

# Promoting Religious Harmony in Sri Lanka



## Goal

Greater respect for freedom of religion and belief, contributing to social harmony in Sri Lanka

## Time Frame

2014-2016

## Community action projects at a glance

- **Ampara:** Facilitating dialogues with youth, government and religious leaders with the aim of addressing inter-religious conflict in the district.
- **Colombo:** Engaging children, parents, teachers, and religious leaders from Sunday schools in activities to promote awareness about different religions.
- **Galle:** Bringing together children, teachers, government, religious leaders, and civil society organizations to create inter-religious and inter-cultural awareness.



[www.equitas.org](http://www.equitas.org) / [www.ices.lk](http://www.ices.lk)



INTERNATIONAL  
CENTRE FOR  
ETHNIC STUDIES

**equitas**

## Main activities

**Legal and Social Research** on the State of Religious Freedom in Sri Lanka

**3 Capacity Building Workshops** on Human Rights Education and Promoting Religious Harmony.

**Action projects in 3 communities** aimed at promoting religious harmony and building religious co-existence.

**Practitioners' Forum and Launch of Research**

*"This workshop [for religious school teachers] gave us the opportunity to share our thoughts, beliefs and express ourselves with people from different faiths. We hope we can bring this to a national level to bring about peace. The human rights values are important. They are the pillars for building the nation."*  
- Hindu School Principal

## Results To Date

**1,100**



Community members, including children and youth, from Ampara, Colombo and Galle participated in workshop and awareness raising programs for human rights

**22**



Community leaders were trained in human rights education

**20**



Community meetings and dialogues conducted in Ampara, Colombo and Galle

**Canada**

The project is made possible through the financial support of the Government of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development