



NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY-KENYA

**COMMUNITY BASED CIVIC PROGRAMMES AND PREVENTION OF VIOLENT
EXTREMISM IN MOMBASA COUNTY, KENYA**

ALEX MAKAU MAINGI

REG NO. ND201/0028/2023

**A research proposal submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award
of Diploma in National Security and Strategy of National Defence University- Kenya**

DECLARATION

This research is my original work and has not been submitted for any award in any other University.

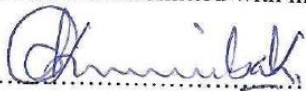
Signature.....

Date..... 16 September 2024

Alex M Maingi

Reg No. ND201/0028/2023

This research has been submitted with my approval as his university supervisor.

Signature.....

Date..... 16 September 2024

Col (Dr) C O Imbiakha

National Defence University - Kenya

DEDICATION

I am dedicating this research study to my family for their prayers and encouragement throughout the research period.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I thank the Almighty God for the grace of good health he bestowed upon me when conducting this study.

I also acknowledge and appreciate the Commander Kenya Army for according me the opportunity to undertake this course. I am also grateful to the Vice Chancellor and National Defence University-Kenya leadership, the Commandant National Defence College, Faculty and Staff at NDC and colleagues of Cse 26-23/24 for their support throughout the research process. Thank you to my family; my lovely wife and children, for their unwavering support. I also want to extend my appreciation to my supervisor Col (Dr) C O Imbiakha, for the selfless support and guidance that led to the successful completion of this project. I would also like to appreciate the contribution of my research assistant and the respondents for their invaluable input in this research.

God bless you all.

ABSTRACT

Violent extremism is a major security issue in many countries across the globe. Its motivators have evolved from nationalistic narratives to religious ideologies. Many countries in the world have become theatres of the wave of violent extremism, which is seen through the numerous terrorist attacks experienced in recent years in various parts of the world. Security measures alone cannot eradicate this problem, but cross-sectional efforts are needed to confront the radicalization and recruitment of people in the communities. This study therefore explored the community-based initiatives applied to prevent and counter violent extremism in Mombasa. The specific areas of this study were: Assessing the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa; examining the effectiveness of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa; evaluating the challenges facing effective implementation of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa. The study was guided by the social capital theory which explains that social ties are effective in maintenance of social control. Descriptive research design was employed in this study and both secondary and primary data were utilized. The study used questionnaire to collect primary data from police officers in Mombasa, KDF personnel in Mombasa, Chiefs, religious leaders, and NCTC personnel. The study established that diverge community-based efforts have been introduced by NCTC to fight against violent extremism in the region. These included community policing, rehabilitation programmes, education training and mentorship programs for the youth. It was confirmed that the residents of this region are receptive to these efforts. Community policing and rehabilitation programmes however were found to be facing challenges that are hindering their effectiveness. There is a lack of transparency and trust between the community and law enforcement personnel. Several other challenges were identified including lack of sufficient funding, and the economic grievances, especially unemployment, have not been adequately addressed. The stigma faced by the radicalized persons seeking to transform also prevents them from seeking help from the rehabilitation centres. The study concluded that youths are the most vulnerable as perpetrators of extremism in Mombasa, majorly because of unemployment. The effectiveness of community policing in Mombasa County needs to be enhanced as one of critical methods of preventing violent extremism. It was also established that cooperation among the agencies involved should be encouraged and there is need for increased awareness on the importance of rehabilitating returnees.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	Error! Bookmark not defined.
DEDICATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
ABSTRACT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	ix
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	5
1.3.1 General Objective	5
1.3.2 Specific Objectives	5
1.4 Research Questions	5
1.5 Justification	6
1.5.1 Policy Justification.....	6
1.5.2 Academic Justification	6
1.6 Significance of the Study	7
1.7 Scope and Limitations	7
1.8 Key Assumptions.....	8
1.9 Chapter Summary	8
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	9
2.0 Introduction	9
2.1 Empirical Literature Review	9
2.1.1 Community-Based Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.	9
2.1.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.....	13
2.1.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.	16
2.2 Theoretical Framework	19

2.3 Conceptual Framework	20
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	23
3.0 Introduction	23
3.1 Research Design	23
3.2 Research Site	23
3.3 Target Population	25
3.4 Sample Size Determination.....	25
3.5 Sampling Techniques	26
3.6 Data Collection Instruments	27
3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation	28
3.9 Ethical Considerations.....	28
3.10 Chapter Summary	29
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION	30
4.0 Introduction	30
4.1 The Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents	30
4.1.1 Occupation of the Respondents	31
4.1.2 Gender of the Respondents	31
4.1.3 Age of the Respondents.....	32
4.2 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya .	33
4.3 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa.....	37
4.4 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa	44
4.5 Chapter Summary	47
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	48
5.0 Introduction	48
5.1 Summary	48
5.1.1 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya	48
5.1.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa	49
5.1.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa	50
5.1.4 Overall Summary	51
5.2 Conclusion	52

5.2.1 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya	52
5.2.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa	52
5.2.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa	53
5.3 Recommendations	53
REFERENCES.....	55
APPENDIX	58
QUESTIONNAIRE	58

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
KDF	Kenya Defence Forces
KIPPRA	Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
NCTC	National Counter Terrorism Centre
OIC	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
SESRIC	Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
US	United States

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1 Sample Frame.....	26
Table 4.1: Occupation of Respondents.....	31
Table 4.2: National Unemployment Rate and Mombasa County Unemployment Rate	35

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework	20
Figure 2.1. Map of Mombasa County	24
Figure 4.1: Gender of Respondents	32
Figure 4.2: Age of the Respondents	32
Figure 4.3: Violent Extremism is a Major Security Issue in Mombasa County	34
Figure 4.4: Factors Influencing Violent Extremism in Mombasa County	35
Figure 4.5: Initiative Implemented in Mombasa County to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism	37
Figure 4.6: Effectiveness of Community-Based Methods in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism	38
Figure 4.7: Responses on the Effectiveness of Community Policing in Countering Violent Extremism.	39
Figure 4.8: Responses on the Relationship Between the Police and Community people	40
Figure 4.9: Youths Participation as Preventors of Violent Extremism in Mombasa County	42
Figure 4.10: Women Participation as Preventors of Violent Extremism in Mombasa County	43
Figure 4.11: Respondents Opinion About Funding challenges	44
Figure 4.12: Responses on Whether the Grievances of the People are adequately Addressed	45
Figure 4.13: Responses on Stigmatization Causes Returnees Not to Seek Rehabilitation	46

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This study intended to look at the effectiveness of community-based civic programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. This chapter presents the background of the study, statement of the problem, research objectives, research questions, justification, scope and limitations, key assumptions and chapter summary.

1.1 Background of the Study

According to Subedi and Jenkins (2016), violent extremism is the willingness to support the use of violence or to use violence as means for advancing particular ideological, political or religious objectives. Individuals or groups who embrace violent extremism may resort to extreme measures, including acts of violence against civilians, institutions, or any other targets with the intention of advancing their goals. The emergence of violent extremist groups and their widespread perpetration of atrocities across various regions has elevated the issue of violent extremism to the forefront of the international agenda (SESRIC, 2017). The detrimental human, social, and economic impacts of these acts underscore the urgency of addressing this phenomenon. It has become evident that relying solely on traditional hard security measures is insufficient in effectively tackling violent extremism. Additionally, combating a problem requires a comprehensive understanding of its root causes and underlying dynamics. Therefore, there is a pressing need for in-depth comprehension of the factors contributing to violent extremism within communities. Such understanding is imperative for the success of efforts aimed at countering and ultimately defeating it.

It is also worth noting that this phenomenon has evolved overtime. In previous waves of violent extremism, ideological and nationalistic motivations predominated, but in the current era, religious narratives have taken center stage. While extremism was once prevalent primarily among countries within the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), today, this phenomenon has spread to diverse regions worldwide (United States Institute of Peace, & Wilson Center, 2017). A thorough analysis of the narratives employed by contemporary violent extremist groups reveals their adept use of socio-economic, political, and personal grievances to influence public opinion, disseminate messages, recruit new members, and garner sympathy. These narratives often incorporate distinct terms rooted in issues such as political instability, socio-economic stagnation, civic unrest, and, in some instances, armed conflict (SESRIC, 2017).

Values of unity and allegiance are prevalent themes in the narratives of contemporary violent extremist and radical groups. Similarly, a narrative emphasizing duty and obligation is evident, reinforcing a profound sense of commitment to the cause. In the current landscape, martyrdom is portrayed as the ultimate act of sacrificial devotion. Particularly within the tactics of extremist factions like Al-Shabaab and Al-Qaeda, the concept of martyrdom often carries deeply emotive narratives of sacrifice, purity, determination, and the promise of redemption in the afterlife. These violent extremist groups manipulate Islamic terminology to justify their actions, intertwining historical symbols, deeply held beliefs, core grievances, and strategic objectives to further their agenda within the broader Islamic community. Therefore, it is imperative to distinguish between Islam and terrorism when discussing or defining waves of violent extremism. This delineation is crucial, especially as analysis reveals that Islamic terms have been weaponized as the central pillars of extremist discourses (SESRIC, 2017).

As previously mentioned, comprehending the underlying factors driving violent extremism is imperative for effective intervention. In developing nations, several key root causes come to light. Ranstorp (2016) outlines push factors that contribute to violent extremism, including social, economic, political, and personal grievances, feelings of injustice and discrimination, frustration, personal crises, tragedies, and a fascination with violence. Among these root causes, the youth bulge coupled with youth unemployment stands out prominently (Izzi, 2020). The proportion of young people in the population of these nations is notably high, and there exists a correlation between youth unemployment and violence. When young individuals struggle to secure meaningful employment, they may become marginalized from both the economy and society at large. This leads to profound frustration, as avenues to channel this frustration positively are scarce. Consequently, some young people may gravitate towards violent extremism, perceiving it as their only recourse for addressing their grievances.

It is evident that hard security measures alone will not suffice to confront violent extremism. Effective solution is that which focuses on mitigating the collective and individual grievances and drivers that can easily fuel violence. This calls for cross sectional efforts to prevent and counter the spread of radicalization and recruitment in local communities. A particular focus should be put on the youth, women, civil society and local stakeholders. This includes religious leaders. Such interventions focus on integrating the individuals who had joined extremist groups and are willing to leave the lifestyle behind and return to the community (UN institute for Training and Research, n.d.). When reintegrated back to the community, the former violent extremists serve as messengers to their communities and regions.

According to Metre (2016), the community's resilience is a factor of consideration in the implementation of community-based interventions to violent extremism. One community

resilience capacity is social capital. This relates to ability of different groups within the community to work together in dealing with violent extremism. Other factors that impact the success of community initiatives include the communication among the community members, and the ability of a community to leverage its economic resources in direct response to violent groups. This background provided the base on which the community-based civic programmes for countering and preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County were assessed.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Efforts to counter violent extremism aim to address the underlying conditions that foster it, ultimately thwarting terrorist groups' recruitment and support networks. The strategies and methodologies employed by governments and civil society organizations vary, tailored to the specific contexts and challenges they face. One pivotal approach in addressing this issue is community engagement. Community engagement initiatives prioritize establishing trust within local communities and involving them as active partners in developing locally-driven solutions to pertinent issues. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, these initiatives seek to raise community awareness about the dangers of violent extremism, equip them with necessary resources, and empower them to intervene and prevent radicalization and violence. Heightened community awareness of potential security threats not only enhances their resilience but also equips them to proactively address and counter these threats autonomously.

Preventing violent extremism is a priority for the Kenyan government. To this end, it has implemented community-based programmes to help curb violent extremism in Mombasa County. Kenya has witnessed several terrorist attacks in the coastal region orchestrated mainly by radicalized persons. According to Chitembwe (2021), youth radicalization in Mombasa County is not a recent phenomenon, but can be traced over two decades back. Radicalization explains the

growing insecurity in the region, which has in turn created negative social, and economic effects. The continuing attacks raise concern about the effectiveness of the community-based programmes that have been employed to prevent violent extremism in Mombasa County. To investigate this, this study assessed the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) initiatives in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County, examined the effectiveness of the community-based programmes, and evaluated challenges in the implementation of counter-violent extremism programmes.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This section brings out the general objective and outlines the specific objectives of the study.

1.3.1 General Objective

The general objective of this study is to analyse the effectiveness of community-based civic programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of this study are to:

- i. Assess NCTC Initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya.
- ii. Examine the effectiveness of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya.
- iii. Evaluate the challenges facing effective implementation of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya.

1.4 Research Questions

- i. What are the NCTC initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya?

- ii. How effective are community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya?
- iii. What are the Challenges facing effective implementation of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya?

1.5 Justification

This section brings out the policy and academic justification of the study.

1.5.1 Policy Justification

The study finding informs policymakers about the effectiveness of community-based approaches in countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. It discloses the weaknesses of this strategy that policymakers can improve upon. Community focused interventions have proven effective as a means that encourages community participation in creating secure societies. Therefore, this study's recommendation offers information that can help strengthen interaction between diverse stakeholders in resolving violent extremism, which in turn enhances the overall impact of community-focused initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism.

1.5.2 Academic Justification

Violent extremism in the global context is a widely researched subject, however there is limited research available that has explored violent extremism in Kenya, particularly in Mombasa County, and so this study will fill this scholarly gap. There is also detailed information about security focused counter-terrorism efforts that have been implemented by the government, such as deployment of security personnel, but community-based programmes have received little attention. This study therefore, conducted an in-depth analysis on the effectiveness of community programmes in countering terrorism and fills this academic knowledge gap.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This study is significant because it addresses a pressing issue in the society today of violent extremism. It is a relevant study for NCTC and security agencies because it reveals the link between the persistence of terrorist attacks in Mombasa County and community-based interventions. The study also offers relevant information that these agencies can apply to enhance the counter violent extremism programmes' effectiveness. The study informs the county government of Mombasa about the policies that need implementation and those that should be enhanced to promote Mombasa County's resilience against radicalization. The study also informs the role of Mombasa residents, both the young and old and the community leaders, in fostering peace and resilience against extremist ideologies. This study provides academicians with insight about dynamics of violent extremism in the local communities and obstacles that are hindering the effectiveness of community-based measures applied against this problem.

1.7 Scope and Limitations

The focus of the study was about community-based civic programmes for preventing violent extremism in the six Mombasa sub-counties of Nyali, Mvita, Changamwe, Kisauni, Likoni, na Jomvu. It assessed performance of the community-based programmes since the establishment of the National Counter Terrorism Centre in 2004 through the decision of the Cabinet.

There is one major challenge that was experienced in this study, which was reluctance of the respondents to disclose sensitive information. To NCTC and security agencies personnel who participated in the study, the researcher presented to them letter of authorization from the school as proof that the research was for academic purpose. To the community people, the researcher assured them that confidentiality of information will be observed to help get rid of the fear to disclose information.

1.8 Key Assumptions

The first assumption of this study was that diverse community-based civic programmes have been implemented in Mombasa County focusing on preventing violent extremisms. The study also assumes that the data collected is sufficient to draw conclusions about the performance of the community-based programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County and other counties across Kenya.

1.9 Chapter Summary

This chapter was organized in several sections including the introduction, background of the study, statement of the problem, general objective, specific objectives, research questions, justification, significance, scope and limitations, and key assumptions. Altogether, these subsections have established a solid introduction about this study on community-based civic programmes and prevention of violent extremism in Mombasa County. The issues in question have been correctly identified and articulated through the statement of the problem and the listed objectives allow them to be studied systematically in the chapters that follow.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a comprehensive empirical review, theoretical framework, conceptual framework and ends with chapter summary. The literature discussed was related to the study topic on community-based civic programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County.

2.1 Empirical Literature Review

The literature is selected based on the specific objectives of the study. It starts by looking at community-based initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism. Thereafter, it presents other scholars' view on the effectiveness of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism and identifies the challenges that could affect effective implementation of the initiatives. This analysis is critical for identifying gaps in existing literature as well as areas with limited information which the study could fill.

2.1.1 Community-Based Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

UNDP (2016) describes violent extremism as the adoption and promotion of extremist beliefs, accompanied by the use of violence, as a means to achieve political, ideological and/ or religious goals. The threat of violent extremism is a persistent and complex challenge that continues to shape the global security landscape in profound ways. This is evidenced by the fact that in recent years, the world has experienced a rise in violent extremism. Extremist groups such as the al-Qaeda and Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), despite their countries of origin, have struck violently through various parts of Africa, Asia, North America and Europe (UNDP, 2016). Al-Shabaab and Boko Haram have also achieved significant regional outreach. Violent extremism offers critical challenges at the global, regional, and national levels and many of the traditional tools of

preventing violence are incapable of eradicating this menace. This explains the reason that governments across the globe and organizations are now exploring various unconventional approaches aimed at preventing and countering this problem.

According to the UNDP report, communities' inclusion can lead to better societies that are safeguarded from violent extremism (UNDP, 2016). Therefore, community-based civic programmes have gained traction in societies to counter extremism. Mesok (2022) concurs that counter counter-violent extremism is a widespread phenomenon that is now relying on community engagements, often referred as 'non-coercive strategy, which stands in contrast to coercive tactics employed by military. Community programmes are designed to engage communities at the grassroots level, empower local stakeholders, and address the underlying factors that contribute to radicalization. These programmes aim to prevent the radicalization process before it starts through various prevention initiatives. Through the implementation of civic programmes, community members are provided with the necessary tools, such as getting education on how to identify signs of radicalization and intervene early on. Moreover, community-based interventions also seek to rehabilitate those that have already been radicalized.

According to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (2023), preventing and countering violent extremism has to start at the community level because violent extremist groups tend to take root in marginalized areas, and use local grievances to recruit youths in vulnerable life situations. This is a reality that can be observed across the world, such that communities grappling with violent extremism, majority of them are economically challenged. These are people suffering from various degrees of unemployment, marginalized populations, among other drivers. Therefore, effective governance is critical to addressing these aggravating factors and to eliminate the underlying conditions that create grievances in people.

A report by the government of Australia explains that this is a country that has shown commitment in combating violent extremism. It has developed a comprehensive approach that involves communities to build resilience against racially, religiously, and politically motivated extremism (Australian Government, 2023). The federal, state, and territorial government agencies have formed vital partnerships with communities to implement diverse activities focused on combating extremism. One of the activities they focus on is building strength in diversity and increasing social participation. This entails addressing drivers that lead to isolation and disengagement, organizing multicultural community initiatives and other diverse social programmes to promote and enhance social cohesion, promote migrant integration and strengthen their participation in the economy. Another activity that the community and government implement is early intervention, disengagement and reintegration. It includes empowering communities to identify and support the persons highly vulnerable to violent extremism, introducing and funding education, training and mentoring programmes for youths to build their resilience towards extremists' influences, and introducing rehabilitation institutions that rehabilitate people from violent ideologies and beliefs and help them reintegrate into the society. The government also works with vulnerable communities to help them identify and prevent people from taking the path of radicalization. The government of Australia also empowers community voices online to combat extremist narratives. It is clear that this community focused approach by the Australian government is comprehensive and addresses all dimensions of community vulnerabilities to violent-extremis. It addresses all factors that are necessary to reducing people's vulnerability to extremists' influences in the communities.

A report published by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which is one of the world's largest regional security organizations with member states from Europe, North

America and Central Asia, it recommends the use of community policing as a community-based initiative to fight violent extremism (OSCE, 2014). It can be an effective strategy when it is implemented with adequate planning and preparation. This report points out that countries that utilize this approach should recognize that there is a limit on how community policing can contribute to tackling violent extremism. The role of the police should be limited to proactive prevention efforts that require that various economic, social, and political factors be addressed. It is also effective when utilized as part of a wide variety of other measures and collectively they can have a beneficial impact. According to the report, intelligence is also critical in community policing and interaction with the public is normally a major source of information (OSCE, 2014). The police encourage the members of public to share concerns on community safety and to report suspicious activity. To a great extent, community policing increases the public's vigilance and resilience, because by providing information and through the advice they receive from the police, the communities are empowered to be on the lookout.

Mesok (2022) carried out a study to identify the community-based initiatives that are being used in Kenya to counter violent extremism. This study had participants from various parts of the country including Isiolo, Mombasa and Nairobi. The researcher established that community policing is being used in these regions as a non-coercive means of producing security within the mentioned communities. Mesok (2022) explains that community policing is an approach intended to build trust between the communities and police, to promote greater reporting of people suspected of radicalizing toward violent extremism. Mazerolle (2020) concurs that policing intervention is critical because it promotes community interconnectedness and social inclusion, thereby preventing violent extremism. They further explain that when community policing is conducted in a fair and inclusive manner, they can foster a deep understanding of the local

communities. As the authors have expressed, this is an important foundation that places the police in a position where they can easily identify the persons at risk of being radicalized. Schanzer (2016) further expounds that the police could also collaborate with other agencies and together, they can actively engage the community to improve economic opportunities, reduce social isolation, and create cultural and social norms that prevent violent extremism.

2.1.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering

Violent Extremism

A strategy for countering violent extremism is effective if it undermines the appeal of extremist ideologies and prevents the continued spread of this menace. According to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (2018) there are a number of reasons the community-based approaches are critical in counter violent extremism efforts. The first reason that OSCE describes is that community-based initiatives are locally rooted, have legitimacy, access, and influence. They are also rolled out of genuine concern for the community's safety and well-being. This makes the people involved willing to be versatile and ready to take the necessary risk to address this security concern. This approach also considers the local trends and dynamics that could be driving violent extremism, this it can offer context-specific responses. Community-based initiatives are also critical because they create opportunities for addressing grievances that could be operating as motivators of violent extremism. Therefore, they diffuse tensions between the community people and the government, challenge violent extremists' narratives and counter efforts by violent groups to leverage community grievances for recruitment purposes.

Bogna (n.d.) concurs with OSCE that community-based initiatives for preventing violent extremism are effective because they are responsive to local realities. Even when the focus is rehabilitating and reintegrating former extremists, they are equally effective. The author expresses

that another factor that contributes to the effectiveness of community-based initiatives in tackling violent extremism is that the community itself is a source of experts who can also be integrated into the teams that are supporting the initiative. Bogna offers the examples of these experts include the local religious leaders and the well-known charismatic figureheads. They help in building a good degree of legitimacy. Bogna adds that community initiatives are especially effective for rehabilitation and reintegration of former extremists because they offer alternatives to custody, which may reflect the best interest of the targeted individuals. The initiative can include mechanism for diverting from legal proceedings, thus operating as means for channelling someone away from involvement in illegal extremist groups. This is an important consideration, especially for the youths who stand to gain a lot from rehabilitative and non-punitive effects.

The effectiveness of community-based initiatives in combating violent extremism is significantly influenced by the key actors involved. As highlighted by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (2018), youth, women, and community leaders play pivotal roles in these initiatives, making impactful and enduring contributions to the cause. Youth, in particular, represent a strategic reservoir of resilience against violent extremism, leveraging their energy, activism, and innovative ideas when provided with adequate support and constructive channels. Through their participation as representatives, activists, volunteers, and young professionals, they effectively engage in preventive programs by mobilizing their peers and raising awareness about the detrimental consequences of terrorist groups while promoting positive alternative narratives. Similarly, women emerge as influential agents of change in societies where they wield visibility in the public sphere, as underscored by Young Africans for Peace and Development (2018). Women exert significant influence on counter-violent extremism efforts in various roles, including as policymakers, political leaders, educators, mothers, community members, and activists. Their

multifaceted contributions bolster community resilience and foster inclusive approaches to addressing violent extremism.

Women possess a crucial role in directly intervening with girls and women susceptible to terrorist radicalization, those already radicalized, and individuals returning from involvement in violent extremism. This role becomes particularly vital in culturally conservative communities, where communication and access to women are often restricted to female relatives and other women. Additionally, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (2018) emphasizes the impactful contributions of community leaders across various stages, from early prevention efforts to the rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals involved in violent extremism. Community leaders, being credible figures with unique insights into the concerns and influences within their communities, serve as effective communicators of alternative narratives. Leveraging their authority, credibility, and close relationships with community members, they play a pivotal role in mentoring youth on the values of peace and tolerance, fostering resilience against messages of hate.

As part of community-based efforts on countering the violent extremism, community policing has been identified as an effective means by which a society can curb the spread of extremist ideologies and violent extremism. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (2014) identified key principles that influence the effectiveness of community policing in addressing violent extremism. One of its key principles is the ability to foster and enhance trusting relationships within the community. By actively engaging with residents, police officers gain a deeper understanding of local concerns, values, and priorities. This increased interaction and collaboration not only help to improve communication and cooperation but also empower community members to play a more active role in addressing violent extremism. The second principle is the ability to engage residents

in addressing issues on public safety. Through community policing programs, residents can be educated about the signs of radicalization and extremism, empowering them to recognize and report concerning behaviour early on.

The third principle is the ability to work cooperatively with other agencies to actively arrive at solutions to counter violent extremist. By collaborating with other stakeholders, community police can leverage a wide range of resources and expertise to address the complex challenges posed by violent extremism. They also actively engage other agencies involved in order to share valuable information useful in countering violent extremism. Trusting partnerships between the police and the community is the cornerstone of community policing and this trust is built through communication, transparency and respect. The law enforcement personnel also actively engage the community people to help curb grievances that lead to violent extremism.

2.1.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

The implementation of counter violent extremism community initiatives can be faced with diverse challenges. Tsingoyani (2016) conducted research on counter-terrorism activities in Kisauni and established that the initiative has not been successful because of incapacity in terms of funding from the government. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (2018) agrees that that one of the major challenges of community-based counter violent extremism initiatives is the lack of adequate and reliable funding. Counter-violent extremism is a long-term investment that is focused towards proactively addressing community grievances that are exploited by extremist group in their recruitment activities. It means that community-initiative is a complex process that not only requires dedication and passion, but most importantly, reliable financial support. In a majority of cases, there is inadequate supply of funding. The funding timelines could be short-term

in nature, which makes long-term planning difficult. Sustainability of the programmes can be a concern when there is constant searching for new funding. Overall, limited funding impacts programme reach, scope and effectiveness.

Personal security and safety of the actors working in the field of counter violent extremism face numerous challenges; threats to personal safety are among the main ones. According to Mandaville & Nozelle (2017) counter-violent extremism actors can be called upon by security personnel to provide information on signs of radicalization among members of the community. The authors mention that Mombasa City is one of the areas whereby Muslim leader are part of counter violent-extremism efforts and when they comply, they risk their lives because they are perceived as agents of government. By engaging with individuals who are on the path to terrorist radicalization or may have already committed terrorism-related criminal offences, the actors also expose themselves to great personal risks (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, 2018). It is crucial to acknowledge that the environments where they operate are seldom neutral; instead, they are frequently polarized and volatile. Violent extremist networks, responsible for recruiting and mobilizing individuals into terrorist organizations, often target vulnerable communities. These actors directly confront and counter particularly dangerous organizations that espouse violence as an acceptable means, even within civilian contexts.

According to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (2018), in today's interconnected and globalized world, violent extremism has become an increasingly intricate phenomenon shaped by a dynamic interplay of geopolitical factors and a complex array of local conditions, grievances, and circumstances. Consequently, effectively addressing the local manifestations of violent extremism necessitates both a broad understanding of its transnational dimensions and ideological underpinnings, as well as a nuanced and objective assessment of the

local drivers and dynamics of terrorist radicalization. In communities characterized by highly politicized ethnic or religious identities, which may have a history of sectarian discrimination or violence, violent extremism often manifests along political, ethnic, or religious fault lines. It is imperative that programs are carefully designed to avoid targeting or stigmatizing specific groups, thereby preventing the escalation of polarization and exacerbation of ethnic tensions. Instead, efforts should focus on fostering inclusivity, promoting dialogue, and addressing underlying grievances in a manner that promotes social cohesion and resilience.

According to Schanzer (2016), law enforcement personnel face multiple challenges in trying to partner with community to prevent violent extremism. Building trust between the law enforcement and communities is a fundamental aspect. In the context of countering violent extremism, overcoming historical mistrust particularly among minority or marginalized communities can be particularly challenging. Schanzer (2016), gives an example of the community-based efforts to counter violent extremism in the United States (US), whereby the Muslim American expressed reluctance to cooperate or expressed opposition to such programmes. This happened because of their deep suspicion of interacting directly with the US law enforcement personnel. Stigmatization is also a key challenge that hinder persons that has been radicalized from seeking help. Community members also become reluctant about engaging traditional avenues, such as involving law enforcement. People may not know how best to intervene in a case involving a youth, especially when they have not committed violence, but intuitively, the family or community people can recognize something is wrong. In such circumstances, it becomes problematic to turn to the law enforcement to help the youth reconnect with the community.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

Programmes for preventing and countering violent extremism have become major area of focus in the last decade following the growing number of incidents of terrorism across the globe. In this case, social capital theory provides the basis for studying the impact that community-based initiatives have in countering violent extremism. The modern understanding of this theory is credited to Coleman (1988) who noted that personal networks and relationships are critical in enforcing norms and generating trust. Coleman defines social capital as a variety of entities that consist of social structure which influence actions of the individuals within the structure. Through it, certain ends are achieved. Janowitz (1975) equates social capital to social ties, thereby arguing that strong social ties in a neighbourhood lead to more effective social control. In this case, social control means a social group ability to regulate itself.

Savage and Kanazawa (2002) express that the strong ties to others inhibit antisocial behaviour. This is because social capital yields social status and resources which motivate proper behaviour. The theory explains that strong social ties in a neighbourhood lead to more effective social control and societies are able to self-regulate. In this regard, the actors involved in community-based efforts on countering violent extremism seek to build stronger ties between people, and this empowers the people to exercise greater control over their security including reporting those suspected suspicious behaviour. It also promises rehabilitation and integration to the offenders of violent extremism, which act as a motivator for them to pursue good behaviour. These are the resources and the social status that the theory explains, which influence change of behaviour.

This theory is relevant to the study because the focus of community-based initiatives is to bring people within a community together in the promotion of security and safety. Social capital theory therefore offers valuable insight about how the Mombasa community can play a crucial role in

countering violent extremism. Hence, the networks, relationships and norms of reciprocity in the community can enhance its resilience to violent extremism. As the theory explains, social capital contributes to the development of positive relationships between law enforcement agencies and community members and other stakeholders, thereby increasing the willingness of individuals to report suspicious behaviour, engage in preventive interventions, and collaborate on initiatives aimed at eradicating violent extremism.

2.3 Conceptual Framework

The study’s conceptual framework depicts the independent and the dependent variables. The link between these variables is shown below.

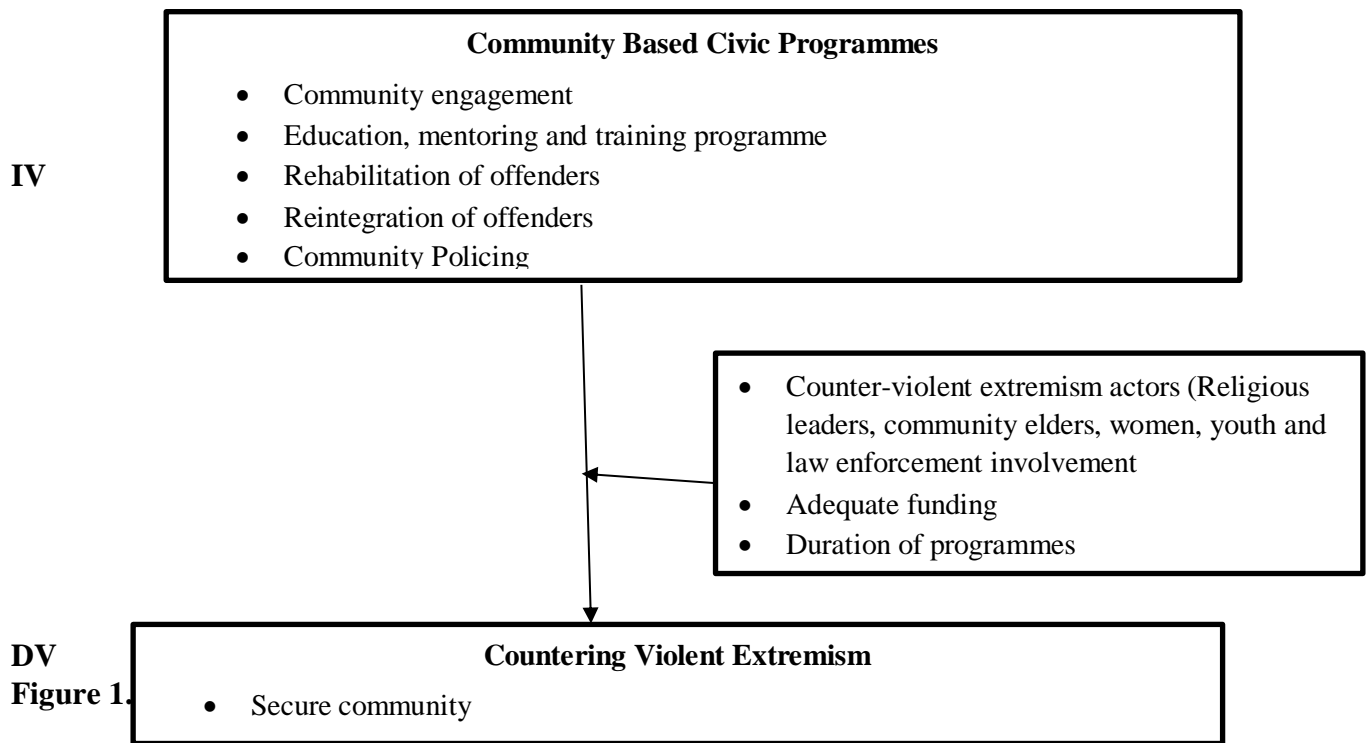


Figure 1.1 illustrates this study’s independent, dependent and mediator variables. As shown, community based civic programmes is the independent variable of the study while countering violent extremism represent the study’s dependent variable. The various community operations

against violent extremism, such as community policing, rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders among others represent the sub-variables of the independent variable.

The mediator variables are factors that intervene in the relationship between the dependent and independent variable. These are the mechanisms that determine the effectiveness of community-based initiatives to counter violent extremism. They include the participation of the counter-violent extremism actors (men, women, religious leaders and the police), availability of funding, and the duration of the programme. Actors work collaboratively to address the complex and multifaceted challenges posed by violent extremism. Their efforts aim to prevent radicalization, protect vulnerable individuals and communities, and promote a society built on principles of peace, and respect for human rights. Funding supports the implementation, and evaluation of counter-violent extremism programs and interventions tailored to address specific local contexts. This may include community engagement initiatives, youth outreach programs, education and vocational training, mental health services, and rehabilitation and reintegration efforts for former extremists. The duration of counter-violent extremism is a determiner of success. This is because extremist ideologies and radicalization processes often develop over extended periods. Therefore, CVE programs need sufficient duration to enact meaningful changes in individuals, communities, and societies. Long-term interventions can address root causes, build resilience, and promote sustainable behavioural changes that endure beyond the program's lifespan.

2.4 Chapter Summary

This chapter presents the empirical, theoretical framework and the conceptual framework. The empirical literature review subsection identified, evaluated and synthesized existing empirical studies relevant to the research topic. The review was organized according to the study objectives.

Firstly, concerning community-based initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism, the analyzed literature showed that the use of traditional tools in eradicating violent extremism proved inadequate forcing governments to explore unconventional approaches, among them being communities' inclusion through community-based interventions that build resilience against extremism. Concerning the effectiveness of community-based initiative, diverse authors described it as an effective means of countering violent extremism because it can address the grievances that act as motivators for extremism and also combines experts and other actors, who ensure that the initiatives are successful. The review also determined that community-based counter-violent extremism efforts face challenges such as inadequate funding, threat to personal security and safety of the actors, risk of ethnic tensions, and mistrust between the community and law enforcement personnel. The theoretical framework described the social capital theory as the theory of choice guiding the research. It is a theory that supports the establishment of strong community ties to curb negative behaviour. Thus, community initiatives are important for developing positive relationships, to curb violent extremism. The chapter also depicted the study's conceptual framework. Having reviewed the relevant data and determined the theoretical and conceptual frameworks, the next chapter delved into the research methodology of the study.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter delves into the comprehensive framework and approach that was employed to tackle research inquiries within this study. It encompasses the study design, study site, sample dimensions and the techniques applied for data analysis and the subsequent presentation of findings.

3.1 Research Design

This was qualitative research that adopted a descriptive research design. A descriptive approach is a design of choice when a straight forward description of a phenomenon is desired (Elliott, R., & Timulak, 2015). Thus, it was useful in this study which sought to establish the impact of community-based civic programmes in countering and preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. Therefore, data was collected that portrays the reality of the influence of diverse community-based initiatives that have been applied and how they are tackling the problem of violent extremism.

3.2 Research Site

Mombasa is one of Kenya's 47 counties. This county's geographical boundaries are defined by Kilifi to the North, Kwale to the South West, and Indian Ocean to the East. Mombasa County encompasses a land area of 229.9 square kilometres, with an additional 65 square kilometres of water body extending 200 nautical miles into the Indian Ocean (KIPPRA, 2023). Mombasa Country is situated in a coastal lowland region, gradually ascending from sea level in the East to approximately 132 meters above sea level on the mainland.

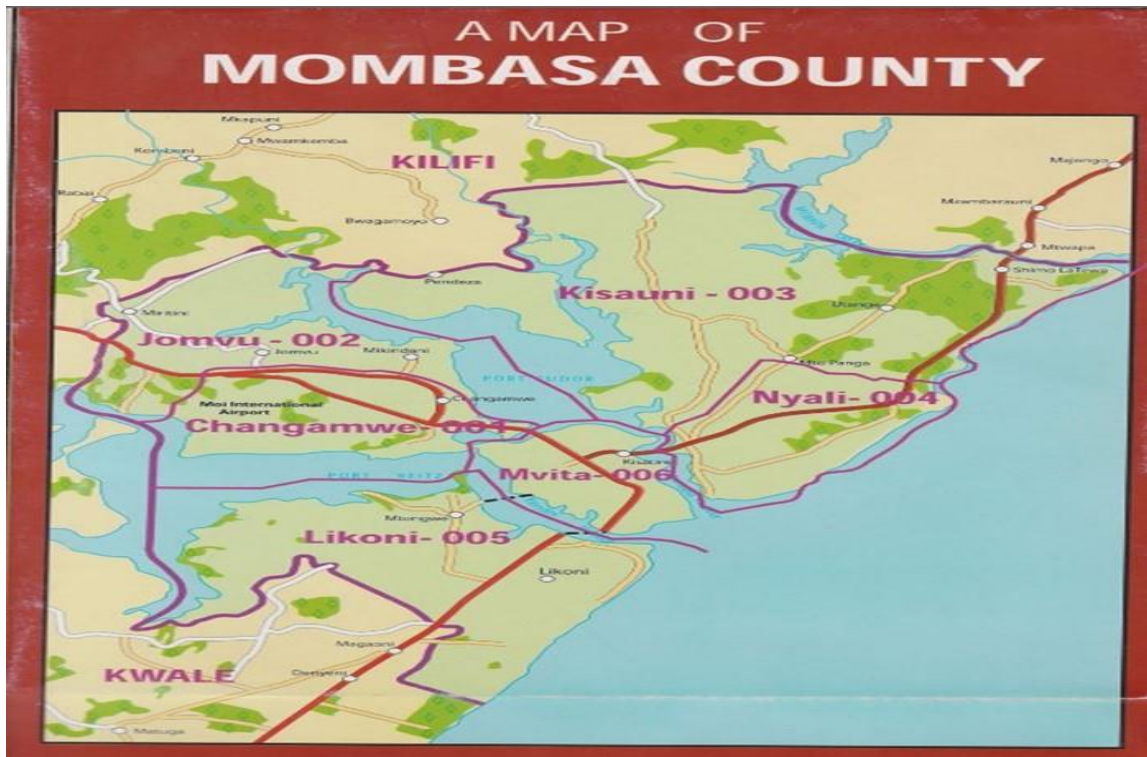


Figure 2.1. Map of Mombasa County

Source: Tourists Maps Kenya Ltd (2020).

Administratively, the county is divided into six sub-counties, namely Nyali, Mvita, Likoni, Kisauni, Changamwe, and Jomvu. The sub-counties are further subdivided into 12 divisions and 62 sub-locations. According to the statistics by the County Government of Mombasa, it has a population of about 939,370 (Mombasa County Government, 2023). The distribution of this population and settlement patterns are influenced by proximity to vital social and physical infrastructure networks, such as roads, water, housing and electricity. Its terrain can be characterised by three distinct physiographic features: Coastal plain; hilly areas; Indian Ocean and shoreline. Other physiographic features in the area include fringing coral reefs, cliffs, tidal flats and sandy beaches. These features have had profound influence on the economic development of this county (KIPPRA, 2023). For instance, the sea supports maritime trade, fostering economic

growth. The coral reefs, creeks, and extensive mangrove forests serve as vital breeding grounds for fish, contributing significantly to the fishing industry.

3.3 Target Population

The target population within a research study encompasses the complete number of individuals for which the study data is intended to draw conclusions. The delineation of the target population in any research endeavour holds significance to the identification of the study's objective. As asserted by Gall, Borg, and Gall (2003), the target population serves as a robust cornerstone and initial stride upon which to construct the study's credibility and dependability. This study targeted personnel working in National Counter-Terrorism Centre, Chiefs in Mombasa County, Imams and church leaders, Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) officers, and police officers involved in community policing efforts.

3.4 Sample Size Determination

Determining the sample size is a critical step in research. The sample size represents the number of residents who are selected from the larger population for the purpose of a survey. The sample of respondents must be the representative of the target population to allow for generalization. The sample size of this study was determined using Yamane (1967) formula of calculating sample sizes shown below. In this formula, n represents the sample size, N is the target population size and e, the level of precision (10%).

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} = \frac{300}{1 + 300(0.1)^2}$$

n=75

From the above calculation, out of a target population of 300, this study’s sample size was determined to be 75 respondents. The numbers for each category of respondents are illustrated by the Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Sample Frame

Category of Respondents	Sample Size	Sampling
Police Officers	20	Random Sampling
KDF	20	Purposive Sampling
Chiefs	5	Purposive Sampling
Religious Leaders	15	Purposive Sampling
NCTC Personnel	15	Purposive Sampling
Total	75	

Source: Field Data, 2024

3.5 Sampling Techniques

As shown by Table 1.1, the study employed a combination of simple random sampling and purposive sampling methods. Simple random sampling selects the study sample in such a way that every member of the target population group has an equal chance of participating in the study. This sampling method was employed in selecting the number of police involved in community policing efforts, who will participate in the study. Purposive sampling involves selecting participants based on a specific criteria or characteristics relevant to the research. This method relies on the researcher’s judgement. The study used this method when selecting the KDF

personnel, Chiefs, religious leaders and the NCTC personnel. Only the individuals knowledgeable about the community initiatives employed in Mombasa County to counter violent extremism from the four groups participated in the study.

3.6 Data Collection Instruments

Data collection instruments are the tools that the researcher used to collect data during the research process. The study used semi-structured questionnaires to collect data, which included close-ended questions and also open-ended questions to allow flexibility in the responses. Using a questionnaire was suitable for this research because it is a fast and efficient means of collecting data from a sizeable sample population. When it came to administering the questionnaires, they were self-administered by handing them to the respondents to be filled out. The other data collection tool was documentary analysis of secondary data sources, including academic books, peer reviewed journals, reports, newspapers, and government publications.

3.7 Reliability and Validity

According to Mohajan (2017), reliability is the stability of the findings. It measures trustworthiness, repeatability, precision, and consistency of research. According to Mohajan (2017), the term dependability is often used in place of reliability. Therefore, the researcher ensured the research is reliable through the choice of the study respondents. The researcher has adequately described the respondents fully, such that if there was desire by other inquirers to replicate this research, it could be done easily. Validity is the extent to which the instrument measures what it intends to measure, or in other words, the degree of truthfulness of the research results. To ensure validity, the research ensured adequate representation of target population and ensured the questionnaire is accurately structured in a manner that it is easy to understand and

precise to the respondents. To this end, it was reviewed by the research supervisor and based on their comments, any obscure and unclear questions were eliminated.

3.8 Data Analysis and Presentation

The aim of data analysis is to derive valuable and practical insights from the collected information. In this research, the presentation of participants' responses and drawing of conclusions was accomplished after the data collected was analysed. Therefore, the study used both qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods. For the qualitative data collected, thematic analysis was applied, whereby the researcher generated various themes from the data collected and was then presented in a narrative method to also include the researcher's interpretative analysis. The analysis of the quantitative data was conducted using Excel and the data presented in percentages, tables, and charts.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

Ethical considerations are fundamental in conducting research to ensure that the right, dignity and well-being of participants and other stakeholders are respected. Therefore, the researcher ensured to get the respondents consent about taking part in this research. In doing so, they were informed about the purposes, procedures, and benefits of the study. They were expected to provide voluntary and informed consent before participating. This was observed to ensure that respondents take part in this study without coercion or undue influence. The participants' privacy was protected by ensuring that their identities and information were kept confidential. The other ethical aspect that the researcher observed was ensuring research integrity. Therefore, it was conducted with honesty, transparency, avoiding fabrication or falsification of information, and ensuring that the secondary information is properly cited. These ethical considerations were crucial to ensure that this study was conducted responsibly.

3.10 Chapter Summary

This chapter articulated the study methodology that was applied in this research. It explains that this was qualitative research that utilized descriptive research design, which allowed the researcher to describe the state of counter-violent extremism efforts in Mombasa County. It also provided a brief description of Mombasa County as the research site. The study target were diverse respondents including personnel working for NCTC, Chiefs in Mombasa County, Imams, KDF personnel and police officers. It is explained that respondents were selected using purposive sampling method except for the police officers who were selected using random sampling method. The instruments applied for data collection included questionnaire and secondary data sources. This section also described the method of data analysis and presentation. Therefore, the qualitative data collected was analysed thematically and presented in a narrative method. The quantitative data was analysed using Excel and presented in percentages, tables and charts. The ethical considerations of research were also observed including seeking the respondents' consent, protecting their privacy, and ensuring research integrity in data presentation.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

This section of the study presents the analysis of the data collected from the participants. The questions in the questionnaire were guided by the study questions in order to establish the effectiveness of community-based civic programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. This chapter begins by presenting the demographic information of the respondents. What follows is the analysis, presentation and discussion, which are arranged according to the study's three objectives: NCTC Initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya; effectiveness of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa; challenges facing effective implementation of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa, Kenya.

4.1 The Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

The demographic information of the people who participated in this study includes their occupation, years of residency in Mombasa County, gender and age. This information was necessary as proof that data was collected from individuals who are well-informed and experienced on matters on the subject of study. Thus, the information that they have provided is sufficient for drawing conclusion about the effectiveness of community-based civic programmes for countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. The study was targeting 75 respondents, but 54 participants were able to respond to the questionnaires. A response rate was 72% and this is sufficient according to the scope of this study.

4.1.1 Occupation of the Respondents

Table 4.1: Occupation of Respondents

	Sample Size	No of Respondents
Police	20	19
KDF officers	20	20
Chiefs	5	2
Religious Leaders	15	10
NCTC Personnel	15	3
Total	75	54

Source: Field Data (2024)

The KDF personnel made up the majority of the respondents followed by the police. A significant number (10) of religious leaders also responded to the study. Majority of the respondents indicated that they had lived in Mombasa County for over 10 years. This means that they are knowledgeable about the issue of violent extremism in this area.

4.1.2 Gender of the Respondents

The male and female genders representation in this study was as shown by Figure 4.1. It shows that majority of participants (91%) were male majorly because they represent the largest population proportion in Kenya's security forces.

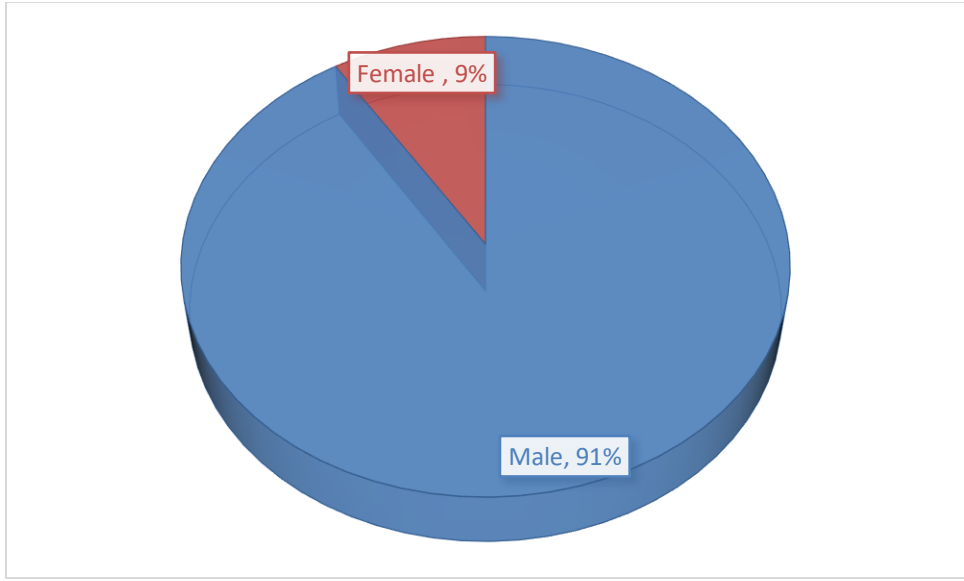


Figure 4.1: Gender of Respondents
Source: Field Data (2024)

4.1.3 Age of the Respondents

The age of the study participants is as illustrated by figure 4.2

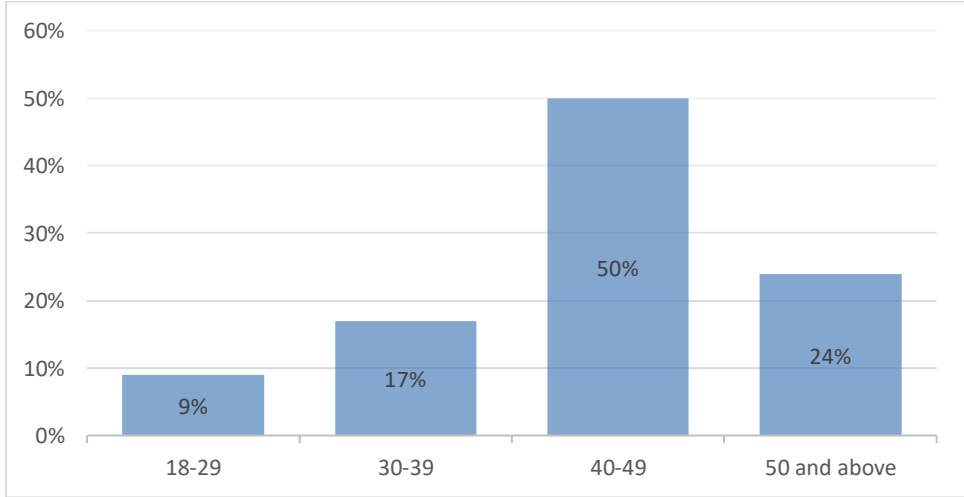


Figure 4.2: Age of the Respondents
Source: Field data (2024)

Figure 4.2 shows that majority (50%) of the respondents were 40-49 years. 24% were aged 50 years and above, 17% persons were between 30-39 years, and 9% between 18-29 years.

4.2 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya

The Security Amendment Act of 2014 provided for the establishment of the National Counter Terrorism Centre as a multiagency instrument responsible for coordinating national resources in the management of violent extremism and terrorism in Kenya. Therefore, it has been providing guidelines for the implementation of diverse counter-violent extremism activities across the country. Its role in providing direction in the fight against violent extremism is crucial and it is doing so through approaches that seek to bridge the gap between communities and the security sector. NCTC has been partnering with counties in trying to prevent violent extremism at the grassroots level. The aim is to mobilize the whole society towards taming violent extremism. The whole community-approach is expected to boost community resilience by focusing on the local drivers of violent extremism and also offers the locals the opportunity to take control of their security.

Mombasa County is one of the key regions of focus for NCTC because of the sporadic terrorist attacks that have been experienced in this region over the years. The following question was posed to the study participants: Do you consider violent extremism is a major security issue in Mombasa County? Their responses are illustrated by Figure 4.3.

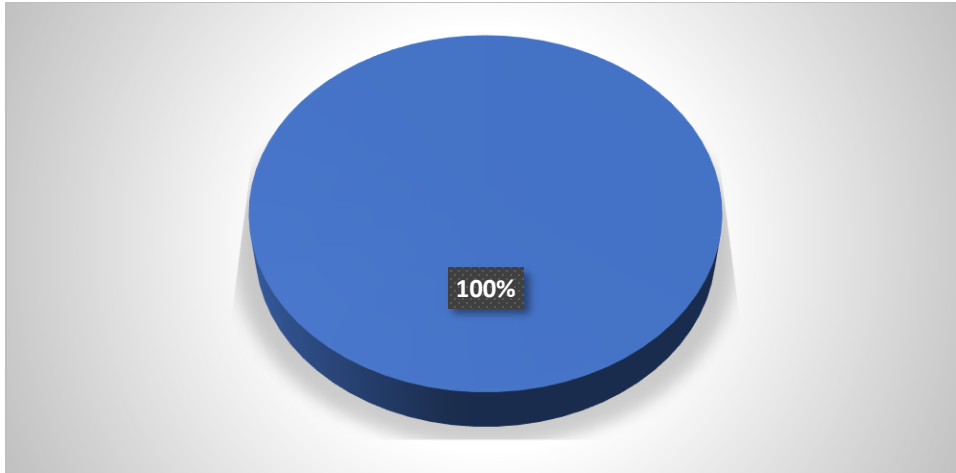


Figure 4.3: Violent Extremism is a Major Security Issue in Mombasa County
Source: Field Data (2024)

The figure above shows that all (100%) the respondents answered ‘yes’. They perceive violent extremism a key contributor to insecurity in this County. One of the respondents explained that there a high prevalence of extremist ideologies in Mombasa. Another explained that the terror attacks that have been happening in this county are a key indicator of violent extremism in this region. The respondents were then asked the population group they believe to be the most vulnerable to violent extremism. Once again, all the participant responded that youths are the most vulnerable. Chitembwe & Matanga (2021), concurred with the study report. Their study established that youth radicalization is on the rise in Mombasa County and youths are the perpetrators of some of the terrorist attacks that have occurred in this region, but orchestrated by the Al-Shabaab.

The study outlined three factors and inquired from the participants, which they believed to influence violent extremism in Mombasa County. Participants could select more than one factor. Their responses are showed by Figure 4.4.

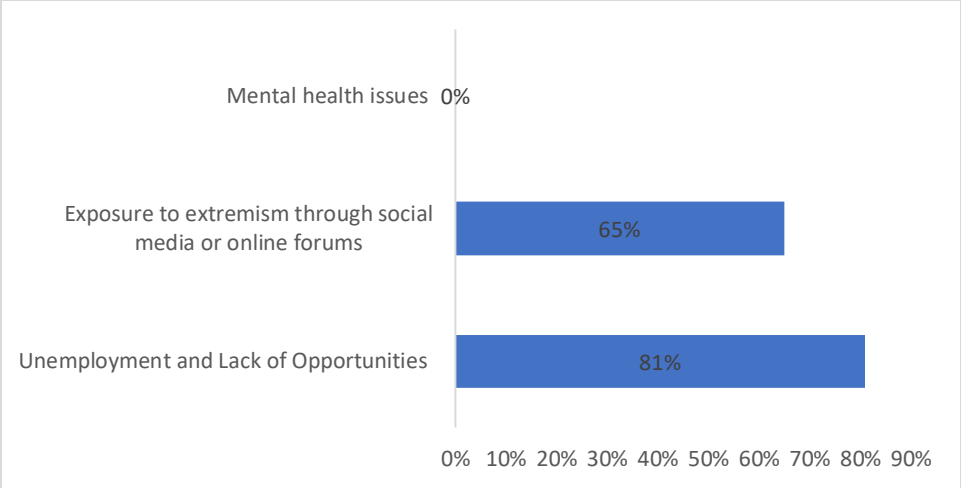


Figure 4.4: Factors Influencing Violent Extremism in Mombasa County
Source: Field Data (2024)

The Figure 4.4 shows that 81% of the respondents believe that unemployment and lack of opportunities is the greatest influencing factor of people engaging in violent extremism. 65% of the respondents believe that exposure to extremism through social media platforms and other online forums is key factor also. None of the respondents believe that mental health can influence an individual’s choice to engage in violent extremism. A study conducted on counter-violent extremism in Mombasa and Kwale county established high rates of unemployment, poverty, marginalization, and low education levels as the grievances associated with radicalization. Unemployment is a major problem in Mombasa County as is also illustrated by Table as reported by KUZA (n.d.)

Table 4.2: National Unemployment Rate and Mombasa County Unemployment Rate

National unemployment	National youth unemployment	Mombasa County unemployment	Mombasa County youth unemployment
11.3% (Source: ILO)	22.8% (Source: ILO)	13.1% (Source: Exploring Kenya’s Inequality, Mombasa. KNBS)	44% (Source: Kuza research)

Source: KUZA (n.d.)

Table 4.2 shows the statistics reported about national unemployment rate and unemployment rate in Mombasa County. It is clear that although the national youth unemployment rate is high, the youth unemployment rate in Mombasa County is even higher. Chitembwe & Matanga (2021) in their study also established youth unemployment as one of the greatest causes of radicalization in Mombasa County. In this study, one of the respondents said that youths are also vulnerable to radicalization because” Most of the youths who join the violent extremist groups/organization have shallow understanding of their Islamic faith, thus end up being recruited into terrorist groups.”

As earlier mentioned, NCTC is involve in mobilizing communities in efforts to curb violent extremism across the country. The study sought to establish whether the people of Mombasa County believe in this solution. The researcher therefore posed the following question to the study participants: Do you believe that the community has a role to play in curbing the problem of violent extremism? They all responded ‘yes’ to the question. One of them expressed that, “The extremists are from the community, and the community understands them best.” Another respondent said “it is the community that understands better why the youths get trapped into terrorist organizations, therefore it has a critical role to play in curbing the menace.”

The research sought to establish the initiative that have been implemented in Mombasa County to prevent and counter violent extremism. Their responses are illustrated by Figure 4.5.

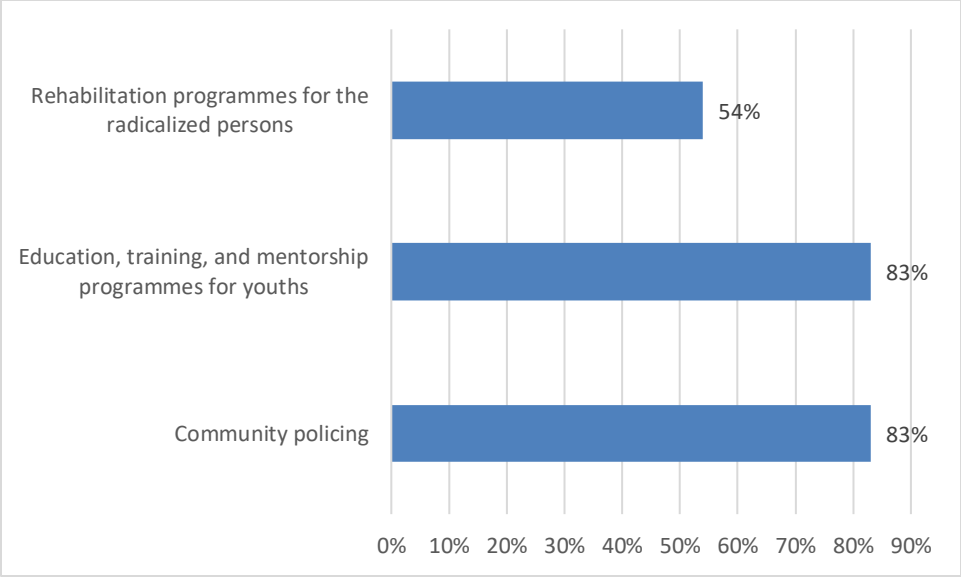


Figure 4.5: Initiative Implemented in Mombasa County to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.5 shows that 83% of the respondents mentioned community policing as one of the initiatives that have observed being used in Mombasa County to prevent and counter violent extremism. An equal number of participants mentioned education, training and mentorship as other efforts being applied in this county. Only 54% were familiar with the rehabilitation programmes that are being used in Mombasa County to reintegrate the people would have previously been radicalized back to the society. The results of this analysis prove that NCTC is working towards addressing this challenge of violent extremism in Mombasa County.

4.3 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa

The implementation of community-based approaches in countering and preventing violent extremism is critical, and this study sought to go further and determine if they have been effective in achieving the goal for which they were developed. These initiatives are expected to tackle

conditions in Mombasa County that are conducive to violent extremism. The researcher inquired from the respondents to indicate the extent by which they agree or disagree with the statement: Community-based methods are effective in preventing and countering violent extremism. Their responses are illustrated by Figure 4.6.

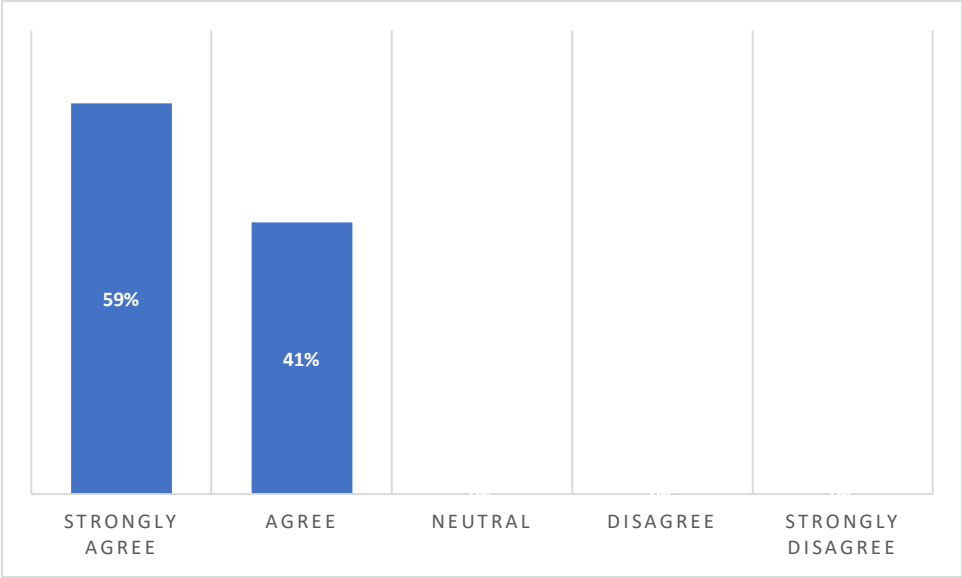


Figure 4.6: Effectiveness of Community-Based Methods in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.6 shows that majority of the participants (59%) strongly agreed that community-based methods are effective in preventing and countering violent extremism. 41% percent of respondents agreed. Overall, the respondents unanimously agreed that community-based initiatives are effective in countering violent extremism. One of the respondents explained that these initiatives are effective because they curb radicalization from the root because the radicalizers and their victims are known by their nuclear families. The other reason is that the community can easily tell those that are vulnerable, and so timely intervention can also be applied on them.

Figure 4.5 shows that community policing is one of the community-based initiatives that NCTC is applying in Mombasa County to help prevent and counter extremism. Determining the effectiveness of community policing was crucial for this study. The study participants were asked express their level of agreement or disagreement with the following statement” Community policing is an effective means of curbing the spread of extremist ideologies and violent extremism in Mombasa County. Their responses are shown by Figure 4.7.

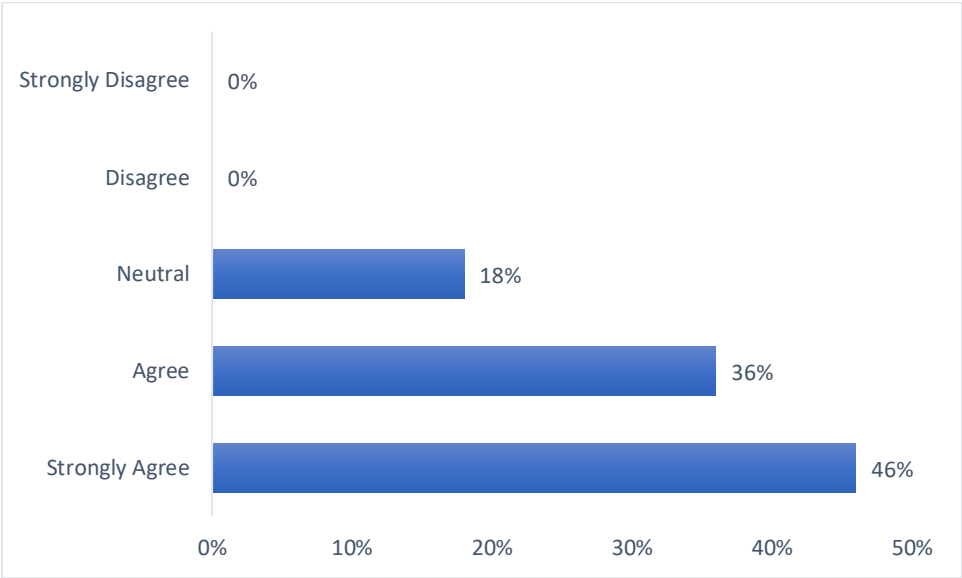


Figure 4.7: Responses on the Effectiveness of Community Policing in Countering Violent Extremism
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.7 shows that 46% of participants strongly agreed and 36% agreed to the assertion that community policing is effective in countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. 18% were uncertain about this. One of the respondents said that though it is a successful initiative, the success is partial because the underlying causes of violent extremism are not addressed. A set of questions were then presented to the respondents to evaluate the state of the interaction between the community people and police officers. These questions were: Is there transparency trust and

transparency between the police and the community? Are the people reluctant about sharing information with the police about those suspected of being radicalized? The responses are as shown by Figure 4.8.

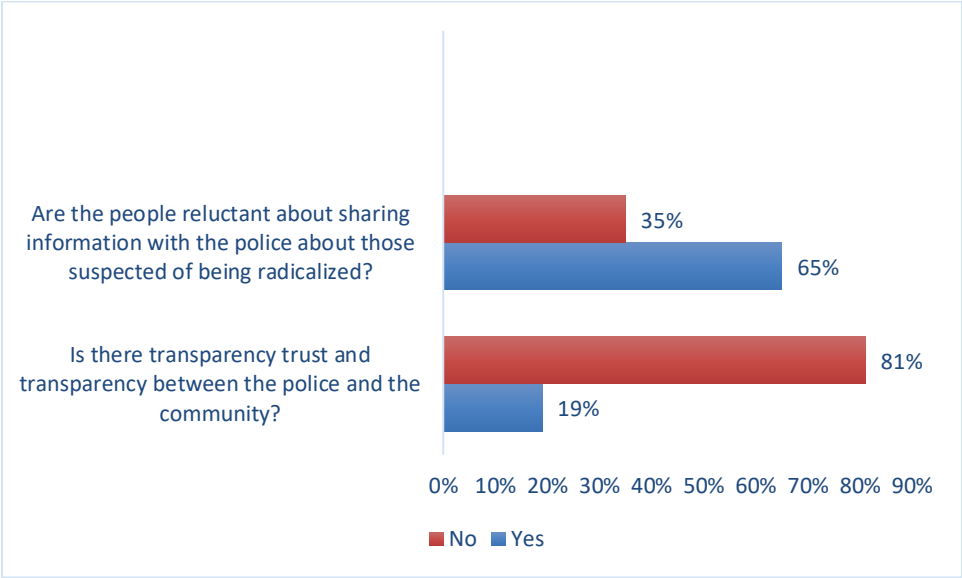


Figure 4.8: Responses on the Relationship Between the Police and Community people
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.8 illustrates the responses that the participants provided concerning the relationship between the police and the people of Mombasa County. Collaboration between the two stakeholders is critical in they are to win the fight against violent extremism. the Figure shows that 81% expressed that there isn't transparency and trust between the police and the community, and 19% hold a contrary opinion. Further 65% expressed that people are reluctant about sharing information with the police, which 35% believe otherwise. These responses illustrate that there is a problem in the relationship between the police and the people, which ends up affecting counter-violent extremism efforts negatively. One of the respondents explained that people fear sharing information with the law enforcement personnel is that they are afraid that the information would get to the suspect and then their lives would be in danger. Another explained that they are afraid

that police would take the drastic measure of exterminating the suspect, who sometimes could be their relative, instead of rehabilitating them. Another respondent said that they also fail to tell on suspects because of cultural and religious sensitiveness.

Generally, policework is affected when there is no collaboration. The study went ahead to inquire from the participants their view on how the relationship between the community and police can be improved. Diverse answers were provided including; Increasing transparency in police operations, establishing mechanisms for accountability, such as civilian oversight boards to build people's confidence in law enforcement, police should create an environment for safe reporting of people suspected to be radicalized, organizing of activities that both the police and the community people can participate in to enhance cohesion, such as sporting activities, providing regular training to the police on how to interact with the community, and ensuring protection of the civilians who volunteer information.

According to Bourekba (2020), the role of youths and women in countering violent extremism was once overlooked, but it has been receiving considerable attention in recent years. The United Nations (UN) acted as the pioneers in this through the two important resolutions of 2015: Security and Resolution 2242 on Women, Peace, and Security and Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security, that emphasize the need to address the factor that cause youth and women to turn to violent extremism. It has also been realized that although youth and women are vulnerable as perpetrators and victims of violent extremism, they can also participate as active preventors. Thus, this study tried to assess the participation of youths and women in leading programmes for preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. The research participants were therefore asked whether youths in Mombasa County as being utilized in preventing and countering violent extremism. Their responses are shown by figure 4.7.

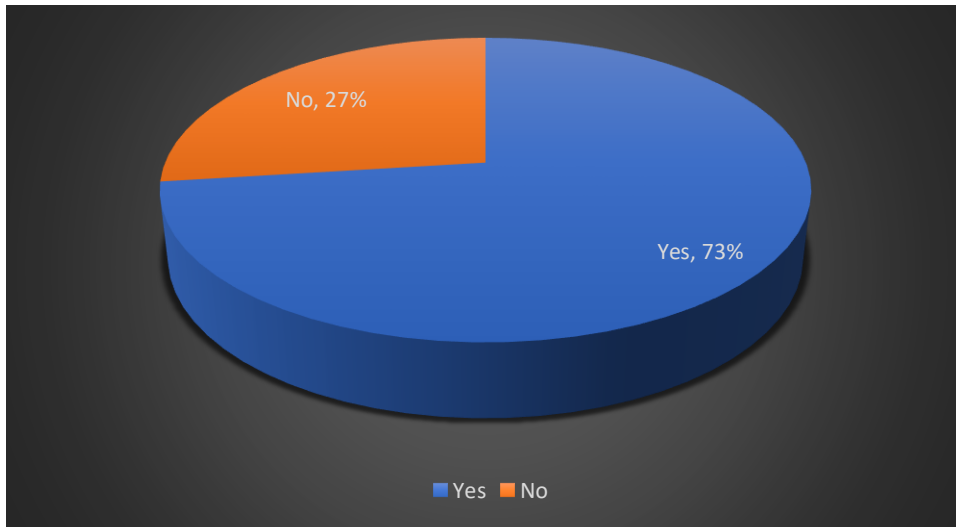


Figure 4.9: Youths Participation as Preventors of Violent Extremism in Mombasa County
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.7 shows that majority of the respondents (73%) of the respondents expressed that youths are participating as preventors of violent extremism. 27% of the respondents held a differing opinion. One of the respondents who agree that youths are playing a significant role in counter-violent extremism efforts explained that the youths that have undergone anti-radicalizations seminar are very active in community programmes that are focused on discouraging youths from joining extremist groups. Another respondent said, “Youth participants are instrumental because they identify well with the challenges that influence fellow youths to engage in violent extremism. Therefore, they are key in dissuading them from such engagements.” It was established that some of these youths end up gaining a lot of influence and transcended to become leaders in Mombasa County. When asked whether women are also participating as preventors of violent extremism, their responses were as shown by figure 4.8.

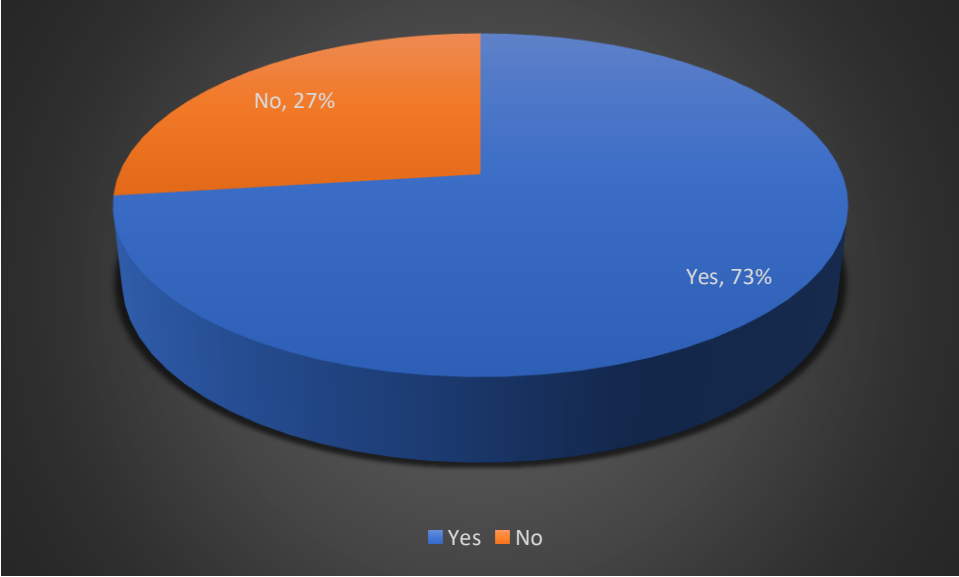


Figure 4.10: Women Participation as Preventors of Violent Extremism in Mombasa County

Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.8 illustrates that 73% of the respondents affirmed that women are involved as preventors of violent extremism in Mombasa County. Only a few respondents (27%) felt otherwise. One participant explained women participation in counter-violent extremism efforts is imperative because it is part of the agreement that was reached between NCTC and UN Women Kenya in 2023 to ensure that the state structures of countering and preventing violent extremism incorporate gender equality principles. This memorandum of understanding contains a series of priority areas of cooperation that will increase women's participation in decision making structures (UN Women). It is the first agreement of its kind in East Africa, which is proof of Kenya's willingness to make meaningful progress in eradicating violent extremism and ensuring equal gender representation in these efforts. It was determined that some of the activities that women representatives are involved in include setting up forums to engage youths in matters of violent extremism in various parts of Mombasa County and providing guidance and counselling to the youths.

4.4 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa

It was imperative for this study to establish the challenges that the counter-violent extremism actors are facing. To this end, the participants were asked, “Do community initiatives for countering violent extremism face funding challenges?”

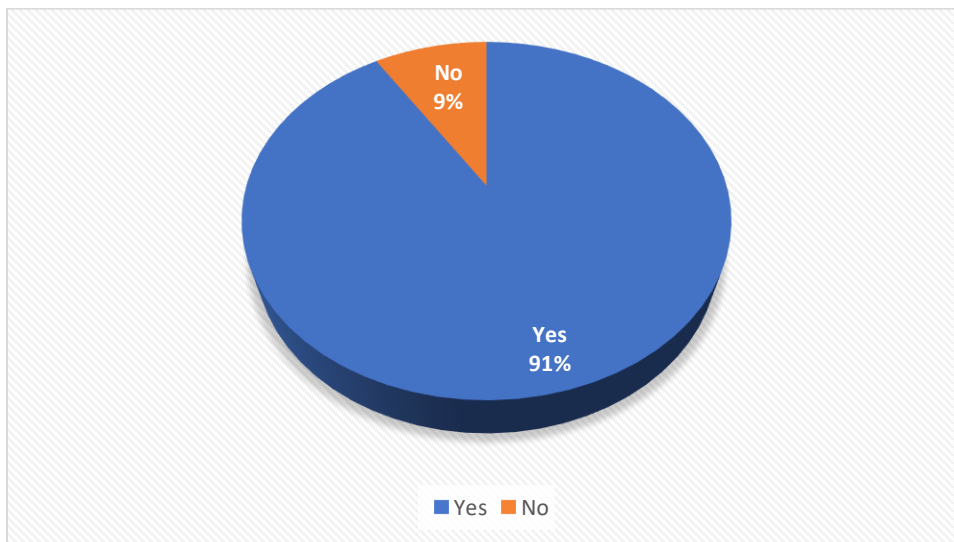


Figure 4.11: Respondents Opinion About Funding challenges
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.11 shows that 91% percent of respondents affirmed that there are funding challenges affecting the implementation of counter-violent extremism initiatives. 9% of the respondent held a contrary opinion on the matter. According to one of the respondents, the implementation of counter-violent extremism initiatives is a costly endeavour that require an adequate flow of fund to ensure their continuous implementation. Some of the reasons that they mentioned have been the cause of funding challenges are corruption, misappropriation of funds, lack of accountability, and politicization of counter-violent extremism efforts. One respondent also explained that delays in getting these funds is also a major hindrance.

The researcher also inquired from the respondents whether the initiatives that are applied to counter violent extremism in the County address the grievances that extremist groups are exploiting to lure new recruit. Their responses are as illustrated by the figure below

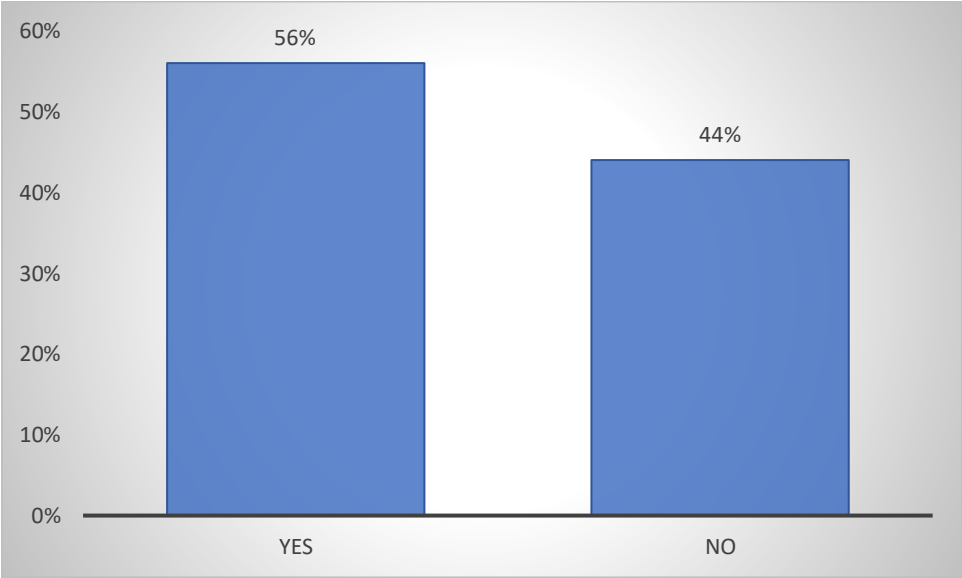


Figure 4.12: Responses on Whether the Grievances of the People are adequately Addressed
Source: Field Data, (2024)

Figure 4.12 shows that respondents hold divergent views on whether the community initiatives have been able to address the grievances of the people, which cause them to fall into the traps of extremist groups. 56% believe that they have been addressed while 44% hold that the grievances have not been adequately addressed. Unemployment remains rampant in Mombasa County. One of the respondents explained that they believe that the grievances have been addressed through youth education and empowerment programmes. Another explained that the grievances have not been adequately addressed because most of the organizations involved work in silos.

Community-level rehabilitation has been identified as a key means by which communities can prevent further violence as violent extremism remains a significant threat in Kenya and in other

nations across the globe. In their study on community-based initiatives for preventing violent extremism, Schanzer et al (2016) found out that fear of stigmatization prevents radicalized persons from seeking help from such centres. Therefore, this research undertook to determine if this is also a challenge in Mombasa County. The respondents were asked, “Is there stigmatization that prevents radicalized people from seeking rehabilitation in Mombasa County? Figure 4:13 illustrates their responses.

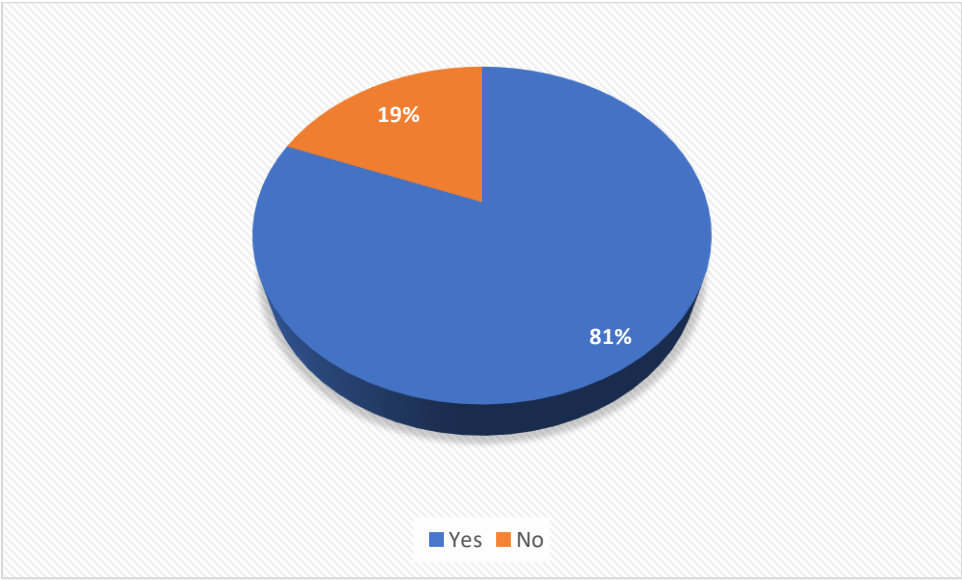


Figure 4.13: Responses on Stigmatization Causes Returnees Not to Seek Rehabilitation
Source: Field Data, (2024)

From Figure 4:13 shows that majority (81%) of the respondents agree that there is stigma associated with the rehabilitation of radicalized persons in Mombasa County, while 19% percent disagree. One respondent said that the fear of social rejection deters individuals from voluntarily seeking rehabilitation. “The community at large is also unforgiving and one would rather die in silence than seek rehabilitation”, wrote one of the respondents. Another one mentioned that apart from the stigma, the returnees fail to seek rehabilitation because then they become target for the security personnel and the terror groups.

4.5 Chapter Summary

This chapter presented the findings of the study according to the three study objectives. It was established that unemployment is the biggest cause of radicalization of youths and adults in Mombasa County. The study revealed staggering statistics on overall unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate in Mombasa County, which were realized to be higher than the national averages. In light of this, the study tried to establish the community initiatives that have been applied to counter extremism in this region. These were; community policing, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes, community education, youth training and outreach programmes. It was however determined that there is a need to improve on the relationship between the police and the residents because it is being affected by the historical mistrust between the two groups. Concerning the effectiveness of these community initiatives, it was clear that to a certain extent, progress has been achieved in curbing extremism in this region and women and youths are active participants in this effort. Information sharing between the police and the community and transparency were identified as areas that require improvement. The study also found out that lack of adequate funding, stigmatization of returnees and failure to address the underlying grievances in this region, especially unemployment, are key challenges to the counter-violent extremism efforts in Mombasa County.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of the findings concerning community-based programmes in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. It also includes the conclusion reached on the study topic based on the data analysed and also the recommendations.

5.1 Summary

This subsection covers the summary of findings based on the specific objectives of the study and provides an overall summary of the study.

5.1.1 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya

Concerning the NCTC initiatives in preventing and countering violent extremism, first, the study established that NCTC was established as a multi-agency instrument responsible for coordinating counter-violent extremism strategies across the country. It has been doing so by partnering with different counties to implement a whole-community approach to boost communities' resilience against violent extremism. It was determined that Mombasa County is a county of interest because of the terror attacks that have been ongoing in the recent years, a key indicator of violent extremism in the region. Youth population is the most vulnerable to radicalization and several factors influence involvement. These are; exposure to extremism through social media platforms and other online forums, and unemployment, poverty, marginalization, and low education levels. It was determined that Mombasa County is grappling with the issue of high unemployment rate, high youth unemployment rate in particular.

The study established that the Mombasa County people are receptive of community-based efforts for countering and preventing violent extremism. This is because the people of this county recognize that as the people on the ground, they are best placed to fight against the menace of violent extremism because they understand the vulnerabilities that lead to radicalization and they can easily identify radicalized persons. Several community-based initiatives were identified to have been introduced in Mombasa County to curb violent extremism, including community policing, community education, training and mentorship programmes, and rehabilitation programmes for reintegrating radicalized persons back to the society.

5.1.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering

Violent Extremism in Mombasa

This study also assessed the effectiveness of community-based programmes in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. It was first established that Mombasa County residents believe that community-based approaches can be effective in countering violent extremism, which was proof of their willingness to participate in the programmes that will help make their county more secure. Although they recognize community policing as an effective method of countering violent extremism, they pointed out major problems that are facing this intervention within the region. The first problem identified was that people are reluctant about sharing information with the police about individuals suspected of being radicalized. The second problem noted is that there is lack of trust and transparency between the community people and the police. It was determined that Mombasa County residents avoid sharing information with the police because of fear of being targeted by the extremists and because of the fear that the suspect will be exterminated by the police instead of being offered the opportunity for rehabilitation, especially when the suspect is a relative. Some of the residents also do not share information

because of cultural and religious sensitiveness. Lack of collaboration affects police work. The respondents proposed solutions such as increasing transparency of the police operations in the communities, creating mechanisms for accountability, creating an environment of safe reporting, and planning activities for greater interactions between the community and the police, such as sporting events.

The study also assessed the participation of women and youths in counter-violent extremism efforts. It was determined that youths are playing a significant role. Those that have undergone the anti-radicalization seminar are now active participants in the programmes that are educating other youths about the effects of radicalization and dissuading them from such engagements. Women are also actively involved as preventors of violent extremism. Their involvement, though it was to honour the UN requirements that calls for nations to observe gender equality principles in the fight against violent extremism, has proven critical and advantageous to counter-terrorism efforts in Mombasa County. In this region, women participants operate in various capacities including organizing of forums for youth engagements and others work as counsellors.

5.1.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa

The study also assessed the challenges that are facing the effective implementation of community-based programmes for preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. It was determined that funding challenges are hindering counter-violent extremism efforts in Mombasa County. The programmes require a lot of financial resources to run continually, but the flow of funds has been affected by challenges such as delays, misappropriation of funds, corruption, lack of accountability, and politicization of counter-violent extremism efforts.

It was also established that although the community initiatives address the community grievances that pushes people to be radicalized, there is need for greater efforts to eradicate the high rate of unemployment that remains persistent in the region. It was also determined that there is need for enhancing the collaboration among the agencies involved to improve their ability to address the grievances more effectively than when they are operating in silos. Fear of stigmatization is also a major challenge in rehabilitation of former radicalized persons. Fear of stigmatization keeps them off from seeking help in the rehabilitation centres. This is because the community people are unforgiving to such individuals, and also because they become targets for extremist groups and the security personnel.

5.1.4 Overall Summary

The study addressed key areas that are crucial in determining the success of community-based efforts in preventing violent extremism in Mombasa County. This region has been established as an area of interest for NCTC counter-violent extremism efforts. The community initiatives that have been implemented so far to this course include community policing, community education, youth training and mentorship, and returnees' rehabilitation and reintegration program. The effectiveness of these initiatives in Mombasa County was evaluated, and the study realized that the community efforts are well-suited to the extremism challenge. Women and youth are key actors, and are participating in diverse capacities to counter extremism. It was however established that the relationship between the police and the people of Mombasa need to be improved to overcome the mistrust and lack of transparency that exists between them. Effective implementation of the community-based programs also faces funding challenges. Also, the grievances of the people, especially the high unemployment rate, needs to be addressed for counter-violent extremism efforts to work more effectively. The agencies involved also operate in silos which

hinders collaboration, which is necessary if the objective if the community efforts are to be realized. The last challenge identified was that stigmatization is a major problem experienced by returnees, which hinders them from seeking rehabilitation.

5.2 Conclusions

The conclusions of the study are based on research results. Several conclusions were drawn on the study topic as discussed hereunder.

5.2.1 NCTC Initiatives in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa, Kenya

It is clear that the youths are the most vulnerable to radicalization in Mombasa County, majorly because of unemployment. The residents of Mombasa County receptiveness to community-based counter-violent extremism efforts clearly shows that it is possible for NCTC to win the battle against terrorism in this county when working alongside the residents of this region. The study realized that the community efforts applied in Mombasa County include community policing, community mentorship, education and training programmes, and rehabilitation programmes.

5.2.2 Effectiveness of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa

Community policing being one of the most critical tools in the fight against violent extremism in Mombasa County, the evaluation of its effectiveness was necessary. It was realized that a good relationship has not been realized between the law enforcement personnel and residents. The law enforcement personnel and important actors in addressing extremism, and so the existing mistrust between them and the people of Mombasa County should be addressed with urgency. The solutions to this are effort that will help promote transparency, accountability of both parties, which in turn

will encourage information sharing. It is also clear that the role of youths and women as preventors of violent extremism in Mombasa County is critical. Youths that are properly trained on effects of radicalization play a key role in guiding other youths on productive pursuits and discouraging them from getting themselves radicalized.

5.2.3 Challenges Facing Effective Implementation of Community-Based Programmes in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Mombasa

Funding was identified as the major challenge that is facing counter-violent extremism efforts in Mombasa County. The programmes require constant flow of financial resources. Issues such as delays in the release of funds, corruption, politicization of the efforts and misappropriation of funds were the major reasons for the financial constraints. It was realized that greater efforts are also needed to eradicate the grievances of the locals, especially unemployment, which is the core influencing factor for joining extremist groups. Cooperation among the participating agencies is also a problem that requires resolution. The study also realized that while rehabilitating and reintegrating returnees is important to ending violent extremism, stigma is a major issue that is preventing the radicalized persons from seeking help from the rehabilitation centres.

5.3 Recommendations

The following are the recommendations that this study makes based on the study results:

The NCTC together with the County Government of Mombasa should develop mechanisms for improving the relationship between the police and Mombasa County residents. Examples of the mechanisms that should be applied are conducting regular training where the law enforcement officers can be trained about being approachable and available to the locals. The police should also increase participation in counter-violent extremism awareness campaigns. Another strategy is

organizing events such as sporting events where both the locals and the law enforcement personnel can participate and interact.

There is need for the inclusion of an economic pillar in the NCTC strategy for countering violent extremism in Mombasa County. Unemployment remains pervasive in Mombasa County, and the major influencing factors to joining extremist group. The economic pillar would be focused on alleviating this economic problem by creating opportunities for employment across various sectors in this County.

Capacity building of the actors, especially the community youths and women involved in counter-violent extremism efforts, should be continuous. This will enhance their skills and competencies.

Mechanisms to enhance collaboration among NCTC agencies is necessary to prevent them from operating in silos.

NCTC should raise awareness on the stigma associated with rehabilitation of formerly radicalized persons. The campaigns should educate the public about the importance of being more accommodating to individuals who were radicalized but are seeking to transform from that life and re-join the community as law-abiding citizens.

The actors' participation in counter-violent extremism efforts should be anchored on sound legal basis to avoid issues such as the illegal extermination of suspects by security personnel and to ensure all actors operate within their mandates.

REFERENCES

- Australian Government. (2023). Countering violent extremism. Department of Home Affairs Website. [https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about-us/our-portfolios/national-security/countering-extremism-and-terrorism/countering-violent-extremism-\(cve\)](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about-us/our-portfolios/national-security/countering-extremism-and-terrorism/countering-violent-extremism-(cve))
- Bologna, C. (n.d.). UNICRI Initiatives: Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Violent Extremist Offenders and Community-Based Projects. https://www.unafei.or.jp/publications/pdf/RS_No104/No104_6_VE_Bologna_2.pdf
- Bourekba, M. (2020). Overlooked and underrated? The role of youth and women in preventing violent extremism. Retrieved from https://www.cidob.org/es/publicaciones/serie_de_publicacion/notes_internacionales_cidob/240/overlooked_and_underrated_the_role_of_youth_and_women_in_preventing_violent_extremism
- Chitembwe, S. J., Okoth, P. G., & Matanga, F. K. (2021). The nature, extent and impact of youth radicalization in Mombasa and Kwale counties, Kenya. *OALib*, 08(06), 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.4236/oalib.1107386>
- Coleman, J. S. (1988). Social capital in the creation of human capital. *American Journal of Sociology*, 94, S95-S120. <https://doi.org/10.1086/228943>
- County Government of Mombasa. (2018). *Second County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022)*.
- Elliott, R., & Timulak, L. (2015). Descriptive and interpretive approaches to qualitative research. *Oxford Clinical Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/med:psych/9780198527565.003.0011>
- Gall, M. D., Borg, W. R., & Gall, J. P. (1996). *Educational research: An introduction*. Allyn & Bacon.
- International Association of Chiefs of Police. (2014). Using Community Policing to Counter Violent Extremism: Five Key Principles for Law Enforcement. Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. <https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/all/f-h/Final%20Key%20Principles%20Guide.pdf>
- Izzi, V. (2020). Promoting Decent Employment for African Youth as a Peacebuilding Strategy. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_744700.pdf
- Janowitz, M. (1975). Sociological theory and social control. *American Journal of Sociology*, 81(1), 82-108. <https://doi.org/10.1086/226035>
- KIPPRA. (2023). *County Government of Mombasa: Third County Integrated Development Plan (2023-2027)*. <https://repository.kippra.or.ke/bitstream/handle/123456789/4258/Final%20Mombasa%20CIDP%202023-2027.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

- KUZA. (n.d.). *Employment & Employee Retention in Mombasa Micro-Retail Sector*. Retrieved from https://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---emp_ent/---ifp_seed/documents/publication/wcms_568473.pdf
- Mandaville, P., & Nozell, M. (2017). *Engaging Religion and Religious Actors in Countering Violent Extremism*. United States Institute of Peace. <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/SR413-Engaging-Religion-and-Religious-Actors-in-Countering-Violent-Extremism.pdf>
- Mazerolle, L., Eggins, E., Cherney, A., Hine, L., Higginson, A., & Belton, E. (2020). Police programmes that seek to increase community connectedness for reducing violent extremism behaviour, attitudes and beliefs. *Campbell Systematic Reviews*, 16(3). <https://doi.org/10.1002/cl2.1111>
- Mesok, E. (2022). Counterinsurgency, community participation, and the preventing and countering violent extremism agenda in Kenya. *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 33(4-5), 720-741. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09592318.2022.2037908>
- Metre, L. (2016). Community Resilience to Violent Extremism in Kenya. United States Institute for Peace. <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/PW122-Community-Resilience-to-Violent-Extremism-in-Kenya.pdf>
- Mohajan, H. K. (2017). Two criteria for good measurements in research: Validity and reliability. *Annals of Spiru Haret University. Economic Series*, 17(4), 59-82. <https://doi.org/10.26458/1746>
- Mombasa County Government. "About us – Mombasa County government." Last modified 2023. https://eservices.mombasa.go.ke/site/?page_id=64.
- NCTC. (2022). *National Counter Terrorism Centre Newsletter Vol 1*. Retrieved from NCTC website: <https://counterterrorism.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/National-Counter-Terrorism-Centre-Newsletter-Vol-1-10-min.pdf>
- Odallo, D., P. G. Okoth, and M. E. Were. "Evaluating Peacebuilding strategies applied by Sub-County Peacebuilding committees in Mombasa County." *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications* 12, no. 10 (2022), 713-729. doi:10.29322/ijsrp.12.10.2022.p13087.
- OSCE. (2014). Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: A Community-Policing Approach. Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/1/d/111438.pdf>
- Ranstorp, M. (2016). The Root Causes of Violent Extremism. Radicalization Awareness Network. https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2016-12/issue_paper_root-causes_jan2016_en.pdf
- Savage, J., & Kanazawa, S. (2002). Social capital, crime, and human nature. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 18(2), 188-211. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1043986202018002005>

- Schanzer, D., Kurtzman, C., Toliver, J., & Miller, E. (2016). The challenge and promise of using community policing strategies to prevent violent extremism. *Police Chief*, 83(7).
- SESRIC. (2017). towards Understanding Radicalism & Violent Extremism in OIC Countries. The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC). <https://sesricdiag.blob.core.windows.net/sesric-site-blob/files/article/574.pdf>
- Subedi, D. B., & Jenkins, B. (2016). Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism: Engaging Peacebuilding and Development Actors. *Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses*, 8(10), 13-19. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2307/26351459>
- Tsingoyani, M. (2016). *Community Approaches on Countering Terrorism Activities in Mombasa County-Kenya* [Doctoral dissertation]. <https://ir-library.ku.ac.ke/bitstream/handle/123456789/21581/Community%20approaches%20on%20countering%20terrorism....pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- UN institute for Training and Research. (n.d.). Preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism. UNITAR. <https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/peace/our-portfolio/preventing-and-countering-violent-extremism-conducive-terrorism>.
- UN Women. (2023, April). Kenya counter terror agency and UN women commit to integrate gender equality into national policy. Retrieved from <https://africa.unwomen.org/en/stories/news/2023/04/kenya-counter-terror-agency-and-un-women-commit-to-integrate-gender-equality-into-national-policy>
- UN. (2023). Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) – UNODA. UNODA – United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. <https://disarmament.unoda.org/convarms/ieds/>
- UNDP. (2016). *Preventing violent extremism Through Promoting Inclusive Development Tolerance and Respect for Diversity*. United Nations Development Programme. <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/Discussion%20Paper%20-%20Preventing%20Violent%20Extremism%20by%20Promoting%20Inclusive%20Development.pdf>
- UNITAR. (2023). Preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism. <https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/peace/our-portfolio/preventing-and-countering-violent-extremism-conducive-terrorism>
- Yamane, T. (1967). *Statistics: An introductory analysis*. Harper and Row.
- Young Africans for peace and Development. (2022). Report on Community Needs and Strategy Assessment on Contemporary Triggers and Remedies to Radicalization in Mandela Triangle. <https://www.kpsrl.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/YAPAD%20Final%20Version%20Reportdocx.pdf>

APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE

PART A: RESPONDENT GENERAL INFORMATION

1. What is your designation.....

2. How many years have you lived in Mombasa County.....

3. Your gender

Male []

Female []

4. Your age

18yrs-28 yrs []

29 yrs- 39 yrs []

40 yrs-50 yrs []

51 yrs and above []

PART B: INITIATIVES IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN MOMBASA, KENYA.

1. Do you consider violent extremism a major security issue in Mombasa County?

Yes []

No []

Explain your answer.....

2. Who are the most vulnerable to violent extremism in Mombasa County.

Youth []

Older people []

3. What factors have influenced violent extremism in Mombasa County

i. Unemployment and lack of opportunities []

ii. Exposure to extremism through social media or online forums []

iii. Mental health issues []

What other factors do you believe have influenced violent extremism in Mombasa County?

.....

4. Do you believe that the community has a role to play in curbing the problem of violent extremism?

Yes []

No []

Explain your answer.....

5. Which of the following initiatives are being used in preventing and countering violent extremism in Mombasa County?

Community policing	
--------------------	--

Education, training and mentoring programmes for the youth	
Rehabilitation programmeme for the already radicalized persons	

Please mention others.....

PART C: EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMES IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN MOMBASA, KENYA.

6. Community-based methods are effective in preventing and countering violent extremism.

- i. Strongly agree []
- ii. Agree []
- iii. Neutral []
- iv. Disagree []
- v. Strongly Disagree []

Explain your answer.....

7. Community policing is an effective means of curbing the spread of extremist ideologies and violent extremism in Mombasa county?

- i. Strongly agree []
- ii. Agree []
- iii. Neutral []
- iv. Disagree []

v. Strongly Disagree []

Explain your response.....

8. Respond to the following statements

	Yes	No
Is there trust and transparency between the police and the community?		
Are people reluctant about informing the police about those suspected of being radicalized?		

9. In your own words describe how the relationship between the community and the police can be improved

.....
.....
.....

10. Are there youth representatives who engage in the community programmes to counter and prevent violent extremism?

Yes []

No []

If yes, explain.....

11. Are there women representatives who engage in the community programmes to counter and prevent violent extremism?

Yes []

No []

If yes, explain.....

PART D: CHALLENGES FACING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMES IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM.

12. Do the community initiatives for countering violent extremism in Mombasa County face funding challenges?

Yes []

No []

Please explain your answer.....

13. Do you believe that the community initiatives applied in this country address the grievances that are exploited by extremist group in their recruitment activities?

Yes []

No []

Please explain your answer.....

14. Is there stigmatization that prevents the radicalized people from seeking rehabilitation in Mombasa County?

Yes []

No []

Explain





10% Overall Similarity

The combined total of all matches, including overlapping sources, for each database.



Filtered from the Report

- ▶ Bibliography
- ▶ Quoted Text

Match Groups

-  **121 Not Cited or Quoted 9%**
Matches with neither in-text citation nor quotation marks
-  **11 Missing Quotations 1%**
Matches that are still very similar to source material
-  **0 Missing Citation 0%**
Matches that have quotation marks, but no in-text citation
-  **0 Cited and Quoted 0%**
Matches with in-text citation present, but no quotation marks

Top Sources

- 8%  Internet sources
- 4%  Publications
- 3%  Submitted works (Student Papers)