

**Title: Voices of Moderation**

RELEASE IN FULL

**Location: Lebanon****Budget: \$202,000****Activity: New****Subaccount: Economic Support Funds**

**Activity Description:** This project will provide a countermeasure to ISIL and other violent extremists' ongoing public relations and social media outreach efforts aimed at Lebanon's Sunni community, and minimize recruitment campaigns. To ensure that the program reaches the Sunni Muslim communities in Lebanon that are most prone to recruitment and that it promotes a comprehensive moderate message, it will be managed by an international information and communications technology NGO and involve a three-part strategy with Lebanese Sunni religious leaders in an advisory role and two local media-oriented CSOs.

The NGO will develop a team that tracks violent extremist materials online, and establishes strategic responses that focus on positive redirection to be broadcast through Lebanese social media. The project will also work to identify local mosques in areas most prone to recruiting to be included in the program. One contact in each area, generally from the mosque's cultural and community organization office, will be identified to receive training in advocacy and local outreach skills to deliver non-religious CVE content, and effective methods to counter violent extremism. It is projected that over 100 mosques will be reached by this part of the project.

**Estimated Time Frame: November 2015 – May 2017**