



A delegate from the ICEPCVE Youth Network for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism making a presentation at its regional workshop in Djibouti. Photo credit: ICEPCVE

## EAST AFRICA

# THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is a body of eight member states, based in Djibouti: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Djibouti, and Eritrea (currently inactive). Its mission is to assist and complement the efforts of its member states in areas of peace, security, agriculture, environment, economic cooperation, and social development. Under the auspices of IGAD’s peace and security mission, USAID supports its Center of Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (ICEPCVE) through a Regional Development Objective Grant Agreement, a multi-year initiative aimed to advance the shared development priorities of member states.

Five member states (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda) participate in this award. In addition, Tanzania, an IGAD partner country participates in support of peace and security in East Africa. ICEPCVE’s mission is “to bring together state and non-state actors involved in preventing and countering violent extremism to develop and implement coherent strategies to build resilience against violent extremism in the Horn and Eastern Africa”.

### OUR WORK

Established in 2016 and officially launched in May 2018, ICEPCVE is a regional center dedicated to preventing and countering the threats of violent extremism in Eastern Africa. It accomplishes its objectives through strategic communication, research, training, institutional capacity building, community outreach, inter-state collaboration, and knowledge sharing on preventing and countering

violent extremism (P/CVE). ICEPCVE facilitates partnership building between governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), and other non-state actors. USAID supports the Center to achieve five key outcomes:

- A regional network of youth and CSOs is established and strengthened in each of the participating IGAD Member States plus Tanzania, to act as champions to interrupt violent extremist organizations.
- Cooperation enhanced between state and non-state actors.
- Strategic communication meaningfully challenges violent extremist ideology.
- Djibouti National Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Strategy finalized and validated.
- A network of local P/CVE researchers is established, and improved, and locally derived information is shared throughout the region.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Support for the ICEPCVE's establishment and operationalization with technical assistance and organizational capacity building
- Shared perspective forged among participating states, P/CVE interventions of state and non-state actors are balanced and coordinated.
- Established youth and CSO networks, research network, and P/CVE tools created provide a cooperative framework for learning and information exchanges among a broad range of P/CVE stakeholders across the region.
- The tools and methods are organized at the ICEPCVE's Digital Hub learning resources centers, located in each partner country office. Both state and non-state actors use the Digital Hubs to learn about and contribute to peace building for the region. Activities have informed participating country P/CVE policies, practices, and strategies.

**BUDGET:** USD \$1 million

### DURATION

2018-2021

### ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

The IGAD Center of Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (ICEPCVE)

### KEY PARTNERS

The governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda

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