

About the interfaith Dialogue on Violent Extremism (iDove)



Background

The African Union Commission's Directorate of Citizens and Diaspora Organizations (AUC-CIDO) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ GmbH) on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) have jointly launched iDove in 2017.

iDove is an intercontinental platform of exchange and learning for youth working on preventing violent extremism (PVE) and building social cohesion, specifically focusing on youth (age 18-35) from Africa, Europe and Asia. iDove consists of approximately 150 members from 49 countries worldwide.

- **Youth and young adults** often act as agents of change, supporting the social cohesion as well as resilience of their communities and helping to reduce inter-generational divides.
- **Religious leaders**, organisations and faith communities play an important role in PVE as they are in direct contact with their communities and can provide counter-narratives to violent extremist ideologies.
- Combining both **potentials** helps to create new entry points as well as a stronger and more sustainable foundation for PVE while at the same time reducing the reach of violent extremists.

The iDove Approach

iDove is based on the understanding that PVE requires a comprehensive 'soft-power' approach that focuses on the root causes of violent extremism. Bottom-up, innovative community-based and youth-led approaches help foster mutual understanding, support, and cooperation between different generations, ethnic, social and religious groups.

Areas of Engagement

- **Intercontinental Youth Forum (IYF):** iDovers, the youth engaged in iDove, come together annually to build networks, acquire a sense of ownership, build a common identity as iDovers and develop strategies in the field of PVE.
- **Project Implementation:** iDove funds and supports projects of iDovers which are implemented through local organisations. This aims at enhancing the iDover's organisational capacity and to ensure timely and effective youth-led responses to violent extremism.
- **Capacity Building and Training of Trainers:** The iDove Training of Trainers equips the iDovers with skills and tools to build cohesive communities and teaches them to become trainers to deliver an iDove training themselves.



Contact

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