RAN Collection practice template

Name of the practice Please note that by practice we mean an activity/method/tool that has been used or is in use by professionals and/or community members.	Extremely Together
Description (max. 300 words) Short description of the aim and working method of the practice. Please note that in this description, it must be clear that there is an explicit connection to preventing and/or countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. This means that in the aims and/or the activities/methods/tools of the practice, there is a link to preventing and countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. Practices without this link cannot be included in the RAN Collection.	Extremely Together (ET) is a youth-led movement that supports young people's leadership in preventing violent extremism (PVE). Started in 2016 by Kofi Annan and 10 young leaders working on PVE in their respective countries, the movement has now established four country Chapters in Somalia, Uganda, the Philippines, and Pakistan who work to promote youth-led solutions to violent extremism (VE) in their countries and beyond. Since their creation in 2020, the Chapters have led large scale national peacebuilding activities, and worked together to influence regional and international policymaking. Building on innovative approaches to PVE like art-based advocacy or interfaith dialogue, ET works to harness the potential of youth to become actors of change in their own communities. It equips them with the appropriate skills needed to identify, question, and reject violent extremist narratives. This also serves to encourage young people to become active citizens, openly challenge stereotypes, and support peers who may be struggling with issues related to VE or extremist recruitment. Given the success of the four country Chapters in engaging with young people and working with them on such sensitive issues, the movement is now expanding to the Sahel region with the creation of two new Chapters in Niger and Burkina Faso underway.

Key themes Please choose 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.	Vulnerable youth and youth engagement in P/CVE Community engagement/civil society
Target audience Please choose a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.	Youth / Pupils / Students Local Community Organisations / NGOs Educators / Academics
Geographical scope Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).	Our active ET Chapters operate in East Africa and South & Southeast Asia. Two country Chapters are established in each area, and work together to promote peace on both national and regional levels: • **East Africa:** Uganda (in partnership with the Ugandan Muslim Youth Development Forum) and Somalia (in partnership with Elman Peace) • **South & Southeast Asia:** Pakistan (in partnership with HIVE and the College of Youth Activism and Development) and the Philippines (in partnership with the Kristiyano-Islam Peace Library), with a lighter engagement in Bangladesh. In East Africa, country Chapters focused most heavily on the cities from which they are based because of COVID-19 limitations. In Uganda, activities were rolled out in Kampala and the smaller town of Bugiri. In Somalia, activities were concentrated around Mogadishu and other areas of Banaadir including the Wedow and Dahagaxley IDP Camps outside of the city centre. Initial plans to implement activities in Baidoa and Galcayo were overturned by the onset of the pandemic. In South & Southeast Asia, country Chapters focused their activities mostly on vulnerable communities in urban settlements. In Pakistan, efforts were concentrated in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, and Peshawar. In the Philippines, activities were led in the south of the country in Tagum City, Zamboanga City, Sulu, Marawi City, and Mindanao.
Start of the practice Please indicate when (year) the practice was developed and implemented to indicate the	Starting year: 2020

maturity of the practice. In case the practice is no longer active, please indicate when it ended.	The four country Chapters in Somalia, Uganda, the Philippines, and Pakistan were established in 2020.
Deliverables Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.	**East African Chapters:** In Somalia and Uganda, the 80 ET Champions who were trained to detect patterns of VE and provided with community mobilisation skills, engaged over 1,500 young people in PVE activities, including 40 trainings, advocacy, and outreach programs. Experience sharing was facilitated between the two Chapters through a 4-day hybrid exchange and subsequent panel discussion in March 2021. During this exchange, participants swapped experiences and best practices, but also shared their culture and traditions with each other. Highlights from this exchange can be seen in this video and the lessons that the two Chapters shared with decision-makers can be found in this article. **South & Southeast Asian Chapters:** Following the research conducted in the Philippines, Pakistan and Bangladesh on the drivers of violent extremism among urban youth (see research summary here), more than 2,100 young people were trained in the three countries by our ET Chapter networks. The trained youth led more than 40 PVE projects and initiatives across the region. 13,489 young people were engaged in different activities organised by our Chapters regionally, 51% men and 49% women. **16 youth groups** were established at different levels in the three countries. Of their members, 44% were women and 69% were from religious and ethnic minorities. In addition, **9.3 million** people were reached indirectly through PVE and peace initiatives conducted both online and offline. As a result of this experience, the "Building Peace Together" Guide was created in consort with our Asian Chapters and is destined to help young people build peace in their communities. It outlines 3 main objectives that help foster a youth-led approach to PVE and addresses 7 major challenges that young PVE practitioners face in their work. It also includes 10 case studies from diverse youth-led and youth-centred groups and organisations from across the region. It is one of our most popular publications. A three-part video toolkit series was produced. It can be found on our regional chapter page alongside other resources that were produced as part of ET's work in South and Southeast Asia. The Chapter in the Philippines also produced a series of three printed magazines to make their research on PVE accessible

	to hard-to-reach communities. An overview of its contents can be found here. **A PVE training resource for young activists** On the basis of the experience accumulated through the Chapters' experience, a training guide entitled "Empowering young people to prevent violent extremism" was published in 2023. As a free resource, it seeks to help young activists train their peers on how to prevent violent extremism and counter the threat of radicalization in their communities. Available in English and French, the guide delves into: what is violent extremism; how to build self-resilience; and what PVE actions can be taken.
Evidence and evaluation Short description on performance measures of the practice, including 1. qualitative views and quantitative (statistical) data e.g. measure of the success of your project or intervention. 2. evaluation and feedback, including surveys and/or anecdotal evidence e.g. have you done either an internal or external evaluation, have you encouraged any feedback from your target group? 3. peer review which feedback did the practice receive in the RAN working group and/or study visit where the practice was discussed. Please elaborate on the outcomes of your monitoring and evaluation efforts.	**Qualitative views and quantitative data:** Surveys, anecdotes, and testimonies provide relevant qualitative and quantitative measures of success:

	• **Extremely Together Chapters have created channels for dialogue:** In Uganda, community dialogues organised by ET's chapter in Kampala and the Bugiri district in the East of the country allowed youth participants to express their aspirations for development and peace. For 93 % of them, it was the first time they had the opportunity to meet and exchange with local authorities. In Bugiri, Extremely Together succeeded in convincing some youth from a very isolated Salafist community to participate in meetings with youth from other faith communities. • **Civic Engagement**: Follow-up actions by participants demonstrate they have integrated ET values and beliefs. For instance, community initiatives by youth engaged in ET activities show that they have learned compassion and togetherness (e.g., care package distributions in IDP camps in Somalia, support to Afghan refugees and flood victims in Pakistan, assistance to typhoon victims in the Philippines). In Uganda, in the months leading up to the January 2021 presidential elections, ET youth established two peace committees in low-income areas of Kampala to discourage youth from taking part in election violence. • **Advocacy**: After they held a joint workshop to reflect on their PVE experience, Extremely Together members from Somalia and Uganda presented their lessons to national and international policy-makers at various events, including two UN General Assembly side events, an online conference organised with high-level EU representatives and a regional roundtable with UNDP Somalia, Ugandan authorities and the donor community. As this testimony from a young Somali woman shows, through their involvement in ET, youth gain confidence and can showcase their experience: "*It all started when I took part in a training organised by Extremely Together. From there, I started helping with the activities of the Chapter and designing training workshops. Then I took on a coordination role and was invited to share my experience at a side event on the margins of the 2020 UN General Assembly. As I quickly went from a basic engagement with Extremely Together to a high-level representation opportunity, I've learned that nothing is impossible*." In Uganda, parents, authorities and teachers have recognised the importance of youth participation in PVE through community dialogues and the use of theatre and art. Teachers and schools collaborating with an ET Chapter have incorporated peace-building activities in their annual calendars. • **Quantitative data** was collected and synthetized after the end of projects in each region. The number of young participants is systematically documented along with disaggregated data on gender, sexual identity, religious or ethnic affiliation, and economic

	background (when appropriate). In addition, data is regularly collected on progress in learning amongst trained participants. Among the East African Chapters, 76 % of Somali participants and 83 % of Ugandan participants reported that their understanding of VE had improved because of training. 86 % of Somalis and 92 % of Ugandans indicated that refresher trainings improved their knowledge of PVE. In South & Southeast Asia, 86 % of participants from all countries said that trainings taught them skills and knowledge they did not have before. 92 % of them stated that training made them more aware of the causes of VE and how it manifests itself in their country. **Evaluation and feedback:** • **Feedback:** The Chapters systematically encourage feedback from the youth engaged in activities, either through more formal surveys or informally. Quotes and impressions are regularly shared in internal reporting documents to donors, and statistical information gathered through surveys used to inform future activities. For example, the results and suggestions that emerged from surveys distributed after the Chapter exchanges in East Africa informed the design of the regional conference in South & Southeast Asia. • **External Evaluation:** An external evaluation of our Chapter activities in South and Southeast Asia was conducted by the Agency for Peacebuilding. It conducted a systematic review of project documents, led 25 key informant interviews, and distributed a survey to 90 project participants from all three countries. General findings pointed to the extreme relevance of project activities as strategically aligned with global priorities (e.g., EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027). It also presented a generally positive assessment of the Chapters' effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. More specifically, the evaluation highlighted that *"the peer-to-peer approach employed by the project, when matched with capacity building activities, proved to be an effective method to engage youth in PVE".* Additionally, the evaluators praised the use of art, music and sports-based interventions as an approach that is *"necessary to mobilise young people around contested and sensitive issues in a less controversial way".*
Sustainability and transferability (maximum of 200 words) Short description on the sustainability and transferability of the practice, including e.g.	**Transferability:** The ET Chapter model is transferable and adaptable to different countries and local contexts. Conceptually, it is based on a universalist understanding of VE that studies

information on the costs of the practice. Please elaborate on which elements are transferrable and how.	radicalisation as stemming from multiple contexts and ideologies. As such, it has been successful in tackling VE in countries that experience violence perpetrated by groups with distinctive ideologies. In practice, the model emphasises values like social cohesion, respect, mutual help, and togetherness which can be understood by different groups in various contexts. Beyond training and capacity-building activities, the model uses modes of communication that can be found everywhere like art, theatre, music, sports, and culture as a way of unifying people. It works with locally established youth organisations to design contextually relevant activities and develop tailor-made models depending on the targeted demographics. **Sustainability:** The model is sustainable because it relies on the transfer of knowledge from trained participants to their surroundings. By developing the leadership and ownership of young people, as well as their capacity to lead positive action, the Chapter model and its sustainability relies on the capacity and passion of participants who were trained in the initial phase.
Presented and discussed in RAN meeting Please note that to be included in the Collection, the practice is preferably nominated through one of the RAN meetings. Add name of the RAN Working Group/event, date, place and subject of meeting.	Name: RAN YOUNG Date: September 2018 Place: Nice Subject: Two of the Young Leaders, Mimoun Berrissoun and Bjorn Ihler, held a workshop in Nice (France) for one of RAN's Young Groups in September 2018. After the workshop, they were invited to add Extremely Together to the RAN Collection of Approaches and Practices.
Linked to other EU initiatives or EU funding (maximum of 100 words) Please indicate how your project was funded, if your practice is linked to other EU initiatives or projects, AND explicitly note if it is (co-) funded by the EU, and if so, by which funds? Such as Erasmus +, Internal Security Funds (ISF), European	ET Chapters in South & Southeast Asia were implemented with the financial support of the EU and project activities from 2020 to 2022 were carried out as part of the FPI-funded "Leading the Way to Peace – Youth Together for Social Cohesion" project.

Social Fund (ESF), Horizon 2020, etc.	
Organisation (enter maximum of 100 words and select organisation type) Please briefly describe the organisation behind the practice including the legal status e.g. NGO, governmental, limited company, charity etc.	Extremely Together and its Chapters are part of the Kofi Annan Foundation, a non-profit organisation founded by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2016. The mission of the Kofi Annan Foundation is to mobilise political will to overcome threats to peace, development, and human rights. Legal status: Not-for-profit organisation Type of Organisation: Foundation
Country of origin Country in which the practice is based.	EU or EEA country: Choose from list of EU and EEA countries. or: Non-EU country: Switzerland
Contact details Please provide contact details of who can be contacted within the organisation, with name and email address.	Address: Rue de Varembé 09-11 P.O.B. 157 1211 Geneva 20 Switzerland Contact person: Maud Roure Email: roure@kofiannanfoundation.org Telephone: +41 229197520 Website: https://www.kofiannanfoundation.org/
Last update text (year)	2024