

Western Balkans Resilience Forum

Collaborative Approaches to Confronting Extremism through Action

November 14-16, 2018
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Albanian Working Group Inputs

- Local Level Approach - The importance of working at the local level and having also city risk assessments.
- Prevention Measures: Action Plans to be divided and prepared into small local action plans.
- Marginalized communities with a focus on Youth and Women: The importance of working with youth and women at specific municipalities.
- Improving civic activism through concrete actions: Concrete actions not workshops and training, activities that go beyond the capacity building. Youth and women centers.
- Partnerships at Local Level but also a need for Cross-Border Cooperation and Exchange of Best Practices with other counties at the local level.
- Piloting of Initiatives at specific municipalities like Cerrik, Librazhd Burrel etc.
- Joint interventions and actions addressing Hate speech as it fuels extremism actions.

Bosnia and Herzegovina Working Group Inputs

- The focus of activities in local communities should be on addressing the causes, not only on dealing with consequences. Prevention should be a prerogative, before reaction/recovery/repression.
- Consequently, working directly with both youth and stakeholders dedicated to youth on awareness raising is a key priority.
- Enhanced focus on work in multi-ethnic ambiances, and societies with a noticeable (self)isolation of minorities/returnee communities.
- It is important and necessary to understand the potential of social media as one of the key tools for work with the youth.

Kosovo Working Group Inputs

- To strengthen youth programs for prevention against radicalization and violent extremism at local communities.
- To enable the reintegration of women and children returnees' .
- To strengthen and to improve the rehabilitation programs (including design of vocational educational programs) for convicts during and after their release from prison.
- Promotion of inter-sectoral cooperation with the aim of involving the private sector in supporting and integrating returnees at the local level.

Macedonia Working Group Inputs

- It is important to develop *local* action plans for PVE.

- Raising awareness and improving the knowledge of all relevant stakeholders at local level (including local authorities, youth, parents, schools, sport leaders, media) on the phenomenon of radicalization that leads to - ethnic, religious and/or political - violent extremism.
- Prevention of violence at local level, through regular information sharing between key actors – regular monthly informative meetings initiated by the mayor for informing on security issues (police and army representatives, ombudsman, director of the hospital, directors of the public enterprises).
- Capacity building for members of the Local Prevention Councils/Community Action Teams.
- Prevention by sharing experiences of the victims of violence (testimonials) and by sharing the data obtained through already developed research methodologies, among parents.
- Building connections between local and national level PVE and CVE coordinators.

Montenegro Working Group Inputs

- Invest in capacity building of Islamic community of Montenegro in the field of P/CVE.
- Implement a variety of activities aiming to improve the inter-religious dialogue.
- Improve and empower youth infrastructures on local level, including youth clubs, youth center etc.
- Anticipation of counter narratives applicable to local circumstances of Montenegro.
- Health Department should invest in building the capacities of the Medical Chamber in order to improve its P/CVE potential.
- On the national level there are the RAN7 working groups which are already open for collaboration with NGOs, individuals, academia representatives etc.

Serbia Working Group Inputs

- To appoint the national CVE coordinator for Serbia.
- To improve the mechanisms for the law enforcement and to synchronize the structures within the mechanism.
- To enable more judges, prosecutors and policemen coming from minority groups.
- To improve the skills of local prosecutors for CVE based cases.
- To improve the curricula of civic and religious education in schools and improve teachers' education
- To form local multisectoral teams which should work on building local community resilience.