



Can Community Policing Help Counter Violent Extremism in Bangladesh?

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of findings from the RESOLVE Network's 2016-2017 Bangladesh Research Initiative. As part of the Initiative, RESOLVE Network researchers examined how those involved in community policing understood countering violent extremism and the extent to which a community policing approach might play a role in addressing violent extremism. The key findings presented below were derived from two major urban areas in Dhaka City Corporation that are proximate to major educational institutions and have a large youth population: Chawkbazar in Dhaka South, where Community Policing Forums are no longer active; and Uttara in Dhaka North, where Community Policing Forums remain active.

To learn more about the research methodology and longer form findings, please refer to this fact sheet's companion RESOLVE Research Brief: *Can Community Policing Help Counter Violent Extremism in Bangladesh?*

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Community policing in Bangladesh is a potentially effective vehicle to improve security and complement the fight against violent extremism.

The widening trust deficit between police and local communities presents a significant security challenge for Bangladesh.

Community policing could enhance cooperation to address violent extremism at the local level.





Community members are concerned about violent extremism and have conflicting views about their role in community policing and the role of youth.



Community policing policy and practice should include guidance on addressing violent extremism, enhanced training, and coordination with government and local institutions.

Progress Through Effective Policing

A common grievance felt by communities is that they are merely an intelligence source for security actors. Security sector actors can make progress to actively reduce that grievance by altering security force training and promoting a more cooperative and open ethos. To accomplish this, security forces should be trained and encouraged to view communities as active and trusted partners with whom to share information on goals and objectives. Advancing a community policing model that promotes community-police cooperation, shared respect, and protection from retaliation can encourage both communities and police to more actively work together to address emerging violent extremist threats. In order to do so, current community policing models must be altered to focus more on actions and results and less on ceremonial functions. The existing community policing apparatus can also be better integrated with other security agencies that are more directly engaged with countering violent extremism and terrorism nationwide.

RESOLVE NETWORK

The RESOLVE Network is a global consortium of researchers and research organizations committed to delivering fresh insight into the drivers of violent extremism around the world. The Network provides access to open-source data, tools, and curated research to ensure policy responses to violent extremism are evidence based.

RESOLVE's four key themes of focus arose from our text mining literature review of over 3000 articles related to the study of CVE and political violence. For more on our themes of focus, the Network, our partners and how to get involved visit our website, www.resolvenet.org, and follow us on Twitter: @resolvenet.



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