CENTRAL ASIA SUPPORT FOR STABLE SOCIETIES
FACT SHEET

The USAID Central Asia Support for Stable Societies project is identifying and testing new methods for the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) in Central Asia. The project conducted field and digital research to identify risk and prevention factors for violent extremism. Based on the research results, the project is working closely with civil society organizations (CSOs) in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to design and test violent extremism risk reduction pilot programming.

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION

The USAID Central Asia Support for Stable Societies project conducted a mixed-methods research design with field components and online research components. The project completed data collection in December 2019 and reported all research results by May 2020. Based on
these results, the project developed a Central Asian Violent Extremism Risk Framework to
guide programming. The research results have been shared with a variety of U.S. government
audiences, with regional governments, and with CSOs during the process of risk reduction
program design.

PILOT PROGRAMMING

The project team is working closely with CSOs in at-risk communities to co-design risk
reduction activities based on the project’s research. Through project year two, the USAID
Central Asia Support for Stable Societies project has initiated 18 grant-based pilot activities, six
of which have been completed.

▪ In Kazakhstan, the project is partnering with Kazakh CSO IDEA Foundation to develop
and test a PVE curriculum for technical and vocational education and training (TVET)
colleges. During the design phase, IDEA solicited national and international experts to
help guide the development of the curriculum’s components. The curriculum is
currently being remotely delivered to a pilot group of students from TVET colleges in
Zhazkazgan.
▪ In Tajikistan, the project partnered with CSO Mohi Munir to develop a door-to-door
outreach campaign to reach women in at-risk families in Kabadiyan, an extremism
hotspot in Khatlon. The project engaged with 200 families and shared information about
extremism risks. In a follow-on grant, Mohi Munir is developing community-based
resource groups to connect at-risk families to resources to help them address family
crises and reduce extremism risks.
▪ In the Kyrgyz Republic, the project has partnered with CSOs Women’s Peace Bank and
Foundation for Tolerance International to design a mentorship program for at-risk
youth in hotspot communities across the country. Drawing on successful models, the
project has recruited and trained 50 mentors who are currently engaging with over 100
mentees selected through a cooperative process between mentors and local
communities.
▪ In Uzbekistan, the project partnered with CSO Istiqbolli Avlod to train their staff on
facilitating discussions on violent extremism risk and prevention with at-risk youth and
potential migrants. The grantee has incorporated extremism risk awareness raising into
their extensive outreach to migrants in Uzbekistan, a key risk group.

PROGRAM LEARNING

Program learning is a central component of the USAID Central Asia Support for Stable
Societies project. The project’s research has done much to advance understandings and
challenge assumptions about causal factors for violent extremism in Central Asia. Pilot
programming is developing and testing a variety of approaches that can be used by communities
to address extremism risks. Capacity building of CSOs is helping the project institutionalize
programming lessons learned so that civil society can continue to improve their methods for
addressing extremism risks in their communities.