

**Deploying the Common Social
Accountability Platform (CSAP) to support
the **Strength Through Tolerance** project
that aims at **Preventing and Countering
Violent Extremism (PCVE)** in Somalia**

Africa's Voices Foundation
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List of Acronyms

AVF	Africa's Voices Foundation
EIP	European Institute of Peace
EPC	Elman Peace Centre
EU	European Union
CSAP	Common Social Accountability Platform
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
FMS	Federal Member States
IDPs	Internally Displaced Person
PCVE	Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism
PSA	Public Service Announcement
SMS	Short Message Service
VE	Violent Extremism

Executive Summary

The European Institute of Peace (EIP) (consortium lead), Elman Peace Centre (EPC) and Africa's Voices Foundation (AVF) implemented the second radio diagnostic series of the European Union (EU)'s Strength Through Tolerance (STT) project that aims at contributing to an enhanced partnership and a joint approach between the government and communities in order to address factors causing violent extremism (VE) in Galmudug, Puntland and Jubaland regions for the period 2020–2024. Between March 2022 - April 2022, Africa's Voices Foundation (AVF) in partnership with MediaINK (MI) our media partner in Somalia, deployed a 3-week interactive radio show across 15 radio stations (5 stations in each targeted Federal Member State (FMS) with a focus on the analysis of the role women peace leaders play in the Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism in each region and their collaboration with the Civil Society Organisations and the government.

Citizens were engaged through interactive radio talk shows and SMS advertisements to determine and inform them about the role women currently play or can play in PCVE, as well as their awareness and understanding of violent extremism and the role women are playing in combating these activities in their region. This was enabled via radio and SMS information campaigns, providing a politically-neutral platform and a safe space for the voices of citizens and their views on violent extremism-related issues within their regions. The initiative also synthesised citizen voices resulting in actionable recommendations for decision-makers on ways women within the community can be engaged and involved in the fight against violent extremism in Jubaland, Puntland and Galmudug. The citizen consultation involved representatives from the community, the civil society organisations and the local Federal Member states (FMS) who appeared as guests during the interactive radio discussions to respond to questions informed by citizens' feedback and speak to some of the concerns and questions raised during the dialogue. In this way, the radio shows represented sites for social accountability in which citizens could interact directly with the authorities and decision-makers and provided a neutral platform for the citizens to express their views and opinions on violent extremism-related issues and activities that exist within their communities and regions.

In this series, AVF's interactive radio methodology effectively engaged **2,778** citizens in active discussion on a two-way basis and enabled ultimate reach to about **46,300¹** including groups that are traditionally marginalised from public dialogue spaces in Somalia, such as women, who made up **41.7%** of participants, **59.9%** of those who responded to the age question was between 18 and 35 years whereas **22.3%** were between 15 to 17 years of age and IDPs made up **49.2%** of those who have reported their IDP status.

Main Findings

- The following are the key insights identified across all three weeks of the radio dialogue:
- In week one of radio dialogue, **36.2%** of the participants (**n=125**) and week 3 **55.1%** (**n=266**) of participants agreed that there should be **unity and cooperation** among all members of the community. They stated that unity is helpful in the fight against violent extremism and would strengthen the role of women in PCVE and enhance cooperation among women, the government, and civil society organisations in PCVE interventions.
- **25.5%** (**n=88**) of participants in week one also stated that **peace and security** should be prioritised so that women can play a role in combating violent extremism in their respective regions. This can be promoted by working on and maintaining peace in the respective communities.
- In week two, **32.2 %** (**n=118**) of participants believed that **women play an important role** in combating PCVE because they are the foundation of the family and are important in a community.

¹⁶ people out of 100 listeners take the step to send an SMS (Total participants x 100) / 6)

Recommendations

- All parties involved in handling PCVE interventions should be encouraged to work together and foster openness and transparency in the fight against violent extremism.
- Giving women leadership opportunities and awareness creation on the role of women in PCVE would buttress the interventions.
- Need to strengthen the security mechanism to protect women that fight violent extremisms to avoid victimisation, harassment, abduction among others.
- Promote honest dialogue through media and face to face meetings among stakeholders in PCVE as this will enhance confidence and effort to prevent and counter violent extremism.

Challenges faced

As is common with radio consultations, only a proportion of the messages received were considered relevant and the percentage is always low. This is a challenge intrinsic to the interactive radio methodology². AVF continues to explore ways of increasing relevance so that more of the messages received can be included in the analysis such as conducting repeat shows and redefining the question for participants and resending. Secondly, the proportion of women participants was lower than that of men in the interactive radio shows. This is in line with AVF's representative phone survey conducted in March 2020³, which demonstrated evidence of a more equal proportion of women compared with men who listen to our radio shows. However, it is noted that women are less likely to send SMS for multiple reasons, including limited phone ownership, low literacy levels or potentially low confidence. Despite these challenges, AVF continues to work towards inclusive consultations by ensuring women are represented in the focus groups discussions, radio shows as presenters or guests, discussions as well as integrating gender into the topics of discussion. In addition, there were difficulties with the shortcode during programming due to telecom and aggregator outages causing failures with the real-time delivery of messages. AVF, with support from our aggregator Shaqodoon Organisation, engaged the mobile network operators to retrieve the messages. This was shared as a CSV file and our data and technology team manually synced all the messages to ensure minimal loss.

²Riha, J., Lopes, C. A., Ibrahim, N. A., & Srinivasan, S. (2021). *Media and Digital Technologies for Mixed Methods Research in Public Health Emergencies Such as COVID-19 : Lessons Learned From Using Interactive Radio – SMS for Social Research in Somalia*, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689820986748>

³ibid

1. INTRODUCTION

In Somalia, Violent extremism (VE) has been interminable and uncontrollable over the years, since 1991. The majority of Somalia's citizens have lived and only known life under constant conflict. A group that named itself Al-Shabab (AS) has been the main enemy in Somalia since the year 2007 when they were formed⁴. The group describes itself as waging wars against enemies of Islam and is in active conflict with the Federal Government of Somalia. Over the 15 years that AS has been based in Somali, it has made deep roots in the country and has had an impact on the daily lives of the locals. The AS has been engaged in a long-standing fight against the Federal Government of Somalia and its Federal Member States. This made Somalia a country facing a lot of challenges and the major one being questions arising from their security.

Despite a history of marginalisation, women have always played an important role in influencing ideas and ways of life in Somalia. They are often outspoken. However, until recently, they were largely excluded from security and peace-building programmes⁵.

When Al-Qaida chief Ayman al-Zawahiri's Wife called on Muslim mothers to raise their children to support violent extremism in June 2012, Somali women's groups issued a public condemnation. "Mothers and guardians who are responsible for raising children should raise them with love and compassion that counter the roots of radicalism. They should shield children from misguided ideas. They should also confront those who advocate for terrorism and the Al-Qaida ideology that encourages the slaughter of innocent people." Somali children's rights activists said at the time.

Alshabab engages the community and forces them to work with them in providing information they need whenever by abducting the youth, women or any other community members and forcing their involvement in AS activities. A major rule that the AS have is that, once you are part of the AS you are never allowed to leave and if they doubt you want to break away from them, your life will be in danger forever. On the issue of female recruitment into the AS groups, many say that they were recruited involuntarily. Some were forced because they were promised a better economy by carrying out businesses for the group. Al Shabab largely uses women to transport their goods from one place to another because women are not highly scrutinised in security screening and checkpoints compared to Men. Other women are married into AS, some willingly and some forcefully. The ones who willingly married into the AS groups wanted to gain certain freedom or get certain gains while the ones who married forcefully are because the young AS recruiters are promised wives and if they like a certain woman, the woman is forced to marry the guy against her will.

Despite previous work, however, there are considerable gaps that need to be filled. There remains a deficit in understanding and analysis of violent extremist groups and their activities. It is for this reason that The European Union has commissioned a consortium of three partners EIP, AVF and EPC, with EIP being the lead in implementing the Strength Through Tolerance programme in order "to achieve evidence-based improvements in policy, institutional and social environment to enable the development of a nationally owned, transparent, accountable and integrated approach to P/CVE that will allow the country to prevent violent extremism effectively and efficiently while operating within a framework of good governance, a culture of dialogue and tolerance as well as respect for human rights. AVF deployed a 3-week interactive radio show to gather citizen perceptions on key themes relating to the role of women peace leaders and women in general in PCVE and violent extremism. The design of the series has been closely integrated with the research objectives under Result 1 on analysis of conflict, drivers of violent extremism and capacities for peace, to triangulate and deepen the findings with citizen voices.

⁴*The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab*

⁵*The New Humanitarian*

Context and Project description

Africa's Voices Foundation (AVF), in partnership with MediaINK (MI), EIP and EPC supported by the European Union have undertaken three weeks of interactive radio dialogue to gather information on the roles and activities that women peace leaders engage in PCVE within the target regions (Jubaland, Galmudug and Puntland). AVF and MI aimed to create a legitimate and trusted space for the citizens to meaningfully engage in discussions relating to the role of women in the fight against violent extremism and to build an understanding of their contribution to countering and preventing violent extremism. The project is structured around the following key objectives:

- Building large, inclusive and valued spaces for consulting citizens on the issues relating to preventing conflict and violent extremism (PCVE) in order to better understand community perceptions on factors that enable or constrain PCVE.
- Amplifying and promoting ongoing community efforts to tackle violent extremism, particularly focusing on voices of marginalised and powerless groups, such as women and at-risk youth.
- Ensuring that consortium PCVE programming is shaped by timely and robust evidence-based citizen perspectives throughout the project life cycle.
- Strengthening trust between citizens and authorities, by supporting the government to be in dialogue with citizens on key decisions and programming related directly and indirectly to PCVE.

2. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Participatory design Workshop of citizen consultation

In collaboration with EIP, EPC and Media Ink, AVF held a second design workshop in Garowe on 8th March 2022 to identify themes for public discussion, generate content and prioritise evidence gaps. The radio consultation and evaluation open-ended questions were also developed to provoke lively and plural discussion in an engaging and accessible way. The questions were tested in Focus Group Discussions (FGD) to ascertain the understanding in terms of the language used (to be accessible and jargon-free), and the cultural adequacy, making sure that the questions are not open to multiple interpretations. The FGDs were also used to generate content to populate the radio scripts for the shows.



Radio talk shows

AVF and MI deployed three (3) weeks of radio discussions across a network of fifteen (15) radio stations in three regions of Somalia (Galmudug, Jubaland and Puntland) to understand the role and activities of women peace leaders in the fight against violent extremism in the target regions. At the beginning of each week of engagement, public service announcements (PSA) were broadcasted to introduce audiences to the topic of the upcoming show and we asked them an open-ended question to which they could respond with their perspective via toll-free SMS. Upon participating, all audience members received a message from AVF asking them for their consent to use their answers in analysis and asking further questions on gender, age, location and any other relevant information, for instance, the household language and their Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) status.

The feedback received as a result of these PSAs was incorporated into the radio show scripts, which were produced midweek and aired on Thursdays. Messages sent in by audiences were used both as standalone

examples of public opinion and in the design of interviews with key stakeholders. AVF and MI worked collaboratively to design the radio shows, ensuring that the content is informed by the incoming citizen voices that are relevant and interesting to the targeted demographic.

The tables below include the questions asked in the radio shows

Table 1: Radio Questions

Interactive radio shows	
Date	March and April 2022
Topic	Amplifying P/CVE Women Leaders' role and activities
Questions asked	<p>Week 1: What PCVE activities are women peace leaders in your region involved/ engaged in and how can these be promoted?</p> <p>Week 2: How can women in your community be encouraged to take up more roles in PCVE?</p> <p>Week 3: How can cooperation among women, the government and civil society organisations in PCVE interventions be achieved?</p>

3. ENGAGEMENT

This section presents an overview of the engagement generated for the three weeks of the radio shows.



2,778
Total number of participants in all the 3 episodes. **2481** consented to have their data included in the analysis.

72.5%
Participated once

18.8%
Participated twice

8.6%
Participated three time

3.1. Interactive radio engagement

These three (3) weeks of interactive radio discussions were aimed to enable discussions on;

- The activities of women peace leaders in PCVE.
- Role of women peace leaders in PCVE.
- Women Peace leaders in collaboration with government and civil society organisations.

Listeners were invited to share their views to a **toll-free shortcode 359**. The shortcode and questions were also previously shared through radio promos and SMS ads sent to our existing pool of participants from previous consultations before each week's talk show.

3.2 Who participated in the dialogue?

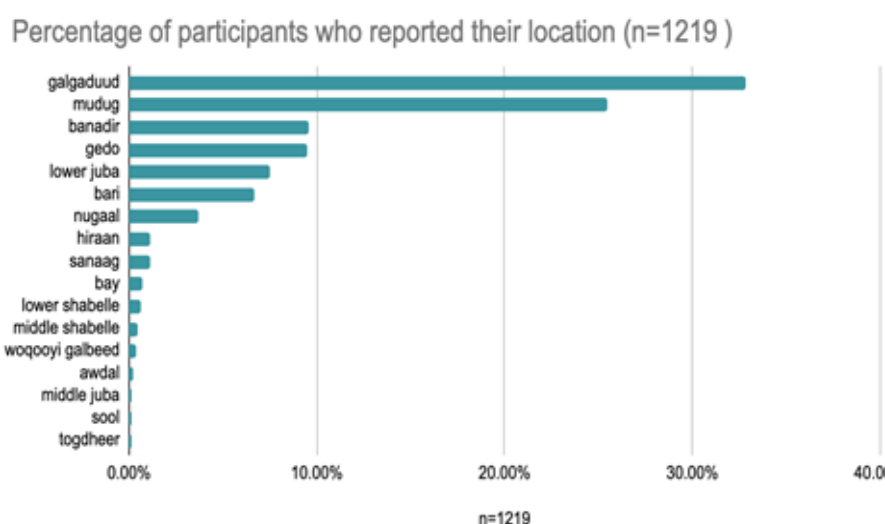
A total of **2778** individuals participated with an estimated reach of **46300⁸**, in the radio discussions hosted over 3 days of PSAs and radio shows each week for three weeks. Of those who participated in the radio discussion, **2481** (89.3%) consented to have their data included in the analysis. Just under half of the total individuals who participated provided responses that were relevant to the questions asked. The messages that are considered 'not relevant' refer to messages that do not directly answer the radio question. However, many of these responses still constitute valid engagement sites between citizens and the radio dialogue, for example, sending greetings, questions, thank you, and consent.

The tables below provide a breakdown of engagement per week. This is followed by charts indicating the location, gender, age, IDP status and the household language of participants in the dialogue as stated. Please note that providing demographic information is voluntary and therefore some participants do not submit all, or in some instances, any demographic information.

Table 2:Radio engagement

	Total participants who consented and who sent an SMS	Total participants who consented and sent an SMS relevant for analysis	% relevance (participants included in the analysis)	Total messages with consent received	Total messages with consent relevant for analysis	% relevance (messages included in the analysis)
Week 1	1200	359	30%	2785	436	16%
Week 2	865	385	45%	1836	515	28%
Week 3	1159	513	44%	2420	658	27%

Figure 1: Number of participants per Region



⁸6 people out of 100 listeners take the step to send an SMS (Total participants x 100) / 6)

Figure 2: Map shows the Location of participants from each region as indicated

As the map below illustrates, there is a notable difference in the distribution of participants across the regions, with the highest proportion of citizens reporting to be from Galgaduud, and Mudug regions compared to Jubaland districts, despite the fact that consultation/programming was conducted similarly across the regions - this could be a reflection of the PCVE and VE presence in each region and how safe the citizens felt to express their opinions on extremism activities and extremist ideology within their immediate environment.

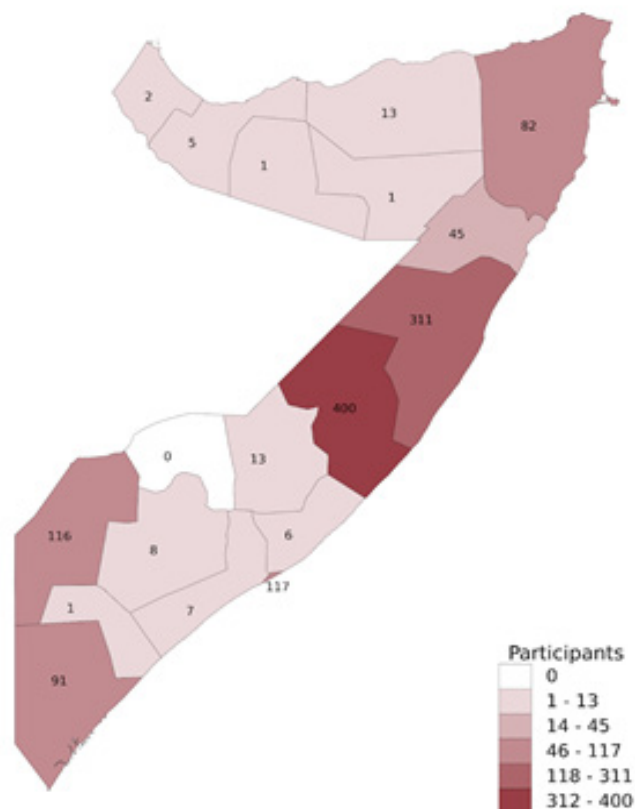
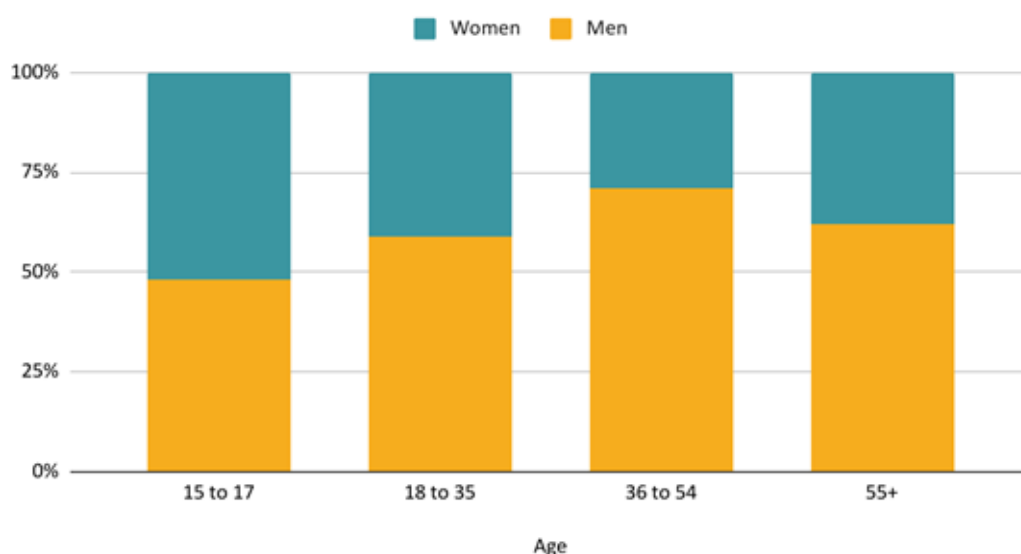


Figure 3: Gender split of participants that reported their gender⁹

Women made up **41.7%** of participants who reported their gender. In comparison, **58.3%** were men suggesting that the radio consultation was able to engage with a notable proportion of female voices, whose access to public discussion spaces and PCVE platforms is often limited.

Gender split of participants that reported their gender (n=1384)



¹⁰Please note that not all participants provided information on their gender. The total proportion of people who reported their gender information was n=1384 out of 2481.

Figure 4: Age split of participants that reported their age¹⁰

The total number of people who provided information on their age and were over the age of 15 is 1041, with the highest participation occurring between the ages of 18 and 35.

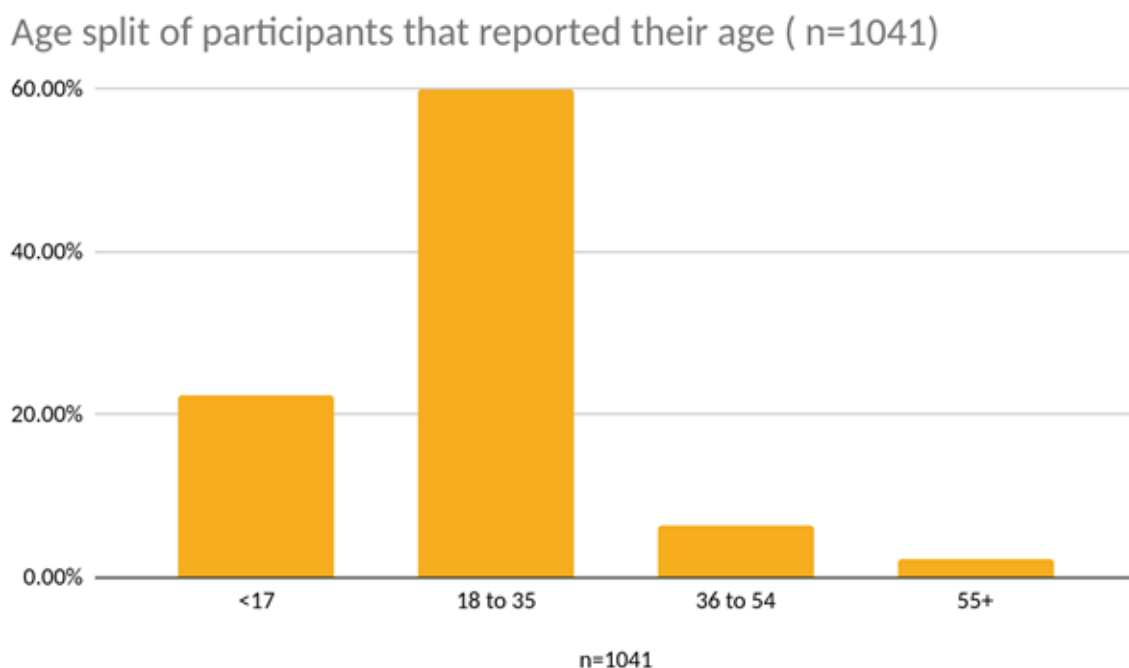
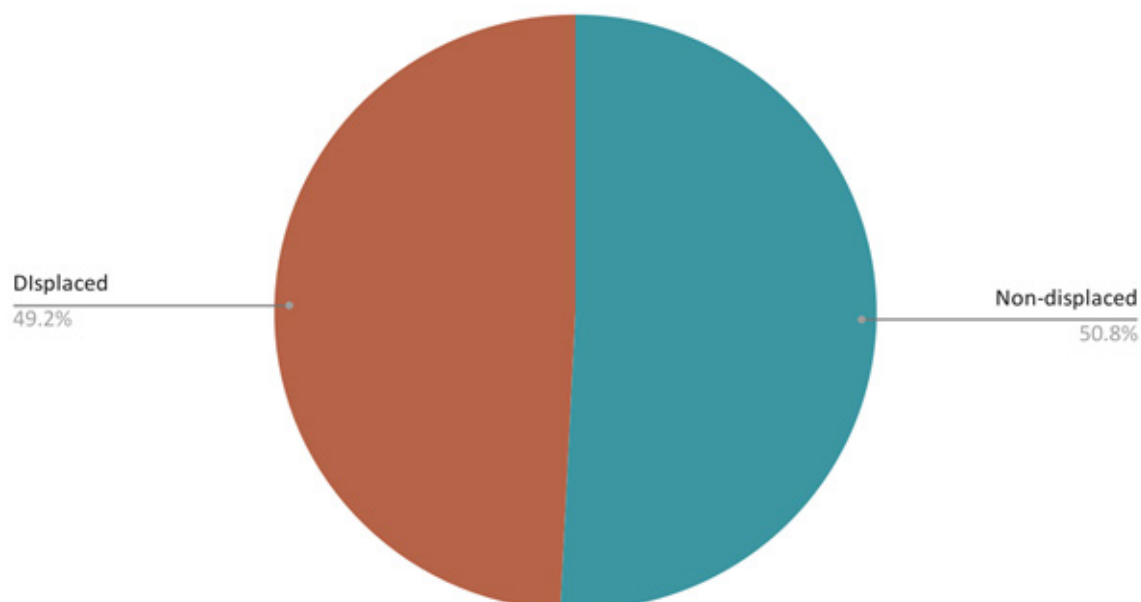


Figure 5: IDP status as reported by some of the Participants

AVF asked citizens a standard question on displacement. Participants were asked if they had to flee in the last 2 years due to conflict, drought or flooding and the feedback was as outlined in figure 5.

IDP status as reported by some of the Participants (n=1178)



¹⁰The total proportion of people who provided information on their age was n=1145 including those below 15 years

Table 3: Household Language as reported by some participants (n=1127)

Participants were asked a question about their household language in an attempt to estimate the participation of the minority groups in the discussions.

Language	Frequency (n=)	Percentage
Somali	938	83.2%
English	45	4%
Maimai	34	3%
Arabic	20	1.8%
Multiple languages	48	4.3%
Mother tongue	21	1.9%
Other themes	15	1.3%
Kiswahili	6	0.5%

4. INSIGHTS ON CITIZEN PERSPECTIVES

This section provides a mixed-methods analysis of citizen responses to the research questions outlined above. It also provides quantitative analyses of the data collected for topics in the interactive radio series.

4.1 Interactive Radio Dialogue

4.1.1 Week 1: The Activities of women peace leaders in PCVE



1200

Total
Participants



2785

Total messages
received in response to
the following question:

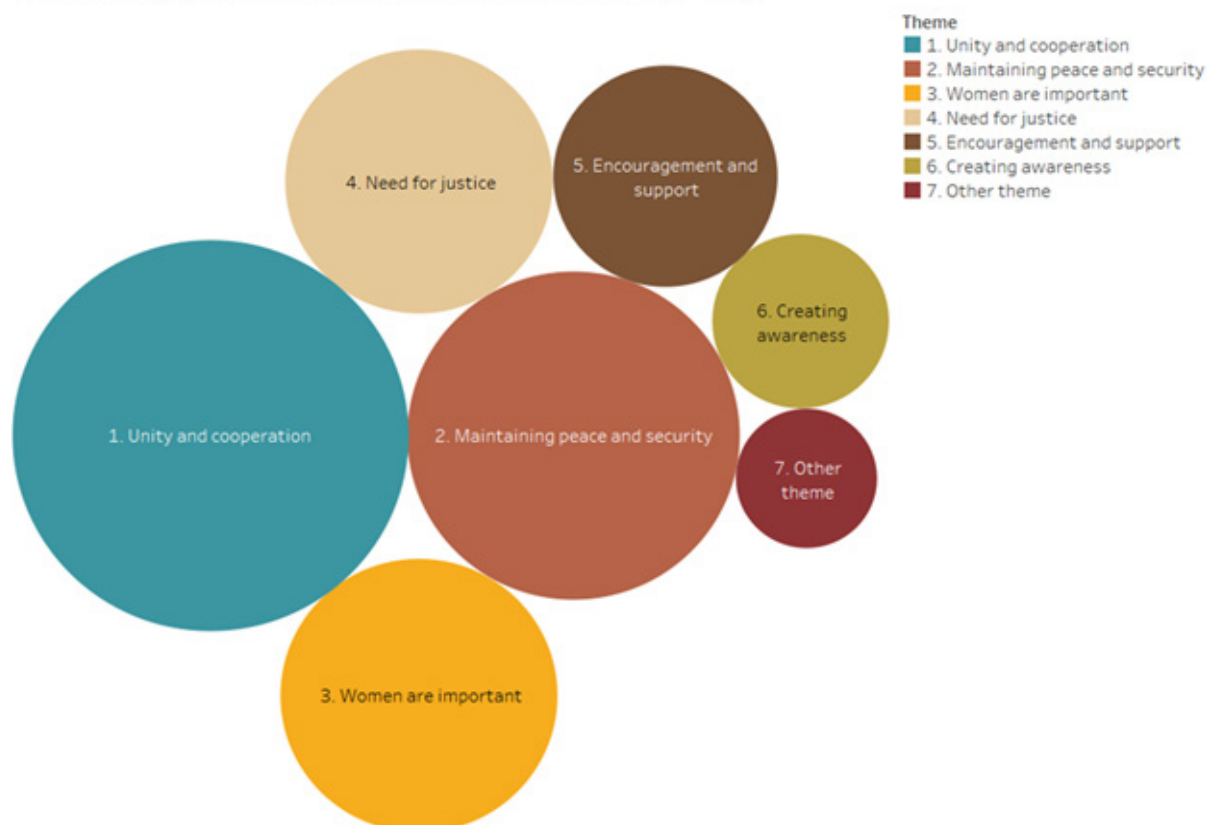


What PCVE activities are
women peace leaders
in your region involved/
engaged in and how can
these be promoted?

Of the 1200 participants, 359 sent messages that were relevant to the question and were aged 15 years old and above and have been included in the analysis.

Figure 6: Theme distribution for week 1 Radio Show

What PCVE activities are women peace leaders in your region involved/engaged in and how can these be promoted?(n=345)



In response to the first week's question, **36.2 percent** of the participants (**n=125**) agreed that there should be **unity and cooperation** among all members of the community. Messages under this theme stated that unity would aid in the fight against violent extremism and would strengthen the role of women in PCVE.

Waa ingacmaha lays qabsada si wadajir looga soo horjeestaa
"They should hold hands in unity to oppose it." **Woman, 27, Wadajir.**

waa inay iskuxer naadaan
"They should be united." **Man, 21, Kismayo.**

waxa kor loogu qaadi kara in la is kaashado oo hal dhinac lanoqdo ilen gacmo wadajir bey wax kugooyane
"It can be promoted by working together and being one-sided because unity is strong." **Man, 25, Recently displaced.**

This was followed by **25.5 percent (n=88)** of participants who stated that **peace and security** should be prioritised so that women can play a role in combating violent extremism in their respective regions. Messages under this theme discussed how women's activities in the community can be promoted by working on and maintaining peace in their respective communities.

waxaa loguqaadikara nabad inlahelo
"It can be promoted by maintaining peace." **Woman, Cadaado.**

Waxa korloogu qaadi karaa in laga taliyo nabadda
"It can be promoted by maintaining peace." **Man, 18, Baardheere.**

waa:ka shaqeynta amniga iyo xasiloonaada
"It is working on maintaining peace and security." **Man, 99, Guriceel.**

Another group of participants stated that women are important in the community 17.7 percent (n=61). The majority of messages received under this theme suggest that we should value and ensure women's participation in PCVE activities because they are the foundation of society and the driving force behind societal development. This was closely followed by 16.5 percent (n=57) of this week's participants expressing a need for justice in the community. According to messages sent by participants under this theme, women's activities can be promoted by being just and fair to women in the community.

Asc radiyaha galkacyo salan sare haweku waa lafdhabarka buulshada
"Women are the backbone of society." **Man, 25, Recently displaced.**

Hugaanka haweenka waa hormarka dumarka soomaaliyeed
"Women leadership is the development of Somali women." **Man, Guriceel.**

Asc hawenka waa hor marka bulshada way mahad sanyihin
"Women are the development of the community." **Man, 24, Kismayo.**

Asc waxa lagu dardar galinkara in cadaalad loo sameyo hawenka qondodooda boqolkiba sodan waa in ay helaan
"It can be promoted by being just to the women and giving them their quota which is 30%." **Man, 37, Mogadishu.**

Hadii dacad la mujiyo horumar baa la garikaraa
"If justice is promoted, progress will be made." **Woman, 32, Recently displaced.**

In.la.helo.xaquuq.sharci.oo.loo.siman.yahay.bilaa.faquuq
"To get legal rights that are equal to everyone and without discrimination." **Man, 50, Luuq.**

Asc waxa lagu dardar galinkara in cadaalad loo sameyo hawenka qondodooda boqolkiba sodan waa in ay helaan
"It can be promoted by being just to the women and giving them their quota which is 30%." **Man, 37, Mogadishu.**

Waxaan uarkaa fakradayduwaa inay cadaalad ugushapeeyaan
"To my thinking they should work justly." **Woman, 19, Bossaso.**

From this week, **11.6% (n=40)** cited that first women need **encouragement and support**. They say, for women to take part or get involved in PCVE activities they need to be encouraged and be supported.

Sxb Horta Marka Hore Waa In Lagu Dhiiro Geliyo Dumarka
"First we need to encourage women." **Man, 24, Daynille.**

Haweenka waa in lagu tageero
"Women should be supported." **Man, 18, Galkacyo.**

Waxa Logu Qadi Karaah Kow In Ladhira Li Yoh
"It can be promoted by first encouraging them." **Woman, 20, Galkacyo.**

Finally, 7.2 percent of participants (n=25) stated that raising awareness and empowering women to play a role in the fight against PCVE in their region is critical. This could increase female participation in PCVE activities.

Waxa loga hortaki kara wacyigalin jagta in lasameyo
"It can be prevented by creating constant awareness." **Woman, 20, Nugal.**

In lawacyo galiyo

“By creating awareness.” **Man, Hiiraan.**

Waxaa loga hor tagikaraa wacdi galiyo hawanka somaaliyed

“It can be prevented by creating awareness to Somali women.” **Man, 31, Guriceel.**

Messages included under **‘Other themes’** amalgamate an array of responses from participants on different topics in significantly smaller quantities across all weeks of Radio show discussions.

gabdhaha shaqadooda gurigooda waa inayjoogaan ookashaqay yaan

“The girls’ work is to stay and work at home.” **Man’ 25 years, Sanag.**

Ilahay kagawa dumarku gurjogaan guryohooda hakasoosaarina

“Women should be at home and not go out.” **Woman, 23 years, Lower Shabelle.**

4.1.1.1. Sociodemographic differences

Some demographic differences were observed in the way participants answered this question. For instance, the theme of **Unity and cooperation** was mentioned more by Women (**48.2%**) compared to men (**39.2%**)¹². **Women are important** as a theme was mentioned more by those recently displaced (**9.3%**) compared to nondisplaced participants (**21.8%**)¹³ and those who participated twice compared to those who participated once in any episode¹⁴.

Figure 7

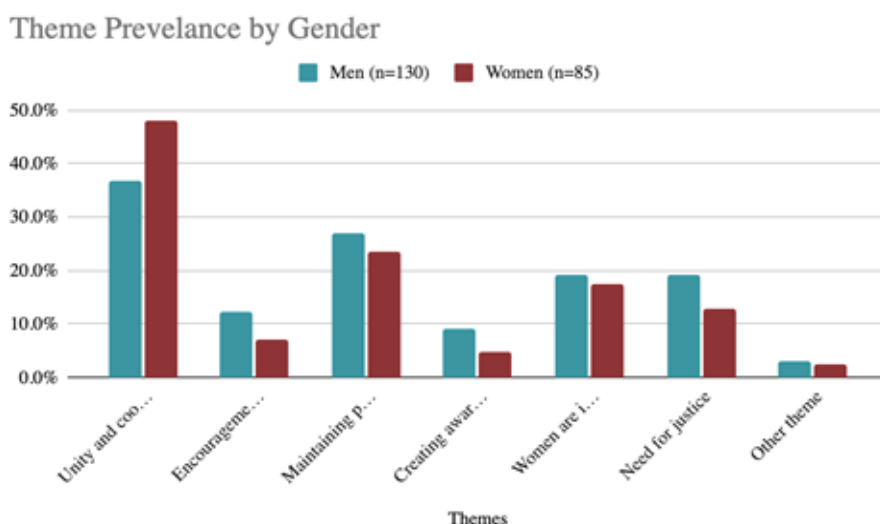
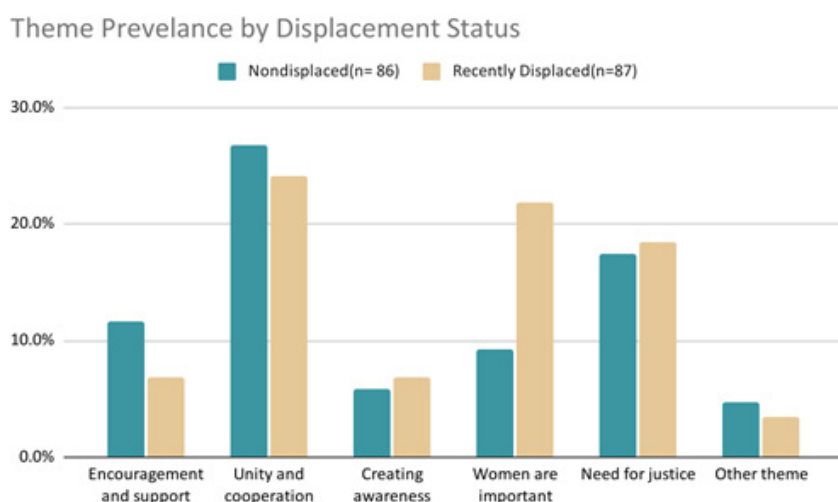


Figure 8



¹²Women (OR = 2.21 [1.04 – 4.71], p – value =0.0404) compared to men

¹³Those recently displaced (OR = 3.07 [1.02 – 9.24], p-value =0.0464)

¹⁴Those who participated twice (OR = 5.69 [1.74 – 18.61], p-value = 0.0040) compared to those who participated once in any episode

Those who participated three times mentioned Need for justice more compared to those who participated once in any episode¹⁵.

4.2 Week 2: Role of women peace leaders in PCVE

4.2.1 Themes from Week 2 Radio Show



865

Total
Participants



1836

Total messages
received in response to
the following question:

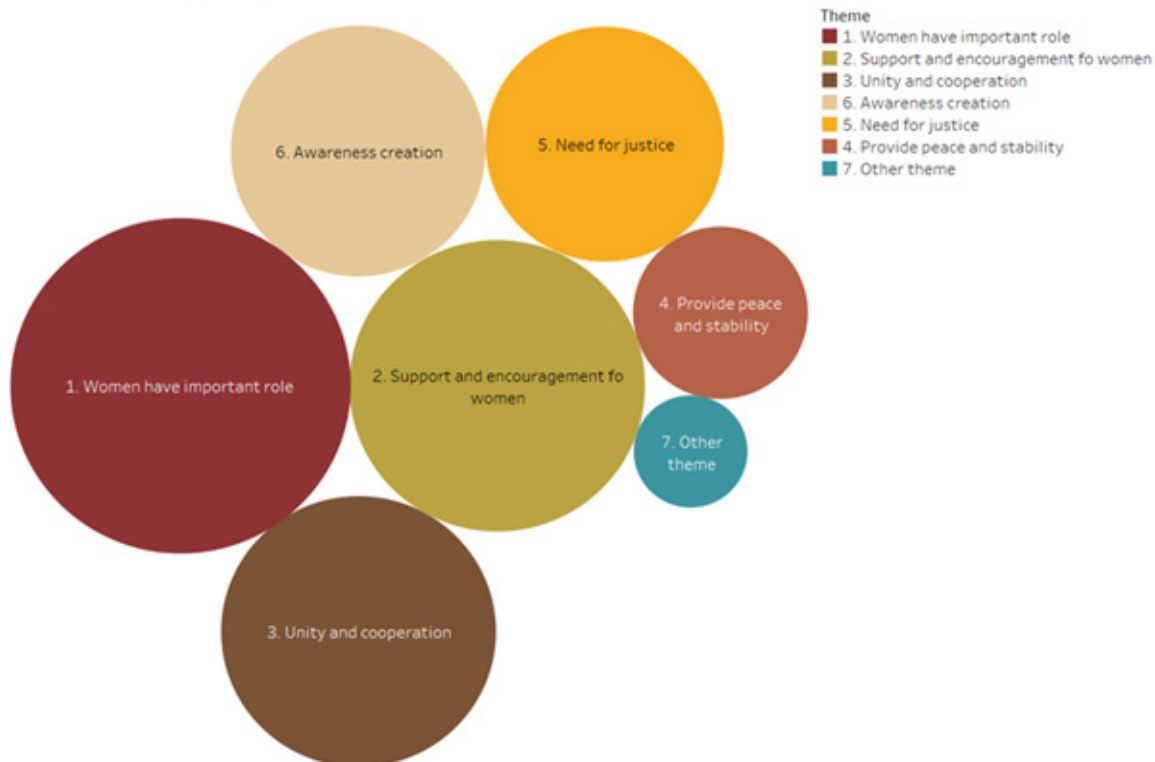


How can women in
your community be
encouraged to take up
more roles in PCVE?

Of the 856 participants, 385 were aged 15 years old and above and sent messages that were relevant to the question and have been included in the analysis of the prevalence of themes.

Figure 9: Week 2 theme Distribution

How can women in your community be encouraged to take up more roles in PCVE? (n=366)



¹⁵(OR = 3.03[1.01 – 9.12], p-value = 0.0482)

More than a third of participants **32.2 percent (n=118)** in week two discussions believe that **women play an important role** in combating PCVE. Women, according to the participants in this theme, play an important role in this because they are the foundation of the family and are important in a community.

Door mihiim ah ayey haweenku ka qadan karaan ka hor taga xagjirnimada
"Women can take an important role in preventing extremism." **Woman, 20, Qardho.**

Hadan kahadlo fakarkayga waxan leeyahy hablahu doorwan bayleeyihiin wyo waa salka reerka
"If I talk about my thoughts, I would say, women have a role because they are the foundation of the family." **Woman, 22, Garowe.**

dumarku waxay kaqaddan karan door weyn
"Women can play a big role." **Woman, 20, Guriceel.**

About a quarter **24.3 percent (n=89)** of participants in week two discussions mentioned that **support and encouragement for women** is important. They said women should be encouraged in the work they do.

asc waxaa loogu dhiiro gelin karaa in lagu garabsiiyo oo lagu taageero
"They can be encouraged by providing support for them." **Man, 22, Galkacyo.**

Garab istag dardar galin hawenka la dhirgaliyo
"Supporting, motivating, and encouraging women." **Man, 31, Recently displaced.**

in lagu garab istago dadaal koda
"By supporting them in their hard work." **Woman, 20, Galkacyo.**

Around **21.0% (n=77)** of the participants stated **unity and cooperation** within their region as a driver for women to take more roles in PCVE. The participants said that there should be unity and cooperation among women themselves, women and the government, the community and the government, and being united at large.

Waxay uga hortagi karaan ayagoo iskaashada
"They can prevent it by being united." **Woman, 17, Galkacyo.**

Asc wn id slmy qdbka fkrdyda kdhinto wxalgu gul garikara wda shaqen qrn shcb iyo dowldba
"It can be achieved by the community and government cooperating." **Woman, 17, Mudug.**

Haweenku waxa ay qalaasaha uga hortagi karaan in ay haween ba haweeneyda kale ay kaashato
"Women can prevent violence by cooperating and working with other women." **Woman, 20, Dhuusamareeb.**

This was followed by **18.0% (n=66)** of the participants who mentioned **awareness creation** within the communities as a contributing factor to women taking up more roles.

Waxaa looga hortagi araa haween bulsha in wacWi galin baWan loo sameeo
"It can be prevented by creating awareness to women and the community." **Woman, 20, Awdal.**

Waxaaloogo dhiiri galinkaraa in markasta loo sheego
"They can be encouraged by creating awareness of them every time." **Woman, 42, Daynille.**

Hadaan kajawaabo suaasha waxaa luugu dhiiri galin karaa inlasameeyo wacyigalin buuxda laguna dhiiri galiyo dhibaataada uu leeyahay palalaasaha rabshadaha wata waana mahad santihiin
"If I may answer, they can be encouraged by creating awareness for them on issues that can arise from violence." **Man, 20, Garowe.**

A smaller percentage of participants (**15.8%, n=58**) mentioned the **need for justice** as one of the factors to consider/improve so that more women can participate in the prevention of violent extremism.

Dhanka cadaalada horta walaahi dadka qaar ayaa sixaq daraaloogufariistay
“On the justice side, some people have been treated unfairly.” **Woman, Galdogob.**

Waxaa looga dhiiragilan karaa in xuquuq dooda simidnima ah looilaaliya mahasinid
“They can be encouraged by protecting their rights.” **Man, 18.**

Asc waxa aan leeyahay halailaaliyo qoondada haweenka
“I would say they should protect women’s quota.” **Woman, 18, Belet weyne.**

Few of the participants **8.5% (n = 31)** brought up the theme of **providing peace and stability** as one of the roles women can take part in PCVE. They mentioned that women can take part by working with peace-enforcing bodies in their community.

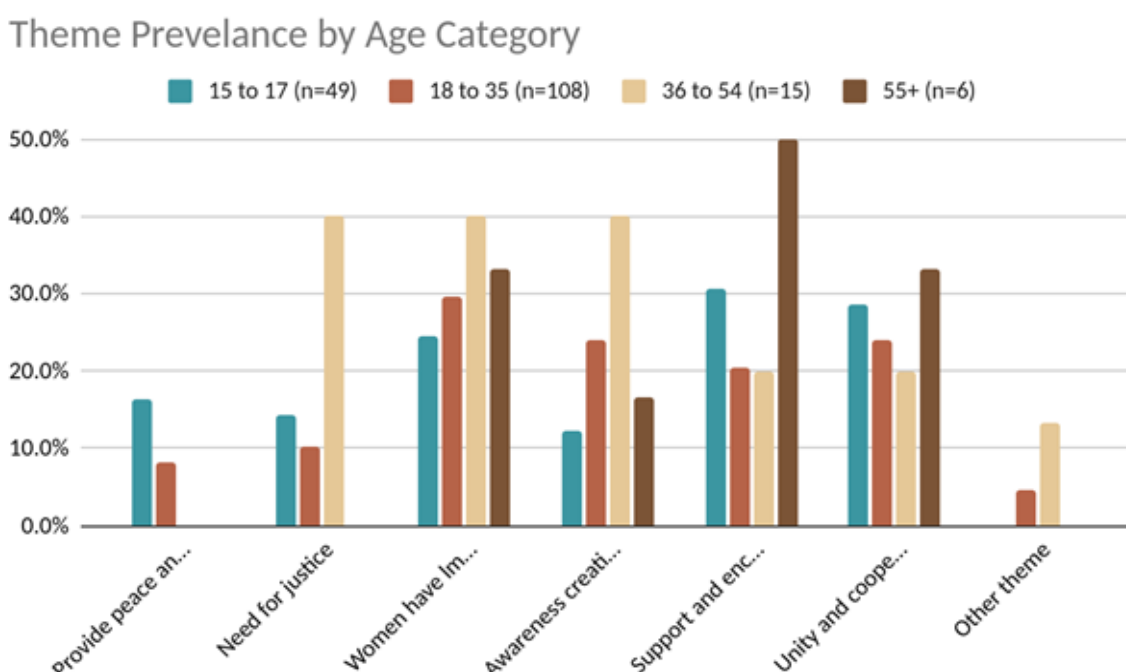
Waxay uga qab qadakaran in ay lashaqayan hayadaha amniga lagana shaqalisiyo si ay u fududato in ay maclumad sogud biyan
“They can participate by working with the security agencies and providing information to them.” **Woman, 20, Nugal.**

Dumarku waxay qayb wayn kaga qaadan karaan nabada iyo xasiloondid
“Women can participate in maintaining peace and stability.” **Man, Galdogob.**

4.2.1.1. Sociodemographic differences

The theme of **awareness creation** was mentioned more by participants aged 36 years and above (56.7%)¹⁶ compared to those aged 15 – 17 years old (12.2%).

Figure 10



¹⁶Participants aged 36 years and above (OR = 4.50 [1.22 – 16.59], p-value =0.0240) compared to those 15 – 17 years

4.3. Week 3: Women Peace leaders and their collaboration with government and civil society organisations



1152

Total
Participants



2822

Total messages
received in response to
the following question:

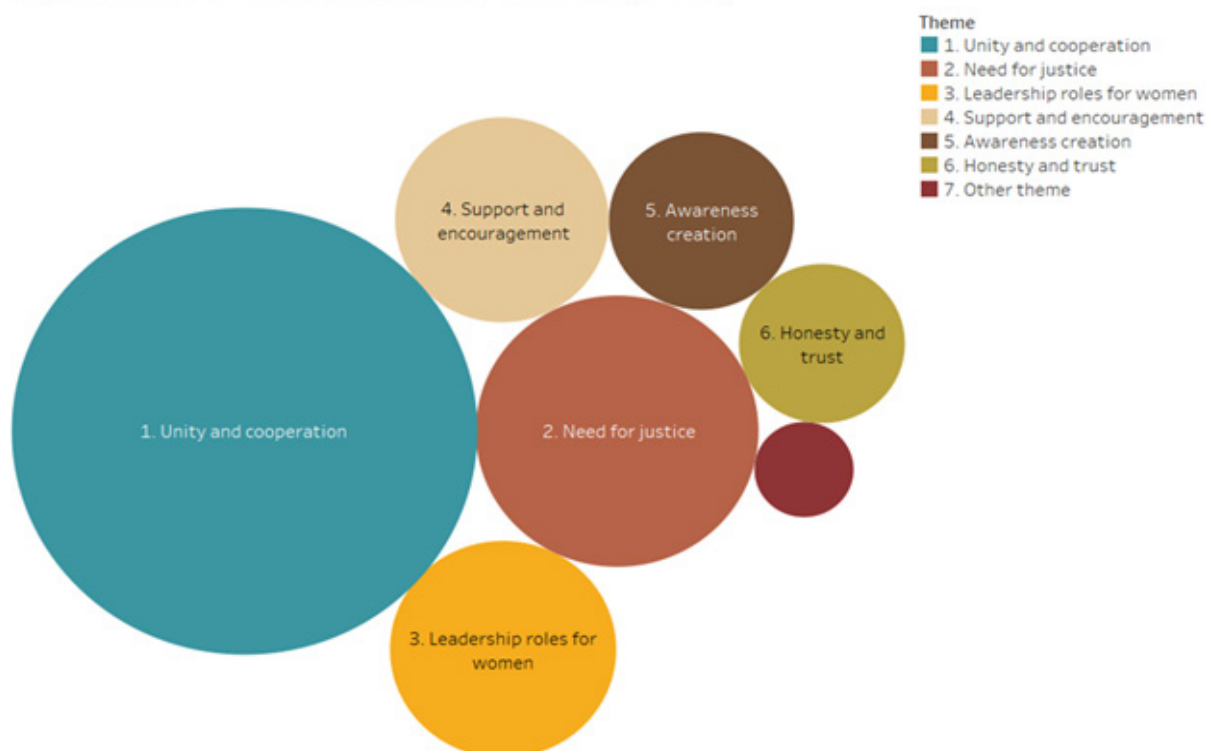


How can cooperation
among women, the
government and civil
society organisations in
PCVE interventions be
achieved?

Of these **1152** participants, 513 were aged 15 years old and above and sent messages that were relevant to the question and have been included in the analysis of the prevalence of themes.

Figure 11: Theme distribution for week 3 Radio Show

How can cooperation among women, the government and civil society organisations in PCVE interventions be achieved? (n=483)



More than half of the participants from week 3 discussions **55.1% (n=266)** talked about **unity and collaboration** in the community as one of the aspects that can be used to enhance cooperation among women, the government, and civil society organisations in PCVE interventions.

Waxa lagu hikaraa inagoo dhamaantena waa inaan iska kaashano
"It can be achieved by all of us cooperating together." **Man, 30, recently displaced.**

Waa in laga qeyb qaautn dhamaan dowlada iyo dadjka iskaashadaan
"They should all participate and the government and people should cooperate." **Man, 20, recently displaced.**

Wxaa lga hortagi karaa wada jir in la ahaado
"It can be prevented by being united." **Man, 28, recently displaced.**

This was followed by **20.3% (n=98)** who voiced that there is a **need for justice** where the participants discussed that cooperation among women, civil society organisations, and the government can be enhanced if there is justice and it is given equally.

Waxaa looga hortagi karaa haweenka in lasiiyo xaquu dooda
"It can be prevented by giving women their rights." **Man, 40, recently displaced.**

waxaa loo helikara inlahelo dawlad caadila o dadku usi manyahay
"It can be achieved by getting a just government that is equal to everyone." **Woman, 19, recently displaced.**

Asc marka hore waa in cadaalad lahelaa
"First we need to get justice." **woman, 20, recently displaced.**

Another **13% (n=63)** of the participants from this week mentioned that the community needs **leadership roles for women** in order to eradicate violent extremism. Messages received under this theme suggested that the people should give women roles in different sectors in the government and civil organisations so that we can achieve the utmost cooperation.

Waa in xubno muhiim ah lagasiiyaa dawlada iyo ururada bulshada wayo hawenku waxay isku xiran dowlada iyo bulshada rayidka ah runti waxayna waxka bedelikaraan lalintoda mahad sanidiin
"Women should be given important roles in the government and civil society organisations because women connect the government and community, and honestly they can bring change." **Man, 30, Recently displaced.**

waxay ugu qeqbadn karan dorwen ayey kaqadan karan
"They can participate by playing a big role." **Woman, 25, Kismayo.**

Waa in haweenka laga siiyo xilal dawladda iyo ururada bulshada taas ayaa ah midda keliya ee lagu heli karo wada shaqaynta rasmiga ah?
"Women should be given responsibility in the government and society organisations, that is the only way to achieve utmost cooperation." **Man, 42, Recently displaced.**

A smaller proportion of the participants, **11.6% (n=56)**, reported **support and encouragement** to be important in enhancing cooperation among women, the government and civil society organisations in PCVE interventions.

Hawenku waa lafdhabarta bulshada qos walbo dhirigaliya hawenka
"Women are the backbone of the society, everyone should encourage women." **Man, 20, Recently displaced.**

asc waxan leyaahay wain marwal bo ladhira galiya hawenka
"I would say women should be encouraged every time." **Man, 21, Recently displaced.**

Waxaaloogo dhiiri galinkaraa in markasta lawaaniyo

“They can be encouraged by continuously advising them.” **Woman, 42, recently displaced.**

Also in the week, around **8.7% (n = 42)** said that there is a need for **awareness creation** to enhance cooperation among the three groups.

waxaa lo heli karaa in lawacya geliyo dhamaan bulshada oo loo shego wixii dhibatoyin ah
“It can be done by creating awareness in the whole community and telling them what the problems are.” **Woman, 20, Mogadishu.**

Waa muhiim haweenka iyo ururada bulshada si qalaalase inuu dhaco uga hortagno waxan u sameen karnaa wacayigalin iyo saminaro si qeybahas xiriir wanaagsan u dhexmari lahaa
“It is important for women and community organisations, to prevent violence to occur, to create awareness to them and hold seminars thus allowing them to have a better relationship.”
Man, 25, Galdogob.

Honesty and trust were also mentioned by a number of the participants from the week 3 discussions. **7.0% (n = 34)** said that in order to achieve cooperation among the three, they should be honest and trust each other.

Waxa lohelikaraa in la,isku laksonado dhaman umada somaliyed shacab iyo shaqalaba silohelo kalsoni dhamays tiran
“It can be achieved by having trust between the community and workers so that there is full trust.” **Woman, 18, Galmudug.**

Asm ra,yigaygu waa in ladhiso dawlad sidaacad ah ushaqaysa mahadsanidiin
“To build a government that works honestly.” **Man, 20, Guriceel.**

ascm waxaa lugu heli karaa 3dex maado ale ka cabsi iyo daacad iyo kalsooni
“It can be achieved by doing three things; God-fearing, honesty and trust.” **Woman, 30, Galmudug.**

4.3.1. Sociodemographic differences

For this week, the differences across demographics observed at the descriptive level were not statistically significant when an in-depth analysis using logistic regression was done that considered all the demographics available that could confound the difference. However, the theme of **Unity and cooperation** was mentioned more by those who participated twice¹⁷ compared to those who participated once in each episode across the three weeks of discussions.

5. CONCLUSION

The following are the key insights identified across all three weeks of the radio dialogue:

- Unity and cooperation among the community members was mentioned throughout all three weeks of discussion by participants in order for women and women peace leaders to play a role in PCVE interventions. This was the most frequently mentioned theme by participants in weeks one and three. Women¹⁸ mentioned unity and cooperation more than men in week one, however, there were no significant statistical differences to note in weeks three and two based on the demographics.
- Women are important, have important roles and women should be given leadership/important roles were also¹⁹ mentioned across all the three weeks which emphasised the views of the participants on the role of women in PCVE interventions. In week one those who have been recently displaced mentioned that women are important more than the nondisplaced participants.
- Awareness creation and support and encouragement were also highlighted throughout the three episodes by participants in order to ensure the role of women in the PCVE interventions within their regions.

¹⁷Those who participated twice OR = 1.98 [1.08 – 3.66], p-value = 0.0027 compared to those who participated once in any episode

¹⁸p – value =0.0404

¹⁹p-value =0.0464)

- Similarly, participants in all the weeks mentioned the need for justice and maintaining peace and security as vital for women's participation in PCVE interventions.
- Honesty and trust among the different sectors of the community such as the civil society organisations, the government and the security bodies have been expressed by participants so that women can play an important role in the fight against violent extremism.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- All parties involved in handling PCVE interventions should be encouraged to work together and foster openness and transparency in the fight against violent extremism.
- Women are the foundation of society and the driving force behind societal development thus their participation should be mainstreamed in all PCVE activities.
- Giving women leadership opportunities and awareness creation on the role of women in PCVE would buttress the interventions.
- Promote justice for women by respecting their rights as well as inclusion in decision making.
- Need to strengthen the security mechanism to protect women that fight violent extremists to avoid victimisation, harassment, abduction among others.
- Promote honest dialogue through media and face to face meetings among stakeholders in PCVE as this will enhance confidence and effort to prevent and counter violent extremism.

7. CHALLENGES FACED

As is common with radio consultations, only a proportion of the messages received can be included for analysis. This is illustrated through the % of relevance for each episode of the radio show discussions. The reason for this is that some participants share viral SMS, ads, comments about the presenters, or send one-digit answers or blank SMS, which are not relevant to the question asked. Although these messages are irrelevant, they remain vital as an indication that these participants were reached as they sent SMS to the shortcode that was aired during the show. This is a challenge intrinsic to the interactive radio methodology. AVF continues to explore ways of increasing relevance so that more of the messages received can be included in the analysis.

The proportion of women participants is usually lower than that of men in the interactive radio shows. This is in line with AVF's representative phone survey conducted in March 2020, which demonstrated evidence of a more equal proportion of women compared with men who listen to our radio shows. However, it is noted that women are less likely to send SMS for multiple reasons, including limited phone ownership, low literacy levels or potentially low confidence. Despite these challenges, AVF continues to work towards inclusive consultations by ensuring women are represented in the focus groups discussions, radio shows as presenters or guests, discussions as well as integrating gender into the topics of discussion.

There were difficulties with the shortcode during programming due to telecom and aggregator outages causing failures with the real-time delivery of messages. This caused challenges to our engagement including

1. not being able to collect and analyse all the messages.
2. In instances where messages were recovered, there was a cost in terms of missed replies and advertisements (the sooner we can reply, the better our response rate is).
3. If we didn't receive messages on time, we might have asked the same question twice unnecessarily.

AVF, with support from our aggregator Shaqodoon Organisation, engaged the mobile network operators to retrieve the messages. This was shared as a CSV file and our data and technology team manually synced all the messages to ensure minimal loss. AVF is also working with the aggregator to test migration to a new shortcode, with a higher performance SMS gateway that is envisioned to reduce the failure rate.

Most of the guests that were identified and requested to be part of the interactive radio hesitated and expressed concerns regarding discussing VE matters on air, citing security and safety reasons. For example,

in week one, at least 5 guests were contacted to be part of the discussions and only one of them agreed to participate.

Annexe 1

The Common Social Accountability Platform

In order to create an interactive radio discussion on the role of women peace leaders in PCVE in three regions (Galmudug, Jubbaland and Puntland), AVF has deployed the Common Social Accountability Platform (CSAP) in the Galmudug, Puntland and Jubaland regions. “Social accountability” refers to a form of civic engagement that builds accountability through the collective efforts of citizens and civil society organisations to hold public officials, service providers, and governments to account for their obligations through responsive efforts²². Alongside strengthening civic engagement and amplifying citizens’ voices, social accountability initiatives aim to increase the transparency of governance in many arenas, ranging from local service delivery to national processes of development policy formulation²³.

In response to the clear need for spaces in which citizen voices can be listened to and responded to by both government and aid decision-makers, Africa’s Voices launched the Common Social Accountability Platform (CSAP) in 2018, initially in Somalia and later in Kenya. CSAP’s objective is to enhance the inclusion of citizens in decision-making across peace-building, humanitarian interventions, and development programmes. By leveraging Africa’s Voices’ interactive radio method for nurturing dialogue and gathering public opinion, the platform aims to build a sustained channel for open conversation between citizens and decision-makers, across sectors and mandates. CSAP uses a combination of radio programming and SMS messaging to create a platform that citizens actively engage in, whilst simultaneously allowing for feedback received from citizen SMS messages to be robustly analysed, understood and, ideally, acted upon. AVF’s approach allows for two types of critical insight:

- Rich qualitative understanding of citizen perspectives;
- Quantitative understanding of the prevalence of perspectives and how these vary by demographic group.

This can fill evidence gaps on citizen perspectives so as to make government and the aid sector’s decision-making more accountable, responsive and grounded in the opinions and priorities of citizens. Insights delivered from AVF’s analysis of citizen perspectives are targeted to inform the EU and the consortium partners (EIP and EPC) on issues related to Prevention of violent extremism in Somalia and specifically in Galmudug, Jubaland and Puntland

AVF’s interactive radio method

AVF utilised the existing Common Social Accountability Platform (CSAP) to deliver the project in partnership with MI. CSAP prioritises the use of digital public discussion spaces such as interactive radio to achieve improvements in public levels of trust and efficacy, as well as responsiveness from the government. CSAP is based on the proposition that building dialogue in culturally-embedded discussion spaces, whilst shaping them to be inclusive, allows for a free and open exchange of ideas on critical issues in a way that strengthens citizen-authority relationships. For example, a radio broadcast can be a combination of content and updates designed and disseminated by the government officials on their policies and activities, along with content driven by audience questions and perspectives shared on SMS in reaction to the programme - giving the government officials a chance to respond directly to citizens.

CSAP is built around two groups of activities to ensure two-way dialogue leads to positive change. First, AVF uses a range of digital means in culturally-sensitive ways to build a public dialogue that attracts large-scale active engagement from citizens and is valued by diverse stakeholders. Secondly, AVF combines a range of analytical techniques to rapidly generate insight on citizen perspectives to inform a genuinely responsive and

²²Houtzager, P. and A. Joshi (2008). *Introduction: Contours of a research project and early findings*. IDS Bulletin 38 (6), p. 1-9.

²³Gaventa, J. and G. Barrett (2010). *So What Difference Does it Make? Mapping the Outcomes of Citizen Engagement*. IDS Working Paper No. 347. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies.

Methodology

CSAP is designed around two pillars, both based on interactive radio:

- Building inclusive dialogue at scale;
- Gathering insight on public opinion to inform decision-making.

Figure 1: CSAP Methodology



Gathering insight on public opinion

The second aspect of AVF's interactive radio approach is an analysis of the audience engagement to inform decision-making with a rich understanding of public opinion. AVF generates robust evidence on citizen-generated opinions that are shared at a group level and that emerge in the collective discussions.

In-depth qualitative and quantitative insights: AVF grouped the messages received according to different themes that analysts, fluent in the languages that participants texted in, identified in the data. This categorisation concluded in a 'coding frame' of themes and sub-themes for each week. After an extensive validation process, the labelled dataset was then analysed using quantitative methods and visualised to assess the relative prevalence of the different ideas emerging from the conversation. AVF then provided a thick description of the ideas in the dataset, using quotations directly from citizen voices, to give deeper insight into the main themes of the data. Messages are accompanied by demographic information of the individual who sent them (obtained upon consent). However, as collecting the demographic details is entirely at the discretion of the participant, some demographic information is missing.

Prevalence and variations by demographic group and geography - By combining this labelled dataset with data received from audiences on their demographic information, AVF can analyse how perspectives varied between different demographic groups. Odds ratios were used to test for associations between groups and ideas because they are particularly sensitive to sample size and therefore set a higher threshold for achieving results with statistical significance. In this instance, statistical significance is not indicative of the ability to infer these results to a wider population, but suggestive of the reliability of the patterns and associations identified in the data. We used adjusted²⁴ logistic regression models, fitted through simulations via the `bayesglm`²⁵ function in the `arm` R package, to obtain effect estimates. This approach was chosen to limit bias in parameter estimates as a result of data sparsity. We addressed the missing data challenge through

²⁴The models adjusted for sex, age category, recently displaced, in idp camp, and loyalty variables.

²⁵<http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/research/published/priors11.pdf>

multiple imputations using chained equations²⁶. The variables included in imputation models were gender, age category, whether recently displaced, in IDP camp and loyalty (number of times participated in the shows). Geographic location variables were not included in the imputation and the substantive regression models as they contained sparse data that would result in poor imputations²⁷ and model fit.

Consent - Through the SMS flows and live radio shows AVF made clear in all communications with participants that data would be analysed to inform programming. After they texted to send their views in response to the shows, SMS ads or radio promos, participants were given the option of opting out from having their data analysed at any point by texting the keyword 'STOP'.

Limitations of the methodology

Analytical approach: The data gathered using this method constitutes a non-probabilistic sample and this affects the type of insights presented below. Those who participate are self-selected amongst potential audiences based on a range of factors such as phone ownership, media habits, literacy, and gender roles. Some perspectives held by those groups outside of radio participants (e.g. those unable to access radio) may not be identified by this approach.

Instead of pursuing quantitative aggregates of individual perspectives, our research seeks to complement and strengthen qualitative analysis by understanding how opinions are shared - and vary - at the group level. This allows us to identify how these ideas might circulate beyond the specific radio participants as they are indicative of a wider group (participants from the target areas). From a statistical point of view, the lack of representativeness is less important for a study based on associations than aggregate indicators. This report's qualitative insights about opinions and associations with demographic groups are therefore of indicative value for understanding the perspectives of comparable groups in the population. They are best used with other knowledge and research for informing policy and programme decision-making.

Methodology note

It ought to be noted that the percentages and prevalence of opinions reflected in this analysis reflect the views of those who opted to participate by sending an SMS and are therefore not representative of the Somali population as a whole. The translation is provided by Africa's Voices. Africa's Voices champions authentic citizen voices and we do not alter or edit the messages of our participants other than for the purpose of anonymization.



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²⁶[https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3074241/#:~:text=Multivariate%20imputation%20by%20chained%20equations%20\(MICE\)%2C%20sometimes%20called%20%E2%80%9Cmethod%20of%20addressing%20missing%20data.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3074241/#:~:text=Multivariate%20imputation%20by%20chained%20equations%20(MICE)%2C%20sometimes%20called%20%E2%80%9Cmethod%20of%20addressing%20missing%20data.)

²⁷The geographic variables were district, region, state, and zone