



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2018





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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

2018 was a year of unprecedented growth for ALPS Resilience. ALPS began in 2015 by working with the Somali diaspora community in South Africa’s Western Cape, providing free English and computer classes to refugees and asylum seekers while strengthening the capacity of our community-based partner. Today, our organisation supports a comprehensive resilience programme with offices in South Africa and Somalia. Projects in forced migration and violence prevention are currently underway in Mozambique, South Africa, and Tanzania.

This annual report celebrates our many successes this past year, most notably:

- Adding three new members to our ALPS team and moving to new offices to accommodate our growing organisation.
- Expanding our reach within the region by initiating projects in Mozambique and Tanzania, and opening an office in Somalia.
- Assisting over 6000 beneficiaries in the Western Cape and Gauteng through our Building Resilient Refugee Communities project.
- Bringing over 180 representatives from civil society, government, law enforcement, and academia together through our Preventing Violent Extremism Workshop Series.

All this would not be possible without the support of our donors and partner organisations. Their interest in our work, support, and guidance is invaluable. I would like to extend a most sincere thank you for their support over the last year.





I would also like to thank our staff for a year of strategic vision, excellent project management, hard work and true compassion for our beneficiaries. Without your commitment to ALPS, the achievements over the past year would not have been possible. In 2019, we look forward to continued growth as we bring on more partners, staff and projects. We strive to remain at the forefront of assessing trends related to migration and violent extremism on the continent, particularly in Southern Africa, and to respond with innovative programmatic solutions that promote peace and development.

Best wishes,

Dave Bax  
Executive Director

# ABOUT ALPS

ALPS Resilience is a community-based non-profit organisation committed to building resilient, vibrant, and self-sustaining communities in fragile, post-conflict and at-risk environments through:

-  **Strengthening partnerships.** In order to empower communities and facilitate resilience building, ALPS partners with community-based and local partners.
-  **Building an evidence base.** ALPS supports knowledge generation and management for evidence-based programming.
-  **Developing local capacity.** In order to ensure sustainability of our interventions, ALPS develops the organisational capacity of our community-based partners.
-  **Engaging with key stakeholders.** Throughout the project cycle, we continuously engage with key stakeholders to ensure that project goals align with community needs.

We partner with community-based organisations to design and implement context-specific interventions that focus on the thematic areas of building refugee resilience, preventing xenophobic violence, preventing hate crimes, and preventing violent extremism.

## ABOUT OUR APPROACH

ALPS was founded in 2015 in response to the gap in the services provided for migrant and refugee communities in the Western Cape of South Africa. We began by supporting the community-based organisations, often refugee-led, who step in when government fails to provide essential housing, health, legal, and educational services to refugees and migrants.

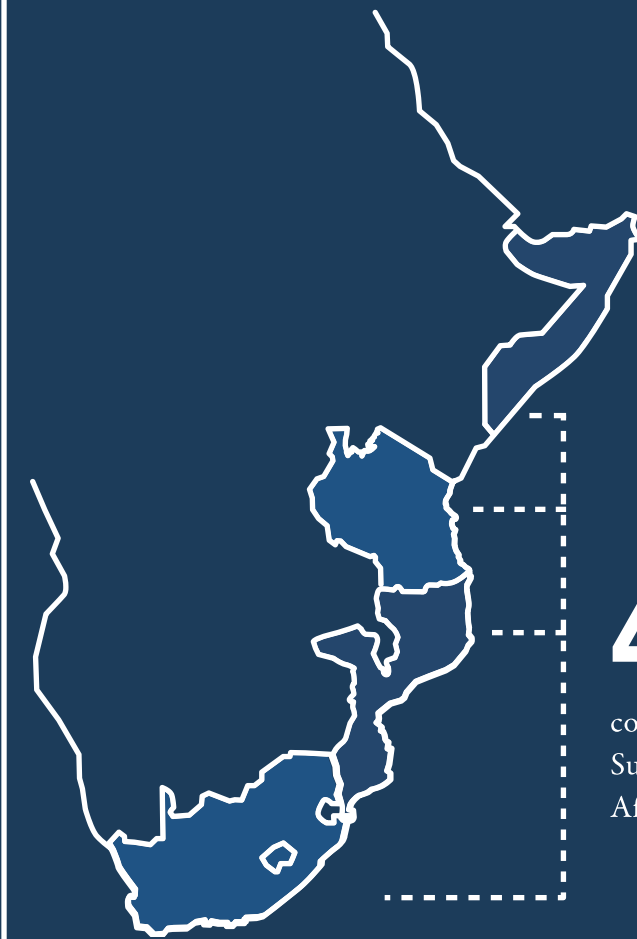
Our role has evolved to focus on violence prevention through building the resilience and adaptive capacity of these communities. Rather than aiming to combat or manage violence, which can often lead to security responses, ALPS takes a community resilience approach to violence prevention. A community resilience approach means (a) we view groups and

communities as at-risk or vulnerable (rather than a security threat); (b) we take a whole-of-society approach to violence prevention; and (c) we hold that resilience is built from the bottom up.

We identify communities that are ‘at-risk’ or vulnerable to violence and we partner with local organisations within those communities to design and implement custom interventions that address these vulnerabilities.

We uniquely combine community-level interventions with action-oriented research and best practise. Our research feeds into programme design and implementation. This means that we compose, learn from, and adapt programmes on a strong evidence-base.

## OUR IMPACT 2018



4000+

participants attended resilience-building activities in fragile or at-risk communities

4

countries across Sub-Saharan Africa



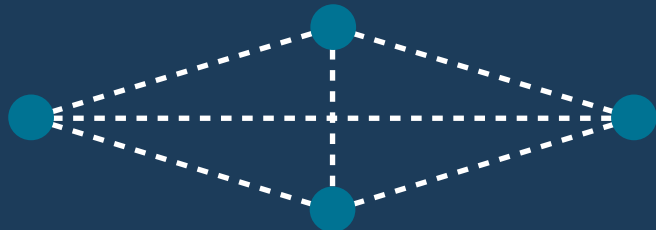
3

surveys monitoring levels of community resilience in South Africa, Mozambique, and Tanzania



5

programmes focused on building community resilience and preventing violence



4

multi-sectoral workshops for knowledge sharing and networking

# ALPS IN ACTION

2018 was an exciting year of growth for ALPS. After securing four new projects, ALPS expanded its staff and moved to an office space that could accommodate our continued growth as an organisation.

As our organisation expanded, so did the geographic scope of our work. With projects currently operating in Mozambique, Somalia, South Africa, and Tanzania, ALPS has quickly become an organisation with regional impact.

**1 Building Resilient Refugee Communities (BRRC)**  
United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM)  
2016 – 2021

The BRRC project aims to strengthen the capacity of the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA), a refugee-led community-based organisation, to provide key services and protection to refugees and asylum seekers living in the Western Cape and Gauteng.

**2 People to People Dialogues (P2P)**  
USAID  
2018 – 2019

The P2P project aims to combat xenophobia in South Africa by fostering social cohesion and healthy relationships between foreign nationals and locals. ALPS will host a series of dialogues across five provinces to promote mutual understanding, shared identities, trust, and empathy.

**3 Emergency Assistance to Zwelihle, Hermanus**  
US Department of State  
2018 – 2019

In response to the destruction, looting, and displacement caused by protests in Zwelihle in 2018, ALPS was awarded a grant by the US Department of State (DOS) to provide integration assistance as well as material aid to help foreign nationals return to and rebuild their shops and homes.

**4 Surveying Resilience and Mapping At-Risk Communities**  
Australian Direct Aid Programme  
2018 - 2019

In the first half of 2018, ALPS designed and implemented a pilot survey assessing levels of resilience to violent extremism in Cape Town, South Africa. After taking stock of lessons learned, ALPS began implementation of the survey in Pwani, Tanzania and Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, two regions highly vulnerable to violent extremism.

**5 Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) Workshop Series**  
British High Commission, Swedish Embassy, American Embassy  
2017-2018

Through its annual PVE workshop series, ALPS plays a key role in driving conversations on preventing violent extremism in Southern Africa. The series involves collaborative presentations and discussion on topics related to preventing and protecting individuals against acts of violent extremism.

# BUILDING RESILIENT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES (BRRC)

United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM)  
2016 – 2021  
Western Cape and Gauteng provinces

Since 2016, ALPS Resilience has worked in partnership with the Somali Association of South Africa (SASA) to promote integration and increase self-reliance amongst Somali refugees and asylum seekers living in the Western Cape. Over the past three years, with support from the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), ALPS has successfully applied a community-based approach to deliver classes, referrals, and workshops to over 6000 beneficiaries a year.

## THE CHALLENGE

Across the globe, it is estimated that 60% of refugees and asylum seekers now live in cities instead of camps. In South Africa, the vast majority of refugees and asylum seekers live in the major metropolitan areas of Cape Town (Western Cape), Johannesburg and Pretoria (Gauteng), and Durban (KwaZulu-Natal). While

cities allow refugees and asylum seekers to find work and rebuild their lives, rapid urbanisation makes it difficult to ensure protection and access to services for this vulnerable population.

In South Africa, we do not have a clear, holistic integration policy for refugees and asylum seekers. This lack of clear policy means that host communities are not adequately prepared for the influx of migrants, often leading to discrimination

and hostility. Moreover, without assistance and support from government, migrants from all backgrounds find it difficult to learn English, settle into a home, find work and access the basic rights afforded to them in the Constitution.

## OUR RESPONSE

Realising the potential of SASA's reach and impact within the Somali community of the Western Cape, ALPS formed a partnership with the organisation. SASA provides the critical on-the-ground knowledge, experience, and networks necessary to effectively identify and respond to community needs, while ALPS provides the essential resource mobilisation, project management and technical skills for getting a project funded and off the ground.

2018 was an exciting year for the BRRC project. During the second half of the year, ALPS supported the opening of a SASA office in Pretoria West, hired and equipped new staff members, and

expanded all resilience-building activities to serve refugee and migrant communities in Gauteng.

ALPS continues to work with the SASA Pretoria and Cape Town teams to build SASA's organisational capacity and expand the reach of our services to vulnerable communities.

Together, we prioritise the strengthening of existing protection mechanisms and education initiatives, providing the following services for Somali communities in the Western Cape and Gauteng:

- English language classes;
- Computer courses;
- Women's workshops;
- Self-reliance workshops;
- Community dialogues;
- Youth soccer events;
- Youth afterschool programmes;
- Assistance to victims of xenophobic violence;
- Community advocacy; and
- Referrals to services provided by the government and other NGOs.



The BRRC soccer programme provides South African and Somali youth with a healthy afterschool activity and promotes social cohesion.



## BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES • 2018 SNAPSHOT

# 6244

beneficiaries received services from the BRRC project across

# 2

provinces

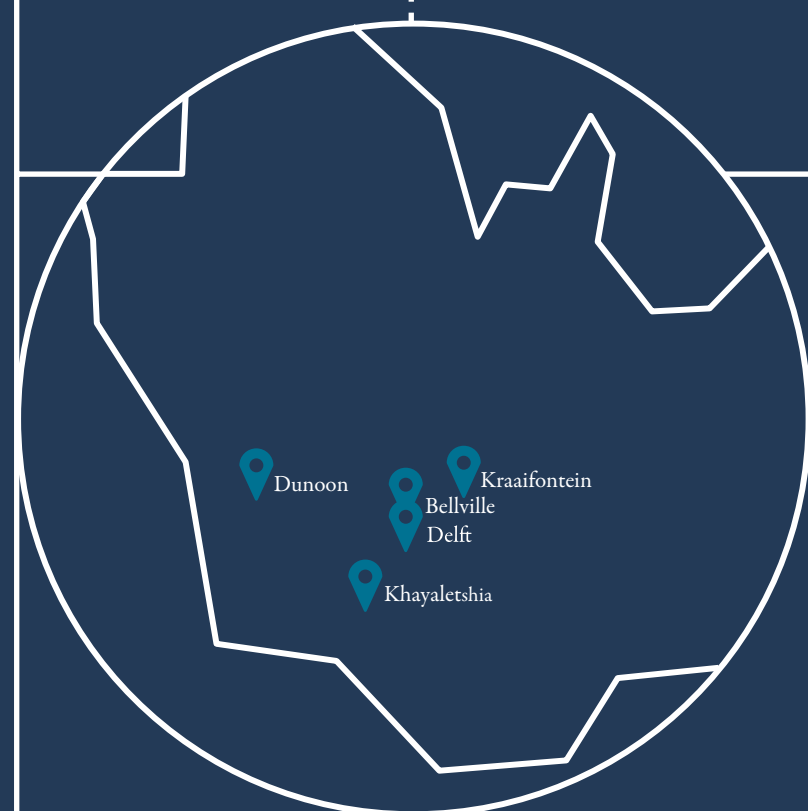


# 1

new office was opened in Pretoria

# 8

new staff members



# 9

community dialogues

# 188

participants

# 5

sites to improve intercultural understanding, interpersonal communication and conflict resolution

# 227

beneficiaries attended English language classes



# 77%

of beneficiaries reported an improvement in their ability to speak, read, and write in English

# 102

beneficiaries attended computer skills classes



# 99%

of beneficiaries reported an improvement in their computer skills

# 311

participants attended self-reliance workshops



# 84%

of beneficiaries reported an improvement in their knowledge of their rights in South Africa

# ♀ 171

women attended women's workshops

# 5195

beneficiaries accessed SASA's referral system, which promotes use of existing services offered by the government and other NGOs

# 70

soccer practices were held, bringing together refugee, migrant, and South African teens



# 10

victims of xenophobic violence have been given cash grants to help rebuild their lives



# PEOPLE TO PEOPLE DIALOGUES (P2P)

USAID  
2018 – 2019  
Western Cape, Gauteng, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, and North West Provinces

The People to People Dialogues (P2P) project is a 15-month project funded by USAID that aims to foster social cohesion in South African communities by improving relationships between foreign nationals and locals. ALPS, in partnership with local facilitators and community organisations, will host a series of dialogues across the Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, and North West provinces. These dialogues will provide a platform to promote mutual understanding, shared identities, trust, empathy and resilient social ties.

## THE CHALLENGE

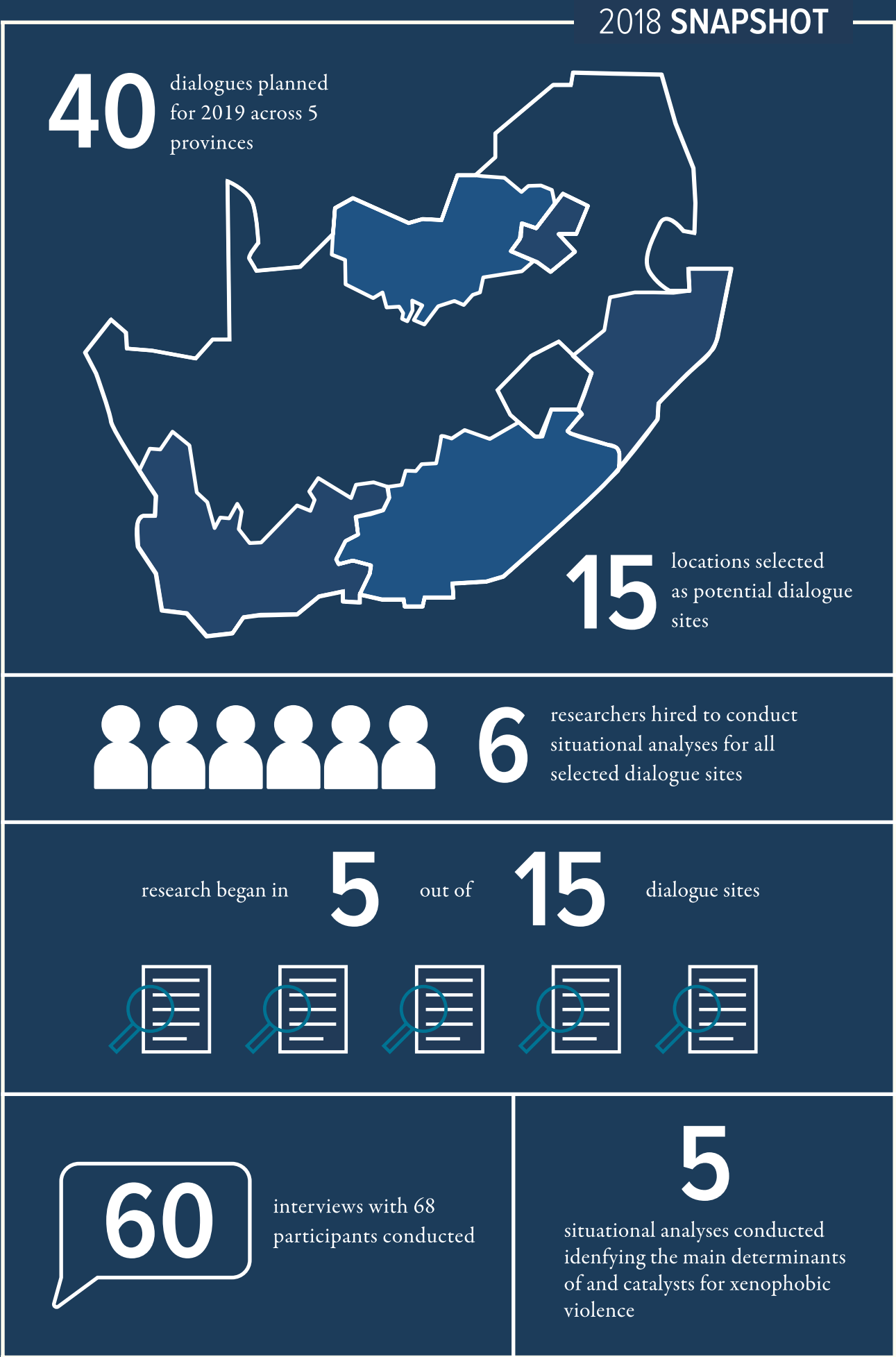
Xenophobic violence in South Africa made international headlines in 2008, when anti-immigrant attacks left at least 62 people dead, 670 wounded and more than 150,000 displaced. Since 2008, xenophobia remains endemic in South Africa, periodically erupting into violent xenophobic attacks that predominantly occur in townships and informal settlements.

The drivers of xenophobic violence are multiple and embedded within complex socio-political-economic dynamics. Attackers often claim that foreigners are stealing jobs from South Africans or conducting activities that make their communities less safe, such as dealing drugs or facilitating prostitution. Often, foreign nationals are a scapegoat for challenges in South Africa: since the country’s democratization in 1994, transformation has been slow and painful, with at least one fifth of South Africans still living in poverty.

## OUR RESPONSE

In 2017 and 2018, during a period of xenophobic violence against Somalis in the Western Cape, ALPS conducted outreach activities in the Cape Town townships where violence was occurring. During this community outreach, ALPS identified a need for greater intercultural and intergenerational dialogue between locals and foreign nationals to identify the underlying causes of xenophobia, the catalysts for violence, and avenues for enhancing social cohesion and community resilience.

With the support of USAID, ALPS was able to design a project that would address this need not only in the Western Cape, but also in four additional provinces. In the second of half of 2018, ALPS, along with its research partner, the Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI) from the University of Cape Town (UCT), began the research phase of the project, identifying the drivers of xenophobia, levels of existing community resilience, and key actors within the each of the locations. The resulting situational analyses will provide the evidence base necessary to design and implement effective, context-specific community dialogues in 2019.







Social unrest in Zwelihle in 2018 resulted in the looting of Somali-, Ethiopian-, and South African-owned shops and displacement of shop owners and their families.

# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ZWELIHLE, HERMANUS

US Department of State  
2018 – 2019  
Hermanus, Western Cape

In September 2018, the US Department of State (US DOS) provided ALPS with funding for emergency humanitarian assistance in Zwelihle, Hermanus after protests resulted in largescale looting and displacement of foreign nationals. Zwelihle had already been selected by ALPS as a priority site for the USAID-funded People to People Dialogues project, which made ALPS an ideal candidate to provide support and assistance to the migrant and refugee community in Zwelihle. The combined funding from USAID and US DOS will strengthen ALPS’ intervention in Zwelihle, allowing for a two-pronged approach of social cohesion programming and humanitarian assistance.

## THE CHALLENGE

Hermanus, Western Cape is one of the most segregated places in South Africa. Internal and regional migration to Hermanus has doubled in the last 10 years, rapidly altering the town’s demographics and increasing competition for land.

In March 2018, protests erupted in response to a property development dispute. Despite efforts from the Western Cape South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) to address the conflict, unrest in Zwelihle continued into July 2018 and flared again in December 2018, resulting in serious consequences for residents, especially for non-nationals. Somali- and Ethiopian and some South African-owned shops were looted during the protests and migrant families and shop-owners were temporarily displaced, fearing for their safety.

## OUR RESPONSE

In September 2018, the US Department of State was able to rapidly release funding to ALPS as

an emergency response to the ongoing situation in Zwelihle. ALPS, in parallel with the research phase of the People to People Dialogues project, conducted a conflict analysis and baseline assessment of the tensions in Zwelihle. ALPS also initiated the early stages of identifying vulnerable individuals, households, and businesses that would be eligible for material aid.

In 2019, ALPS will oversee the determination and ranking of eligible individuals and households for assistance and will disperse aid to those who meet the pre-determined criteria.

Material aid is not enough to address the underlying tensions that erupted in 2018. Integration and understanding is needed within the community. The People to People Dialogues will remain an essential part of the ongoing process to build social cohesion and will run concurrently to the emergency humanitarian assistance project. This marks the first time that both material aid and social cohesion dialogues will be co-implemented following a xenophobic attack in South Africa.

# SURVEYING RESILIENCE AND MAPPING AT-RISK COMMUNITIES

Australian Direct Aid Programme

2018 - 2019

South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania

In the first half of 2018, ALPS Resilience designed and implemented a pilot survey assessing resilience to violent extremism among youth in Cape Town, South Africa. In 2018, ALPS began to roll out the survey in two vulnerable regions of Southern Africa: Pwani, Tanzania and Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. Community entry and partner relationship-building activities took place in the second half of 2018 and fieldwork is underway in both countries at the beginning of 2019.

## THE CHALLENGE

Recent extremist-motivated attacks in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique and Pwani, Tanzania have created an environment of fear and uncertainty in communities. There is a growing concern that these violent incidents could hinder development efforts in the region. While the specific motivations of these attacks are unknown, it has been determined that the attacks have been carried out by young men who are believed to be part of a group known both as al Shabaab and al Sunnah.

Communities in Cabo Delgado and Pwani are known to be highly vulnerable to radicalisation, recruitment and victimisation due to their geographic isolation and level of economic and educational inequality. Until these underlying factors are addressed, Cabo Delgado and Pwani will continue to be vulnerable to extremism.

## OUR RESPONSE

As part of its mission to strengthen community resilience against violent extremism, ALPS has

partnered with local organisations in both Tanzania and Mozambique to conduct an assessment of the levels of community resilience in Chiure, Mecufi, Montepuez and Pemba Districts of Cabo Delgado, Mozambique and Kibaha District of Pwani, Tanzania.

In mid-2018, ALPS Resilience began to build relationships with partners and established on-the-ground networks in both countries in order to facilitate the successful and safe implementation of the risk assessment. Survey questions from the Cape Town pilot were adapted to Tanzanian and Mozambican contexts and two survey teams were recruited and trained to roll out the survey in 2019.

The ultimate goal of the assessment is to help national government, national research institutes and local civil society organisations better understand what makes communities resilient to violence and, therefore, develop effective and meaningful policies and programmes to address gaps or vulnerabilities in community resilience.



During the community entry process, survey teams in Pwani District, Tanzania explained the survey objectives and process to community members.



## MAPPING AT-RISK COMMUNITIES • 2018 SNAPSHOT

# 310

people surveyed regarding existing levels of resilience to violent extremism present in “at-risk” Cape Town communities

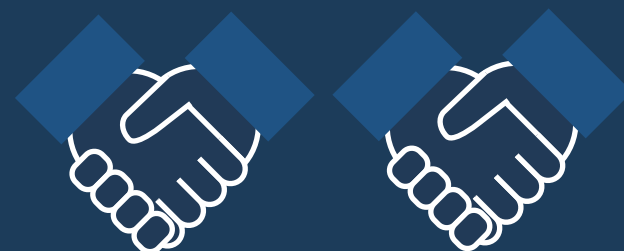


# 43

questions adapted for the survey questionnaire in Mozambique and Tanzania

# 2

key partners selected in Mozambique and Tanzania



# 1

district in Pwani, Tanzania selected for survey implementation



# 315

anticipated survey participants in Kibaha District, Tanzania

# 4

districts in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique selected for survey implementation



# 480

anticipated survey participants in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique

# PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM WORKSHOP SERIES

British High Commission, Australian High Commission  
2017-2018  
South Africa

In 2018, ALPS played a key role in driving conversations on violent extremism in South Africa and the region by continuing its PVE workshop series with support from the British and Australian High Commissions. The objective of the annual workshop series is to provide a platform for sustained engagement, learning, dialogue and problem-solving on fostering resilience to violent extremism, in all forms, in South Africa. The series was attended by a total of 180 participants representing civil society, national government, law enforcement, and academia.

## THE CHALLENGE

Today, it is impossible to discuss international peace and security without considering extremist groups and the threats they pose. Experts agree that South Africa is not immune to an attack; however, few organisations are focusing on how global extremism is affecting domestic security. Citing its non-interventionist foreign policy, the government and other key stakeholders have been cautious about developing a robust response. Regional security issues and domestic challenges, including massive inequality, low social cohesion and corruption, are well researched but not understood as potential drivers or indicators of extremism.

## OUR RESPONSE

In response to this gap in knowledge and activity around violent extremism in the South African context, ALPS began its “Preventing Violent Extremism” workshop series in 2017. The 2017 series focused largely on building a network of

committed individuals, defining terms, and laying out a needs-based plan for future activities.

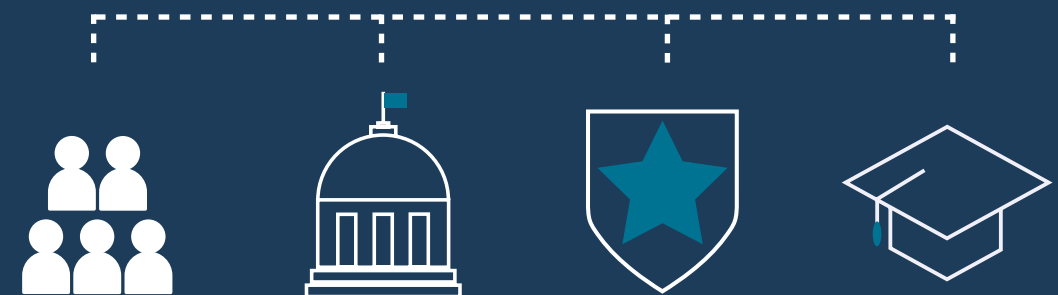
In 2018, ALPS built on this foundation with a continuation of the workshop series. Our workshops this year focused on law enforcement’s role in PVE and methods of measuring community resilience to violent extremism. Our aim was to improve participants’ understanding of extremist threats and domestic vulnerabilities through keynote speaker presentations, breakaway group discussions, and scenario planning exercises.

The workshops allowed ALPS to expand its network of subject-matter experts and solidify working relationships with government and key research institutions. Sustained engagement between key stakeholders is critical at this juncture, where we can prevent violent extremism instead of countering it. ALPS Resilience is eager to continue its extremism and resilience workshop series in 2019.

**3** workshops were held over the span of a year



**180** participants from:



civil society    national government    law enforcement    academia



**14** local and international keynote speakers presented experiences and research on the topic of preventing violence



**1** PVE network of sector experts was broadened and strengthened

Keynote speakers from the United States and South Africa shared their perspectives on preventing and combating religious intolerance, xenophobia, and hate crimes.



# PROTECTING INDIVIDUALS IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

U.S. Consulate General Cape Town; U.S. State Department Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)

September 2018

Cape Town, South Africa

In September 2018, the U.S. Consular General of Cape Town and ALPS Resilience co-hosted a workshop on religious freedom, religious intolerance, xenophobia, and social cohesion. The workshop was sponsored by the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL). Participants included a U.S. delegation from the Departments of State, Justice, and Homeland Security. South African government officials were also in attendance, including Hon John Jeffery, MP, Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development.

## THE CHALLENGE

Discrimination takes multiple forms in South Africa, including against migrant, LGBTIQ, religious, and racial groups. South African authoritative bodies set up to enforce protective laws against discrimination and hate crimes are either non-existent or under-resourced. According to the Hate Crimes Working Group, crimes against religious minorities, migrants and refugees have not been taken seriously enough by authorities. Moreover, the paucity of data and analysis regarding hate crimes and discrimination in South Africa makes it difficult to develop effective responses to prevent, predict, and protect against them.

Coalition-building within South African civil society has assisted the government to develop responses to hate crimes through the Hate Crimes Bill; however, there are delays in its passage. Without a clear policy from Government, non-governmental organisations and civil society must step up their involvement in shaping the

response to hate crimes, xenophobia, and religious intolerance in South Africa.

## OUR RESPONSE

In August 2018, the U.S. Consular General approached ALPS to host a workshop that would bring together American and South African representatives to share different perspectives, experiences, and approaches to combatting religious intolerance, xenophobia, and hate crimes. The organisations at the workshop provided a large and varied knowledge base about discrimination in all its forms.

During the workshop, it became clear that the histories of both South Africa and the U.S. offer valuable lessons for tackling hate crimes and religious discrimination. At the end of the workshop, attendees discussed future steps to prevent hate crimes in South Africa and identified lessons learned from both countries.



# LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019

2019 is shaping up to be a very busy year for ALPS. Our organisation continues to grow in size as we welcomed six new staff members to the ALPS team at the beginning of 2019.

2019 also welcomes a new look for ALPS. We have transformed our look and feel as an organisation to be more reflective of our vision for the future. Our new logo is representative of our networks, partnerships, and projects working together for a common goal. They are the building blocks of resilient, vibrant, and self-sustaining communities.

We took our rebranding exercise as an opportunity to redefine who we are, what we believe, what we do, and how we think and operate as an organisation. Our revised vision and mission are now more representative of our mission and direction as an organisation. Our new brand identity unifies this new direction under one clear voice.

Given the increase in displacement and migration of people globally, the demand for ALPS' services in refugee and host communities will continue to grow in 2019. ALPS has accumulated experience and knowledge in designing custom interventions that work toward building refugee resilience, preventing xenophobic violence, preventing hate crimes, and preventing violent extremism. This knowledge base serves as a useful stepping stone for donors who are seeking to engage in new programmes or expanding existing programmes to refugee settings.

As ALPS continues on its current path of growth, we look forward to the following milestones in 2019:

- Our USAID-funded People to People Dialogues project will host 40 dialogues in 5 provinces, providing a platform for foreign nationals and South Africans to build mutual understanding, shared identities, trust, empathy and resilient social ties.
- We will continue to expand capacity in the SASA Pretoria office, serving new communities of Somali migrants and refugees under the Building Resilient Refugee Communities project.
- Surveys currently underway in Mozambique and Tanzania will give rise to an evidence base that can be used to develop actionable recommendations for national government to respond to the growing threat of violent extremism in Mozambique and Tanzania.
- Through our annual Preventing Violent Extremism workshop series, we hope to formalise our the PVE network in Southern Africa and agree upon an action plan for 2019 and beyond.

ALPS aims to continuously adapt its strategic approach to reflect changes in refugee and conflict landscape on the continent, responding to both emerging and prevailing needs. We hope to expand our partnerships on the continent in order to continue to prevent and promote resilience in African communities. We hope that 2019 will bring new partnerships that will strengthen our capacity to deliver on our mission.

