communities together through interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

Following the launch of the second iteration of the MJLC Ambassadors Programme at the Sarajevo Declaration event in May, two of the new young Jewish and Muslim Ambassadors attended the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights’ **Warsaw Human Dimension Conference** in October. These emerging leaders participated in KAICIID’s presentation “Young Voices of Hope in Times of Division” on the impact of youth-led inter-faith initiatives in fostering inclusive societies and peaceful coexistence. featuring Amina Croce and David Fiorentini.

Warsaw Human Dimension Conference



MJLC AMBASSADORS IN NUMBERS



NETWORK FOR DIALOGUE: REFUGEE AND MIGRANT INTEGRATION THROUGH DIALOGUE

In 2024, KAICIID actively supported the integration of refugees across Europe through various initiatives focused on fostering dialogue and understanding between newcomers and host communities. Many of these initiatives are run by Network for Dialogue members. The KAICIID-supported platform brings faith-based and civil society actors together to promote and enable interreligious and intercultural dialogue as key components for the social inclusion of refugees and migrants in Europe.

To mark its **fifth anniversary**, the Network for Dialogue held a roundtable consultation in Palermo, Italy, gathering 43 representatives of civil society and faith-based organizations, religious leaders and academics from across Europe. Participants discussed the role of religious leaders in challenging harmful stereotypes related to migrants and refugees, reflecting on the grassroots initiatives

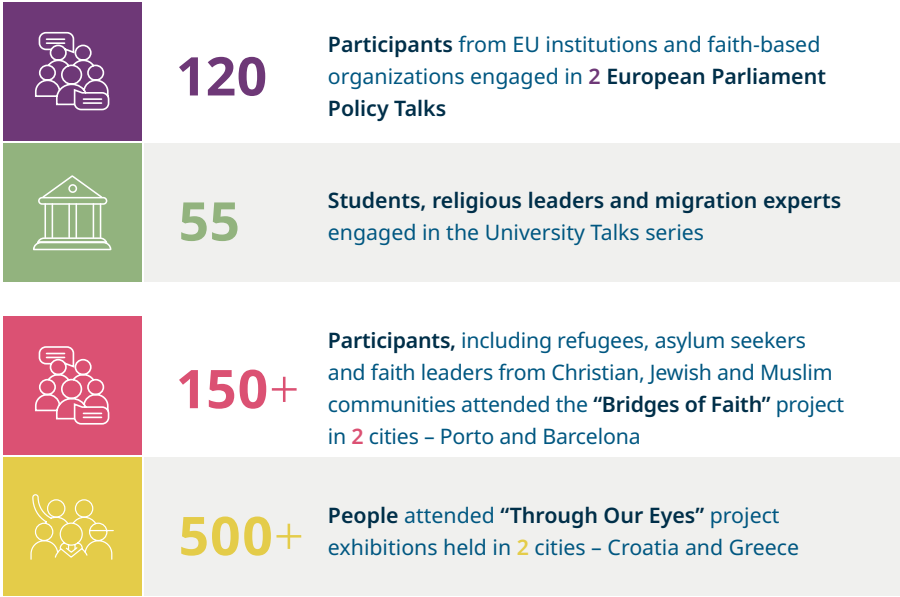
being implemented across Europe and the significance of interreligious dialogue in building bridges between newcomers and host communities.

Among the Network for Dialogue members’ initiatives is the “**Bridges of Faith**” project, which brought together over 150 refugees, asylum seekers, and faith leaders from Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities in Porto, Portugal and Barcelona, Spain. Events featured dialogues on countering religious discrimination and proposals for joint action, including faith-based mentorship programmes for newly arrived refugees. In Barcelona, the local mosque and synagogue committed to co-hosting quarterly community dinners to nurture trust and collaboration between the two faith communities.

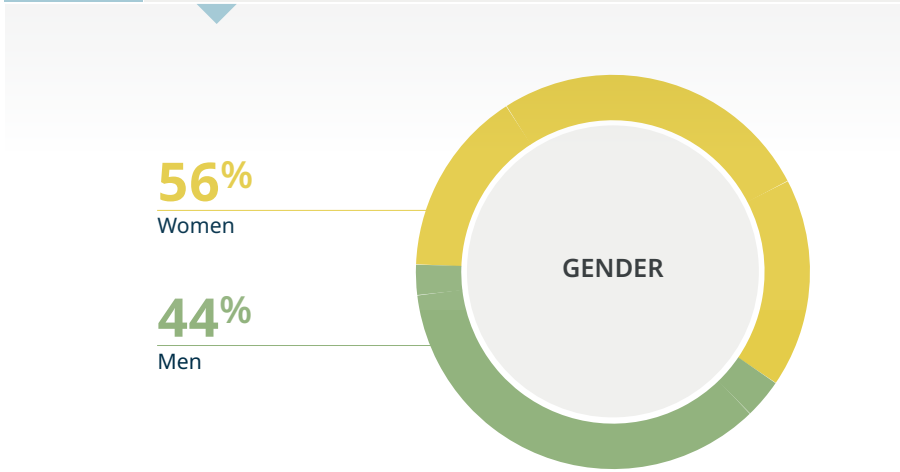
The “**Through Our Eyes**” project in Croatia and Greece used creative expression as a tangible tool for intercultural dialogue. Exhibitions in Zagreb and Athens showcased personal stories and photographs of young refugees and migrants, addressing xenophobia by promoting empathy and understanding. More than 500 people attended these events.



N4D
IN NUMBERS



N4D 5TH ANNIVERSARY





IMPACT STORY

In Sarajevo, Muslim and Jewish Leaders Remember the Past – and Shape Europe’s Future

Meeting in Sarajevo amid growing polarisation and religious tensions across Europe, Muslim and Jewish leaders issued a rare joint declaration, condemning violence against civilians and urging renewed cooperation between their communities.

The Sarajevo Declaration, signed by members of the Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC), reaffirms a commitment to upholding international law, protecting freedom of expression and rejecting theological justifications for violence. It marks the second such joint statement from the interfaith council.

“We condemn this clear abuse of Jewish and Muslim religious values in the strongest possible terms,” the declaration states. “There is no religious justification for the killing of innocents.”

The statement was issued during a gathering of MJLC religious leaders and young participants in the MJLC Ambassadors Programme, a Europe-wide initiative designed to foster interfaith cooperation and youth leadership. The event

in Sarajevo included dialogue sessions, site visits to religious and cultural institutions, and a commemoration at the Srebrenica Memorial, where participants honoured the 8,372 victims of the 1995 genocide.

The declaration draws on the symbolism of Sarajevo’s complex religious history and directly references the biblical and Quranic story of Cain and Abel, likening the current climate to a time of “brother killing brother”.

“We are called by God to protect the sanctity of human life,” the statement reads. “We pray for peace, freedom from terrorism, and dignity for all citizens and believers.”

The Sarajevo meeting follows a similar MJLC gathering in Sevilla in October 2023, where Jewish and Muslim leaders first jointly addressed the impact of global conflicts on community relations in Europe. Since then, both antisemitic and anti-Muslim incidents have increased in several European countries, raising concerns about hate speech, safety and political rhetoric ahead of the European Parliament elections.

The Sarajevo Declaration explicitly condemns hate speech and attacks targeting Jewish communities, as well as rising anti-Muslim sentiment. It warns against the use of religion and identity in populist politics and calls on European leaders to “preserve and strengthen” democratic values, particularly freedom of expression, knowledge and belief.



CHAPTER

3

Promoting Interreligious Dialogue Globally

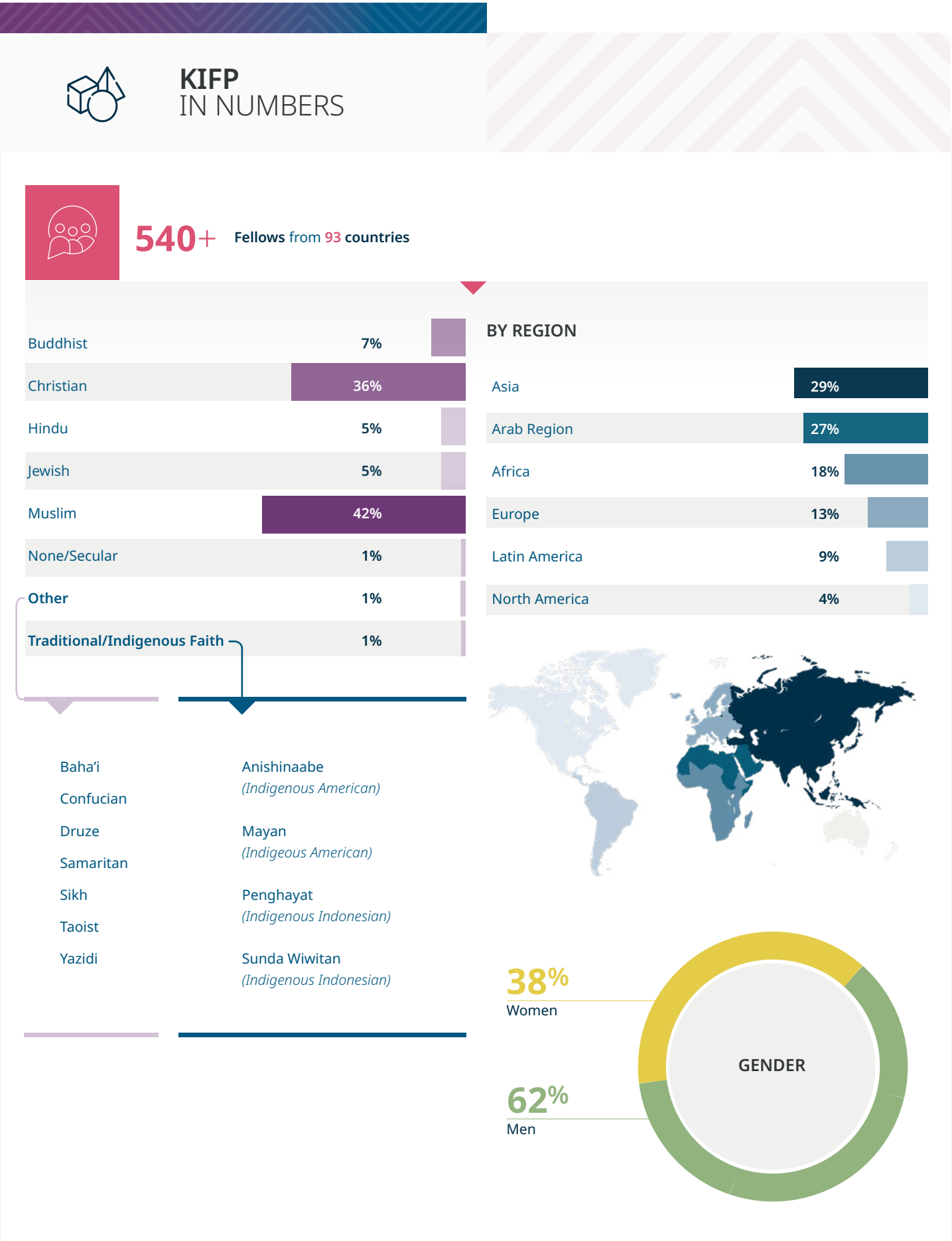
Through its International Fellows, E-Learning and Capacity Building programmes, KAICIID equips a diverse range of individuals – including religious leaders, educators, policymakers and media professionals – with the tools to apply interreligious and intercultural dialogue in their communities. These programmes create a global network of dialogue practitioners, amplifying the impact of KAICIID's work across regions and sectors.



In addition to capacity development, KAICIID integrates interreligious dialogue into institutional policies and practices, ensuring that dialogue remains a central tool for peacebuilding. Special emphasis is placed on empowering youth and women, fostering inclusive participation and engaging policymakers to embed dialogue in governance frameworks.

KAICIID INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAMME

The KAICIID International Fellows Programme (KIFP) is a flagship initiative designed to equip religious leaders, educators and dialogue practitioners with the skills to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue in their communities. Since its inception, it has welcomed more than 540 Fellows from 93 countries. Through a year-long training process, Fellows participate in online learning, in-person training sessions and site visits that deepen their knowledge and enhance their capacity to foster peace and social cohesion. Fellows design and implement initiatives within their communities or institutions throughout their training, applying their newly acquired skills in real-world settings. In addition to theoretical and practical training, the programme connects Fellows to a global network of changemakers, ensuring that interreligious and intercultural dialogue remains a powerful tool for resolving conflicts and building sustainable peace.





FELLOWS TRAINING PROGRAMME

The 2024 Fellows Programme launched in January with a virtual orientation meeting. Throughout the year, the Fellows attended three in-person training sessions in Costa Rica from January to February, Brazil (Latin American cohort) and Thailand (International cohort) in June and in Portugal in December 2024. Training modules focused on the core principles of dialogue, dialogue facilitation and programme design. These sessions deepened the Fellows' understanding of interreligious dialogue, strengthened their sense of belonging within the programme and fostered professional and personal collaborations.

Complementing their in-person training, the Fellows engaged in **e-learning courses** and **monthly online sessions** covering intercultural communication, digital engagement strategies, visual storytelling, gender-sensitive programming, policy advocacy and addressing hate speech. Sessions for the Latin American cohort were offered in Spanish. During the first **in-person training** sessions in Costa Rica, the Fellows participated in intensive workshops on identity, culture and conflict resolution. They also explored the role of religious leaders in peacebuilding and participated in results-based management training to design initiatives with clear, measurable goals.

In the second in-person training sessions in Brazil and Thailand, the Fellows explored inter-worldviews and learned dialogue design and facilitation. The fellows participated in structured dialogues, workshops, case studies and networking with programme Alumni. During the third session in Portugal, the Fellows gained a deeper understanding of policy engagement in dialogue work and developed a roadmap for sustaining their initiatives beyond the programme. The Fellows participated in workshops on dialogue methodologies and engaged in discussions with policymakers on integrating interfaith dialogue into



governance. Additionally, they were presented with case studies on successful interfaith initiatives and collaborative sessions on peer-to-peer mentoring.

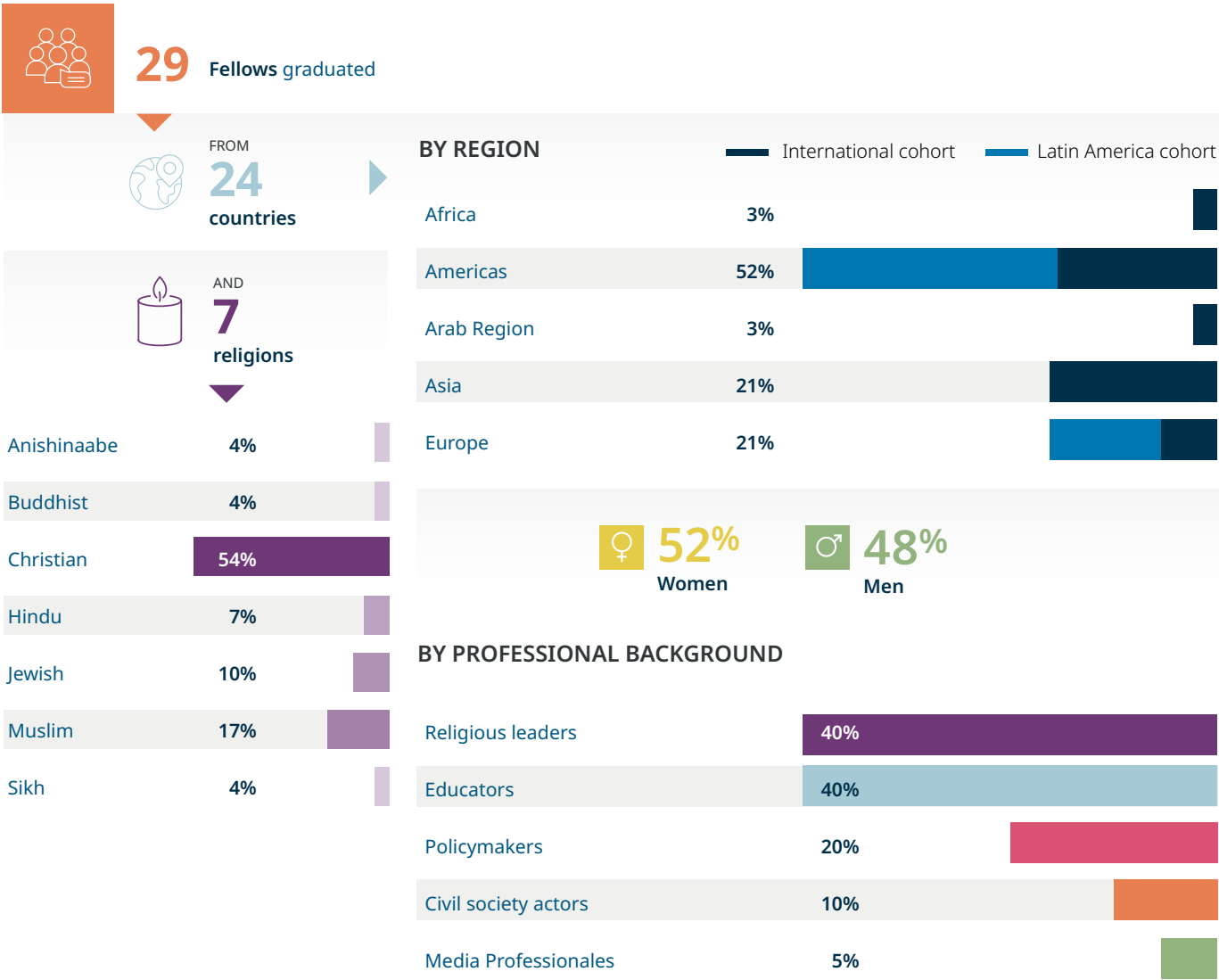
Site visits to diverse holy sites and government bodies are an integral part of the Fellows Programme. Through interactions with local faith leaders, the Fellows gain firsthand insights into the importance of cultural sensitivity, the practical applications of interfaith engagement in diverse settings, the influence of religious traditions on societal interactions and the role of religious and policy institutions in fostering dialogue. In Costa Rica, Fellows engaged with officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They also participated in discussions at the University for Peace, and visited religious landmarks, including the Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral, National Theatre and Synagogue of San Jose.

In Thailand, the International cohort explored the religious diversity of the region by visiting Buddhist temples, Mosques and Hindu communities. Similarly, the Latin American cohort visited the Jewish Museum, and the Buddhist, Christian and Muslim, as well as Candomblé places of worship. In Portugal, the Fellows examined the historical and contemporary landscape of interfaith relations in Europe and reflected on the impact of faith communities in shaping inclusive societies. The site visits included the Lisbon Synagogue, the Ismaili Centre, the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, São Domingos Church and the Radha Krishna Temple.

Following the year-long programme, Fellows presented their dialogue initiatives during their graduation ceremony. These included academic courses, research projects and interfaith study groups to promote dialogue within universities. Other initiatives leveraged digital platforms, such as podcasts, online discussions and video content to combat misinformation and religious prejudice. Several initiatives emphasised grassroots engagement and organising interfaith gatherings, community dialogues, and cultural exchange events to break down barriers and encourage cooperation among diverse faith communities.



KIFP TRAINING
IN NUMBERS



KAICIID FELLOWS ALUMNI NETWORK

The KAICIID Fellows Alumni Network serves as an ongoing platform for International Fellows Programme graduates, enabling them to stay connected, continue their professional development and implement dialogue-driven initiatives. The network facilitates monthly online sessions, regional chapters and collaborative projects, ensuring that Fellows remain engaged in their mission to advance peacebuilding through dialogue.

The Alumni Network hosted a series of nine **online sessions** throughout 2024, providing a platform for continuous learning, peer exchange and professional development for the Fellows Alumni. These sessions covered diverse topics, including power dynamics in interreligious dialogue, faith and climate action, post-conflict resolution and scriptural reasoning. Experts from organizations such as the United Nations Office of Genocide Prevention, World Beyond War and the John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue facilitated these discussions, engaging Alumni from across different regions.

Throughout 2023–2024, KAICIID supported 17 **initiatives** in 13 countries led by Fellows Alumni. For example, in China and Uganda, initiatives focused on exploring sacred sites to enhance interfaith awareness and respect for religious heritage. In Mexico and Thailand, training programmes equipped educators and religious leaders with the skills to promote peace and intercultural coexistence. In Nigeria and Palestine, interreligious dialogue took centre stage through capacity-building workshops and academic publications. Addressing the impact of hate speech and media influence, projects in Lebanon and Sierra Leone focused on fostering religious cooperation and reshaping narratives. Finally, in El Salvador and India, initiatives championed the inclusion of underrepresented voices in interfaith dialogue.

Fellows training programme





KFIN IN NUMBERS



SUPPORTED
17

Alumni-led initiatives across **13** countries



COVERING
6

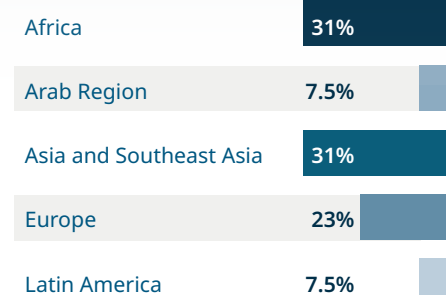
thematic focus areas including interfaith education, sacred site preservation, peacebuilding and media awareness



WITH
1500+

beneficiaries of Alumni initiatives reached through training programmes, workshops and community engagement activities

BY REGION



IN 2024
9

Online sessions were attended by around **47%** of Alumni globally

On average, of the 500+ attendances



KAICIID FELLOWS INSTITUTIONAL NETWORK

The KAICIID Fellows Institutional Network (KFIN) strengthens partnerships among higher education institutions to mainstream interreligious and intercultural dialogue in academic curricula and campus initiatives. Through policy engagement, curriculum development and faculty training, KFIN fosters collaboration between religious educational institutions and enhances the institutionalisation of peacebuilding and dialogue methodologies. By equipping educators with the tools to teach dialogue, KFIN ensures that the impact of KAICIID's training extends beyond individuals to shape future generations of peacebuilders and dialogue practitioners. Since its launch in March 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, KFIN has expanded regionally, establishing partnerships with universities and faith-based training institutions across Africa, Asia and Latin America.



KFIN IN NUMBERS



44

Partner institutions from **27** countries are KFIN members

32%

Universities – Public

32%

Universities – Religious

9%

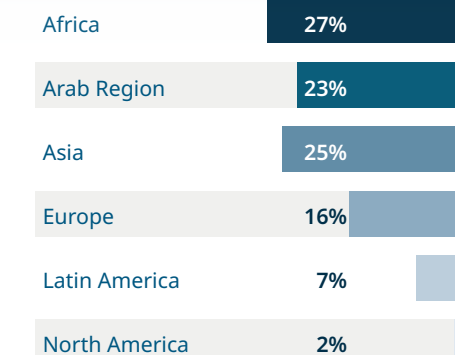
Faith-based Organizations

27%

Religious Schools/Seminaries

TYPE OF INSTITUTION

BY REGION



11

Universities from **6** countries of the KFIN Africa chapter participated in the 2024 workshop in Kenya

KFIN's Africa Chapter has been at the forefront of this initiative, bringing together universities from across the continent to integrate interreligious dialogue into higher education. Building on the outcomes of its inaugural workshop in Ibadan, Nigeria, in November 2023, the most recent **regional workshop** was hosted at St. Paul's University, Kenya, in December 2024. Representatives from 11 universities in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Niger, and the Central African Republic participated in interactive training sessions, best practice exchanges and collaborative planning meetings.

Sessions covered topics such as dialogue facilitation in academic settings, conflict resolution and engaging students and faculty in interfaith initiatives. The workshop was complemented by site visits to religious and cultural landmarks, including Bomas of Kenya, All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi Memorial Park and Jamia Mosque, providing practical exposure to Kenya's interfaith landscape.



IMPACT STORY

A Decade of Fellowship: KAICIID Fellows Programme Marks 10 Years

On the eve of the 10th anniversary of KAICIID's International Fellows Programme (KIFP), the Centre convened Latin American Fellows and alumni in Brasília, Brazil. Held in August 2024, the regional meeting was a point of reflection on the programme's progress, global impact and regional relevance, with a focus on looking ahead to future engagement.

Over the past decade, the Fellows Programme has cultivated a network of more than 540 alumni from 93 countries. In Brasília, current Fellows and alumni from nine Latin American countries – including leaders such as María del Milagro Dallacaminá (Argentina), Ligia Elena Matamoros Bonilla (Costa Rica), and Fabián Campos (Ecuador) – gathered to exchange experiences and share insights from their work in interreligious dialogue.

Held alongside the G20 Interfaith and PaRD Annual Forum, the two-day programme also featured Fellows contributing to broader interfaith and policy discussions. Among them was Daniela Chávez, a KAICIID alumna and provincial official from Argentina, who brought a regional perspective to high-level panels on religion, civility and social cohesion.

The meeting served to deepen KAICIID's engagement in Latin America, a region rich in religious and cultural diversity, with a long history of interreligious coexistence. The Centre's broadening of its programme focus in the region is a recognition of the growing role of Latin American dialogue practitioners in shaping global conversations on peacebuilding and inclusion.

E-LEARNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

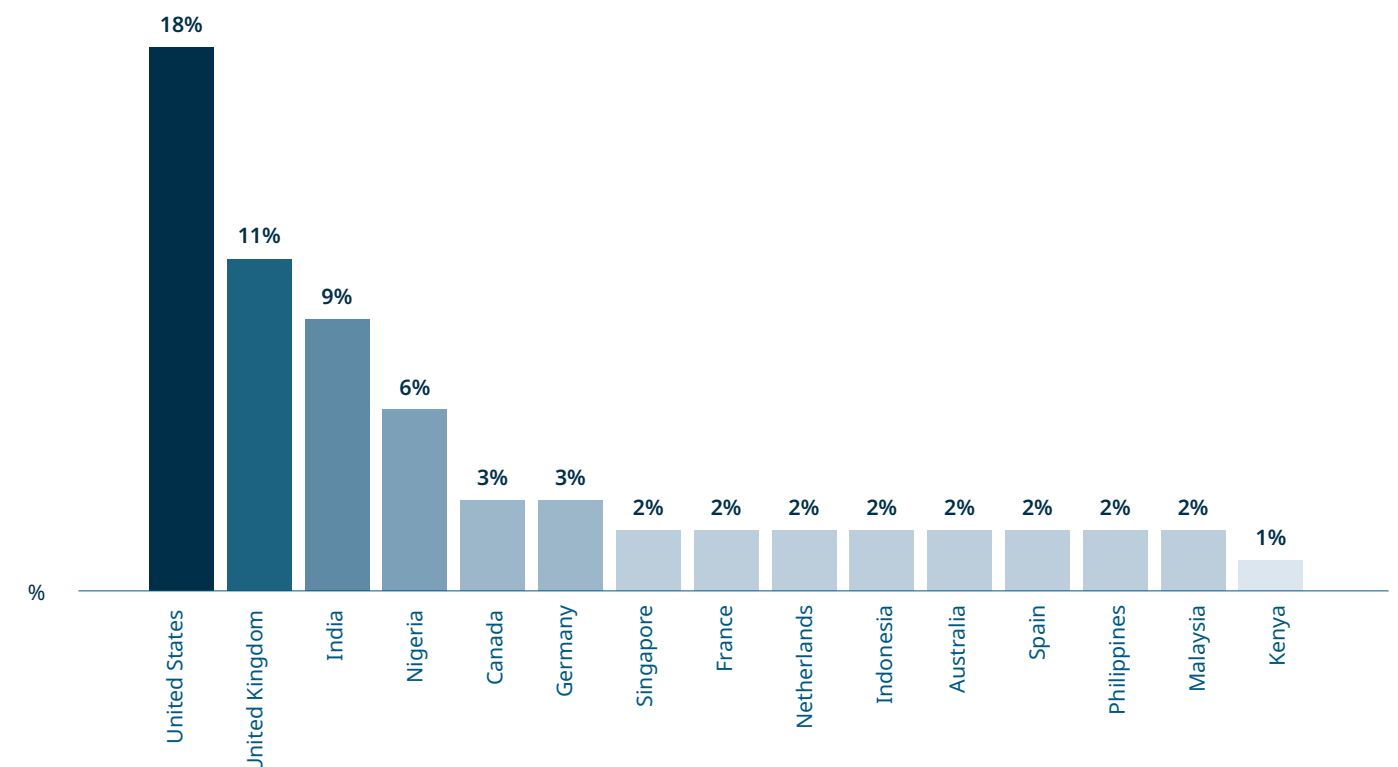
KAICIID's E-Learning Programme continues to strengthen knowledge-sharing and capacity-building in interreligious and intercultural dialogue through high-quality e-learning courses, thematic webinars and the Connect2Dialogue online platform. The programme equips a diverse audience, including educators, policymakers, faith leaders and practitioners, with essential skills while fostering collaboration and discussion on pressing global issues.

- **Connect2Dialogue.org** reached **over 10,000 active users** from **172 countries** around the world, providing access to interreligious dialogue knowledge resources and networking tools.



C2D IN NUMBERS

TOP 15 COUNTRIES BY ACTIVE C2D USERS



E-LEARNING COURSES

Through its E-Learning Courses, KAICIID provides global access to interactive, mobile-compatible learning resources in multiple languages. The programme's self-paced and facilitated online courses provide accessible and structured learning opportunities with practical, real-world applications on various topics related to interreligious and intercultural dialogue, social cohesion and peacebuilding. The courses are designed for a broad audience, including grassroots activists, educators and policymakers. They allow participants to engage with expert-led content and provide them with the essential frameworks to apply their knowledge in practical settings.

In 2024, KAICIID introduced two new courses to its offerings. The moderated e-learning course *Engaging Faith Actors to Strengthen Cities' Resilience to Climate Change and Disasters* was developed in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) global initiative and piloted throughout the year. The course equips officials and faith-based actors with tools to collaborate on urban resilience and disaster risk reduction while encouraging governments and organizations to adopt faith-sensitive development policies for sustainable cities.

The self-paced e-learning course, *Monitoring and Evaluation of KAICIID Grants* was developed primarily for beneficiaries of KAICIID grants, such as participants of KAICIID's programmes and partner organizations. It also presents concepts and methodologies that are of interest to a wider audience.

Three additional self-paced e-learning courses were translated for a wider audience:



"The course has provided me with significant insights, particularly the realization that dialogue is essential to understanding and connecting with others. It taught me that we are all human beings bound by common values. I came to understand that dialogue is more than just a conversation; it is a journey of self-discovery and mutual understanding. It's not just an exchange of ideas, but a means to build bridges between people and cultures."

This course helped me appreciate that unity exists within diversity. Despite our differences, we are united by shared human values that bring us together. Additionally, it highlighted the importance of discovering both ourselves and others, which further emphasised dialogue as a way to uncover new dimensions of our identity while fostering a deeper understanding of others.

Furthermore, the course has made me more open to different perspectives. I now actively seek opportunities to engage with individuals from diverse religious backgrounds. I have also become more mindful of using respectful and objective language in dialogue. This has fuelled my enthusiasm to promote understanding and peaceful coexistence between different religions."

Hanaa Shaltout. Journalist and Media Researcher, Egypt
Using Interreligious Dialogue to Strengthen Peace, Reconciliation,
and Social Cohesion

SEVERAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND NETWORKS ADOPTED KAICIID'S COURSES TO COMPLEMENT THEIR TRAINING PROGRAMMES. THIS INCLUDES:

- The University for Peace (UPEACE)
- UNEP's Faith for Earth initiative
- Lutheran World Federation's global faith leadership training
- Eco-Changers Initiative
- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
- MCR2030
- A World Fellowship of Orthodox Youth - SUPRASL

E-Learning Course

Using Interreligious Dialogue (IRD) to Strengthen Peace, Reconciliation and Social Cohesion

IMPACT STORY

Bridging Divides Through Interreligious Dialogue: A Transformative Journey

KAICIID's course *Using Interreligious Dialogue to Strengthen Peace, Reconciliation, and Social Cohesion* provides essential tools to navigate religious diversity, foster mutual understanding and promote social cohesion.

For Sheilalaine G. Romulo from the Philippines, participating in the course offered an opportunity to deepen her understanding of interfaith dialogue. The course provided her with a strong foundation in the theory and practice of interreligious dialogue. She explored its historical development and learned how ethical approaches – centred on respect and sincerity – are essential for meaningful engagement across religious differences.

“This historical context enriched my understanding and provided valuable insights into the persistence and resilience required to sustain such efforts,” she reflected.

Putting the course's lessons into practice, Sheilalaine organised local workshops to address religious stereotypes and promote more inclusive conversations within her community, creating opportunities for open exchange among community members. She also launched an online discussion space where individuals from diverse backgrounds could share reflections and engage in interfaith dialogue.

The two initiatives served to challenge religious stereotypes and led to greater trust and cooperation among her community.



E-LEARNING COURSES IN NUMBERS



44

Open-access e-learning courses available



7

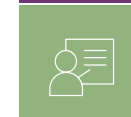
Major global partners integrated KAICIID courses into their educational curricula

IN 2024



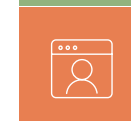
48

Instructor-led/moderated courses facilitated for 270+ participants



100

Teachers in Kenya trained by Eco-Changers Initiative using KAICIID e-learning material



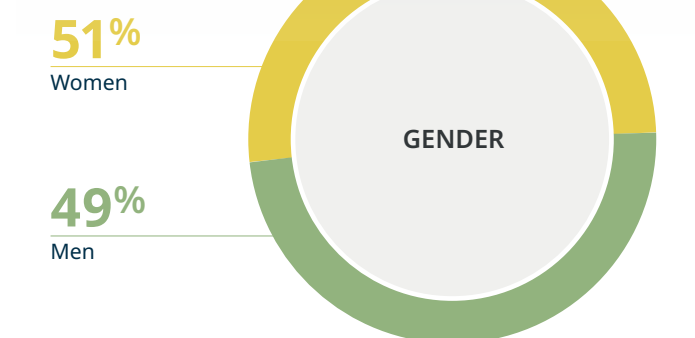
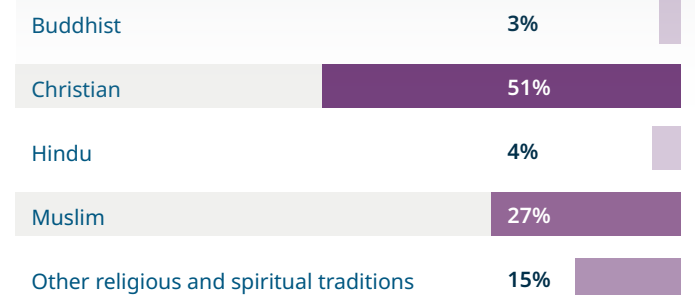
5

New e-learning courses available in Arabic, English, Portuguese and Spanish



AWARDED
620+

Completion certificates to participants from 73 countries



WEBINARS

Throughout 2024, KAICIID's E-Learning Programme hosted a series of thematic webinars, fostering global dialogue and knowledge-sharing on pressing issues. These webinars provided a platform for faith leaders, educators, policymakers and civil society actors to discuss topics such as religious literacy, climate action, cultural heritage and migrant inclusion.

In April and August of 2024, KAICIID convened two interconnected webinars titled, *Turning the Tide on Women's Inequality: Transforming Challenges and*

Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Solutions for All. These events, the second of which was organised in partnership with PaRD, focused on women’s economic empowerment, gender equality and the role of faith communities in supporting sustainable development. Women faith leaders and policy experts discussed innovative approaches to bridging economic gaps and amplifying women’s voices in decision-making processes.

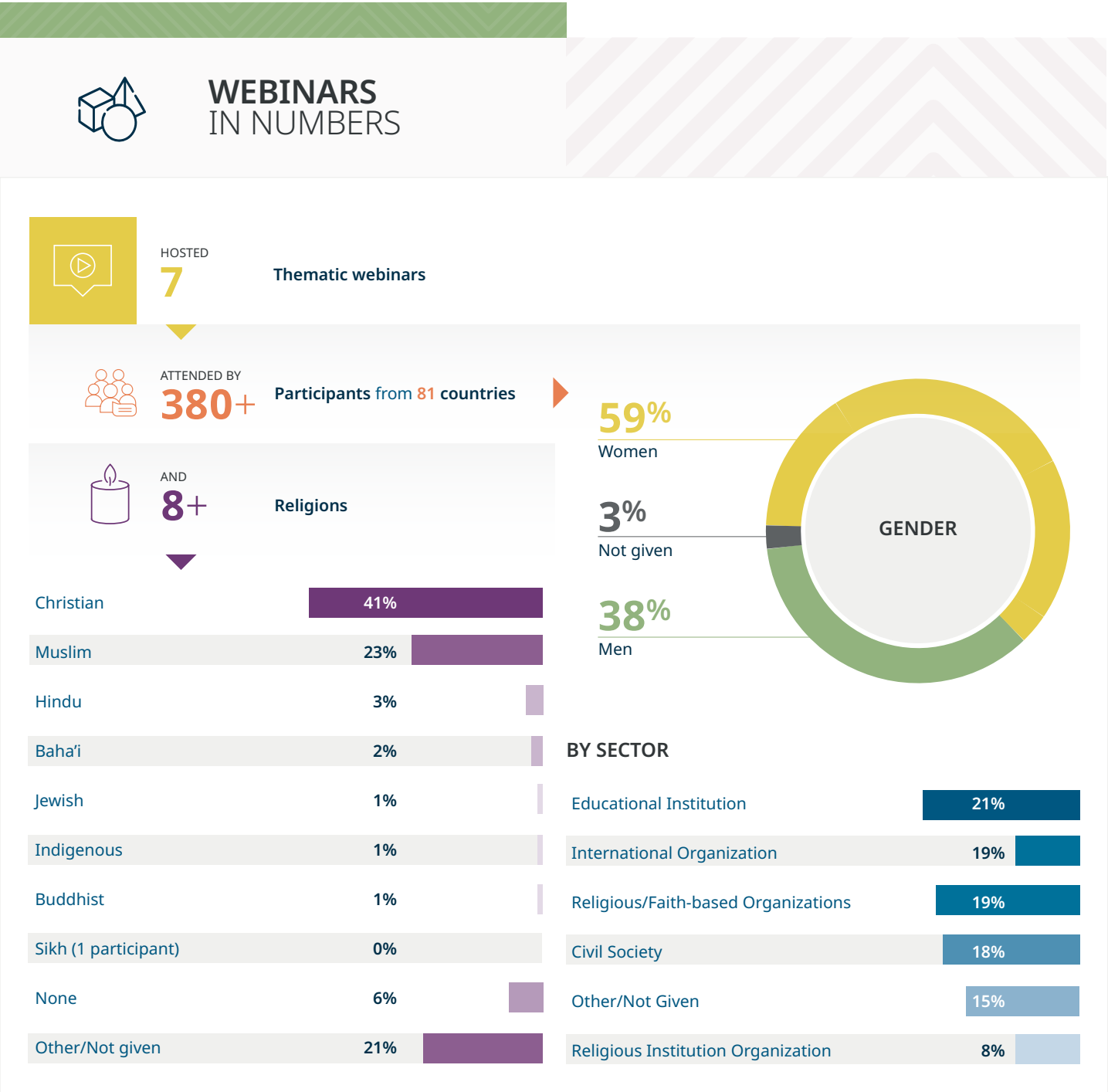
In September, marking the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief, the webinar *Talking Faith Online: Navigating Religious Literacy in Digital Media* explored best practices for representing faiths, countering misinformation and promoting constructive inter-faith discourse in digital spaces.

In October, the webinar *Sowing Seeds of Peace: Religious Literacy in Education*, held in collaboration with the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding, highlighted best practices for integrating religious literacy into classrooms, creating inclusive learning environments. While for the International Day of Tolerance in November, the webinar *Preserving Cultural Heritage and Sacred Sites: A Path to Peace through Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue* presented case studies from the Middle East, Africa and Europe, illustrating how faith-based actors are protecting religious heritage amidst socio-political and environmental challenges.

Other webinars included the May webinar *Climate Change and the Importance of Indigenous Knowledge: Shared Humanity for Transformative Action – A Bridge*



to Brazil held in partnership with the G20 Interfaith Forum Environmental Working Group. Indigenous leaders, climate experts and faith actors examined how traditional ecological knowledge contributes to global sustainability efforts. In December, KAICIID commemorated International Migrants Day by co-hosting a webinar with COREnet Education, *Religion, and Dialogue: Shaping Inclusive Narratives for Refugees and Migrants in Europe*. Participants discussed innovative educational tools and community-based approaches that support refugees and migrants in navigating religious and cultural diversity.





IMPACT STORY

Women's Voices Webinar Series: Turning the Tide on Women's Inequality

Since its inception in 2022, the **Women's Voices Webinar Series** has provided a platform for engaging in dialogue on gender equality and women's empowerment. The series was developed to address systemic barriers faced by women and girls, both in secular and faith communities, and to explore the role of interreligious and intercultural dialogue in advancing gender justice. Over the years, the initiative has successfully convened diverse voices to discuss women's leadership in peacebuilding, economic empowerment, environmental policy and cultural heritage preservation.

In 2024, KAICIID introduced a new format for the series, blending traditional webinars with interactive workshops. The first event to use this approach was held on 17 April 2024 and titled *Turning the Tide on Women's Inequality: Transforming Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Economic Solutions for All*. The webinar focused on grassroots actions to redress dynamics that hinder progress on women's empowerment. The session provided a collaborative space for interfaith leaders, activists and development experts to explore innovative strategies for climate resilience, gender-sensitive financing and hunger alleviation within local communities. Participants engaged in breakout discussions, generating practical recommendations for improving financial access for women and integrating faith-based gender advocacy into policy frameworks.

Building on these discussions, the second event, held in August 2024 in collaboration with PaRD, was a high-level online meeting under the same theme. Policy actors, religious leaders and representatives from international organizations convened to bridge grassroots realities with global leadership, ensuring that local voices contributed to high-level policy discussions.

The discussions led to a series of recommendations published by KAICIID as an outcome document. They included:

- **Amplifying women's leadership in faith spaces:** Religious and secular institutions must go beyond acknowledging gender equality and actively promote women's leadership roles. Faith leaders should serve as allies and advocates, using their influence to challenge harmful stereotypes and create inclusive spaces for women's participation.
- **Building multi-sector partnerships:** Sustainable progress on gender equality cannot be achieved in isolation. Governments, private sector actors and faith-based organizations must collaborate to ensure gender-responsive financing and effective policy implementation.
- **Investing in grassroots leadership and capacity building:** Local community-led initiatives have proven effective in empowering women through education, training and economic opportunities, ensuring long-term impact and sustainability.
- **Recognising women as agents of change, not just victims:** The discussion called for a shift in narrative, positioning women as leaders, entrepreneurs, and decision-makers, rather than passive beneficiaries.
- **Ensuring financial and policy commitments to gender equality:** Faith-based advocacy should focus on institutionalising gender equity policies, securing funding for women's initiatives, and holding governments accountable for implementing gender-responsive legislation.

By merging grassroots activism with high-level advocacy in promoting interfaith collaboration as a powerful tool for gender equality, the Women's Voices Webinar Series continues to drive systemic change.



CAPACITY BUILDING

In 2024, KAICIID continued its focus on enhancing and promoting interreligious and intercultural initiatives by and for women and youth. KAICIID collaborated with the **World Organization of the Scout Movement** and the Temasek Foundation, providing technical support to the Young Peace Builders Programme.

The programme is a cascading educational framework for Scouts in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand to earn the recently created “Dialogue for Peace” and “Interreligious Dialogue” badges. The initial training was held in Singapore from July to August. KAICIID trained 60 youth leaders to become dialogue ambassadors, equipping them with practical skills in dialogue and conflict resolution. As part of KAICIID’s long-term partnership and collaboration with the Scouts, the Centre attended the 43rd World Scout Conference, held in September in Cairo, Egypt. During the event, KAICIID provided ad-hoc interreligious dialogue activities as part of its capacity-development efforts through informal education.

In September, KAICIID participated as a partner to the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe at the 23rd edition of the **University of Youth and Development** in Mollina, Spain. The event serves as a global platform for youth empowerment and policy advocacy. In addition to delivering training sessions at the event, KAICIID sponsored the participation of eight alumni from KAICIID’s Fellows, Europe, Asia and Arab Region programmes.

KAICIID also supported the **North-South Centre** in the development of the second edition of the *Tutored Online Training Course on Global Education and Intercultural/Interfaith Dialogue*, delivered across four weeks between October and November. The course strengthened participants’ understanding of inclusive citizenship through interfaith dialogue in global education.



CAPACITY BUILDING IN NUMBERS



60

Scout youth leaders trained in Singapore



FROM

4

participating countries:
Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore
and Thailand



8

Alumni from KAICIID’s regional
programmes attended the University
of Youth and Development



7

Women



1

Men



INTERNATIONAL
DIALOGUE CENTRE



KAICIID

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