

# BUILDING RESILIENCE TO VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN MALI



## TOPICS

- P/CVE in prisons
- Community resilience
- Risk assessment
- Rehabilitation & Reintegration

## ACTIVITIES

- Research
- Capacity building
- Inter-agency cooperation
- Awareness raising
- Policy advice
- Monitoring & Evaluation

## ACTORS

- Youth
- Prison staff
- Religious leaders
- Policymakers
- NGOs/CSOs



### PRISON



### YOUTH



### RESEARCH

**75**

Prison staff trained

**35**

Religious leaders trained

**30**

Youth leaders trained

**>300**

Youth reached

**30**

In-depth interviews with VEOs

**30**

Qualitative interviews

**35**

Risk assessments of VEOs conducted by prison staff

**4**

Months of psychological counseling to VEOs

**21**

Youth engaged in mentoring

**7**

Trainings on media literacy, alternative narratives, public speaking

**300**

Surveys in Mopti/Menaka/Bamako

## OUR WORK IN MALI

Since 2016, ICCT and UNICRI have been developing and implementing activities in Mali to prevent and counter violent extremism in prisons and local communities. We have focused on improving the management of Violent Extremist Offenders (VEOs) in prison and on increasing the resilience of Malian youth and their communities against violent extremism. These activities are conducted in collaboration with a number of local, national and international partners including MINUSMA, the Malian Prison Administration, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, and civil society organisations and in synergy with various actors of the international community, such as the Royal Danish Embassy in Bamako and the US Bureau of Counterterrorism.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

Based on our experience in Mali, we have identified a set of actionable follow-up P/CVE interventions. Our recommendations are based on lessons learned, gaps identified, and proven good practices, and are in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions and the Global Counterterrorism Forum Good Practices. While highly relevant in the Malian context, these initiatives could also be considered by other countries facing similar challenges, i.e. Burkina Faso, Niger, or Nigeria, and could be easily tailored to prevent violent extremism in countries now facing the growing threat of terrorism, especially in the Gulf of Guinea.

## INFORMATION SHARING & INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

- **Capacity-building for government actors**
  - Training for security actors on information gathering on violent extremist offenders
  - Training for judicial actors to address challenges in prosecuting terrorism-related offences
  - Support the implementation of domestic and international laws and conventions related to terrorism
- **Promote cooperation and information sharing between all relevant actors**
  - Facilitate inter-agency cooperation; regional and international collaboration

## REHABILITATION & REINTEGRATION IN PRISON

- **Awareness training for mid-level and senior policymakers on the risks of radicalization in prisons**
- **Screening and risk assessment for VEOs**
- **Design and implementation of R&R interventions in prison**
  - Educational and vocational training, including basic literacy skills and peer-to-peer-training, counselling meetings with religious leaders - psychological counselling

## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FOR P/CVE

- **Reinforce community resilience against violent extremism**
  - Support youth leaders in developing media literacy and alternative narratives
  - Support grass roots P/CVE campaigns at local, national and regional level; strengthen local practices and ensure local ownership
  - Raising awareness through the dissemination of testimonies by and dialogue with victims of terrorism
  - Gender-based research to inform P/CVE programming
- **Support community/social reintegration of VEOs**
  - Facilitate the development of a joint framework of reintegration between penitentiary institutions, local community leaders and families
  - Training local and national NGOs to reduce stigma among local communities
  - Small pilot projects to facilitate reintegration

## OUR APPROACH



REGIONAL ↔ TAILORED TO LOCAL CONTEXT



COLLABORATIVE AND LOCAL OWNERSHIP ORIENTED



EVIDENCE-BASED



MONITORING AND EVALUATION