



AWEPA high level Seminar

Brussels, 8-9 October 2015

Working Group 1

Framing Remarks

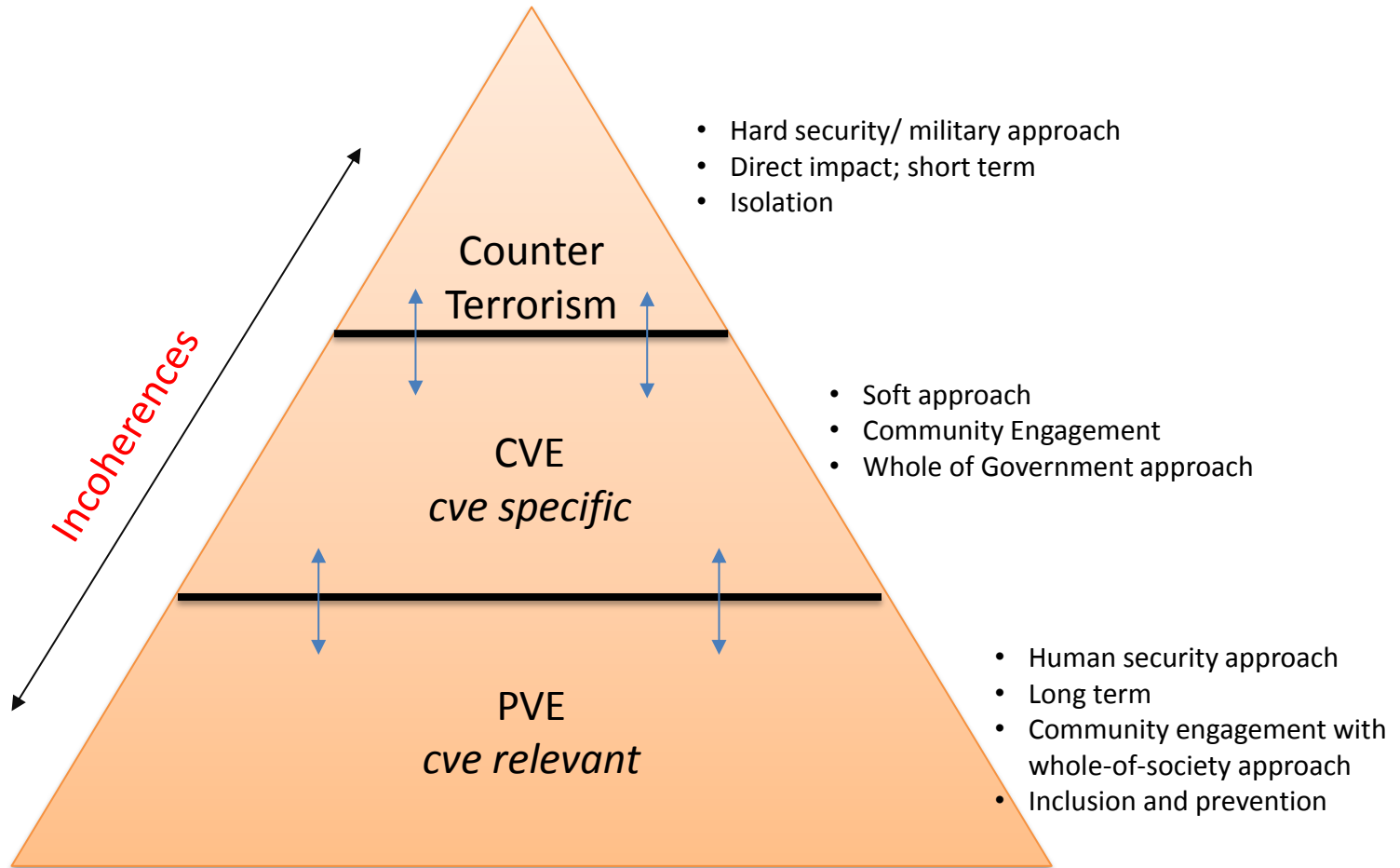
Fulco van Deventer

Human Security Collective

www.hscollective.org



CT and CVE



CVE 1.0: CVE specific approaches

- Shift from hard security/ military approach to soft approach
- Paradigm of inclusion: reaching out to communities for increasing resilience
- Whole of government approach: different sectors like education, health, religion, economic development, communication etc. become involved
- Focus on counter narratives as compelling stories to stop recruitment, credible voices to spread the message, social media to reach the youth
- Cultural and religious drivers are central; engaging with different identity groups; stimulate inter/intra religious dialogue to promote tolerance and understanding; increase quality of religious education

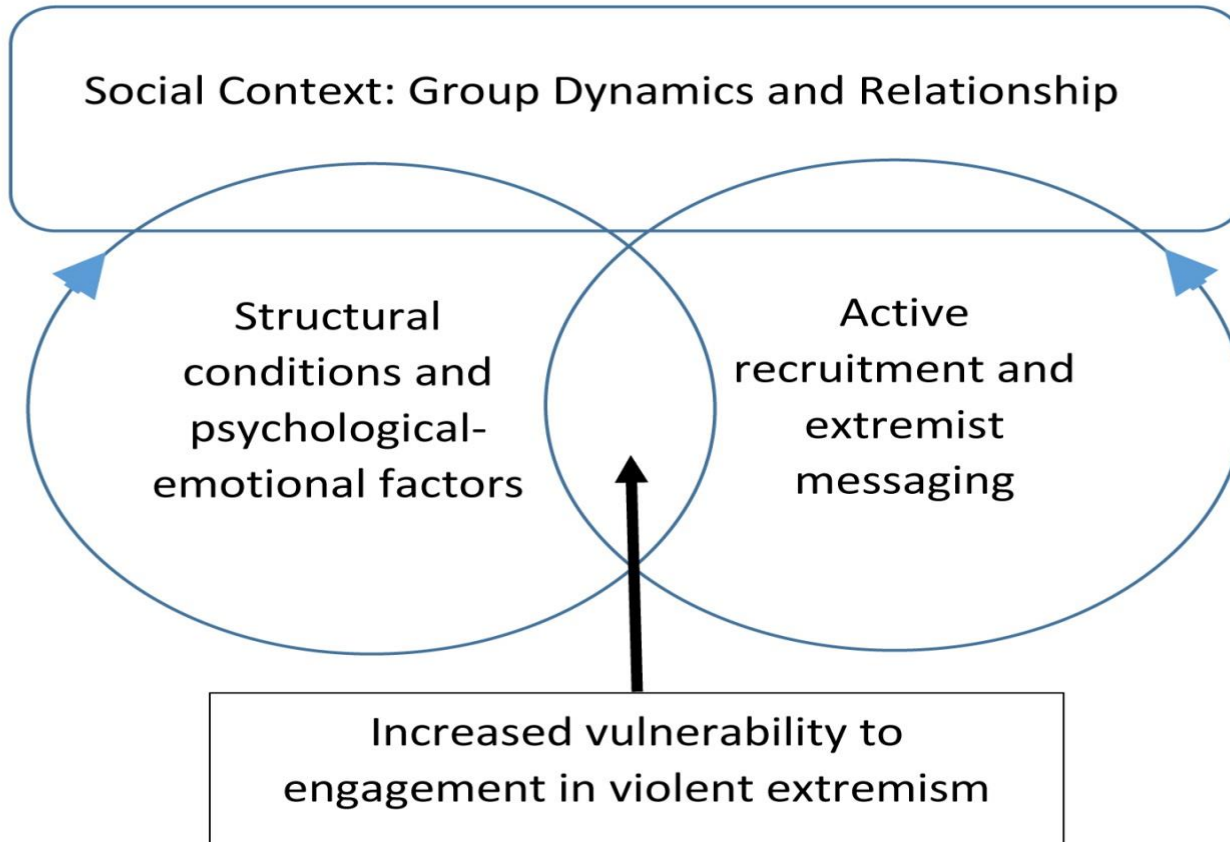
PVE = CVE relevant approaches

- Broadening soft approach towards a human security approach
- Whole of society approach: reaching out to communities for partnership on CVE/PVE
- HR, Human Security and Fundamental Freedoms put in the center: freedom from fear and freedom from want
- Focus on communities writ large, social cohesion, community security, social justice and equality, economic development
- Address Socio-economic drivers of VE by vocational and technical training, life skills, employment, civic engagement and oversight, addressing power issues
- Empowering traditional capacities for peace and security
- Gender focus & fostering youth leadership
- Creating and protecting space for dialogue and participation

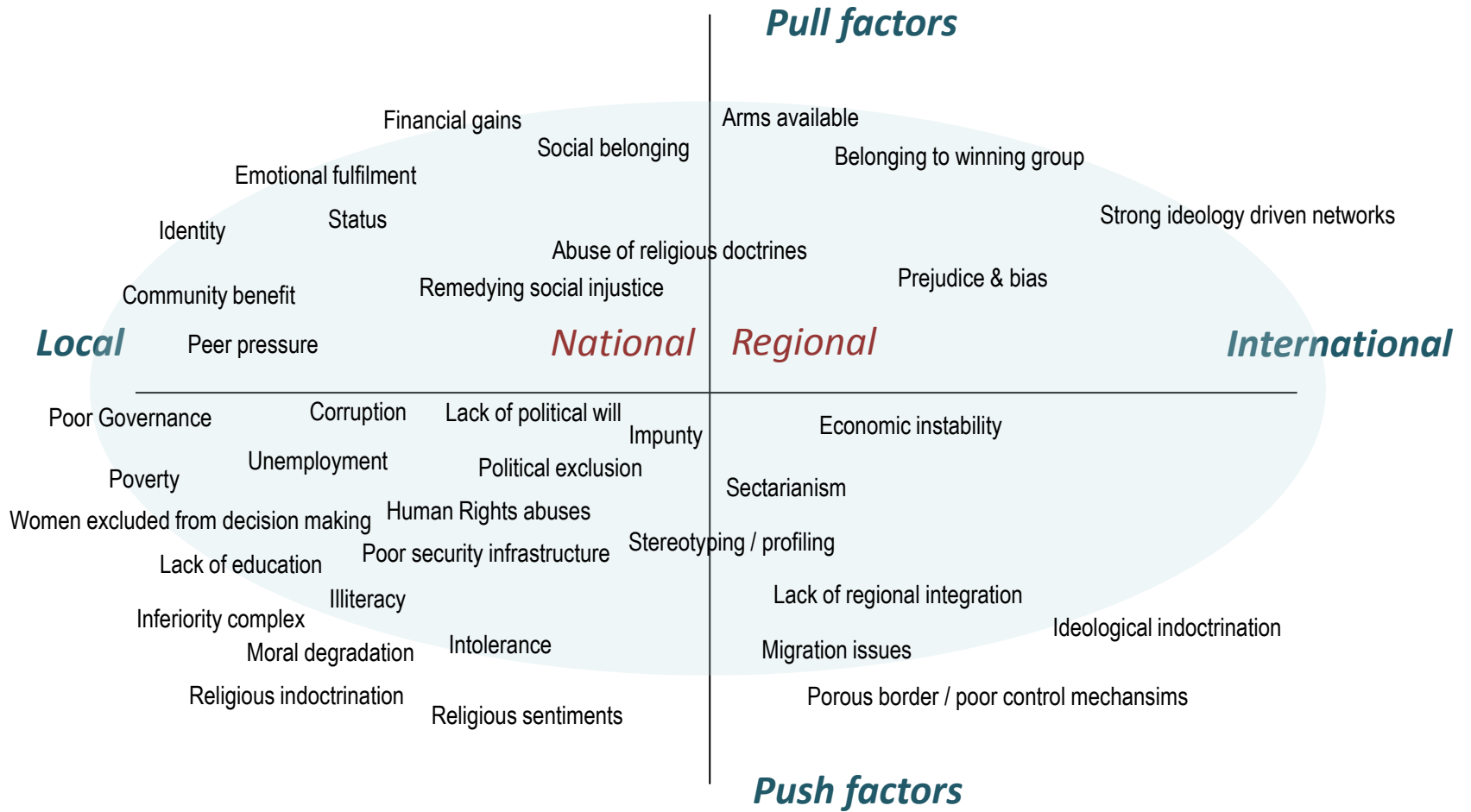
Triggers vs root causes of VE

- *Triggers:* Arab spring, influx of arms, coalitions with other groups (criminal, insurgents, terrorists), killing of leaders, elections
- *Accelerators:* Favourable geographic and demographic conditions
- *Root Causes:* Bad governance, endemic corruption, inequality and extreme poverty set an ideal mix of push and pull factors for VE.

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Closing remarks

- Terrorism is said to be a new phenomenon in Sub-Sahel Africa: in its techniques & conditions (arms, ICT, global networks with cells)
- But the root causes have a long history; close interference with criminal groups and influential groups that have long and well rooted traditions in the region
- Root causes of VE in the Sahel region are at many levels and different dimension; require a long term, multi-sectoral and sustained committment
- Recruitment for VE in the Sahel region is on a very local basis compared to e.g. IS/Al Shabab

Closing remarks

- There are clear regional and global connections between extremist groups: training, financial support, narratives/ideology; CT and CVE approaches should all have a regional component and harmonisation/coordination of efforts
- But regional connection between extremist groups sometimes overrated: CT and CVE also need to address the specific national and even sub-national dimensions behind VE; context relevant approaches with engagement of communities