Communities Richer In Diversity (CRID) Project

Presentation at the Stock Taking Event for Jan Figel on Freedom of Religion

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Partners

01 COUNCIL OF ANGLICAN PROVINCES OF AFRICA

02 FAITH TO ACTION NETWORK

03 AFRICAN COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS

04 ALL AFRICAN CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES

Project Brief

- Target – 24,400 youth

- Number reached - 9,496

- Project location – Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, South Sudan & Egypt

- Duration – 4 years

- Local implementing partners – Uganda Joint Christian Council, Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance, Anglican Diocese of Egypt, Inter-Religious Council of Burundi, Evangelical Alliance of South Sudan & Anglican Diocese of Zanzibar.

- Budget - Euros 2,126,062

Project Goal

To enhance understanding, tolerance and respect for cultural and religious diversity among 24,400 youth at risk of radicalization, and to leverage on the influence of faith leaders and institutions to promote cultural diversity and respect for equal dignity of all men and women in the target Countries.

Project Objectives

Objective 1: 16 local, rights-based interventions piloted to promote interfaith & intercultural understanding and counter youth radicalization.

Objective 2: Knowledge on effective interfaith and intercultural dialogues and approaches generated and disseminated.

Objective 3: Pluralist discourses, practices and tools promoted amongst religious and cultural leaders, youth leaders and women leaders.

Objective 4: Improved capacity of religious' leaders, cultural leaders, youth leaders and women leaders to scale up interventions for intercultural understanding, interfaith cooperation & countering youth radicalization in their institutions.

Project Outcomes & Impact

1. Reached physically through project activities

   - Directly - 5,896 people
   - Indirectly (Cascade) – 3600 people

2. Reached through media

   - Digital media - **26.35** million (**1.5** million unique users)
   - Traditional media - **43,640**

EGYPT
**Drum circle
Film Screening & Discussion
Pantomime
Story telling**

1. Improved inter-religious relations among youth.

2. Integration of Youth of different faiths

3. Demystification of religious stereotypes through film screening.

4. Integration of deaf community on inter-faith dialogue through pantomime sessions.

Participant's testimony:
https://www.facebook.com/1469158183411810/posts/2356119784715641?sfns=mo

BBC Drum circle participants Interview link:
https://soundcloud.com/bbc-arabic/wtntsojskwir

KENYA

**Learning Circles
Community dialogue forums
Community Policing
Cultural events**

1. Increased youth resilience to violent extremist ideologies.

2. Improved inter-generational, inter-religious and inter-cultural relations.

3. Improved relations between youth and security agencies.

4. Improved inter-religious integration and co-operation.

UGANDA

Music, Dance and Drama
Sporting events
Community dialogues
Radio Talk Shows

1. Increased understanding of religious teachings and values related to justice and peace.

2. Improved interfaith and intercultural relations and integration.

3. Improved relations between refugees and host communities.

SOUTH SUDAN

Peace committees
Community dialogues
Music Concerts
Community awareness forums

1. Strengthened local peace structures

2. Increased knowledge on peace building mechanisms.

3. Increased sensitivity to different cultural and religious values among communities

4. Increased integration of communities from different cultural & religious backgrounds.

BURUNDI
Mediation and Dialogue
Awareness Campaigns
Public forums
Capacity building

1. Increased capacity of religious leaders on conflict resolution, mediation & dialogue.

2. Increased resilience of youth to violent extremists' ideologies.

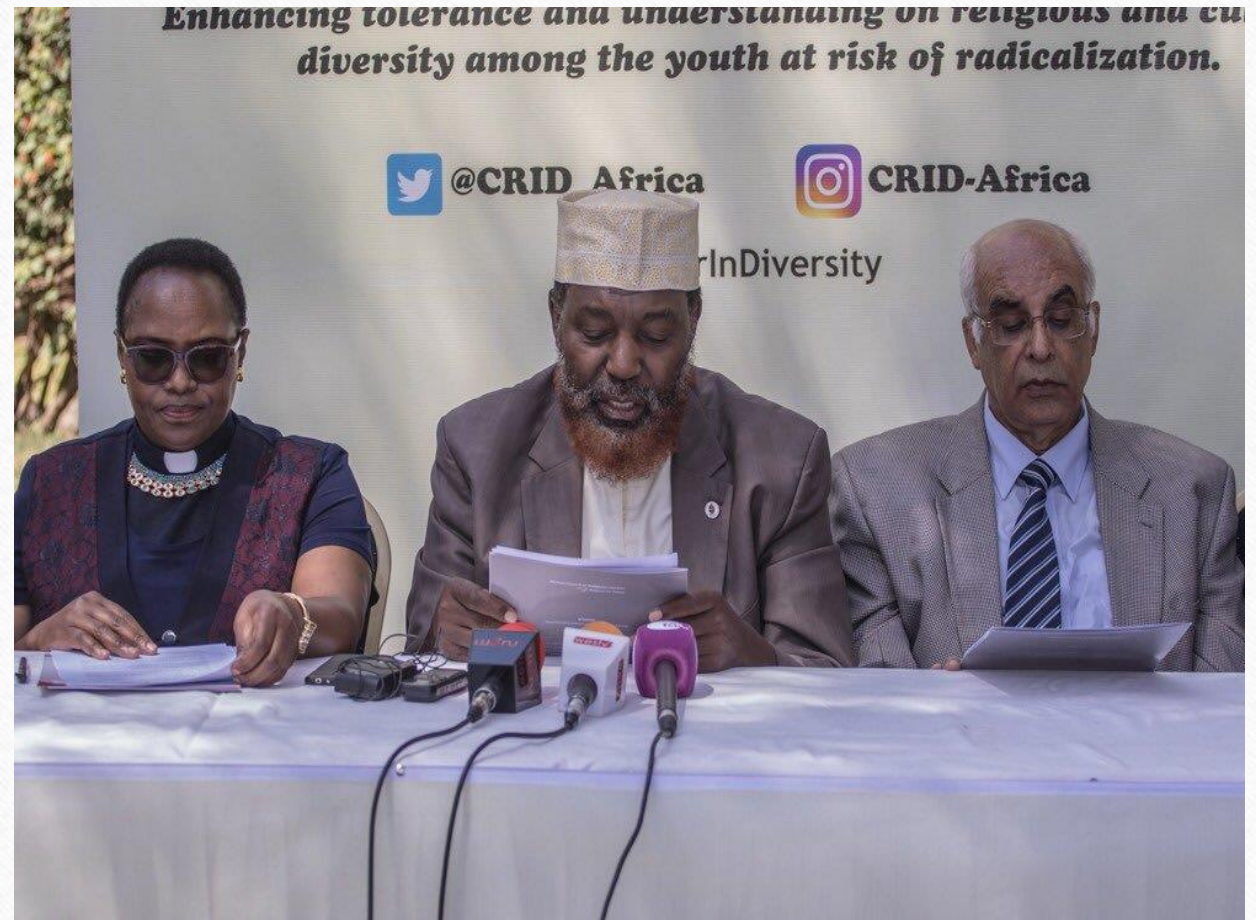3. Improved inter-religious and inter-cultural cooperation and relations.

Inter-Religious statements
Sharing of project learning
Digital media campaigns

1. Sustained inter-religious cooperation.
2. Sustained online engagement on inter-cultural and inter-religious understanding, tolerance, embrace and cooperation.
3. Documentation of best practices.
4. Sustained partnership development.

Challenges

- Livelihood needs not supported in the EU instrument where CRID grant is anchored yet are push factors to recruitment into violent extremist groups.

- Political environments

- Harmony of different working systems – Technical vs Relational

- Understanding diverse cultures of operation takes time

- Technical gaps among sub-grants.

Proposed Scale Up Focus

1. Replication of successful models – Learning circles, Creative arts for dialogue, Sports for peace, Cultural concerts, community dialogues.

2. Promotion of alternative narratives

3. Life dialogue (Socio-economic interventions)

4. Promoting adoption of successful models vertically and horizontally

5. Dissemination of new knowledge among stakeholders.

Formative Research

- Limited knowledge about other religions and cultures in South Sudan.

- Uganda has more knowledge about other religions and cultures.

- In Kenya, youth ranked friends highest as most likely channel of exposure to radical ideologies, followed by religious leaders, online interactions, family, and strangers in that order.

- Data from Egypt and Burundi still being analyzed.

- Zanzibar not yet commissioned.

Religious Narratives

- Developed alternative narratives from an Islamic perspective that support understanding, tolerance, respect and gender equality to counter extremism and radicalization.

- Ongoing analysis of data on the Christian perspective that support understanding, tolerance, respect and gender equality to counter extremism and radicalization.

Islamic Narratives Themes

1. Understanding Extremists' Ideologies

2. Prophet Muhammad: An Exemplary Personality to Emulate

3. Sovereignty - Holy War/Struggle, Suicide Bombing, Migration, Rebelling Against the Head Of State & Martyrdom

4. Citizenship - Protected People, Tax, Global Islamic Community

5. Freedom of Belief - No Compulsion in Religion, Sacredness of a Human Being, Ex-Communication

6. Governance - Ruling by the Sharia, Loyalty and Disassociation, The Abode of Islam & The Abode of War, Oppression, Caliphate & Persecution

Communication & Media Engagement

1. Media Tours in Kenya
   - Deutsch Welle feature on intergenerational conflict - https://p.dw.com/p/HJzk?maca=sw
   - VoA clip on effects of radicalisation - https://youtu.be/KW8jXlpYsc4
   - DW news item on reformed juvenile gangs- https://www.dw.com/sw/idhaa-ya-kiswahili/s-11588
   - VoA exclusive interview with rehabilitated youth - https://www.voaswahili.com/a/4830088.html
2. Online channels reach out - **26.35** million (**1.5** million unique users)
3. Radio spots reach out – **43,640**

Continued…

4. Press Release click here

5. Press Conference click here (English version)

6. Blog account here

7. Website posts:

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-burundi/

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-egypt/

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-kenya/

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-southsudan/

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-uganda/

https://www.faithtoactionetwork.org/focus/pluralism/pluralism-zanzibar/

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Formative research
2. Monitoring – Process and results indicators
   a) Routine activity data collection, analysis and decisions
   b) Focused Group Discussions & Key informants interviews with project participants
   c) Individual interviews with project participants
3. Case studies documentation
4. End-line surveys

THANK YOU