



# Progress Report

1 December 2022 –30 June 2023

Advancing Holistic, Whole-of-Government and Whole-of-Society  
Approaches in Curbing the Spread of Terrorism in Africa



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



## Table of Content

1.0	Project Description .....	3
2.0	Summary of Results.....	4
3.0	Activity Implementation Progress .....	5
	Activity 2.1.1 - Capacity Building Training on Enhancing the Role of Women in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT) (5-9 December 2022).....	5
	Activity 1.1.1 - Workshop on the Margins of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (3 May 2023).....	6
4.0	Partnerships and Visibility .....	8
	High-level opening ceremony for the five-day capacity building training on “Enhancing the Role of Women Community Leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT)” (5 December 2023) .....	8
	Briefing to the North-East Ambassadors Group and International Community in Abuja (12 December 2022) .....	9
	Networking event at the Giza Pyramids on the Sidelines of the GCTF Meetings (3 May 2023) .....	10
	21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (4 May 2023).....	10
	Key bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (2-5 May 2023) .....	11
5.0	Key Findings and Lessons Learned from Activity Implementation .....	11
	Capacity Building Training on Enhancing the Role of Women in PRELT .....	11
	Gap in practice.....	11
	Diverse participants for a broader scope of influence.....	12
	Training content and impact .....	12
	Localization and coordination with relevant stakeholders .....	12
	Accessibility and trust-building .....	13
	21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting Side Event .....	13
6.0	Financial Situation .....	15
6.1	Summary of Expenditures .....	15
6.2	Financial Summary by Outcome .....	16
	Outcome 1: Enhance comprehensive and holistic approaches that leverage African pillars of resilience to address terrorism .....	16



## Semi-annual Review Report

### Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

Outcome 2: Enhance the role of local community leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT), with a special emphasis on the role of women leaders.....	16
Project Management Unit (PMU).....	17
7.0 Testimonials & Visibility .....	17
Tweet Cards-Testimonials from Participants.....	18

## 1.0 Project Description

In light of the ever-growing terrorist threat in Africa, it became increasingly clear that security measures alone cannot holistically respond to the contemporary nature of terrorist groups. Anchored in a belief that responses must be multidimensional, this project seeks to advance whole-of-government and whole-of-society responses in curbing the spread of terrorism, by means of enhancing comprehensive and holistic approaches in addressing the terrorist threat and leveraging the role of local communities, especially women community leaders in preventing radicalization and extremism leading to terrorism. As such, the project aims to achieve its objectives by strengthening and building African capacities through a tailored range of activities.

This project will aim at achieving the following:

- Outcome 1: Enhance comprehensive and holistic approaches that leverage African pillars of resilience to address terrorism.
- Outcome 2: Enhance the role of local community leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT), with a special emphasis on the role of women community leaders.

## Semi-annual Review Report

Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

## 2.0 Summary of Results

Activity	Jul-Nov'22	Dec'22-May'23	Jun'-Dec'23	Total to date	Project target	Percentage of achievement
<b>Outcome 1: Enhance comprehensive and holistic approaches that leverage African pillars of resilience to address terrorism</b>						
Number of workshops organized	0	1		1	1	100%
Number of field visits	0	0		0	1	0%
<b>Outcome 2: Enhance the role of local community leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT), with a special emphasis on the role of women community leaders</b>						
Number of trainings on PRELT organized for women community leaders	0	1		1	1	100%
Number of trainings on PRELT organized for African community leaders and influencers	0	0		0	1	0%
Knowledge gained by participants	0	N/A		0	70%	0%
<b>Project Management Unit</b>						
Progress reports prepared and submitted to UNDP by PMU	1	1		2	3	67%
Project board meeting organized and held by PMU	0	0		0	1	0%

### 3.0 Activity Implementation Progress

#### Activity 2.1.1 - Capacity Building Training on Enhancing the Role of Women in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT) (5-9 December 2022)



CCCPA conducted an in-person foundational training on Enhancing the Role of Women Community Leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT). The training was held in Maiduguri, Borno state, Nigeria from 5 to 9 December 2022, in partnership with the Borno State Government. The aim of the training was to provide participants with the

knowledge and skills to detect early signs of radicalization and extremism and empower them to enhance their community's resilience in the face of terrorism. The training brought together 27 women community leaders and influencers from diverse backgrounds and different local government areas across Borno State – including Borno State Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development (MWASD), Social Cohesion Platforms, National Orientation Agency (NOA), the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) Nigeria, Women in the New Nigeria & Youth Empowerment Initiative (WINN), Nigeria Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ/NUJ), Federal Ministry of Education, Bama Youth Development Initiative, and Bulumkutu transit center – in addition to traditional women community leaders and influencers from Gwoza, Chibok, Bama, and Jere.

The purpose of this tailor-made training was to capacitate women community leaders and strengthen their communities' resilience against terrorism. More specifically, the training:

1. Enabled participants to identify structural factors that can give rise to radicalization, while focusing on the growing nexus between conflict and terrorism.
2. Provided participants with a nuanced understanding of Islamic Sharia and concepts, which have been exploited by terrorist groups.

## Semi-annual Review Report

### Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

3. Enabled participants to deconstruct extremist narratives and empower them to formulate alternative ones, grounded in peaceful coexistence and tolerance, that is rooted in Islamic Sharia and community traditions.
4. Provided participants with skills that would allow them to communicate and prevent the process of youth radicalization.

### Training Evaluation Results

Evaluation	Average Rating out of 5
Topic	4.5
Learning Objectives	4.3
Materials	4.3
Trainers	4.5
Logistics and Administration	4.5

### Activity 1.1.1 - Workshop on the Margins of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (3 May 2023)



CCCPA conducted a workshop/side-event on the sidelines of the 21st Coordinating Committee Meeting on 3 May 2023. This event brought together African practitioners and policymakers, as well as GCTF Members and partners with the aim to guide relevant stakeholders and the GCTF's onward efforts to advance integrated responses to address the terrorism landscape from an African lens. The event focused on

preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism (P/CVE) and on the criminal justice chain-rule of law in Africa.

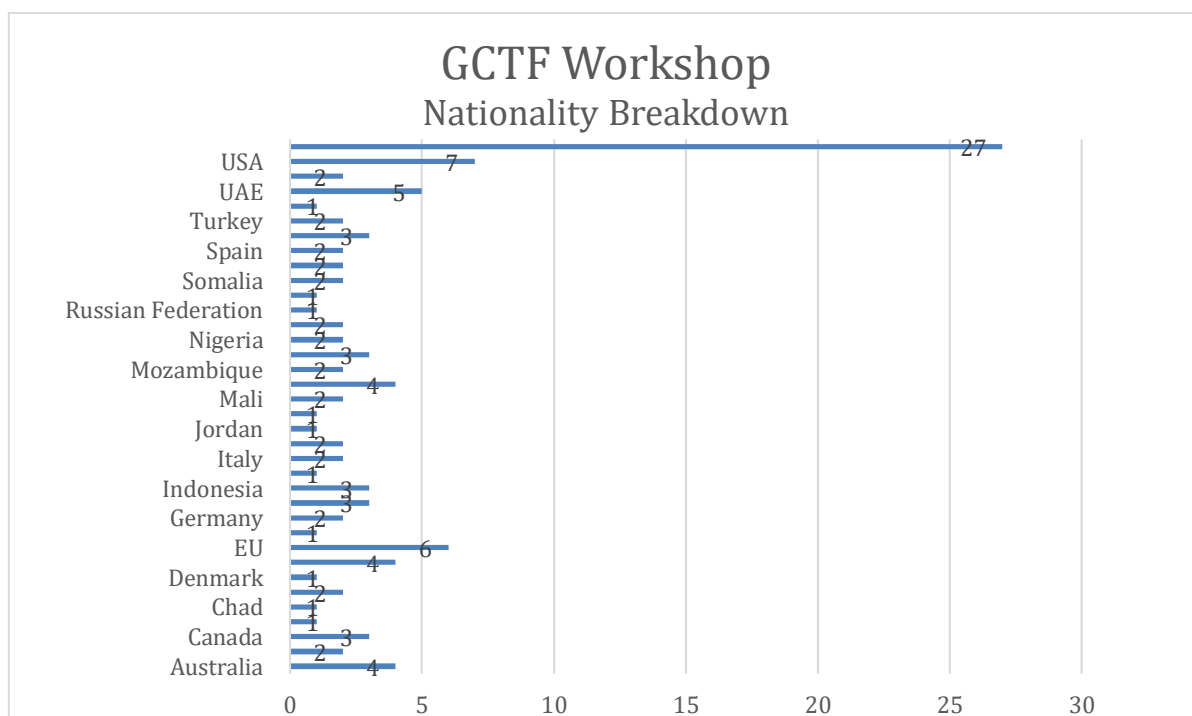
The side-event segments on P/CVE, led by CCCPA focused on African experiences in preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism and comprised of two panels. Both panels were moderated by Fauziya Abdi Ali, Founder and President of Women in International Security (WIIS) Horn of Africa.

The first panel, which focused on "Local and National Efforts to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism," featured the following distinguished speakers: Mairo Abbas, Head of Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, Office of the National Security Advisor (ONSA), Nigeria, Idriss Mounir Lallali, Acting (Interim) Director of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT),

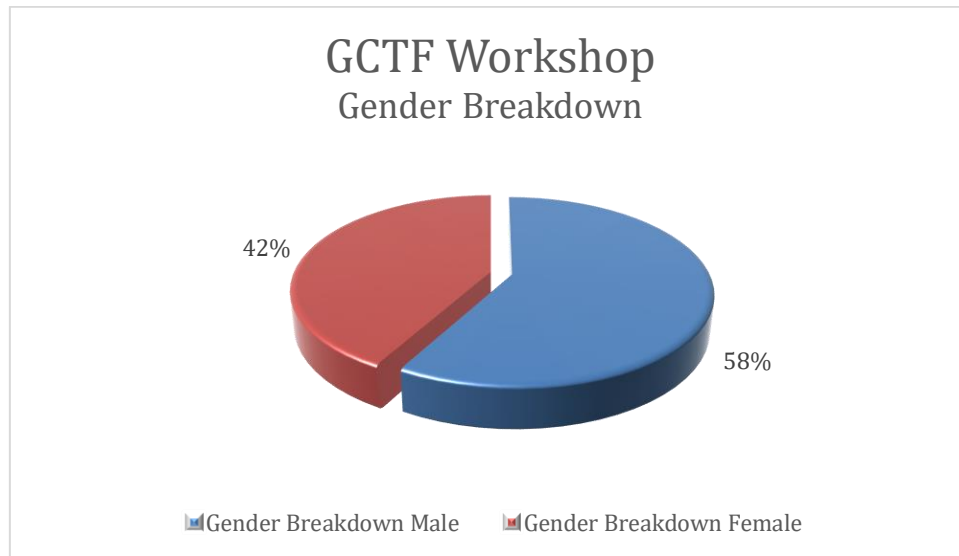
African Union Commission, and Samira Gaid, the Executive Director, Hiraal Institute, Somalia.

The second (interim) panel focused on “Regional Perspectives on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism.” The distinguished speakers for this panel included Ciara Spencer, First Assistant Secretary, Security Division, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Raffi Gregorian Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General and Director of the United Nations Office on Counter Terrorism (UNOCT), Khalid Koser the Executive Director of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) and Ismael Chekkori, Director of Global Issues in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Morocco.

Panelists stressed on the need to address the complex, multi-faceted, and intertwined drivers of radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism through whole-of-society approaches, which leverage the pillars of community resilience, such as the social influence of key actors in communities, including religious, tribal, women and youth leaders. Discussions also drew on the best practices and lessons learned from national, regional, and international initiatives – including GCTF resources – to counter and prevent violent extremism conducive to terrorism. They also addressed gaps that still persist in programmatic approaches and areas of potential expansion.







### GCTF Side Event Outcome Document

CCCPA took the initiative of drafting an outcome document and summary of discussion for the above-mentioned side event. Following the GCTF standard procedures, the document was then shared with the GCTF Admin Unit to be cleared by the co-chairs first, before being circulated among participants and member states.

## 4.0 Partnerships and Visibility

### High-level opening ceremony for the five-day capacity building training on “Enhancing the Role of Women Community Leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT)” (5 December 2023)



The capacity building training on Enhancing the Role of Women Community Leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT), which was held in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria, from 5 to 9 December 2022, commenced with a high-level opening ceremony, in the presence of H.E. the Executive Governor of Borno State, Professor Babagana Zulum, H.E. Commissioner of Women Affairs and Social Development, Zuwaira Gambo, H.E. Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt

to Nigeria, Ihab Awad, as well as key commissioners and advisors from the Borno State Government.

In her welcoming remarks, H.E. Hon. Commissioner Gambo highlighted that the training “will cement that women are perfectly situated to communicate and disseminate alternative narratives that debunk extremist and radical undertones”. In his keynote address, H.E. Prof. Zulum emphasized the ongoing partnership between Borno State and CCCPA, stating that it is “in pursuit of our common goal of sustainable peace and development in Africa.” He further added that “through empowering community leaders, and especially women leaders, with the skills and knowledge to deconstruct extremist narratives, we help raise barriers of entry to terrorist groups and strip them of their ability to recruit and mobilize our youth”.

### **Briefing to the North-East Ambassadors Group and International Community in Abuja (12 December 2022)**

As part of the North East Ambassadors meeting held at the British High Commission on 12 December 2022 in Abuja, CCCPA presented its capacity building work in Borno State to the North-East Ambassadors Group and the international community in Abuja. The meeting/briefing session brought together a large group of international partners and embassies that are involved in supporting peace, security and development efforts in North East Nigeria, including representatives from Britain, France, Australia, Ireland, Switzerland, the United States of America, Canada and the European Union. Also present were representatives from international organizations, such as the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Abuja, UNDP, IOM, ICRC, UNODC and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The briefing provided an opportunity to thoroughly engage with international partners involved in the North East Nigerian context, and present CCCPA's capacity building work. It has also created a chance to discuss coordination between the different actors and streamline efforts to achieve optimum results and avoid duplication.

## Networking event at the Giza Pyramids on the Sidelines of the GCTF Meetings (3 May 2023)



CCCPA organized a networking event for the delegations and participants of the GCTF at the Giza Pyramids Sound and Light. After brief speeches from the GCTF co-chairs, as well as the Director General of CCCPA in which he acknowledged and thanked the Government of Australia through DFAT for its generous support to the Center's PRELT.

The event provided an opportunity for conversations around the content of the events and networking with and among participants, away from the busy schedule of the GCTF events. CCCPA's organizational arrangements for the tour received very positive feedback and provided a pleasurable intermission amidst the activities of the GCTF.

## 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (4 May 2023)



On 4 May 2023, Egypt was handed over the co-chairmanship of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) along with the European Union (EU) at the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting, in the presence of H.E. Sameh Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, and H.E. Ambassador Charles Fries, Deputy Secretary

General of the European External Action Service. The Co-chairs highlighted their strategic priorities during their tenure (2023-2025) for a more inclusive and action oriented GCTF that is more responsive to the changing needs on the ground.

The 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting brought together over 150 senior counterterrorism and criminal justice officials and practitioners from more than thirty

countries to discuss future action to counter global terrorism threats. By engaging front-line practitioners in the discussions, the days of the GCTF ensured an inclusive approach towards countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism through including gender-sensitive policies, civil society engagement, and a geographical focus on Africa, amongst other factors.

During the days of and around the Coordinating Committee Meeting, CCCPA assumed a leading role as the main organizing and implementing partner of the GCTF Admin Unit and Co-chairs. The Center's effort ensured a smooth flow of the activities, panels, as well as the overall organization of the 21st Coordinating Committee Meeting and the events held on its margin.

### **Key bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting (2-5 May 2023)**

CCCPA conducted a number of bilateral meetings on the margins of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting. Meetings were held with GCTF member states and partners, including the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), the African Union's African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (CAERT/ACSRT), UNODC, and UNOCT, as well as CT coordinators and representatives from Nigeria, Canada, Italy, Germany and Australia. The meetings provided a substantial opportunity to discuss modalities of cooperation and partnership within the GCTF community and frameworks, and beyond - as well as an opportunity for showcasing CCCPA's work in countering and preventing radicalization and extremism conducive to terrorism, with the support of the Government of Australia.

## **5.0 Key Findings and Lessons Learned from Activity Implementation**

### **Capacity Building Training on Enhancing the Role of Women in PRELT**

#### **Gap in practice**

There have been great strides made on the level of policymaking, whether on the inclusion of women in decision-making, the adoption of gender-sensitive responses to preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism, or empowering women as agents of change when it comes to prevention efforts. However, challenges still persist in the practical implementation of women's inclusion and involvement on the ground.

This has proven evident in CCCPA's training on Enhancing the Role of Women Community Leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT). Participants were from different parts of Borno state and diverse

backgrounds, and what they have all commonly shared is that this was the first time such a training was held with that kind of set-up in Borno State – as a training that is particularly designed for empowering women and enhancing their capacity in the area of PVE.

### Diverse participants for a broader scope of influence

The selection process of the participants of the training was oriented with an aim to attract women from different backgrounds and varying occupations. This allowed CCCPA and its PRELT program to ensure that the influence and impact of the training would possibly be disseminated through diverse channels, and reach an optimum level of community members. This objective was reassured when participants showed dedication and keenness towards using the skills and knowledge they gained throughout their different responsibilities and mediums.

Each of the participants had a different motivation and network through which they would apply the knowledge gained and skills learnt. Through their testimonials, participants indicated that the training has effectively equipped them with the skills and tools that would allow them to engage in counter-narrative efforts, disseminate the knowledge onto their communities, advance their academic research, and more strongly orient their occupational responsibilities, while also providing them with a “safe space” to reflect and share their own experiences in this regard.

### Training content and impact

In terms of the training content, participants indicated that prior to their engagement with the training, they had little to no knowledge of the essence of the religious concepts that are being manipulated and exploited by terrorist groups to cast a false legitimacy on their use of violence. With a deeper understanding and less misconceptions after the training, participants had more ‘confidence’ in engaging in counter-narrative approaches towards preventing radicalization within their community members, especially with youth. With Boko Haram and ISWAP spreading partial and extremist interpretations of religious texts and concepts, participants emphasized the critical importance of being prepared with knowledge and skills that can allow them to counter such extremist narratives.

### Localization and coordination with relevant stakeholders

Working with local communities at the grassroots level may pose challenges related to the context specificity, as well as the cultural setting and dynamics. Therefore, engagement must be anchored in direct consultation with national and local stakeholders to meet the needs and priorities identified by the various Nigerian



stakeholders themselves. This will increase the chances of ensuring sustained national and local ownership.

On its part, CCCPA is always keen on conducting needs and capacity assessment missions in the contexts where it operates, as well as regular consultation with Nigerian local stakeholders, at both national and local level. Specifically, to understand the needs and priorities on the ground, but also to ensure that efforts are tailored in a way to respond to the gaps and needs on the ground and as identified by the relevant stakeholders. This approach has helped in informing the design and creating tailored and context-specific interventions, ensuring that the type of support and engagement is attuned to the local context and the target beneficiaries. It has also allowed for better understanding and utilizing the comparative advantage that women have when it comes to P/CVE efforts on the ground and in the contexts where it implements its activities.

### Accessibility and trust-building

Establishing a strong relationship with national and local authorities that is built on mutual trust, is key in conducting on-ground capacity building interventions, especially in a context like North East Nigeria, where state authorities are the main stakeholders. It is thus important to ensure that local authorities are part of the process and are able/willing to provide the necessary support.

In fact, it is because of this trust and partnership, CCCPA was able to secure this diverse group of women community leaders and influencers from across Borno state. In addition to utilizing its existing local networks, CCCPA relied on civil society organizations as well as the Borno state Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development (MWASD) in reaching participants in rural/urban areas and in specific professions.

### 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting Side Event

One can draw direct relevancy from the findings of the training conducted in Borno State, Nigeria, to what has been articulated in CCCPA's workshop/side event on the margins of the 21st GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting. The event included discussions that emphasized **the need for more effective analysis of the particular context in order to inform a more nuanced understanding of the push and pull factors that drive violent extremism conducive to terrorism**. The panels highlighted the need for local action plans and other responses to be context-specific and tailored to the realities on the ground, which is essential to inform the design of interventions.

That is in addition to **the importance of engaging civil society organizations and local communities in drafting strategies and policies in an effort to coordinate responses**, as well as incorporating gender-sensitive approaches to P/CVE. The panelists in the side event also accentuated that through cooperation with different stakeholders, the perspectives of members of the local communities that are most affected from the threat is essential to take into consideration. Consequently, **creating a sense of ownership which empowers civil society actors, women and youth to build community resilience in the face of terrorism.**

There has been a common agreement on **the importance of promoting national ownership and coordinated efforts to ensure coherence between the multiplicity of actors in P/CVE.** Thus, creating synergies and drawing complementarities to avoid overlaps and to streamline P/CVE efforts and initiatives, in order to ensure an optimal utilization of resources, stronger contributions and more sustainable impact.



## Semi-annual Review Report

Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

### 6.0 Financial Situation

#### 6.1 Summary of Expenditures

The Australian contribution amounts to USD 214,899.71 to date while the total expenditures amounted to date is USD 151,236.84

Outcome	Activity Results	Budget in USD	Expenses in USD 2022	Budget in USD 2023	Expenses in 2023				Total Expenditures (USD)	Balance (USD)
					Jan-Mar '23	Apr-Jun '23	Jul-Sep '23	Oct-Dec'23		
Outcome 1	Activity 1.1.1	\$ 73,118.00	00.00	\$ 73,118.00	\$ 26,952.44	\$ 40,649.47	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$67,601.91	(\$ 39,984.59)
Outcome 2	Activity 2.1.1	\$ 63, 897.94	\$ 4,438.95	\$ 59,458.99	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 59,458.99
	Activity 3.2.3	\$ 52,253.11	\$ 23,903.02	\$ 28,350.09	\$ 15,502.92	\$ 19,616.09	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 35,119.01	\$ (6,768.92)
Direct Project Cost		\$ 9,669.24	\$ 4,834.62	\$ 4,834.62	\$ 4,834.62	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 4,834.62	\$ 00.00
GMS (8%)		\$ 15,871.12	\$ 2,654.12	\$ 13,217.00	\$ 3,643.33	\$ 4,116.96	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 7,760.29	\$ 5,546.71
Unrealized Loss		\$ 90.30	\$ 90.30	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00
Total (USD)		\$ 214,899.71	\$ 35,921.01	\$ 178,978.70	\$ 50,933.31	\$ 64,382.52	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 115,315.83	\$ 63,662.87



## Semi-annual Review Report

Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

### 6.2 Financial Summary by Outcome

#### Outcome 1: Enhance comprehensive and holistic approaches that leverage African pillars of resilience to address terrorism

Activity 1-1-1

Financial Summary – USD						
Account	Fund	Donor	R. Party	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
			CCCPA	\$73,118.00		\$ 5,516.09
71605	30000	11854			\$ 1,960.68	
71615	30000	11854			\$ 4,955.20	
71635	30000	11854			\$ 809.14	
71810	30000	11854			\$ 27,779.43	
<b>72120</b>	30000	11854			\$ 16,847.06	
72130	30000	11854			\$ 5,493.08	
72135	30000	11854			\$484.91	
74105	30000	11854			\$593.94	
74205	30000	11854			\$ 4,019.98	
74210	30000	11854			\$ 2,297.52	
74510	30000	11854			107.05	
76105	30000	11854			\$ 2,253.92	

#### Outcome 2: Enhance the role of local community leaders in Preventing Radicalization and Extremism Leading to Terrorism (PRELT), with a special emphasis on the role of women leaders

Activity 2-1-1

Financial Summary – USD						
Account	Fund	Donor	R. Party	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
	Aus	Aus	CCCPA	\$59,458.99		\$59,458.99
	30000	11854				
	30000	11854				

## Semi-annual Review Report

Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

### Project Management Unit (PMU)

#### Activity 3-1-1

Financial Summary – USD						
Account	Fund	Donor	R. Party	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
	GoJ	GoJ	CCCPA	\$28,350.09		(\$ 6,768,92)
71810	30000	11854			\$ 28,159.48	
74105	30000	11854			\$ 1,088.08	
74110	30000	11854			\$ 2,162.40	
74210	30000	11854			\$ 3,709.05	

## 7.0 Testimonials & Visibility

Nigeria Training- CCCPA News Item:

- <https://www.cccpa-eg.org/news-details/1081>

Nigeria Training-DailyNews:

- <https://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2022/12/19/cccpa-holds-training-course-in-nigeria-to-prevent-radicalization-extremism-leading-to-terrorism/>

Nigeria Training-Twitter Testimonial Cards:

- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1672247349555478530?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>

Nigeria Training-Linkedin:

- [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cccpa\\_cccpa-nigeria-women-activity-7008441943261089793-3kfM?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_ios](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cccpa_cccpa-nigeria-women-activity-7008441943261089793-3kfM?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios)

Nigeria Training-Twitter:

- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1602675529366507525?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>

Nigeria Training-Youm7:

- <https://www.youm7.com/story/2023/5/4/%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%B1-%D9%88%D8%A3%D9%81%D8%B1%D9%8A%D9%82%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D9%85%D8%B3%D9%8A%D8%B1%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%88%D9%86-%D9%88%D9%82%D9%8A%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%A9-%D8%AA%D9%82%D9%88%D8%AF-%D9%84%D8%B1%D8%A6%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%A9->

## Semi-annual Review Report

### Deliverable Description

Date: 30 June 2023

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Nigeria Training-almasyalyoum:

- <https://www.almasyalyoum.com/news/details/2770970>

GCTF-Twitter:

- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1654135776295149569?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>
- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1653818774670262273?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>
- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1654135176648163332?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>
- <https://twitter.com/cairopeacekeep/status/1654135776295149569?s=48&t=c4uK3Kr8XlInvjUbflI0Hw>

### Tweet Cards-Testimonials from Participants

*\*Names of participants have intentionally been omitted to ensure their safety against terrorist organizations that may see them as a threat.*

#### Teacher, KASHIM IBRAHIM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

*“What was unique about this training is that we are all women participants, which allowed us to share our personal experiences, unlike other platforms where we do not have the same safe space. I learned a lot of things concerning the prevention of radicalism that I aim to use in my capacity as a teacher and a capacity-builder. The skills that I have acquired and enhanced along with the material I got in the training will be very helpful as I develop my PhD thesis on Boko Haram.”*

#### Chairman of the Muslim Women Association in Maiduguri (no name mentioned)

*“The training enlightened my perception of our youth and that the young age of our children makes them vulnerable when it comes to co-opting them to terrorism. As a woman, a mother, a teacher, and a community leader, it is now my responsibility to use what I have learned from the training and pass on the knowledge so that the concepts and resilience continue and be kept alive.”*

#### Journalist, The Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ), Borno State

*“The training was extremely helpful, and it is done at a good time as our community begins to resettle and reorganize after decades of insurgency. Having the sessions be interactive made the training very interesting and engaging. As a journalist, this training encouraged me to disseminate the knowledge I have acquired on conflict mapping, certain Islamic concepts that are misused, and preventing radicalization and extremism in order to raise the awareness of my community.”*

**Mobilization Officer, National Orientation Agency**

*"This training was most helpful in allowing us to acquire the methods to reach out to the grassroots and use the information given to us in debunking the extremist narratives of terrorist groups. The sessions gave me the confidence I needed in order to approach my community, raise its awareness, and reorient our youths."*

**Anonymous**

*"If it weren't for this CCCPA training on preventing radicalization and extremism leading to terrorism, we would not be able to know how or when to intervene. Now I understand the scale of the approach we need and how addressing the issue needs to encompass all individuals from different backgrounds. I will aim to transmit this knowledge to others and hopefully be able to prevent radicalization through my engagement. Knowing how to approach people who were affiliated with radical groups and learning to set them free from the stigmatization cycle is very important for a healthy community."*

**Activist, Women in the New Nigeria Initiative (WINN)**

*"I had many misconceptions about some Islamic concepts. But after the training, I understood that the extremism we see is an intentional distribution of misconceptions and partial interpretations. I want to utilize what I have learned here and reach out to my community and tell them all about my experience in this training in the hope of correcting the narratives."*

**Social Welfare Worker, Chibok Local Government**

*"My community and I experienced traumatic instances of terrorist attacks that damaged a lot of aspects of our lives. The insurgency has threatened our stability as a community and government at large as they indiscriminately attack civilians and target religious and political groups. In addition to enhancing our capacities, knowledge, and skills, this training has offered us a rare opportunity to share and open our hearts to one another as women of the community to talk about and process the agonizing experiences we have endured."*