Role of Security Sector and Civil Society in Responding to and Preventing VE

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Motivations, Commitments, Interests and profiles of VE in Kenya & East Africa

Rapid globalization, Advancement in technology and Free Trade Areas have created opportunities for criminals to commit terrorist activities.

Through the **internet** terrorists remotely target a higher number of critical infrastructures and network from across the globe to share ideas and plan attacks together. A number of vulnerable targeted groups are now engaged in **self-radicalization**.

The threat from global security challenges is exacerbated by the terrorists' ability to merge. The terrorists have begun using criminal networks for logistical support and funding.

Globally, the Islamic States and Al-Qaeda affiliates are not only terrorist syndicates, but are increasingly morphing into criminal enterprises

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In Kenya, Al Shabaab extremists are not only conducting terrorism attacks but also using robberies, poaching and commodity smuggling to fund their activities.

The profiles of the radicalized are diverse and ever shifting. For many, however, it is preceded by cycles of social psychological and economic crises that produce "**no hope**" mentality.

They therefore look for usual "**negative solutions**".

This is when the appeal of terrorist' ideology as a single, overreaching explanation of their troubles and as a solution is more appealing for these "**life problems**".

Role of National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) in CVE

- A multi-agency instrument primarily of security agencies intended to provide a coordinating mechanism for counter terrorism.

- Created in 2004 by a decision of the Cabinet with a mandate to coordinate CT.

- Established in law by the Security Law Amendment Act, 2014.

- By law, the National Security Council appoints the NCTC Director and decides on adding to its multi-agency character.

- Located in the Executive Office of the President.

- Reporting line to Chief of Staff to H.E. the President

- Briefs and is tasked by the National Security Advisory Committee.

- It is headquartered in Nairobi.

Efforts by Kenya's Government to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

a) **National Strategy for Countering Violent Extremism (NSCVE)**

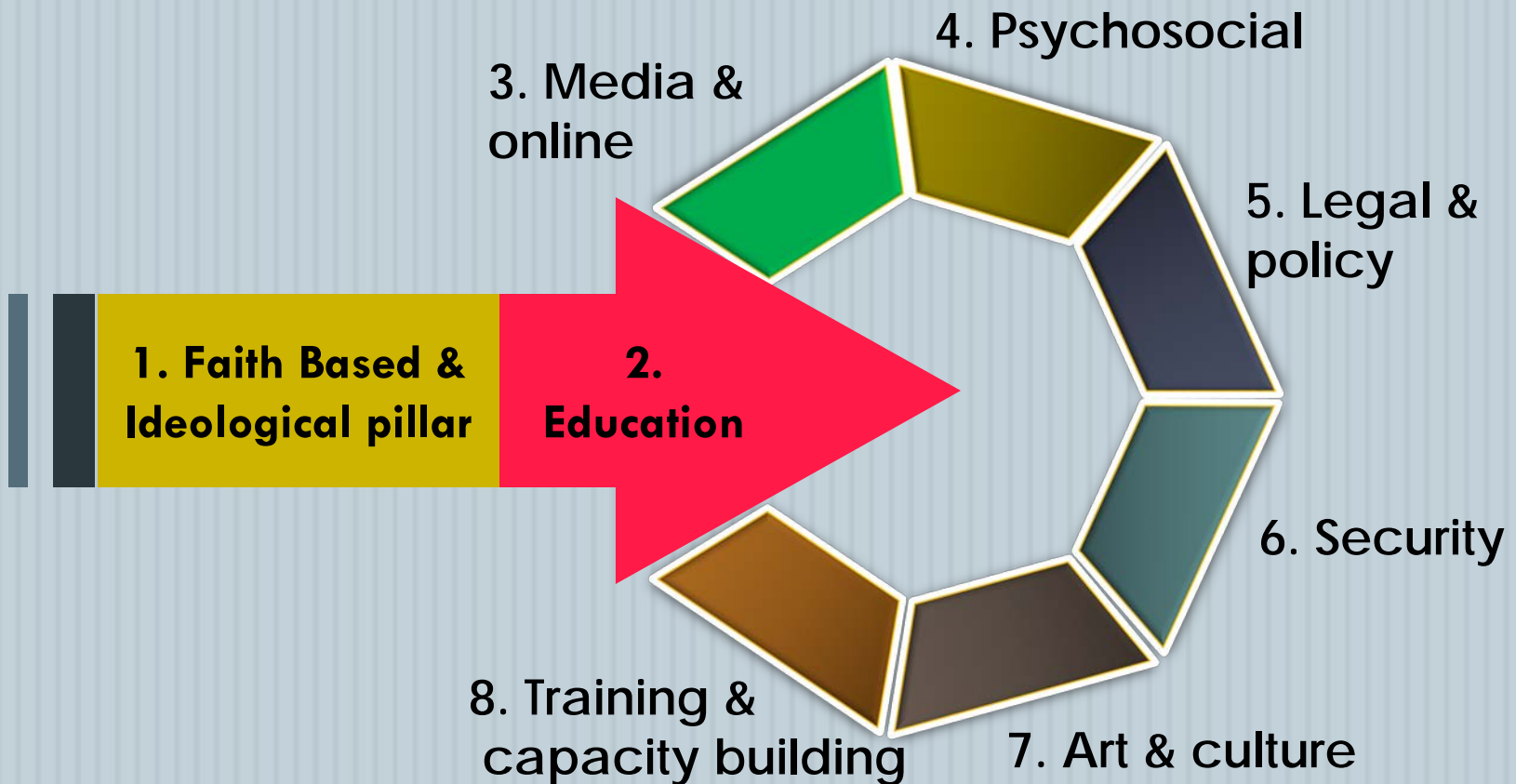The NSCVE is anchored on **Eight pillars** i.e

Media and Online, psycho-social, Faith Based & Ideological, **Legal & policy**, Training & Capacity building, Arts & Culture, Education and Security. All these pillars are mutually reinforcing and are aimed at building **strong, cohesive and resilient communities** against violent extremism and shrinking/drying the pools of recruitment.

The NSCVE has Legal and Policy Pillar; Kenya has established the following laws;

The Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2009 (**POCAMLA**)

The Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 (**POTA**)

…..NSCVE Cont'd

3. Media & online

4. Psychosocial

5. Legal & policy

1. Faith Based & Ideological pillar

2. Education

6. Security

8. Training & capacity building

7. Art & culture

b) The Financial Reporting Commission (FRC)

The Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2009 (POCAMLA) was enacted on December 10, 2009.

The Act criminalizes money laundering activities; provides mechanisms for freezing, seizing and confiscating of proceeds of crime; stipulates obligations for Reporting Institutions which include Financial Institutions and Designated Financial Businesses and Professions.

The Act also establishes various organs necessary to combat money laundering.

These include, the Anti-Money Laundering Advisory Board, the Financial Reporting Centre (Kenya's Financial Intelligence Unit), the Asset Recovery Agency and the Criminal Assets Recovery Fund.

Others include;

a) Sensitization, awareness creation and training to build capacity for both government security agencies and local communities

b) Returnees social Rehabilitation and Reintegration / Disengagement

c) Research and Knowledge generation

d) Engagement with the policy makers, various stakeholders and other interest groups to be fed into their systems the knowledge generated through research

e) Incorporation of civil society organizations and the private sector in the P/CVE initiatives/activities

f) Encouragement and establishment of inter-faith and intra-faith committees in the P/CVE initiatives

Strategic and policy recommendations for improving P/VE

- Extensive investments in technology, capacity building, & intelligence.

- Strengthened coordination & integration of effort/ Multi-Agency approach.

- Building prevention multi-agency tools (e.g. CVE).

- Better Government coordination in collaborating with allies and partners. i.e. In formulating Strategies for IGAD and Great Lakes Region

- Enhancing regulations to monitor money remittance firms to check on Terrorism Financing (Financial Reporting Commissions).

- Formulation of Regional NSCVE strategies to address crosscutting push and pull factors

- Strengthening inter-state collaboration among all agencies that deal with VE including review and enactment of relevant legislations

Lessons that Africa might draw from efforts to counter extremists groups in other parts of the world.

- Collaboration among state and non state actors with shared interests and mandates has seen better understanding and cooperation in dealing with the threats of terrorism and VE

- Frequent joint workshops and exercises has resulted in synergy among the key actors

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