AMMAN FORUM ON MEASURING, MONITORING AND ASSESSING PVE

MARRIOTT HOTEL - AMMAN

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

AGENDA

Tuesday 18 June

09:00 - 09:30	**Registration**	
09:30 - 10:00	**Opening** Welcome and introductions	Khaled Abdel Shafi, Director, UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States
10:00 - 11:30	**Plenary 1: Researching the Violent Extremism (VE) phenomena** Researching violent extremism faces a number of conceptual, analytical and political challenges and is inherently complex. Gaps remain in understanding violent extremism, its causes, drivers and manifestations. This session will explore how research teases out and deconstructs the violent extremism 'phenomena' and will discuss methodological challenges and approaches to understanding VE further.	Malin Herwig, Advisor, Conflict Prevention/Peacebuilding, UNDP Regional Hub, Arab States David Hammond, Director of Research, Institute for Economics and Peace Jonathan Githens-Mazer, Associate Professor, University of Exeter Facilitator: Lucy Holdaway,Senior Adviser State-Citizen Relations, International Alert
11:30 - 12:00	**Break**	
12:00 - 13:00	**Parallel sessions 1** 1.1 Ethics around PVE research 1.2 Connecting standardisation with localisation 1.3 Bringing conflict sensitivity and do no harm to the centre of research and measurement 1.4 Researching on/with youth	
13:00 - 14:00	**Lunch**	
14:00 - 15:30	**Plenary 2: Tackling the challenge: emerging methodologies in measuring PVE programmes** The diversity of PVE-specific and relevant interventions combined with the lack of solid evidence of "what works" and how to establish causality, as well as a lack of clarity on what to measure, are some of the key challenges to solid, systematic and empirically-based measurement of PVE programmes. To close this gap, human and financial resources have been invested in developing and/or adapting systems and tools for understanding the suitability of PVE as an approach and the impact of PVE interventions. This plenary and the related parallel sessions will explore approaches that go beyond the traditional monitoring and evaluation methodologies.	Matthew Nanes, Assistant Professor, Saint Louis University Maggie Janes-Lucas, Deputy Country Director, Mercy Corps Niger Peter Bauman, Founder and CEO, Bauman Global LLC Facilitator: Ruth Simpson, EMENA Development and Learning Manager, International Alert
15:30 - 16:00	**Break**	
16:00 - 17:00	**Parallel Sessions 2** 2.1 Establishing baselines 2.2 Conducting surveys in a PVE context 2.3 Resilience 2.4 Evaluating the impact of PVE programming 2.5 Behavioural Insights	
17:00 - 17:15	**Global Launch: D/M&E for PVE Online Toolkit** In 2018, UNDP and International Alert introduced a "toolkit" for designing, monitoring and evaluating PVE programmes. The Amman Forum will see the global launch of a web-based version.	UNDP and International Alert
17:15 - 17:30	**Wrap up and Day 2**	
19:00	**Dinner** 19.00 Buses leave the hotel to take participants to the restaurant 19.30 Dinner at Restaurant Shams el Balad (Address: 69 Mu'Ath Bin Jabal Street)	

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Wednesday 19 June

09:00 - 09:15	**Welcome**	
09:15 - 10:30	**Plenary 3: Understanding radicalisation and disengagement processes: good practices and lessons learnt** Research contributing to the evidence-base on radicalisation, recruitment and disengagement processes is still evolving, and have necessitated specific methodological approaches adapted to the particularities of these processes. Understanding, exploring and analysing radicalisation, recruitment and disengagement processes calls for tailored research methodologies, tools and approaches. This panel will explore the current trends, good practices and risks in researching radicalisation and disengagement processes.	Mohammed Elshimi, Research Fellow, RUSI Christine Fair, Associate Professor, Georgetown University Anne Speckhard, Adjunct Associate Professor, Georgetown University Facilitator: Lucy Holdaway, Senior Peacebuilding Adviser, International Alert
10:30 - 11:00	**Break**	
11:00 - 11:30	**Introducing the Global Peace Index 2019** The Global Peace Index for 2019 has just been released by IEP. The index measures the level of Societal Safety and Security; the extent of Ongoing Domestic and International Conflict; and the degree of Militarisation. In this session, David Hammond, will present the Peace Index of 2019 from a data collection and methodological stand point.	David Hammond, Director of Research, Institute of Economics and Peace
11:30 - 12:30	**Parallel sessions 3** 3.1 Monitoring and evaluating National Action Plans (NAPs) 3.2 Gender-sensitive PVE/ Incorporating intersectionality in M&E 3.3 Big data and data visualization 3.4 Maximising the PVE outcomes of development programmes	
12:30 - 13:30	**Lunch**	
13:30 - 14:15	**Accelerated Labs** Small group, peer collaboration around topics of shared interest.	
14:15 - 15:15	**Plenary 4: Researching on/in the online space and measuring online interventions** Many PVE researchers and practitioners, including M&E specialists, have put a strong emphasis on the online space as pivotal to understand, measure and address violent extremism. Some researchers have increasingly approached the online space as their main data collection field, for instance on questions related to recruitment. This session will explore some of the methods used for researching and monitoring activity and topics online as well as how online-based interventions are being measured.	Sheldon Himelfarb, President and CEO, PeaceTech Lab Ayman Mhanna, Executive Director, Samir Kassir Foundation Facilitator: Jennifer Colville, Innovation Team Leader, UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States
15:15 - 15:45	**Break**	
15:45 - 16:45	**Parallel sessions 4: Moving Forward** 4.1 Improving the evidence base of PVE 4.2 Broadening the impact of research and evaluation	
16:45 - 17:30	**Plenary and Closing** Plenary discussion focusing on sharing lessons, collaborative research and linking research with programming	Samuel Rizk, Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions Team Leader (CIO), UNDP New York

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Details on Parallel Sessions

Parallel Sessions 1		
1.1 Ethics around PVE research and programming Room: Suite 5	There are many ethical considerations around monitoring of PVE programmes, from how we communicate the project, how we engage participants and seek monitoring data to data security and protection of individual privacy and how we feedback to participants. This session will explore these challenges and solutions delegates have come up with.	**Neven Bondokji**, Team Leader and Senior Researcher, WANA Institute **Sarah MacLaughlin**, Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, US Department of State Facilitator: **Nirina Kiplagat**, Project Manager, UNDP Regional Service Center for Africa
1.2 Connecting standardisation with localisation Room: Salon 1	While PVE programming and monitoring must remain rooted in the local context, there is a call for standardisation of monitoring and evaluation methodologies. This session will aim to overcome this tension by exploring examples of standard frameworks that have been adapted for localised approaches. It will look at the methods used for adaptation and what this means for comparison of data, the opportunities and limitations in doing this.	**Sara Zeiger**, Programme Manager, Department of Research and Analysis, Hedayah **Gayatri Sahgal**, Research Manager, RUSI Facilitator: **Lillie Ris**, Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant
1.3 Bringing conflict sensitivity and Do No Harm to the centre of research and measurement Room: Al Majles	Conflict dynamics and violent extremism dynamics are often dealt with as separate issues, yet in most of the contexts we work they are intrinsically linked. Taking a conflict-sensitive approach is critical to understanding how an intervention and the range of resources it brings can impact an environment positively and – unintentionally – negatively. This session will explore how research, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation methodologies can be done in a conflict-sensitive way.	**Anita Ernstorfer**, Founder and Owner, Untangle Josie Lianna Kay, **Researcher-Practitioner,** TrustWorks Global Facilitator: **Samuel Rizk**, Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions Team Leader (OIC), UNDP New York
1.4 Researching on/with youth Room: Salon 2	Whilst young people are the target of many PVE interventions, they are often viewed as a single cohort. For more effective research we need to break down what we mean by youth, looking at how young men and women understand violent extremism, recruitment and disengagement/ rehabilitation in their locality. This session will explore some of the latest research around this area and methodologies that have been adapted/developed for working with different groups of young people.	**Gemma Wood**, Co-founder/Principal Statistician, Numbers and People Synergy **Michael Schroll**, Senior Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor, GCERF Facilitator: **Simon Alexis Finley**, Governance and Peacebuilding Adviser, UNDP Regional Hub for Asia and the Pacific
Parallel Sessions 2		
2.1 Establishing baselines in complex VE environments Room: Salon 1	PVE programmes often lack baseline data against which success can be measured. Utilizing baseline data is made more difficult by the dynamic PVE environment. This provides a challenge when it comes to understanding whether change has happened because of a programme intervention or because of factors outside of the programme.	**Michael J. Williams**, Assistant Professor, American University in the Emirates **Caitlin Ambrozik**, Adjunct Professor, George Washington University Facilitator: **Josie Lianna Kaye**, Researcher-Practitioner, TrustWorks Global

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Details on Parallel Sessions

Parallel Sessions 2		
2.2 Conducting surveys in a PVE context **Room: Salon 2**	There are a number of different methods of remote and face-to-face surveying for monitoring and evaluation purposes. Each carries opportunities for gathering of data but also risks around sensitivity, stigmatisation and bias. This session will explore in detail different survey data collection methods, how they have been designed and conducted to suit PVE work.	**Matthew Nanes**, Assistant Professor, Saint Louis University **Charles Harb**, Professor, American University of Beirut Facilitator: **Gemma Wood**, Co-founder/Principal Statistician, Numbers and People Synergy
2.3 Resilience **Room: Al Majles**	There are a number of protective factors present in communities and individuals that build resilience. Recognising this, along with the sensitive nature of programming directly on VE, more researchers and practitioners are approaching PVE from a resilience perspective. Is there an agreed understanding of what resilience is or how to measure it and to what extent does increasing resilience actually prevent engagement in violence? Are there useful frameworks, such as social psychology, that we can draw on for approaching and measuring resilience?	**Jill Flint-Taylor**, Practitioner-Psychologist and Executive Director, Rusando Ltd **Maggie Janes-Lucas**, Deputy Country Director, Mercy Corps Niger Facilitator: **Ruth Simpson**, EMENA Development and Learning Manager, International Alert
2.4 Evaluating the impact of PVE programming **Room: Al Majles**	Evaluating the impact of PVE programmes has proven a challenging task among evaluators and practitioners. Measuring and analysing whether any intervention has brought about a positive change at the individual, social or structural level, and establishing whether and how this change can be attributed to the intervention face specific challenges in the PVE field. This session explores different evaluation designs that have been used in PVE programming.	**Lillie Ris**, Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant **Arlinda Rrustemi**, Strategic Analyst, HCSS Facilitator: **Anita Ernstorfer**, Founder and Owner, Untangle (LLC)
2.5 Behavioural Insights **Room: Suite 5**	The reasons why people join violent extremism groups are many and varied. Conventional research and monitoring and evaluation methods often fail to measure the complexity in the individual changes that take place and what they add up to. Yet to be able to understand what is working and how it is working in PVE programming we need to be able to develop approaches that can gather and analyse attitudinal and behavioural changes in a far more nuanced way. This session will explore the approaches behavioural science/insights takes and the effectiveness as a method.	**Umar Taj**, Research Fellow, Warwick Business School **Fadi Makki**, Founder and CEO, B4Development Facilitator: **Lucy Holdaway**, Senior Peacebuilding Adviser, International Alert
Parallel Sessions 3		
3.1 Monitoring and evaluating National Action Plans/Strategies **Room: Salon 1**	National Action Plans (NAPs) for PVE have been, or are under development, in a number of countries. A key area of support going forward will be to work with governments who are putting in place monitoring frameworks for the NAPs. This session will discuss options for monitoring the progress of implementing NAPs.	**Mohammed Elshimi**, Research Fellow, RUSI **Elli Partanen**, Legal Counsel, KPMG **Samuli Kinnunen**, Senior Associate, KPMG Facilitator: **Ruth Simpson**, EMENA Development and Learning Manager, International Alert
3.2 Gender-sensitive research on PVE and incorporating intersectionality in M&E **Room Al Majles**	Evidence shows that failure to include women's knowledge and voices in design, monitoring and evaluation limits the effectiveness of interventions. This session explores approaches and tools that support and assess how meaningfully women and men, boys and girls can be engaged in consultation practices, specifically looking at how research on (P)VE and M&E for PVE can incorporate and take adequate consideration of the varying impacts based on gender, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, age, etc.	**Elizabeth Pearson**, Lecturer, Swansea University Facilitator: **Melinda Holmes**, Programme Director, ICAN

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Details on Parallel Sessions

Parallel Sessions 3		
3.3 Big data and data visualization **Room: Suite 5**	Technology tools and data are often seen as under-utilised in research and monitoring of PVE. Yet, recent examples have shown that using big data analytics tools could contribute to reducing some of the risks commonly associated with data collection on and in a VE-affected context. As for data visualisation tools, they have proven useful in promoting the uptake of research and M&E findings. This session will explore some of the latest innovations and how harnessing data can support efforts to understand VE dynamics and develop stronger monitoring systems.	**Tony Quinlan**, CEO and Chief Storyteller, Narrate **Hannes Rõõs**, Data Scientist, HCSS **Bahia Halawi**, Co-Founder, Data Aurora Facilitator: **Jennifer Colville**, Innovation Team Leader, UNDP
3.4 Maximising the PVE outcomes of development programmes **Room: Salon 2**	Practitioners and donors are increasingly considering the implications, risks and opportunities of implementing development (ODA) programmes in VE-affected contexts. While an increasing number of development programmes explicitly integrate a PVE objective, for a majority of ODA programmes in VE-affected contexts, the question remains on whether and how they can have a effect on VE drivers and causes, how to collect evidence on and measure this effect. This session will specifically drawing on the example of a PVE-sensitivity toolkit developed by the Dutch MFA.	**Fulco van Deventer**, Co-Founder and Deputy Director, Human Security Collective Facilitator: **Malin Herwig**, Programme Advisor, Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding, UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States
Parallel Sessions 4		
4.1 Improving the evidence base for PVE **Group 1** **Room: Salon 1** **Group 2** **Room: Al Majles**	Sharing and learning from practice in PVE programming is essential for deepening the impact of PVE work. This is hampered by the sensitivity of the topic, the political and economic barriers to sharing honestly. As a result, few evaluations are shared and there is an absence in connecting up lessons learnt and thinking at a local level with advancing thinking at a global level. This session will explore how we improve the evidence base in PVE; (i) how do we manage the sharing of best and worst practice without negative implications for implementors and (ii) how do we connect up the lessons learnt and advancing thinking at a global level with action in the field. What mechanisms are there that can support this and what needs to be built?	Facilitators: Group 1: **Sarah McLaughlin**, Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, US Department of State Group 2: **Michael J. Williams**, Assistant Professor, American University in the Emirates
4.2 Broadening the impact of research and evaluation **Group 1** **Room: Salon 2** **Group 2** **Room: Al Majles**	Research and evaluation are for a purpose. To bring new or better understandings of an issue, to learn from our programming, to improve future programming, to influence the investment and design of others programming and to advocate for changes in policy and practice. Yet far too often reports remain gathering dust on the shelves. How can we be more effective in applying various forms of analyses, reviews, and evaluations to improve the actual impact of policies and programs? What does this mean to how we present findings and results. How can we balance the need for top level (and often brief) attention from policy makers with simultaneously ensuring that nuance and complexity is communicated.	Facilitators: Group 1: **Peter Bauman**, Founder and CEO, Bauman Global LLC Group 2: **TBC**