GCERF
Preventing Violent Extremism and Terrorism

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - INDONESIA

FROM POTENTIAL PRINCIPAL RECIPIENTS OF GCERF FUNDING IN INDONESIA

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

19 October 2026 11:59 PM (Indonesia Standard Time)

19 October 2026, 6:59 PM (Central European Time)

1. Background

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) was established in 2014 to support efforts to prevent violent extremism. GCERF is a global fund, hosted by Switzerland, that supports local, community-level initiatives that address the drivers of violent extremism and strengthen resilience against violent extremist agendas. Learn more at **https://www.gcerf.org**.

Indonesia became a GCERF partner country in 2023 at the request of the Government of Indonesia, with a focus on prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration, and social cohesion. Since 2025, GCERF has supported grants addressing the drivers of violent extremism in various contexts, with the following interventions and achievements to date:

2025–2027 (First Investment Cycle)

- Prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration of former terrorist offenders, strengthening social cohesion, and promoting critical thinking skills. Target beneficiaries include former detainees, returnees and their families; youth; and community members.
- Geographic focus: Greater Jakarta Area; Bogor Regency, West Java; Poso, Central Sulawesi; Bima City and Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.
- Investment: USD 2.2 M in three grants, supporting 11 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

Indonesia's violent extremism landscape has long been shaped by organised ideological actors, particularly networks linked to Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), Jemaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), and other extremist groups influenced by transnational jihadist ideologies.

At the same time there is increasing recognition of the need to better understand evolving patterns of vulnerability, particularly among young people. Publicly reported incidents involving adolescents, alongside concerns regarding exposure to harmful online content, suggest that digital environments may facilitate new pathways towards violence that differ from conventional extremist trajectories. These developments are consistent with broader international discussions on emerging forms of violent extremism, including those under the concept of Nihilistic Violent Extremism (NVE). According to Indonesian National Police Special Detachment 88, 70 children and adolescents (aged 11-18) across 19 provinces were identified as having been exposed to harmful online content associated with the True Crime Community (TCC).[1]

2. Call for EOI on Prevention of Composite Violent Extremism (CoVE)

The purpose of this Expression of Interest (EOI) is to enable applicants to demonstrate that they meet GCERF's eligibility requirements for funding and possess the technical, managerial and administrative capacity to effectively implement a project addressing the issues outlined below. Applications will be assessed against standardised evaluation criteria. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the assessment and, if shortlisted, will proceed to the next stage of the selection process. This will include working with GCERF to further develop the proposed project design, implementation approach, and budget.

WHAT:

GCERF's first round of investment in Indonesia (2025-2027) is enhancing with an addendum to its Strategy, focusing on detecting, preventing and countering Composite Violent Extremism (CoVE). Grounded in national frameworks such as the National Action Plan (NAP) on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, GCERF is now calling for proposals to implement the following objectives:

I. **Strengthen youth-focused resilience programmes and stakeholders' capacity to prevent and respond to online extremist subcultures, including referral systems** [2]
II. **As part of the referral systems, integrate psychosocial support into CoVE detection, prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts**
III. **Strengthen digital literacy and online safety initiatives, including Improve monitoring and research on emerging online sub-cultures**

Given the rare complexity of this emerging phenomenon, applicants must show a combination of expertise in the following fields: preventing/countering juvenile delinquency and/or child exploitation; child protection; online gaming (targeting minors (up to 18 years old)), understanding of emerging tech platforms; digital literacy and online safety; online education; relevant PVE programming experience.

Such a combination is unlikely to be provided by a single entity, so innovative or ad hoc partnerships will be an asset. Technical partnerships with non-Indonesian entities are also welcome.

The applicants must propose activities that include some of the following:

I. **Strengthen youth-focused resilience programmes and stakeholders' capacity to prevent and respond to online extremist subcultures, including referral systems** [3]

Firstly, **GCERF** programmes in Indonesia will **adapt youth-led PVE programmes to include CoVE**. An innovative aspect will be designing programmes with gamers and youth leaders. The participating CSOs will create specific digital critical thinking skills programmes for CoVE. Programming will ensure inclusion of the detection of manipulation, gore content and attacker glorification, pause-check-share, emotional regulation and safe bystander response, carried through credible messengers: youth, educators, community leaders and journalists.

Secondly, the activities will **advocate for and participate to enhancing earlier detection and youth safeguards through collaboration with online platforms and guardians' education. Online**, they will promote the use of behavioural indicators and online entry points, age-bucketed accounts, parental controls and AI age verification, youth-specific messaging and safer user protection. Complementary **offline activities** will increase awareness and training of Local community Stakeholders: Parents and guardians, teachers, community and political leaders, students, religious leaders.

A cornerstone of the programmes will be strengthening family resilience including training of rule of law and local authorities, educators, parents, social workers, school-based staff, guardians, and peers on digital resilience and family resilience. Parental communication and digital parenting will be core components of the training.

The programmes will aim to cover the whole of Indonesia, including capacities to deploy and advise local authorities and taskforces when incidents arise locally.

II. Integrate psychosocial support into CoVE detection, prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts as part of the referral systems

The programmes will build and **promote protective referral systems into detection, prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration existing systems**, coalescing relevant stakeholders whose actions against CoVE are currently sparse, and insufficiently coordinated, because of the emerging and complex nature of the phenomenon. This includes counterterrorism authorities, child protection authorities, the judiciary including juvenile delinquency specialists, psychosocial workers, civil society (among which parents-teachers associations and youth-led organisations), and actors of the gaming and online spaces, among others. CoVE is frequently perplexing for stakeholders in charge of the response, who wonder whether it falls within terrorism or child protection or delinquency, especially with victims who can also be perpetrators.

The programmes are expected to reinforce the capacity of regional social rehabilitation centres workers, under the leadership of the Handayani Rehabilitation Centre.

The programmes will align with the national Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (RAN-PE) 2026-2029, as well as with the relevant Regional Action plans (RAD-PE), and other applicable national policies and priorities.

Like many experts, GCERF believes that the most important is to liaise dispersed expertise to create new dynamics and mobilization, disrupting the ability of CoVE to thrive in the grey areas of traditional prevention and response. As recommended by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, "while occupying parallel digital spaces and producing similar types of harm, **online subcultures of nihilistic violence are distinct from ideologically motivated extremism.** This unique threat requires bespoke platform interventions rather than expansions and adaptations of existing terrorism- and violent extremism-focused frameworks"[4]. **Building bespoke**

taskforces of existing actors that may not yet be used to work together will be a major success factor for these interventions.

The programmes will build protective referrals linking schools, families, CSOs, social workers, psychologists and local authorities, identify early warning signs without securitising children's counselling. They will promote and create mentorship and reintegration support for youth at risk, focusing on psychosocial support. They will broaden existing local Taskforces: leverage the broad existing mandate of Women and Children Issues Task Forces (Satuan Tugas Perlindungan Perempuan dan Anak) to strengthen their capacity to identify, respond to, and refer cases involving children affected by radicalisation and terrorism, while reinforcing collaboration with other relevant child-protection and PCVE stakeholders.

Expand PCVE taskforces to include youth mental health, juvenile delinquency professionals, child protection specialists. Alongside, they will adapt or create rehabilitation pathways and centres for underaged CoVE perpetrators, establish digital platforms and Specialists Partnerships. Finally, they will identify pathways to quickly escalate situations and remove violent content, ensuring identified victims or perpetrators are referred to appropriate institutions.

III. Strengthen digital literacy and online safety initiatives, including Improve monitoring and research on emerging online sub-cultures

Offline, GCERF programmes will enlist youth-led organisations and peer experts like gaming influencers, web subcultures specialists and users of youth-oriented platforms to train taskforces experts and to support adapted digital literacy trainings targeting youth at risk.

They will promote **online** safety initiatives, connect platforms, CSOs, government and researchers. Activities will improve local trust and online safety relevance, connect community-level insight to tech safety and policy conversations, reporting, provide peer support and safer behaviours. When needed, the activities may support the creation of online safety networks or alliances, with preventative and curative objectives.
This component will pay particular attention to data privacy and security. Governmental agencies like National Research and Innovation Agency (Badan Riset dan Inovasi Nasional) will be approached to collaborate with the programme.

Another priority will be engagement with digital platforms, in cooperation with the government.

WHO:

Target populations may include:

- Minors and youth aged 8-30;
- Guardians & Teachers
- Frontline workers in child and youth protection (psychologist, social workers, school counselors, law enforcement officials)
- Rule of law authorities

WHERE:

Jakarta (Rehabilitation centers); All provinces of Indonesia; Internet, with specific attention to the Indonesian web subcultures

HOW:

Please note that the proposal must include the following:

An NVE Response Mobile Team based in Jakarta. This Team must include at least: a psychologist; a social worker, with experience within a child protection or law enforcement institution.

Grant Size and Duration:

- Duration: 24 months.
- Main thematic areas: 1 grant, valued at approximately USD 500,000 (the amount can be slightly inferior or superior at the signing of the grant).

Eligibility:

For this call, GCERF will only accept applications from Civil Society Organisations intending to serve as a Principal Recipient (PR) leading a consortium. Consortium grants are managed by **Principal Recipients (PRs)**, who are the legal recipients of GCERF funding and who then disburse funds and provide technical and administrative support to **Sub-Recipients (SRs).** The PR will be responsible for overall grant management, financial oversight, coordination, and technical support to all Sub-Recipients. Private Sector non-charitable entities can only be accepted as Sub-Recipients.

Please note that due to the emerging nature of this form of violent extremism, GCERF will accept innovative applications that are not limited to the usual PVE stakeholders. PVE experience will be an asset; it will not be mandatory.

Please also note that the successful applicant will need to demonstrate the capacity to lead online and offline interventions in Indonesia. Subsequently, applications from entities operating fully online will only be accepted as parts of a consortium.

3. Requirements

PREREQUISITES AND REQUIRED CAPACITIES
1. **Appropriate registration as an NGO in accordance with Indonesian laws (only local NGOs)**
2. **Experience in managing and accounting for donor-funded projects**
3. **Capacity to manage a consortium**
4. **Consortium that will include the following: a Civil Society Organisation; a youth-led organisation (able to include representation or participation of youth between the ages of 12 to 30); institutional or individual online gamers[5] (gambling excluded); tech or online gaming platform partnerships will be an asset[6]**
5. **Capacity to understand emerging online gaming and tech platforms, as well as internet subcultures, including their Indonesian forms**
6. **Established relationships and credibility with youth-led communities, and willingness to give youth from 12 to 30 an active role in programme design, leadership and implementation**
7. **Previous experience and current capacity to deliver community-level initiatives that address the local drivers and strengthen resilience against violent extremism is an asset**
8. **For previous GCERF grantees: capacity to co-design and co-lead with entities specialized in online gaming, digital literacy and relevant PVE will be assessed.**
9. **Access to rule of law entities**

Submission Instructions:

Please submit EOIs to **call.indonesia@gcerf.org** by **19 October 2026, 11:59 PM (Indonesia Standard Time)/ 19 October 2026, 6:59 PM (Central European Time)** with the subject line: *"EOI Indonesia"*. **Please ensure that your application includes the following documents (provided in attachment to this EOI):**

1. Annex A – Application Form
2. Annex B – Theory of Change
3. Annex C – Budget Outline
4. Last audited financial statements for 2025 and 2026

Applications must be submitted in English. Annexes will be provided in English only. Lack of any of the four required documents may disqualify the applicant. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted to take part in a due diligence assessment. All other applicants will be informed of their results.

Please also refer to the addendum to the Indonesia Country Investment Strategy 2025-2027 attached.

Information Session

An online information session will be held on **8 October 2026, 3:00 PM (Indonesia Standard Time)/ 8 October 2026, 10:00 PM (Central European Time)**

To register and for any questions, please email call.indonesia@gcerf.org.