LASER PULSE

PREVENTING/COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM SYSTEMATIC MIXED METHODS REVIEW:
PREVENTION

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About LASER PULSE

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A consortium led by Purdue University, with core partners Catholic Relief Services, Indiana University, Makerere University, and the University of Notre Dame, implements the LASER PULSE program through a growing network of 3,700+ researchers and development practitioners in 86 countries.

LASER PULSE collaborates with USAID missions, bureaus, and independent offices, and other local stakeholders to identify research needs for critical development challenges, and funds and strengthens the capacity of researcher-practitioner teams to co-design solutions that translate into policy and practice.

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ACRONYMS

AfP	Alliance for Peacebuilding
CI	Containment/Interdiction
CVE	Countering Violent Extremism
CVP LAIT	Conflict and Violence Prevention Learning Agenda Implementation Team
DDRR	Disengagement, Deradicalization, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration
LASER PULSE	Long-term Assistance and Services for Research Partners for University-Led Solutions Engine
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MMAT	Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool
OTI	Office of Transitions Initiatives
P/CVE	Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism
PV	Prevention
PVE	Preventing Violent Extremism
RCT	Randomized Control Trial
ToC/s	Theory/ies of Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VE	Violent Extremism

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Conflict and Violence Prevention Learning Agenda Implementation Team (CVP LAIT) was tasked with co-creating and implementing a bureau-wide learning agenda that:

- **Establishes the evidence base for effective approaches to armed conflict and violence prevention;**
- **Identifies opportunities for CVP investments that would produce new knowledge to fill gaps in the existing literature;**
- **Provides USAID staff with events, tools, resources, and/or guidance to incorporate learning agenda findings into their work; and**
- **Conducts original research into armed conflict and violence prevention.**

Through an intensive, multi-stakeholder consultation process with USAID Washington and mission staff, preventing/ countering violent extremism (P/CVE) was identified as an effort that, if backed by sound evidence and guidance, could benefit program design, outcomes, policy, and knowledge generation. As part of the CVP LAIT and in support of these goals, the Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP) carried out a systematic mixed methods review to map the evidence base for P/CVE programming, including what approaches work in which contexts, and identify gaps that require greater investigation.

P/CVE programs that apply some version of prevention Theories of Change (ToCs) are the most common types of studies documented in this systematic mixed method review. The prevention studies analyzed for this work exhibit the greatest number of high-quality, strong, and most mature evidence bases as compared with other types of P/CVE programs. Prevention programs also develop and define more explicit ToCs, leading to more useful impact evaluations and assessments. However, while all prevention ToCs offer valuable theoretical insights, there remains a significant need to enhance their empirical robustness and evidence base. Additionally there is an evident need for methodological refinement to elevate research quality and rigor. Across all prevention ToCs, while there is a promising foundation of strong theory, the consistent message is the need for more rigorous, targeted research to ensure efficacy, long-term impacts, and the avoidance of unintended consequences in P/CVE programming.

Some general conclusions can be drawn about what these programs do well and what they do not. Current research bolsters confidence in a variety of evidence-informed prevention ToCs and approaches. The below summary of findings table provides information for each ToC and is accompanied by more detailed information in the report section titled *Theories of Change, Evidence Mapping, and Synthesis.*

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

1.1 Counter-/Alternative Narratives: IF people are presented with messages conveyed by credible actors that counter extremist ideas AND they engage with these messages, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Mature	N=44 Quantitative: 8 • RCT[1]: 5 • Quasi-experimental: 3 • Descriptive: 0 Qualitative: 10 Multi-Methods: 10 Mixed Methods: 16	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • Narratives – Radio • Narratives – Social Media (Campaigns and Interactive Films) • Narratives – Gaming • Narratives – School-based PVE Led by Former Extremists Promising Approaches: • Narratives – Social Media (with Direct Engagement • Narratives – Traditional Anecdotal Approaches: • N/A	Rigorous Evidence: • The use of radio as edutainment can be a promising approach to raise awareness and address PVE; however, the evidence that radio programming actually facilitates shifts in attitudes that lead to changes in behaviors is weak. • Former extremists can play an important and unique role in P/CVE; however there are risks of unintended consequences, such as decreases in political tolerance resulting from exposure to programming with former extremists, which underscore the need to consider and mitigate potential negative effects in addition to maximizing positive benefits. • Complementing online narratives with offline measures, like targeted in-person assistance and shorter more frequent viewings, might amplify and prolong positive outcomes. • Pairing gameplay with education workshops can lead to increased changes in participants' perceptions of extremist narratives and authoritarian attitudes. • Interactive gaming, coupled with targeted educational content, can be a powerful tool in modifying attitudes and building resistance against extremist ideologies. Promising Evidence: • Supplementing counter-narratives with direct online messaging and engagement at scale has positive potential for reducing violent extremist sympathy and participation as part of a comprehensive suite of online prevention methodologies.

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1   Randomized control trial (RCT)

1.2 Capacity Building for Frontline Workers: IF key civil society organizations, community leaders, and influencers' capacity to identify and analyze the drivers of violent extremism (VE), engage and/or conduct P/CVE programming, and build local resilience to VE is increased, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Maturing	N=52 Quantitative: 3 • RCT: 0 • Quasi-experimental: 3 • Descriptive: 0 Qualitative: 19 Multi-Methods: 10 Mixed Methods: 20	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • Capacity Building (Youth) – Bystander Training • Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Promising Approaches: • Community Social Cohesion and Development • Capacity Development (Religious Leaders) – Female Religious Leaders • Capacity Development (Parents and Peers) Anecdotal Approaches: • Capacity Building (Youth) • Capacity Building (Community Leaders)	Rigorous Evidence: • Increasing tolerance and a willingness and capacity to intervene when witnessing intolerant and extremist behavior can lead to spillover effects to other discriminatory behaviors like religious discrimination, sexual harassment, and LGBTQ harassment—topics not covered in the curriculum. • Bystander training can lead to a heightened readiness among participants to act against intolerance, but whether they would actually intervene in real-world situations remains uncertain. • Peer-to-peer mentoring can improve participants' knowledge of and strategies to counter VE, but its impact on participants' self-confidence, attitudes towards violence, or social network growth is still uncertain. Future-planning and positive goal-setting may inversely affect mentee's feelings of life satisfaction because of increased and potentially unattainable aspirations. • Providing supervision and investments in building peer-to peer mentors' capacity and credibility to perform this role is crucial. • Adopting a do-no-harm approach to systematically assess and monitor risk is essential, given the sensitive and potentially dangerous risk of targeting potentially radicalized individuals. Promising Evidence: • Engaging women and women's groups in community social cohesion and development activities amplifies positive impacts, reinforcing their pivotal role in community resilience against extremism. • Female religious leaders can be important figures in preventing violent extremist (PVE) efforts, particularly to access unique and hard to reach populations, like women and young girls. • Improving the capacity of family members for early detection and intervention is a promising, cost-effective, and potentially highly impactful form of PVE.

1.3 Capacity Building of Vulnerable/At-Risk Populations: IF the capacity and resilience of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities are increased AND they are empowered, given voice, and included in decision-making, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Developing	N=40 Quantitative: 0 • RCT: 0 • Quasi-experimental: 0 • Descriptive: 0 Qualitative: 12 Multi-Methods: 11 Mixed Methods: 17	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • N/A Promising Approaches: • Education Accessibility (Women and Youth) • Women's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building • Youth's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building Anecdotal Approaches: • N/A	Rigorous Evidence: • N/A Promising Evidence: • While secondary education can reduce youth marginalization and lower the appeal of violent extremist groups, coupling education with civic engagement is crucial to significantly diminish both support for and participation in violence. • Women informally spread knowledge among their peers, increasing the diffusion of capacity building and leadership trainings beyond P/CVE program participants only.

1.2/1.3 Conjoined Capacity Building of Frontline Workers and Vulnerable/At-Risk Populations: IF key civil society organizations, community leaders, influencers, and members of marginalized and vulnerable communities' capacity to identify and analyze the drivers of VE, engage and/or conduct P/CVE programming, and build local resilience to VE is increased, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Not assessed	N=15 Quantitative: 0 • RCT: 0 • Quasi-experimental: 0 • Descriptive: 0 Qualitative: 3 Multi-Methods: 3 Mixed Methods: 9	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • Stabilization, Good Governance, Community-Driven Development, and Social Cohesion Promising Approaches: • N/A Anecdotal Approaches: • N/A	Rigorous Evidence: • Broad-scale programs that encompass a wide array of activities aiming to deliver public benefit often do not clearly identify the direct causes behind observed changes and underscore the necessity for more detailed, evidence-based ToCs linking social cohesion, stabilization, violence, and VE. • Solely improving social cohesion may not be sufficient to change attitudes and behaviors toward violence and violent behaviors. Promising Evidence: • N/A

1.4 Socio-Economic Skills Building: IF the grievances of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities related to a lack of economic opportunity or access to basic livelihoods are reduced, THEN the appeal of economic incentives to VE will be reduced.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Maturing	N=28 Quantitative: 4 • RCT: 3 • Quasi-experimental: 0 • Descriptive: 1 Qualitative: 7 Multi-Methods: 5 Mixed Methods: 12	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training Promising Approaches: • Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training + Income Generating Opportunities Anecdotal Approaches: • N/A	Rigorous Evidence: • Vocational training can boost economic outcomes, but alone may not sufficiently address underlying factors driving political violence. It should not be assumed that youth employment and skills building achievements will increase stability and prevent VE. Employment success should not be equated with VE prevention. • Linking employment programming with direct stabilization outcomes could force programs to pursue political goals at the expense of economic outcomes, leading to them potentially achieving neither. • Youth engaging in civic opportunities, including community action projects, are less likely than non-engaged youth to demonstrate moral or material support for political violence. Promising Evidence: • Addressing economic grievances and promoting self-sufficiency can lead to notable reported improvements in living conditions, financial literacy, and job opportunities— factors leading to VE. This indicates a relationship between reducing economic marginalization and PVE, but more research is needed to establish a direct link between economic initiatives and PVE. • Skills building, entrepreneurship, and leadership training coupled with income generating opportunities that do not conduct market analyses, provide work placement, and sufficient funding, and startup materials may result in unrealistic expectations by participants and increased frustration.

1.5 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): IF communities and individuals deemed vulnerable to VE appeals are provided with skills for managing mental and physical health and support to strengthen their resilience, well-being, and non-violent extremist sense of identity, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Maturing	N=25 Quantitative: 8 • RCT: 1 • Quasi-experimental: 2 • Descriptive: 5 Qualitative: 3 Multi-Methods: 3 Mixed Methods: 11	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives – Religious Education • Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives – Value Complexity Training • MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building – Direct Training and Counseling • Sports-Based Interventions to Emphasize Social Connectedness and Self-Confidence Promising Approaches: • Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives – Dialogue Training to Prevent Polarization • MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building – Mental Health and Well-Being Anecdotal Approaches: • N/A	Rigorous Evidence: • Within religious education, teacher effectiveness plays a crucial role in achieving P/CVE outcomes, pointing towards the importance of integrating comprehensive educational approaches and teacher capacity building in P/CVE strategies. • Increasing complexity awareness and pluralistic worldviews can be an effective approach to preventing sympathy and participation in VE. • MHPSS interventions using training and counseling to empower individuals, in combination with strengthening their empathy, can improve resiliency to radicalization, but may lead to increases in narcissism and higher perspective-taking (being able to perceive a situation or understand a concept from an alternative point of view) for some groups, highlighting the complicated and non-linear impacts of these programs. • The use of sports-based interventions to emphasize social connectedness and self-confidence may be more connected to increasing at-risk youths' social network, a key resiliency factor to radicalization, acting as an indirect pathway to minimize the risk of radicalization. Promising Evidence: • Online mental health and well-being campaigns, self-help resources, and social media messaging may effect more robust impacts through increased exposure and accessibility to up-to-date project materials over a longer period.

1.6 Prison Reform and Capacity Building: IF prison reforms are completed to humanize and improve the conditions of detention AND prison staff enhance their expertise on identifying and addressing VE in prisons, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Maturity of Evidence Base	Included Studies	Programmatic Approaches	Summary of Findings
Immature	N=7 Quantitative: 0 • RCT: 0 • Quasi-experimental: 0 • Descriptive: 0 Qualitative: 4 Multi-Methods: 2 Mixed Methods: 1	Evidence-Informed Approaches: • N/A Promising Approaches: • N/A Anecdotal Approaches: • Prison Reform and Capacity Building of Prison Staff	Rigorous Evidence: • N/A Promising Evidence: • N/A

INTRODUCTION

Violent extremism (VE) stands as one of the most significant security threats facing the international community, with the frequency of violent acts and atrocities perpetrated by extremists escalating across the world. Despite the threats and known impacts of VE, universal agreement on how to define, discuss, and respond to it remains difficult to achieve. Over the past 20 years, the peacebuilding field has advanced its understanding of the drivers of VE. It is now understood that radicalization is a fluid, nonlinear, and highly individualized process, and the field has developed a series of approaches for preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE). While both are pivotal components of a holistic strategy to combat VE, each addresses different stages of the radicalization process.

Prevention operates upstream, aiming to mitigate the root causes and factors that might lead individuals or groups towards radicalization. By being proactive, prevention stops problems before they manifest, which can be more cost-effective than countering violent extremeism (CVE) after the fact. Preventive measures often focus on community engagement and building resilience against extremist ideologies. This community-centric approach not only strengthens societal bonds, but also provides the tools and knowledge to resist extremist recruitment. Additionally, prevention requires a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted drivers of radicalization, from social to psychological, allowing for tailored and culturally sensitive strategies that respect and protect human rights. In essence, P/CVE creates an encompassing approach addressing the entirety of the radicalization spectrum and ensuring that both emerging and existing threats are adequately addressed.

While substantial research has been completed to date on P/CVE, the field is still in its emerging phases, particularly using explicit program logic and Theories of Change (ToCs). As a result, there is ambiguity in documenting and assessing the impact of many interventions against explicit ToCs, making it challenging to assess the effectiveness of various methods in achieving VE objectives. The lack of aggregated evidence of what works and what does not in P/CVE has hindered the field's ability to effectively respond to VE. **It is essential for P/CVE programs to have clear ToCs if the field is to progress in identifying what works and what does not.**

To address these deficiencies, this research aims to better understand the state of the P/CVE evidence base and its underlying ToCs to assist in making program logic and assumptions more explicit and fill a crucial gap. This research developed and classified programs that share underlying logic and assumptions into distinct, field-wide ToCs. As such, the findings presented are **not at the level of specific programming interventions, but rather at the level of the ToC.** The findings from this research highlight some specific interventions, not as the only activities within an overall ToC, but as examples that exhibit especially strong evidence and high quality, at least in one time or place.

Methods

This research involved a systematic mixed method review of the relevant literature. The objective was to collect and synthesize evidence related to P/CVE ToCs and their supporting rigorous, promising, and anecdotal evidence across three primary programming responses: (1) *prevention* (*PV*); (2) *containment/interdiction* (*CI*); and (3) *disengagement, deradicalization, rehabilitation, and reintegration* (*DDRR*). This report presents the findings from the review of PV interventions and identifies what worked, challenges faced, and recommendations to improve practice.

This research applies an innovative ToC process, culminating in the development of six distinct, theoretically anchored and testable ToCs across PV programing responses. These overarching ToCs serve three primary functions: to categorize programs with shared foundational logic and assumptions; to shed light on this logic and its underlying assumptions; and to create the framework for evidence-based mapping. A detailed description of this research's methodology is available in the accompanying *P/CVE Systematic Mixed Methods Review: Methodology* report.

Definitions and Boundaries

Detailed definitions for key terms used for the purposes of this research are available in the accompanying *P/CVE Systematic Mixed Methods Review: Methodology* report.

Included Studies

This research analyzed 116 PV-focused studies pertaining to P/CVE. Kenya (11%) emerged as the primary research location, closely followed by Kyrgyzstan and Somalia (8% each), and Indonesia (7%). On a broader regional scale, East Africa, Europe and Eurasia, and West Africa led in research frequency. More than half of the studies (64%) were published between 2019 and 2022. Notably, 2022 witnessed the pinnacle of research publications at 20%, with the next highest year being 2021 at 16%, indicating that while PV research has been conducted for some time, the volume of studies has increased in recent years. In efforts to ascertain unbiased insights, it was observed that 52% of studies underwent external evaluations. Conversely, 23% represented internal evaluations, and a notable 25% lacked clarity on their evaluation methodologies.

Analysis of the 116 PV studies revealed diverse beneficiaries targeted by their respective activities. *Youth* were the most targeted group, followed by the *broader community or general population*; *women*; and the *government, security, and justice sectors*. A small set of studies had a particular focus on *internally displaced persons, refugees, and asylum seekers/returnees*. While the majority of studies did not elaborate on their beneficiary selection criteria, 39% of them indicated *geographic location* as the primary targeting strategy, succeeded by *referrals*, either by an organization or an individual.

In terms of program activities, *dialogue* stood out as the most common type of intervention, facilitating safe conversations, online or in person, to strengthen resilience and reduce susceptibility of individuals vulnerable to VE. *Vocational training* also featured prominently, developing skills in market access, livelihoods, mentorship, and entrepreneurship aimed at amplifying beneficiaries' employability and fostering income-generation. Moreover, there was a noticeable emphasis on *awareness raising and/or narrative creation*, particularly for reducing the susceptibility of communities and vulnerable populations to extremist ideologies and identifying early signs of VE. The studies also highlighted the significance of *pro-social and cultural activities*, spotlighting community youth clubs, participatory theatre, sports competitions, and artistic competitions to foster social cohesion and strengthen community resilience.

Interpretation of Findings

Each ToC was assessed across multiple variables to ascertain the maturity of the evidence base. A ToC could be classified as exhibiting an immature, developing, maturing, or mature evidence base. Following a ToC analysis to classify each study within its appropriate ToC/s, the ToC evidence base was assessed based on the number of studies; mean, standard deviation, and variance of its strength of evidence and of its quality of evidence; and their subsequent trends.[2] Within the report, each ToC section is accompanied by a summary interpretation of the state of evidence and trends in quality and strength.

Typically, with a larger, more mature evidence base, one can synthesize findings to offer insights into trends of what works and does not work within and across different contexts. While substantial research has been completed to date on P/CVE, the field is still in its early phases, particularly using explicit program logic and ToCs. Many of the included studies fell across multiple ToCs, and even though all attempts were made by multiple researchers to separate them, the strong overlap of studies across ToCs is a reflection of the field's current programming and funding practice. While in theory there exists strong distinctions between ToCs, this is not reflected in current practice. For studies that follow multiple ToCs, the evidence syntheses reflect the findings relevant to that ToC only, to the fullest extent possible. Given this gap, the current

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2   A detailed description of these scales and their interpretation is available in the accompanying *P/CVE Systematic Mixed Methods Review: Methodology* report.

research does not allow for an analysis of stacking or sequencing of programmatic activities either within or across ToCs; however, implementing and researching strategically layered and sequenced multi-disciplinary P/CVE programming is crucial to advance the field.

Some ToCs have substantial studies to examine the evidence base, but many ToCs have extremely limited studies, making it challenging to assess trends. To support the P/CVE field's development, this research includes a greater breadth of mixed methods studies, particularly qualitative and non-randomized studies, in addition to randomized and quantitative studies. To differentiate, this work distinguishes between evidence-informed and promising evidence. Studies that provide stronger evidence and higher quality from at least one time or place are listed in the "evidence-informed" sections for each ToC. Promising approaches are also highlighted that do not necessarily reflect rigorous evidence, but do provide strong rationales for interventions and promising findings that, if further evaluated and researched, could provide encouraging findings to support the growth of the field.

Study exemplars in the evidence synthesis were pulled out at the researcher's discretion to complement the findings, as well as emphasize certain aspects of them. The majority of the study exemplars are selected from studies representing both higher quality and stronger evidence; however, exemplars of promising evidence were selected on the basis of representing innovativeness of the approach, representation of multiple studies exhibiting a theoretical foundation, and/or the strength of evidence.

The researchers recognize that while each study synthesized as part of this research effort has many nuances, for the purpose of brevity and readability of this report, not all nuances are covered. This research effort links individual exemplar studies referenced in the report and readers are encouraged to review the original studies when considering implications for adoption of these specific approaches in their own work.

THEORIES OF CHANGE, EVIDENCE MAPPING, AND SYNTHESIS

The following section provides a synthesis of the current state of evidence and findings per ToC based upon the findings of this research. It presents the ToC, key ToC assumptions, a summary interpretation of the state of evidence and trends in quality and strength, and a presentation on evidence-informed, promising, and anecdotal approaches. The approaches outlined have been developed by the researchers to best categorize the multiple types of interventions occurring within each ToC. Given as there is not an established field-wide ontology of P/CVE approaches, these have been developed based on the findings of this research to provide a foundation upon which a stronger ontology can be developed. Where applicable, this section includes study exemplars to complement the research findings and emphasize key insights.

Theory of Change 1.1: Counter-/Alternative Narratives

IF people are presented with messages conveyed by credible actors that counter extremist ideas AND they engage with these messages, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Key assumptions: VE-supportive messages are both being received by members of vulnerable populations and that they motivate support for VE ideologies and activities.

There is a large and diverse body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing 44 studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and significant evidence. Cumulatively, there is a mature evidence base employing a variety of narrative-based interventions focused on counter-/alternative messaging across multiple mediums:

- **Narratives – Gaming**
- **Narratives – Radio**
- **Narratives – Social Media (Campaigns and Interactive Films)**
- **Narratives – Social Media (with Direct Engagement)**
- **Narratives – School-based PVE Led by Former Extremists**
- **Narratives – Traditional**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to strong evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from low to high, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low to medium quality.

Irrespective of the narrative medium employed, the most frequently used measures of success are based on the longevity of engagement and satisfaction levels as indicators for exposure, and in some cases even predictors of attitudinal and/or behavioral change. While the evidence base points to successful cases of sustained engagement and high levels of satisfaction, further research is needed to directly link program impacts to shifts in attitudes, perceptions, and behaviors towards intolerance, radicalization, and VE. The evidence also highlights the strong influence of local context on acceptance of extremist and counter-/alternative narratives. This suggests that programs designed as stand-alone solutions to counter local push and pull factors may be less effective than counter-/alternative narrative programs designed in coordination and in tandem with other initiatives. Future research efforts that draw insights from social and behavior change communications could further deepen an understanding of how counter-/alternative narratives work. While interventions across social media, radio, and/or gaming mediums demonstrated impacts on shifting vulnerable attitudes, further research is needed to understand the impacts specifically on individuals susceptible to radicalization and/or who are already radicalized. Social media interventions that included direct engagements with individuals who showed support for VE online showed a decrease in negative behaviors. Lastly, some studies showed decreased knowledge gains from specific intervention exposures over time, encouraging sustained exposure to messaging for sustainable impacts.

Extensive evaluative work has been done in this ToC; however, additional research is necessary to explore and test the impacts of programmatic changes in message content, exposure, saturation, the addition of formative research, as well as the inclusion of target populations in message content creation.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

Narrative programming emerges as a powerful tool in P/CVE, with a diverse range of methods displaying potential. Current research within this ToC bolsters confidence in the following evidence-informed approaches:

- **Narratives – Gaming**
- **Narratives – Radio**
- **Narratives – Social Media (Campaigns and Interactive Films)**
- **Narratives – School-based PVE Led by Former Extremists**

Radio's edutainment approach effectively raises awareness, but questions linger about its genuine capability to shift attitudes long-term. Social media narratives, while effective in altering perceptions towards VE, require continual engagement and

strategic design to maximize impact and avert unintended consequences. Interestingly, the involvement of former violent extremists in school narratives brings both potential benefits and associated risks, illustrating the intricate balance needed in P/CVE programming.

The following provides a synthesis of each evidence-informed approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Narratives — Gaming

Studies of approaches that used gaming to bolster resilience, change attitudes, and increase attitudinal resistance against extremist persuasion techniques provided robust and significant evidence of their impact to counter radical messaging.

An online study (Saleh et al. 2021) used a game to psychologically "inoculate" players against extremist recruitment tactics, introducing them to diluted versions to improve their ability to identify these techniques and understand characteristics that make an individual susceptible to online VE recruitment. Players demonstrated significantly improved ability and confidence detecting manipulation techniques and determining individual vulnerability factors. Given these findings, the researcher concluded that playing the game improved players' ability to assess potentially malicious social media messages, improved their overall confidence in spotting VE techniques, and enhanced their ability to detect factors that can make others more vulnerable to recruitment.

A promising study (Lippe et al. 2022) from Austria assessed the impact of gameplay across five key dimensions: democratic values, extremist narratives, critical media literacy, autonomy and critical thinking, and radicalization. The study found that gameplay, especially when paired with workshops, significantly shifted at-risk participants' attitudes away from extremist viewpoints. Youth significantly changed their attitudes towards extremist narratives after they played the game once, agreeing less with statements in favor of legitimizing violence, spreading conspiracy theories, or amplifying sexist gender roles. The treatment group who participated in a workshop and played the game once showed significantly lower approval rates for authoritarian attitudes and statements from extremist narratives when compared to the group that only played the game.

The findings from gameplay studies demonstrate the impact of online gaming to both counter extremist messaging through changing vulnerable attitudes and preventing online misinformation and manipulation techniques.

Narratives — Radio

Studies on radio-based counter-narratives often partnered with local radio stations to provide content addressing local grievances and needs, moderate religious teachings, and guidance for youth against radicalization. At the individual level, the studies reported these programs improved listeners' knowledge and skills, fostered tolerance and mutual understanding, dispelled stereotypes, and cultivated religious awareness and critical thinking. Some even noted behavior shifts, such as heightened youth community involvement.

A study (Maronne et al. 2020) in Nigeria of a program that produced a radio show focused on prevention, emphasized the value of strong role models and the creation of local committees to support youth away from radicalization. The study found that this radio program positively influenced listeners' beliefs about the importance of role models for prevention, but it related the programs' effectiveness to its audience resonance. Audiences reported that they liked the educational and informative approach and story line and that they connected with the main characters. These results were sustained and positive over the lifetime of the project.

A study (Bilali 2019) from Burkina Faso aimed to reduce vulnerability to VE through the promotion of dialogue and positive alternative narratives. It found that the use of radio to promote "edutainment" reduced the justification of violence, increased awareness of VE as a priority security issue, and increased people's beliefs in their self and collective efficacy to impact change in their community. The research highlighted that listeners identified with characters in the radio drama, particularly role models, which may have contributed to their perceived efficacy to impact change in the community.

The findings from these studies show that the **use of radio as edutainment can be a promising approach to raise awareness and address PVE. However, included studies predominantly evaluated short-term individual changes, like radio listenership and satisfaction. The evidence that radio programming actually facilitates shifts in attitudes that lead to changes in behaviors is much weaker.**[3] More rigorous research is necessary to conclude if this is a problem of assessment design or simply a limitation of this kind of intervention, particularly focused on sustainability of impacts over time.

Narratives — Social Media (Campaigns and Interactive Films)

Studies on the use of social media predominantly focused on the impact of counter messaging in mass media campaigns that employed a variety of tools and messages to affect changes in people's support for pluralistic communities, freedom of speech, nonviolent grievance resolution, resilience against radicalization, and general VE awareness. Many studies integrated youth, emphasizing youth-driven campaigns, contests, grants, and social media advertising tools targeting relevant audiences. Participants reported enhanced knowledge, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Youth integration in campaign design specifically led to increased networking, confidence, and professional skills development. However, as with radio programming, proof of positive attitudinal and behavioral shifts is harder to ascertain.

A study (Bodine-Baron et al. 2020) of a social media program in Indonesia found that the campaign positively promoted inclusivity online and (in a subset of respondents from areas outside the main city) showed significant positive treatment effects on the justification of violence and reinforcement of negative perceptions related to judging others. However, it also inadvertently led to significant negative shifts in respondents' attitudes, especially concerning living in isolated communities and making judgments based on physical appearances.

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3 Throughout this research, bolded text denotes key findings that demonstrate rigorous evidence (findings that are derived from research questions and hypotheses, backed by strong, methodologically sound research, and demonstrate clear, empirically validated results) and/or promising evidence (findings from approaches that, while not yet rigorously tested or of lower research quality, offer strong rationales and initial evidence suggesting effectiveness).

A study (Ebers & Thomsen 2022) in Germany of a social media interactive film campaign on radicalized attitudes and intentions prompted viewers to respond to increasingly radical statements via pop-ups to steer the film's direction. The study found an immediate, significant reduction in radical attitudes and intentions, particularly amongst 18–24-year-olds, women, and those politically left-leaning. The authors conclude this is possibly because the film's main protagonist closely resembled this demographic. Notably, risk factors like deference to authority and risk-taking reduced in a follow-up study conducted two weeks later, while law-abidance as a protective factor grew stronger in significance. Given the waning impact over time, shorter, more frequent viewings or coupling with targeted in-person assistance might be more effective.

The findings from these studies highlight the potential of social media narrative campaigns in influencing attitudes toward VE. While promoting inclusivity and reducing radicalized attitudes, especially in specific demographics, there is an observed need for continual engagement and strategic design to mitigate unintended consequences. **Complementing online narratives with offline measures, like targeted in-person assistance, and shorter more frequent viewings might amplify and prolong positive outcomes.**

School-Based PVE Led by Former Extremists

This approach uses school-organized events to bring youth and former extremists together to talk about their experiences and provide counter and alternative narratives to VE. Studies that provided school-based narrative campaigns led by former violent extremists provided promising evidence of success, but demonstrated mixed results.

A study (Walsh & Gansewig 2019) in Germany found school-based PVE led by former extremists resulted in no significant change in youths' support for right-wing extremist attitudes and determined that increases in right-wing extremist views within the schools were most frequently influenced by increasing numbers of migrants in this context. The study further identified that developing stable bonds through strong support by parents and norm-compliant peer groups can act as key protective factors for participants, counteracting potential deviant behavior. The program was well received and increased knowledge, especially among female participants. However, follow up with students five months after the engagement showed that knowledge gains decreased over time.

A study (Parker & Lindekilde 2020) in Denmark evaluating a state-funded PVE initiative in schools and youth centers found that it was effective at increasing participants' ability to recognize extremist ideas and recruitment methods, significantly reduced the proportion of participants who perceived political violence as acceptable, and improved participants' confidence in knowing what to do if exposed to extremism and how to find help. However, the study also found that participants in the program demonstrated a small decrease in political tolerance, a potential unintended effect of exposure to programming with former extremists.

The findings from school-based narrative campaigns led by former violent extremists strengthen the view that they can play an important and unique role in P/CVE. However, the mixed results highlight the risks of unintended consequences and underscore the need for P/CVE programs to consider and mitigate potential negative effects in addition to maximizing positive benefits.

Promising Approaches

Current research further highlights two promising approaches that demonstrate consistent findings, but require further rigorous testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Narratives – Social Media (with Direct Engagement)**
- **Narratives – Traditional**

The following provides a synthesis of each promising approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Narratives — Social Media (with Direct Engagement)

In addition to traditional social media campaigns, an additional sub-set focused on employing social media counter-narratives coupled with online direct engagement with at-risk populations provided promising evidence of impact. These programs provided an opportunity for individuals showing clear signs of radicalization to meet and engage with someone who could support their potential exit from hate. These studies used a mix of automated and manual identification methods to swiftly and at-scale identify individuals expressing support for VE online.

A promising online study (Davey et al. 2018) assessed a methodology for identifying individuals demonstrating signs of radicalization on social media and engaging with them in personalized "counter-conversations." Researchers found that candidates who saw these messages were highly likely to react compared to unsolicited messaging, but far-right extremists were less likely to engage compared to Islamic extremists. The study found the most effective engagement providers responded promptly, adopted casual or contemplative tones, made concise comments, and addressed extremism in a non-judgmental manner, while engagements that highlighted the consequences of negative actions had the least effective response rate. Analysis of the types of sustained engagement—as measured by multiple messages, an ongoing conversation with the provider, and/or an expression to take the conversation offline—indicate that the conversations that challenged and/or changed attitudes and beliefs led to improved trust between providers and respondents, created opportunities to think deeply on VE, and led to a willingness of candidates to explore alternative ideas, suggesting they have had positive impact on countering negative online behaviors.

The findings from these studies demonstrate that **supplementing counter-narratives with direct online messaging and engagement at scale has positive potential for reducing violent extremist sympathy and participation as part of a comprehensive suite of online prevention methodologies.**

Narratives — Traditional

The remaining studies employed a mix of traditional narrative campaigning delivered by mostly religious actors, print media, and wide-scale awareness campaigns.

A promising study (Ellefsen & Sandberg 2022) from Mozambique working with religious leaders to lead classroom sessions with young men recruited from local mosques to deconstruct radical Islamic arguments using religious text to oppose violence and insurgency found that participants in the religious narrative campaign had a decreased prevalence of anti-social

behavior—a decreased propensity to destroy payoffs of other—but it did not present clear results on sympathy with Islamic extremism or violence.

Findings from these studies did not connect counter-/alternative narrative programming with a reduction in support for sympathy or participation in VE. Most mainly assessed the reach of the campaign, audience satisfaction with messaging, general awareness raising, and knowledge gain.

Theory of Change 1.2: Capacity Building for Frontline Workers

IF key civil society organizations, community leaders, and influencers' capacity to identify and analyze the drivers of VE, engage and/or conduct P/CVE programming, and build local resilience to VE is increased, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

*Caveat: Studies included in this ToC centered on improving the capacity of frontline individuals to spearhead PVE activities within their communities. They do not include studies evaluating capacity building aimed at individuals vulnerable to VE.

Key assumptions: Local influencers and elites are credible and influential, and that there is a "finite amount of 'space' in communities" for messaging around political and social grievances, and that effective nonviolent messaging can crowd out the voices of extremist groups (see USAID-OTI 2018, 7).

There is a large and diverse body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing 52 studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and significant evidence. Cumulatively, there is a maturing evidence base employing a variety of interventions focused on improving the willingness and capacity of frontline individuals to spearhead PVE activities within their communities and intervene when they witness intolerant and extremist behavior. The included studies explore various capacity building approaches, including:

- **Capacity Building (Community Leaders)**
- **Capacity Building (Religious Leaders)**
- **Capacity Building (Youth)**
- **Capacity Building (Youth) — Bystander Training**
- **Capacity Development (Parents and Peers)**
- **Community Social Cohesion and Development**
- **Peer-to-Peer Mentoring**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to strong evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from low to medium-high, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low to medium quality.

Capacity building interventions focused predominantly on engaging CSOs, youth, moderate religious leaders, and parents. They commonly used measures related to increased communication skills, engagement, social cohesion, critical thinking, tolerance, knowledge, and awareness of VE as indicators of success. Youth programs were seen to be more successful when coupled with coaching and mentoring opportunities. Increased success across various stakeholders were reported when working with women's groups due to their positive ripple effect in the broader community. Youth are identified as pivotal agents of change, while women are critical to community resilience. Further, while the engagement of community leaders

and women, particularly in religious capacities, fosters trust and cohesion, the durability of these impacts requires further examination.

While the evidence base points to successful cases of these measures, as well as reported decreases in ethnic/religious disputes and violence, and strengthened community resilience, further research is needed to understand the direct impacts that program dosage, duration, and longevity have on attitudinal and behavior change in relation to VE. Finally, it is imperative that any interventions involving mentorship adopt a do-no-harm approach to systematically assess and monitor risk, for both the mentor and the mentee, given the sensitivities and risk of targeting potentially radicalized individuals.

Extensive evaluative work has been done in this ToC; however, additional research is necessary to explore and test the association of capacity building activities with actual reductions in sympathy for and engagement in VE, as there is very limited evidence demonstrating the direct impact of increased capacity on P/CVE outcomes.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

In Capacity Building for Community Organizations, Leaders, and Influencers, current research bolsters confidence in the following evidence-informed approaches:

- **Capacity Building (Youth) — Bystander Training**
- **Peer-to-Peer Mentoring**

The following provides a synthesis of each evidence-informed approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Capacity Building (Youth) — Bystander Training

Studies within this ToC concentrated on building the capacity of students and youth leaders to recognize and safely intervene to counter expressions of intolerant and extremist views.

A study (Vining et al. 2021) in Bangladesh showed significant findings from a university bystander training for students with an underlying program logic on improving individuals' capacity to recognize intolerant and extremist views and take appropriate action to counter them, thereby creating an inhospitable environment to VE. The study found significant evidence that it improved participants' norms of tolerance and their willingness and capacity to intervene when they witness intolerant and extremist behavior. Notably, the training demonstrated spillover effects, increasing participants' willingness to intervene in scenarios like religious discrimination, sexual harassment, and LGBTQ harassment. While the study indicated a heightened readiness among participants to act against intolerance, whether they would actually intervene in real-world situations remains uncertain. Further research is imperative to understand the impact of program dosage, duration, and longevity on attitudinal change towards actual behaviors, but provides significant findings that capacity building with youth is an important VE deterrent.

The findings from youth bystander training underscore the pivotal role of youth as agents of change in preventing VE, emphasizing the efficacy of capacity building and community integration in fostering tolerance and countering radical views. Through targeted programs, youth not only develop the skills and knowledge to counter extremism, but also shift community perceptions, becoming ambassadors of positive change. While initial results

show promise, continuous investment in these initiatives and further research are crucial to determine their long-term impact and the translation of learned attitudes into real-world interventions.

Peer-to-Peer Mentoring

Studies included in this ToC approach focused on improving capacities of youth to act as peer-to-peer mentors and counselors to at-risk and vulnerable youth (mentees) to prevent radicalization. These programs pair youth mentors with similar backgrounds to their mentees, ensuring a shared understanding of challenges. This approach assumes that improvements in mentees' resilience ultimately contribute to reducing their risk of radicalization and eventual involvement in extremist activities.

A study (Sahgal & Kimaiyo 2020) in Kenya applied peer-to-peer mentoring to influence mentee's attitudes towards violence and self-confidence, to increase awareness of VE risks as well as strategies to counter it, and expand their support networks, with the goal of improving mentee's overall resilience to VE. The study found significant and positive improvements in the at-risk groups' (mentees') knowledge of the risks posed by VE and strategies for countering VE activities. However, it reported mixed findings with respect to participant's self-confidence, attitudes towards violence, or social network growth. The researchers posited that the mentoring improved participants' future-planning and positive goal-setting, but inversely affected their feelings of life satisfaction because of increased and potentially unattainable aspirations.

Overall, findings from peer-to-peer mentoring studies imply that there are no defined pathways for understanding how mentorship contributes to attitudinal shifts, and more research is required. **Supervising mentors and investing in building their capacity and credibility to perform this role is crucial. This includes adopting a do-no-harm approach to systematically assess and monitor risk, for both the mentor and the mentee, given the sensitivities and risk of targeting potentially radicalized individuals.**

Promising Approaches

Current research further highlights three promising approaches that demonstrate consistent findings, but require further rigorous testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Capacity Building (Religious Leaders) — Female Religious Leaders**
- **Capacity Development (Parents and Peers)**
- **Community Social Cohesion and Development**

The following provides a synthesis of each promising approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Capacity Development (Religious Leaders) — Female Religious Leaders

Another major category of capacity building interventions focused on improving the skills of religious leaders, positioning them as bulwarks against VE and resulting in positive developments in peace and security.

Interventions aimed at religious leaders' focus on increasing their voices, honing clergy skills, and nurturing interfaith dialogues to support PVE. Religious leaders' moral authority, ties to

communities, and access to large populations allow them to impact, educate, and motivate many people. Studies evaluating capacity building for religious leaders reported increased critical thinking, tolerance, knowledge, and awareness of VE amongst clergy leading to their promotion of these capacities to the community. Many programs developed networks and fostered collaboration amongst clergy of different religions to promote tolerance, developed solidarity, and led to greater community cohesion. Coupling these efforts with community dialogue created spaces conducive to exchange, elevated critical thinking about different religions and religious affiliations, raised public awareness of the danger of religious extremism and the necessity of peaceful conflict resolution, and crowded out the voices of extremist groups. Some communities reported a reduction in active participation in extremist groups, admiration for VE, and attraction to extremist narratives, but these were unsubstantiated by evidence.

A promising study (McCormack et al. 2019) in Kyrgyzstan focused on building the capacity of female religious leaders to successfully reach women and girls susceptible to radicalization. The capacity building aimed to increase female religious leaders' knowledge and awareness of women's rights and tolerance, the presence and risks of radical groups, how to identify at-risk women and girls, and strategies to address these vulnerabilities. The study found that simply telling participants which groups are extremist and why led to a decreased likelihood that women would join or support these groups. It further found that service and social responsibility were significant motivators for female religious leaders. Positive shifts in attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors of female religious leaders, women, and girls in the community were reported 18 months after the training, suggesting a durable change. This study suggests that religious leaders can be important figures in PVE efforts, particularly to access unique and hard to reach populations.

Findings from these studies show that capacity building interventions targeting moderate religious leaders bolster peace and security through enhanced leadership, collaboration, and knowledge on VE. Notably, religious leaders increased engagement with their communities, especially women, fostering trust and social cohesion. Additionally, a program focused on female religious leaders evidenced promising shifts in attitudes and reduced susceptibility to extremist narratives. However, while short-term benefits in conflict resolution and community resilience to VE are evident, the long-term impact on VE prevention requires further research.

Capacity Development (Parents and Peers)

Studies included in this ToC built capacity with parents, particularly mothers, and families to enhance the enabling environment of key stakeholders to address issues and grievances of at-risk youth. Many worked with mothers to teach them to detect early signs of radicalization in their families and communities. Capacity building aimed at mothers improved their self-confidence and ability to become a first line of defense against extremism in their homes, as well as led to large impacts across the community when women establish networks, spread awareness of extremism, and strengthened resilience. Families, which are often better positioned than state actors to intervene before an at-risk individual becomes too invested or radicalized, are an often-underutilized tool for PVE.

A promising study (Ellefsen & Sandberg 2022) from Norway assessed the impacts of family, peer, and police interventions for preventing radicalization and reported that early interventions by family and friends is possibly the most effective prevention tool against radicalization. Family interventions occur earlier in the radicalization process and involve trusted insiders who are influential to at-risk individuals. Research has also shown that strong family bonds are both a critical protective factor and an important interruption factor.

Findings from **capacity building studies with parents and peers suggest improving capacity of family for early detection and intervention is a promising, cost-effective, and potentially highly impactful form of PVE.**

Community Social Cohesion and Development

Studies included in this ToC approach focused on enhancing community mobilization to address VE collectively through improving social cohesion, knowledge, community-driven development, and strengthening of sustainable mechanisms for conflict mitigation and reconciliation. These programs prioritized sharpening operational abilities, like communication, project management, budgeting, and planning, to address underlying grievances making individuals susceptible to extremist recruitment. This amplified the visibility of partner CSOs within the community and cultivated sustainable local partnerships. The studies further reported that CSOs gained new skills that empowered them to counter VE and other security issues, pioneer innovative PVE activities, and advocate for a more prominent role in PVE initiatives. The development of useful knowledge products and other materials to continue capacity building also contributes to sustainable PVE efforts. Community members seem to benefit from an enriched awareness of VE, bolstered confidence in handling VE challenges, increased engagement with relevant authorities, and a heightened sense of safety and security. A noted advantage emerged when working with women's groups due to their ability to have positive ripple effects in the broader community. Specifically, when women are empowered and actively engaged, they often become catalysts for positive change, spreading knowledge, skills, and fostering supportive environments, thereby benefiting not only themselves, but also their families and wider communities.

A promising study (Khalil & Ipp 2016) from Mali focused on PVE through the inclusion of marginalized communities by strengthening connections within and between communities (i.e., social cohesion). Researchers conducted a process evaluation and found that there was a widely-held belief that the program enhanced social cohesion. As an intermediate outcome, the researchers theorized this enhancement would contribute to reducing participation in and support for VE, but it was not possible to assess explicit reductions in VE due to limitations in project monitoring and evaluation.

Findings from these studies highlight the effectiveness of community mobilization in prevention, emphasizing strengthened operational skills and sustainable strategies in CSOs. The studies further suggest that engaging women's groups particularly amplifies positive impacts, reinforcing their pivotal role in community resilience against extremism. However, more research is necessary to evaluate direct measures related to building social cohesion and prevention of VE.

Anecdotal Approaches

The current research provided anecdotal findings supporting the following approaches:

- **Capacity Building (Community Leaders)**
- **Capacity Building (Youth)**

The following provides a synthesis of these approaches to emphasize key insights for further testing and evaluation and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Capacity Development (Community Leaders)

Another major category of capacity building interventions focused on improving the skills of community leaders, positioning them as bulwarks against VE and resulting in positive developments in peace and security. These programs focused on increasing skills in leadership, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and knowledge on VE and security.

Communities reported that their leaders collaborated with them more and improved their understanding of community needs, leading to increased trust. Notably, participant leaders engaged more with women, listened to their points of view, and increasingly included them in decision-making. Leaders' increased engagement improved community awareness, security, and social cohesion. Community members also reported a decrease in ethnic/religious disputes and violence due to awareness and leaders' engagement in more collaborative efforts. In the short-term, improving conflict resolution of communal disputes is an important component of improving community resiliency to VE; however, there is little evidence demonstrating whether or not this leads to VE prevention in the long-run. More research is needed.

Anecdotal findings from these studies show that capacity building interventions targeting community leaders can bolster peace and security through enhanced leadership, collaboration, and knowledge of VE. Notably, these leaders increased engagement with their communities, especially women, fostering trust and social cohesion. However, while short-term benefits in conflict resolution and community resilience to VE are evident, the long-term impact on VE prevention requires further research.

Capacity Building (Youth)

Studies within this ToC concentrated on building the capacity of the general youth population, especially students and youth leaders, on identifying VE drivers and risks, communication, leadership, social media expertise, and nonviolence.

Participants reported heightened skills and VE knowledge, but also increased confidence in their abilities to be key leaders to prevent radicalization in their communities. Communities also reported more open and trusting relationships with youth and a greater willingness to see them as credible agents of change. Bringing youth together with communities also provided positive role models of influence and countered negative stereotypes and perceptions. Providing avenues for youth to be heard and validated addressed key grievances that contribute to radicalization. The studies stressed that PVE youth programming requires flexibility, time, and long-term funding. Applying participatory and experiential approaches to capacity building is important, and programs were seen to be more successful when coupled with coaching and mentoring opportunities. Further research is needed to

determine whether or not youth and community sensitization activities correlate with actual reductions in sympathy for and engagement in VE.

The findings from youth capacity building studies underscore the pivotal role of youth as agents of change in preventing VE, emphasizing the efficacy of capacity building and community integration in fostering tolerance and countering radical views. Through targeted programs, youth not only develop the skills and knowledge to counter extremism, but also shift community perceptions, becoming ambassadors of positive change.

Theory of Change 1.3: Capacity Building of Vulnerable/At-Risk Populations

IF the capacity and resilience of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities are increased AND they are empowered, given voice, and included in decision-making, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Caveat: Studies included within this ToC focus on enhancing the overall capacity, empowerment, and inclusion of at-risk and vulnerable groups directly through targeted PVE interventions.

Key assumptions: Feelings of marginalization driven by local and national grievances (particularly rooted in ethnic, racial, and religious differences) are major "push" factors leading to VE engagement. Vulnerable and marginalized communities want to prevent VE, but often lack the knowledge and/or resources to do so effectively, or the power or access to governance structures through which to do so legally and effectively.

There is a medium and diverse body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing 40 studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and moderate evidence. Cumulatively, there is a developing evidence base employing a variety of interventions focused on enhancing the overall capacity, empowerment, and inclusion of at-risk and vulnerable groups through targeted PVE interventions. Most of the research has drawn conclusions on generalized positive shifts in PVE awareness and engagement, but neglect to (or are unable to) assess a reduction in VE participation. The included studies explore various capacity building approaches including:

- **Education Accessibility (Women and Youth)**
- **Women's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building**
- **Youth Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to the division between moderate and strong evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from very low to medium-high, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low to medium quality.

The most frequently used measures of success relate to increasing community awareness and knowledge, communication skills, self-esteem, self-efficacy, and self-confidence. Studies reported recurrent findings, specifically among youth interventions, on enhanced social networks, increased community participation, and greater self-worth—all key resiliency factors to radicalization. Studies demonstrated that combining access to secondary education with civic engagement opportunities reduced both participation in and support for violence significantly. However, there is a lack of direct evidence associating interventions and PVE outcomes.

Substantial evaluative work has been done in this ToC; however, additional research is necessary to gauge the genuine impact of these interventions on curtailing violent extremist tendencies.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

There were no evidence-informed approaches found within this ToC.

Promising Approaches

In Capacity Building for Vulnerable Demographics current research highlights three promising approaches that demonstrate consistent findings and require further rigorous testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Education Accessibility (Women and Youth)**
- **Women's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building**
- **Youth's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building**

Findings demonstrate that while youth empowerment programs show potential to help participants resist extremist ideologies, the role of women in reshaping community perceptions about VE, through their empowerment, is an area worthy of deeper exploration.

The following provides a synthesis of each promising approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Education Accessibility (Women and Youth)

Studies focused on increasing educational opportunities theorize that school plays a critical role in creating an environment where youth feel less isolated and excluded and thus less likely to be pulled into VE through promises of community and belonging.

A promising study (Tesfaye 2016) from Somaliland revealed that access to secondary education curtailed youth involvement in political violence, although it paradoxically heightened support for it. The program demonstrated a positive impact on reducing the sense of marginalization amongst youth. As such, attending school may make youth less likely to be drawn to violent extremist groups by providing them with a sense of community and belonging. However, access to school by itself is not sufficient to address youth's frustrations about their futures or improve their ability to make a positive difference in their communities. Combining access to secondary education with civic engagement opportunities, reduced both participation in and support for violence significantly, demonstrating that the need to learn must be coupled with opportunities to use these skills in meaningful ways.

Findings from this study indicate that while secondary education can reduce youth marginalization and lower the appeal of violent extremist groups, coupling education with civic engagement is crucial to significantly diminish both support for and participation in violence.

Women's Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building

Studies that explored programming on women's empowerment, leadership, and capacity building primarily utilized training and awareness-raising workshops to enhance their knowledge, communication skills, and participation in community peace and security mechanisms.

At an individual level, these interventions fostered economic, social, and political empowerment among women. At the community level, the studies reported these changes

enhanced community awareness and knowledge about the roles of women, leading to their involvement in different sectors and spaces. It also shifted community willingness to discuss sensitive topics, like the status of women in communities, the need for inclusion and tolerance, and the threat of VE. While these studies reported many outstanding outcomes, they only hypothesized that women's integration within peace frameworks could counter VE dynamics without directly measuring or evaluating it.

A promising study (Hawa 2018) from Kenya focused on increasing women's active participation in prevention and response to VE and terrorism. Women reported they had developed a new sense of status through increased self-esteem and self-expression. Economically, the study reported increased financial independence for women who opened small businesses, developed solidarity associations, and built support groups. Women also informally spread knowledge among their peers, increasing the diffusion of these trainings. Socially, women reported becoming more involved in peace and security structures, areas previously dominated by men, as a result of increased collaboration with various stakeholders throughout the program, including integration into community policing structures, chief's forums, and district peace committees. Further rigorous research is necessary to confirm these self-reported findings and ascertain their direct impact on VE.

Findings from these studies demonstrate that empowering women through training and awareness-raising workshops not only fosters individual economic, social, and political growth, but also reshapes community perceptions about women's roles, fostering inclusivity and dialogue on sensitive topics, including the threat of VE. However, the direct impact on preventing extremism remains to be substantiated.

Youth Empowerment, Leadership Training, and Capacity Building

Studies focused on youth empowerment worked mostly through training, awareness-raising workshops, small grants programs, and youth camps to increase their role in community peace and security mechanisms and promote VE resilience amongst their peers.

The studies reported that youth experienced increases in knowledge of VE vulnerabilities and resiliencies and increased communication, leadership, critical thinking, and collaboration skills. Participants also reported attitude changes, including enhanced levels of tolerance and non-discriminatory attitudes towards others and belief that they can engage constructively with their peers in a non-adversarial and nonviolent manner. They also reported increases in self-esteem, self-efficacy, and self-confidence. Enhanced social networks, increased community participation, and greater self-worth among youth—key resiliency factors to radicalization were recurrent findings. Youth reported that through these opportunities, they developed a new sense of status in their community, fostering a sense of belonging. The broader community acknowledged the value of youth contributions, leading to increased trust and cohesion. Yet, youth indicated a desire for more agency and leadership-centric interventions. Involving youth in the design of projects better guarantees programming is responsive to the specific needs of target beneficiaries.

A promising study (Botoeva et al. 2021) in Kyrgyzstan assessed the impact of engaging young people from conflict-prone communities with local governance entities by placing them in leadership positions, giving them an increased voice and ability to advocate for

more inclusive policies, and enhanced opportunity to influence decision-making. While the findings from this study did not allow for assessing the causal relationship between the project and levels of radicalization amongst youth, they indicate that youth involved in the program exhibited increased resilience against extremist ideologies more than their non-participating counterparts. Youth mentors corroborated these findings, sharing that youth in their communities expressed less interest in participating in violence or violent extremist groups and exhibited fewer extreme views.

Other studies reported anecdotal evidence of reduced VE vulnerability among youth through increased understanding of vulnerability, community vigilance toward outsiders, and knowledge about reporting mechanisms, as well as references to reductions in recruitment.

Findings from these studies highlight that youth empowerment programs that leverage training, workshops, and community engagement, cultivate resilience against VE by bolstering skills, fostering tolerance, and enhancing self-worth, with youth voicing the need for more leadership-centric interventions. A promising study showcased that youth engagement in governance entities amplified their resistance to extremist ideologies, though more research is needed to substantiate the direct impact on reducing VE vulnerability.

Conjoined Theory of Change 1.2 and 1.3: Conjoined Capacity Building of Frontline Workers and Vulnerable/At-Risk Populations

IF key civil society organizations, community leaders, influencers, and members of marginalized and vulnerable communities' capacity to identify and analyze the drivers of VE, engage and/or conduct P/CVE programming, and build local resilience to VE is increased, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Caveat: Studies included in this ToC centered on improving the capacity of frontline individuals and the capacity, empowerment, and inclusion of at-risk and vulnerable groups to spearhead PVE activities within their communities.

Key assumptions:

- Local influencers and elites are credible and influential, and that there is a "finite amount of 'space' in communities" for messaging around political and social grievances, and that effective nonviolent messaging can crowd out the voices of extremist groups (see USAID-OTI 2018, 7).

- Feelings of marginalization driven by local and national grievances (particularly rooted in ethnic, racial, and religious differences) are major "push" factors leading to VE engagement. Vulnerable and marginalized communities want to prevent VE, but often lack the knowledge and/or resources to do so effectively, or the power or access to governance structures through which to do so legally and effectively.

Within the realm of prevention, a distinct group of studies present findings from stabilization, good governance, community-driven development, and social cohesion programming whose findings could not be differentiated between ToC 1.2 and ToC 1.3, and as such were assessed conjointly. The evaluation of these bundled interventions poses significant challenges due to their broad scope. Often, these interventions encompass a wide array of programs aiming to deliver public benefit, but they do not clearly identify the direct causes behind observed changes. Typically, the evaluations of such programs focus on processes and accountability, providing limited evidence of their direct or even correlative impact on main outcomes and goals. In several cases, P/CVE activities are integrated into an already existing program, which complicates evaluations

since they diverge from the original program's intended logic. **Cumulatively these programs underscore the necessity for a more detailed, evidence-based ToC linking social cohesion, stabilization, violence, and VE.**

Conjoined programming related to stabilization, good governance, community-driven development, and social cohesion highlight their increased influence and contribution towards creating safer, more productive communities. They further report an increased ability and willingness of community members to cooperate across conflict divides. While this evidence suggests that increased inclusivity and community diversity impact successful outcomes, further research is needed to better understand how and to what extent improving social cohesion reduces communities' vulnerability to VE. They **suggest solely improving social cohesion may not be sufficient to change attitudes and behaviors toward violence and violent behaviors.**

The most frequently used measures of success in these interventions relate to changes in community tensions/violence, security, and social cohesion. The studies highlight their increased influence and contribution towards creating safer, more productive communities, and an increased ability and willingness of community members, in general, to cooperate across community conflict divides. While this evidence suggests that increased inclusivity and community diversity impact successful outcomes, further research is needed to better understand how and to what extent improving social cohesion reduces communities' vulnerability to VE. P/CVE programs may need to delve deeper into the myriad of factors influencing VE susceptibility.

Stabilization, Good Governance, Community-Driven Development, and Social Cohesion

These programs focus on programming with local and frontline individuals to spearhead PVE activities with at-risk and vulnerable populations to promote peace and security and address grievances and societal marginalization. They contend that addressing the vulnerabilities that propel individuals towards VE, along with fostering resilience against VE, will decrease participation in and support for VE. Programs emphasize wide-ranging capacity and skill-building to fortify peacebuilding, address community disputes, and mitigate the destabilizing consequences of insecurity and violence. They also create opportunities for diverse community members to collaborate on tangible projects, especially involving marginalized groups, and enhance community mobilization to address VE, address grievances, build community resilience, and increase social cohesion.

Studies echoed findings from ToCs 1.2 and 1.3, noting heightened involvement and perceptions of women, youth, and other marginalized community members. Such programs challenge traditional gender roles, enabling women to establish formal associations and networks, which in turn foster economic security. Activities targeting youth helped build cohesion across social cleavages, improved relationships, and addressed tensions, particularly between youth and community elders. As a result, women's and youth groups see a boost in influence and contribution towards creating safer, more productive communities. Direct capacity building for local peace and security mechanisms led to improved interconnection, fostered community trust, and increased the willingness of community members to cooperate across community conflict divides. Overall, studies report reduced community tension, heightened security, and better security coordination. The majority emphasize the communities' enhanced ability to circumvent communal, faith-based, and ethnic disputes through reinforced peace and security protocols, largely because of increased inclusivity. Some posited a greater resilience to VE and conflict as a result of improved local mechanisms to reduce community conflict and community confidence in these mechanisms, but did not establish direct evidence to support this hypothesis.

A study (Lichtenheld et al. 2022) from Niger employed a unique approach to community mobilization and participatory programming, emphasizing joint efforts across groups to meet shared community needs across a wide variety of activities. The study found a statistically significant effect on reducing support for political violence, but only certain activities, such as mediation and dialogue, were associated with a decline in support for violence and violent groups. It was also not able to identify a direct link between improvements in social cohesion and changes in support for violence or armed groups. The research found certain activities, especially infrastructure and cultural events, significantly improved inter-group trust. However, inter-group cohesion was greatly affected by community diversity—activities had a more positive impact on inter-group trust in villages with a higher number of ethnic groups, but a more negative impact in communities with only one ethnic group. The researchers posit that in ethnically homogenous communities, programming might boost in-group trust at the expense of out-group trust. The researchers recommend that programs designed to unite diverse groups, as opposed to focusing on a single group, might be more successful in enhancing social cohesion. Finally, while the project intentionally included women and youth in joint activities, it did not detect an improvement in community perceptions of their roles.

These findings pose questions about how and to what extent improving social cohesion reduces communities' vulnerability to VE. Greater specification in program logic and goals will provide enhanced opportunity for identifying and testing the exact mechanisms bridging social cohesion and PVE.

Theory of Change 1.4: Socio-Economic Skills Building

IF the grievances of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities related to a lack of economic opportunity or access to basic livelihoods are reduced, THEN the appeal of economic incentives to VE will be reduced.
Key assumptions: Support for VE is sometimes instrumental and motivated by financial incentives offered by VE groups, and economic grievances and frustration are important push factors driving consideration of VE appeals.

There is a medium and diverse body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing 28 studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and significant evidence. Cumulatively, there is a maturing evidence base employing a variety of interventions focused on improving access to economic opportunities and basic services to address grievances of marginalized and vulnerable communities, particularly women and youth, to reduce VE sympathy and participation. Most of the research discerned improved personal skills, livelihood capabilities, leadership training, and income-generating opportunities for participants; yet, a gap exists in linking individual capacity building programs with VE prevention. The included studies explore two socio-economic skills building approaches focused on:

- **Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training**
- **Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training with Income Generating Opportunities**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to strong evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from very low to medium-high, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low to medium quality.

The most frequently used measures of success relate to self-confidence and self-sufficiency, employability, support for violence, and economic gains. While the studies report successful cases of improved perceptions of women and youth in the workplace, increased resiliency, and reduced support for violence and likelihood of joining a militia or violent extremist group, further research is needed to link individual capacity building programs with VE prevention. The studies also highlight positive implications of spillover effects, including improvement in the overall economy resulting from increased access to goods and services and improvement in living conditions for individuals and their families participating in programs.

The studies point to three areas of caution for program design and implementation: (1) linking employment programming with direct stabilization outcomes could force these programs to pursue political goals at the expense of economic outcomes, leading to it potentially achieving neither; (2) programs that do not intentionally include a gender-sensitive lens to program design and/or acknowledge/address the various social, cultural, religious, economic, and educational barriers that inhibit women's market access may reduce women's ability to participate in PVE activities; and (3) programs that omit market analyses determining locally-viable trades and/or lack sufficient funding to support work placement may result in unrealistic expectations by participants and their increased frustration.

While skill-based training is associated with resilience and community perception enhancement, the direct linkage to PVE is yet to be firmly established. Notably, addressing economic grievances and promoting self-sufficiency appear to reduce VE susceptibility, but program challenges highlight the need for a more nuanced understanding of the relationship. Substantial evaluative work has been done in this ToC; however, additional research is necessary to understand the direct link between addressing economic marginalization and PVE.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

In Socio-Economic Skills Building, current research bolsters confidence in the following evidence-informed approach:

- **Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training**

The following provides a synthesis of this evidence-informed approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize this approach in practice.

Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training

Many studies hypothesized that marginalized and vulnerable communities lack market-oriented, technical, and vocational skills, hampering their access to markets and economic opportunities. Such limitations reduce their chances of meaningful employment, diminish value addition, and escalate their radicalization risk due to perceived socio-economic injustices. Programs in this ToC concentrated on delivering technical and vocational training and frequently integrated soft and leadership skills development to enhance employability, as these skills are highly valued by employers and can lead to better job performance and opportunities. While technical skills might help an individual acquire a job, soft and leadership skills can help them excel in it, as such training often boosts individuals' self-confidence and resilience, indirectly mitigating feelings of socio-economic injustices and reducing the allure of radical ideologies.

Beyond highlighting gains like self-confidence and self-sufficiency, these studies underscored direct work skills accrual. Numerous studies associated youth employment with enhanced community perceptions, portraying youth as active, empowered participants respected by their communities. Programs emphasizing women's skills noted improved perceptions of women's role in the workforce. However, the relation between these attitudinal changes and

PVE remains elusive. Studies reported a positive increase in resilience and youth participants reported reduced support for violence and likelihood of joining a militia or violent extremist group.

A study (Mercy Corps 2015) from Afghanistan explored the causal relationship between technical and vocational training and youth propensity toward political violence and support for insurgents. The project was highly successful at impacting economic outcomes, including significant findings on decreased unemployment and increased income and economic optimism among participants. However, it had only minor impacts on improving participants' social connectedness and self-confidence. Moreover, it minimally influenced political outcomes, assumed to be linked to youth propensity towards political violence. Researchers theorized that economic enhancements might relieve daily life pressures, but might not be sufficient to address deeper grievances fueling political violence. The findings of this study caution against assuming youth employment and skills building achievements will increase stability and prevent VE. It further posits that linking employment programming with direct stabilization outcomes could force these programs to pursue political goals at the expense of economic outcomes, leading to it potentially achieving neither.

A study (Ellefsen & Sandberg 2022) from Mozambique developed a training module on entrepreneurship and employment in the local labor market to improve the overall economic prospects of young men recruited from local mosques. The goal was to increase the participants' perceived opportunity cost of engaging in conflict. The results from an experimental game found that participants from the training module significantly increased their belief that others would behave in an anti-social manner—increased propensity to destroy the payoffs of others. The researchers associated this result with the tying of employment with natural resource extraction within this context—i.e., the natural resource curse. However, the study did not present clear results on sympathy with Islamic extremism, violence, or higher level of trust in state institutions.

A study (Tesfaye et al. 2018) from Somalia focused on leadership training with youth as a component to increasing youth's access to secondary education. Youth leaders applied their skills building to mobile teams to work on local issues through youth-led community action projects. The study reported significant findings that youth who participated in civic engagement opportunities, including community action projects, were less likely than non-engaged youth to demonstrate moral or material support for political violence. The researchers posit that being involved in civic engagement significantly decreases students' potential disappointment in their livelihood prospects while increasing their confidence in nonviolent means of change. While these findings are positive, the researchers did not differentiate between these impacts as they related to those involved in leadership training specifically compared to general education and civic engagement.

A promising study (Finkel et al. 2018) across three countries in West Africa aimed to increase resilience to VE in at-risk communities by targeting in one area youth empowerment through expanded livelihoods using vocational and entrepreneurial skills training. The study found a discernable negative effect on training participants' justification of religious violence; however the difference was not statistically significant.

Programs must also strive to adequately acknowledge and address social, cultural, religious, economic, and educational barriers that may inhibit women's market access and thus reduce their participation in prevention activities.

A study from Tajikistan (United Nations Development Programme 2022) found statistically significant results to increase women's applications to an entrepreneurship workshop by placing phone calls and text messages to heads of households encouraging eligible women to apply. The study demonstrated that women from targeted households were more likely to be accepted, attend, and complete the training than the control group.

The findings from these studies link skill-based training to increased resilience, self-confidence, and improved community perceptions, however the direct connection to PVE remains ambiguous. One study illustrated that while **vocational training can boost economic outcomes, it may not sufficiently address underlying factors driving political violence, underscoring the challenge of equating employment success with VE prevention.**

Promising Approaches

Current research further highlights a promising approach demonstrates consistent findings and requires further rigorous testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training with Income Generating Opportunities**

The following provides a synthesis of this promising approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize this approach in practice.

Skills Building, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Training with Income Generating Opportunities

Studies in this ToC approach integrated into technical and vocational training additional income-generating activities to transition trainees from skill acquisition to skill application. Such efforts theorized that improved job access and income could address economic grievances rooted in poverty, economic discontent, and social marginalization that push vulnerable and at-risk populations to VE.

These studies reported increased self-confidence and self-sufficiency, financial literacy, incomes, and superior employment opportunities. Coupling skills building with jobs, cash for work, or other income-generating activities, the studies reported an overall improvement in living conditions for participants and a stronger ability to meet their family needs. Programs found providing well-resourced and high-quality toolkits were effective in positioning trainees for next steps. Loans were also seen as helpful, if targeted based on differences in trade, geographic locations, and need. A noted spillover effect was an improvement in the overall economy, including increased access to goods that reduces travel to other markets, saving time, travel costs, and safety risks. These were reported as tangible benefits contributing towards mitigating the destabilizing effects of violence and insecurity, but these studies did not draw direct causal connections with PVE.

A promising study (USAID 2021) from Mozambique provided skills-building and income-generating opportunities to help vulnerable youth resist VE by reducing feelings of economic marginalization. Reported noticeable economic gains among participants—particularly resulting from those who participated in multiple activities—as well as substantial quality of

life improvements. The evaluation presented mixed findings on marginalization. Participants who reported reduced feelings of economic marginalization focused on gains in confidence, ability to generate income for their family, community pride, and status. There was also mixed evidence of having reduced vulnerability to VE through program participation, reporting reduction was driven by improved understanding of vulnerability, increased community vigilance toward outsiders, increased knowledge about reporting mechanisms, and anecdotal references to reduced VE recruitment. Most respondents pointed primarily to the economic underpinnings of vulnerability to VE. Further research is required to understand the direct link between addressing economic marginalization and PVE, but these promising findings suggest there is a correlation.

A promising study (Khalil & Ipp 2016) from Mali focused on PVE through inclusion of marginalized communities by strengthening connections within and between communities through income-generating and cash-for-work activities. These activities brought communities together to work together towards a common purpose, with participants reporting a reduction in tensions and local conflicts over natural resources and the establishment of stronger economic interdependencies. As an intermediate outcome, the researchers theorized that increased economic opportunities would contribute to a reduction in participation in and support for VE, but it was not possible to assess explicit reductions in VE due to limitations in project monitoring and evaluation.

A major limiting factor of these programs was an inability to provide work placement and employment, resulting in unrealistic expectations by participants and often increased frustration. Many programs also did not complete sufficient market analyses to determine viable trades that would most improve trainees' employability, leading to substantial gaps between training completion and application of new skills. There were also challenges providing participants sufficient funding and startup materials. While positive examples of trainees' applying new skills and increasing their access to jobs emerged, so did frustrations.

Findings from these studies suggest that **addressing economic grievances and promoting self-sufficiency can mitigate factors leading to VE, with notable improvements in living conditions, financial literacy, and job opportunities reported.** Study findings indicate a relationship between reducing economic marginalization and PVE, highlighting participants' enhanced confidence, community pride, and reduced vulnerability to VE. However, challenges like insufficient market analyses, unrealistic job placement expectations, and funding constraints highlight gaps in program effectiveness and the need for further research into the direct link between economic initiatives and PVE.

Theory of Change 1.5: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

> **IF communities and individuals deemed vulnerable to VE appeals are provided with skills for managing mental and physical health and support to strengthen their resilience, well-being, and non-violent extremist sense of identity, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.**

> **Key assumptions:** Individuals and communities vulnerable to VE appeals often face trauma grounded in legacies of conflict and other psychological challenges, lack of access to education, or identities that tie them weakly to their wider community. Programs that address these issues make individuals and communities more resilient when confronted with VE messaging or pressure.

There is a medium and diverse body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing 25 studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and significant evidence. Cumulatively, there is a maturing evidence base employing a variety of interventions focused on delivering MHPSS to strengthen vulnerable populations' resilience, well-being, and non-violent extremist sense of identity to reduce VE sympathy and participation. Most of the research has drawn conclusions on increased resiliency, diverse viewpoints, positive identity, social connectedness, and critical thinking, yet a gap exists in linking the augmentation of protective factors to declines in VE sympathy and engagement. The findings also often diverge and this inconsistency could lead to programs that inadvertently produce unintended effects or even do harm. The included studies explore various MHPSS approaches including:

- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Dialogue Training to Prevent Polarization**

- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Religious Education**

- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Value Complexity Training**

- **MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building — Mental Health and Well-Being**

- **MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building — Direct Training and Counseling**

- **Sports-Based Interventions to Emphasize Social Connectedness and Self-Confidence**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to moderate evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from very low to only high quality, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low quality.

Notably, the findings reveal complex relationships. Behavioral and attitudinal shifts towards open-mindedness and resilience to VE are promising; yet, the efficacy varies. MHPSS approaches underline the nuanced relationships between empowerment, resiliency, and VE measures, suggesting the potential for both positive and negative outcomes, and underlining the need for a deeper dive into the interplay between these phenomena. Notably, sports-based interventions are positioned more as tools to reshape participants' social networks, offering an indirect pathway to counter radicalization.

Across these interventions, the most frequently used measures of success relate to value pluralism, self-worth and personal identity, sense of belonging, critical thinking skills, empathy, and social support. Evidence highlights that substantial attitudinal and behavioral changes can stem from improved open-mindedness, knowledge, and experience of difference; program impact can be improved by exposing participants to project materials through multiple mediums; and teachers' qualifications and performance can influence students' resilience to radicalization. Greater research is needed to test the hypotheses connecting critical thinking, polarization, and support for violence, particularly among specific groups like ethnic minorities

and across diverse samples. In addition to the concerns previously described, sports programs in particular can reinforce patriarchal norms and cultural expectations on women's role in society if they are not intentionally designed to be gender-inclusive.

The results of these studies suggest that an intervention aimed at empowering individuals, in combination with strengthening their empathy, can improve resiliency to radicalization, but the negative findings relating to increases in narcissism and higher perspective-taking (being able to perceive a situation or understand a concept from an alternative point of view) for some groups points to the complicated and non-linear impacts of these programs. Given many PVE programs aim to increase self-esteem and confidence, these findings may have substantial implications for other studies and further research is required to better understand the impacts of empowerment training on narcissism, in-group and out-group perceptions, and support for ideology-based violence. These mixed findings could lead to program design and implementation that inadvertently produces unintended effects or even does harm and more direct evaluations are required.

Substantial evaluative work has been done in this ToC; however, additional research is necessary given that the findings often contradict each other, with some studies indicating heightened positive attitudes toward violence and others showing significant gains in critical thinking about extremism.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

In MHPSS Programming, current research bolsters confidence in the following evidence-informed approaches:

- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Religious Education**
- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Value Complexity Training**
- **MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building — Direct Training and Counseling**
- **Sports-Based Interventions to Emphasize Social Connectedness and Self-Confidence**

The following provides a synthesis of each evidence-informed approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Religious Education

Studies focused on educational programming emphasize the significance of broad-based comprehension, particularly in religious contexts, to reinforce support for diverse viewpoints and perspectives. The intent is to build youth's capabilities to effectively cope with disappointment and challenges, improve their judgement and maturity, and promote critical thinking and more pluralistic understandings of religion. Value pluralism underlines two key principles: (1) learning to respect the freedom belief and practices of others; thereby reducing negative prejudices or blind submission; and (2) learning to live peacefully with others who do not share the same beliefs. Both impact world-view and identity and can make an individual vulnerable to radicalization. The studies in this ToC reported substantial attitudinal and behavioral changes stemming from improved open-mindedness, knowledge, and experience of difference.

A study (Jailobaeva et al. 2020) from Kyrgyzstan evaluated the introduction of a religious course in school curricula on students' understanding of complex worldviews and critical thinking skills. The study found significant results that students in the course demonstrated higher levels of resilience to VE than non-participating students. Teachers' qualifications and performance were also identified as significant factors influencing students' resilience to

radicalization. These findings suggest that in addition to school curricula, investing in teacher capacity building is critical for supporting youth's resilience to VE.

Findings from these studies reveal behavioral and attitudinal shifts towards open-mindedness, increased recognition of group differences, and heightened resilience to VE. The findings further suggest that **teacher effectiveness plays a crucial role in achieving these outcomes, pointing towards the importance of integrating comprehensive educational approaches and teacher capacity building in P/CVE strategies.**

Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Value Complexity Training

The studies in this approach apply a specific training curriculum to promote value complexity—the ability to move from black and white thinking that sees no validity to viewpoints other than one's own to more open thinking that can see validity to other viewpoints without sacrificing one's inherent core values. The training curriculum provides exposure to multiple value priorities through group activities that allow participants to explore different value positions central to extremism discourse in a safe environment free from criticism or social pressure.

Two pilot studies from Scotland (Boyd-MacMillan 2016) and Kenya (Savage 2014) empirically showed significant gains in creating value complexity and an increased ability for participants to think critically about extremism. The programs included vulnerable individuals exposed to extremist groups and support staff seeking to counter extremism, while the pilot in Kenya also targeted recent members of extremist groups. By the end of the Kenyan course, participants demonstrated increased abilities to perceive some validity in differing viewpoints; however, these gains were lowest, but still significant, within recent members of extremist groups. The researchers also noted gains in participants' value complexity in relation to their own self-designated in-groups and out-groups, but of a greater magnitude for their own in-group. By the end of the Scottish course, participants demonstrated significant gains in complex thinking about both their self-identified in-groups and out-groups and a wider array of response choices when confronted with differences and disagreements.

Findings from these results indicate that **increasing complexity awareness and pluralistic worldviews can be an effective approach to preventing sympathy and participation in VE**, but additional research is required to understand these intricate relationships and explore this approach with diverse samples.

MHPSS to Develop Resilience-building — Direct Training and Counseling

Studies on resilience-building offered a variety of approaches, including training, peer support activations, and counseling, to address ongoing psychological and social needs of communities to build peaceful and resilient ones. Research has shown that adverse experiences, particularly childhood abuse, can contribute to later mental health struggles that interact with other risk factors leading to VE sympathy and radicalization. From a prevention perspective, these programs focus on reducing the impact of psychosocial risk factors for extremism.

A study from (Feddes et al. 2015) the Netherlands aimed to build the resilience of migrant and first-generation youth through direct training and counseling to strengthen self-esteem, agency, empathy, perspective-taking (being able to perceive a situation or understand a

concept from an alternative point of view), and empathy. The study reported statistically significant findings that the training increased participants' sense of agency and marginally increased their sense of self-esteem, empathy, and perspective-taking, but also increased levels of narcissism. Higher reports of empathy relate to less positive attitudes towards ideology-based violence and violent intentions. However, narcissism was positively and significantly related to positive attitudes of ideology-based violence, meaning that those reporting high self-esteem and agency also report higher levels of narcissism, more violent intentions, and a more positive attitude toward ideology-based violence. A second unexpected finding was that higher reports of perspective-taking were associated with more positive attitudes towards ideology-based violence, suggesting that increases in perspective-taking may lead to more radical attitudes. The authors suggest that these findings might be linked to status disparities within groups. This could influence the impact of perspective-taking versus perspective-giving, especially when collaborating with marginalized individuals who perceive their out-group status as being lower.

The results of these studies suggest that an intervention aimed at empowering individuals, in combination with strengthening their empathy, can improve resiliency to radicalization, but the negative findings relating to increases in narcissism and higher perspective-taking for some groups points to the complicated and non-linear impacts of these programs. Additional research is necessary to further examine these intricate relationships between empowerment, resiliency, and measures of VE. More direct evaluations are required to avoid doing harm and potentially increasing radicalization amongst certain populations.

Sports-Based Interventions to Emphasize Social Connectedness and Self-Confidence

An emerging prevention strategy leverages sports for development and peace, equipping at-risk youth with the means to bolster their self-worth and personal identity, supporting community integration, and increasing enhanced social support and senses of belonging.

The included studies reported that participants experienced strong personal transformation through sports programming, particularly in relation to building self-confidence and leadership skills. Multicultural programs that focused on integrating youth teams reported that the programming helped to break down stereotypes related to race and religion and improve attitudes towards different cultural groups. These programs consistently created a trusting environment, open to everyone on the team, in which participants felt free to explore issues, have difficult conversations, and see other models of character.

A study (Moyano et al. 2022) across seven European countries evaluated the impact of a sports-based intervention integrating vulnerable male youth to prevent VE. The program focused primarily on influencing the needs, narratives, and social networks of participants. The study reported that amongst youth not participating in the intervention, support for political violence and deviant peers worsened, but these sentiments remained unchanged in the intervention group. The researchers reported that changes to the control group were caused by specific contexts unique to them. There was consensus amongst the reviewed studies, however, that sports-related activities alone are not enough to prevent VE. Given the presence of socio-economic limitations facing youth, these programs need to be embedded. Studies focused on dialogue training emphasize the psychological, societal, political, and

statistically significant findings that the training increased participants' sense of agency, and marginally increased their sense of self-esteem, empathy, and perspective-taking, but also increased levels of narcissism. Higher reports of empathy relate to less positive attitudes towards ideology-based violence and violent intentions. However, narcissism was positively and significantly related to positive attitudes of ideology-based violence, meaning that those reporting high self-esteem and agency also report higher levels of narcissism, more violent intentions, and a more positive attitude toward ideology-based violence. A second unexpected finding was that higher reports of perspective-taking were associated with more positive attitudes towards ideology-based violence, suggesting that increases in perspective-taking may lead to more radical attitudes. The authors suggest that these findings might be linked to status disparities within groups. This could influence the impact of perspective-taking versus perspective-giving, especially when collaborating with marginalized individuals who perceive their out-group status as being lower.

The results of these studies suggest that an intervention aimed at empowering individuals, in combination with strengthening their empathy, can improve resiliency to radicalization, but the negative findings relating to increases in narcissism and higher perspective-taking for some groups points to the complicated and non-linear impacts of these programs. Additional research is necessary to further examine these intricate relationships between empowerment, resiliency, and measures of VE. More direct evaluations are required to avoid doing harm and potentially increasing radicalization amongst certain populations.

Promising Approaches

Current research further highlights a promising approach that demonstrates consistent findings and require further rigorous testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Dialogue Training to Prevent Polarization**

- **MHPSS to Develop Resilience-Building — Mental Health and Well-Being**

The following provides a synthesis of each promising approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize these approaches in practice.

Education and Training to Support Diverse Viewpoints and Perspectives — Dialogue Training to Prevent Polarization

Studies focused on dialogue training emphasize the psychological, societal, political, and contextual risk and resilience factors within at-risk and vulnerable groups to build their connection to society. The studies in this ToC reported that increased recognition of in and out-group differences has the potential to protect at-risk youth from "us versus them" binary thinking regarding people from other cultural and religious backgrounds.

A promising study (Schulten et al. 2020) from the Netherlands evaluated dialogue training with youth from ethnic minority backgrounds to prevent polarization by enhancing critical thinking skills, awareness and complex worldviews, and youth engagement opportunities. The program used talk show formats, guided dialogues, news article reviews, and lectures. The study reported that participants gained experience and comfort expressing their ideas and emotions, increased their awareness and acceptance of diverse opinions, and increased

their critical thinking, but these were not found to be significant. The study reported negative findings that participating youth showed significantly higher positive attitudes towards the use of violence and perceived group threats, indicating higher levels of negative attitudes toward societal in-group positions.

Findings from these studies highlight the need for greater research testing the hypotheses connecting critical thinking, polarization, and support for violence, particularly among specific groups like ethnic minorities and within marginalized communities.

MHPSS to Develop Resilience-building — Mental Health and Well-Being

Studies on resilience-building offered a variety of approaches, including online mental health and well-being campaigns, self-help resources, peer support activations, and social media messaging, to address ongoing psychological and social needs of communities to build peaceful and resilient ones. These programs focused on bolstering the resilience and overall wellbeing and mental health of youth.

A promising study (Miller et al. 2020) from Australia focused on general mental health and well-being through a public health approach to address the root psychosocial vulnerabilities that violent extremists leverage in recruitment to promote prevention. The study reported positive impacts on decreased isolation and increased feelings of being understood and heard, self-awareness, sense of belonging and connectedness, and personal agency and self-efficacy. The program had more impact by exposing participants to project materials through multiple mediums.

Findings from these studies suggest that **exploring ways to increase exposure and accessibility to up-to-date project materials over a longer period has the potential to effect more robust impacts** and should be considered when designing MHPSS and resilience-building programming.

Theory of Change 1.6: Prison Reform and Capacity Building

IF prison reforms are completed to humanize and improve the conditions of detention AND prison staff enhance their expertise on identifying and addressing VE in prisons, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Key assumptions: These conditions not only impact the prevention of VE sympathy and participation among prison populations, but also decrease the risk of recidivism among detainees convicted of VE.

There is a very small body of evidence evaluating the effectiveness of this ToC, encompassing seven studies that present anecdotal, promising findings, and moderate evidence. Cumulatively, there is an immature evidence base employing a variety of interventions focused on improving prison conditions alongside staff capacity building to identify and address VE in prisons. Most of the research has drawn conclusions on prison reform policies and increasing staff capacity, yet evaluations of these efforts remain sparse and they do not measure the effect of these activities on reductions in VE sympathy or participation within prisons. Given the limited number of extant studies and their mainly anecdotal nature, caution must be used when examining trends.

It is well documented and accepted that prisons provide convicted violent extremist offenders (VEOs) with a ripe recruiting environment. The rise of VEOs incarcerated globally is a recognized issue, yet there often is not a proportional increase in prison staff or their capability. Identifying key opportunities to modernize prison environments and enhance staff capabilities is crucial for this at-risk group, yet evaluations of these efforts remain sparse. The included studies explore:

- **Prison Reform and Capacity Building of Prison Staff**

On assessing the strength of evidence, the distribution of evidence across studies spans anecdotal findings to moderate evidence, with the average in the "strong theory" category. The data indicates a spectrum of quality from low to high, and the average suggests a tendency toward medium-low quality.

Limited evaluative work has been done in this ToC and there is not currently adequate, high-quality evidence to demonstrate that programs in this ToC actually reduce VE. Preliminary findings spotlight the potential of integrative reforms, but evidence linking these activities to PVE-related outcomes is scant. The most frequently used measures of success relate to promoting tolerance, supportive management of VEO, and raising awareness and knowledge of best practices. The limited evidence base points to successful cases of improvements in staff communication, job performance, and developing more supportive penal environments for prisoners post-training.

Given the limited evaluative work done in this ToC, further evidence-based research is needed to develop a strong evidence base and explore the associations between reforming prison systems and increasing staff capacity building with P/CVE outcomes.

Evidence-Informed Approaches

There were no evidence-informed approaches found within this ToC.

Promising Approaches

There were no promising approaches found within this ToC.

Anecdotal Approaches

Current research in prison reform highlights an anecdotal approach that requires further testing to establish stronger evidence in:

- **Prison Reform and Capacity Building of Prison Staff**

The following provides a synthesis of this anecdotal approach with supporting study exemplars to share findings, emphasize key insights, and contextualize this approach in practice.

Prison Reform and Capacity Building of Prison Staff

The included studies offer a diverse range of activities, from refining prison operational standards to enhancing staff skills, expanding procedures for nonviolent criminals' probation, promoting tolerance, and managing VEOs more effectively. While prison reform mechanisms and capacity building approaches reference a multitude of differing activities, in practice the two are conjointly implemented.

The studies in this ToC approach reported improvements in staff communication and job performance post-training. Some prison staff reported that prior to training, they carried out their duties without always understanding the connection between their tasks and extremism dynamics. Participants reported that the training helped improve their awareness of their

contribution towards PVE and other factors that influence prisoners' decision to embrace radical ideologies and violence. The studies also reported that reform measures coupled with capacity building created a supportive environment that helped align prison management standards and embed them across the penal system.

A study (Cherney & Belton 2021) from Australia explored the impact of case management on disengagement and deradicalization found a strong correlation between inmates' behavioral change and their frequency of interaction with intervention staff, including prison staff, emphasizing the need for specialized skills when dealing with this population. Thes findings suggest it is plausible that enhancing prison staff capability and their interaction quality with inmates can bolster prevention and deradicalization initiatives; however, direct evaluation of this relationship is necessary.

A study (Retzlaff et al. 2021) from Kyrgyzstan emphasized developing protocols for VEO management to equip prison staff with best practices and establishing an assessment and risk identification system for VEOs. The study reported that the training activities raised awareness and knowledge of state counterparts working on PVE, improved prison staff's capacity to manage VEOs, and was seen to contribute to a change in staff mindsets. Nonetheless, such transformation is an enduring journey, requiring continuous vigilance to ensure policy adherence across penal institutions. The study recommended a need for continued training and mentoring for prison staff, especially as they navigate the application of new skills. A primary challenge of the project was that the output indicators lacked a direct causal link to the activities, inhibiting the measurement of higher PVE-related outcomes.

While findings from these studies illuminate the potential of integrative reform and capacity building in prison systems to bolster prevention, more research is essential to assess its true impact on VE tendencies within inmate populations.

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following presents a summary of evidence-informed findings and their supporting recommendations. Findings are classified based upon three tiers:

1. *Rigorous Evidence*: Findings that are derived from research questions and hypotheses, backed by strong, methodologically sound research, and demonstrate clear, empirically validated results.

2. *Promising Evidence*: Findings from approaches that, while not yet rigorously tested or of lower research quality, offer strong rationales and initial evidence suggesting effectiveness. These findings may come from innovative practices, pilot studies, or emerging research.

3. *Inferred Evidence Gaps*: Findings inferred from identified gaps in the existing evidence base. These may include unexplored areas, emerging trends, or hypotheses generated from the existing data but not yet empirically tested.

The recommendations were informed by individual study recommendations, challenges, and best practices, as well as broader insights from research to improve practice, evaluation, and policy. Some recommendations have been made by the researchers based on their subject-matter expertise.

Rigorous and Promising Evidence

Theory of Change 1.1: Counter/Alternative Narratives

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Rigorous Evidence Findings	The use of radio as edutainment can be a promising approach to raise awareness and address PVE; however, the evidence that radio programming actually facilitates shifts in attitudes that lead to changes in behaviors is weak.	**Prioritize long-term, rigorous P/CVE evaluations.** Prioritize research that rigorously examines the long-term effects of specific P/CVE strategies, such as counter/alternative narratives, on VE outcomes. Future evaluations should extend beyond short-term metrics, like radio listenership and satisfaction, to critically assess and establish clear causal relationships between the intervention and sustained changes in VE-related attitudes and behaviors.
	Former extremists can play an important and unique role in P/CVE; however there are risks of unintended consequences, such as decreases in political tolerance resulting from exposure to programming with former extremists which underscore the need to consider and mitigate potential negative effects in addition to maximizing positive benefits.	**Integrate conflict sensitivity in all P/CVE programming.** From conducting thorough and ongoing conflict assessments to conflict sensitive monitoring and evaluation practices, given the sensitive and increased risk of harm within P/CVE programing, it is critical that programs continuously apply and evaluate conflict sensitive practices to minimize negative effects and maximize the opportunity for positive programming effects.
	Complementing online narratives with offline measures, like targeted in-person assistance and shorter more frequent viewings, might amplify and prolong positive outcomes.	**Provide complementary and participatory programming to improve short-term outcomes.** Evidence shows that combining traditional programming approaches with hands-on and experience-based engagement opportunities enhances the saturation of effects and prolongs the duration of their impact. Programs have reported that pairing complementary programming, like online and offline workshops with coaching and mentoring sessions, online gaming with additional in-person and digital workshops, and championing dialogic over didactic teaching, also ensures that content resonates with the personal experiences of participants. Integrating complementary programming may demand significant effort, yet it proves pivotal in shaping participant attitudes and actions.
	Pairing gameplay with education workshops can lead to increased changes in participants' perceptions of extremist narratives and authoritarian attitudes.	
	Interactive gaming, coupled with targeted educational content, can be a powerful tool in modifying attitudes and building resistance against extremist ideologies.	
Promising Evidence Findings	Supplementing counter-narratives with direct online messaging and engagement at scale has positive potential for reducing violent extremist sympathy and participation as part of a comprehensive suite of online prevention methodologies.	

Theory of Change 1.2: Capacity Building for Frontline Workers

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Rigorous Evidence Findings	Increasing tolerance and a willingness and capacity to intervene when witnessing intolerant and extremist behavior can lead to spillover effects to other behaviors like religious discrimination, sexual harassment, and LGBTQ harassment—topics not covered in the curriculum.	**Assess and leverage spillover effects in training curriculums.** Conduct evaluations of existing P/CVE training programs to identify potential spillover effects into broader societal issues such as religious discrimination, sexual harassment, and LGBTQ harassment not covered within the curriculum. Understanding these unintended positive impacts can inform the design of more inclusive and comprehensive curriculums, thereby extending the reach and effectiveness of P/CVE initiatives beyond their primary focus areas and capitalizing on the broader transformative potential of targeted training programs.
	Bystander training can lead to a heightened readiness among participants to act against intolerance, but whether they would actually intervene in real-world situations remains uncertain.	**Prioritize evaluations of bystander training in PVE.** While effective in increasing reported readiness to act against intolerance, the impact of bystander training on actual intervention in real-world scenarios remains untested. Future evaluations should extend beyond reported attitudinal metrics to critically assess and establish clear causal relationships between the intervention and sustained changes in VE-related behaviors in diverse, real-life contexts.
	Peer-to-peer mentoring can improve participants' knowledge of and strategies to counter VE, but its impact on participants' self-confidence, attitudes towards violence, or social network growth is still uncertain. Future-planning and positive goal-setting may inversely affect mentees' feelings of life satisfaction because of increased and potentially unattainable aspirations.	**Prioritize evaluations of peer-to-peer mentoring in PVE.** While effective in enhancing knowledge on PVE, the impact of peer-to-peer mentoring on self-confidence, attitudes, and social networks requires further exploration. Incorporate elements of realistic future-planning and positive goal-setting to prevent inadvertently raising unattainable aspirations among mentees.
	Providing supervision and investments in building peer-to peer mentors' capacity and credibility to perform this role is crucial.	**Integrate capacity building for practitioners.** Integrating capacity building for practitioners empowers them with the skills and knowledge to conduct more effective and insightful research. As a result, the overall quality and relevance of future programming are enhanced, benefiting both the field and its stakeholders.
	Adopting a do-no-harm approach to systematically assess and monitor risk is essential, given the sensitivities and risk of targeting potentially radicalized individuals.	**Invite, accommodate, and integrate diverse identities, including gender, age, religion, ethnicity, and abilities, in P/CVE programming.** Doing so can increase the chance of participants' engaging with multiple worldviews; however, **methods for identifying vulnerable individuals to participate matter, especially in conflict-affected societies.** Practitioners must engage communities actively and transparently using gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, and conflict-sensitive approaches as perceptions of "targeting" can inadvertently intensify conflict or marginalization.

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Promising Evidence Findings	Engaging women and women's groups in community social cohesion and development activities amplifies positive impacts, reinforcing their pivotal role in community resilience against extremism.	**Leverage women's formal and informal networks in P/CVE.** Capitalize on women's formal and informal community networks to extend the reach of P/CVE training and leadership initiatives. Incorporate this into a comprehensive gender strategy that promotes active participation and skill development for women and girls and moves beyond focusing solely on balanced representation.
	Female religious leaders can be important figures in PVE efforts, particularly to access unique and hard to reach populations, like women and young girls.	**Engage and empower female religious leaders, family members, and other diverse participants in PVE.** To enhance PVE efforts, especially in reaching unique and traditionally less accessible populations, it is crucial to leverage the influential roles of female religious leaders and family members. These efforts should be part of a broader strategy that actively includes diverse participants, moving beyond the usual focus on government elites or urban populations. This enriched approach not only amplifies understanding of unique challenges faced by various sub-populations, but also equips policymakers with the insights needed to make informed investments in P/CVE programs.
	Improving the capacity of family members for early detection and intervention is a promising, cost-effective, and potentially highly impactful form of PVE.	

Theory of Change 1.3: Capacity Building of Vulnerable/At-Risk Populations

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Promising Evidence Findings	While secondary education can reduce youth marginalization and lower the appeal of violent extremist groups, coupling education with civic engagement is crucial to significantly diminish both support for and participation in violence.	**Integrate educational and civic initiatives.** Prioritize the combining of secondary education access with civic engagement activities. This dual approach not only diminishes participation in and endorsement of violence, but also underscores that acquiring knowledge should be paired with avenues to apply these skills purposefully and constructively.
	Women informally spread knowledge among their peers, increasing the diffusion of capacity building and leadership trainings beyond participants only.	**Leverage women's formal and informal networks in P/CVE.** Capitalize on women's role in community knowledge-sharing to extend the reach of P/CVE training and leadership initiatives. Incorporate this into a comprehensive gender strategy.

Conjoined Theory of Change 1.2 and 1.3: Stabilization, Good Governance, Community-Driven Development, and Social Cohesion

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Rigorous Evidence Findings	Broad-scale programs that encompass a wide array of activities aiming to deliver public benefit often do not clearly identify the direct causes behind observed changes and underscore the necessity for more detailed, evidence-based ToCs linking social cohesion, stabilization, violence, and VE.	**Strategically layer and sequence multi-disciplinary, P/CVE programming based on explicit ToCs linking VE with other key outcomes.** P/CVE programs must be based upon established and mature program logic, ToCs, and evidence to avoid bundled interventions with broad scopes, where P/CVE is only an add-on or indirectly connected with program goals.
	Solely improving social cohesion may not be sufficient to change attitudes and behaviors toward violence and violent behaviors.	**Prioritize rigorous evaluations and improve ToCs and measures focused on linking social cohesion and VE outcomes.** These findings suggest that more research is necessary to identify and test the precise mechanisms that may or may not link social cohesion outcomes with VE.

Theory of Change 1.4: Socio-Economic Skills Building

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Rigorous Evidence Findings	Vocational training can boost economic outcomes, but alone may not sufficiently address underlying factors driving political violence. It should not be assumed that youth employment and skills building achievements will increase stability and prevent VE, and employment success should not be equated with VE prevention.	**Integrate PVE activities into socio-economic skills building.** While vocational training is shown as crucial for improving economic outcomes, vocational training alone may not suffice for PVE outcomes. To enhance effectiveness, these programs should be complemented with community engagement activities and psychosocial support, ensuring a holistic approach that addresses not only economic but also social and ideological factors contributing to VE. By embedding these elements into vocational training, the program's efficacy in VE prevention could be enhanced, but further research is necessary.
	Linking employment programming with direct stabilization outcomes could force programs to pursue political goals at the expense of economic outcomes, leading to them potentially achieving neither.	**Balance economic and stabilization goals in employment programs.** To avoid potential conflicts between political stabilization and economic objectives, employment programs in P/CVE contexts should aim for a balanced approach. This entails clearly defining and separating the economic and stabilization goals of each program. Careful planning and execution should ensure that efforts to achieve political stability do not undermine the core economic outcomes of employment initiatives, and vice versa, preventing the dilution of program effectiveness and ensuring that both economic empowerment and political stabilization goals are met without compromising one for the other.
	Youth engaging in civic opportunities, including community action projects, are less likely than non-engaged youth to demonstrate moral or material support for political violence.	**Integrate civic initiatives with skills-building.** Prioritize the combining of skills-building with civic engagement activities for youth.
Promising Evidence Findings	Addressing economic grievances and promoting self-sufficiency can lead to notable reported improvements in living conditions, financial literacy, and job opportunities—factors leading to VE. This indicates a relationship between reducing economic marginalization and PVE, but more research is needed to establish a direct link between economic initiatives and PVE.	**Prioritize long-term, rigorous P/CVE evaluations.** Prioritize research that rigorously examines the long-term effects of specific P/CVE strategies, such as socio-economic skills building, on VE outcomes. Future evaluations should extend beyond short-term metrics, like financial literacy, to critically assess and establish clear causal relationships between the intervention and sustained changes in VE-related attitudes and behaviors.
	Skills building, entrepreneurship, and leadership training coupled with income generating opportunities that do not conduct market analyses, provide work placement, and sufficient funding, and startup materials may result in unrealistic expectations by participants and increased frustration.	**Co-design locally-relevant and "needs-based" P/CVE programming.** Collaboration between practitioners and local communities ensures that programs remain relevant, adaptive, and responsive to the realities of the field. This collaboration can play a crucial role during the content creation phase to embed facets of inclusivity in all content, ensuring compatibility with the cultural norms, interests, and linguistic proficiencies of the intended recipients. As an example, "Locally sourced" and "locally informed" skills-building and income-generating opportunities should be co-designed with the community and private sector, so that crucial shortages in local job markets are leveraged in P/CVE program designs.

Theory of Change 1.5: MHPSS

Type of Finding	Finding	Recommendation
Rigorous Evidence Findings	Within religious education, teacher effectiveness plays a crucial role in achieving P/CVE outcomes, pointing towards the importance of integrating comprehensive educational approaches and teacher capacity building in P/CVE strategies.	**Strengthen teacher effectiveness in religious education for P/CVE.** For effective P/CVE outcomes, particularly within religious education, it is vital to focus on enhancing teacher capacity. Integrating comprehensive educational approaches and building teachers' competencies are key steps in this direction. This strategy not only ensures the effectiveness of P/CVE programs, but also addresses the unique challenges of diverse learning environments.
	Increasing complexity awareness and pluralistic worldviews can be an effective approach to preventing sympathy and participation in VE.	**Integrate evidence-informed activities related to increasing complexity awareness and pluralistic worldviews into MHPSS programming.** Complement MHPSS programs with activities that enhance understanding of complex societal issues and encourage acceptance of diverse worldviews to reduce the appeal of extremist ideologies among potential VE sympathizers.
	MHPSS interventions using training and counseling to empower individuals, in combination with strengthening their empathy, can improve resiliency to radicalization, but may lead to increases in narcissism and higher perspective-taking (being able to perceive a situation or understand a concept from an alternative point of view) for some groups, highlighting the complicated and non-linear impacts of these programs.	**Prioritize long-term, rigorous P/CVE research on the relationship between self-esteem, confidence, and VE.** Given that many PVE programs aim to increase self-esteem and confidence, these findings may have substantial implications for other studies and further research is required to better understand the impacts of empowerment training on narcissism, in-group and out-group perceptions, and support for ideology-based violence. These mixed findings could lead to program design and implementation that inadvertently produces unintended effects or even does harm. Future research is necessary to ensure that empowerment strategies are effectively balanced, avoiding any counterproductive outcomes or inadvertent harm.
	The use of sports-based interventions to emphasize social connectedness and self-confidence may be more connected to increasing at-risk youths' social network, a key resiliency factor to radicalization, acting as an indirect pathway to minimize the risk of radicalization.	**Leverage sports-based interventions for social resilience.** Utilize sports as a strategic tool in P/CVE programming to foster social connectedness among at-risk youth. By expanding their social networks through sports, youth can build key resilience factors against radicalization. This indirect approach can reduce vulnerability to extremist influences by strengthening communal ties and providing supportive peer environments.
Promising Evidence Findings	Online mental health and well-being campaigns, self-help resources, and social media messaging may effect more robust impacts through increased exposure and accessibility to up-to-date project materials over a longer period.	**Invest in rigorous pre-testing, piloting, and deliberate medium selection.** Before rolling out P/CVE programming, it is essential to conduct thorough pretesting and piloting within the target communities to ensure content resonates deeply. This preparatory phase should involve extensive formative research, context analysis, and testing of various P/CVE narratives and mediums. Simultaneously, comprehensively evaluate and tailor the chosen communication mediums, understanding their advantages and limitations. This dual focus ensures not only content alignment with audience preferences, but also optimizes the medium's impact for the intended demographic.

Inferred Evidence Gaps

Strength and Quality of Evidence

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
The average strength of evidence across all studies and ToCs remain in the "Strong Theory" categorization, suggesting that while studies provide compelling theoretical insights, there is room for improvement in empirically robust evidence and refining studies that currently offer more anecdotal findings.	**Research efforts should focus on refining and validating moderate findings with higher quality research to bolster credibility and generate stronger evidence.** Validated findings ensure that P/CVE strategies are grounded in empirical evidence, increasing their efficacy and reducing unintended negative consequence. As the field evolves, rigorous research serves as a foundation, building trust among stakeholders and ensuring that resources are directed towards the most impactful interventions.
Despite many studies offering valuable theoretical perspectives, there is an evident need for methodological refinement to elevate research quality and rigor.	**Integrate researcher/MEL experts from the beginning of project conception and design** to support the development of ToCs, P/CVE approaches and activities, indicators and measures, and strong monitoring and evaluation plans to produce more empirical evidence.

Maturity of the Field

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
The field is still in its emerging phases, particularly in using explicit program logic and ToCs. Consequently, the actual impact of many interventions remains poorly documented, leaving the effectiveness of different approaches largely unassessed, especially in relation to VE goals.	**P/CVE programs must systematically adopt a ToC approach to make assumptions explicit.** Adopting clear ToCs with explicit assumptions during program design will enable more effective evaluations, strengthen evidence, and guide more focused, evidence-based P/CVE programming.

P/CVE Monitoring and Evaluation

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
Many studies still focus exclusively on process and accountability rather than generating rigorous evidence to determine what works and what does not.	**Move beyond only emphasizing process and accountability in evaluations and produce more empirical evidence.** There is a need to transform theoretical insights into empirical evidence and strengthen empirical validations by employing robust research designs that assess varied P/CVE approaches from a research perspective rather than a simple accountability or process perspective.
P/CVE research often has an over-reliance on collecting data from easily accessible groups, like government elites, English-speakers, or urban populations.	**Prioritize diverse participant inclusion in research.** A deliberate effort should be made to incorporate diverse identities across all communities. This enriched approach not only amplifies understanding of unique challenges faced by various sub-populations, but also equips policymakers with the insights needed to make informed investments in P/CVE programs.

Inclusion

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
P/CVE interventions often lack grounding in local contexts and perspectives, resulting in reduced effectiveness and sustainability. Programs designed and implemented without substantial input from the target communities further tend to have limited resonance with those communities' real needs and circumstances. This disconnect not only hampers the legitimacy of the interventions but also impedes the development of sustainable resilience against extremist narratives.	**Prioritize the active involvement of local communities in P/CVE program design, implementation, evaluation, and policy development.** Grounding interventions in local knowledge and needs can increase their legitimacy and effectiveness, building more sustainable resilience against extremist narratives. Collaboration with local communities guarantees that funding and programming decisions are locally relevant and also effectively address genuine community priorities. Responsive allocation of resources, tailored to these insights, will ensure interventions are more effective and contextually relevant, and promote more effective multisectoral approaches that address the intersecting drivers of VE.
Current research has predominantly focused on women and youth, thereby overlooking other crucial populations that may have distinct experiences and roles in the context of VE.	**Expand the scope of inclusivity in research, moving beyond primarily focusing on women and youth to encompass other marginalized communities.** Inclusive processes are essential for holistic and effective P/CVE strategies. Future research must continue to include women and youth alongside other historically and consistently marginalized groups—such as faith actors, ethnic minorities, LGBTQ populations—as well as explore the intersection of identities and communities.
Many studies list as a major challenge addressing the inequalities related to women and girls and found their inclusion in P/CVE programming to be hindered by patriarchal norms and cultural expectations on women's role in society.	**Prioritize a comprehensive gender strategy that boosts women and girls' participation and moves beyond focusing solely on balanced representation.** This includes facilitating women-focused and women-only activities; training women in marketable skills and business-development; and actively collaborating with female thought leaders. A comprehensive gender strategy further includes the inclusion of men and boys and addressing their gender-specific needs and VE drivers, promoting "peaceful masculinities," and enhancing their role as allies to promote gender equality and women's leadership, which can serve as important pulls away from VE in the community. These strategies must integrate gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, and conflict-sensitive approaches.

P/CVE Measures and Outcomes

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
Most P/CVE studies report on findings that do not directly link to actual changes in VE outcomes. While positive changes in attitudes, behaviors, and other areas are occurring, current metrics like target audience engagement, awareness-raising, and knowledge and skill gains offer insights into programming, there is insufficient evidence to prove that these changes are translating into tangible VE prevention or reduction. There is a pressing need for empirical evidence that innovate and test measures that directly link program activities and establish the connection between them and desired outcomes.	**Connect changes in attitudes, behaviors, social networks, and capacity building to VE outcomes.** It is essential to bridge the gap between observed changes in attitudes, behaviors, social networks, and capacity building and actual impacts in VE outcomes. By establishing clear correlations between these intermediate changes and tangible VE results, programs can better identify which interventions lead to meaningful reductions in VE. This approach ensures a more precise allocation of resources and enables more targeted and effective interventions in future strategies. **Integrate capacity building for local research.** Invest in training local researchers and institutions to develop, test, and collect P/CVE measurements. This investment not only builds local expertise, but also ensures that measurements are grounded in local realities and improves the long-term sustainability of the research field. **Co-design contextually and locally-relevant MEL frameworks.** Collaboration between researchers and practitioners ensures that measures are both academically rigorous and grounded in the realities of the field. Practitioners should help researchers develop and implement meaningful feedback loops with program beneficiaries and communities to enhance evaluation and program implementation. Context-specific measures, co-developed in this manner, capture nuanced local dynamics, leading to more accurate assessments and effective interventions.

Layered/Integrated Approach to P/CVE

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
An integrated approach for P/CVE is paramount due to the multifaceted nature of VE, which is driven by a myriad of interconnected push and pull factors, such as social, economic, political, and psychological dynamics. While a synergistic and encompassing approach to P/CVE is theoretically sound, the evidence is limited on how best to layer and sequence P/CVE programming, both across multiple activities and within comprehensive, broad programming.	**Strategically layer and sequence multi-disciplinary, P/CVE programming to address the various drivers of VE spanning the entire radicalization spectrum.** Layering and sequencing P/CVE interventions acknowledges the multifaceted nature of VE drivers and ensures a holistic response. Relying on established logic and evidence ensures that interventions are effective, targeted, and do not inadvertently exacerbate the issues they seek to address.

Capacity Building

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
Capacity building is one of the most common P/CVE program activities; yet much of the research primarily deduces generalized knowledge or skills enhancement and positive changes in PVE awareness and engagement.	**Prioritize evaluations of capacity-building efforts across diverse communities.** Focused evaluations are critical to identify the causal links between capacity building and skills attainment to VE outcomes.
Capacity building trainings and skills-building are often one-off and/or non-responsive to changing and emerging needs.	**Integrate researcher/MEL experts from the beginning of project conception and design** to support the development of ToCs, P/CVE approaches and activities, indicators and measures, and strong monitoring and evaluation plans to produce more empirical evidence.

Partnership Selection and Skills-Building

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
In the realm of P/CVE programming, no single entity operates in isolation, and collective action is paramount. However, there is often limited presence and capacity of actors focusing on VE in many contexts. It is vital to prioritize strategic stakeholder selection and provide them with the necessary training to actively partner on these issues.	**Build strategic, strong, and diverse partnerships.** Establishing strong and diverse partnerships with civil society, non-governmental organizations, local government, and the private sector not only bridges the gap between different stakeholders, but also facilitates a harmonized approach to P/CVE. These partnerships can foster innovation, share best practices, pool resources, and ensure subsequent sessions to strengthen previous teachings, leading to more effective, sustainable, and adaptive P/CVE efforts.

Trauma and Conflict Sensitivity of Programming

Inferred Evidence Gap	Recommendations
P/CVE programming is sensitive in nature, for both program facilitators and participants. There are also many intricate links between trauma and radicalization. It is paramount to develop risk assessment plans and appropriate protective strategies for all P/CVE programming.	**Emphasize safety, mental wellness, and trauma-informed practices.** All plans and strategies should prioritize trauma-informed practices that safeguard the mental well-being and security of both program facilitators and participants. Such an approach not only bolsters program credibility, but also ensures the addressing of VE drivers effectively, fostering an environment of trust and enhancing overall programmatic outcomes.

PREVENTION INCLUDED STUDIES

Theory of Change 1.1

IF people are presented with messages conveyed by credible actors that counter extremist ideas AND they engage with these messages, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Bean, Sharon, Patty Hill, Joseph Sany, and Susanne Riveles. *USAID/West Africa Peace through Development (PDEV)*. United States Agency for International Development, 2011. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACR829.pdf.	Qualitative	Niger, Chad, Mauritania
Bilali, Rezarta. *'Voices For Peace' Impact Evaluation Of A Radio Drama To Counteract Violent Extremism In The Sahel Region In Burkina Faso*, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00w4g3.pdf.	Mixed-Methods	Burkina Faso
Bodine-Baron, Elizabeth, James V. Marrone, Todd C. Helmus, and Danielle Schlang. *Countering Violent Extremism in Indonesia: Using an Online Panel Survey to Assess a Social Media Counter-Messaging Campaign*. RAND Corporation, 2020. https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RRA200/RRA233-1/RAND_RRA233-1.pdf.	Quantitative non-randomized	Indonesia
Brett, Julian, and André Kahlmeyer. *Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism - STRIVE (Horn of Africa)*. Royal United Services Institute/European Commission, 2017. https://ct-morse.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/170124-STRIVE-evaluation-Report-Final.pdf.	Qualitative	Kenya, Somalia
Davey, Jacob, Jonathan Birdwell, and Rebecca Skellett. Counter Conversations: A Model For Direct Engagement With Individuals Showing Signs Of Radicalisation Online. *Institute for Strategic Dialogue*, 2018. https://www.isdglobal.org/isd-publications/counter-conversations-a-model-for-direct-engagement-with-individuals-showing-signs-of-radicalisation-online/.	Multi-methods	UK
Della-Giacoma, Jim, and Shikhty Sunny. Final Evaluation of Partnership for a Tolerant, Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB) Project. *UNDP Independent Evaluation Office*, 2021. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/12625.	Qualitative	Bangladesh
Dietrich, Kyle, Graham Couturier, Gemma Ferguson, Samuel Compton, Karen Greiner, Rebecca Chapman, and David Wood. The Way Forward: Assessing the Impact of the "White Dove" *CVE Radio Project in Northern Nigeria. Equal Access International*, 2018. https://www.equalaccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-EAI-Nigeria-White-Dove-Final-Assessment.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Nigeria
Ebers, Axel, and Stephan L. Thomsen. "Evaluating an Interactive Film on the Prevention of Political Radicalization." *Journal for Deradicalization*, no. 30 (Spring 2022): 169–222. https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/579.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Germany
Effendi, Ridwan, Vidi Sukmayadi, Andi Alimuddin Unde, and Triyanto. "Social Media as a Medium for Preventing Radicalization (a Case Study of an Indonesian Youth Community's Counter-Radicalization Initiatives on Instagram)." *Plaridel*, 2021. https://doi.org/10.52518/2021-14edut.	Mixed Methods	Indonesia
Ejaz, Muhammad, Adil Khan, and Tauqeer Iqbal. "Civil Society, Gender and de-Radicalization Programs: A Case of Paiman Alumni Trust." *Pakistan Social Sciences Review* 6, no. II (2022). https://doi.org/10.35484/pssr.2022(6-ii)42.	Qualitative	Pakistan

Citation	Research Design	Location
Ellefsen, Rune, and Sveinung Sandberg. "Everyday Prevention of Radicalization: The Impacts of Family, Peer, and Police Intervention." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 2022, 1–24. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610x.2022.2037185.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Mozambique
Final Evaluation Report. Search for Common Ground/M-Vector, 2018. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/SFCG_Final-Evaluation-Report_M-Vector_final.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kyrgyzstan
Frenett, Ross, and Moli Dow. One to One Online Interventions: A Pilot CVE Methodology. *Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)*, 2015.https://www.isdglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/One2One_Web_v9.pdf.	Multi-methods	Global
Hiariej, Eric, Ayu Diasti Rachmawati, Agustinus Moruk Taek, Mutiara Kurniasari, and Rizky Alif Alvian. *Reducing the Recruitment and Recidivism of Violent Extremists in Indonesia*. Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/INA029_DOS_BC_external_Evaluation_Report_FINAL_2017.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Jailobaeva, Kanykev, and Gulnara Asilbekova. *Social Media for Deradicalization in Kyrgyzstan: A Model for Central Asia*. Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/KGZ007_Evaluation_Report_Final_Nov_2017.pdf.	Qualitative	Kyrgyzstan
Kollmorgen, Jean-Camille, Mikewa Ogada, Selline Korir, and Elizabeth Dena. *Strengthening Community Resilience Against Extremism (SCORE) Mid-Term Performance Evaluation*. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TRDD.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Learnings From the Field: Punjab Youth Workforce Development Project. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WCKW.pdf.	Multi-methods	Pakistan
Limange, Joseph, Inna Bagayoko, and Moussa Bagayoko. *Rapid Appraisal Report: Effectiveness Of The Theory Of Change Of Appui À La Cohésion Communautaire Et Les Opportunités De Réconciliation Et Développement (ACCORD) Project*. United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00T8IP.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Lippe, Felix, Rebecca Walter, and Veronika Hofinger. "Evaluating an Online-Game Intervention to Prevent Violent Extremism." *Journal for Deradicalization*, no. 32 (2022): 1–34. https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/641.	Mixed Methods	Austria
Lumbantoruan, Christina. *Building Resilience through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration to Prevent Violent Extremism in Indonesia*. Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Final-Evaluation-Report_STD070.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Mansour, Souzan. *The Morocco Transforming Violent Extremism Media Training Program*. Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/MAR039_Final_Evaluation.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Marilena Macaluso, Giuseppina Tumminelli, Angelica Spampinato, and Andrea Volterrani. "Second-Generation Muslim Youth between Perception and Change: A Case Study on the Prevention of Radicalization." *Sociology Study* 10, no. 3 (2020). https://doi.org/10.17265/2159-5526/2020.03.001.	Qualitative	Italy

Citation	Research Design	Location
Marou, Garba Zakari. *Final Evaluation: Youth, Peace and Security*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Rapport-ealuation-finale-FRG003-Anglais-VF120222.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Niger
Marronne, James, Todd C. Helmus, Elizabeth Bodine-Baron, and Christopher Santucci. Countering Violent Extremism in Nigeria: Using a Text-Message Survey to Assess Radio Programs. *RAND Corporation*, 2020. https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR4257.html.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Nigeria
Masenus Arus, Yohanes da. *Mid-Term Project Evaluation Report Enhancing the Role of Religious Education in Countering Violent Extremism (CONVEY 1 & 2)*. United Nations Development Program, 2019.https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/14997.	Multi-methods	Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines
Ngaruko, Deus D. *Kwa Pamoja Tudumishe Amani Project - Working Together To Reduce Violent Extremism Threats In Pwani And Mtwara Regions In Tanzania*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Final_Evaluation-Final_Report-March-24-2021.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania
Octavia, Lanny, and Esti Wahyuni. *Final Evaluation Report for the Project: Countering & Preventing Radicalization in Indonesian Pesantren*. Search for Common Ground, 2014. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/DUT_Evaluation_Report__FINAL.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Parker, David, and Lasse Lindekilde. "Preventing Extremism with Extremists: A Double-Edged Sword? An Analysis of the Impact of Using Former Extremists in Danish Schools." *Education Sciences* 10, no. 4 (2020): 111. https://doi.org/10.3390/educsci10040111.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Denmark
Peirce, Philip. EU-UNDP: *"Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity in Maldives and Sri Lanka"*. United Nations Development Program, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20002.	Qualitative	Sri Lanka
Pisoiu, Daniela, and Felix Lippe. "The Name of the Game: Promoting Resilience against Extremism through an Online Gaming Campaign." *First Monday*, 2022. https://doi.org/10.5210/fm.v27i5.12600.	Quantitative non-randomized	Austria
Robertson, Lawrence, and Philippe Assale. *Final Evaluation of the Preventing and Responding to Violent Extremism in Africa: A Development Approach Project*. United Nations Development Programme/Regional Service Centre for Africa, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20094.	Qualitative	Somalia, Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, Tanzania, Ghana
Saleh, Nabil F., Jon Roozenbeek, Fadi A. Makki, William P. McClanahan, and Sander Van Der Linden. "Active Inoculation Boosts Attitudinal Resistance against Extremist Persuasion Techniques: A Novel Approach towards the Prevention of Violent Extremism." *Behavioural Public Policy*, 2021, 1–24. https://doi.org/10.1017/bpp.2020.60.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	UK
Sarota, Anthony, Alessandro Totoro, and Bernardo Monzani. *Katika Usalama Tunategemeana: A Community-Owned Approach to Promoting Moderate Voices in Tanga / Pamoja! Strengthening Community Resilience*. Search for Common Ground, 2019. https://cnxus.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/AP_TZ-Combined-Evaluation_Report_FINAL-Omar-Salem.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania

Citation	Research Design	Location
Schmitt, Josephine B., Claus Caspari, Tim Wulf, Carola Bloch, and Diana Rieger. "Two Sides of the Same Coin? The Persuasiveness of One-Sided vs. Two-Sided Narratives in the Context of Radicalization Prevention." *Studies in Communication and Media* 10, no. 1 (2021): 48–71. https://doi.org/10.5771/2192-4007-2021-1-48.	Quantitative non-randomized	Germany
Shajkovci, Ardian. "Engaging English Speaking Facebook Users in an Anti-Isis Awareness Campaign." *Journal of Strategic Security* 11, no. 3 (2018): 52–78. https://doi.org/10.5038/1944-0472.11.3.1679.	Qualitative	USA, UK, Canada, Australia
Silverman, Tanya, Christopher J. Stewart, Zahed Amanullah, and Jonathan Birdwell. The Impact Of Counter-Narratives - Insights From A Year-Long Cross-Platform Pilot Study Of Counter-Narrative Curation, Targeting, Evaluation And Impact. *Institute for Strategic Dialogue*, 2016. https://www.isdglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Impact-of-Counter-Narratives_ONLINE_1.pdf.	Multi-methods	Somalia, USA, Pakistan
Speckhard, Anne, and Molly Ellenberg. "Breaking the Isis Brand Counter Narrative Facebook Campaigns in Europe." *Journal of Strategic Security* 13, no. 3 (2020): 120–48. https://doi.org/10.5038/1944-0472.13.3.1844.	Mixed Methods	Global
Swedberg, Jeffrey, and Lainie Reisman. *Mid-Term Evaluation Of Three Countering Violent Extremism Projects*. United States Agency for International Development, 2013.https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pdacx479.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya, Somalia
Thapa, Rashmi. *Children's Voices: Children Associated With Armed Forces And Armed Groups*. Search for Common Ground, 2009. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/NEP_EV_Mar09_Final-Eval-Report-Childrens-Voice-Children-Associated-with-Armed-Forces.pdf.	Multi-methods	Nepal
The Adventures of Daly Graphic Novel Campaign: Internal Final Evaluation. Search for Common Ground, 2018. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SFCG-Final-Evaluation-The-Adventures-of-Daly-Graphic-Novel-Campaign-Nov-2018.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tunisia
Walsh, Maria, and Antje Gansewig. "A Former Right-Wing Extremist in School-Based Prevention Work: Research Findings from Germany." *Journal for Deradicalization*, no. 21 (Winter 2019): 1–42. https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/275/183.	Multi-methods	Germany

Theory of Change 1.2

IF key civil society organizations, community leaders, and influencers' capacity to identify and analyze the drivers of VE, engage and/or conduct P/CVE programming, and build local resilience to VE is increased, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Amadou, Moussa A., Alliou Traoré, and Nina Taka. *Lafia (People at Peace): Endline Report*. United State Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z621.pdf.	Multi-methods	Mali
Bala, Artur. *Bottom-Up Approach to Countering Violent Extremism in Tunisia*. Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Final_External_Evaluation_Report_on_Bottom-Up_Approaches_to_CVE_Project_-_SFCG_Tunisia.pdf.	Qualitative	Tunisia

Citation	Research Design	Location
Bean, Sharon, Patty Hill, Joseph Sany, and Susanne Riveles. *USAID/West Africa Peace through Development (PDEV)*. United States Agency for International Development, 2011. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACR829.pdf.	Qualitative	Niger, Chad, Mauritania
BFRP Est Region Cluster. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID =ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID= NTk2Mjk1.	Multi-methods	Burkina Faso
BFRP Nord and Sahel Regions Cluster Evaluation. United States Agency for International Development, 2020. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTk2Mjk3.	Qualitative	Burkina Faso
Botoeva, Aisalkyn, Omar Salem, and Shiva K. Dhungana. *#JashStan: Supporting the Next Wave of Youth Peace Leaders in Kyrgyzstan*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Jashstan_Final_Report_Aug-31_2021.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kyrgyzstan
Boyle, Philip, Ettibari Bouasla , and Mhammed Abderebbi. *Mid-Term Evaluation Favorable Opportunities to Reinforce Self-Advancement for Today's Youth (FORSATY)*. United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00kz43.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Brett, Julian, and André Kahlmeyer. *Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism - STRIVE (Horn of Africa)*. Royal United Services Institute/European Commission, 2017. https://ct-morse.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/170124-STRIVE-evaluation-Report-Final.pdf.	Qualitative	Kenya, Somalia
Della-Giacoma, Jim, and Shikhty Sunny. *Final Evaluation of Partnership for a Tolerant, Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB) Project*. UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, 2021. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/evaluations/detail/12625.	Qualitative	Bangladesh
Effendi, Ridwan, Vidi Sukmayadi, Andi Alimuddin Unde, and Triyanto. "Social Media as a Medium for Preventing Radicalization (a Case Study of an Indonesian Youth Community's Counter-Radicalization Initiatives on Instagram)." *Plaridel*, 2021. https://doi.org/10.52518/2021-14edut.	Mixed Methods	Indonesia
Ellefsen, Rune, and Sveinung Sandberg. "Everyday Prevention of Radicalization: The Impacts of Family, Peer, and Police Intervention." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 2022, 1–24. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610x.2022.2037185.	Qualitative	Norway
Enhancing Efforts to Prevent Violent Extremism by Leveraging Behavioural Insights: Lessons Learned from Practical Experiments. United Nations Development Programme, 2022 .https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-03/UNDP-Enhancing-Efforts-to-Prevent-Violent-Extremism-by-Leveraging-Behavioural-Insights.pdf.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Uzbekistan
Finkel, Steven E., Chris A. Belasco, Christian Gineste, Michael Neureiter, and John McCauley. *Peace Through Development II: Burkina Faso, Chad, and Niger*. United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00SWPK.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger
Hiariej, Eric, Ayu Diasti Rachmawati, Agustinus Moruk Taek, Mutiara Kurniasari, and Rizky Alif Alvian. *Reducing the Recruitment and Recidivism of Violent Extremists in Indonesia*. Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/INA029_DOS_BC_external_Evaluation_Report_FINAL_2017.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia

Citation	Research Design	Location
Jailobaev, Temirlan, Kanykey Jailobaeva, Gulsaadat Baialieva, Gulnara Asilbekova, and Zeinep Eshmuratova. *Final Evaluation for the "Prevention of Violent Extremism in Central Asian Countries Through Strengthening Social Cohesion Among Labour Migrants, Returnees, and Their Families" Project.* Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/tag/kyrgyzstan-evaluations/.	Mixed Methods	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan
Khalil, James, and Oren Ipp. *Mali Transition Initiative: Final Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00m34d.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Kollmorgen, Jean-Camille, Mikewa Ogada, Selline Korir, and Elizabeth Dena. *Strengthening Community Resilience Against Extremism (SCORE) Mid-Term Performance Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TRDD.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Learnings From the Field: Punjab Youth Workforce Development Project. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WCKW.pdf.	Multi-methods	Pakistan
Lessons Learned from the Fostering Peaceful Communities in Morocco Project. Creative Associates International, 2018. http://www.creativeassociatesinternational.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Lessons-Learned-from-the-Fostering-Peaceful-Communities-in-Morocco-Project.pdf.	Qualitative	Morocco
Limange, Joseph, Inna Bagayoko, and Moussa Bagayoko. *Rapid Appraisal Report: Effectiveness Of The Theory Of Change Of Appui À La Cohésion Communautaire Et Les Opportunités De Réconciliation Et Développement (ACCORD) Project.* United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00T8IP.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Lumbantoruan, Christina. *Building Resilience through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration to Prevent Violent Extremism in Indonesia.* Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Final-Evaluation-Report_STD070.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Mahling, Kimberly, Jose Carlos, Assi Kimou, Youssouf Touré, and Isabelle Becho. *Cote D'Ivoire Political Transition and Inclusion Program Final Performance Evaluation: An Evaluation for Learning, Evaluation, and Research Activity II.* United States Agency for International Development, 2022. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z3ZW.pdf.	Qualitative	Côte D'Ivoire
Mansour, Souzan. *The Morocco Transforming Violent Extremism Media Training Program.* Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/MAR039_Final_Evaluation.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Marou, Garba Zakari. *Final Evaluation: Youth, Peace, and Security.* Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Rapport-ealuation-finale-FRG003-Anglais-VF120222.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Niger
McCormack, Meghan, Azamat Bakiev, Baktygul Kapalova, and Kyzzhybek Nurbekova. *End of Project Evaluation Report: Women and Girls as Drivers of Peace and the Prevention of Radicalization.* UNFPA, 2019. https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/kyrgyzstan_2018_project_evaluation_2_english_0.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kyrgyzstan

Citation	Research Design	Location
Monzani, Bernardo, Anthony Sarota, and Sarota Venturi. *Inuka! Community-Led Security Approaches to Violent Extremism in Coastal Kenya*. Search for Common Ground, 2018. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Final-Evaluation-Inuka-Community-Led-Security-Approaches-to-Violent-Extremism-in-Coastal-Kenya-October-2018.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kenya
Monzani, Bernardo, Mikhail Silvestro Sustersic, Babur Ghani, and Selahuddin Yu Hashim. *"Leading the Way to Peace" Project Evaluation*. Agency for Peacebuilding, 2022. https://www.peaceagency.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/KAF_Leading-the-way-to-peace_Evaluation_Summary-report_Final.pdf.	Multi-methods	Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines
Motherschools Bangladesh Parenting For Peace in Dhaka. Women Without Borders, 2022. https://wwb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220321-MS-Bangladesh-State-vf.pdf.	Qualitative	Bangladesh
Motherschools Kosovo: Parenting For Peace in Pristina & Kacanik. Women Without Borders, 2022. https://wwb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220321-MS-Kosovo-State.pdf.	Qualitative	Kosovo
Motherschools Montenegro: Parenting for Peace in Podgorica, Niksic and Tuzi. Women Without Borders, 2022. https://wwb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220321-MS-Montenegro-State.pdf.	Qualitative	Montenegro
Motherschools North Macedonia: Parenting for Peace in Skopje and Beyond. Women Without Borders, 2022. https://wwb.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220321-MS-North-Macedonia-State.pdf.	Qualitative	North Macedonia
Mozambique (MCRP) Final Program Evaluation: Evaluation Report. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z65J.pdf.	Qualitative	Mozambique
Ngaruko, Deus D. *Kwa Pamoja Tudumishe Amani Project - Working Together To Reduce Violent Extremism Threats In Pwani And Mtwara Regions In Tanzania*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Final_Evaluation-Final_Report-March-24-2021.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania
NIWETU Endline Evaluation Final Report August 2020. United States Agency for International Development. Accessed 2023. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTc4MDE3.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Peirce, Philip. EU-UNDP: *"Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity in Maldives and Sri Lanka"*. United Nations Development Program, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20002.	Qualitative	Sri Lanka
Pipe, Roger, Jama Egal, Jane Meme, Lucas Malla, Zamzam Billow, and Aden Abdi. Somalia Program Support Services: *Final Performance Evaluation Of The Transition Initiatives for Stabilization Project*. United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5db70e83fc0a966cf4cc42ea/t/5f491ed3020a2654cb8d19b7/1598627541959/1344.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Rhoades, Ashley L., Todd C. Helmus, James V. Marrone, Victoria Smith, and Elizabeth Bodine-Baron. *Promoting Peace as the Antidote to Violent Extremism: Evaluation of a Philippines-Based Tech Camp and Peace Promotion Fellowship*. RAND Corporation, 2020. https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RRA200/RRA233-3/RAND_RRA233-3.pdf.	Multi-methods	Philippines

Citation	Research Design	Location
Robertson, Lawrence, and Philippe Assale. *Final Evaluation of the Preventing and Responding to Violent Extremism in Africa: A Development Approach Project.* United Nations Development Programme/Regional Service Centre for Africa, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20094.	Qualitative	Somalia, Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, Tanzania, Ghana
Sahgal, Gayatri, and Timothy Kimaiyo. "Youth Resilience to Violent Extremism: An Evaluation of a Mentorship Intervention in Kenya." *Journal for Deradicalization*, no. 24 (2020): 113–60. https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/387.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Sarota, Anthony, Alessandro Totoro, and Bernardo Monzani. *Katika Usalama Tunategemeana: A Community-Owned Approach to Promoting Moderate Voices in Tanga / Pamoja! Strengthening Community Resilience.* Search for Common Ground, 2019. https://cnxus.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/AP_TZ-Combined-Evaluation_Report_FINAL-Omar-Salem.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania
Shauri, Halimu S., and Patrick K. Mbugua. *Nurturing Peaceful Co-Existence Through Interfaith Collaborations: Responses to Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in Kenya and Zanzibar.* Case Study Series No. 3. Nairobi: Faith to Action Network, 2021. https://www.faithtoactionnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Case-Study-Series-No.-3.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania
Swedberg, Jeffrey, and Lainie Reisman. *Mid-Term Evaluation Of Three Countering Violent Extremism Projects.* United States Agency for International Development, 2013. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pdacx479.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kenya, Tanzania
The Adventures of Daly Graphic Novel Campaign: Internal Final Evaluation. Search for Common Ground, 2018. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SFCG-Final-Evaluation-The-Adventures-of-Daly-Graphic-Novel-Campaign-Nov-2018.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
The WAY Forward for Peace: Women and Youth Unite for Peace and Violence Prevention in Bayelsa State. Search for Common Ground, 2020. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/WAY_Forward_Final_Evaluation_Report_19_Dec_2020.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Tunisia Transition Initiative. United States Agency for International Development, 2014. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00K16C.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Vining, Peter, Cyrus Samii, and Michael Gilligan. *Impact Evaluation of The Obirodh - Road to Tolerance Youth Leadership Training Program in Bangladeshi Universities Final Report.* United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00XM6F.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tunisia
Vining, Peter. "Essays on Preventing Violent Extremism from a Field Experiment in Bangladesh." Dissertation, New York University, 2021. https://www.proquest.com/openview/fd457f5c9bceebf8dd11fc2446524ecf/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y.	Mixed Methods	Nigeria
Vittum, Katherine, Otieno Ombok, Kenneth Odary, and Gloria Mmoji. *Kenya Tuna Uwezo: Final Performance Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 2016. https://issuu.com/odary_ken/docs/kenya_tuna_uwezo_final_performance_evaluation/101.	Qualitative	Tunisia

Theory of Change 1.3

IF the capacity and resilience of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities are increased AND they are empowered, given voice, and included in decision-making, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Amadou, Moussa A., Alliou Traoré, and Nina Taka. *Lafia (People at Peace): Endline Report*. United State Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z621.pdf.	Multi-methods	Mali
BFRP Est Region Cluster. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTk2Mjk1.	Multi-methods	Burkina Faso
BFRP Nord and Sahel Regions Cluster Evaluation. United States Agency for International Development, 2020. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTk2Mjk3.	Qualitative	Burkina Faso
Botoeva, Aisalkyn, Omar Salem, and Shiva K. Dhungana. *#JashStan: Supporting the Next Wave of Youth Peace Leaders in Kyrgyzstan*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Jashstan_Final_Report_Aug-31_2021.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kyrgyzstan
Boyle, Philip, Ettibari Bouasla, and Mhammed Abderebbi. Mid-Term Evaluation Favorable Opportunities to Reinforce Self-Advancement for Today's Youth (FORSATY). United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00kz43.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Brett, Julian, and André Kahlmeyer. *Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism - STRIVE (Horn of Africa)*. Royal United Services Institute/European Commission, 2017. https://ct-morse.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/170124-STRIVE-evaluation-Report-Final.pdf.	Qualitative	Kenya, Somalia
Ejaz, Muhammad, Adil Khan, and Tauqeer Iqbal. "Civil Society, Gender and de-Radicalization Programs: A Case of Paiman Alumni Trust." *Pakistan Social Sciences Review* 6, no. II (2022). https://doi.org/10.35484/pssr.2022(6-ii)42.	Qualitative	Pakistan
Ekesa, Obando, Bob Kanyi, and Japheth Ogola. *Inuka! Supporting Vulnerable Youth to Participate in Community Peace and Security Efforts in Coastal Kenya—End of Project Evaluation*. Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SFCG_Kenya_FinalEvaluationReport_v1.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Emenogu, Augustus. *Final External Evaluation of the Deepening Peace in the Niger-Delta Program (Final Report)*. Search for Common Ground, 2020. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Final_External_Evaluation_of_The_Deepening_Peace_in_the_Niger-Delta_Program_Final-Report_ACEv3_28122020.pdf.	Qualitative	Nigeria
Finkel, Steven E., Chris A. Belasco, Christian Gineste, Michael Neureiter, and John McCauley. *Peace Through Development II: Burkina Faso, Chad, and Niger*. United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00SWPK.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger

Citation	Research Design	Location
Fritz, Susan Kosinski. *Formative Evaluation of USAID/Kosovo's Up to Youth Activity.* United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00XD4Z.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kosovo
Kollmorgen, Jean-Camille, Mikewa Ogada, Selline Korir, and Elizabeth Dena. *Strengthening Community Resilience Against Extremism (SCORE) Mid-Term Performance Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TRDD.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Kozhobekova, Aizharkyn. *Protect to Prevent: Enabling Central Asians to Protect Religious Freedom as a Preventative Approach to Addressing Violent Extremism.* Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Final-Evaluation-Report-Protect-To-Prevent-STD060.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan
Lamhaidi, Nadia. *Women's Caravan for Peace Final Evaluation.* Search for Common Ground, 2017. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/WC4P-Evaluation_EN-FINAL.pdf.	Multi-methods	Morocco
Learnings From the Field: Punjab Youth Workforce Development Project. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WCKW.pdf.	Multi-methods	Pakistan
Lichtenheld, Adam, Lisa Inks, Siaka Millogo, and Ryan Sheely. *Mobilizing Communities to Build Social Cohesion and Reduce Vulnerability to Violent Extremism: Evidence from a Peacebuilding Program in Niger.* Mercy Corps, 2022. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/PEACE_FULL_Final.pdf.	Multi-methods	Niger
Limange, Joseph, Inna Bagayoko, and Moussa Bagayoko. *Rapid Appraisal Report: Effectiveness Of The Theory Of Change Of Appui À La Cohésion Communautaire Et Les Opportunités De Réconciliation Et Développement (ACCORD) Project.* United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00T8IP.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Mahling, Kimberly, Jose Carlos, Assi Kimou, Youssouf Touré, and Isabelle Becho. *Cote D'Ivoire Political Transition and Inclusion Program Final Performance Evaluation: An Evaluation for Learning, Evaluation, and Research Activity II.* United States Agency for International Development, 2022. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z3ZW.pdf.	Qualitative	Côte D'Ivoire
Marou, Garba Zakari. *Final Evaluation: Youth, Peace, and Security.* Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Rapport-ealuation-finale-FRG003-Anglais-VF120222.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Niger
Masenus Arus, Yohanes da. *Mid-Term Project Evaluation Report Enhancing the Role of Religious Education in Countering Violent Extremism (CONVEY 1 & 2).* United Nations Development Program, 2019. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/14997.	Multi-methods	Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia; Myanmar; Thailand, Philippines
McDonald, Kevin, Michele Grossman, and Amelia Johns. *More Than A Game Evaluation Report.* Center for Cultural Diversity and Wellbeing Victoria University, 2012. https://www.vu.edu.au/sites/default/files/faehd/pdfs/More%20Than%20a%20Game%20Evaluation.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Australia
Mowlid, Ahmed. "A Community-Based Approach to Prevent Social Exclusion of Somali Youth in Finland." *Szociális Szemle* 14, no. 1 (2021): 40–45. https://doi.org/10.15170/socrev.2021.14.01.06.	Qualitative	Finland

Citation	Research Design	Location
Mozambique (MCRP) Final Program Evaluation: Evaluation Report. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z65J.pdf.	Qualitative	Mozambique
Noor M., Hawa. *Women's Active Participation in Preventing and Response to Violent Extremism and Terrorism in Kenya.* UN Women, 2018. https://gate.unwomen.org/EvaluationDocument/Download?evaluationDocumentID=9218.	Qualitative	Kenya
Octavia, Lanny, and Esti Wahyuni. *Final Evaluation Report for the Project: Countering & Preventing Radicalization in Indonesian Pesantren.* Search for Common Ground, 2014. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/DUT_Evaluation_Report__FINAL.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Pipe, Roger, Jama Egal, Jane Meme, Lucas Malla, Zamzam Billow, and Aden Abdi. *Somalia Program Support Services: Final Performance Evaluation Of The Transition Initiatives for Stabilization Project.* United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5db70e83fc0a966cf4cc42ea/t/5f491ed3020a2654cb8d19b7/1598627541959/1344.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Robertson, Lawrence, and Philippe Assale. *Final Evaluation of the Preventing and Responding to Violent Extremism in Africa: A Development Approach Project.* United Nations Development Programme/Regional Service Centre for Africa, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20094.	Qualitative	Somalia, Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, Tanzania, Ghana
Sarota, Anthony, Alessandro Totoro, and Bernardo Monzani. *Katika Usalama Tunategemeana: A Community-Owned Approach to Promoting Moderate Voices in Tanga / Pamoja! Strengthening Community Resilience.* Search for Common Ground, 2019. https://cnxus.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/AP_TZ-Combined-Evaluation_Report_FINAL-Omar-Salem.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Tanzania
Schulten, Norah, Floris F. Vermeulen, and Bertjan Doosje. "Preventing Polarization: An Empirical Evaluation of a Dialogue Training." *Cogent Social Sciences* 6, no. 1 (2020). https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2020.1821981.	Mixed Methods	The Netherlands
Shauri, Halimu S., and Patrick K. Mbugua. *Nurturing Peaceful Co-Existence Through Interfaith Collaborations: Responses to Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in Kenya and Zanzibar.* Case Study Series No. 3. Nairobi: Faith to Action Network, 2021. https://www.faithtoactionnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Case-Study-Series-No.-3.pdf.	Multi-methods	Kenya, Tanzania
Swedberg, Jeffrey, and Lainie Reisman. Mid-Term Evaluation Of Three Countering Violent Extremism Projects. United States Agency for International Development, 2013. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pdacx479.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Tesfaye, Beza. *Critical Choices: Assessing the Effects of Education and Civic Engagement on Somali Youths' Propensity Towards Violence.* Mercy Corps, 2016. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/CRITICAL_CHOICES_REPORT_FINAL_DIGITAL.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somaliland
Thapa, Rashmi. *Children's Voices: Children Associated With Armed Forces And Armed Groups.* Search for Common Ground, 2009. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/NEP_EV_Mar09_Final-Eval-Report-Childrens-Voice-Children-Associated-with-Armed-Forces.pdf.	Multi-methods	Nepal

Citation	Research Design	Location
Thissen, Paul, Erica Kaster, and Edouard Yogo. *Evaluation Report OTI Northern Cameroon Initiative Cluster Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, Office of Transition Initiatives, 2020. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WKFM.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Cameroon
Tunisia Transition Initiative. United States Agency for International Development, 2014. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00K16C.pdf.	Qualitative	Tunisia
Vittum, Katherine, Otieno Ombok, Kenneth Odary, and Gloria Mmoji. *Kenya Tuna Uwezo: Final Performance Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 2016. https://issuu.com/odary_ken/docs/kenya_tuna_uwezo_final_performance_evaluation/101.	Qualitative	Kenya
Wood, Sarah, Lucas Malla, Patrick Okwarah, Suleiman Omar, and Mathias Kjaer. *Somalia Program Support Services Transition Initiatives For Stabilization Plus (Tis+).* United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TW4W.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia

Theory of Change 1.4

IF the grievances of members of marginalized and vulnerable communities related to a lack of economic opportunity or access to basic livelihoods are reduced, THEN the appeal of economic incentives to VE will be reduced.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Bean, Sharon, Patty Hill, Joseph Sany, and Susanne Riveles. *USAID/West Africa Peace through Development (PDEV).* United States Agency for International Development, 2011. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACR829.pdf.	Qualitative	Niger, Chad, Mauritania
BFRP Est Region Cluster. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTk2Mjk1.	Multi-methods	Burkina Faso
BFRP Nord and Sahel Regions Cluster Evaluation. United States Agency for International Development, 2020. https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/Detail.aspx?vID=47&ctID=ODVhZjk4NWQtM2YyMi00YjRmLTkxNjktZTcxMjM2NDBmY2Uy&rID=NTk2Mjk3.	Qualitative	Burkina Faso
Boyle, Philip, Ettibari Bouasla, and Mhammed Abderebbi. *Mid-Term Evaluation Favorable Opportunities to Reinforce Self-Advancement for Today's Youth (FORSATY).* United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00kz43.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Cook, Gayla, and Abdi Younis. *Somalia Youth Livelihoods Program Final Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2012. https://www.careevaluations.org/wp-content/uploads/evaluations/somali-youth-livelihoods-program.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Countering Violence and Extremism through Skills Training and Livelihoods Support for At-Risk Youth in Kismayo. United Nations Industrial Development Organization, 2016. https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/2016-09/Terminal_Evaluation_Somalia_CSR_II_140231_0.pdf.	Multi-methods	Somalia

Citation	Research Design	Location
Does Youth Employment Build Stability? Evidence from an Impact Evaluation of Vocational Training in Afghanistan. Mercy Corps, 2015. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/MercyCorps_AfghanistanINVEST_ImpactEvaluation_2015.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Afghanistan
Ellefsen, Rune, and Sveinung Sandberg. "Everyday Prevention of Radicalization: The Impacts of Family, Peer, and Police Intervention." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 2022, 1–24. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610x.2022.2037185.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Mozambique
Enhancing Efforts to Prevent Violent Extremism by Leveraging Behavioural Insights: Lessons Learned from Practical Experiments. United Nations Development Programme, 2022. https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-03/UNDP-Enhancing-Efforts-to-Prevent-Violent-Extremism-by-Leveraging-Behavioural-Insights.pdf.	Quantitative randomized controlled trials	Tajikistan
Finkel, Steven E., Chris A. Belasco, Christian Gineste, Michael Neureiter, and John McCauley. *Peace Through Development II: Burkina Faso, Chad, and Niger.* United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00SWPK.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger
Giuliano Sarr, Karla, Phyllis Dininio, Safyatou Diallo, Moussa Keita, and Yaya Mbodji. *Empowering Mauritanian Youth Through Education and Self-Improvement (EMELI): Final Performance Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WRXV.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Mauritania
Khalil, James, and Oren Ipp. *Mali Transition Initiative: Final Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00m34d.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Learnings From the Field: Punjab Youth Workforce Development Project. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WCKW.pdf.	Multi-methods	Pakistan
Lichtenheld, Adam, Lisa Inks, Siaka Millogo, and Ryan Sheely. *Mobilizing Communities to Build Social Cohesion and Reduce Vulnerability to Violent Extremism: Evidence from a Peacebuilding Program in Niger.* Mercy Corps, 2022. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/PEACE_FULL_Final.pdf.	Multi-methods	Niger
Limange, Joseph, Inna Bagayoko, and Moussa Bagayoko. *Rapid Appraisal Report: Effectiveness Of The Theory Of Change Of Appui À La Cohésion Communautaire Et Les Opportunités De Réconciliation Et Développement (ACCORD) Project.* United States Agency for International Development, 2018. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00T81P.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Marou, Garba Zakari. *Final Evaluation: Youth, Peace, and Security.* Search for Common Ground, 2021. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Rapport-ealuation-finale-FRG003-Anglais-VF120222.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Niger
Mozambique (MCRP) Final Program Evaluation: Evaluation Report. United States Agency for International Development, 2021. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z65J.pdf.	Qualitative	Mozambique
Robertson, Lawrence, and Philippe Assale. *Final Evaluation of the Preventing and Responding to Violent Extremism in Africa: A Development Approach Project.* United Nations Development Programme/Regional Service Centre for Africa, 2022. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/20094.	Qualitative	Somalia, Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, Tanzania, Ghana

Citation	Research Design	Location
Swedberg, Jeffrey, and Lainie Reisman. *Mid-Term Evaluation Of Three Countering Violent Extremism Projects*. United States Agency for International Development, 2013. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pdacx479.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Tesfaye, Beza, T. McDougal, B. Maclin, and A. Blum. *If Youth Are Given The Chance: Effects Of Education And Civic Engagement On Somali Youth Support Of Political Violence*. Mercy Corps, 2018. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2019-11/If%20Youth%20Are%20Given%20the%20Chance_LR_FINAL.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia
Tesfaye, Beza. *Critical Choices: Assessing the Effects of Education and Civic Engagement on Somali Youths' Propensity Towards Violence*. Mercy Corps, 2016. https://www.mercycorps.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/CRITICAL_CHOICES_REPORT_FINAL_DIGITAL.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somaliland
Thissen, Paul, Erica Kaster, and Edouard Yogo. *Evaluation Report OTI Northern Cameroon Initiative Cluster Evaluation*. United States Agency for International Development, Office of Transition Initiatives, 2020. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00WKFM.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Cameroon
USAID'S MYDev Program Final Report 2013-2019. United States Agency for International Development/Education Development Center, 2019. https://www.edc.org/usaids-mydev-program-final-report.	Multi-methods	Philippines
Vittum, Katherine, Otieno Ombok, Kenneth Odary, and Gloria Mmoji. Kenya *Tuna Uwezo: Final Performance Evaluation*. United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 2016. https://issuu.com/odary_ken/docs/kenya_tuna_uwezo_final_performance_evaluation/101.	Qualitative	Kenya

Theory of Change 1.5

IF communities and individuals deemed vulnerable to VE appeals are provided with skills for managing mental and physical health and support to strengthen their resilience, well-being, and non-violent extremist sense of identity, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Boyd-MacMillan, Eolene. "Increasing Cognitive Complexity and Collaboration across Communities: Being Muslim Being Scottish." *Journal of Strategic Security* 9, no. 4 (2016): 79–110. https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1563&context=jss.	Quantitative descriptive	Scotland
Boyle, Philip, Ettibari Bouasla, and Mhammed Abderebbi. *Mid-Term Evaluation Favorable Opportunities to Reinforce Self-Advancement for Today's Youth (FORSATY)*. United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00kz43.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Morocco
Cherney, Adrian. "Evaluating Interventions to Disengage Extremist Offenders: A Study of the Proactive Integrated Support Model (PRISM)." *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression* 12, no. 1 (2018): 17–36. https://doi.org/10.1080/19434472.2018.1495661.	Qualitative	Australia
Countering Violence and Extremism through Skills Training and Livelihoods Support for At-Risk Youth in Kismayo. United Nations Industrial Development Organization, 2016. https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/2016-09/Terminal_Evaluation_Somalia_CSR_II_140231_0.pdf.	Multi-methods	Somalia

Citation	Research Design	Location
Dechesne, Mark, and Jamal Ahajjaj. "Discover Your Inner Strength: A Positive Psychological Approach to Bolster Resilience and Address Radicalization." *Frontiers in Psychology* 12 (2021). https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.614473.	Quantitative descriptive	The Netherlands
Dhali, Helal Hossain, Dilmurat Mahmut, Ratna Ghosh, and Afrouz Tavakoli-Khou. "The Potential of Quebec's Ethics and Religious Culture (ERC) Program in Preventing Violent Extremism: Perceptions of Students and Teachers at McGill University and University of Quebec in Montreal." *Religion & Education* 49, no. 2 (2022): 192–211. https://doi.org/10.1080/15507394.2022.2059317.	Mixed Methods	Canada
Feddes, A. R., L. Mann, and B. Doosje. Scientific Approach to Formulate Indicators & Responses to Radicalisation. Empirical Study. *Soesterberg: SAFIRE*, 2013. https://hdl.handle.net/11245/1.398334.	Mixed Methods	The Netherlands
Feddes, Allard R., Liesbeth Mann, and Bertjan Doosje. "Increasing Self-Esteem and Empathy to Prevent Violent Radicalization: A Longitudinal Quantitative Evaluation of a Resilience Training Focused on Adolescents with a Dual Identity." *Journal of Applied Social Psychology* 45, no. 7 (2015): 400–411. https://doi.org/10.1111/jasp.12307.	Quantitative descriptive	The Netherlands
Jailobaeva, Kanykey, Kanykei Latipova, Temirlan Jailobaev, Nazgul Cholponbaeva, Gulnara Asilbekova, Azamat Sharshenaly, Gulnaz Kolsarieva, and Myrzagul Baialieva. *Research on the Role of Educational Institutions in Building Resilience of Adolescents to Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in the Kyrgyz Republic.* Hedayah, 2020. https://hedayah.com/app/uploads/2021/09/FINAL_EFCA_Report_ENG.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kyrgyzstan
Kahlmeyer, André. Consultation Internationale Pour Évaluer l'impact et Les Progrès Du Programme «Soutien à La Stratégie de La DGAPR. Brussels: Conflict Management Consulting (CMC), 2019.	Qualitative	Morocco
Khalil, James, and Oren Ipp. *Mali Transition Initiative: Final Evaluation.* United States Agency for International Development, 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00m34d.pdf.	Qualitative	Mali
Masenus Arus, Yohanes da. *Mid-Term Project Evaluation Report Enhancing the Role of Religious Education in Countering Violent Extremism (CONVEY 1 & 2).* United Nations Development Program, 2019. https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/14997.	Multi-methods	Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines
McDonald, Kevin, Michele Grossman, and Amelia Johns. *More Than A Game Evaluation Report.* Center for Cultural Diversity and Wellbeing Victoria University, 2012. https://www.vu.edu.au/sites/default/files/faehd/pdfs/More%20Than%20a%20Game%20Evaluation.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Australia
Miller, Hilary, Rawan Tayeb, Louisa Welland, Kathryn Cairns, Neal Kriete, Jackie Hallan, Claire Smith, and Annie Wylie. *Preventing Violent Extremism through Mental Health Promotion: An Evaluation of a Public Health Approach.* ReachOut Australia, 2020. https://www.cveevaluation.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/821646/ReachOut-ID-Evaluation-Report-Final-22-Oct-2021.pdf.	Quantitative descriptive	Australia
Moyano, Manuel, Roberto M. Lobato, Michelle Blaya-Burgo, Neus Arnal, Esther Cuadrado, Daniel Mateu, Antonia Ramírez-García, Milena de Murga, and Humberto M. Trujillo. "Preventing Violent Extremism in Youth through Sports: An Intervention from the 3N Model." *Psychology of Sport and Exercise* 63 (2022): 102283. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychsport.2022.102283.	Quantitative non-randomized	Spain

Citation	Research Design	Location
Reynolds, Louis, and Ralph Scott. Digital Citizens: Countering Extremism Online. DEMOS, 2016. https://demos.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Digital-Citizenship-web-1.pdf.	Quantitative non-randomized	UK
Savage, Sara. "Preventing Violent Extremism in Kenya through Value Complexity: Assessment of Being Kenyan Being Muslim." *Journal of Strategic Security* 7, no. 3 (2014): 1–26. https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1361&context=jss.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Swedberg, Jeffrey, and Lainie Reisman. *Mid-Term Evaluation Of Three Countering Violent Extremism Projects*. United States Agency for International Development, 2013. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pdacx479.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
USAID'S MYDev Program Final Report 2013-2019. United States Agency for International Development/Education Development Center, 2019. https://www.edc.org/usaids-mydev-program-final-report.	Multi-methods	Philippines
Wamahiga, Florence. "The Influence of Forgiveness on Radicalization into Violent Extremism among the Youth in Eastleigh Area, Nairobi County, Kenya." *Conspectus: The Journal of the South African Theological Seminary* 33, no. 1 (2022): 104–15. https://doi.org/10.54725/conspectus.2022.1.7.	Mixed Methods	Kenya
Wood, Sarah, Lucas Malla, Patrick Okwarah, Suleiman Omar, and Mathias Kjaer. *Somalia Program Support Services Transition Initiatives For Stabilization Plus (Tis+)*. United States Agency for International Development, 2019. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TW4W.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Somalia

Theory of Change 1.6

IF prison reforms are completed to humanize and improve the conditions of detention AND prison staff enhance their expertise on identifying and addressing VE in prisons, THEN there will be a reduction in violent extremist sympathy and participation.

Citation	Research Design	Location
Cherney, Adrian, and Emma Belton. "The Evaluation of Case-Managed Programs Targeting Individuals at Risk of Radicalisation." Terrorism and Political Violence 35, no. 4 (2021): 846–65. https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2021.1984236.	Qualitative	Australia
Countering and Preventing Radicalization in Indonesian Prisons. Search for Common Ground, 2011. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/INA_EV_Feb11_Countering-and-Preventing-Radicalization-in-Indonesian-Prisons.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia
Kahlmeyer, André. *Consultation Internationale Pour Évaluer l'impact et Les Progrès Du Programme: Soutien à La Stratégie de La DGAPR*. Brussels: Conflict Management Consulting (CMC), 2019.	Qualitative	Morocco
Lumbantoruan, Christina. *Building Resilience through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration to Prevent Violent Extremism in Indonesia*. Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Final-Evaluation-Report_STD070.pdf.	Multi-methods	Indonesia

Citation	Research Design	Location
Reducing Recidivism: A Process for Effective Disengagement of High-Risk Prisoners in Indonesia. Search for Common Ground, 2013. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/INA_MT_Dec13_SCGF_NZL_MTR_Report_Revisi.pdf.	Qualitative	Indonesia
Retzlaff, Nina, Chinara Esengul, and Paul English. *Support to the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons and Probation Settings in the Kyrgyz Republic*. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2021. https://www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/Independent_Project_Evaluations/2021/Final_Evaluation_Report_XACZ61.pdf.	Mixed Methods	Kyrgyzstan
Saungweme, Maxwell, and Chantal Tayyar. *Reducing the Risk of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism in Lebanese Prisons*. Search for Common Ground, 2022. https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Outcome-Harvesting-Evaluation-Report-2022.pdf.	Qualitative	Lebanon