



Australian Government

AUSTRALIA'S REGIONAL SUMMIT TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Capacity Building and Training for Civil Society, Industry and Government

WORKSHOP 2

Developing a countering violent extremism strategy

Friday, 12 June 2015



**GLOBAL
CENTER** 
ON COOPERATIVE SECURITY

Welcome and Introduction

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SESSION 1

Introducing the conceptual and policy framework of countering violent extremism

What is Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)?

Aim to reduce the appeal and recruiting capacities of terrorist groups, while strengthening community resilience in the face of violent extremism.

- **Radicalisation** (can include non-violent behaviour)
- **Violent Extremism** (use of violence as key)
- **Recruitment** (external agent or influence that draws persons into engaging in violent extremism or terrorism)
- **De-radicalisation** (cognitive or ideological changes)
- **Disengagement** (behavioural changes)
- **Rehabilitation & Reintegration** (focuses on integrating detainees back into families and communities)

Drivers of Violent Extremism: Push Factors – structural conditions

Structural Conditions

- *Conducive* NOT Causal
- Unresolved conflicts
- Lack of rule of law and human rights violations
- Discrimination
- Political exclusion
- Socio-economic marginalization
- Lack of good governance (including impunity and corruption)

Drivers of Violent Extremism: Pull Factors – proximate causes

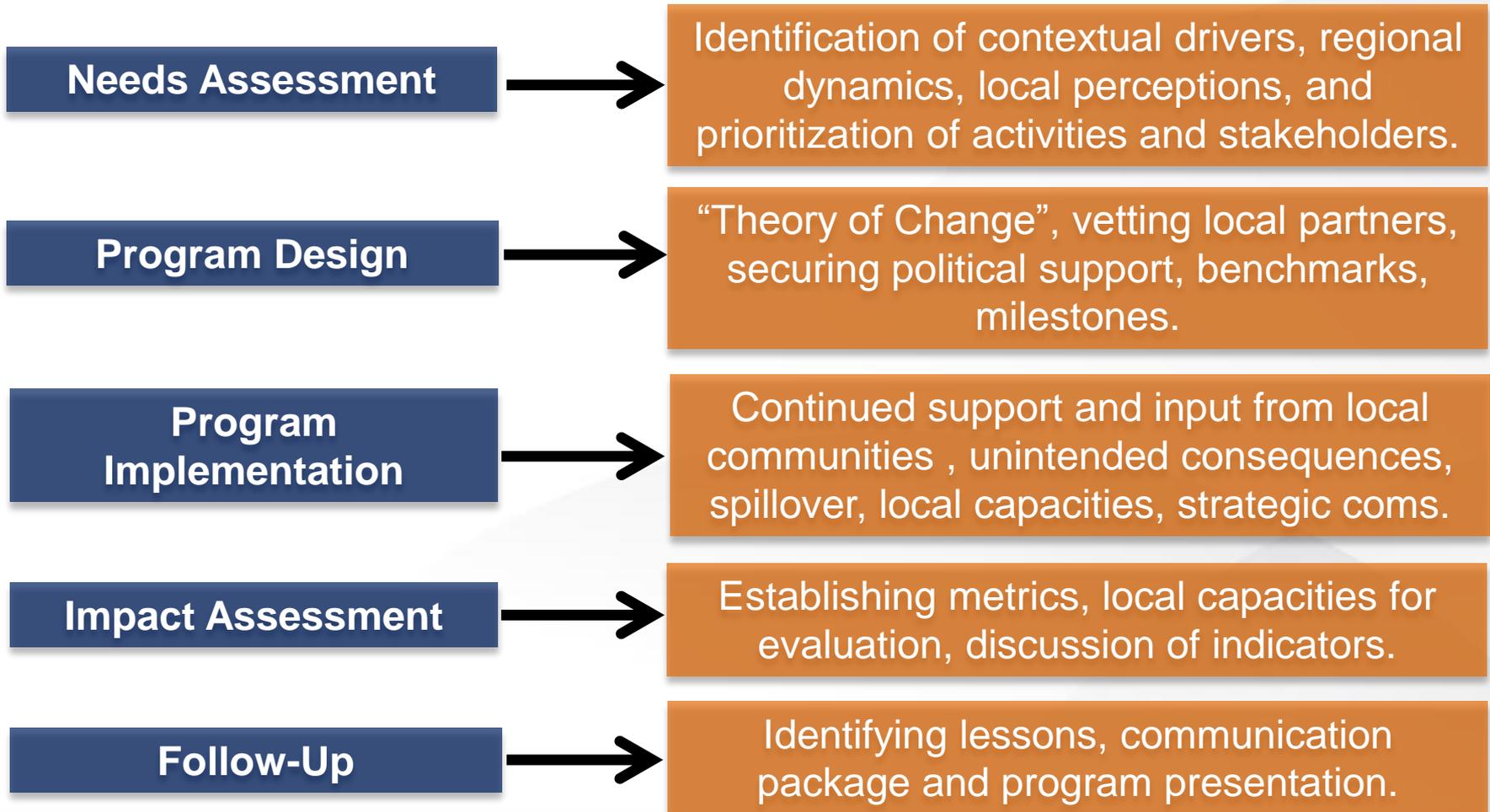
Proximate Causes

- Ideology - addresses grievance, fills sociopolitical vacuum
- Empowerment – justifies violence against ‘the other’
- Feelings of belonging, part of wider movement, status
- Incentives – financial, employment, social
- Appeal (hero, icon, leader or messenger)
- Access (personal, or distant via internet)

Discussion Question:

Can you identify at least three push factors and three pull factors in the context of Southeast Asia?

5 Core Elements of CVE Programming



Overview: Key elements of projects to prevent violent radicalisation, terrorist recruitment, and CVE

- This session introduces 5 core elements of CVE programming including interventions developed with CVE as their primary purpose as well as development interventions that require an added CVE dimension
- *CVE-specific* = an intervention that is being developed with CVE as its primary purpose
- *CVE-relevant* = an existing intervention where an additional dimension is being added to an existing development or other project to address CVE concerns

1. Needs Assessment - Identification

- Determine the drivers – pull and push factors of the specific context
- Understand regional dynamics
- Who needs to be involved? Politically? Locus of influence
- Local perceptions – needs assessment/mapping
 - See sample survey questions in training guide
- Determining priority areas of intervention
- Feasibility and timeframe
- Resources

2. Program Design - Formulation

- Theory of Change – determine the intervention rationale
- Conceptual framework
- Program activity and implementation
- Partnerships with vetted local partners
- Ensure political support
 - Consider not just national but also local governments and regional organizations
- Identify appropriate benchmarks for different stages of the project
- Budgeting

3. Program Implementation

- Check for unintended consequences
 - For example, stigmatization of a community if it appears they're vulnerable to violent extremism
- Encourage development of local capacities
 - Knowledge transfer for sustainability
- Provide security support for staff
- Develop a communications strategy during and after project

4. Impact Assessment - Evaluation

- Project cycle evaluation
- Metrics – consider both *outputs* but also *outcomes*
- Civil society capacity to conduct evaluations – build evaluation capacities for NGOs and community based organizations
- What can indicate impact?
 - Changes in attitude to, or support for, violent extremism
 - Increase in participation in political activity, community events, and groups
 - Increased positive interaction with community and law enforcement
 - Online content analysis

5. Follow-Up

- Program continuation?
- Lessons identified vs. lessons learned
- Communications package
- Stakeholder consensus building
- Budget analysis and audit

Evaluation: What Tools?

Depending on the metrics and indicators identified as suitable, the following tools may be used to gather both qualitative and quantitative data:

- Surveys – sample in training guide
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Content analysis
- Group participation, increases in contacts, engagement
- Related follow-up or spinoff activities
- Online content analysis – time markers

Evaluation: What Metrics?

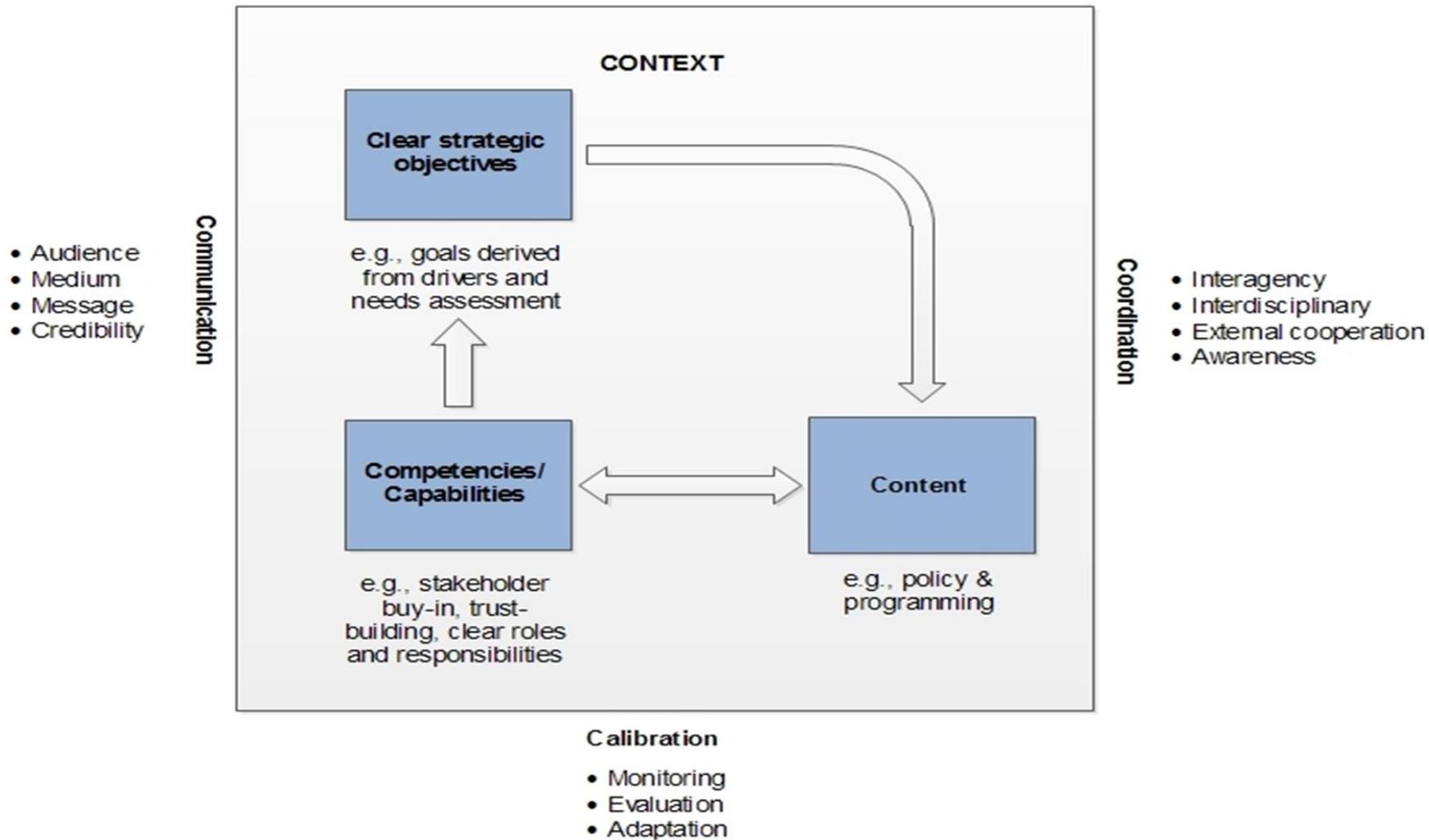
- Increase in positive (non-violent) community or political activity
- Increases in interactions with local government and law enforcement
- Attitudinal surveys and perception studies
- Increases in positive public messaging, communication
- Reduction in support for extremist groups, financial or ideological
- Increased attendance in school and other training opportunities

Developing A National Strategy

The Seven Cs

1. Clear Objectives
2. Content: Policy and Programming
3. Core Competencies
4. Coordination
5. Communication
6. Continuity
7. Calibration

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism: Strategy, Practice, and Impact Assessment



Coordinating National, Regional, and International Efforts

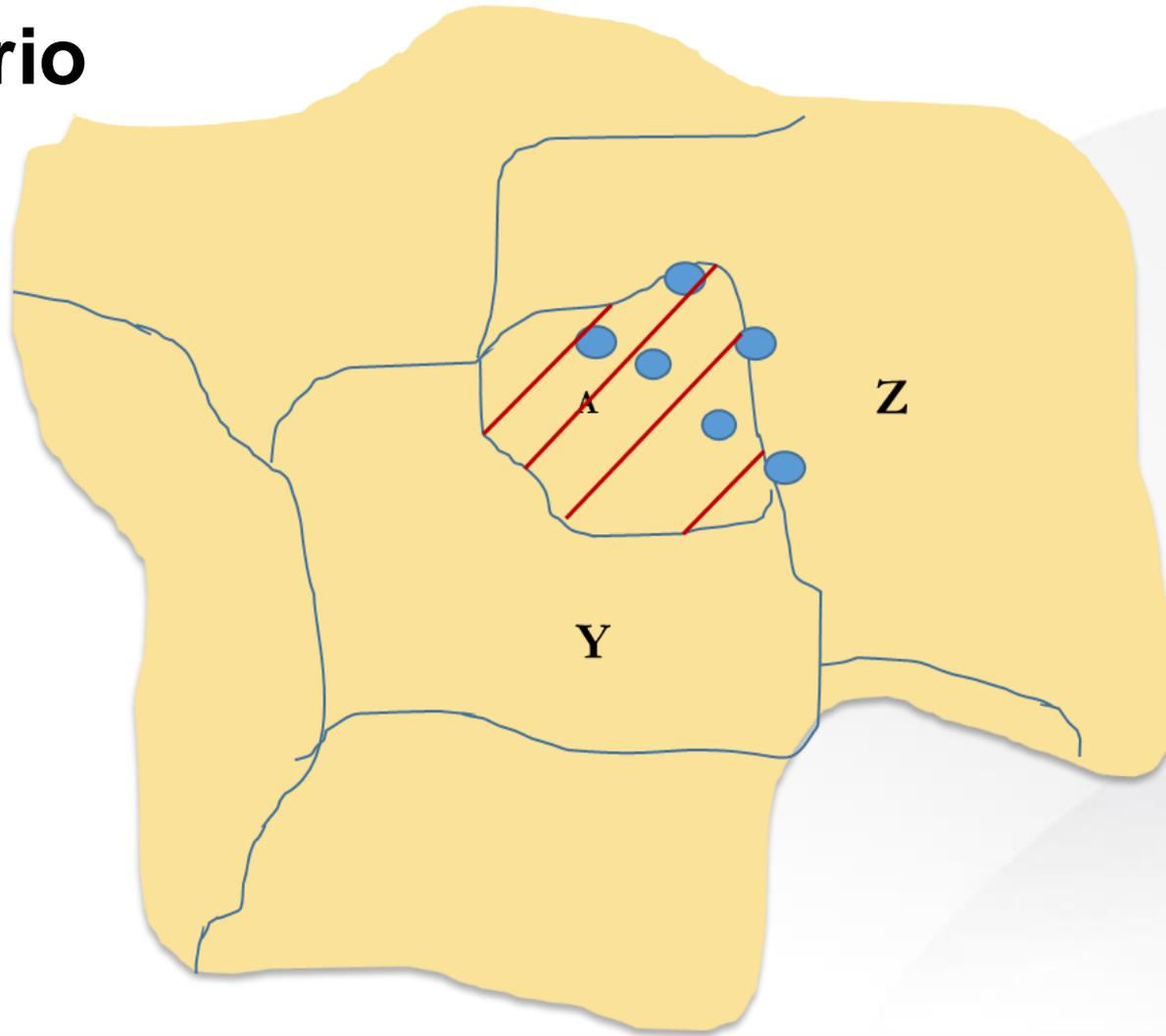


SESSION 3: Case Study

Objectives:

- Use a fictional case scenario to bring other elements of this training into focus
- Consider and discuss the drivers of extremism and program responses in a strategic context
- Assess the impact of CVE interventions and how evaluate and the impact of CVE strategies

Scenario



Country Y

- Land-locked
- Low-income bottom on various development indices
- 8 Million population
- High Unemployment
- Many youth (70%)

Region A

- Large impoverished, rural population in the northern highlands
- Different ethno-religious background than most of the rest of Country Y
- Lack of service
- Tension with authorities in Country Y (more aligned with Country Z)

Country Z

- Home of VE group that is exploiting Region A in Country Y (using propaganda, offering services)
- Possible gateway for extremists (international community concerned). 8 Million population

Questions

1. Is there a need for CVE intervention in Region A?
 1. If so, what conditions can be addressed through such an intervention?
2. What kind of intervention could address one or some of these conditions?
3. What evaluation methods are most suitable—and feasible—in this context?
4. What are the benchmarks/indicators that could be used to evaluate the success/failure of the intervention?

Thinking strategically:

1. How would you develop a national CVE strategy for Country Y?
2. What should be the core objective? Who is the target audience?
3. How should you engage representatives from Region A and Country Z?
4. Who are necessary stakeholders?
 1. Which national or local actors are best placed to deliver the project and who is the most credible interlocutor?

THANK YOU!

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