

Youth-Inclusive Mechanisms for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the IGAD Region

A Yearly newsletter brought to you by Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) (www.ossrea.net)

VOL. 1, ISSUE 1 2017/18

Top stories in this newsletter



Project inception workshops in Kenya and Uganda



Baseline studies in Kenya and Uganda



Data Analysis and Report Writing



National validation workshops in Kenya and Uganda

Project Inception Workshops in Kenya and Uganda



In March 2017, OSSREA secured funding from IDRC for the implementation of a three year project entitled "Inclusive mechanisms for preventing and countering violent extremism in the IGAD region". The research study seeks to inform policy debates and practices in P/CVE interventions within the IGAD region in order to engage and empower the youth in the region. The project is being implemented in Kenya and Uganda. In order to ensure research uptake, the project team started the research study by conducting an inception workshop with various stakeholders in the two countries. The inception workshops were conducted on May 13th 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya and on May 29th 2017 in Kampala, Uganda. The workshops attracted various stakeholders in youth matters and, peace and security studies. Both workshops were successful in attaining the outcomes stipulated in the project implementation plan. The full report of the workshops is available at the project window on OSSREA's website. Click HERE to Read more. The videos of the inception workshops are also made available on OSSREA's YouTube Channel. CLICK HERE to watch the videos.

Research Methodology Training



According to the project implementation schedule the first activity after the inception workshops is research methodology training for the research team. Before commencing the baseline studies in the two countries, the research team from OSSREA, PeaceNet Kenya-Uganda and IGAD CEWARN were trained on relevant research methods in P/CVE (Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism) studies. Well known Scholars in peace and security studies trained the team. In addition to the training in research methods, the research team were also trained in intelligence data gathering techniques by a specialist in the discipline. During the training the team not only refined the objectives and methodology of the research but also developed the research instruments that were used in the field. CLICK HERE to read more....

Presentations on the research methods, design, theory of change, research process and literature review are also made available on the projects window on OSSREA's website. CLICK HERE to read more...

The team have also produced a poster that outlines the research process. The posters will be used when ever we conduct events to enable participants to have a wider picture of the project implementation. CLICK HERE to read more...

Baseline study in Kenya and Uganda



The field research study started by conducting baseline studies in the two countries (Kenya and Uganda). After finalizing and polishing the methodology, qualitative and quantitative tools and instruments for the baseline in P/CVE studies in Kenya and Uganda, the research team started the first baseline research study in Kenya and then followed by Uganda. The baseline study were conducted from May 01 - 19, 2017 in Kenya and May 28 - June 17, 2017 in Uganda. Three research areas were selected in Kenya (Nairobi, Mombasa and Garissa) and three were selected in Uganda (Kampala, Mayuge and Gulu/Kitgum). Various qualitative and quantitative methods were employed to conduct the baseline study. During the process of selection of participants for the qualitative and quantitative tools, it was of utmost importance that gender was taken into consideration. Research assistants in each research area were also trained on how to conduct the data collection taking major considerations for research ethical issues. The baseline study in both countries were conducted successfully and the research team were able to collect the required information and data. CLICK HERE to Read more. A short video



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Data Analysis and Report Writing



After completing the baseline study in Kenya and Uganda the research team were able to collect enormous amounts of quantitative and qualitative data, photographs, audio, video and observational data. The research team then went on transcribing, coding, categorizing and analyzing the data using various techniques and developed a template that will be used to write the report. Accordingly, the data has been analyzed using various tools and preliminary findings has also been validated in various national validation workshops both in Kenya and Uganda. CLICK HERE to read more.

National Validation Workshopsin Kenya and Uganda



One of the innovation in the implementation of this project is engaging the various stakeholders starting from the inception phase and throughout the lifetime of the project. Accordingly, after completing the data analysis and writing the preliminary findings, the research team decided to conduct district (county) level validation and consultation workshops with the various stakeholders. The purpose of the validation workshops is to validate and inform the contextual findings of the baseline research study with various stakeholders at district and county levels where the research study were conducted. Hence, validation workshops were conducted in Nairobi, Mombasa and Garissa for Kenya and in Kampala, Mayuge and Gulu for Uganda. Various stakeholders comprising high level government officials, community leaders, youth leaders, CSO leaders, academia, media participated in the validation workshops. All the validation workshops in the various districts and counties were conducted successfully. Representation of important stakeholders in peace and security and youth issues in the respective countries, quality of discussions concerning violent extremism issues in respective districts and counties, attainment of the expected outcomes and the impact of the workshops on the perception of participants towards P/CVE issues and finally the feedback that we got from the filled out feedback forms have led us to conclude the success of the workshops. . CLICK HERE to read more and watch the videos.

Project Team

- 1) Prof. Sunday Angoma Okello Principal Investigator of the Research Project [sokelloangoma@gmail.com]
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To read more about the lead research team members CLICK HERE

Acknowledgement

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to IDRC for supporting OSSREA by funding this project. We thank our colleagues from IGAD CEWARN and PeaceNet Kenya-Uganda who provided insight and expertise that greatly assisted the implementation of the research. We thank Sam Oando (former Executive Director of PeaceNet Kenya), Moses Okello (former Conflict Analyst for IGAD CEWARN), Lina Zedriga Waru (Secretary of Uganda's National Committee for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity and All Forms of Discrimination), Molly Raichenah (PeaceNet Project Head), Nickson Olwa (CEWERU Uganda) and the PeaceNet Kenya Liasion Officers in Mombasa, Garissa and Nairobi, Data collectors in Kenya and Uganda for their assistance, support and contribution in the research project. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the various stakeholders both in Kenya and Uganda for sharing their pearls of wisdom and knowledge with us during the course of this research.

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