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Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development

Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development, University of Massachusetts Boston

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The Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development is dedicated to advancing peace, democracy, rule of law, and economic and social development in developing areas abroad.

**Working with local partners, CPDD focuses on:**

- Assisting in peacebuilding and conflict resolution
- Strengthening local government and civil society
- Promoting viable, independent media
- Helping judiciaries become more effective and more transparent
- Promoting greater educational and economic opportunities

**Key themes:**

- Interfaith and inter-ethnic peacebuilding
- Environmental conflict prevention
- Strengthening democratic governance and rule of law
- Development communications and independent media
- Supporting higher education in developing countries

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**Students at the Grassroots**

CPDD seeks creative solutions to empower peace and development actors in fractured societies to address their complex divisions, reinforcing the commitment to principles of peace and reconciliation, and building democracy “from the bottom, up.”

We offer practical expertise across the spectrum of conflict management and democratic governance, guided by academic research and evaluation. CPDD is mentoring the next generation of peace and democracy builders from the UMass Boston student body, who are central to all our initiatives.

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**Local and Global Projects**

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has awarded the center a five-year grant to work with the Interfaith Mediation Centre, a grassroots interfaith organization that promotes peace across the Muslim-Christian divide in Nigeria.

CPDD is working with the University of Liberia to strengthen their public policy research and instruction, as well as expanding educational opportunities.

CPDD is working with Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salaam in Israel/Palestine to build exchange programs and support their development of a peace institute.

And here in Boston:

- Greater Boston Somali Community Dialogues – Working with members of the Somali diaspora to address divisions within the community.
- Assisting a dialogue process with the Boston Busing/Desegregation Project trying to heal some of the scars left from that tumultuous era in Boston

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**Get Involved!**

To learn about our work in conflict management and democratic governance, contact our director, Darren Kew at:

Email: darren.kew@umb.edu

Telephone: 617.287.7428

Website: www.umb.edu/cpdd