



## Prevention of Violent Extremism in Central Asian Countries through Strengthening Social Cohesion among Labour Migrants, Returnees and their Families

<b>Implementing organisation(s)</b>	<i>Search for Common Ground (Search)</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>2019-2022</i>
<b>Project budget</b>	<i>Total budget - € 555,554 EU contribution - € 499,156</i>
<b>Project partners</b>	<i>Istiqlol Avlodi (IA), Pravo.</i>
<b>Location</b>	<i>Kazakhstan, Karaganda city; Kyrgyzstan, Aravan region; Uzbekistan, Jizak province.</i>
<b>Keywords</b>	<i>Radicalization, labour migrants, Central Asia</i>
<b>Contract number</b>	<i>lcSP 2019/412-659</i>

### Program Development Objective

The action aims at supporting national, cross-border, and regional Civil Society Organizations in preventing radicalisation of communities, migrant workers, their families and returnees from war zones in Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

### Main target groups

Potential and actual labour migrants and their families, including returnees. Specifically:

- Youth;
- Illegal migrants;
- Uneducated migrants;
- Lonely individuals or first time migrants who moved in a new country without an official invitation and/or personal connections.

### Key challenges that the program helps to address:

- Growth in the radicalization among small group of Central Asian citizens - approximately 3,000 to 5,000 - that left for war zones in the Middle East;
- With the loss of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) controlled territories Central Asia nationals risk of being recruited by extremist organisations;
- Deepen distrust among communities towards clan-based governance, political representation, and discriminatory policies towards minority groups;
- Persisting religious tensions which can lead

many extremist recruiters to promote violent narratives against states;

- State bodies, pedagogues and religious leaders lack information or understanding on radicalisation and on how to effectively address the issue;
- Lack of regional cooperation and coordination at an inter-country level.

### Expected outcomes

- Increased skills among social workers, local authorities, religious leaders, and social pedagogues on social protection measures, employment and counselling for legal migration;
- Improved rehabilitation and reintegration mechanisms for returnees through capacitating key actors in case analysis, management, and monitoring both at the individual (psychosocial support, trauma healing) and community (social protection) levels;
- Creating an enabling environment for the key state and non-state actors, including traditional leaders (women and elder committees, mahalla commissions, and religious leaders) to contribute to community cohesion and fighting marginalization and “othering” at the local level;

Contact	<b>Name:</b> <b>Email:</b>
Website	•