



– A youth-focused National Policy Dialogue concluded in Nairobi today, marking a significant step towards integrating youth perspectives into Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) efforts in Kenya. It provided 22 young leaders from 17 counties across Kenya, a unique platform to engage with both federal and state government representatives, civil society organizations, and other key policymakers working on PCVE-related issues.

The dialogue aimed to enhance the role of youth in PCVE and policymaking by allowing them to share their experiences and insights, whilst developing actionable recommendations for more inclusive and effective PCVE strategies. Participants also explored opportunities to foster partnerships through key youth-designed PCVE policy and programming ideas in areas such as education, countering hate speech and gender.

The event was organized by UNOCT/UNCCT Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEEP) in partnership with the Kenyan National Counter-Terrorism Center (NCTC), the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), YADEN-East Africa, and with the contribution from the United Nations Peace and Development Fund (UNPDF).

Reflecting on the dialogue, one of the young leaders emphasized that *“Participating in the YEEP National Policy Dialogue has provided us with a powerful platform to amplify our voices and engage deeply with decision-makers on PCVE and peacebuilding. Thanks to UNOCT, we are now actively shaping policies that impact our lives and communities. We are hopeful that this collaboration will lead to significant, positive changes.”*

YEEP Africa, which has now been successfully rolled out in Nigeria and Kenya, is nearing its conclusion. The Kenyan National Policy Dialogue will soon be followed by a similar event for Somalia on 13 August 2024, highlighting the growing recognition of the pivotal role of young people in PCVE

