A Global Solutions Exchange Event

Innovations in Civil Society and other Locally Led Efforts to Prevent Violent Extremism and Build Social Cohesion and Resilience
#GSX2017

The Roosevelt Hotel
45 E. 45ᵗʰ St., New York City

21 September 2017

Side Event: National Action Plans for Preventing Violent Extremism:
Partnership and Leadership across Civil Society and National Governments

13:15-15:00

Co-Hosted by the United Kingdom and the Global Solutions Exchange

Purpose:
The session will build on experiences of efforts to develop national action plans (NAPs) to prevent violent extremism (PVE) in different regions, bringing out positive opportunities for effective collaboration between national governments and civil society and other local actors. Speakers will share key experiences in developing and implementing NAPs, highlighting the effective roles which government and civil society have taken, and can take, in that process. Participants will exchange proposals for expanding existing and developing new avenues for partnership and collaboration between government and civil society and other local actors. Discussions will help to guide the evolving work of the Hedayah-Global Center on Cooperative Security National Action Plans Task Force (NAP Task Force) as well as other efforts to support NAP development.

Format:
13:15 – 13.25: Introduction by the Chair, Alistair Millar, co-leader of the NAP Task Force
13.20 – 14.00: Speakers: civil Society representatives and national PVE/CVE coordinators
14.00 – 14.50: Q&A session with a focus on detailing practical examples of partnership and leadership across civil society and national governments in NAP development and/or implementation and concrete recommendations for strengthening such partnership and leadership.
14.50 – 15.00: Chair's summary, wrap-up and next steps

Context:
The former UN Secretary-General's 2016 PVE Plan of Action calls on each member state to "consider developing a national plan of action to prevent violent extremism which sets national priorities for addressing the local drivers of violent extremism and complements national counter-terrorism strategies where they already exist." A growing number of countries are developing and/or implementing such plans, often with international assistance, including from the NAP Task Force and

the UN Development Programme (UNDP). The Secretary-General's PVE Plan of Action reinforces the need for a "whole of society" approach to PVE and encourages member states to fully engage the breadth of civil society in the development of NAPs. This includes the engagement of women and youth organizations; reinforced through the Security Council in late 2016, when it urged Members States to ensure the participation and leadership of women's organizations in devising strategies to counter terrorism and violent extremism (UNSCR 2250) and to include youth in all levels of decision-making (UNSCR 2252).

This side event will bring together both governmental and non-governmental actors involved in the development and implementation of NAPs. It will allow national PVE and counter-terrorism coordinators and policymakers to highlight the steps they have taken to engage with CSOs and other local actors in the process and share good practices, challenges, and lessons learned.

Presenters will reflect on the level of inclusivity in the development and implementation of NAPs, their efforts to address gaps pertaining to gendered perspectives and other issues, and how this can be further optimized.

The event will also allow CSOs to share their perspectives on the NAP development and implementation processes and how to best ensure that the "whole of society" approach to PVE that is enshrined in the UNSG PVE Plan of Action is realized.

This event will take place during the wider, full-day Global Solutions Exchange (GSX) event focused on "Innovations in Civil Society and other Locally-Led Efforts to Prevent Violent Extremism and Build Social Cohesion and Resilience." Outcomes from the side-event will be included in the GSX event report.