

# Countering Violent Extremism

## OUR WORK

Through its countering violent extremism (CVE) programming, the Global Center works with local, regional, and international partners to promote holistic responses to violent extremism that underscore the critical importance of human rights, the rule of law, and community engagement. The Global Center's CVE program focuses on undertaking context-specific research to inform CVE policy and practice, advancing the CVE capacity of local and regional stakeholders and networks, and fostering collaborative engagement among CVE actors to promote inclusive dialogue across different sectors.

### Informing CVE Research and Policy

The Global Center produces tailored research and analysis to help inform ongoing CVE policy design and program development.

- **National CVE Policy.** In collaboration with key partners such as Hedayah and the UN Development Programme, the Global Center supports countries in drafting and implementing national CVE action plans and strategies.
- **The Nexus Between CVE and Other Fields of Practice.** The Global Center's research explores the relationship between CVE and other assistance, assessing emerging opportunities and risks. The Global Center also critically examines the effectiveness of peace operations in complex security environments that include violent extremist actors.
- **CVE Policy and Practice Evaluation.** To provide a critical review of current and emerging policy and practice, the Global Center continues to explore

how to best evaluate the effectiveness of counterterrorism and CVE programming.

- **Drivers and Sources of Resilience to Violent Extremism.** The Global Center has conducted field-based research on the drivers of violent extremism in different regional contexts, including the Greater Horn of Africa and West Africa and the Sahel, and assisted in the development of regional CVE action agendas for governments, civil society, and international actors based on those assessments.

### Advancing CVE Capacities and Networks

The Global Center provides training and institutional capacity-building to increase the impact and reach of the CVE efforts of its local partners across East Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, South and Southeast Asia, and West Africa and the Sahel.

- **Community-Based CVE Initiative Funding.** The Global Center provides small grants to more than 25 civil society organizations across Africa and Asia to develop and implement locally owned CVE initiatives. A program design, monitoring, and evaluation methodology guides this small-grant programming.
- **The Role of Civil Society in Rehabilitation and Reintegration.** The Global Center works to strengthen the networks, capacity, and readiness of civil society organizations in East Africa, Southeast Asia, and West Africa and the Sahel to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals associated with and impacted by violent extremism.

- **International Civil Society Networks.** The Global Center supports systematic and durable exchanges among civil society groups, governments, and multilateral actors on issues related to CVE, in part through its role as a steering committee member of the Global Solutions Exchange (GSX). In addition, the Global Center facilitates a civil society hub in East Africa, which provides an independent networking and information-sharing platform and serves as a mechanism for effective civil society participation in national, regional, and international CVE policy discourse.
- **Prison Officials.** Under the auspices of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), the Global Center's Countering Violent Extremism in Prisons Program provides targeted CVE trainings, capacity development assistance, and ongoing support for frontline prison staff and managers.

### Promoting Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

The Global Center is a strong advocate for the meaningful engagement of civil society actors, including women and youth, as positive change agents in CVE. The center facilitates several platforms to exchange insights and experiences and to elevate local voices in CVE policy and programming.

- **Gender Integration and Women's Participation in CVE.** The Global Center contributed to the

development of the GCTF good practices document on women and CVE and together with Hedayah produced a collection of essays entitled *A Man's World? Exploring the Role of Women in Countering Violent Extremism*. The Global Center also advocates for greater alignment of the CVE and women, peace, and security agendas and is working to strengthen the networks and capacity of women and women-led organizations in Southeast Asia to prevent and counter violent extremism on local and national levels.

- **The Capacity of Youth Actors in CVE.** The Global Center advocates for a youth dimension in CVE and is undertaking a two-year program to support networking, peer learning, and capacity building of youth leaders to counter violent extremism associated with al-Shabaab in Kenya and Boko Haram in Nigeria.
- **Local Authorities in CVE.** The Global Center partners with the Institute for Strategic Dialogue to support the Strong Cities Network, enhancing the role of local authorities and other stakeholders through implementation of regional workshops, administration of local innovation grants for civil society actors, and development of local CVE action plans.

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### About the Global Center on Cooperative Security

The Global Center works with governments, international organizations, and civil society to develop and implement comprehensive and sustainable responses to complex international security challenges through collaborative policy research, context-sensitive programming, and capacity development. In collaboration with a global network of expert practitioners and partner organizations, the Global Center fosters stronger multilateral partnerships and convenes key stakeholders to support integrated and inclusive security policies across national, regional, and global levels.

For more information on the Global Center's countering violent extremism work, please contact Rafia Bhulai, Senior Programs Officer, at [rbhulai@globalcenter.org](mailto:rbhulai@globalcenter.org).

