

Statement as delivered by  
the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)  
at the Seventh Ministerial Plenary of  
the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF)  
21 September 2016

1. Thanks to GCTF, GCERF donors and partners, and acknowledgement of the complementary work of *Hedayah* and the IJJ.
2. GCERF is a multilateral funding mechanism established to support local initiatives to build community resilience against violent extremist agendas. It has three hallmarks: it is a funding mechanism, it supports grassroots activities, and its focus is prevention.
3. Since the last Coordinating Committee and Ministerial Plenary meetings, GCERF has signed its first round of grants in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria.
4. The initiatives supported have been identified from the bottom up, and broadly fall into three categories: raising awareness of violent extremism, mobilizing against violent extremism, and providing constructive alternatives to violent extremist agendas.
5. The initiatives will reach over 500,000 direct beneficiaries and a further 1 million indirectly, as well as over 50,000 change agents. The main focus for the activities are the youth.
6. Priorities over the next six months include: mobilizing resources to re-invest in Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria; launching grants in Kenya, Kosovo and Myanmar; developing a monitoring and evaluation framework; and engaging the private sector.
7. For more information please visit [www.gcerf.org](http://www.gcerf.org)