1.2.1 (2.1)	**Concept and Methodology** - How will you deliver this project to meet the required outcomes?	Pages: 8	Points: 200

Our **hyper-local**, **women-led**, **research-driven**, **iterative** and **sustainable** solution will be delivered by a project team that is led by the former Cross-Government Lead for Syria, Iraq and Counter-Daesh Communications at the UK FCO, and includes **nine** Lebanese and Palestinian partner organisations – three of which are wholly focused on delivering development programmes in each of the 12 refugee camps (PRCs) in Lebanon – supported by a Panel of Experts that include internationally recognised authorities on Daesh and the threats of violent extremism. Our solution is underpinned by Torchlight's successful track record of providing a range of support to HMG on sensitive capacity building projects in Lebanon and across the region, and presents a fully compliant, resilient, flexible and _added value_ programmatic response to this requirement.

Our project team's collective expertise spans counter violent extremism (CVE), research and analysis, advocacy, strategic media and communications, content development and sustainable capacity development, with demonstrable experience of delivering over 50 targeted CVE campaigns across the MENA and East Africa regions, including developing the strategy behind the largest CVE network in the world: Families Against Terrorism and Extremism. Our experience of CSSF strategy, policy and programming, as well as our knowledge of local governance, human rights, conflict sensitivity and our ability to monitor local atmospherics, the threat environment and challenges presented by local conditions, are reflected within our robust, participatory, conflict- and gender-sensitive approach.

Further emphasising the _significant, enduring benefit_ of our approach, Torchlight is partnering with the following local organisations to support the delivery of this programme and achieve lasting impact. Given their existing footprints in the camps, and access to the Target Audience, each of these organisations will play a critical role in securing permits, as well as the selection and recruitment of participants for our skills workshops, designed to develop **credible alternative pathways** to violent extremism.

▶ Jafra Foundation: A non-partisan, secular organisation headquartered in Beirut and founded in Yarmouk Camp in late 2002. Jafra focuses on developing opportunities for young Palestinians and providing emergency support to refugee communities. Jafra has access to former terrorist fighters (FTFs) whose testimonies will be deployed in the programme, and will also advise on Palestine and Palestinian norms and values.

▶ Palestinian Human Rights Organisation (PHRO): Works to protect and defend the rights of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon by monitoring and documenting Human Rights violations, providing Human Rights education and raising awareness, and advocacy, dialogue and conflict resolution support. PHRO will lead in the design of the curriculum for the skills workshop and ensure seamless delivery across all camps.

▶ Palestinian Refugee Portal (PRP): A Palestinian refugee-run media platform based in Mar Elias refugee camp in Lebanon. PRP aim to secure international media attention for the humanitarian situation of Palestinian refugees around the world, and also run a magazine for Palestinian refugees. PRP will play a key role in understanding the information environment of Palestinian refugees, provide opportunities for engagement and influence, and contribute to mentoring and skills exchange projects.

▶ Statistics Lebanon (SL): Highly experienced in delivering large-scale quantitative and qualitative research projects, including on Daesh communications and Palestinian refugees for UNRWA, UNICEF, World Bank and the Lebanese government. Through our In-country Research Lead, SL will drive the research components of our programme, supported by our Expert Panel.

▶ Quantum Communications: A strategic communications, media, and advisory firm headquartered in Beirut. Quantum has designed and led strategic communications campaigns for the Lebanese Armed Forces, ISF and GSD, as well as the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, with over a decade of experience executing P/CVE programmes in Lebanon and elsewhere across the region. Quantum will act as our content production hub and convener of all partners, leading in-country activity.

▶ Peace Labs – The Lebanese Group for Transforming Conflicts: Aims to empower Lebanese communities to address conflicts non-violently and creatively to prevent violence. As a track-2 organisation, Peace Labs provide the link between the local/grassroots communities and national/policy-makers. Peace Labs will design and deliver the training on Dialogue and Conflict Prevention in the skills workshops.

▶ Samir Kassir Foundation (SKF): Aims to promote cultural freedom and free thought through conferences, specialised seminars, and an annual art festival to defend press freedom, as well as monitoring and documenting violations perpetrated against journalists and media professionals. SKF will design and deliver the skills workshops curriculum on Media Ethics.

▶ Lebanese Development Network (LDN): Dedicated to assisting individuals, communities and institutions to build their capacities on Advocacy and Awareness, Citizenship, Democracy and Civic Rights, Development, and Education. LDN will design and deliver the training on Leadership, Argument Construction and Public Speaking in the skills workshops.

▶ Amnesty International: The Beirut team focuses on Human Rights research, campaigning, and media and advocacy work. Currently working with the Target Audience across Lebanon, Amnesty will design and deliver the training on Advocacy and Outreach in the skills workshops.

Added benefit: Established - Orientated - Networked: We have the existing platform, connectivity, subject matter expertise and familiarity with the operating environment in Lebanon and the PRCs to enable us to quickly orientate ourselves to the ground upon award. Through HMG projects delivered in Lebanon by Torchlight, and those run by our local implementing partners, we maintain strong relationships with the Intelligence Branch of the LAF, who are responsible for administering the camps, as well as with the various militias that have _de facto_ control over the camps themselves. Furthermore, three out of four members of our core project team have worked directly for the UK Government in the past – including with the Counter-Daesh Coalition and Communications Cell – and are highly familiar with HMG programmes and expectations, reducing risks and ensuring immediate connectivity and orientation.

Understanding and Insight – target audience/media landscape_:_ Our In-country Research Lead, **Samia Jouzy**, has worked in a variety of roles in Lebanon for over 25 years, including leading large-scale, highly relevant research projects on behalf of the United Nations Relief & Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UNRWA, and media monitoring for Martpoint, a regional quantitative and qualitative research agency in Beirut. Expert Panel member **Charlie Winter**, a Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation, provides internationally recognised leadership on the understanding of Daesh and its narratives and recruitment efforts, alongside our Lebanese partners, **The Jafra Foundation,** and the **Palestinian Human Rights Organisation**, which work at grassroots-level to develop opportunities for young Palestinians in Lebanon and regularly engage with former terrorist fighters whose testimonies will be deployed in this programme.

Strategy and Planning: Our Programme Lead, **Alicia Kearns**, previously served as Cross-Government Lead for Syria, Iraq and Counter-Daesh Communications at the UK FCO where she was responsible for communications on Syria in Lebanon and cross the MENA region, and advised the Global Coalition Against Daesh. She has also led CVE projects across the region, including developing the strategy behind the largest CVE network in the world: Families Against Terrorism and Extremism. **Jasmine El-Gamal,** who will lead our programming efforts on the ground in Lebanon, brings over 12 years' experience in the field of national security as previous Country Director for Lebanon, Syria and Iraq for the US Department of Defense, Acting Chief of Staff for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Middle East Policy, and as a translator and cultural advisor in Iraq during the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Living in Beirut, she serves as a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and as a Principal Consultant at Quantum, our content partner. **Alex Johnson**, Torchlight's Regional Manager and a former Crown Servant, will also sit as a member of our Expert Panel. Based in Amman, Alex has extensive experience of scoping, designing and implementing sustainable CT and CVE programmes, speaks fluent Arabic and French, and has studied Islamic Jurisprudence (_Fiqh_), Comparative Religion and Religious Extremism at academic institutions in Lebanon, Syria and Egypt.

Content Coordination and Content Creation: Expert Panel member **John Cecil-Wright** previously ran the UK team at Breakthrough Media responsible for delivering over _30 targeted CVE campaigns on behalf of the UK Government_. He is an expert at supporting target audiences in creating meaningful content which delivers measurable effect, and building the capacity of organisations to create content themselves, most recently running programmes in East Africa to tackle the drivers that lead vulnerable young people to become radicalised. He will provide the strategic content direction to our Lebanese content production hub **Quantum Communications**. Quantum has over a _decade of experience executing P/CVE programmes in Lebanon_ and elsewhere across the region on behalf of the Lebanese, Jordanian, Iraqi, and US governments. Other members of our Expert Panel include **Abdul Hye Miah**, a former Metropolitan Police Special Branch Officer and expert in former terrorist fighters and Salafi takfiri jihadist narratives, and **Elizabeth Pearson**, Associate Fellow at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), both of whom are experts on Daesh and will provide significant input into the creation of content to ensure it is both appropriately targeted and does not reinforce ideological or political statements that are contrary to our goals or those of the Authority.

Capacity Building and Sustainability: Our M&E Expert, **Rebecca Emerson-Keeler**, was _previously Head of Coalition Capability Building on CVE Communications at the UK-led Counter-Daesh Coalition_ where she led projects to support Coalition partners, including delivering a programme working with religious leaders in Lebanon. **Alicia Kearns** brings significant expertise in building the capacity of CSOs, governments and international organisations to deliver effective CVE interventions, including 65 members of the Global Coalition Against Daesh, and as an advisor to the EU Radicalisation Awareness Network, providing training to over 60 CVE organisations and governments.

Production, Delivery, Dissemination and Amplification: Headquartered in Beirut, our content partner, **Quantum**, has _designed and led strategic communications campaigns for the LAF, ISF and the GSD, as well as the Presidency of the Council of Ministers_. Quantum is highly familiar with the Palestinian context and has the experience and expertise to navigate complex informational environments unfamiliar to conventional communication practices, devising programmes expertly underpinned by culturally-sensitive messaging to transform perceptions and behaviours of opinion leaders and audiences at large. Supporting Quantum, **John Cecil-Wright** has extensive experience of deploying a wide range of channels for the _distribution of messaging, including web, mobile, SMS, social media, television, radio, print, events and local and international press_.

Positive Alternatives to VEO Pathways: Our project focuses on equipping the Target Audience with the skills, tools and exploration of critical thinking skills to be able to identify negative pathways, turn against them, and not only follow, but create their own positive, alternative pathways for themselves and their peers. Our team has experience working directly with vulnerable child refugees and Palestinian communities, specifically **Wissam Sabaaneh** who founded the grassroots organisation **Jafra** in Yarmouk Camp in Syria, **Alicia Kearns** who worked in refugee camps in Greece, and **Khadije Nasser** who has managed projects focused on steering young people in vulnerable communities away from crime and towards positive, alternative pathways.

The Objective: to undermine Daesh's reputation whilst increasing knowledge and uptake of alternative pathways away from radicalisation in order to increase resilience against violent extremist narratives amongst male Palestinian refugees aged 16-25 in Lebanon. We will achieve this by developing the Target Audience's (directly or through key influencer's) critical thinking skills and ability to challenge ideology and propaganda promulgated by Daesh and other violent extremist organisations (VEOs) and identify the disconnect between their values and those of violent extremists, specifically Daesh.

Our Solution: we propose to lever the power of youth activism, peer influence and social engagement, through capacity building and the development of skill sets – all focused around critical thinking – in the Target Audience. Through face-to-face skills workshops, we will engage with, moderate and engender critical thinking skills in **over 1000 members** of the Target Audience and key influencers, enabling them to engage on an emotional and intellectual level with discourse that promotes non-violent pathways, alternative narratives, and facilitate the development of informational environments balanced against violent extremism. We will reach further into the Target Audience online and through the impact of those with whom we directly engage. In this way, we will deliver on the Authority's request to provide opportunities for the Target Audience to participate in constructive societal engagement and non-violence.

We have designed a campaign that is specifically *not* linear, but **iterative** and **adaptive**, rooted in research and based on defined metrics from our cyclical monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process throughout the lifecycle of the programme. None of the components of the programme are isolated or static, but designed to **build upon both organic success and the success of wider Authority / Coalition initiatives**. In this way, the programme is 'alive', allowing us to continuously adapt our approach and content based on our M&E findings and the results of our research to improve content and successfully connect with the Target Audience, achieving greater, **more sustainable impact**. The programme will be made up of the following components, further detailed information is provided later in this section.

- ▶ Skills Workshops
- ▶ Community Action Projects
- ▶ Skills Exchange Project
- ▶ Participant Support Network
- ▶ Debate Club
- ▶ Audience-led Content Production
- ▶ Eye on Daesh in Lebanon

Added Value: We propose to deliver the programme in **all 12 refugee camps** within Lebanon across the 3-year lifecycle of the project. This presents significant *added benefits* for the Authority and will enable us to pilot the project in 2-4 camps – selected from **Ain el Hilweh**, **Beddawi**, **Burj Barajneh** and **Shatila** – in Year 1, before extending the programme to the remaining camps, adapting and improving our approach to successfully connect with a wider Target Audience in subsequent years.

Understanding and Insight – Target Audience/Media Landscape.
The initial and continuing research component is key to securing a robust, evidence-based understanding of Daesh targeting and recruitment methods of the Target Audience, and any infiltration of their informational environment. Our In-Country Research Lead, **Samia Jouzy**, has *led large-scale research projects into the Target Audience on behalf of UNRWA*, as well as media monitoring for Martpoint, a regional quantitative and qualitative research agency in Beirut. Furthermore, our Expert Panel is made up of recognised experts on researching Daesh and its targeting of, and impact on, vulnerable communities, including **Charlie Winter**, **Lizzie Pearson** and **Abdul Hye Miah,** as well as experts on Palestinian refugees such as **Wissam Sabaaneh**, the founder of the grassroots Palestinian organisation, **Jafra**, and **Khadije Nasser**, the Senior Regional P/CVE Programme Manager for the Danish-funded Strong Cities Network which operates a series of working groups, including on refugees and internal displacement, which we will seek to lock into. Our research partner, **Statistics Lebanon** are also *experienced in operating in refugee camps in Palestine* and we will look to leverage their *existing established data sets and substantial body of quantitative and qualitative research*.

Refugee-specific narratives. As Daesh loses the territory it once occupied, it retains and will re-double its efforts to reach and influence potential recruits, particularly young men in opportunity-laden contexts such as conflict zones or refugee camps, where inhabitants may be more susceptible to their narratives.

Daesh has long-deployed narratives which use the treatment of Palestinians and the crisis in Palestine to manipulate supporters to the terror group. Following the organisation's initial declaration of its so-called Caliphate, in a propaganda address for Ramadan its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, listed the countries where Muslims were under attack who could expect Daesh's support – this included Palestine. Since then, in propaganda, Daesh regularly lists Palestine as a country in which there is an active jihad of which they are supportive, and in order to highlight their declared enemies, such as Israel. Interestingly, a great deal of Daesh output on Palestine has emerged from their propaganda outfits in Afghanistan. Daesh has also released materials directed specifically at the 'People of Palestine' in which it urges all Palestinians (not just refugees) to be assured that Daesh is fighting in their interests and supports their 'jihad'.

Drivers of radicalisation amongst Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Around 53% of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (around 450,000) live in the 12 recognised refugee camps. The ongoing conflict in Syria has forced many Palestinian refugees from that country, including men, women and children, to flee to Lebanon in search of safety. According to research by the Civil Society Knowledge Center, these 12 camps are commonly regarded as 'no-law zones' and 'spaces of exception', and have notoriously faced serious structural challenges, including poverty, overcrowding, unemployment, poor housing and lack of infrastructure.

The Palestinian Islamist scene in Lebanon is multifaceted, with a number of extremist groups operating within refugee camps such as *Asbat al-Ansar*, *Jund al-Sham*, and *Fateh al-Islam*. There are a few, well-known, cases in which Salafist armed groups from refugee camps have carried out cross-border attacks, or attacks against the LAF and ISF, which were coordinated with external armed groups such as Al Qaeda's affiliate Jabhat al-Nusra (now known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, HTS). However, Salafi Takfiri Jihadist ideology has not traditionally been a driving force in the conflict in Palestine which, despite a surge in Salafi Islamism over the past eight years, has been largely secular.

Threats to security and of radicalisation are not solely down to the presence of Salafist armed groups; a number of other causes have been found by academics to be determining factors in the radicalisation of refugees, primarily denial of political agency. Palestinians in refugee camps in Lebanon experience an acute lack of empowerment, and an absence of mechanisms through which to express their interests and grievances in a peaceful manner. Studies by Lischer (2005[1]) found that exclusion from political processes and political factors are more likely to drive refugee violence and radicalisation than other influences such as economics. Indeed, she found little evidence of a causal link between the economic conditions of refugees and their radicalisation, but that restriction of political agency was particularly amplified among refugees whose ethno-nationalist cause is being threatened (Lischer, 2005) and by those trapped in protracted situations. A study by UNRWA and UNICEF in 2017 of 1060 Palestinian refugees aged 10-24 found that their political status with lack of civil rights, insecurity and the dire conditions of the camps limit their opportunities and aspirations in education, affect their health and trap them in hopeless situations with poor emotional wellbeing.

This is further amplified by the social deprivation faced by Palestinian refugees, which constitutes a major destabilising factor, coupled with a recurring and dominant discourse in regional and international media labelling Palestinian refugee camps (PRCs) as unstable and unsafe spaces, dominated by extremist and violent networks. This undoubtedly creates a feeling of 'otherness' both toward and within Palestinian youth living in the camps, which is one of the prime 'pull' factors that could eventually lead to radicalisation of the youth if left unaddressed and combined with other factors.

The social deprivation experienced has been worsened by an influx of the Palestinian refugee population from Syria due to the ongoing crisis caused by the presence of Daesh and actions of the Assad regime. As of December 2016, according to UNRWA figures, there were an estimated 32,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria who had fled the ongoing conflict and re-settled in Lebanon, with about 90% living under the poverty line and 95% suffering from food insecurity. They concluded that these refugees are particularly vulnerable to recruitment as a result of the protracted displacement they have experienced, lack of legal status, and even more limited access to employment opportunities. Because of these hardships, negative coping mechanisms are increasingly reported in these communities, such as recruitment to armed groups, relying on children to support the family though early child marriage, domestic abuse and child labour. Ain al-Hilweh is the most exposed camp to this additional pressure.

A study by the Quilliam Foundation[2] on pathways to radicalisation amongst refugees concluded that unaccompanied minors are particularly vulnerable to radicalisation as they separated from their parents and are now living in a new host country lacking in the critical thinking structures and providers who previously supported them.

Target Audience's information environment. According to the UNRWA and UNICEF 2017 study of young Palestinian refugees in Lebanon cited above, the three most common leisure activities were meeting up with friends (59%), watching TV (44%) and spending time on the internet (42%). The vast majority of internet users said they use it on a daily basis (96%) and to communicate with friends and family (91%). Half of respondents used the internet 3 to 6 hours a day (47%), one fifth used it 7 to 10 hours a day, and 7% even more. This high use of the internet is not uncommon within refugee camps, and particularly amongst unaccompanied minors, as access to other past time activities and materials are often limited, inappropriate or outdated. One of the key sources of information and information-sharing remains person-to-person trusted interactions. This is entirely reflected in our approach.

Given the paucity of information available in the public domain, we offer significant *additional benefit* to the Authority by being able to draw on the existing established data sets and substantial body of research conducted by our Research Partner – **Statistics Lebanon** – who have delivered large-scale quantitative and qualitative research projects on Daesh communications and Palestinian refugees for UNRWA, UNICEF, World Bank and the Lebanese government. We will seek to further establish the various influences on the Target Audience during our initial research phase, and will also investigate the influence of Palestinian refugees who live within host communities in Lebanon, on those within camps. It is within this context that this programme is seeking to bolster the resilience of young Palestinian males living in refugee camps in Lebanon.

Key takeaways that have informed our approach include:
▶ As Daesh seeks to maintain its relevance and authority, it may increase references in its propaganda to refugees, or target them more directly in output.
▶ Research required into how, and using what narratives, Daesh targets Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.
▶ The failure of Daesh to provide any tangible, real-world intervention to Palestinians in the Israel-Palestine conflict, despite their promises to wage jihad, is an angle we could exploit, subject to research findings.
▶ Denial of political agency is a primary factor in refugees' vulnerability to radicalisation.
▶ Palestinian refugees alert to external labelling of them as extremists.
▶ Unaccompanied minors are more vulnerable and should be engaged in the programme.

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[1] Lischer, Sarah. 2005. Dangerous Sanctuaries: Refugee Camps, Civil War, and the Dilemmas of Humanitarian Aid. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

[2] Quilliam Foundation https://www.quilliaminternational.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/refuge-pathways-of-youth-fleeing-extremism-executive-summary.pdf

▶ Palestinian Refugees from Syria but now in Lebanon due to the crisis are more vulnerable, exhibiting concerning behaviours, and should be engaged in the programme.
▶ Peer influence and the internet are major points of entry to this audience.

Strategy and Planning.

Initial research phase. In the first month, we will undertake a deep dive into existing research the Authority holds on the Target Audience, which will be carried out by our Expert Panel members **Charlie Winter,** a Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation, and **Lizzie Pearson,** Associate Fellow at the RUSI – both of whom have been quoted extensively in online and print media on their understanding of Daesh and its narratives and recruitment; **Wissam Sabaaneh** – the chief executive of the **Jafra Foundation** who founded the grassroots Palestinian organisation in Yarmouk Camp in Damascus in 2002 and was forced to relocate his operational base to Lebanon in 2015 when the rebel-held camp was overrun by Daesh; **Abdul Hye Miah** – a former Metropolitan Police Special branch officer and expert in Salafi Takfiri jihadist narratives; the **PHRO**, our in-country research partner, **Statistics Lebanon**, and **Samia Jouzy**, our In-country Research Lead.

This will inform the specific design of the research that will be carried out over a two-month period in-country. We currently expect to deliver primarily quantitative research with a sample of around 1500 members of our Target Audience, supported by qualitative interviews with members of the community, stakeholders and those working with young people in the camp and open-source academia and media analysis.

Priorities for the research that we have identified so far include: understanding the current levels of extremism within camps; geographical hot-spots for recruitment and propaganda within camps; current CVE efforts within the camps; the influences on the Target Audience; transference structures of the audience – ie. how and from whom/where they receive and share information offline and online; trust networks; current efforts and effectiveness of Daesh messaging; push and pull factors for radicalisation; and any cognitive openings that could be exploited. During this research period, we will also look at the testimonies and insights of former terrorist fighters (FTFs) to glean insights as to the push and pull factors that lead to the radicalisation and/or mobilisation of vulnerable refugees.

Upon completion of the initial research in-country, our Expert Panel members – who are recognised authorities on understanding Daesh recruitment efforts and narratives – will review the findings and compile a report providing: deeper insight into the Target Audience; their vulnerabilities; influencer mapping; any recommended audience segmentation; current efforts by Daesh to target Palestinians and the degree to which this is recognised by the audience; recommended changes to the Theory of Change; recommendations for the project; and guidance on any conflicts identified with the proposed approach. This will inform our joint planning with the Authority to determine the final structure of the programme.

Every six months, or more regularly if the situation dictates, we will undertake two weeks of research to ensure we are fully in touch with our Target Audience, the situation in the camps, and Daesh recruitment methods and narratives targeting Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. This will be completed by our partner **Statistics Lebanon**, working with the PHRO, informed by feedback from the Authority, our civil society partners, our M&E experts, and our Expert Panel members. This research will also be key to our M&E component, which is set out in full in Section 1.6.1, helping us to ensure we iteratively improve the delivery of the project.

Theory of Change. A great deal of academic study has been devoted to understanding the most effective tools to counter the radicalisation of refugees in situations across the world, although Palestinian refugees appear to be underrepresented in this body of evidence. Studies by Francisco Martin-Rayo (2017)[3] and Huma Haider (2018)[4] agreed resoundingly that education is by far the most effective tool, particularly as these approaches recognise that refugees are not passive individuals, but actors with agency whose ability to participate in, or express, any political mandate, is silenced.

The above-referenced 2017 UNRWA and UNICEF study of Palestinian refugees aged 10-24 in Lebanon asked the respondents what they felt would improve their opportunities for their future, tackle social cohesion and diminish conflict within their communities. Their specific suggestions appear to focus around a desire for spaces for the peaceful expression of political views. Their solutions included:
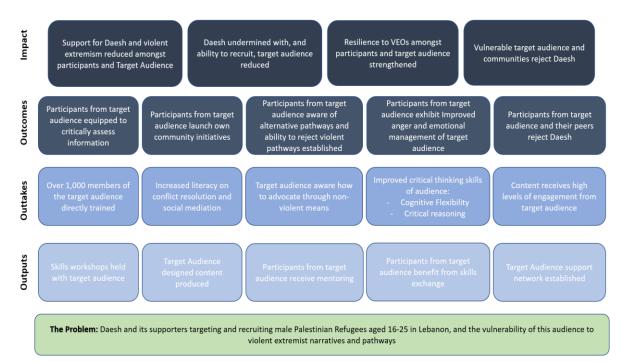
▶ Conducting awareness sessions with youth and offering support programs to students for anger management;
▶ Workshops where the youth can practice their skills;
▶ Increasing support classes outside schools; and
▶ Increasing the number of counselors in schools and offering psychosocial support to the youth.

We have therefore designed a solution that is informed by what the Target Audience believes would be effective, coupled with academic research that education is the most powerful tool. Based on the research we have undertaken to date, and the expertise of our team, we propose the following top line model, which is supportive of the Global Coalition's overarching Theory of Change; the research component of the programme will further inform this process.

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[3] Martin-Rayo, Francisco 2011. Countering Radicalization in Refugee Camps: How Education Can Help Defeat AQAP https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/countering-radicalization-refugee-camps-how-education-can-help-defeat-aqap

[4] Haider, Huma 2014. Refugee, IDP and host community radicalisation. http://www.gsdrc.org/docs/open/hdq1162.pdf

Torchlight

Impact	Support for Daesh and violent extremism reduced amongst participants and Target Audience	Daesh undermined with, and ability to recruit, target audience reduced	Resilience to VEOs amongst participants and target audience strengthened	Vulnerable target audience and communities reject Daesh	
Outcomes	Participants from target audience equipped to critically assess information	Participants from target audience launch own community initiatives	Participants from target audience aware of alternative pathways and ability to reject violent pathways established	Participants from target audience exhibit Improved anger and emotional management of target audience	Participants from target audience and their peers reject Daesh
Outtakes	Over 1,000 members of the target audience directly trained	Increased literacy on conflict resolution and social mediation	Target audience aware how to advocate through non-violent means	Improved critical thinking skills of audience: - Cognitive Flexibility - Critical reasoning	Content receives high levels of engagement from target audience
Outputs	Skills workshops held with target audience	Target Audience designed content produced	Participants from target audience receive mentoring	Participants from target audience benefit from skills exchange	Target Audience support network established

The Problem: Daesh and its supporters targeting and recruiting male Palestinian Refugees aged 16-25 in Lebanon, and the vulnerability of this audience to violent extremist narratives and pathways

Alternative pathways. As set out above, we will create a campaign which revolves around the power of youth activism and social engagement, through capacity building and the creation of skill sets and exploration of soft-skills, as well as communication and social media activations to highlight successes and impact. The programme will:

▶ Create a community of trained participants who are equipped to advocate for common causes through non-violent means;
▶ Create opportunities for political agency amongst the target audience;
▶ Enable the Target Audience to peacefully express themselves and not only follow, but create, peaceful pathways;
▶ Empower by instilling a sense of resiliency, hope and pride among oppressed or vulnerable youth living under or close to Daesh's (or other extremist) influences;
▶ Create an environment of unity, tolerance, acceptance and respect of others that runs against everything VEOs personify in order to moderate the responses of the target audience; and
▶ Establish critical thinking skills around social mediation, conflict resolution and other topics that enable community resilience.

Proposed intervention. Our proposed campaign leverages the power of youth activism and social engagement, through capacity building and the creation of skill sets, as well as communication and social media activations. It will interact face-to-face with over 1000 members of the Target Audience, and reach further into the Target Audience online and through the impact of those with whom we directly engage.

Our team and solution will allow us to reach all 12 refugee camps within Lebanon across the 3-year, iterative and incremental lifecycle of the project. We will prioritise camps based on the assessed urgency of required intervention, beginning with **Ain el Hilweh** in southern Lebanon, plus 2-3 from either **Beddawi** in the North, or **Burj Barajneh** and **Shatila** in the suburbs of southern Beirut. These PRCs have been identified as they witness regular violent clashes, have large populations of refugees who were in Syria and have been forced to move to Lebanon and, according to our local research partners, are understood to have particularly dominant extremist networks present within them. We will continually review the security situation to determine the safety of our proposed operations, and whilst we will primarily work within the camps – noting that at times, the Target Audience is not permitted to leave – based on our security reviews and assessments, we may be required to operate in existing community or partner centres outside of the camps. The programme will be made up of the following components which will continually developed and evolved:

▶ Skills Workshops Community Action Projects
▶ Skills Exchange Project
▶ Participant Support Network

▶ Debate Club
▶ Audience-led Content Production
▶ Eye on Daesh in Lebanon

Capacity Building and Sustainability.

Skills Workshops. We will hold six, two-day skills workshops, in all 12 PRCs in Lebanon throughout the course of the programme. We will teach a carefully designed set of skills which will empower the Target Audience with the necessary critical thinking skills, emotional management capabilities, social norms and values to build and project resilience against violent extremist influences such as Daesh. The workshops will allow us to align message and messenger to target vulnerable male youths of the Target Audience, engaging directly with the Target Audience and empowering them to further influence their peers. This approach deploys the proven effect of peer pressure on youth, particularly in vulnerable areas, where an individual is less likely to join an

extremist group if those around him are not tempted or joining them. By training these youths to be moderating influences within their networks, the better equipped they are, the more effective they will be.

We are alert to the risk of stigmatising the Target Audience if we deliver a programme that is labelled as counter violent extremism, which could mark participants as potential recruits or 'at-risk'. As such, the research we undertake, and information yielded, will determine the specific branding of the programme to ensure it is most likely to attract participation of the audience and do so in a manner that does not risk the programme or participants; ie. a skills development course. Our precise approach to publicising the programme in the camps will be designed with our local partners and agreed with the Authority once on-task to ensure the risks of raising our profile are appropriately balanced against the benefits of securing buy-in and support from the Target Audience – and wider camp community – by explaining the objectives of our programme. We will work closely with our local partners to identify and select suitable individuals from within the Target Audience, and key influencers, to participate. Candidates will be required to complete a small written application outlining why they want to be involved in the programme. A cap of 15 participants will be in place for every workshop to ensure ample capacity for dialogue and interaction between the participants.

Curriculum. Under the instruction of experts, largely Palestinian-trained social workers and CVE experts, participants will follow a carefully structured curriculum which creates opportunities for, and develops, critical thinking skills through the discussion of issues of common concern to identify possible solutions and **positive pathways** forward. Training will merge theory and practice, deploying simulations, games, debate clubs and case studies; all of which stimulate critical thinking. The modules we propose, subject to the outcomes of the research and input from the Authority, are:

- **Leadership, Argument Construction and Public Speaking:**
  - Learning how to construct persuasive narratives.
  - How to walk away, and conflict mediation.
  - Learning methodology, how to support oneself with facts, not through bullying/violence.
  - Self-confidence, self-worth and critical thinking.

- **Media Ethics: A Focus on Social Media and argument dissection:**
  - Critical assessment of information, source and objective.
  - Teaching the difference between fact and opinion and the line between free speech and hate speech (includes use of FTF testimonies).
  - Learning how to raise funds for community initiatives to reduce lure of organisations offering funding.
  - Learning how to use social media for constructive campaigning.

- **Dialogue and Conflict Prevention:**
  - Active listening and argument deconstruction.
  - Understanding the point of view of others.
  - Emotional management, and anger prevention.
  - Signs of conflict within loved ones and communities.
  - Signs of radicalisation (includes use of FTF testimonies).
  - Preventing Gender-Based Violence and the role of women in governance and community leadership.

- **Advocacy and Outreach:**
  - Learning how to make their voice heard peacefully.
  - Learning how to advocate moderately and democratically.
  - Learning how to produce engaging content.
  - Learning how to be heard not through fists or weapons, but through petitions, lobbying etc.
  - How to write an urgent action alert, petition letters, raise concerns and protect the rights of others in a peaceful way.

Based on the research available of young Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, and the experience of our team of working in PRCs, young refugees generally seek out opportunities to engage in educational opportunities and skills-based learning. However, to additionally increase the attractiveness of the programme, and its effectiveness, we will offer the following to participants after successful completion of the skills workshops:

Community Action Projects. During the programme we will support participants to consider how they can apply the skills they learn, helping them discuss the practicalities of initiating such activities. For example, knife crime amongst young refugees in Lebanon is high, with many of the Target Audience expressing their concerns about safety in the camp. We would support the participants, if this was something they wanted to do, to launch a knife amnesty, working with one of our many partners within the camps. Equally, there is much discussion on social media by camp inhabitants of the dreary state of many refugee camps and the desire to reinvigorate shared spaces was also raised by the Target Audience in the 2017 UNRWA and UNICEF census. We could support residents to hold 'Colour the Street with Life' events where the Target Audience paints walls or sidewalks. This has the value of providing a task and objective, which helps overcome the boredom too often faced by young refugees, coupled with the opportunity for artistic expression, which is an effective emotional management tool. By supporting the Target Audience to design

their own, sustainable projects, we are extending the **sustainability** of the project and encouraging civic action amongst participants.

Mentoring project. We will match participants with mentors who will meet with them periodically to discuss issues and concerns they have (and how to manage them), and identify further opportunities to put the skills gained in to practice. We will work towards the participants themselves becoming informal mentors to other young people within the Target Audience, achieving **sustainability** and **amplification** through a cascade system.

Skills Exchange Programme. We will identify opportunities to select participants to second to specific institutions to practice and implement the skills they have learned in year one. The institutions will include our many partners, as well as Lebanese civic and private sector organisations, and universities. This will provide real-world experience for the participants.

Participant Support Network. With over 70 workshops being held across the 12 camps, and a potential of over 1000 members of the Target Audience taking part, all members will be invited to join a Facebook-based support network through which they can discuss common and shared interests, seek support and advice from one another, and benefit from an improved sense of community solidarity and resilience. This closed Facebook group will be closely monitored by our team, identifying and supporting local / participant administration of the group to ensure **sustainability** and **amplification** beyond the life of this programme.

Debate Club. Throughout the programme, debating sessions will be held to highlight the importance of dialogue and measured debate over anger and violence. We will again be driving **sustainability** and **amplification** by helping participants to form their own debating clubs, and to continue to host these after the conclusion of the programme, supported by *our partners who will continue to allow the trained participants to use their facilities*. It will also enable critical thinking opportunities to continue, to expand to wider members of the Target Audience, and to provide the Target Audience with a programme over which they have ownership. The giving of ownership contributes to our deployment of 'Psychological Empowerment'[5] theory in our programme, which recognises that four cognitions: meaning, self-determination, competence, and impact, can all be initiated through effective educational outreach.

Content Coordination and Creation.
Audience-led content production. In addition to the projects described above, we will target the Target Audience through engaging social media interventions. Our expert Lebanese content creation partner, **Quantum** – which employs a number of Palestinians – will work with participants during the workshops to design Al Jazeera+ (AJ+) style one-minute videos which aim to initiate critical thinking and rejection of violent extremism amongst the Target Audience. We will then go back to the participants to show them the videos that have been designed, and focus group-test the products created.

Delivery, Dissemination and Amplification.
In addition to initiatives detailed above, Three AJ+ style videos will be released each year, allowing us to reach deeper into the Target Audience, with materials designed and tested by the Target Audience, and **amplified** by participants. To ensure we reach primarily the Target Audience, *geo-tagged advertising will be applied*, and the videos released by participants of the programme, dedicated social media channels we will create, and through existing social media platforms relevant to the audience (which will be determined during the research phase).

Eye on Daesh in Palestine and Lebanon: monitoring the threat and audience response. Throughout the programme we will remain alert to Daesh activities in, and narratives pertaining to, Palestine and Lebanon, and specifically those targeting Palestinian refugees within the country. We will provide spot reports to the Authority on breaking, important issues, and include general insights within our weekly reports.

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[5] Oxford Bibliographies, a definition of 'Psychological Empowerment' theory. http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199846740/obo-9780199846740-0090.xml