



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

**POLICY FRAMEWORK AND NATIONAL ACTION  
PLAN FOR PREVENTING AND COUNTERING  
VIOLENT EXTREMISM**

*Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities*



**AUGUST 2017**



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## **PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE**

**T**he threat from violent extremism undermines fundamental freedoms and national values enshrined in our Federal constitution. It poses a clear danger to the safety and prosperity of our citizens, neighbours and the international community. As a free, peaceful and enterprising nation, majority of our citizens are against the twisted ideology of the terrorists, and as a Government, we are committed to addressing all the conditions that are conducive to the spread of violent extremism. Through our laws, values, cultures; faith and community actors, our local and international partners, including civil society and the private sector, we are partnering for safer and resilient communities to prevent and counter violent extremism.

We are resolved to create safe spaces for our people to engage and contribute to the prevention of violent extremism. Whereas security measures remain necessary in addressing the threat of violent extremism, a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society approach is urgently required if we must address the drivers of violent extremism in our society. It is in view of this that the Federal Government of Nigeria found it necessary to develop a Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Nigeria. This Policy Framework addresses all aspects dealing with our short, medium and long term goals. The Policy Framework will mainstream peace building into our efforts in dealing with the economic and social consequences of violent extremism in rebuilding and stabilizing the North East and other parts of Nigeria recently affected by violent conflicts.

In developing this Policy Framework, we ensured the participation of multiple Agencies of Government and the Civil Society, including women, youths, unions, faith based organisations, the media and academia, and benefited from the inputs of the international community. Our objective is to provide a Policy Framework in which every citizen sees his/her role in preventing and countering violent extremism. Moreover, in view of the Report of the United Nation's Secretary General on Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism issued on 24 December 2015, in which member states were encouraged to develop Plans of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, I directed that a comprehensive and complementary approach to our Counter Terrorism efforts be developed. This effort has resulted in this Policy Framework which shall be implemented by all relevant Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies as part of their annual activities. States and Local Governments are equally encouraged to mirror and develop Action Plans that are relevant and specific to their communities in addressing the threat of violent extremism.



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Furthermore, I hereby direct the National Security Adviser to coordinate and ensure the full implementation of this Policy Framework and National Action Plan.

Given this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017 in Abuja

MUHAMMADU BUHARI, GCFR

President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria



## **FOREWARD BY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER**

**T**he presentation of the Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Nigeria is an important milestone in addressing violent extremism. It is therefore an honour to have been part of this consultative process involving Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as Non-Governmental, Labour, Media, Academic, Faith Based, Youth and Women Organisations who voluntarily provided time and insight during the formulation and drafting process. This Policy Framework is a complementary, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach for addressing threats posed by violent extremist groups. Through existing and new platforms, the framework seeks to build capacity, improve coordination, strengthen the justice system and by integrating strategic communication, provide alternative narratives to violent extremism.

This Policy Framework will strengthen ongoing efforts in the handling of persons associated with violent extremism such as the Operations SAFE CORRIDOR, the Nigeria Prison De-radicalisation Programme, collaboration with Civil Society in community engagement and resilience building, strategic communication activities and effective prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders. It will also ensure that Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism is institutionalised and mainstreamed into mandates of Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Governments, including at States and Local Levels. Our main goal is to partner for safer and resilient communities that are less vulnerable to violent extremism and that can recover from the consequence of violence. Through peace, security and development initiatives and adherence to our core national values, cultures, traditions and networks; we are committed to working to deny violent extremists like Boko Haram the ability to recruit. We shall also ensure that they do not divide us and use grievances in our communities to their advantage.

I wish to thank His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari for his leadership and commitment towards the development and implementation of this Policy Framework. I also thank members of the National Working Group for their commitment and national service and members of the international community who provided support throughout the process leading to the delivery of this Policy Framework.



Finally, all relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies are expected to popularise, mainstream and implement this Policy Framework as provided by their mandates. This Policy Framework and National Action Plan shall operate for three years before review. Co-ordination mechanisms and implementation platforms are as provided under Part Three of the Framework. The Office of the National Security Adviser through the Counter Terrorism Centre shall provide strategic coordination and synergy of efforts towards the successful implementation of this effort in preventing and countering violent extremism.

*Babagana Mohammed Monguno*

**BABAGANA MOHAMMED MONGUNO**  
Major General (~~retired~~)  
National Security Adviser



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## INTRODUCTION

Nigeria is currently facing serious threats from violent extremism (VE) targeted against individuals, groups and the state. These threats have gravely undermined economic development, social progress, political stability, national and human security, and peaceful coexistence in the country. The activities of violent extremist individuals and groups have claimed thousands of innocent lives, destroyed private properties and public facilities worth billions of Naira, and forced millions of citizens to flee their homes and communities, thereby created a huge population of internally displaced persons and refugees.

Violent extremism has become alarmingly widespread in different parts of the country, often in partnership with organised crime, including rural banditry and cattle-rustling; violence fuelled by the resurgence of ethnic self-determination; youth militancy and agitation framed around ecological degradation of the oil-producing communities and their perceived neglect by the Government; herders-farmers clashes, kidnapping for ransom, and ethno-religious violent clashes.

However, the most serious threat of violent extremism has come from the insurgency of the proscribed Boko Haram Terrorists, which have ravaged so many communities in the north-eastern parts of Nigeria. Boko Haram's attacks on schools, banks, hotels, security posts, markets, prisons, mosques and churches show clearly that they do not discriminate in their reign of terror. It is very gratifying to note that the Nigerian Armed Forces have made immense progress in dislodging Boko Haram from areas where they had found sanctuary. Nevertheless it is imperative to recognise that the war against Boko Haram and violent extremism in general, is not over yet. Therefore, there is urgent need to sustain the momentum in preventing and countering not only the insurgency of Boko Haram but all other manifestations of violent extremism in Nigeria. It is equally important to recognise a very worrisome aspect of violent extremism, namely: the global nature of its spread.

Successive governments in Nigeria have recognised the gravity of the challenge that violent extremism posed to national progress, economic development, democratisation and social cohesion. However, until recently, governments have not provided sufficient commitment for dealing with violent extremist activities and groups, including the failure to address the root causes of the problem, despite setting up commissions of inquiry and panels that made useful recommendations. The recent attempts for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) have increased significantly as the gravity of the threat becomes clear; hence the need to articulate a



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broad policy framework to provide direction and coordination for the various initiatives that have been launched to tackle the menace of violent extremism in the country. This development is the strategic context for the articulation of this Policy Framework and National Action Plan.



## PART 1: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

This Policy Framework and National Action Plan provides a coherent vision for preventing and countering violent extremism in Nigeria. It is based on research findings, global good practices, and knowledge of the root causes of violent extremism. Since Government alone cannot address the full range of factors that bring about violent extremism, the Policy Framework articulates a plan that involves all stakeholders, building partnerships, capacity, knowledge and leadership that ensure safer, secure and resilient communities in the face of violent extremism.

The development of this Policy Framework and National Action Plan was guided by our core national ethics enshrined in our Constitution, including the fundamental principles of security of life, property, freedom of association and belief, as well as protection of human rights. More specifically, this Policy Framework and National Action Plan takes into account the following constitutional provisions, legislations, and policy instruments:

- The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), particularly section 14 (2) (b) and (c) which declared that "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of Government, and required "the participation by the people...in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution";
- Terrorism Prevention Act (as amended) 2013;
- National Security Strategy 2014;
- The National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) (as reviewed) 2016.

**Recalling** Nigeria's obligations as a Member and State-party to the United Nations, African Union and ECOWAS, this Policy Framework and Action Plan recognises that Nigeria benefits from

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<sup>1</sup>The seven core values of the nation as enshrined in Chapter 2 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are: *Discipline, Integrity, Dignity of Labour, Social Justice, Religious Tolerance, Self-reliance and Patriotism.*



international collaboration and capacity development in dealing with violent extremism. Following the United Nations efforts towards building national action plans for preventing and countering violent extremism, this Policy Framework demonstrates Nigeria's firm commitment to a strategic approach that adheres to international norms in countering and preventing violent extremism. In particular, this Policy Framework takes due cognisance of the relevant international policy and legal instruments, namely:

- United Nations Security Council Resolutions No 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015), 2250 (2015) and 2349 (2017);
- Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism dated 24 December 2015;
- United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy Review;
- United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in Assembly Resolution No 68/127 entitled “A world against violence and violent extremism”; and
- African Union Plan of Action on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism.

Consistent with the provisions of these international instruments, the Policy Framework incorporates the accepted international norms and good practices for preventing and countering violent extremism. It also envisages full collaboration with Nigeria's neighbours, development partners, friendly countries, regional, continental and international organisations that are active in global collective efforts against violent extremism.

### **Core Objectives of this Policy Framework**

The core objectives of this Policy Framework and National Action Plan are to:

1. Institutionalise, mainstream and coordinate PCVE programmes at national, state and local levels;
2. Strengthen accessible justice system and respect for human rights and rule of law;



3. Enhance capacity of individuals/communities to prevent and counter violent extremism; and recover from violent occurrences;
4. Institutionalise, mainstream and integrate strategic communication in PCVE programmes at all levels.

The Policy Framework and National Action Plan envisages that the realisation of these core objectives will be pursued in ways that are consistent with the provisions of the Constitution, and the relevant policy and legal instruments, as well as international norms and good practices. Built on the paradigm shift in Nigeria's conception of its national security from a state-centred to a people-centred approach, this Policy Framework anticipates that all tiers of Government in Nigeria will play significant roles in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. It seeks to ensure better relationship among line Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) and key sectors of the Civil Society. It harnesses the relevant provisions of counterterrorism legislations to put in place a coherent plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. It emphasises the need to assist the victims of violent extremism and to take appropriate measures against its perpetrators, including prompt and transparent prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration into the society.

### **Overview of the Policy Framework**

Our understanding of the root causes of violent extremism reveals that kinetic measures alone cannot address the threat. Therefore, this Policy Framework provides a non-kinetic National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE). The peculiarities of the different types and forms of violent extremism that may emerge from time to time will dictate the appropriate mix of measures and programmes that should be applied, using the various tools as circumstances dictate.

### **Conceptual Clarification**

For conceptual clarification, the following terms used in this document are defined as follows:

***Whole-of-Government Approach:*** means the coordinated, collaborative and integrated efforts, required by all Government actors, line Ministries, Departments and Agencies as required by their established mandates, and as provided in this Policy Framework to prevent and counter violent extremism.



***Whole-of-Society Approach:*** means the efforts required by individuals, families, communities, civil society organisations, academia, media, voluntary organisations and the private sector to prevent and counter violent extremism in accordance with the guiding principles and core objectives set forth in this Policy Framework. These actors are listed as Core Constituencies in Part 2 of this Policy Framework

***PCVE Relevant:*** refers to an intervention (programme or project) where the primary objective may not be PCVE specific but an additional dimension is being added to address PCVE concerns.

***PCVE Specific:*** means an intervention (programme or project) that is being developed with PCVE as its primary purpose.

***Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE):*** is defined as policies and activities that aim to prevent and counter individuals and groups from committing or materially supporting ideologically motivated violence against innocent targets by discrediting the messages and propaganda of the extremists, disrupting their plans and activities, and challenging their actions. It also includes measures to engage and change the behaviour of violent extremist offenders, rehabilitate and reintegrate them back to society.

***Radicalisation Leading to Violence:*** is the process by which individuals and groups, increasingly accept, justify and promote the use of violent acts/means to advance a political and/or ideological objective(s).

***Terrorism:*** is defined as criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a Government or an international organisation to do or to abstain from doing any act (United Nations Security Council Resolution 1566, 2004).

***Violent Extremism (VE):*** according to the United Nations, VE is a diverse phenomenon, without a clear definition. In this Policy Framework, violent extremism is defined as the beliefs and actions of persons who support, promote or use ideologically motivated violence to achieve social-economic, political, ethnic and religious objectives.



## **Our Approach**

This Policy Framework adopts a whole-of-Government and a whole-of-society approach. Accordingly, it encourages the active participation of line Ministries, Departments and Agencies, as well as critical stakeholders from the different sectors of the civil society such as religious actors, youth, teachers, women, and community based organisations. It provides a National Plan of Action at Federal, State and Local Government levels to ensure the delivery of targeted intervention that are both PCVE-relevant and PCVE-specific. Providing the tools and capacity to undertake these tasks is central to implementation. In working with partners, building trust is key to achieving our objectives. We seek to build networks of peace that create safer and resilient communities across Nigeria. Human rights and the rule of law shall continue to guide our approach to combating violent extremism. In this Policy Framework, we identified guiding principles for critical stakeholders, priority components of intervention, strategies and expected outcomes that are necessary for the successful implementation of the National Action Plan in the short, medium, and long terms.

## **Pathways to Violent Extremism in Nigeria**

The Policy Framework is focused on the local drivers of violent extremism. A research study on the drivers of violent extremism have been carried out which shaped our approach to countering violent extremism. Increased research in this area has resulted in the identification of two factors that can lead to participation in, or support for violent extremism. These are the push and pull factors.

The push factors are the structural conditions that make an environment more conducive to the growth of violent extremism, such as unemployment, poverty, inequality, social exclusion, health, other socio-economic factors (although not in isolation) and the role of governance. These factors have been equally highlighted in the National Security Strategy (2014). While poverty may create vulnerabilities, poverty in itself is not a sole reason for radicalisation and violent extremism in Nigeria.

The pull factors are factors that facilitate mobilization of individuals and groups to extreme positions/ideologies. These factors relate to the existence of grievance (a vulnerability that has to be mobilised), a fact of belonging to a group or having an ego or status, emergence of a charismatic leader (online or offline who mobilises) and tendency for simplified answers to complex issues. In the case of Boko Haram, these included even the promise of financial or material benefit, marriage



or unresolved conflicts. It is also known that many persons, among them young men and women, join against their will through conscription. Understanding these local dynamics is critical to implementing programming at strategic and operational levels.

PCVE programming must be evidence based and intelligence led. This will ensure the right application of resources in achieving our core objectives. This Policy Framework also recognises the value of research, local knowledge, and expertise. For example, in a research conducted for the ONSA in 2015, findings show that a convergence of social, economic and religious factors were necessary for the radicalisation of a person or group of persons. The study showed that a combination of poverty, inequality and feeling of exclusion were highly implicated as push factors in the process; while the main pull factors were negative religious narratives mixed with the provision of some level of livelihoods which provided a sense of respect and acceptance. Researchers and academic faculties are encouraged to engage more with security Agencies to improve the quality of data, conduct more field studies in conflict areas to guide policy formulation, implementation and strategic approach to preventing and countering violent extremism.

By engaging local actors (hunters and vigilante groups), invaluable insight into more local drivers of violent extremism can be obtained. Thus, this Policy Framework will harness emerging local knowledge of the push and pull factors by creating a data base that systematically categorise the factors to inform programme design.

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<sup>2</sup>The research on Radicalisation, Counter-radicalisation and De-radicalisation was conducted in 2015 for ONSA by Development, Research and Projects Centre, Kano, Nigeria Research Network, Oxford Dept of International Development, Oxford University with support from the Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme (NSRP).



## PART 2: GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CORE CONSTITUENCIES

### Our Guiding Principles

This Policy Framework and National Action Plan, was formulated in an inclusive process from the start because of the recognition that a coherent framework to prevent and counter violent extremism requires the inputs of stakeholders from core constituencies. The framework development process involved several meetings of a Working Group that cut across line Ministries, civil society, religious, women, youths, law enforcement, and the media. Inputs from states were sought during several sensitisation workshops held as part of the implementation of the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Further ideas were developed through key informant interviews (KIIs) and feedback from surveys and global good practices to ensure a comprehensive, people-centred, multi-pronged and complementary approach that is locally relevant and culturally intelligent.

We believe that our people, culture and diversity present the greatest asset against violent extremism. We are determined to coordinate our efforts to ensure effective implementation of this Policy Framework through our core constituencies. We are partnering for safer and resilient communities.

### Core Constituencies: Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities

#### *Youth and Students*

Young persons are vulnerable to the drivers of violent extremism and oftentimes are also victims of violent extremism. Violent extremist groups recruit children and kidnap children, forcing them to commit violent acts. These children and young adults are offered gifts, group support and the lure of adventure. Separated from their parents, these young persons are denied access to education and life's opportunities. Conscripted, these children and young persons become weapons against communities. We cannot afford to allow this trend as our future can only be guaranteed through the



youth. That is why we must break the chain of recruitment now and ensure that children are protected from the consequences of violent extremism. As provided in our National Security Strategy, youth security is a core component in our effort to create peace, security, and progress. Our young men and women are also stakeholders in preventing and countering violent extremism. They can play important roles when engaged and provided with the tools and resources that they need. Through youth and student organisations, efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism will be put in place across Federal, State and Local levels. We will support our youth to contribute to peace, security and development by creating space for their creative energies to flourish. Student organisations will be encouraged to organise workshops and seminars to discuss the causes of violent extremism, develop ideas on how best to counter violent extremism online and on campus, and connect with youths across the globe in networks dedicated to countering violent extremism.

### ***Women and Girls***

Boko Haram's use of female suicide bombers is a worrisome development. Through kidnapping, forced marriages and violence, Boko Haram continue to abuse women and girls. We are taking measures to free women and girls in captivity of parents' or husbands' authorities in forced marriages and captivity of kidnapping as have been done with some Chibok School Girls. We are also aware that there are instances when women have played the role of perpetrators and recruiters. In all circumstances, we are determined to protect the dignity of women and girls caught up in the web of terror.

As wives, sisters and mothers, policy makers or law enforcement officers, women have a strategic role to play in the treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders. We know that mothers can play an emotive role in reaching out to extremist offenders to change their violent behaviour. Women's roles in homes and communities can pick up early signs of radicalisation in young persons. This insight is also relevant for counter messaging to break up the cycle of radicalisation. We will tap into this insight in designing effective prevention programmes. In order to achieve safety and livelihood for women and girls, Women organisations have a critical role to play through advocacy and programming.

### ***Families***

The family unit is integral to character development and influences the role of people in society. We believe that families have important roles to play in preventing and countering violent extremism.



Following risk assessment, families will be given access to persons in detention. We believe family bonding can bring about behaviour change. We will seek to rebuild and reconnect families divided by violent extremism. We will respect the privacy of victim's families and encourage them to share their stories with the perpetrators of violence. While not replacing punitive measures, we will create spaces where offenders can seek forgiveness from victims and their families. Through communication platforms, parents will be provided with the capacity to recognise early signs of violent extremism and what actions to take.

### ***Schools and Teachers***

We seek to create safe spaces for learning in our schools. Central to extremists' ideology (especially Boko Haram's) is to deny access to education. Attack on schools is a threat to Education for All. Sound education is essential to preventing and countering violent extremism as well educated and informed citizens are better able to resist recruitment and are less vulnerable to the pull-factors that serve as mobilisers of violence. Strengthening our curriculum is essential, so also is the support we provide to our teachers. We will support teachers with new approaches in teaching that enhances relationship between the teachers and students, teachers and parents, as well as teachers and the community.

Critical thinking and logical reasoning should be central to learning. Schools should support character, unity and diversity while creating awareness on comparative religious studies and cultural awareness. Sports, music, art and other vocational learning can serve as diversion exercises that channel creative energy in students to better use.

We are partnering with Parent Teachers Association meetings and School-based Management Committees to include participation by local leaders, police officers, and civil society to bring into those meetings a sense of community and common effort in addressing factors that lead to violent extremism. In essence, our schools and teachers are critical assets in preventing and countering violent extremism in Nigeria.

### ***Community Leaders***

As recognised in the National Security Strategy, community based leaders, especially traditional leaders play essential roles in the preservation of peoples' cultures, traditions, values, morals and beliefs. They are generally regarded as cultural gate keepers and respected by citizens in their communities.



In preventing and countering violent extremism, community leaders are well situated in spotting early signs of violent extremist activities, providing early warning signals, mediation and peace-building. Through engagement with community leaders, alternative narratives to those of extremist groups will be widely disseminated and the teaching of national and community values such as tolerance, patriotism and integrity will be reinforced. Community leaders especially women and people living with disabilities, will be engaged in designing programmes intended for them to guarantee ownership, gender sensitivity and inclusion, and to avoid unintended negative outcomes.

### ***Faith Based Organisations and Leaders***

Nigerians adhere to major world religions (such as Islam and Christianity). These religions are part of our rich history as a nation. Violent extremists misinterpret religious text in pursuit of political ends. They seek to divide us along religious lines while unleashing violence on all worshippers. For instance, Boko Haram kills both Muslims and Christians, bombing worshippers in churches and mosques. We reject the use of religion to cause harm. We are committed to amplify the message of peace and security championed by both Islam and Christianity.

In order to prevent and counter violent extremism, faith based organisations and leaders have a critical role to play. Through engagement, dialogue, rehabilitation and counselling, religious leaders can bring about change in behaviour of violent extremists. Through their platforms, religious leaders can help vulnerable persons in finding balance and staying away from violent extremism.

We will support inter and intra-faith dialogue to strengthen tolerance and resolve religious conflicts before they escalate. We will partner with religious leaders to develop and disseminate counter narratives, design guidance materials for preventing violent extremism while at the same time, respect the independence and freedom of religious leaders.

### ***Health and Social Workers***

Our framework to prevent and counter violent extremism includes the provision of health services to individuals and communities that have suffered the adverse consequence of violent extremism. Boko Haram's violence on communities has led to loss of lives, displacement, hunger, loss of dignity and properties. This traumatic experience will take time to heal but we are committed to expanding and providing psychological support. We will leverage on our wide network of health



institutions to provide mental health services. Our social workers will play critical roles in rehabilitation and reintegration, complementing community engagement efforts at local levels. We recognise and appreciate the role of donors, international community and Non-Governmental Organisations in this regard and we shall open up access to hard to reach communities to ensure that people receive the care that they need.

### ***Civil Society Organisations***

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Nigeria are stakeholders in peace, security and development. Nigeria is blessed with civil society actors that continue to provide policy, strategic and programmatic inputs to resolving national challenges. Government alone cannot address the threat of violent extremism. The solution lies in involving key players from Civil Society at Local, State and Federal levels. Prior to the threat of violent extremism, our Civil Society actors have been involved in addressing some of the push and pull factors. These efforts in education, health, religion, peace building, interfaith, career development, etc, are very much relevant to preventing and countering violent extremism. Thus, Civil Society initiatives that address the root causes of violent extremism need not be in PCVE terms. We will continue to partner with civil society to address grievances, strengthen governance, empower our youths, women and girls, and create platforms for conflict resolution.

Over the last two years, we have worked with Civil Society to build trust and create strategic alliances, such as the Partnership against Violent Extremism (PAVE), which is involved in both PCVE-relevant and PCVE-specific programming. We will encourage and strengthen bridges between Civil Society and Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies across Federal, States and Local Governments. We have provided capacity development for some CSOs working to develop counter narratives and build community resilience. Under this Policy Framework, we will expand our support to ensure that community based organisations and traditional institutions are better equipped to identify and address violent extremism at the grassroots.

Our guiding principle working with Civil Society is built on trust, sharing solutions and building networks for preventing and countering violent extremism. We will work with Civil Society to conduct research, monitor progress, undertake communication initiatives, support rehabilitation and reintegration of persons associated with violent extremism.



### ***Media and Social Media Influencers***

We are fortunate to have a vibrant and patriotic media in Nigeria. The Nigerian media stood by the Nigerian People even when Boko Haram attacked media houses in Kaduna and Abuja. Violent extremists seek to intimidate the media into reporting their heinous crimes and twisted ideology. Defeating the threat require us to deny extremists the platforms they seek to spread fear across society. The media can play and has played an important role in this regard.

Working with our partners, we have organised several workshops for journalists and security/defence correspondence to raise awareness of the threat of violent extremism and the role of the media in tackling it. We are committed to continuous exchanges, including embedding journalists to have a firsthand experience of our efforts in the theatre of conflicts. We believe the media has a responsibility to report and to protect Nigerians from the harmful effects of violent extremist news. We seek to create balance between the need to know and the state's need to protect and equip its citizens with relevant information on safety and security.

Social media influencers are critical to our counter messaging online. As violent extremists use the internet for recruitment and spreading of extremist ideas, we will continue to build networks of youths, students, community leaders who engage online to counter violent extremism. Our programmes will be amplified through social media platforms to achieve a wider audience. Internationally, we will strengthen partnerships that allow us learn new skills, techniques and systems that create effective counter radicalisation online, including securing the support of information technology (IT) corporations to provide localised preventive solutions.

### ***Artists and Social Mobilisers***

Nigeria is blessed with a very vibrant entertainment industry. The industry has contributed significantly to the gross domestic product of the economy. Films produced in Nollywood have gained patronage beyond the shores of the African continent, while music produced in the country are appreciated as some of the finest in the world. Synergies will be built with film makers, artists, musicians, writers, comedians, drama groups (through Theatre for Development), etc, to produce and spread positive messages and various artistic products through both offline and online mediums. Also, other social mobilisers such as internationally respected persons and social activists will also play important roles by using their wide networks to influence the people in our shared purpose of preventing and countering the negative trend of violent extremism.



### ***Political Leaders***

Political leaders are assets in preventing and countering violent extremism. Politicians can be positive voices that further national unity. Our Policy Framework for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism is apolitical. Divisive politics that politicise ethnicity and religion also feed into the narratives of violent extremists. Politicians, more than most stakeholders, have numerous platforms that can serve to build trust, address grievances, and inspire hope among our people. Political parties as mass mobilisation platforms can chose positive narratives that emphasise the values we cherish as Nigerians. We will work with political leaders from all party platforms to support community engagement and resilience while countering extremist narratives in the public space.

### ***Private Sector (and Markets)***

Violent extremism is bad for business whether they are small or large scale, or national and multi-national enterprises. It hinders business locally and restricts the flow of foreign investment. Violent extremists target businesses because they fear prosperity. A prosperous people are less susceptible to violent extremism. In the Nigerian context market places have proved to be hubs for spreading negative narratives and recruitments through personal contacts. In some cases, market places have served as armories and banks for extremist groups. Also, markets are continuously invaded; traders are forced to pay taxes and their goods stolen, thereby becoming sources of food and funding for extremist groups.

The private sector including market unions are key partners in preventing and countering violent extremism. Without peace and stability, businesses will not grow. Absence of growth in turn leads to lack of opportunities and upward mobility for our youths. We can do more to protect businesses from violent extremism. The private sector, through corporate social responsibility can also engage communities to generate opportunities and address grievances. We will partner with the private sector to unleash the talents of our youths so they can compete favourably in the global market place. The private sector and market unions can also be used to support awareness campaigns on violent extremism and help support recovery in conflict areas.



### ***Policing***

Our framework for preventing and countering violent extremism can be best delivered through community policing approaches. We are aware that rule of law approaches while necessary may sometimes lead to real or perceived grievances - fuelling extremism in communities. We will build on the community policing framework of the Nigeria Police to provide police officers with community policing skills. Trust, reconciliation, tolerance, community engagement and rehabilitation efforts at the grassroots championed by the Police can stem the tides of extremism. The Police shall engage more with local community leaders, youths, school administrators, religious and traditional leaders to find solutions to security challenges at community levels. Through town hall meetings and focus group discussions, senior police officers are expected to provide leadership and listen to parents and communities. Employing strategic communication, the police will work to change its perception by the public from that of suspicion and distrust to one of trust, connection and care. Our objective is to synchronise Police and community objectives in partnering for safer and resilient communities.

### ***Civil Military Relations***

Recognising the immense sacrifices of our armed forces, the military in special operations will also depend on close understanding and relationship with civilian populations. This public interface is an opportunity to prevent and counter violent extremism. This framework builds on the work of the Civil-Military Department to provide increased activities and amplification. Respecting human rights and the rule of law, the military will deliver quick impact projects in support of communities-through health services, education, civil engineering, career development, etc, and scale up collaboration with the media and civil society.



## PART 3: NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

**A**s a complementary, whole-of-Government and whole-of-society approach, this action plan was developed through a consultative and multi-stakeholder process that involved Government and non-governmental actors, including from the States through counter terrorism focal points. This approach will be sustained through implementation by putting in place a clear coordination mechanism, roles and responsibilities that achieve key priorities within defined timelines. Research, measurement and consistent programme development will be undertaken at intervals for effective delivery of set objectives.

### Coordination Mechanisms

**The National Security Adviser** shall provide strategic coordination and oversee the implementation of this Policy Framework. As provided for by the Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Act 2013, the National Security Adviser under the direction of the President shall collaborate with State Governments, line Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Civil Society, Donors, Media and International Community to ensure the effective implementation of this framework.

### PCVE National Action Plan Steering Committee

For a successful implementation of the National Action Plan, following the launch of this framework, the National Security Adviser shall constitute a Steering Committee reflecting the broad range of stakeholders across Government and Civil Society according to the guiding principles stated in Part Two of this Policy Framework.

The Committee shall ensure an integrated, coordinated, comprehensive and adaptive approach in implementation of the plan. It shall also engage with States and Local Governments to ensure effective and speedy dissemination and awareness creation of the guiding principles and objectives of the PCVE policy. As the National Action Plan will be implemented in a multidisciplinary manner and by several actors; the strategies, actions, objectives, outcomes, and actors stated in the matrix below are non-exhaustive. The Steering Committee shall produce a detailed plan of programmes,



with clear monitoring and evaluation design in close consultation with relevant Agencies which will ensure that programmes at all levels feed into the overall objective of the National Action Plan. There shall be a functional Secretariat to provide technical support to the Steering Committee in discharging its mandates.

### **Civil Society Partnerships**

As mandated by the Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Act 2013, Ministries, Departments and Agencies shall work closely with Civil Society Organisations to provide awareness, education, support, information and engagements in preventing and countering violent extremism. Consequently, Civil Society Organisations working to address the drivers of violent extremism across communities are encouraged to form partnerships. These partnerships are expected to provide platforms for line Ministries and other Government Agencies to effectively collaborate with Civil Society actors (religious, human rights and community based) in the areas of research, analysis, strategic communications, PCVE initiatives and programme measurement and assessment.

### **Strategic Communication Inter-Agency Policy Committee**

The Strategic Communication Inter-Agency Policy Committee (SC-IPC) shall serve as a messaging hub for content development and dissemination in support of the objectives of this framework. The SC-IPC will ensure coordination, synchronisation and measurement of communication effectiveness across implementation platforms, aligning communication strategies with national strategic objectives.

### **Priority Components**

Our priorities for action under this framework are guided by the Report of the United Nation's Secretary General on Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism issued 24 December 2015. We will pay immediate attention to victims of violent extremism while also addressing the drivers of violent extremism. As mandated in the Presidential directive to this framework, all line Ministries, Departments and Agencies are to develop mandated tasks under these key priorities as part of our efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism. Similarly, States and Local Governments, Civil Society Organisations, other stakeholders and the Media are called to prioritise activities drawn from the key priorities in implementation below. Please see the Strategic Implementation Matrix for an overview.



### ***Component 1: Strengthening Institutions and Coordination of PCVE Programming***

The key objective of the first priority component is to institutionalise, mainstream and coordinate PCVE programming at National, State and Local levels. The action plan advocates for support of all efforts towards building institutional capacity, including that of civil society groups to engage in prevention and responding to violent extremism. MDAs are mandated to adequately fund PCVE programmes and take measures to align the PCVE NAP with existing relevant strategies and programmes.

Greater emphasis will be placed on coordinating all efforts in achieving the shared purpose of this action plan. However, the Steering Committee and other formal coordination mechanisms will undertake the coordination of efforts in support of action plan to ensure maximum outcomes. Already, there is a range of PCVE-relevant activities being carried out. A formalised mapping and coordination mechanism as an integral part of this action plan can properly set out the initiatives that are being undertaken and identify where gaps exist. This will also avoid duplication and promote complementarity and unity of purpose in our shared objective of reducing the threat of violent extremism.

Actors at all levels, most especially higher educational institutions and Civil Society entities will engage in continuous research and knowledge sharing on the rapidly changing phenomenon of violent extremism. Actions will be taken to strengthen the use of existing and new research to design targeted and evidence based programmes which will inform policy and practice at the various levels.

### ***Component 2: Strengthening the Rule of Law, Access to Justice and Human Rights approaches***

The main objective of this component of the action plan is to strengthen accessible justice system and respect for human rights and rule of law. To achieve this purpose, necessary actions aimed at reforming legal frameworks, policies and guidelines on PCVE where required will be promoted.

The framework will encourage relevant stakeholders to strengthen the competence of security, intelligence, law enforcement and judicial Agencies to guarantee effective crime prevention; prompt, certain, accountable, accessible, fair and impartial law enforcement in conformity with the Nigerian Constitution, human rights law and the rule of law. These actions will result in preventing grievances, which is one of the pathways leading to violent extremism. In addition, opportunities to



introduce alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, namely mediation and restorative justice to resolve conflict, to avert perceptions of injustice and achieve sustainable peace will be recognised and replicated.

Extremist combatants captured in battle should be treated only in accordance with the law, including prompt prosecution of culpable suspects. Ministries of Justice are expected to lead the efforts in the prompt and fair prosecution of unrepentant perpetrators, while also designing and implementing transitional justice programmes for reconciling victims and repentant perpetrators. Subject to relevant provisions of Nigerian law, this action plan seeks to enhance the treatment and handling of persons associated with violent extremism and other proscribed groups through a prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategy.

Also, respect for human rights will be prioritised generally in the context of preventing and responding to violent extremism. Stakeholders involved in administration of justice are required to abide by legal provisions for handling categorised persons in compliance with human rights and international humanitarian law, establishing justice, accountability and reconciliation mechanisms while adhering to due-process. Appropriate regards for the rights of women and children, gravity of offence and possible sentencing under the Nigerian law, and the rights of victims shall inform required approach.

This framework will harmonise achievements under the 'Nigeria Prison Service De-radicalisation Programme', Operation Safe Corridor and the Presidential Committee on the North East Initiative (PCNI) to ensure that peace building and reintegration strategies are nested within the recovery plan for the North East. Through our value based and human rights approach to engaging with violent persons associated with proscribed groups, we aim to change their behaviour. We believe that such reformed persons will serve as assets for countering violent extremist narratives.

Learning from ongoing programming, multidisciplinary teams of psychologists, religious experts, educational and vocational instructors, art therapists, coaches and doctors will provide help to persons associated with violent extremism at different stages of the justice system. While providing needs based assistance, we are protecting the prisons and detention facilities from recruitment into extremism. Government Agencies and civil society groups at all levels are strongly encouraged to design inclusive programmes for demobilisation, rehabilitation and reintegration of former extremists.



In addition, the Ministry of Interior and relevant Agencies should exercise higher levels of border controls, especially in situations where the extremist violence is perpetuated close to international borders as in the case of Boko Haram in the North East.

### ***Component 3: Engaging Communities and Building Resilience***

At the heart of this action plan is the objective of enhancing the capacity of individuals and communities to prevent and counter violent extremism, and to also recover speedily where violence occurs. Violent extremists require the tacit support of sympathisers and active supporters in communities for their survival. Therefore, if violent extremists can be deprived of this support, their capacity to perpetrate violence and evade justice will be reduced drastically.

The action plan advocates for the development of joint and participatory strategies with Civil Society and local communities, to prevent the emergence of violent extremism, protect the population and communities from recruitment and the threat of violent extremism. The action plan will promote confidence-building measures at the community level by providing appropriate platforms for dialogue and the early identification of grievances. Furthermore, local hubs for early warning and intelligence to foresee extremist behaviours and concurrent early and coordinated responses by respondents should be developed.

The National Action Plan calls on Governments and Civil Society at all levels to develop and implement education programmes that promote civic education, critical thinking, digital literacy, peace education, tolerance and respect for diversity, etc, for use in schools, learning platforms and schemes in order to promote the culture of non-violence. Also the action plan will encourage the development of programmes that emphasise the provision of economic opportunities for persons associated with violent extremism and also internally displaced persons in order to promote entrepreneurship among young people.

Programmes that encourage intergenerational dialogue and youth/adult confidence-building activities and training will be promoted in communities. Also, programmes which encourage the participation in decision-making and political discourses especially for vulnerable or hard-to-reach young people or those from under-represented groups is advocated, as well as projects which are focused on peer driven life-skills. Civil Society Organisation and donor agencies are encouraged to invest in projects that address young people's specific needs and empower them to strengthen their resilience against violent extremism.



Coordinators of the National Action Plan at all levels are required to engage community and religious leaders to provide a platform for intercultural, intra and interfaith dialogues and discussions through which to promote tolerance and understanding within and between communities and religions; and voice their rejection of violent doctrines by emphasising the peaceful and humanitarian values inherent in their religions and culture. These leaders will be supported to take appropriate measures against all forms of discrimination and intolerance based on religion or ethnicity. In local and border communities, we will employ community engagement and resilience building approaches to stem the tide of violent extremism.

This National Action Plan will place emphasis on the provision of health and psychosocial service support in communities that in some cases give shelter or safe spaces to victims of violent extremists. The introduction of demobilisation, rehabilitation and counselling programmes for persons engaged in violent extremism which are gender-sensitive will be scaled up. Also, related line Ministries and Civil Society Organisations are encouraged to design programmes for young persons associated with violent extremism to facilitate their reintegration into their communities. Families, Civil Society, religious scholars shall play a critical role in the rehabilitation and reintegration of persons associated with violent extremism. Communities shall be involved in the reintegration process subject to categorisation based on risks.

It is imperative that due diligence be taken to mainstream gender perspectives across all initiatives and mechanisms which prevent or counter violent extremism, promote women's participation, leadership and empowerment in communities, Governmental Establishments and Civil Society institutions.

#### ***Component 4: Integrating Strategic Communications in PCVE programming***

The aim of the fourth component is to ensure that strategic communication is institutionalised and main-streamed in PCVE programmes at National, State and Local levels. At the centre of violent extremism is the use of propaganda as tool for recruitment and incitement. Through videos across the internet, insurgents seek to radicalise vulnerable people to their twisted ideology.

Aware that Government may not be the best communicator to all audiences at all times, it is important that we build and partner with positive voices in communities to counter extremist narratives online and offline. The National Action Plan advocates for the provision of platforms which will build the capacity of local voices to understand and respond safely to violent extremist narratives. We will work with teachers, religious leaders, traditional and cultural leaders, parents,



victims and repentant violent extremist offenders to amplify positive narratives on radio, television, Internet, community centres and other communication channels to fill the communication space with positive messaging. To achieve success in these areas will involve diligent planning, measuring success and ensuring cost effectiveness. Also, research and intelligence gathering, and synthesis of information will be required to be able to saturate the media with the correct information that counter the extremists' propaganda.

Effective campaigns and outreach programmes through community leaders with the right credentials will be undertaken to raise the awareness of communities as a preventive approach to violent extremism. Posters, pamphlets, books, audio CDs, theatre for development (TFD) and easy to access materials will be used to convey key messages that dismantles violent extremist ideology. Specific outreach programmes will be implemented across social, cultural, educational, in art, music and the labour unions to build bridges against violent extremism. The entertainment industry shall play a key role through production of films and documentaries that resonates with our core national values while building in our children the resilience to identify and counter extremist propaganda. Through the social media, we will track and counter violent extremism while amplifying our campaigns through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other platforms. In doing this, key influencers are expected to play important roles.

This National Action Plan will utilise strategic communication assets to counter violent extremism by implementing strategic communication objectives defined in our National Security Strategy (2014). We will also rely on the collaboration of the international community, as well as key players in Information Technology to deny extremists the platforms to propagate their dangerous ideology. We will seek opportunities for engagement at international, regional and national levels with Civil Society, religious leaders, political actors to counter violent extremism.

The Policy Framework and National Action Plan advocate for measures against hate and dangerous speeches directed at any individual or groups in society. The Federal and State Ministries of Information, the National Orientation Agency, and Government-owned media organisations are required to take the lead in designing and disseminating public enlightenment campaigns to discourage this trend. The private media is equally encouraged to support the objectives of this Policy Framework through their platforms in disseminating counter narratives and amplifying national unity, peace and cohesion.



## **Roles and Responsibilities**

**Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)** shall embed specific PCVE tasks for implementation each year. These activities shall be captured in budgets and a report on implementation of the PCVE tasks shall be made every quarter. Ministries of Youth and Sports, Women Affairs and Social Developments, and Ministry of Education among others, are required to mainstream PCVE into their traditional mandates.

**State and Local Governments** are encouraged to mirror and develop their inclusive local frameworks and action plans for preventing and countering violent extremism. We are aware that the drivers of violent extremism differ from locality to locality. **The Counter Terrorism Centre** shall provide strategic expertise, research and support to State Governments in developing locally relevant strategies. State Governments are equally encouraged to appoint **State PCVE Coordinators**, who shall be responsible for delivering the PCVE State Action Plans. Local Government Chairmen/Administrators are also expected to develop and implement Action Plans for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism at Local levels, ensuring the involvement of traditional leaders, Imams and Pastors.

## **Expectations and Timeline**

**Short Term (0-6 Months)** - Each implementing partner is expected to:

- Identify focal points;
- Sensitise and raise awareness on the Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism;
- Prepare a PCVE Institutional Plan;
- Implement designated PCVE Pilot Projects; and
- Conduct initial mapping of Points of Contacts (Government and NGOs).



**Medium Term (6 -18 Months)** - Each implementing partner is expected to:

- Implement and refine PCVE Institutional Plan;
- Report on projects, lessons learnt, good practices and gap analysis; and
- Identify capacity building priorities to enhance long term projects.

**Long Term - Each implementing partner is expected to:**

- Conduct impact assessment;
- Refine institutional PCVE plans; and
- Address gaps and recalibrate interventions.

### **Measuring Progress**

We appreciate the challenges involved in evaluating preventing and countering violent extremism programmes. Some of these challenges can be attributing causality, uncertain and longer timelines, inadequate political support or resources, difficulty in communicating success due to security concerns, few data points and dealing in complex environments. Notwithstanding, we shall use suitable tools to gather qualitative and quantitative data. Such tools may be:

- Surveys;
- Interviews;
- Focus groups discussions (FGD);
- Content analysis;
- Group participation such as increased engagement by persons; and
- Online content analysis.



### **Key evaluation metrics throughout implementation shall be:**

- Increase in positive (non-violent) community or political activity;
- Increase in interactions with Local Government, Law Enforcement and Security Agencies;
- Attitudinal surveys and perception studies;
- Increase in positive public messaging and communication;
- Reduction in support for extremist groups - financial or ideological;
- Increased attendance in school and other training opportunities; and
- Increase in number of former extremists who engage in PCVE programmes.

### **Guide to Programme Design**

Implementing partners are expected to be guided by the programme design template provided immediately below. In order to avoid duplication, a database of all PCVE programmes will be maintained to ensure harmonisation of efforts and utilisation of scarce resource. We will collaborate with ongoing donor supported programmes to provide institutional support. We will also undertake research and generate data to consistently improve on our PCVE programmes.

### **Key Elements of PCVE Programmes/Projects:**

- Needs Assessment: identification of contextual drivers, regional dynamics, local perceptions and prioritisation of activities and stakeholders;
- Programme Design: theory of change, vetting local partners, securing political support, benchmarks, milestones;
- Programme Implementation: continued support and input from local communities, unintended consequences, spillover, local capabilities and strategic communications;



- Impact Assessment: establishing metrics, local capacities for evaluation, discussion of indicators;
- Follow Up: identifying lessons, communication package and programme presentation.

### **Examples of PCVE Programmes:**

Capacity Building of Local, State and Federal institutions and Civil Society Organisations in areas such as:

- Community policing, training of frontline officials, improving delivery of criminal justice and strengthening regional mechanisms;
- Targeted interventions in response to specific vulnerabilities identified in communities and areas involving youth unemployment, engagement or disengagement;
- Public engagement: reaching broad audience through media campaigns, entertainment and cultural activities such as sports, music, drama, debates and cultural events.



## Strategic Implementation Matrix for the PCVE NAP

Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities				
Priority Components	Objective	Strategies	Expected Outcomes	Actors Responsible
<b>Component 1:</b>  <b>Strengthening Institutions and Coordination of PCVE programming</b>	Institutionalised, mainstreamed and coordinated PCVE programmes at National, State and Local Levels	<p><b>Strategy 1:</b> Build institutional capacity of stakeholders in PCVE.</p> <p><b>Strategy 2:</b> Strengthen coordination mechanisms and align the PCVE NAP with existing relevant strategies and programmes.</p> <p><b>Strategy 3:</b> Strengthen and encourage continuous research and knowledge sharing on the rapidly changing phenomenon of violent extremism.</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Increased knowledge, awareness, and availability of timely and adequate information leading to adoption of PCVE values and programmes, change in practice and policy formulation.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Increased joined-up, sustainable and complimentary approaches exist among key actors in dealing with enabling conditions to violent extremism</p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Increased access to knowledge and resources for key actors to better implement PCVE initiatives and obtain better results.</p>	Office of the National Security Adviser, Ministries of Defence, Budget and National Planning, Finance and Foreign Affairs, PCVE NAP Steering Committee, National Assembly, Nigeria Governors' Forum, Committee of Permanent Secretaries, Local Government Area Council Chairpersons, Humanitarian and International Donor Organisations, Civil Society Organisations/Non Governmental Organisations, Private Sector, etc.



Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities				
Priority Components	Objective	Strategies	Expected Outcomes	Actors Responsible
<p><b>Component 2:</b></p> <p><b>Strengthening the Rule of Law, Access to Justice and Human Rights approaches.</b></p>	<p>Strengthened accessible justice system and respect for human rights and rule of law.</p>	<p><b>Strategy 1:</b> Strengthen legal frameworks, policies and guidelines on PCVE.</p> <p><b>Strategy 2:</b> Strengthen legal procedures to ensure prompt, certain, accountable, accessible and fair justice system for persons associated with violent extremism.</p> <p><b>Strategy 3:</b> Prioritise respect for human rights in PCVE.</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Legal frameworks and guidelines which are locally relevant.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Increased perceived improvement in the justice system for persons associated with violent extremism.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Reduction in violations of human rights in PCVE.</p>	<p>Ministries of Justice and, Interior, Nigeria Bar Association, Nigeria Police, Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Prisons Service, Department of State Services, National Judicial Institute, Attorneys General of Federation and States, National Assembly, National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, Legal Aid Council, National Human Right Commission, Office of National Security Adviser, etc.</p>



Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities				
Priority Components	Objective	Strategies	Expected Outcomes	Actors Responsible
<p><b>Component 3:</b></p> <p><b>Engaging communities and building resilience</b></p>	<p>Enhanced capacity of individuals/communities to prevent and counter violent extremism; and recover from violent occurrences.</p>	<p><b>Strategy 1:</b> Mainstream and adopt PCVE related educative mechanisms, initiatives and systems by engaging families, communities, formal and non-formal education actors at all levels.</p> <p><b>Strategy 2:</b> Strengthen the provision of sustainable and locally specific livelihoods, community engagement and life-skills programmes.</p> <p><b>Strategy 3:</b> Strengthen security and policing measures through community participation, early warning and response mechanisms.</p> <p><b>Strategy 4:</b> Strengthen the provision of health and psycho-social services in communities.</p> <p><b>Strategy 5:</b> Embedding Social inclusion/gender responsive mechanisms for engaging (especially Women &amp; Girls) groups in PCVE initiatives</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Developed resilience in communities and individuals, especially youths aimed at forging responsible, engaged and tolerant citizens.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Empowered citizens that are less vulnerable to violent extremism.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Responsive, responsible, and effective use of security measures by state and non-state actors that contribute to stable communities.</p> <p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Effective health and psycho-social services accessed regularly in communities.</p> <p><b>Outcome 5:</b> Increased representation and constructive participation of women and girls in formal and informal PCVE initiatives.</p>	<p>Federal and States Ministries of Health, Education, Labour, Women Affairs and Trade and Investment, Security Agencies, Civil Society Organisations, Community Based Organisations, Faith Based Organisations, Non Governmental Organisations, Local Government Authorities, Nigeria Inter-Religious Council, Traditional Leaders, Families, Schools, Teachers, Parent Teachers Association, National Directorate of Employment, Market Unions, Private Sector, Donor Agencies, etc.</p>



Partnering for Safer and Resilient Communities				
Priority Components	Objective	Strategies	Expected Outcomes	Actors Responsible
<p><b>Component 4:</b> Integrating Strategic Communications in PCVE programming</p>	<p>Strategic communication institutionalised and main-streamed in PCVE programmes at all levels</p>	<p><b>Strategy 1:</b> Strengthening offline communication assets and strategies (drama, radio, music, personal contacts, IEC materials, inter/intra-religious dialogues, etc), in countering extremist narratives.</p> <p><b>Strategy 2:</b> Strengthening digital communication platforms and strategies (internet, social media, etc) in countering extremist narratives.</p> <p><b>Strategy 3:</b> Effective communication in PCVE programmes delivery and dissemination of communication products and good practices.</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Local and contextually relevant counter narratives materials are produced and disseminated that contributes to community engagement.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Voices of former extremists, credible faith and community based leaders, etc on counter narratives are amplified in the digital space.</p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Local best practices on PCVE are harmonized by implementing Agencies, documented, disseminated and replicated.</p>	<p>Ministries of Information and Culture, and Education, National Orientation Agency, Office of National Security Adviser, Media, National Broadcasting Commission, Nigeria Communications Commission, Nollywood, Nigerian Film and Video Censors Board, Nigerian Institute of Journalism, Nigerian Guild Editors, Private Sector, Market Unions, Civil Society Organisations, Faith Based Organisations, Community Based Organisations, Nigeria Inter-Religious Council, Cultural Centres, Strategic Communication IPC, Private Sector, etc.</p>



