Countering Violent Extremism in Africa

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Overview

I. FRAMEWORK

II. CHALLENGE

III. RECOMMENDATIONS
‘Terrorism,’ ‘Violent Extremism,’ and Beyond

Terrorism
- Violence
- Non-State Actor
- Targeting Civilians
- Political Ends

Violent Extremism
- Support for or Commission of Ideologically Motivated Violence to Further Political Goals
- Justification/Glorification of Terrorism
- ‘CVE at 10’ (c2005-c2015)

Toward New Definitions?
- Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE)
- ‘Countering Radical Islamic Extremism’ (CRIE)/‘Countering Islamic Extremism’ (CIE)?...
‘Counterterrorism’ & ‘Countering Violent Extremism’

Counterterrorism

Countering Violent Extremism
The Challenge in Africa

Organizations
- Islamic State in Libya (ISL)
- Al-Shabaab
- Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM)
- Boko Haram
- Etc.

Lone Wolves Extremists...
Characteristics of the Challenge

Diverse and Persistent Drivers

- ‘Pull’ Factors
  - Recruitment
  - Opportunity
  - Ideology
  - Coercion
  - Etc.
- ‘Push’ Factors
  - Marginalized Populations
  - Demographic Trends
  - Corruption and Impunity
  - ‘Ungoverned’ Borderlands
  - Etc.

Modes

- Violent Outgrowth
- Insurgency/Internal Dissent
- Contract/Expand
Direct Impacts
- Death and Injury
- Destruction
- Displacement
- Disruption
- Etc.

Indirect Impacts
- Repression
- Instability
- Economic Losses
- Etc.

Costs of the Challenge
Recommendations

**African Responses**
- ‘Rise and Rollback’
- African CVE
- Regional CT Operations

**USG Role**
1. Define and Prioritize USG Objectives
2. Face the Interests–Values Dilemma in CT/CVE
3. Figure out Security Cooperation in Fragile States
Thank you.

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