The Lamu County Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism (LCSCVE)

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Preliminaries

• Abbreviations
• Acronyms
• Definitions of Terms
• Forward by HE Governor Issa Timamy
• Overview by County Commissioner
• Executive summary
Background

• Kenya’s History with Terrorist Attacks
• Norfolk
• US Embassy Bombings (Lamu Connections)
• Paradise Hotel
• Westgate, Garrissa and Mandera Bus attacks
• Abduction of tourists in Lamu
• Operation Lind Nchi
• Lamu Attacks (Mpeketoni, Pandanguo etc). 60 people dead
• The Boni Forest KDF Operation
The UN Proposals on CVE Interventions

• the international community has sought to address violent extremism primarily within the context of security-based counter-terrorism measures
• These measures were adopted in response to the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliated groups.
• there is a growing international consensus that such counter-terrorism measures have not been sufficient to prevent the spread of violent extremism
• “violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism”, requires collective efforts, “including preventing radicalization, recruitment and mobilization of individuals into terrorist groups and becoming foreign terrorist fighters”
• Member States to enhance efforts to counter this kind of violent extremism”, recognizing that “international cooperation and any measures taken by Member States to prevent and combat terrorism must comply fully with the Charter of the United Nations

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National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism

• In response to the UN plan of Action
• Learns from the International Community
• Takes a national Dimension and gives actors a framework for action
• Lamu CVE Strategy must align to the National CVE strategy
  • Psycho-social
  • Education
  • Political
  • Security
  • Faith based and ideological
  • Training and Capacity Building
  • Legal and Policy
  • Media and Online

Pillars of National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism
Segmenting Society According to Levels of Risk
Justification for Lamu Strategy to CVE

• Lamu CIDP
• Threat of Terrorism and Violent Extermism
• Impact on Lamu’s Economy
• Impact on Cohesion and Integration in Lamu
• Need for linking with the National Strategy
• Need for coordination
• Need for cooperation with the community and County Government
Methodology

- Literature Review
- Research/Surveys
- Group Discussions
- Individual Interviews
- 1st Workshop 7/8/2016
- Compilation of draft Zero
- Validation workshop
- Corrections from feedback
Situational Analysis (P-Pestel)

- Political Environment in National/Lamu
- Policy Environment (National/Local)
- Educational (National/Lamu)
- Social (drugs, schooling, parenting, cohesion)
- Technological (mobile, media, internet, fb, whatsapp, youtube)
- Environmental (Islands/Boni Forest/Somalia Boarder)
- Legal (Laws to counter terror, National Police Service Law, County Policing Authority) etc.
STOT Analysis

**Strength**

1. Lamu is rich in Natural resources (Land forests, fisheries) which can support investments
2. Lamu is the focus of major regional a development project eg. Lappset
3. Lamu is rich in cultural heritage and /ethnic diversity
4. Lamu is UNESCO’s World heritage site
5. The various religions in Lamu exist in harmony and have a common interfaith platform
6. Lamu County has 180 strong mosques none of which is radical
7. Tourism, fishing, agriculture and livestock industry provide opportunities for gainful engagement for the youth
8. There is willingness for cooperation between the people of Lamu and state organs in CVE
9. Communication systems/Infrastructure
10. Lamu has a strong tradition of being a centre of excellence for Islamic religious education. Many scholars in Kenya have studied in Lamu.
11. The Lamu Community has a strong sense of Family guided by Islamic moral values
12. Lamu has enough schools and madrassas to support the education of youth in Lamu
13. Lamu boasts of strong muslim clerics who are well grounded in religion
14. There is a presence of robust CSOs engaging on various issues including CVE and Environmental aspects.
• **Weakness**
  1. Most inhabitants of Lamu live in Islands which are not easily accessible
  2. Lamu is characterized by poor road infrastructure which makes transport difficult. Mobility is mainly by motorbikes, donkeys and boats
  3. Most residents experience the effects of radicalization and violent extremism but lack awareness and capacity to mitigate the problem
  4. Although there is willingness to cooperate, there is poor relationship between the community and security agents and a serious suspicion and lack of trust between County and National Governments.
  5. Despite strong families, some parents still struggle to raise their children due to weakening of social bonds.
  6. The standards of education have persistently been very low compared to other counties.
  7. Most youth lack technical skills required for the labor market and tend to shun vocational training.
  8. Lack of a collaborative framework between National and the Lamu county government threaten CVE efforts
• Opportunities
1. The LAPPSET project when finalized will create opportunities for Lamu people and Kenyans at large
2. The Amu Power project is an opportunity for employment and economic growth of Lamu
3. Coal mining and Plant investment will boost the economy of Lamu once operational
4. Gas exploration going in Lamu basin also presents possible opportunity in the future if successful
5. The Witu-Garsen-Hindi Road Tarmacking will ease transport and open up Lamu to the rest of Kenya
6. The Manda airport which has increased the number of flights landing in Lamu is a major boost to the economy of Lamu
7. With its unique cultural heritage and challenges Lamu is a magnet for International organizations eager to fund various social interventions
8. There is a nascent cooperation between religious leaders and the county government which can be harnessed to address social issues
9. Cooperation between Country Executives members and County Assembly members can be harnessed for public good
10. The media especially radio is a powerful tool for sharing information
Threats

1. Rampant unemployment is a threat for peace
2. There a serious ethnic animosity between indigenous Lamu inhabitants and immigrant communities
3. There is a serious drug and substance abuse problem in Lamu
4. Gangs and Al-Shabaab continue to make Lamu insecure
5. The porous border with Somalia presents serious security challenges for the county
6. Continued perceived marginalization of Lamu and the Coast region is one of the drivers of radicalization
7. Corruption is reported to enable Al-Shabaab operatives to bribe their way into and out of the country.
8. The proximity to Somalia where conflict has been raging for decades is a threat for peace in Lamu. This is a source of illegal firearms
9. Social media and the Internet are a tool for radicalization
10. Harassment by KDF and Security agencies at Road Blocks mounted along the Garsen-Witu-Lamu Road is a driver of resentment.
11. Early marriages lead to broken families and poor parenting.
12. The thick inaccessible Boni forest provides hiding places for Al-Shabaab.
13. Land and historical injustices is an enduring source of conflict.
14. Fear and threats are a powerful tool used by extremist used to silence moderate voices from speaking and engaging on the issue.
15. Fear and lack of trust between the community and security agencies and National and County governments are a threat to CVE.
Stakeholder Analysis

- Individual (Critical thinking)
- Family (Managing Troubled youth)
- Community (Elders, Imams, Youth)(engaging youth)
- Civil Society Organizations (NGOs, CBOs, Women Groups, Youth Groups)
- Faith Based Organizations (Mosques, Madrassa, Churches)(Counter Narratives, Cohesion)
- County Government (Executive, Assembly, Resource Allocation)
  - Violent Extremism is undermining the objects of devolution (Chiriro na Mwenye)
- National Government (Ministry of Interior, Other Ministries and state agencies, Security Forces, Schools, Universities, Political Leaders (Governor/Senator/MPs/MCAs other opinion leaders)
- Media
- International Community (UN, AID Organizations
- Ex-combatants (returnees)
- Private Sector
Stakeholders Visualized

Adapted from the Norwegian Action Plan Against Radicalization and Violent Extremism
### Signs of concern

#### Statements/messages
- Intolerance for others’ points of view
- Hostility to perceived enemies – us and them
- Conspiracy theories
- Hate rhetoric
- Sympathy for absolute solutions, such as abolition of democracy
- Legitimising violence
- Threats of violence in order to achieve political goals

#### Interests/appearance/use of symbols
- Providing and searching for extremist material on the Internet
- Changes appearance, style of clothing, etc.
- Uses symbols linked to extremist ideals and organisations
- Quits school or stops taking part in recreational activities, etc.

#### Activities
- Concerned with extremism on the Internet and in social media
- Takes part in demonstrations or in violent clashes with other groups
- Uses threats and violence as a result of extremism
- Hate crime
- Travel activities that may result in increased radicalisation and contact with extremists

#### Friends and social networks
- Changes network and social circle
- Associates with persons and groups that are known for violent extremism
- Associates with groups where threats, violence or other criminal activities are practiced
- Member of extremist groups, networks and organisations
### Hotspots of radicalization and VE in Lamu

Stakeholders identified the following areas as being area where incidents associated with radicalization and violent extremism are common.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Constituency</th>
<th>Locality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lamu West</td>
<td>Pandanguo Basuba (Kiangwe, Bauri, Mangai) Boni Forests, Pangani, Gamba, Milihoi, Bargoni, Hash-Bodhei junction, Mpeketoni, Amu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamu East</td>
<td>Kiunga, Faza, Pate, Siu, Witu, (Dar es salaam),</td>
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Prof. Shauri

• Next Section (Objectives, Values, Vision, Mission, Strategic Issues, Strategic Objectives, Strategies, Action Plan)
Risk Analysis

- There is an element of Risk in CVE work
- But there is greater risk in doing nothing
- Each Action Must do a risk analysis when embarking on CVE activities as part of implementation of this plan
- Level of Risk varies with the category of individual you are engaging.
Coordination: The left hand should know what the right hand is doing

• The National Strategy for Countering Violent Extremism has designated the NCTC as the focal point to coordinate all activities related to implementation of the National CVE strategy. The County strategy must in essence take cognizance of the need for cooperation with County Governments, Faith based organizations, traditional structures (elders) and civil society depending on the County.

• The County Policing Authority (CPA) must guide the overall political and policy environment for implementation of the County CVE strategy. The composition of the CPA gives a balanced organ that combines the National Government Officers, County Governments and representatives from residents as stipulated in the National Police service act of 2011 and its subsequent amendments.

• The County Security and Intelligence Committee shall be the focal point for implementation of the Strategy and will coordinate with the National Counter Terrorism Centre at the National level, while supporting the County Policing Authority in its mandate.
Implementation Framework
CVE Engagement Framework

Ministry of Interior

NPS/NIS

National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) Coordination

Lamu County CVE Forum

Other Agencies

County Organs

CSOs/FBOs

CSIC (Coordination)
Next Steps

• Sensitize political Leaders in the County
• Launch the Plan
• Popularize the Plan
• Local champions (we can only support where required)
• Establish a CVE Desk in the County
• Action Plans on the various strategic areas
• Donor funding will be necessary
• Donor round table on CVE. Partner with NCTC but drive it from here