

## **COMMUNITY POLICING APPROACHES TO COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (CVE) IN AFRICA**

### *VIRTUAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION NOTE*

- WHAT:** The Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT/CAERT) will convene a virtual academic program that focuses on effective community policing as a tool for countering violent extremism. This program provides an opportunity to capture and share insights, experiences, and lessons, among countries and across regions, about both the implementation challenges in community policing and the practical experiences in bridging gaps between the security sector and the communities they are entrusted with protecting and serving.
- WHERE:** Online, via Zoom for Government
- WHEN:** November/December 2020. 6 week program/2 sessions of 90 min. twice a week.
- WHO:** Senior security sector professionals (both uniformed and civilian) will be invited from Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, and Uganda. Invited institutions will include the AU/ACSRT, CHEDS, CNESS, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD, and SADC. Africa Center alumni, civil society and non-governmental organization leaders, as well as U.S. government representatives may also be invited. Because women and men play key roles in and may experience violent extremism differently, it is critical to incorporate the perspectives of women in this discussion. Those individuals participating in a sufficient number of sessions will receive a certificate of completion.
- WHY:** Terrorism and violent extremism (VE) continue to be among the most significant challenges to peace and security in Africa. As terrorist and violent extremist groups establish new footholds, and tens of thousands of men and women formerly affiliated with VE organizations return to their home countries, military, police, gendarmerie, and civilian law enforcement institutions are grappling with these complex issues that have significant security consequences for governments and communities.
- HOW:** This virtual program will assemble senior professionals for a frank and open dialogue with experts and among participants. The engagement will be conducted in English, French, and Portuguese and will be divided into 6 modules that offer a mix of plenary sessions and in-depth group discussions for mutual and sharing of experiences. All panels and discussion group proceedings will be under a strict policy of non-attribution.