Development of an Intervention and Prevention Response to Radicalisation Leading to Violence within the Probation System in France

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INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME
ICPC

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME (ICPC)

History

The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) was **founded in 1994** by the governments of **Canada, France,** and **Quebec**

Expertise

Only global non-governmental organization (NGO) focused exclusively on **crime prevention** and **community safety**

Mission

Promote safer societies through the application of strategic and evidence-led programs and initiatives which aim to reduce and prevent crime and violence.

Support and uphold international norms and standards, including the United Nations Guiding Principles on the prevention of crime and violence

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME (ICPC)

ICPC carries out its mandate through the following:

- Collection of **global knowledge** on crime prevention developments and effective strategies and practices
- Development of **tools** and **compendium of promising practices**
- **Comparative analysis** of specific issues
- Organization of international **seminars** and **colloquiums**
- **Technical assistance**

CRIME PREVENTION
STRATEGIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
EVOLVING PRACTICES AND POLICIES

XII ICPC Colloquium
November 6/8, 2017
MONTREAL, CANADA

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME (ICPC)

Overview of ICPC's **recent or current projects** on the prevention of radicalization:

- **Systematic Review on the prevention of radicalization (2015)**
- **International study on the challenges faced by frontline practitioners (2017)**
- **Preventing radicalization with French and Quebec associations through Capacity Building (ongoing)**
- **Developing an intervention and prevention response to violent radicalization: an action-research within the probation system in France (ongoing)**

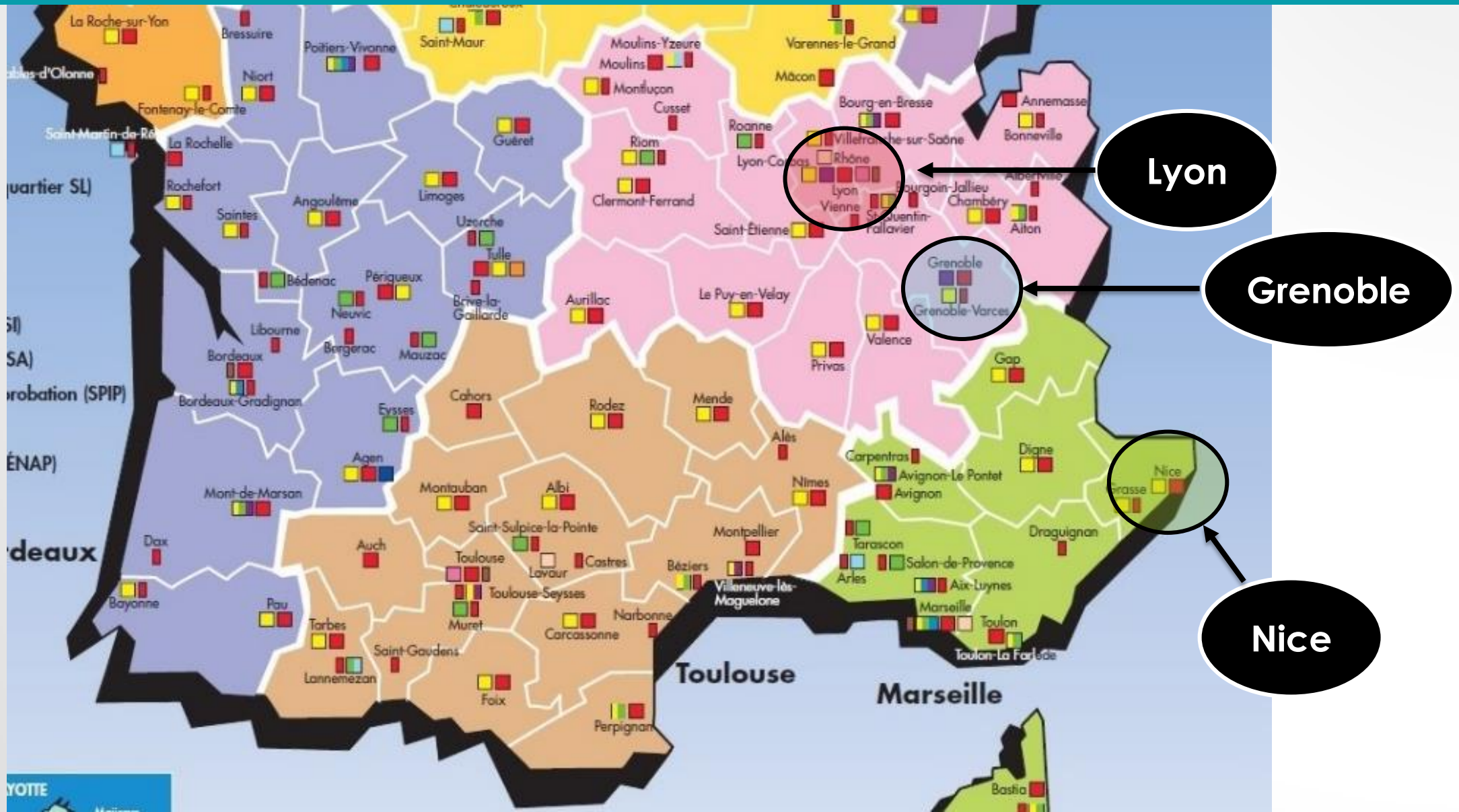
Intervention and prevention response to violent radicalization within the probation system in France

OBJECTIVE

- The objective of this **18-month project** is to supervise the implementation of an intervention response for individuals who have been radicalized or are in the process of radicalization within the **Penitentiary Services for Integration and Probation (SPIP)** in the probation system.

- This **"intervention response"** is understood as a set of actions and initiatives implemented at the institutional level to counter violent radicalization, namely:
  - **Identification** of people who have been radicalized or are in the process of radicalization
  - **Reporting procedure** both internally and with relevant institutions and,
  - **Follow-up** with the radicalized individuals once they are identified.

PILOT SITES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Foix
Perpignan
Bastia

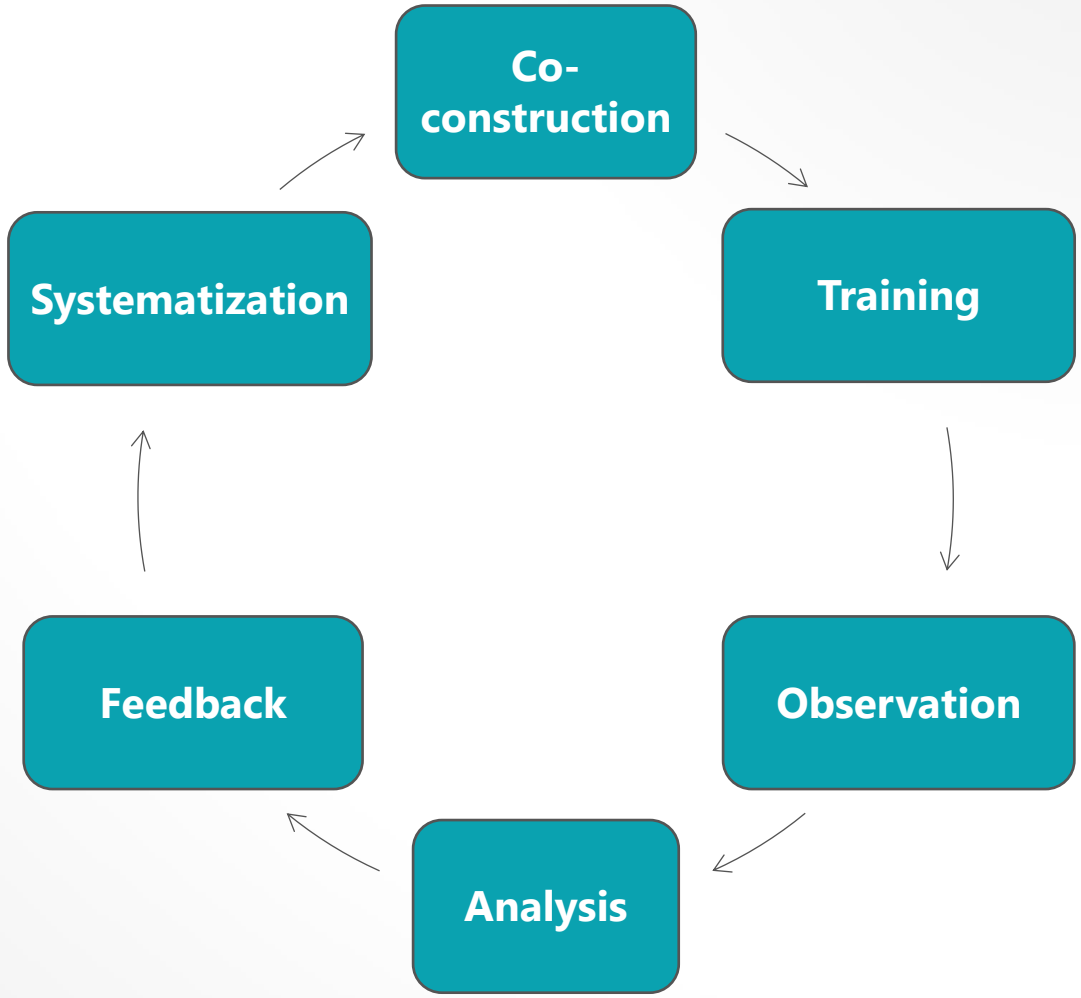
APPROACH

Action-research model

A progressive & reflective problem solving process

Action research involves:

- **Actively participating** in a change situation whilst **simultaneously conducting research**
- The **co-construction of measures** with the actors involved
- The **continuous improvement** of these measures in order to achieve optimal quality



WORK STAGES

Audit	Training Workshop	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Final intervention response

a) **Identify all the mobilized actors** following up with radicalized individuals and map out their relationship with one another;

b) Identify **strengths, challenges, and needs of practitioners and executives** in relation to the follow up with individuals in the process of becoming, or already, radicalized;

c) Identify **institutional and informal intervention procedures** in relation to radicalisation (identification, reporting, and follow-up) already implemented in the probation system;

d) Identify **local and national resources** outside the SPIP that can contribute to the implementation of an intervention response

FINDINGS FROM THE AUDIT

1) There is currently a **lack** of **coordination** and of **centralization of information** when it comes to offenders who have been identified as radicals.

- Practitioners and executives feel that **information sharing is often unidirectional**
- Many **feel isolated** in their work

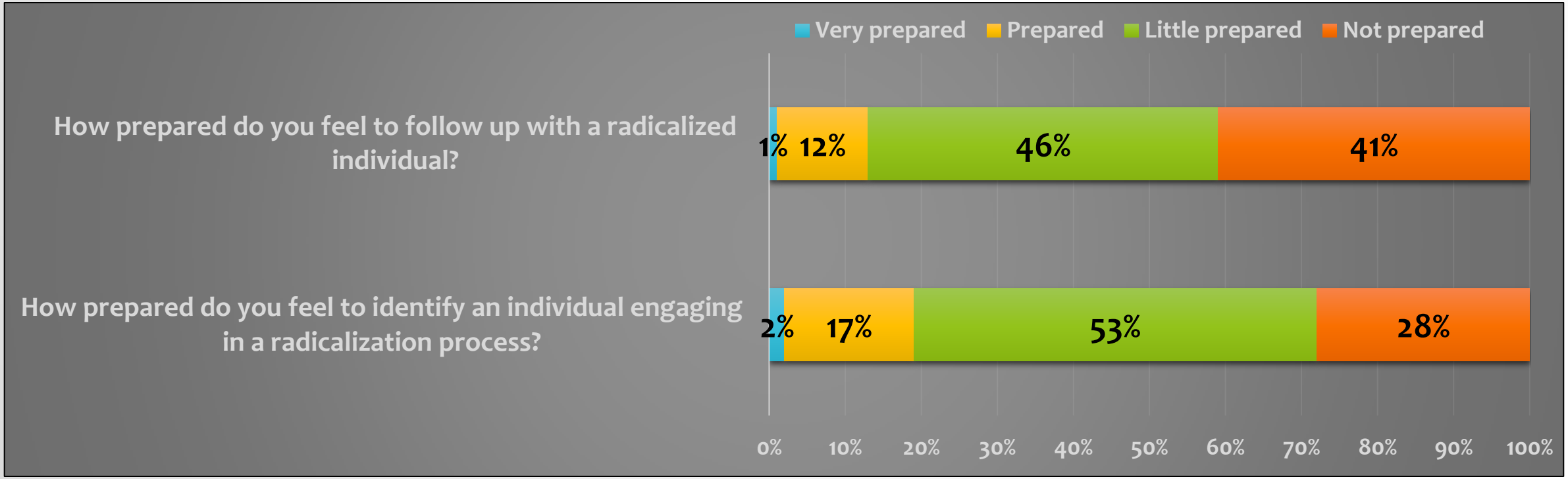
2) Practitioners are **reluctant to work on the issue** of radicalization

- It is a **recent** and rather **confusing topic** (what exactly is *radicalization*? How do we determine that someone is *radical*?)
- They feel **pressured by the constant media attention** on the topic, especially in the wake of the terror attacks in France
- They feel **pressured by the government** to achieve quick and successful results
- Importance afforded to the topic of radicalization ≠ The number of cases they actually have to handle
- **Overwhelmed by their actual workload**

FINDINGS FROM THE AUDIT

3) Practitioners feel unprepared or uncomfortable addressing certain issues

- Transparency about working on radicalization?
- Discussing religion or politics in their interventions



WORK STAGES

Audit	Training Workshop	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Final intervention response

Initial training workshop offered to all practitioners and executives working in the project's three pilot SPIP.

Topics of discussion in relation to radicalization were:

- Trends, factors contributing to a radicalization process, and explanatory models
- Inspiring international practices and recommendations for intervention and follow up

WORK STAGES

Audit

Training Workshop

Cycle 1

Cycle 2

Final intervention response

2 systems currently in development:

1) System to facilitate decision-making: an **identification and reporting procedure** adapted to the SPIP's reality

2) System to handle cases: **follow-up procedure for prevention and intervention**

SYSTEM 1: INSTITUTIONAL PROTOCOL FOR IDENTIFICATION AND REPORTING

The development of an identification and reporting procedure that is **adapted to the SPIP's reality** has entailed the creation of:

a) An interview guide for initial assessment

b) A reporting procedure

c) An internal evaluation committee

d) A procedural training

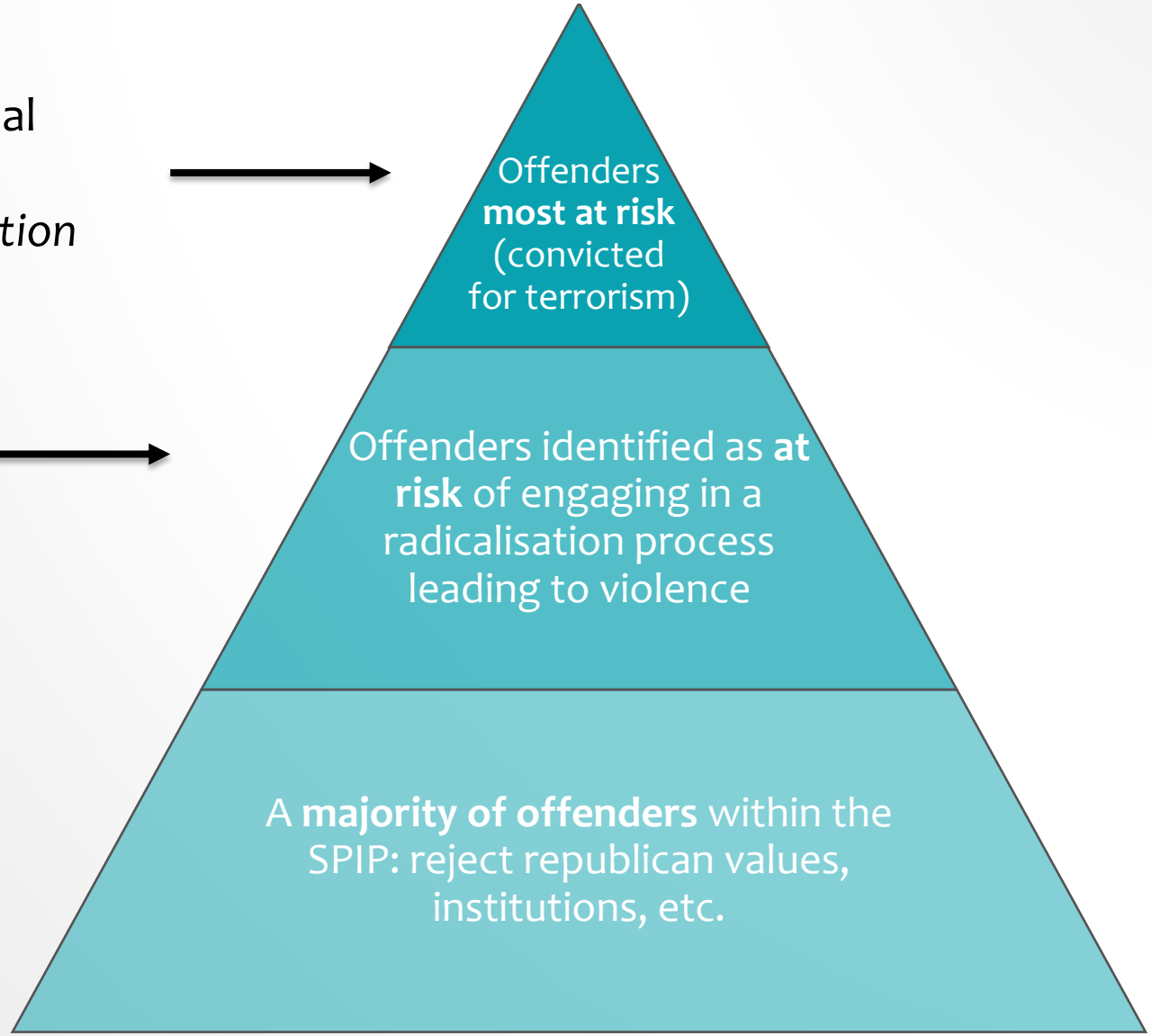
This way**, decision-making is structured and collective.**

SYSTEM 2: PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROCEDURE

LYON : individual intervention
Tertiary prevention

NICE : mid/long term collective action
Secondary prevention

GRENOBLE : collective action
Primary and secondary prevention



METHODOLOGY – THEORY OF CHANGE

THEORY OF CHANGE

A theory of change, when it is at the basis of an intervention model, **explains how** the contemplated **activities** are supposed to **produce the outcomes** that will contribute to the achievement of the final objective.

It explains the process of change by outlining causal linkages in an initiative, i.e., its **shorter-term, intermediate, and longer-term outcomes**.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE

Necessary condition in order to achieve the intermediate objective

→

INTERMEDIATE OBJECTIVE

Objective that enables to achievement of the final objective

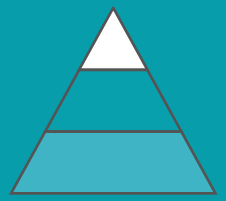
Necessary condition for change to occur

→

FINAL OBJECTIVE

Ultimate outcome of the intervention

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK – EXAMPLE OF LYON



Immediate objectives

- Develop the individual's conflict management skills
- Encourage non-violent communication
- Show that identity is not fixed
- Encourage the individual to reflect on how they feel
- Develop the individual's critical thinking skills when analyzing information
- Present to the individual an uncensored range of opinions
- Personalize the victims through restorative justice techniques
- (Re)build the individual's trust in common law services
- Encourage the individual to (re)create a personal network
- Help the individual leave extremist circles

Intermediate objectives

- Develop the individual's social skills
- Encourage the individual to question who they are and why they are that way
- Reconnect the individual to their emotions
- Deconstruct the individual's binary mode of thinking
- Rehumanize the 'other' in the eyes of the individual
- (Re)engage the individual in common law services
- Help the person disengage from violence

Final objective

Decrease the likelihood that individuals identified as violent radicals or convicted for/charged with terrorist acts commit an act of violence

EVALUATION MODEL

Target of Evaluation	Type of Evaluation	
	Process	***Impact***
Practitioners	Action-Research	Online questionnaire
Participants		Series of tests

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Address practitioners' fear and reluctance of intervening with radicalized individuals

2) Ensure that decision-making and follow ups are collective (avoid isolation)

3) Trust between practitioner and participant = Key success factor

   - Counter-discourse / Tackling ideology is not effective

   - Competence of practitioners = More important than content of their intervention

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL POUR LA PRÉVENTION DE LA CRIMINALITÉ

CENTRO INTERNACIONAL PARA LA PREVENCIÓN DE LA CRIMINALIDAD

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ありがとうございました！

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