Political Accommodation and Reconciliation in Somalia and Somaliland

Conflict Dynamics’ Somali program supports dialogue among and between Somali leaders and communities to help reconcile different interests and build lasting peace.

We facilitate dialogue and negotiation processes that help groups in conflict build consensus and accommodate each other’s interests. Our research and outreach provides inputs that help Somali leaders and people explore new ideas that can lead to a more stable future.

The Somali program’s work is based on strong contextual knowledge and is conducted in collaboration with a wide range of Somali groups and individuals. We work on the ground in Somalia and Somaliland in a modest manner. By supporting Somali leaders and communities to develop political processes and governance arrangements, our work helps resolve existing conflicts and prevent future ones.

Our engagement since 2009 has had a significant impact. For example: the Federal Government of Somalia and the Government of Somaliland utilized Conflict Dynamics’ framework for dialogue processes. Conflict Dynamics also supports District Peace Committees which help communities resolve disputes and avoid violent conflict on a daily basis.

Conflict Dynamics is an independent, not-for-profit organization founded in 2004 to prevent and resolve violent conflict between and within states, and to alleviate human suffering resulting from conflicts and other crises.

The Somali program works at three interconnected levels:

1. Within Somalia at the federal and state levels, and between different levels of government.
3. Locally for reconciliation and peacebuilding among and between communities.

We work in a neutral, impartial, transparent, and independent manner to build and maintain trusted relations across all regions, and levels of governance.
Our Work

Within Somalia, and between levels of government

We provide technical inputs to the federal constitutional review process and legislation related to the national political architecture. We support federal member states and the central government to work together to clarify the roles of different levels of government, including by facilitating regular discussions between leaders of the federal government and counterparts in the federal member states.

Between Somalia and Somaliland

We provide impartial technical assistance, on the substance and process design of the dialogue between the delegations of Somalia and Somaliland. This includes support to drafting agreement(s) between the parties. We support dialogue within Somalia and Somaliland to include MPs, civil society, and political parties. Our research explores other interactions between Somalia and Somaliland that can contribute to coexistence.

Locally for reconciliation and peace

We help establish new District Peace Committees who work to resolve local conflicts. With our partners we develop the skills of existing peace committees, and help them develop effective interactions with government authorities at the district, regional, and state levels. We work with state governments and others to support District Peace Committee structures to contribute to the creation of responsive district councils.

Partners

We are proud to work closely with these leading Somali organizations:

The Somali Youth Development Network (SOYDEN)  
www.soyden.net

RIFT Valley Institute (RVI)  
https://riftvalley.net/

The Academy for Peace and Development (APD)  
www.apd-somaliland.org

The Centre for Research and Dialogue (CRD)  www.crdsomalia.org

We also collaborate with a range of governments, international organizations, as well as local and international civil society.

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Publications

Options for systems to elect the House of the People in Somalia (June 2015)

Avenues for political accommodation during Federal Member State formation (July 2014)

From the bottom up: Southern Regions - Perspectives through conflict analysis and key political actors’ mapping (April 2014)

Cultivating Consensus: Exploring options for political accommodation and promoting all Somali voices (February 2014)

www.cdint.org/resources/