

Contribution of Counter-Terrorism Strategies and their Implication on National Security in Kenya: A Case Study of Lamu West Sub-County, Lamu County, Kenya

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Abstract: The twenty-first century has brought to the fore the challenge of terrorism and violent extremism, and the fact that it continues to afflict families, corporations, and countries more than ever before, resulting in the loss of lives and properties. This study sought to explore the contribution of counter-terrorism strategies and their implications for National Security in Kenya drawing on experiences from Lamu West Sub-County. The study adopted social learning theory, liberalism theory, human needs theory and securitization theory, as well as soft power model. The study used a descriptive research design and the census method of sampling was used where all 43 respondents participated in the study. Questionnaires and interview schedules were used to collect data from the respondents and participants. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze quantitative data while thematic analysis was conducted for qualitative data. The study found that strategies that had been used in Lamu sub-county to counter terrorism were effective. The study reports that incorporating public actions, strengthening the institutional capacity of stakeholders including the police have proved effective in terrorism prevention efforts. The study concludes that although there exist terrorism threats in Kenya, the counter-terrorism strategies adopted are effective as it has reduced violent attacks in major towns, but they need to be strengthened. There is need to strengthen stakeholder engagement including the famous community policing of 'Nyumba Kumi' as this helps seek support from the community and other related stakeholders. Secondly, sensitization could be undertaken for the members of public and security agencies. Further research can be conducted to investigate perception of members of public on security agencies and how this affects their relationship in the fight against terrorism in Kenya.

Keywords: Contribution, Counter Terrorism, Community, Strategies, National Security

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INTRODUCTION

In the twenty-first century the risk of terrorism and violent extremism is on the rise and rapidly destabilizing regions in the world. This is due to the fact that it results in a lot of negative consequences that lead to the destruction of property, leading to injury and death of persons (Nacos, 2016; Walker, 2018). According to White, (2021) terrorism has taken the centre stage in the growing security threats facing many countries worldwide. As a result, governments are grappling with the right strategies to combat the ever-evolving terrorism trends. This is in spite of the fact that although expertise in the disruption and suppression of terrorism has accumulated over time, few countries have developed and implemented strategies aimed specifically at permanently countering

terrorism. Olawale, (2020) argues that in as much as strides are being made towards the development of a coherent approach to counterterrorism in many regions. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and subsequent attacks around the world prompted many states to re-evaluation their counterterrorism strategies. Bryden and Bahra, (2019) add that counter-terrorism strategies are continuously being confronted by evolving terrorism and targeted violence.

The data from the Armed Conflicts Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) in 2015 show a total of 381 terror attacks targeted at civilian populations in Africa leading to 1,394 deaths. Further studies confirm a sharp increase in the subsequent years and by 2020, about

7,108 attacks on civilians had been carried out leading to 12,519 deaths (Raleigh Linke, Hegre & Karslen, 2010). Moreover, the continued threats posted terrorism rose where by 2020, seven of the top ten nations worldwide with terrorism threats were found in Africa. Global risk consultancy Verisk Maplecroft emphasizes that a highly complex and a changing behavior of terrorism is at the forefront of every government agenda, nationality or international (Meyer, De Franco, & Otto, 2020).

While an aggressive response to a known threat or vulnerability is a critical component for any counterterrorism strategy, this posture forces countries to continually respond to situations that are already dangerous, a situation akin to treating symptoms, rather than the underlying disease (Ravndal, & Bjorgo, 2018). Failure to adapt our approach to terrorism ensures that the government will remain on the defensive. More importantly, such a one-dimensional strategy is unsustainable over the long haul. The homeland security community should develop a holistic plan to prevent the development of homegrown terrorists and the maturation of domestic terrorist threats to complement existing counterterrorism measures. To be most effective, the national strategy should permeate federal, state, and local approaches to both counterterrorism and social policy (Ragazzi, 2017).

There is evidence to suggest that the use of community engagement has reduced the fear of crime, improved problem-solving, and enhanced perceptions of and relationships with the police (Onat, Bastug, Guler, & Kula, 2022). This could be due to what method is used to measure the impact on prevention or how prevention is viewed, as the term is very complex and difficult to evaluate. There is a need to establish the 'input' before an intervention is introduced such as how many people could/would have been radicalized if an intervention was not introduced? Establishing such input is vague and difficult. Although communities are seen as valuable to counterterrorism, there is also a recognition that the current approach is incapacitating for community organizations and institutions. As such it is argued that community-level work can be strengthened by real community participation that works towards building ongoing and permanent relationships, which involves inclusion in decision making at local level, rather than a reactive and top-down response (Silverman 2017, p.1101).

Oyewole (2013) highlighted three counterterrorism measures to include military-based, justice-based, and political-based. Proponents of military-based counter-terrorism measures are convinced of the fact that terrorists are nihilists. The author further contended that the fact should not be denigrated therefore, that terrorists who threaten states should be faced with a military counter-terrorism strategy that serves to stop further attacks by the terrorists. This military-based approach employs the idea of war on terrorism according to Oyewole (2013) argued that it positions the fight against

terrorism in military terms as an enemy-centric war and charges the armed forces with the responsibility of developing and effecting strategic responses. However, this may be emotionally satisfying in the immediate term, given the human and material cost of the war on terrorism, but it also casts a shadow of fear and destruction that no one would want to live with permanently.

Statement of the Problem

Although sustained efforts by Government of Kenya to combat terrorism and extremism are evident, today's challenge posted by terrorism and extremism continue to inflict greater pain to families, corporations, and the country's economy. Notably, since the bombing of the United States America (USA) Embassy in Nairobi and recent terrorist attacks at Garisaa University, and Westgate, there have been massive increases in government efforts (increases in expenditure) to counterterrorism strategies, as well as a proliferation of programs designed to fight terrorism. Despite adopting counterterrorism strategies, they provide a sense that Kenya is secure, and their absolute effectiveness may not always be easily assessed. The fact that emerging challenges impede the full maximization of the aforementioned strategies exacerbates this situation

Considering the changing nature of security challenges in Lamu West Sub-County, and in particular terrorism activities attributed to Al-Shabaab, the security forces have been deployed on several occasions either to respond to terrorism incidents or to pre-empt terror threats within the country. However, the failure of deterrence methods in reducing further terrorist attacks in Kenya calls for continued debates on the effectiveness of counterterrorism strategies and their implications on national security in Kenya. A precipitating event often precedes the outbreak of terrorism, and a common pattern of government actions appears to act as catalysts for terrorism, necessitating this viewpoint (Coolsaet, 2013). Therefore, the study sought to examine the contribution of counterterrorism strategies and their implications for national security in Lamu West Sub County, Lamu County, Kenya.

Objectives of the study

To examine the contribution of counterterrorism strategies with regard to national security in Lamu West Sub County, Lamu County, Kenya. Specifically, the study sought to:

- i. To examine stakeholder-partnership engagement on counter terrorism strategy in Lamu West Sub-County, Lamu County, Kenya.
- ii. To assess the influence of institutional framework on counter terrorism with regard to security in Lamu West Sub County, Lamu County, Kenya.

- iii. To analyze the effect of public response to counter terrorism capacity with regard to Kenya national security in Lamu West Sub County, Lamu County, Kenya.
- iv. To evaluate the security agencies response on counterterrorism strategies capacity with regard to security in Lamu West Sub County, Lamu county, Kenya.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Although the international and regional instruments available are effective prevention approaches (especially in interventions that target particular criminal acts) such as hostage –taking or hijacking of planes. They are implemented differently in most countries (Ganor 2014). (Ganor 2014). Consequently, the responses by the criminal justice system in the investigation and prosecution of the crimes related to the crimes related to terrorist attract increase in international support for more effective measures to counter the terrorism response which has resulted into stronger international cooperation in terrorism strategies. This has hardened the persecution of individuals engaging in terrorist acts. One of the most important features of combating terrorism is to maintain physical security at the highest level; and the protection of important people, the use of metal detectors in public spaces that are crowded and open to threats such as airports, shopping centers/malls and the protection of infrastructure units that are strategically important are the first measures to be taken.

According to Abrahams (2018) there were rising concerns on counter-terrorism measures adopted in Africa which were viewed initially as weak. In fact, Stephen Townsend, The Head of USA Africa Command in March 2020 argues that efforts by international community and African states may not realize its objective of preventing further attacks especially increasing threats in Western African states and Sahel (Seldin, 2020). Clearly, there are numerous causative explanations for attacking civilian population in Africa as the end came. Moreover, the competition between some terrorist groups and religious extremists remains a big problem to civilian and challenges governments in and outside Africa. Recognizing and developing mechanisms may help to reduce further attacks. This requires sober engagement with the group to delegitimize their use of violence in addressing their issues.

Although there are well coordinated international attempts to counter terrorism, the UN's approach is confronted with compliance by member states. Talat and Zeshan (2013) maintain that the UN global counter-terrorism strategy which was adopted in 2006 emphasize the humanitarian issues in general and the counter-terrorism goals by recognizing issues of rule of law and human rights as the cornerstone in the war against terrorism. On counter-terrorism measures pursued by African countries demonstrating it heavily influenced by

United Nations counter-terrorism center which ensures member states have strong strategies to confront terrorism. In their main counter-terrorism policies or in funding agreements with humanitarian actors, several foreign funders specifically include international law, fundamental humanitarian principles, and sector standards, according to Julius (2013).

Available literature confirms that effective counter terrorism intervention programs consist of early intervention, de-radicalization, disengagement, and reintegration and rehabilitation (Neumann, 2016; Sinai, 2017). In this approach, coordinated, diverse strategies at the micro, and macro levels are needed, along with a variety of counterterrorism partners and strategies. These actions must be thorough, threat-focused, and suited to the current situation while also being long-lasting (Ahmed et al, 2018; Van den Bos, 2018). There is growing stream of literature that maintain that coalitions or stakeholder partnership plays an important role in the war against terrorism because they offer crucial information that they cannot gather alone, and they can isolate terrorist groups from their sources of international support (Rasmussen, 2021). This narrative has been confirmed by Bhulai and Fink (2016), in their study on strengthening regional cooperation to prevent and counter violent extremism in South Asia. Chaliand and Blin, (2016) opine that it is important to note that by focusing on the problem of terrorism some countries such as Netherlands and the USA apply different strategies in fighting terrorism (Abozaid, 2020; Harris, 2017). For instance, the USA appears to consider it necessary to carry out severe actions and to adopt an aggressive strategy that includes finding, apprehending, and eliminating terrorists.

Similarly in a study of strategies used in Ghana's war on terrorism, Prah and Chanimbe (2021) found out that the security officers adopted several strategies. For example, they utilized Gardner's multiple intelligence (interpersonal and spatial-visual) officers in civilian combat gear taking temporary shelter in the community and were able to walk around in plain clothes interacting and collecting information from members of the community. Recognizing and developing mechanisms may help to reduce further attacks. As part of preventing new and diverse terrorism, Ghana conducted training programs for stakeholders engaging in counter-terrorism both at international and local level for the officials to understand how to unearth emerging trends in terrorism (Prah, & Chanimbe, 2021). Furthermore, there have been calls for governments to prevent international terrorism from entering their borders by developing an effective control system on issuance of papers to identify them such as travel documents. In similar note, Mulinari (2019) argues that engaging diplomatically with anyone who voluntarily chooses to defect from terrorism or rejects terrorism ideologies is an important step done to advance peace and stability. The other approach is considering giving them amnesty, presidential pardon and if there are adequate reasons to confirm their improved behaviour while at prison, can reduce sentences period.

Over the past ten years, numerous terrorist attacks have taken place in Kenya. Since the beginning, their occurrence has attracted intense debate among scholars and practitioners to better understand the conditions, motivations, impacts, and many other facets of the phenomenon. This is especially the case after specific events, such as the September 21, 2013, Westgate mall attacks and the 2015 Garissa university attacks that garnered attention from audiences not only in Kenya but across the world. These devastating and highly consequential events can bring greater attention to and interest in the field, especially from new disciplines. Consequently, Government of Kenya responded through various strategies to confront the increasing terrorism activities in the country.

Although Kenya has continued to enhance its counter-terrorism, many studies focus almost exclusively on broader interventions and do not consider effectiveness of specific approach. There is inconclusive debate on strategies adopted by Kenya can address terrorism activities, for example, legislations, law enforcement, border security, countering the financing of terrorism, countering violent extremism, and regional and international cooperation. Many of these interventions have become part of Kenya's daily lives and discourse, but we have no idea whether or not they fulfill the promise of reducing terrorism, terrorism-related risk or harm as there is no research to support these interventions. Indeed, some of these interventions may also have collateral and unintended effects of reducing civil rights or our quality of life. Therefore, it becomes very important to examine the effectiveness of the counter-terrorism strategies adopted in Kenya.

Theoretical Framework

According to Social Learning Theory (SLT), people learn to be aggressive by observing others acting aggressively to achieve some goal or being rewarded as a direct result of committing violent terrorist attacks, anti-terrorism (Akers, & Silverman, 2014). First, social learning theory directly linked criminal behavior to individually learned traits through diverse and dynamic human interactions in environments conducive to violent and uninhibited behavior. As terrorist attacks increase in frequency in the United States in the 21st century, native recruits from religiously or politically motivated terrorist organizations utilize this psychosocial theory to seek acceptance and understanding.

Theory suggests that terrorist organizations indoctrinate their members into ideological systems that dehumanize their enemies. He points out that when we endow others with common human qualities, we enable empathic connections with them, or that by categorizing them as people with no common human traits, terrorists are able to distance themselves from the normal empathetic urge to harm those individuals. Terrorists often

deny or suppress their own personal moral sanctions for causing harm to any individual. Finally, terrorists often minimize or ignore the harmful effects their actions can have on their targets. According to the social learning theory, individuals become aggressive by observing others who act aggressively to achieve specific goals or receive rewards for their violent behavior. Terrorism is an advanced study, specialized in the field of terrorism and counterterrorism (Sieg, 2021). According to Kuwali (2020), from this perspective, terrorism collides with scholars arguing that comprehensive social processes, arising from the accumulation of social power, can be understood using SLT.

The United Nations (2019) believes extremist groups and leaders take a gentle approach to debunking the ideologies of terrorist hatred and violence. In addition, soft power includes diplomacy, persuasion, the use of capacity development and the expectation of power and influence in cheap, politically, and socially justified ways. We can assume in the Kenyan context that military force can suppress extremism, but it cannot eliminate ideology. A multi-pronged approach, including soft power mechanisms, is required to win over and win the hearts and minds of segments of society typically recruited, supported, and funded by extremist and radical groups (UN, 2019). The soft power approaches towards terrorist organizations have received scant attention; there has been modest scholarly inquiry into a soft power approach to counterterrorism. Yet the power of security forces, countering violent extremism in Kenya through Soft power lies in the ability to attract and persuade vulnerable and exposed individuals.

METHODOLOGY

Research design

A descriptive research design was used in this study. The choice of research design has always been used when researchers attempt to answer such questions, 'what is' or 'what are' (Ravndal, 2018). According to Saunders, Lewis, and Thornhill (2009), descriptive research design seeks to provide an accurate profile of a person, events and/or situations. As such, the design allows the researcher to undertake a profile of important aspects of the phenomena of interest in organizational, individual, or industry-oriented context. These include stakeholder-partnership engagement, institutional framework, public response, and security agencies response.

Population and Sampling Technique

The target population were experts in the field of terrorism and security matters (multiagency and multi-

stakeholders) in Lamu West sub-county, one of the two sub counties in Lamu County. It is located on Kenya's northern coast. Moreover, it included employees in various employment cadre in security agencies in Kenya

(KDF, Kenya Police, terrorism, and immigration among others. The study adopted a census method where all members of a population were analyzed and for this study all the 43 study participants were considered for the study.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	25	58.1
	Female	18	41.9
	Total	43	100
Age bracket	Below 30 years	9	20.9
	30-39 years	13	30.2
	40-49 years	8	18.6
	50-59 years	6	14
	60-69 years	4	9.3
	Above 70 years	3	7
	Total	43	100
Marital status	Married	19	44.2
	Widowed	7	16.3
	Divorced	3	7
	Separated	3	7
	Single	11	25.6
	Total	43	100
Highest level of education	Primary school	3	7
	High school	5	11.6
	Tertiary institution	20	46.5
	University	11	25.6
	Other	4	9.3
	Total	43	100

Data collection instruments

The data used in this study included both primary and secondary where primary data sources were obtained from responses generated during data collection while secondary data sources were collected from published materials as consulted by the study. The primary data is considered more reliable and offers a higher confidence level with trusted analysis and can have direct occurrence of events. Questionnaire and interview schedule are the main data collection tools used.

Data Analysis

The data obtained from the questionnaire were analyzed to establish the relationship between objectives of the study. A Statistical Package for Social Science (

SPSS) version 23.0 was used to analyze the data. The descriptive statistics generated were central tendencies, standard deviation, and frequency tables. The qualitative data was analyzed based on emerging themes. Content analysis, a qualitative analytic approach for identifying, analyzing, and reporting some patterns (themes) in the data. We used a coding system to quickly and easily organize the data for analysis. Additionally, we used codes to pinpoint specific responses. We entered the coded data into the computer for analysis. The study findings were presented in form of frequency tables, graphs, pie charts and narratives.

FINDINGS

Adoption of counterterrorism strategies is prevalent in Lamu West Sub County

Although respondents agree there have been more attacks, the findings reveal the existence of government's

effort in combating terrorism in the region. According to Securitization theory government's branding approach influences behavior changes through agenda setting of other nations and people. For example, findings show that counter terrorism adopted by Government in Lamu were very effective. This agrees with the previous studies which found out that civilians' participation in counter terrorism activities especially in terms of the support they offer to security agencies increases intelligence gathering, combat strength and military involvement in countering terrorism (Omenma, & Hendricks, 2018).

Civil society organizations always have criticized the government for human right violations. Interestingly,

they admittedly acknowledged that the counterterrorism efforts by the government in Lamu County has contributed to the low cases of terrorist attacks. In an interview with representative of human right group in Lamu, the study found that what the government is doing has yielded positive results as terrorist attacks is reducing although we cannot predict how long it will take:

Many arrests done by the police has really reduced cases of terrorist attacks in this area. I believe what is being done by the government is working against terrorist since it helps identify suspects or people who behave in a manner that can suggest they are likely to cause or lead to terrorist attacks. (Male Participant, 56 years).

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Do you agree with the strategies adopted in this region to counterterrorism cases?	Yes	32	74.4
	No	11	25.6
	Total	43	100
Has there been any an attack or attempts to attack by terrorist groups in this region?	Always	4	9.3
	Often	14	32.6
	Sometimes	13	30.2
	Rarely	11	25.6
	Never	1	2.3
	Total	43	100
The terrorist attacks involved one or fewer number of people or were executed by a larger terrorism group?	Yes	40	93
	No	3	7
	Total	43	100
What is the level of trust that you have in the counter terrorism measures taken to address terrorism cases in this region?	No trust	9	20.9
	Some trust	21	48.8
	Complete trust	13	30.2
	Total	43	100
	Total	43	100

Stakeholder partnership and counterterrorism

Central to the stakeholder partnership approach is the collaboration between the security agencies, community, civil society, and other entities. The findings are in tandem with Soft Power Model which argues that stakeholders take a gentle approach to debunking the ideologies of terrorist hatred and violence (UN, 2019). The findings indicate a strong agreement among respondents to the ideas that stakeholders in Lamu West sub-County had organized several awareness forums/education programs to address terrorism cases. In an interview, respondents pointed to about six awareness sessions conducted within the region led by civil society such as Haki Africa together with government agencies,

"I attended three such forums and it targeted mainly youth who are seen as the mainly target of Al shabaab terror group. It was informative because I remember how

they demonstrated to us how youth were being recruited and how we can help in identifying those people are likely to cheat our youth into joining terror group" (Male Participant, 51 years)

Similarly, there were peace caravans throughout most parts of the county, and this aimed at enlightening the public against terrorist activities, "for 2 days, a convoy of vehicles with anti-terrorism messages traversed here while playing peace songs. There were people with microphones who explained to the people damages that terror groups could do to the people and people seemed to appreciate what was being done then". It is thought that whether lack of knowledge is a driver in itself on terrorism attacks, there is general agreement among scholars and practitioners that education is very important tools to get to youth and hence it can be used to resolve push and pull factors which may influence young people to join violent extremism.

Statement	MW	SD
There are several awareness/education forums organized by stakeholders to address terrorism in this region	3.98	1.94
A shared intelligence-led antiterrorism approach has become effective in addressing cases of terrorism	2.86	2.29
Multi-security operations have always been conducted and has led to reduction of terror attacks	3.30	3.18
The Kenyan Government has developed several legislations concerning strategies used to counter terrorist attacks	3.05	2.60
Mean of weighted means	3.30	2.50

Institutional framework on counter terrorism

The findings further show that the majority of the respondents agreed that effective measures that have been undertaken to counter terrorism attacks are emergency drills. Accordingly, this has prepared and fine-tuned response procedures among security officers that could mitigate attacks from terrorist. With regard to new technology, the study finds that adopting new technology was effective approach in reducing the hazard of a terrorist attacks. Moreover, fewer of the respondents did not acknowledge the effectiveness of such measures, especially among the local residents.

Although they strongly believe institutional based strategies are effective, they argued that government agencies need to assure residents on who is targeted in the war on terrorism in the area to ensure residents

collaboration. Otherwise, this might create fear among the local residents who might complicate the war of terrorism by the government and other stakeholders. The informant noted that:

“The government requires a mechanism to effectively inform the public of its decision-making process, particularly when those being targeted are citizens of Lamu West Sub County. First, the government may and ought to provide us with greater information regarding the method through which it makes decisions concerning high-value targets. The government's claims regarding the accuracy of its factual conclusions and the validity of its legal conclusions will be more trustworthy the more it provides information about the number of people paying attention to the issue and the process's rigor” (Male Participant, 51 years).

Statement	MW	SD
Security agencies have detected and stopped terrorist attacks before they occur	3.28	2.96
The security sector allocates responsibilities to each security agency thus eliminating ambiguity in security matters	3.81	3.35
Screening of passengers has resulted to detection and retrieval of prohibited items thus preventing terrorist attacks	2.67	1.46
The emergency drills conducted to prepare and fine tune response procedures to mitigate situations after an attack have been effective	3.91	3.67
The adoption of technology to enhance security in Lamu West Sub County has increased effectiveness of counter terrorism strategy	3.95	3.60
Mean of weighted means	3.52	3.01

The Public Response and Counter-terrorism Capacity

There have been increasing calls to adopt newer counter terrorism measures that would take care of the needs of the local community members. According to social learning theory, understanding the personality of individuals determined to execute terroristic acts against their own society, security agencies and communities trying to prevent such attacks will have a greater potential of identifying and dealing with the psychosis that accompanies these aggressors. The findings show that a significant of the respondents agreed that increasing knowledge of community members living in Lamu West

Sub County plays a critical role in preventing cases of terrorist attacks because they act as early warning system for security. However, the effectiveness of this approach was questioned especially after September 11, 2001, attack on twin towers of the World Trade Center in United States (US) where most people viewed the approach as redundant in what appeared to be an international, foreign, and highly terrorist threat that needed big, bold, and intentional response (Briggs, 2010). Most certainly such assertion agrees with the results from this study (16.3%) who don't think this approach of enhancing knowledge of community members would help prevent terrorist attacks.

Results also show respondents reported in a mean of 4.21 (SD=3.84) that recruiting, and training of more police officers has increased counterterrorism strategy. Based on this view, we might point out that given the task's dynamic, experience-based, and information-

intensive character, contingency theory would recommend a flatter, more flexible organization with knowledge sharing as a primary contingency element. The linkages between organizational design and knowledge sharing, however, are poorly understood.

Statement	MW	SD
Increased level of knowledge among residents of Lamu West Sub County enhanced counterterrorism	4.02	3.69
We have taken initiative to learn about how to counter terrorism	3.88	3.13
Increased availability of information on raising alert has enhanced counterterrorism in this area	2.28	2.06
I believed recruitment and training of more police/security leads to increased counterterrorism	4.21	3.84
Mean of weighted means	3.10	3.17

Security Agencies Response and Counterterrorism Strategies

The findings show that terrorism threats have impacted several sectors and security agencies are required to respond to minimize its impact. In this case, findings show that permanently assigning security officers to a fixed location within the community is effectively rated as one of the strategies that helps in countering terrorism. It is suggested that social identity salience and social power may be harnessed to reduce terrorist activity by reducing perceptions of threat from the view of terrorist organizations, by reducing perceived threat of terrorist activity from the view of potential targets, and by addressing distributions of and susceptibility to social power as it relates to acceptability of parochial altruism.

The findings further show that respondents reported in a mean of 4.35 (SD=3.98) that permanently assigning security officers to fixed location in the community has effectively helped respond to terrorism cases. The study identifies several areas including cooperation in shared intelligence and police-civilian engagement as effective measures which worked or helped in countering terrorist in the area. Applied to the conduct of operations, it could be said that with intelligence, counter-terrorism operations would not be ad hoc and reactionary but planned, targeted, and preemptive. The adoption of advanced technology for counter terrorists and their sponsors, movements, sources of finance, equipment, and other logistics becomes very important.

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Summary. Concussions and recommendations

The study examined the contribution of counterterrorism strategies to Kenya's national security with special emphasis on Lamu County. Several results emerged and first, the reduction of terrorist attacks in the region is associated with an increase in the overall likelihood of collaboration among stakeholders. The results demonstrate that the strong strategic partnership existing in the area contributed to the prevention of further terrorism. In fact, the stakeholder relied mainly on increased detection and hardening which acted as an

early warning system providing real time information to security agencies to intervene. The results also show that terrorist attacks have dramatically increased security concerns especially in Lamu West Sub County which borders Somalia, a phenomenon which has further problematized security policy in many of its dimensions.

The results also show that one effective approach that has worked well in the area has been multi-security operations conducted randomly in Lamu West Sub County. Some stakeholders have conducted a series of deliberate, sustained campaigns to convince the public

that terrorism is a pervasive threat to national security, hence, they have attacked implementation of extraordinary measures including random search of premises or areas deemed hideouts of potential terrorists individuals or groups. Based on the findings, there is need to strengthen stakeholder engagement including the famous community policing of 'Nyumba Kumi' as this helps seek support from the community and other related stakeholders. These multi-stakeholder practices have the advantage of broadly effecting health including social workers who play a central role in supporting affected families and communities, mental health workers, psychologists who try to understand terrorism and try to explain the cause of violent behavior. Further research can be conducted to investigate perception of members of public on security agencies and how this affects their relationship in the fight against terrorism in Kenya.

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