WORKING TOGETHER

TO ADDRESS

VIOLENT EXTREMISM:

A STRATEGY FOR YOUTH-GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

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Search for
Common Ground

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WORKING TOGETHER TO ADDRESS VIOLENT EXTREMISM:
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I.   INTRODUCTION

The majority of Boko Haram fighters are teenagers, the typical ISIS recruit is around 26, and most Jemaah Islamiyah members are young and male.[1] Add to this that almost half of the 1.4 billion people living in fragile and conflict affected states are under the age of 20, and one can see why there is a public perception of youth as either victims or perpetrators of violence.[2] Yet, as articulated in the Youth Action Agenda to Prevent Violence and Promote Peace, "this narrative fails to capture the fact that most young people are part of the solution... working to build peace and prevent violent extremism," and the majority of youth simply reject violence.[3]

Since the February 2015 White House CVE Summit, the international community has increasingly converged and coordinated on two multilateral agendas: that of CVE and that of Youth, Peace and Security. Milestones such as the Amman Youth Declaration[4] and the Global Youth Summit Against Violent Extremism later that year paved the way for the adoption of the first-ever United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) on Youth, Peace, and Security in December 2015, UNSCR 2250.[5] Calling for youth inclusion in peace and decision-making processes that affect their lives, UNSCR 2250 highlights the need to engage and invest in young women and men as partners in preventing conflict and pursuing peace.

The convergence of these two agendas presents an opportunity to build partnership between youth and government, at all decision-making levels and across sectors, in preventing and countering violent extremism (referred to as P/CVE throughout the rest of this document).[6] Making that happen requires a tangible shift in policy and programming.

As countries articulate and implement their P/CVE strategies, this document provides guidance on how government and youth can work together in addressing violent extremism at the national and local level, recognizing youth as partners in peace and agents of positive change. Recommendations and findings are based on: online consultations and interviews with youth-led organizations and government officials engaged in P/CVE, a subsequent side event at the 2016 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) focused on youth-government partnership in CVE, and desk research. The consultations and UNGA event took place from August to October 2016.

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1   Schneider, James. Inside Boko Haram, New African Magazine, July 2015; Anneli Botha and Mahdi Abdile, Radicalization and Al-Shabaab Recruitment in Somalia, Institute for Security Studies, September 2014; Dearden, Lizzie. ISIS documents leak reveals profile of average militant...The Independent, April 2016; Zachary Abuza, Joining the New Caravan: ISIS and the Regeneration of Terrorism in Southeast Asia, Strategic Studies Institute, July 2015
2   States of Fragility 2015: Meeting Post-2015 Ambitions, OECD, 2015.
3   Youth Action Agenda to Prevent Violent Extremism and Promote Peace, Global Youth Summit Against Violent Extremism, New York, September 2015.
4   The Amman Youth Declaration was adopted at the Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security in Amman, Jordan in August 2015. The declaration was drafted in consultation with over eleven thousand youth from around the world.
5   UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, December 2015.
6   For the purposes of this document, our understanding of P/CVE stems from the 2016 US State Department and USAID Joint Strategy on CVE, with reference to the 2015 US State Department's Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review. An expansion of the term can be found in the annex.

II.   RESEARCH PROCESS AND METHODS

In August and September 2016, Search for Common Ground worked with seven of its country offices and four partner organizations to hold online consultations and interviews with youth, youth-led organizations and government officials engaged in P/CVE in **fourteen countries across three continents**. The objective was to learn about: a) their work, including the drivers of violent extremism in their contexts and the results of their interventions, b) the challenges and opportunities in engaging with government and public institutions, and c) their recommendations for partnership going forward.

In total, **122 individuals** (118 youth, including 34 women, and 4 government officials) from **Bangladesh, Cameroon, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, the Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Tunisia, and Sri Lanka** took part in these conversations. These individuals were interviewed because they work on P/CVE in countries dealing with violent extremism. Ages ranged from 17 to 38, and the average age was 27. (See Appendix E and F for information on participating individuals/organizations and questions used to guide the consultations.)

In addition to the consultations, over 300 youth responded to a poll posted through a Youth and P/CVE Facebook Group (with over 3,000 members) asking about what they see as the drivers of violent extremism. The poll listed similar drivers to those voiced through the consultations and offered an "add your own option".

III.   WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE SAY LEADS TO VIOLENT EXTREMISM?

While responses varied with location, the following drivers were mentioned with the highest frequency in the consultations and Facebook poll: injustice and corruption; lack of (quality) education, socioeconomic marginalization and unequal opportunity, alienation, and lack of voice. Injustice and corruption ranked highest in both, highlighting the centrality of these issues to both recruitment and their impact on youth-government dynamics. Improving the state-society relationship, in addition to intercommunity and intergenerational relationships, is critical to building community resilience to violent extremism.[7] (See Appendix C for an explanation of drivers noted through the consultation process and the Facebook poll.)

DRIVERS OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM
by Frequency of Mention   ■ Consultations   ■ Facebook Poll

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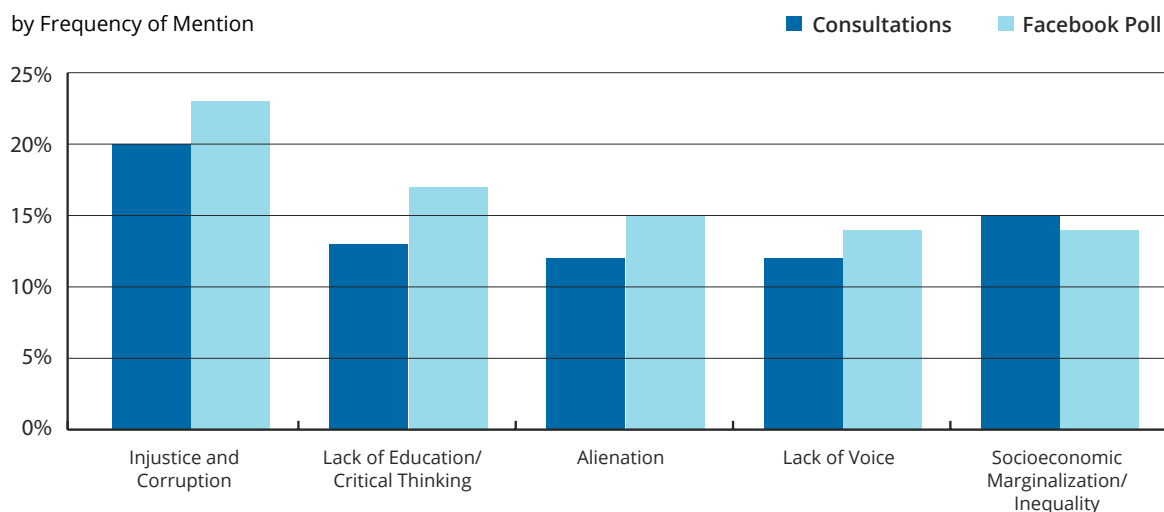
7   "We Don't Trust Anyone: Strengthening Relationships as the Key to Reducing Violent Extremism in Kenya", International Alert and Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance, September 2016.

IV.   OVERARCHING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION IN P/CVE

Based on their knowledge and experience in P/CVE (see Appendix D for examples of youth-led interventions to address violent extremism), participants in the consultations and the UNGA side event were asked to describe challenges and opportunities for youth-government collaboration in this field. The ones most commonly mentioned are highlighted below. Among the over fifty organizations consulted, a relatively limited number were able to provide concrete examples of partnership. Examples of effective youth-government collaboration that were shared are included as abbreviated case studies in Appendix B. That said, examples of effective youth-government collaboration are included as abbreviated case studies in the appendix.

Challenges: Mistrust, Lack of Access to Decision-making, and Lack of Capacity

Systemic mistrust remains one of the most significant impediments to increased inclusion of young people in P/CVE decision-making. This stems from a general tension between government and security forces and young people. Within government, a closed-door approach to security matters and the perception that youth are either troublemakers or are not credible or qualified counterparts may discourage otherwise champions from pushing for greater youth cooperation and partnership (an opinion voiced in four of the consultations). In parallel, youth are wary of ulterior motives behind government engagement, particularly in environments with a history of domestic spying. Youth organizations working with government may face backlash or a loss of credibility within their own communities if cooperation is perceived as government affiliation or undue influence over their priorities and objectives. In parallel, such dynamics of mistrust also discourage otherwise champions from within government from pushing for greater youth cooperation and partnership (an opinion voiced in four of the consultations).

A lack of open and equitable access to policy and decision-making processes in general, but particularly related to P/CVE, presents another hurdle. Channels for youth input and collaboration at the local and national level are often unknown, unclear, or nonexistent – from curricula reform promoting tolerance to budget allocation for youth-led job force training programs and effective counter-messaging campaigns. This is particularly true for youth working on the more securitized aspects of P/CVE, such as rehabilitation, reintegration, and prison reform. When youth are consulted, it is often due to personal connections or professional reputation, leaving access, even if merited, to be awarded on a case-by-case basis. This complicates community-level dynamics between youth-led organizations, and may exacerbate perceptions of corruption on an individual level, further alienating the marginalized and those who most need to be part of the solution.

Challenges related to **capacity** affect government and youth. Governments may not feel that they have the resources, time, or staff to work with youth in understanding the drivers of violent extremism or in developing P/CVE policy and programming, despite the interest of particular ministries, agencies, and champions. Further, and despite best intentions, a lack of institutional capacity may result in government promises that cannot be fulfilled, further stoking feelings of frustration and disenfranchisement.[8] Likewise, youth might lack the training, physical space, or legal capacity to participate in public life and engage in P/CVE-related programming. As highlighted by an abbreviated case study on legislative reform in Appendix B, restrictive national laws of association make it difficult for youth to form civil society or non-governmental organizations. This

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8   As of November 2016, previous announcements by the Nigerian Presidency and Police Service Commission to employ 500,000 graduates and 10,000 young people, respectively, have largely gone unfulfilled, exacerbating an already strained situation against a backdrop of fragile security as maintained by the civilian joint task force in Borno State.

tends to aggravate grievances around lack of voice, particularly when civil society is seen as the only viable form of representation in political or public life.

Opportunities: Youth Expertise, Connectivity, and Global Momentum

Young people have a unique and critical **expertise** in P/CVE, based on their understanding of what drives recruitment at the community level and the programs and policy necessary to address it. Their proximity to local realities, systemic grievances, and messaging that may lead to radicalization result in unique insight on how to effectively de-radicalize those who have chosen to join extremist groups. For example, the youth-led MOVE Foundation (see Appendix B) developed the first set of counter-narratives for Bangladesh, in consultation with faith leaders and security experts and vetted by a diversity of youth, government, and law enforcement. Opposing political parties, including the ruling party and top Islamic parties in Bangladesh, also publicly endorsed these counter-narratives in September 2016.

In addition to expertise, youth are more **connected** to each other and the rest of the world than ever before. Both in-person and online, young people are able to create networks, form communities around shared ideals, and reach out to the most marginalized. From community discussion groups and peer to peer programming to regional and international platforms, social media movements and applications, youth are able to connect and build relationships across social, cultural, generational, and religious divides.[9] While online connectivity cuts both ways - online radicalization is increasingly used by extremist groups to recruit - it nonetheless presents an opportunity to lessen the gap between divided communities and spread messages of pluralism.[10]

Finally, there is **global momentum** and recognition behind the need and value of working with youth at all levels of decision-making to effectively address violent extremism. Global rhetoric, including the Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, is pushing for greater collaboration and partnership with young women and men in P/CVE.[11]

V.   A STRATEGY FOR YOUTH-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP IN P/CVE

Based on the challenges and opportunities described above and input received from partner organizations, the following strategy provides recommendations for youth-government collaboration and partnerships in addressing violent extremism. It is divided into a set of underlying principles, or "Core Principles", and recommended steps for moving forward listed under the "Suggested Steps for Collaboration".

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9   Examples of organizations engaged in this work are Aware Girls in Pakistan, Cafe Talks in Tunisia, Kazakhstan for Peace, and NUTIZEN and NU in Indonesia.

10   The P2P (Peer to Peer): Challenging Extremism initiative, a U.S. government effort led by the State Department, managed by EdVenture Partners, and supported in part by Facebook, is an example of the increased attention being paid to youth and their ability to positively connect in this field.

11   Examples include: the US State Department-USAID Joint Strategy on CVE, the European Union's European Agenda on Security and the EU Commission, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security, and the UN Secretary General's Plan to Prevent Violent Extremism

Getting the Foundation Right: Core Principles

1.   View and Engage Youth as Critical, Trustworthy Partners in Peace - from Implementer to Partner

Without taking steps to acknowledge and work with youth as competent and trustworthy **partners** in P/CVE policy and programming, youth-government collaboration will not only remain limited but also may be perceived as a form of instrumentalization. For example, politicians or parties that reach out to mobilize youth in the lead-up to elections, but then sideline their concerns once elected, may fuel young people's feelings of alienation, frustration, and mistrust in government.

Youth-government collaboration and partnership in P/CVE should be pursued as a long-term, strategic objective, rather than a means of improving public image or pacifying youth while avoiding to address their needs or concerns regarding corruption, human rights, unemployment, poverty, and service delivery, for example. Such a shift in attitude and approach would help build trust and shared responsibility between youth and government in addressing violent extremism and its root causes.

2.   Acknowledge the Drivers of Violent Extremism and Adapt State-led Responses

State-led responses to violent extremism are often dominated by heavy-handed securitized approaches and assumptions that the drivers are primarily religious and theological, despite evidence that they may be counterproductive.[12] Many security actors neither understand the nuances of the push and pull factors driving recruitment nor necessarily value prevention-related efforts. Further, those that do value a prevention-oriented approach often lack the authority, mandate, or resources to act accordingly. Security forces are often tasked to deal with the challenge by government leaders outside of the sector, and may not be designed or appropriately equipped for a new role engaging in P/CVE or counterterrorism. Difficulty coordinating responses to violent extremism between government agencies and institutions presents an additional challenge.

To respond effectively, government should analyze and address the various contextual factors and dynamics that contribute to violent extremism, invest more in P/CVE sensitization trainings at all levels, and reward community engagement and prevention-related work, particularly at the local level.

3.   Partnership and Access for Youth in P/CVE

As noted, many governments and their ministries continue to keep P/CVE decision-making closed to youth, despite young people's insight into recruitment and the mechanisms by which de-radicalization might be most effective, lasting, and respective of human rights. This may be the result of unwillingness or uncertainty on how to engage youth. Governments at the local and national level, including through the Executive Office, should create informal and formal channels for collaboration and coordination with youth across P/CVE initiatives, policies, and programs. This includes working with youth on related policy and programs in various sectors. Though far from exhaustive, the youth surveyed highlighted the following areas for more deliberate engagement: education, entrepreneurship and job creation, social cohesion, rehabilitation and reintegration

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12   At the United Nations Geneva Conference on Preventing Violent Extremism in April 2016, Ambassador David Robinson noted that "state-sponsored violence correlates highly with the emergence of violent extremist organizations. Countries with above-average levels of state-sponsored violence double their risk of a violent extremism organization emerging. Countries with the highest levels of state-sponsored violence quadruple their risk of a violent extremism organization emerging" and that "Those who are more devout, who feel religion plays an important role in their daily lives, are less likely to support violent extremism, while those with an exclusionary supremacist view are more likely to support violent extremism."

of prisoners or ex-combatants, countering extremist messaging, and implementation of national laws against terrorism.

Channels for input, collaboration, and partnership (noted further in the "Suggested Steps for Collaboration" section below) should be reliable, equitable, and transparent, and could be pursued through:

- Youth advisory boards at the local level

- Offices within municipal bodies, public administration, and school associations designated for youth engagement and collaboration across sectors

- Outreach by and access to representatives of relevant ministries and government agencies

- Youth Parliaments at the national level

- Funding mechanisms supportive of youth-led programs

This will increase the relevance of P/CVE policies and programs and ensure that partnership and collaboration is not pursued on a case-by-case basis.

4.   *Ensuring fundamental freedoms, the principles of human rights, religious tolerance, and individual safety*

P/CVE can and should be pursued through a human security lens.[13] Policies that infringe upon fundamental freedoms and jeopardize the rights of individuals are not only unethical, but they often backfire in their strategic objectives. If citizens do not feel that they have the freedom or civic space to criticize government policies and actions, they may also feel limited or discouraged to speak out against extremist rhetoric and action. In devising P/CVE policy and programs, youth and government should work together to ensure the protection of fundamental freedoms and human rights, including freedom of speech and assembly. (See Appendix B for an abbreviated case study on youth-government collaboration on the protection of speech and assembly.)

Relatedly, collaboration and coordination with government in P/CVE may expose youth to harm. In addition to retaliation from extremist groups and their supporters, engaged youth and their families may risk backlash from actors with a vested interest in maintaining insecurity, including members of local or national government. Protection for the security and safety of young people must be prioritized when developing these relationships.[13] Clearly stated roles and responsibilities for youth and government, as well as ongoing multi-stakeholder dialogue, would help mitigate risks.

5.   *Maintaining Best Practices*

Partnership between youth and government is not static, and effective P/CVE programming requires continual learning and adjustment. In joint P/CVE programming, all parties should regularly ask the following questions:

- Does programming address grievances or injustices voiced?

- Does programming address inequalities arising from tribe, ethnic group, clan, family, or urban/rural affiliation?

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13   UNOY Peacebuilders' Blog: Ten Guiding Practices for CVE from a Human Security and Young Peacebuilders' Perspective, April 16, 2015.

- Does it create channels for youth-specific, as well as multi-stakeholder engagement; how does it contribute to the whole of community approach?

- Is youth engagement supported in a way that allows for their independent, yet inclusive participation?

6.   Build an all-government and all-of-society movement

P/CVE cannot be done by government, civil society, youth organizations, or communities in isolation. Collaboration and partnership is required for effective P/CVE policy and programming, not only between youth and government, but also among youth-led organizations, across government ministries and public institutions (beyond ministries of interior or defense, to local government and social ministries), and with a variety of community stakeholders, including religious and community leaders.[14]

Despite best intentions, the voices and perspectives of those most vulnerable to or affected by violent extremism are often not reflected, even at the local level. To be effective, P/CVE approaches should ensure that the most alienated voices do not feel forgotten or as if their experience holds no value. Youth-led organizations and public institutions, such as schools, can work to reach across socioeconomic, cultural, and religious divides to reach the most marginalized by actively seeking out their communities, schools, places of worship, and markets.[15]

Suggested Steps for Collaboration

Working Together

1) Convene a dialogue with youth, government, and other key stakeholders at the community or national level to review existing P/CVE policies, programs, or National Action Plans and discuss the opportunities and challenges for working together to address violent extremism.

   a.   In line with the whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach, ensure participation from a diversity of youth leaders and youth-led organizations, community elders, religious leaders, state representatives, local officials, media, tech, and the private sector.[16] [17]

   b.   Develop joint approaches to P/CVE, which recognize contextual variables, including drivers of violent extremism, previous iterations of P/CVE initiatives, and operational limitations. The strategic process should address the following questions:[18]

        i.   What drivers do P/CVE policies and programs need to address, and to what extent do they

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14   UN Secretary General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, January 2016.
15   A youth-led organization in Cameroon has trained over 15,000 children in peace education, in cooperation with local schools and the Ministry of Social Affairs, so that they are equipped to build resilience within their communities and to work with street children and other youth vulnerable to recruitment. More information on this organization can be found in Appendix B.
16   A "whole-of-government" approach integrates the collaborative efforts of the departments and agencies of a government to achieve unity of effort toward a shared goal, also known as interagency approach, according to the Glossary of Terms for Conflict Management and Peacebuilding, the United States Institute for Peace; a "whole-of-society" approach insists that all the key stakeholders of a particular issue be involved in its solution, according to Overseas Development Institute in "Localizing Aid," July 2013.
17   Guidance for International Youth Engagement in PVE and CVE: Youth Responses to Resolution 2250 and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, YouthCAN and the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, 2016,
18   These questions are aligned with those identified by the Inter-Agency Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding in their guide, Translating Youth, Peace & Security Policy into Practice.

address those drivers? What opportunities do young people have to engage in P/CVE inde-pendently, and with the government, based on current P/CVE policies and programs? What communication channels already exist?

    ii.   If youth and government are already working together on P/CVE, is it at the policy and deci-sion-making level or program implementation? How has it been successful and how can it be scaled?

    iii.   What are the key obstacles young people face when engaging and working in P/CVE with gov-ernment? Are policies, programs, or decision-making structures hindering youth participation in unintended ways?

c.   Agree on the outputs from the dialogue and next steps, whether they involve further dialogue, mea-sures to address obstacles or amplify opportunities, or other initiatives.

    i.   Ensure that outputs and timelines are transparent and defined by both youth and govern-ment to help legitimize partnership and collaboration in the eyes of local communities and government.

2) Develop joint initiatives to better understand and address the drivers of violent extremism.

    a.   Identify the P/CVE priorities and where the opportunities for partnerships lie therein.

    b.   Ensure that objectives and responsibilities, as well as mechanisms for monitoring and follow-up, are clearly defined and understood.

    c.   Play to the comparative advantage of each partner, where possible. For example, youth should take the lead on issues regarding recruitment and messaging, online, in prisons, or community spaces.

    d.   Build a coalition of like-minded individuals and organizations, from government and youth-led orga-nizations to advocate for specific partnership and collaboration.

    e.   Partner with youth to sensitize government and public institutions about the objectives of P/CVE and its value, particularly at the local level. This should include acknowledging the state-specific drivers of violent extremism, as well as distinguishing between P/CVE and Counterterrorism.

    f.   Work with a diversity of youth and youth-led organizations to review, draft, and amend national an-ti-terrorism, freedom of speech, assembly, and association laws to protect civic space and human rights in writing and implementation at local and national levels.

    g.   Co-develop a research agenda to continuously reassess the root causes and drivers of violent extrem-ism and support efforts to address those factors from the ground up.

3) Coordinate and pursue a multipronged approach that brings in outside stakeholders across sectors, includ-ing media, technology, services, and agriculture, to name a few.

    a.   Work with champions of youth-government collaboration and partnership at the local and national level, while bringing in relevant outside stakeholders to help mitigate information or access gaps, be-tween national policy and local directives/implementation.

Within Government

1) Integrate youth partnership into pre-existing strategies, plans, and policies to address violent extremism, and avoid creating a separate "Youth-CVE" National Action Plan. If countries choose not to develop a National Action Plan, pursue alternative mechanisms for youth engagement, such as those mentioned below.

2) Support, collaborate, and partner with youth and youth-led organizations without conditioning participation on political party support or affiliation (pursuing youth and P/CVE as a national, rather than a party-specific, agenda or strategy).

3) Broaden responsibility for P/CVE beyond interior ministries and law enforcement, recognizing that the drivers of violent extremism cut across multiple sectors and there is a shared responsibility for addressing them.

   a) Establish PVE as a national-interest strategy, rather than a security strategy.

      i) The head of the executive branch as well as members of the legislative branch of government, in particular, should prioritize building support and engagement across ministries in investing in a national PVE strategy that calls for partnership with youth.

   b) Build or strengthen inter-ministry/agency communication and cooperation on P/CVE.

      i) Create or revitalize government Working Groups that reflect the need for shared responsibility, across government ministries and agencies in addressing violent extremism, and are inclusive of youth and other community stakeholders.

   c) Strengthen the political currency and capacity of Ministries of Youth; allow for expanded programming beyond traditional portfolios, such as sports and social activities, in collaboration with Ministries of Planning, Finance, Interior, Justice, Education, Labor, Religious Affairs, Communication, among others.

4) Open up decision-making to youth participation.

   a) In line with UNSCR 2250, provide practical and clear channels for youth voices to be heard and listened to through: local legislation and consultative bodies, community and state-level offices of the Ministries of Labor, Religious Affairs, Poverty Alleviation, Development, and Education, as well as Youth Councils and Parliamentary bodies.[19]

   b) Support young people's participation in local and national government processes and decisions that affect their lives, from improved public service delivery to the issuance of national ID cards and community policing.[20] [21]

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19   UN SCR 2250 urges "Member States to consider ways to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making at all levels in local, national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict, including institutions and mechanisms to counter violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, and, as appropriate, to consider establishing integrated mechanisms for meaningful participation of youth in peace processes and dispute-resolution", UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security, December 2015.

20   Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding, April 25, 2014.

21   We Don't Trust Anyone: Strengthening Relationships as the Key to Reducing Violent Extremism in Kenya, International Alert and Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance, September 2016:

5)   Facilitate connections for youth across government institutions, ministries, and departments.

   a)   Support youth and youth-led organizations with challenges related to access and credibility by facili-
       tating introductions to other relevant institutions, departments, and ministries, while continuing your
       own engagement and work together.

Among Youth and Youth-led Organizations

1)   Integrate government engagement, partnership, and collaboration into P/CVE strategies, plans, and pro-
    grams.

   a)   Proactively engage and invite government officials to participate in your workshops, platforms, and
       programs despite possible low or limited initial interest.

2)   Ensure that youth are continuously reaching out to the most marginalized, assessing how your organiza-
    tion's operations and programs promote inclusion or exclusion (from staffing and hiring, to where your
    programs take place, etc.).

   a)   Youth-led organizations that "make it" into national and international spotlights should be conscious
       they do not neglect non-elite, under- or un-represented voices at home.

3)   Build partnerships with other youth-led and civil society organizations at the community level, including
    through leveraging connections made at international fora, such as the Global Forum on Youth, Peace,
    and Security in Amman or the Global Youth Summit Against Violent Extremism in New York.

4)   Coordinate campaigns and activities, on and offline, with other youth and youth organizations on an
    ongoing basis.

5)   Maintain independence and focus on P/CVE, regularly reviewing and communicating the results, impact,
    and theory of change behind your work.

VI.   CONCLUSION

Throughout this document, we have sought to articulate the value of youth-government collaboration and
partnership in P/CVE and to provide practical examples and recommendations for strengthening such col-
laboration. The youth demographic, perceived as a challenge in many contexts[22], represents an important
asset for communities and their governments. As partners for peace and positive agents of change, youth
offer critical expertise and connectivity for state actors working to understand and address pressing issues of
peace and security, such as violent extremism. Collaboration not only strengthens the design and implemen-
tation of P/CVE policies and programs, it also helps address fundamental grievances that have exacerbated
the spread of violent extremism and bridge divides between youth, society and government, more broadly.[23]
As described by a participant from Mora, Cameroon[24], the relationship between youth and government has

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22   Nordas, Ragnhild and Christian Davenport, Fight the Youth: Youth Bulges and State Repression, American Journal of Political
         Science, Vol. 00, No. 0, 2013, Pp. 1–15.
23   Meeting Report: Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) through Promoting Inclusive Development, Tolerance and Respect for
         Diversity, UNDP, March 2016.
24   See Appendix B for abbreviated case study on Dialogue in Cameroon.

often been like that of a dog and cat, on opposing sides and characterized by discord; yet, preventing and countering violent extremism is a common interest that can draw them together.

Irrespective of community or country, violent extremism continues to take lives, destroy homes, and tear at social fabrics. State responses that rely primarily on armed interventions and other securitized approaches have proven insufficient and even counterproductive in addressing the problem. The inclusion of youth at decision-making tables provides an opportunity to change this equation, to identify leading drivers, such as Injustice and Corruption, and to build equitable P/CVE partnerships across government, society, and sector. Anything short of such collaboration will likely only perpetuate the status quo and prevent us from reaching a sustainable solution to issues of violent extremism, peace, and security.

VII.   ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security** stresses the importance of engaging youth as partners and leaders in peacebuilding and urges member states to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making, at all levels, as well as institutions and mechanisms to prevent and resolve conflict and counter violent extremism. The forthcoming **Progress Study** mandated by UNSCR 2250 will provide a baseline of youth's positive contribution to peace processes and conflict resolution, thereby providing further guidance on youth-government partnerships in P/CVE.

- **Amman Youth Declaration**

- **Youth Action Agenda to Prevent Violence and Promote Peace**

- **Guiding Principles on Youth in Peacebuilding**

- **Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding: A Practice Note**

- **Youth Global Programme for Sustainable Development and Peace** (Youth-GPS, 2016-2020)

- **United Nations Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism**

- **Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals**

- **Youth Global Programme for Sustainable Development and Peace (Youth GPS), 2016-2020**

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Definition of P/CVE

Appendix B: Abbreviated Case Studies of Youth-Government P/CVE Collaboration and Partnership

Appendix C: Expanded Explanation of Drivers of Violent Extremism

Appendix D: Youth-led Interventions and Results

Appendix E: Consultation and Interview Questions

Appendix F: Consultation Participants by Country

Appendix A: Definition of P/CVE

The following is taken from the 2016 **Department of State and USAID Joint Strategy on Countering Violent Extremism**, with reference to the 2015 **Department of State Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review** (QDDR).

"CVE refers to proactive actions to counter efforts by violent extremism to radicalize, recruit, and mobilize followers to violence and to address specific factors that facilitate violent extremist recruitment and radicalization to violence. This includes both disrupting the tactics used by violent extremists to attract new recruits to violence and building specific alternatives, narratives, capability, and resiliencies in targeted communities and populations to reduce the risk of radicalization and recruitment to violence. CVE can be a targeted component of larger efforts to promote good governance and the rule of law, respect for human rights, and sustainable, inclusive development....

A comprehensive approach to address the drivers of violent extremism is critical to advancing the United States' national security and overall foreign policy goals. Reflecting this realization, the 2015 QDDR states that the Department of State (State) and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) will work to enhance, refine, and elevate ongoing CVE efforts, particularly those focused on prevention."

Appendix B: Abbreviated Case Studies on youth-government collaboration and partnership in P/CVE

The following case studies provide examples of youth-government partnership, collaboration, or support in P/CVE as it relates to: Curricula Reform and Community Policing; Legislative Reform, Human Rights, and Justice; Community Outreach and Bridge Building; Rehabilitation and Reintegration; and Government sensitization to CVE.

Curricula Reform and Community Policing, Tunisia	
Who	Youth Against Terrorism, Tunisia. Ministries of Youth, Interior, Education; representatives of political parties within the National Constituent Assembly.
What?	Collaboration to reform school curricula to incorporate critical thinking and analysis; collaboration on improved community policing practices.
How?	Coalition building within the CSOs. Visibility through government sponsored forums and events. Informal meetings with representatives of various offices at coffee shops, squares. Backchannel negotiations through personal and professional networks; those willing to listen within the government and within coalitions. Demonstrations and awareness-campaigns. Coalescing around singularity of cause (addressing violent extremism).
Results: So What?	Improved community-policing and training of police in community relations; revised curricula manuals at the 1st and 2nd level to increase focus on critical thinking and peaceful tenets of Islam.
More Information	Youth Against Terrorism is an independent, nonprofit Tunisian youth social advocacy organization focused on building a society immune from violence, radicalization, and terrorism.

Legislative Reform, Human Rights, Justice	
Who?	Al Sindyan Institute, Jordan. Officials within various government Ministries, including the Ministries of Youth and Interior, as well as the Prime Minister's Office.
What?	Collaboration to clarify legislation around hate speech and the implementation of Article 3 of the National Anti-Terrorism Law to ensure the protection of freedom of speech while combating hate speech. Collaboration to amend the Law of Association governing the establishment of NGOs and CSOs. Both pieces of draft legislation will be up for review when Jordanian Parliament resumes later this year (2016).
How?	Initial participation in and dialogue from government-sponsored youth events. Maintained contact between government representatives and civil society activists. Articulation of common interests in preventing and countering violent extremism. Demonstrations and social media campaigns.
Results: So What?	By clarifying "hate speech", the goal is to strengthen Jordanians' Freedom of Speech and protect against unlawful speech-related prosecutions by the courts that could be deemed permissible by interpretations of Article 3 and amendments to the National Anti-Terrorism Law. By simplifying the Law of Association, it is hoped that establishing NGOs and CSOs will become less burdensome and obstructive to building a vibrant civil society, which many Jordanians see as their political outlet and voice. Al Sindyan worked in concert with other NGOs and government bodies in order to present these drafts to parliament.
More Information	The Al Sindyan Institute focuses on establishing democracy fundamentals, political development and human rights. The Institute also worked with the cooperation of the ministry of political development in Jordan and several local and regional NGOs on themes of political participation for youth and women, elections monitoring, and campaign training.

Community Outreach, Reintegration, Information Sharing	
Who?	Indonesian Muslim Crisis Center (IMC2). Ministry of Law and Human Rights, particularly the Directorate General of Corrections and Parole Service; local courts and the Attorney General; Police.
What?	Support for IMC2's work with families and communities often targeted by groups like Jemaah Islamiyah to prevent radicalization, recruitment; collaboration strengthening/building social and economic reintegration of former terrorists; information sharing on suspected terrorists and data from trials. Division with government has been over IMC2's advocacy for the rights of, and provision of legal aid to, accused terrorists .
How?	IMC2 was originally connected to the Ministry of Human Rights and Law through a third party NGO. Partnership now maintained independently (as a focal point with the Jakarta Regional Office of the Ministries of Human Rights and Law). IMC2's subsequent connection to the local courts and Attorney General began through the organization's observing the trial of suspected terrorists. IMC2 regularly maintains data on its interactions with the courts and the Attorney General's office.
Results: So What?	IMC2 works directly at a community level on prevention and de-radicalization; relevant parole services have expressed that IMC2 leadership has been more successful in transforming the behavior of former terrorists than expected. IMC2 helps to maintain principles of human rights and justice by advocating for the accused.
More Information	The Indonesian Muslim Crisis Center is a youth-led organization dedicated to creating an Indonesia free of violence.

Bridging Gaps: Intergenerational and Inter-stakeholder Dialogue, Cameroon	
Who?	A collective of 630 organizations established by the Association of Dynamic Young People for Emergence and the Regional Office of the National Youth Council for the Far North.
	Government representatives, City Prefects, locally-elected Mayors, local Military, as well as traditional community leaders, Representatives of Youth Organizations, and Religious leaders (Christian, Muslim, and Indigenous).
What?	Inter-generational dialogues incorporating representatives noted above. The goal is to bring together various community stakeholders to discuss Boko Haram and the crises at the local level, build confidence between parties, and reflect inclusively about steps forward.
	As of today, about 47 municipalities have held such dialogues, including four cities (Mora, Mogodé, Koza, and Mokolo), and in more than 54 villages. Fifty-four awareness campaigns have been held among populations vulnerable to recruitment, as well as trainings based on economic opportunities present in specific contexts.
How?	The Collective approached traditional leaders within the community to explain the goal and purpose of the organization.
	The traditional leader (the Sultan/Chief of Wandala and highest dignitary of the region) accompanied the National Youth Council to the local Administrative Office (Prefect) where authorization and buy-in was eventually given.
	Government representatives then actively took part in the dialogues, fielding questions about violent extremism and the lack of investment in youth.
Results: So What?	The dialogues have facilitated communication and (limitedly) increased trust between stakeholders, raised awareness about local dynamics of radicalization and recruitment, the dearth of education and employment opportunities, and the degree to which young people feel that they have no hope/alternative to joining extremist groups. Subsequent to the dialogues:
	A "town-hall" consultation was held with local communities and youth leaders on a project to build roads. This was the first consultation of this kind with local government representatives taking into account the opinions and perspectives of young people in the community.
	Local government is working with youth-led organizations and civil society on plans to rebuild schools, hospitals, and water systems destroyed by Boko Haram. Not yet launched, the project would entail government actors supplying materials and expertise and young women and men volunteering to rebuild these destroyed buildings and institutions.
	Received letters of thanks from the Cameroon Ministry of Defense and the Swiss Embassy in Cameroon.
More Information	The collective, based in Mora and composed of member organizations of the Dynamic Youth Association for the Emergence and the National Youth Council for the Far North, calls for the consultation and participation of youth in decision-making bodies and inclusive development for lasting peace.

DDR	Youth-Government Partnerships in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)
Who?	Elman Peace and Human Rights Center, Somalia. Minister of Internal Security, Director of CVE within the Executive, Director National Disengagement of Combatants/Defectors Program, Minister of Gender and Human Rights, and UNICEF.
What?	Partnership on a comprehensive disengagement, rehabilitation, and reintegration program for imprisoned children and youth (ex-combatants, extremists, or military defectors). Collaboration with the Ministry of Security to finalize National Action Plan on CVE.
How?	Advocacy on issues related to CVE; identifying and partnering with champions within government; constant proving of the model, evidence-based analysis. The Elman Center, the Ministry of Gender and Human Rights, and UNICEF were advocating for the release from military barracks of children held as prisoners- either Somali military defectors or combatants/Prisoners of War. This collaboration and subsequent work led to collaboration with the National Disengagement and Combatants Program and their transferring of children and youth over the age of 18 to the Elman Center for rehabilitation and reintegration. Building off success working with an older demographic, the Elman Center was connected to the Minister of Security, became a regulation member of the DDR working Group, and was connected to the Ministry of Justice, the Interior, and Religious Affairs.
Results: So What?	Since the launch of the program, over 3,500 individuals have been registered as alumni. Collaborated directly with the Ministry of Security on the recently launched National Action Plan for CVE. Able to influence how ministries interact with children and youth before their release to the Elman Center; with the Ministry of Justice on Detention Centers, and the Ministry of Security on Disengagement Programs.
More information	Elman Peace and Human Rights Center is an independent, non-profit, non-political NGO focused on Human Rights, Gender Justice, Protection of Civilians, and Countering Violent Extremism, Peace Building and social-entrepreneurship for peace in Somalia.

Understanding VE Dynamics: Government Sensitization, Cameroon and neighboring states	
Who?	UNIJEAPAJ, a youth-led organization with headquarters in Cameroon. Municipal leaders (District Chiefs), Governorate representatives, and State Officials, including within the Ministries of Youth Affairs, Culture, Governorates.
What?	Collaboration with government (through the organization's African School for Peace program) on CVE sensitization trainings for government, including drivers of extremism and state -sponsored action and policy that might exacerbate or mitigate the drivers. Support from the government for P/CVE sensitization campaigns targeting schools, churches, mosques, universities, and market places.
How?	Engagement developed around the organization's peace education work. Government representatives were invited to the African School for Peace's activities, including at schools, universities, local councils, etc., and sent follow-up reports with photos. Representatives came when available. The African School for Peace used its incorporation letter from the Prefect to secure meetings with officials within the program's framework. State Officials, as well as Ministries of Youth, Cultural, and Governorates were then invited to P/CVE sensitization training programs. After initial trainings, the Government continued to ask for P/CVE trainings and send its officials. Partnership is maintained due to the utility of the trainings and amplification of the common interest of P/CVE.
Results: So What?	By training government officials on violent extremism and how to address it, the African School for Peace is helping to ensure that government actors understand CVE and its drivers (push and pull factors), from a social inclusion and human rights lens. Government officials in Cameroon, and other countries where the program operates, continue to provide support and authorization, when necessary, for the African School for Peace's work.
More Information	UNIJEAPAJ is a youth organization working to promote a culture of peace and solidarity through education, training, humanitarian activities and culture. The African School for Peace program operates in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, the Ivory Coast, Togo, Chad, and Benin.

Appendix C: Expanded description of Drivers of Violent Extremism

The following drivers were identified in most, if not all, of the online consultations and interviews[25]. The percentage listed indicates frequency of overall mention.

- **Injustice & Corruption:** lack of access, or inequitable access, to the courts, police, or judicial system; corruption and impunity along chain of command in public institutions, at local or national levels (petty or grand); human rights abuses by law enforcement and branches of the Interior (Approximately 20%)

- Socioeconomic **Marginalization**, Joblessness, and **Inequality** of Opportunity: systemic poverty, a lack of basic services, joblessness, and inequality of employment and educational opportunities based on language, ethnicity, family, socioeconomic standing, region (Approximately 15%)

- Lack of **Education** & Exposure to **Critical Thinking**: a lack of, or unequal access to, education, classroom overcrowding and outdated materials, curricula supportive of intolerance or violence, unwelcoming school environments, and a lack of critical thinking (Approximately 13%)

- **Alienation**: feelings of not-belonging and ostracization, particularly palpable for former prisoners and foreign fighters who may wish to rejoin society, but risk recidivism because of a lack of a channel to do so (Approximately 12%)

- **Lack of Voice**: not being heard/ not having an outlet through which to be heard, a lack of Freedom of Speech and Assembly, including as a consequence of national "Laws against Extremism" (Approximately 12%)

- **Lack of Tolerance**: intolerance within schools, communities, and culture; exacerbated by an increase in the number of migrants, internally displaced persons, and refugees (Approximately 9%)

- **Violence**: gender-based and domestic violence; cultural norms supporting normalcy of violence (Approximately 7%)

- **Foreign Occupation**: Western military action in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Palestine, etc., drone warfare, human rights abuses, associated shame, and the need to protect religious identity (Approximately 7%)

- **Extremist Ideology:** the pull of extremist narratives, the message and charisma of messenger (Approximately 5%)

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25   Please note that the groupings of drivers reflect both the conversations with participants and the need to organize data received through the process.

Appendix D: Youth-led Interventions and Results

The following reflects the P/CVE interventions mentioned during the consultation and interview process, not the full range of programs implemented by those consulted. Similar across interventions is the belief in hope and agency they seek to create.

Platforms and Peer2Peer

- Platforms, Networks, discussion groups, youth camps, and peer-to-peer learning initiatives

- *Aim: Raised awareness about violent extremism and how to address it; outlet for self-expression, support, discussion about violent extremism and local problems, and collective problem-solving*

Targeted dialogue, Mediation, and Exchange

- Interfaith/community/generation dialogues, mediation skills development, and experiential learning exchange programs

- *Aim: increased tolerance across community divides; lessened feelings of ostracization or unbelonging; provision of skills to deal with conflict at community level*

Rehabilitation, Reintegration, and Prison Reform

- Rehabilitation and reintegration programs for current and ex-fighters (of all ages); community sensitization programs; advocacy around prison overcrowding and radicalization

- *Aim: effective reintegration, reduced recidivism, and prevention of radicalization in prisons*

Justice, Human Rights, and Security Sector Reform

- Initiatives to better citizen-police dynamics, legal services for those accused and convicted on terrorism-related charges

- *Aim: lessened human rights abuses and increased accountability for justice and security sectors*

Faith Leaders and Messaging

- Workshops, forums, and exchanges with religious leaders, imams and ulemas on violent extremism; and on and offline positive messaging campaigns using Islamic teachings

- *Aim: amplify knowledge and influence of religious authorities in prevention and P/CVE*

The Education System: Informal and Formal

- Curricula reform (secondary to university levels) to build tolerance and critical thinking; informal literacy, including financial, and core subject learning, including for Internally Displaced Persons, dropouts; improved school environments

- *Aim: development of knowledge, skills, and support to build resilience to radicalization*

Leadership, Civic Engagement, and Volunteerism

- Programs to build understanding of democracy, democratic institutions, and civic responsibility; political participation and advocacy training, as well as volunteer and social activities

- *Aim: Development of political participation and advocacy skills, interest in democratic and civic processes*

Entrepreneurship, Trade, and Creativity

- Projects and centers focused on entrepreneurship and trade skills, as well as creativity

- *Aim: sense of ownership and capability; development of creativity, entrepreneurship, and market-relevant skills*

Addressing Violence and Substance Abuse

- Domestic and gender-based violence programs; substance abuse campaigns and programs

- *Aim: healing and legal services, support network; awareness campaigns about gender-based violence, domestic abuse, cycles of violence*

Research

- Focused on what Countering Violent Extremism is; the effect/ process of radicalization de-radicalization; the space between violent and non-violent extremism

Appendix E: Consultation and Interview Questions

In pursuing a participatory approach, group consultations and one-on-one interviews were guided by the following questions:

1) What is working in your CVE or CVE-related projects at the local and national levels?

    o   What drivers of extremism have you sought to address and how? What have been the results?

2) What opportunities and challenges have you experienced in working with local government and public institutions to advance your work?

    o   How do perceptions of youth by government actors and vice versa impact your work?

3) How could coordination or partnerships be improved between these different actors?

    o   What has or has not worked in improving trust and collaboration between youth and government and what recommendations would you make for all involved?

Appendix F: Consultation Participants by Country (Fourteen Countries, 122 Participants)

Bangladesh (6)

Faez Belal	Barisal Youth Society
Fazle Elahi	MOVE Foundation
Iftikhar A Rashid	Monash University, Australia
Neila Husain	Consultant (Ex-Bangladesh Institute of International & Strategic Studies, Safer World Bangladesh Office)
Saiful Haque (moderator)	MOVE Foundation
Shoeb Ahmed	Peace Direct

Cameroon (15)

Abong Bebey Blaise	National Refugee Secretariat
Achaleke Christian (moderator)	Local Youth Corner (LOYOC)
Andela Emmanuel	African School for Peace, UNIJEAPAJ
Besong Bawack Mallet	LOYOC
Dzebam Godlove A.B.	Non-Violence Communication Center

Eboa Eyoum Ismail Joel	African School for Peace, UNIJEAPAJ
Ebot Jean Sanyi	Ministry of Youth Affairs
Guy Binely	Human Rights
Ibrahim Djagra	Association of Dynamic Youth for the Emergence
Maloum Patrick	Network of UN Youth Associations
Mbah Beryl Angwe	Strategic Communication
NDI Divine	Repair, Network for Solidarity, Empowerment and Transformation for all
Ntui-Oben Obi-Agbor	Actions for Change
Saka Benard	Pan Africa Institute
Tahimlong Robert	Africa Cooperations

Indonesia (12)

Abdul Kahar Latif	Sadra School of Islamic Philosophy
Aditya Rahman	Youth Association, Jakarta State University
Atikah	Youth Association, Jakarta State University
Baihaqi	Indonesian Muslim Crisis Center
Dedik Priyatno	NUTIZEN & NU ONLINE
Dwi Putera	Youth Association, Jakarta State University
Fattah Amali Iko	Youth Association, Jakarta State University
Hakim Kautsar	Islamic Love Movement
Hardya Pranadipa (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Indonesia
Irma Sofia	Indonesian Muslim Crisis Center
Rio Rahadian Tuasikal	CINTA Indonesia
Yani	Indonesian Muslim Crisis Center

Jordan (13)

Amer Al Hafi	Royal Institute of Religious Studies, Al-Bait University
Eyas Mohamoud Ghreiz	Al Sindyan Institute
Hazem Tarawneh	Karak Center, IREX
Isabel Urena	Search for Common Ground, Jordan
Laila Alazab	IDARE for Sustainable Development
Lina Naser Eddin	East and West Center
Ma'in Shamayleh	Ministry of Parliamentary and Political Affairs
Mohammad Al-Omoush	The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development
Mohammed Zayed	Search for Common Ground, Jordan
Mohannad Albanna	East and West Center
Nader Sunna	IDARE for Sustainable Development
Rasha Saleem (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Jordan
Thaker Zghoul	Al Sindyan Institute

Kazakhstan (8)

Absattar Assemgul	Association for Religious Studies Center
Alimzhan Ruslan	Association for Religious Studies Center
Gulmira Beysenbina	Kazakhstan for Peace
Kushubaev Azamat	Association for Religious Studies Center
Nurtles Jaxybek	Association for Religious Studies Center
Raiymbek Kadyrov (moderator)	Kazakhstan for Peace
Ravil Yunusov	Kazakhstan for Peace
Temirlan Lolohayev	Kazakhstan for Peace

Kyrgyzstan (9)

Akylai Karimova (moderator)	Youth of Osh Public Association
Ainagul Amatbekova	Novyi Ritm (The New Rhythm)
Arzu Sheranova	Safer World, Kyrgyzstan
Bolotbek Batilov	Youth Association, Ministry of Youth Affairs
Cholpon Bakirova	Novyi Ritm
Juzgul Ibraimova	Institute for Youth Development
Nuriia Karakulova (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Kyrgyzstan
Sakhira Nazarova	Bir Duino Kyrgyzstan (One World Kyrgyzstan)
Saltanat Sulaimanbekova	Search for Common Ground, Kyrgyzstan

Morocco (3)

Issam Cherrat	Favorable Opportunities to Reinforce Self-Advancement for Today's Youth (FORSATY)
Soufiane El Hamdi	Center of Preventing Radicalization in Europe & the Mediterranean region
Yassine Souidi	Centre des Recherches et des Études en matière des Valeurs, Rabita Mohammedia des Oulemas (Research and Studies Center, Mohammadia League of Scholars)

The Netherlands (3)

Edwin van de Scheur	Dare to be Grey
Jordy Nijenhuis	Dare to be Grey
Mehraban Mameli	Dare to be Grey

Niger (14)

Fassouma Ibrahim	Beneficiary of Search for Common Ground/EU project, Zinder
Habibou Aboubacar	MFPPJ/Commune 3
Idrissa Sani Malan	Mouvement des Fadas et Palais pour la promotion de la jeunesse (Movement of "Fadas and Palace" for the promotion of Youth) /Commune 3 (Niamey III) MFPPJ/Commune 3
Kabirou Yaoule (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Niger
Madjitaba Mansour	Previous Youth Council of Commune V (Niamey V)
Mahaman Lawan ADAGA	Regional Youth Council
Maman Bachir	MFPPJ/Commune 3
Mohamed Saminou Machouri	Regional Youth Council
Oumarou Amadou Soja	MFPPJ/ Commune 2 (Niamey II)
Oumarou Elhadji Ibrahim	MFPPJ/Commune 2
Ousman Maman	MFPPJ/Commune 3
Saratou Gourgoudou	Regional Youth Council
Siradji Habou	Ex-president, Youth Council of Commune 5
Zara Moctar	Youth Council of Zinder

Nigeria (19)

Abdulrahman Bundi	Old Maiduguri Youth Development Association
Abubakar Abdullahi Suleiman (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Nigeria
Abubakar Maidugu	Hausari Youth Development Association
Babagan Usman Modu	Jere Youth Dynamic Association
Bashir Mohammed Mofoni	Youth Initiative Association

Bawa Ahmed	Borno Youth Progressive Forum
Bernard Basason (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Nigeria
Daniel Obi Peters	United Network of Young Peacebuilders
Habu Kale Tijjani	Bolori 2 Youth Development
Ibrahim M. Hassan	Biafra Organisation of Notable Youth Achievers (BONYA)
Lantana Abdullahi	Search for Common Ground, Nigeria
Mohammed Ibrahim	Youth Peace Initiative, Borno
Mohammed Musa	Youth Association for Health
Mohammed Wuda	Borno Youth Reawakening Initiative
Muktari Mamman	Kwannan Yobe Youth Development
Mustapha Ali	Borno Youth Association
Yazra Peter	CAN Youth WBS
Yusuf Ibn Tom	National Youth Council of Nigeria
Yusuf Mohammed Chiroma	Gamboru Youth Association

Pakistan (9)

Saba Ismail	Aware Girls
Zartaj Khan	Activist, Karachi
Muhammad Hamza	Activist, Karachi
Uzma Khattak	Activist, Peshawar
Safdar Humayun	Activist, Peshawar
Palwasha Gul	University of Peshawar
Gulmina Zeb	University of Peshawar
Government Official	Requested anonymity
Government Official	Requested anonymity

Somalia (1)

Ilwad Elman	Elman Peace and Human Rights Center

Sri Lanka (4)

Pujika Rathnayake	Center for Poverty Analysis and Network for Youth in Transition
Sanoon Mohideen	Partners for Change
Senel Wanniarachi	Hashtag Generation
Thevuni Kotigala	Sri Lanka Unites

Tunisia (6)

Aslem Souli	National Youth Initiative Against Terrorism
Emma Arcodia (moderator)	Search for Common Ground, Tunisia
Hamida Jiridi	Café Talk/ International Institute of Debate
Houneida Jrad	National Youth Initiative Against Terrorism
Nizar Ben Salah	Café Talk/ International Institute of Debate
Salem Ghalleb	Youth Against Terrorism