

Building Resilience in Civil Society (BRICS)

Call for Concepts

Initiatives to Strengthen Security Agency and Community Relations to Reduce Local Threats of Violent Extremism in Kenya

The BRICS programme is requesting Concepts from organisations or partnerships that have the capacity, legitimacy and relationships to help strengthen relationships between security actors and communities at the local levels, in order to reduce the threats of violent extremism in Kenya. The deadline for submission is 19th September 2016.

1. Introduction

In mid-August, the Inspector General of Kenya's National Police Service attributed reduced terror attacks to strengthened partnerships between security agencies and the Kenyan people¹. He emphasized increased cooperation and sharing of information between local communities and security agencies as one of the main reasons for the reduction in violent extremist (VE) attacks.

This Call for Concepts aims to build on this important work. It seeks to identify, support and strengthen collaborative initiatives which deepen relationships between communities and security actors at the national, local and county levels in order to reduce threats of VE. In doing so, this Call intends to build on the momentum achieved by existing measures introduced by the Government of Kenya to foster more localised efforts to respond to VE. Such initiatives include community policing, District Peace Committees, Nyumba Kumi, and the Council of Elders. Importantly, in August, President Kenyatta announced the operationalization of the County Policing Authorities (CPA).² Members comprise of a variety of County representatives, security agencies and other members appointed by the Governor such as business people, community and religious organisations and youth. CPAs provide a significant avenue for Counties to be involved in matters of security.

2. About BRICS

In recognising the emerging and complex threat of VE in East Africa, the BRICS programme is designed around two objectives; first it aims to strengthen local capacities to respond to violent extremism. Second, it aims to ensure that knowledge and evidence of effective approaches to countering VE is increased, shared and applied.

In doing so, BRICS provides assistance to civil society actors including nongovernmental, community based and faith based organizations to strengthen their work. All BRICS activities support the hypothesis that CVE efforts have a better chance of succeeding when owned and implemented by communities themselves.

¹ <https://citizentv.co.ke/news/no-division-in-police-service-ig-boinett-136252/>.

² <http://www.president.go.ke/2016/08/10/joint-statement-between-his-excellency-the-president-and-the-council-of-governors/>.

3. Thematic areas for consideration

BRICS' experience working with communities and local security actors to advance CVE efforts is growing. Learning from this, BRICS would like applicants to consider the thematic areas below when developing concepts. It should be emphasised however that applicants should not consider themselves limited to these areas:

- Establishing and maintaining partnerships between the community and the security actors.
- Promoting communication and cooperation between the security actors and the community to fulfil the policing needs of the community.
- Improving transparency and accountability of the security actors to the community.
- Facilitating consultation between the police and respective community policing committees and structures about local problems, security, priorities and solutions.
- Utilisation of local resources available to the community and the police to resolve problems and combat VE.
- Working with CPAs in areas where they are established and providing activities that can further their development while ensuring it is community-led and -owned.
- Supporting appropriate training and other interactions which strengthen security actors understanding and ability to engage responsively with the community.
- Building on existing co-operative community-based security systems that can or are adapting to changing security threats.

4. Expectations for the concept

The written concept must include the following to be considered:

- **Propose a specific geographic focus area.** BRICS would like the grantee to propose a specific geographic area for their activities and a justification for that area. Consideration may include areas where communities have developed their own ways of responding to threats of violence; areas which have recently experienced VE incidents; areas which are prioritised by the government of Kenya for focus on countering VE; areas where small scale security-based initiatives appear to be showing success in CVE.
- **Demonstrate deep knowledge of the local context and the problem that the activity will respond to.** Applicants must demonstrate their knowledge of the local context and of the dynamics that would affect the success or failure of an initiative addressing security and community relationships. Specifically, the concept note must clearly set out the nature of the local VE-related problem that it is responding to.
- **Demonstrate legitimacy to work in the proposed area.** Applicants should demonstrate how their organisation is able to work effectively and legitimately in the proposed area. In particular, the applicant should emphasise the strength of their relations with stakeholders such as community leadership structures, county government, security agencies and local citizens.

- **Demonstrate complementarity with existing initiatives.** The applicant must demonstrate a sound understanding of existing or planned initiatives taking place within the proposed area (including activities led by other donors, NGOs, civil society actors, GoK etc), and how the proposed activity will complement these.
- **Demonstrate management of risk.** The applicant must articulate clearly the nature of the risks involved in the delivery of the proposed activities within the local context, and how these are to be managed. This should include not only security risk to the organisation and staff but also the political and socio-economic risks to the stakeholders.
- **Demonstrate capacity to engage and work with informal community structures.** Potential partners could help deliver change by working through informal institutions and not through the formal system (such as local community organisations). How would an effective community-based programme engage with these informal systems? Why?
- **Demonstrate innovation and creativity.** What might be some innovative or creative ways of developing engagement between communities and security actors? How could bridge-building and collective action with, for example, local leaders or the private sector, best deliver improved results?
- **Demonstrate capacity as an organisation.** Briefly explain the ability of the applicant to deliver change in the targeted communities as an organisation or partnership. Organisations would be expected to demonstrate the following:
 - Project, Finance & budget management
 - Monitoring, evaluation and learning
 - Networking, collaboration and learning opportunities
 - Capacity Development.

5. Eligibility to apply

BRICS is looking for new ideas, great partners and the potential to help support initiatives with high potential. We encourage applications from a wide range of possible partners; community based organisations, religious organisations, NGOs, local security agencies, civil society, and informal institutions.

We ask that all applicants be realistic about their ambitions and the likely results to be achieved, and to be flexible in the concepts they submit.

6. Selection process

- 1) Following review of concepts and initial shortlisting, BRICS will invite a number of applicants to a detailed follow up discussion,
- 2) BRICS will then work with selected applicants to develop their concept into a detailed proposal and work plan.

7. Submission of Concepts

- Length: Please answer the above criteria in no more than 4 pages.
- Submission to BRICS no later than: 19th September.

BRICS East Africa

Building Resilience in Civil Society for Countering Violent Extremism in East Africa

- Anticipated Start Date: October 24, 2016.
- Timeframe for proposed activities: 6-12 months.

Budget ceiling:

1) Seed Project	10,000 GBP / Capped
2) Intermediate concept	36,000 GBP / Capped
3) Mature concept	60,000 GBP / Capped

Please submit all Concepts to:

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