



Local Solutions for

# LASTING PEACE

Building a Future of  
Community Resilience  
in an Extreme World

2022 Annual Report



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SECTION  
**1**

**EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY**



## Chair's Introduction

Around the world, politics and societies are becoming more polarised, with extreme views more prominent and increasingly perceived as legitimate. These views tend to be particularly appealing to people who are marginalised or feel deprived, a growing outcome of another global trend towards widening economic disparity. For this reason, while GCERF has a specific mandate to build community resilience against violent extremism, it is also working to address an issue with far wider resonance and deeper implications: As demonstrated in this annual report, GCERF is providing better alternatives to this sense of marginalisation and a lack of hope or prospects for millions of people at direct risk of radicalisation and recruitment.

GCERF and our partners are achieving these outcomes by convening diverse and sometimes strongly oppositional perspectives – security and development, global governance and local communities, government and civil society, and the public and private sectors. The net result is a set of powerful and lasting initiatives, which also foster better tolerance, understanding, and cooperation. While GCERF is a modest organisation, it promotes significant changes amongst individuals and communities, with the potential for an exponentially wider reach for our shared global future. I am grateful to our donors and partners, to the Secretariat team, but especially to the communities that we have the privilege to support.

**Mr Stefano Manservigi,**

Chair of the Governing Board, GCERF



## Executive Director's Introduction

I am proud of the successes reflected in GCERF's 2022 Annual Report. Across a growing number of partner countries and communities, GCERF is fostering tolerance, promoting a whole-of-society response, providing better access to livelihoods, building resilience against the impacts of climate change, helping to rehabilitate and reintegrate returnees, and empowering women and girls, all in a concerted effort to stem violent extremism and terrorism by preventing it in the first place. The rich diversity of case studies included in the report also illustrates that we are undertaking this mission in partnership, sustainably, and openly.

I am also proud of the level of ambition reflected in the report. The expanding number of countries partnering with GCERF reflects increasing recognition of the organisation's unique approach and trust in our grant funding model. The case studies illustrate that we are breaking down silos, using development inputs and principles to achieve security outcomes. Our focus on rehabilitation and reintegration, or on insulating communities from the risks of violent extremism exacerbated by climate change, demonstrates innovation and ingenuity. This collective ambition need not equate with a limitless engagement by GCERF, however: by building capacity from the outset, we seek to ensure that the programmes we have initiated can continue with other resources. National ownership is critical to our approach, and we are increasing our focus on sharing lessons and good practices, including a global platform for at-risk communities to support one another. Finally, I am proud of our team across the world, for their commitment and dedication, and for creating such a unique culture and collaborative global community.

**Dr Khalid Koser,**  
Executive Director, GCERF

## 2022 GCERF Global Data Points



GCERF was investing in 14 countries and has supported 277 local partners since the organisation began making grants in 2015.



Programmes have reached more than 46,000 individuals with livelihoods and employability-related interventions including tools, seed grants for small businesses, and job up-skilling. These individuals are among more than 100,000 who were reached with programmes designed to create equal access to opportunities, a broader category of interventions.



On average, the value of grants increased to nearly USD 1 Million.



In 2022, 18 new grants were signed, and 39 grants were actively being implemented. Grants are expected to be signed in 7 new countries as of 2023. Since GCERF's inception, 90 grants have been signed.



Programmes engaged 396,248 participants in cultural and sports activities as a means to build social cohesion and prevent violent extremism.



As of end-2022, programmes supported by GCERF had reached 3.1 million direct beneficiaries. Nearly 50% were women and girls.



Interfaith and intercommunity dialogues, consultations, and roundtable discussions engaged 585,414 community members and youth, including 16,563 religious' leaders through over 7,400 sessions.



Programmes have engaged more than 35,000 religious leaders in workshops on conflict resolution, peace advocacy, critical thinking, and leadership skills



SECTION  
**2**

**GRANT  
INVESTMENT  
UPDATE**

# GCERF Investments by Country and Beneficiaries Reached as of End-2022

| Country                       | Total Grants | Active Grants | Investment to Date (USD) | Direct Beneficiaries (Total) | Percentage of Women Beneficiaries | Total Number of Local Partners (including Sub-Recipients) |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Albania</b>                | 3            | 3             | 2 million                | 11,100                       | 65                                | 8   |
| <b>Bangladesh</b>             | 9            | 2             | 10.8 million             | 1,380,142                    | 46                                | 41  |
| <b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> | 1            | 1             | 0.5 million              | 385                          | 46.7                              | 1   |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>           | 4            | 4             | 3.7 million              | 2,880                        | 39.2                              | 10  |
| <b>Kenya</b>                  | 10           | 1             | 7.1 million              | 680,015                      | 48.3                              | 29  |
| <b>Kosovo</b>                 | 8            | 3             | 5.1 million              | 77,432                       | 48                                | 20  |
| <b>Mali</b>                   | 13           | 3             | 10.7 million             | 293,480                      | 46.7                              | 47  |
| <b>Niger</b>                  | 3            | 3             | 2.3 million              | 17,636                       | 56                                | 9   |
| <b>Nigeria</b>                | 11           | 3             | 12.6 million             | 477,295                      | 47                                | 26  |
| <b>North Macedonia</b>        | 2            | 2             | 1.3 million              | 4,454                        | 51.2                              | 9   |
| <b>Philippines</b>            | 13           | 5             | 8.2 million              | 200,852                      | 52.6                              | 41  |
| <b>Somalia</b>                | 3            | 3             | 2.6 million              | 1,175                        | 66.4                              | 6   |
| <b>Sri Lanka</b>              | 1            | 1             | 1.8 million              | 8,800                        | 52                                | 14  |
| <b>Tunisia</b>                | 8            | 3             | 3.6 million              | 15,070                       | 52.7                              | 14  |

# Where GCERF Works

(Partner Countries as of Publication Date – Q3 2023)

**22**

Countries

**3.1M**

Direct Beneficiaries

**93**

Grants Signed

**282**

Local Partners

- 1 Albania** 2020  
4 grants  
\$3.1m committed  
10 local partners
- 2 Bangladesh** 2016  
9 grants (2 active)  
\$10.8m committed  
41 local partners
- 3 Bosnia and Herzegovina** 2022  
1 grant  
\$0.5m committed  
1 local partner
- 4 Burkina Faso** 2021  
4 grants  
\$3.7m committed  
10 local partners
- 5 Chad** Starting in 2023
- 6 Ghana** Starting in 2023
- 7 Indonesia** Starting in 2024
- 8 Iraq** Starting in 2023
- 9 Kenya** 2018  
11 grants (2 active)  
\$9.3m committed  
30 local partners
- 10 Kosovo** 2017  
8 grants (3 active)  
\$5.1m committed  
20 local partners
- 11 Kyrgyzstan** Starting in 2023
- 12 Mali** 2016  
13 grants (3 active)  
\$10.7m committed  
47 local partners
- 13 Mauritania** Starting In 2023
- 14 Mozambique** Starting in 2023
- 15 Niger** 2022  
4 grants  
\$3m committed  
11 local partners
- 16 Nigeria** 2016  
11 grants (3 active)  
\$12.6m committed  
26 local partners
- 17 North Macedonia** 2021  
2 grants  
\$1.3m committed  
9 local partners
- 18 Somalia** 2021  
3 grants  
\$2.6m committed  
6 local partners
- 19 Sri Lanka** 2021  
1 grant  
\$1m committed  
14 local partners
- 20 The Philippines** 2019  
13 grants (5 active)  
\$8.2m committed  
41 local partners
- 21 Tunisia** 2019  
9 grants (4 active)  
\$3.8m committed  
16 local partners
- 22 Yemen** Starting in 2023





SECTION  
**3**

# GLOBAL PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW



## Introduction

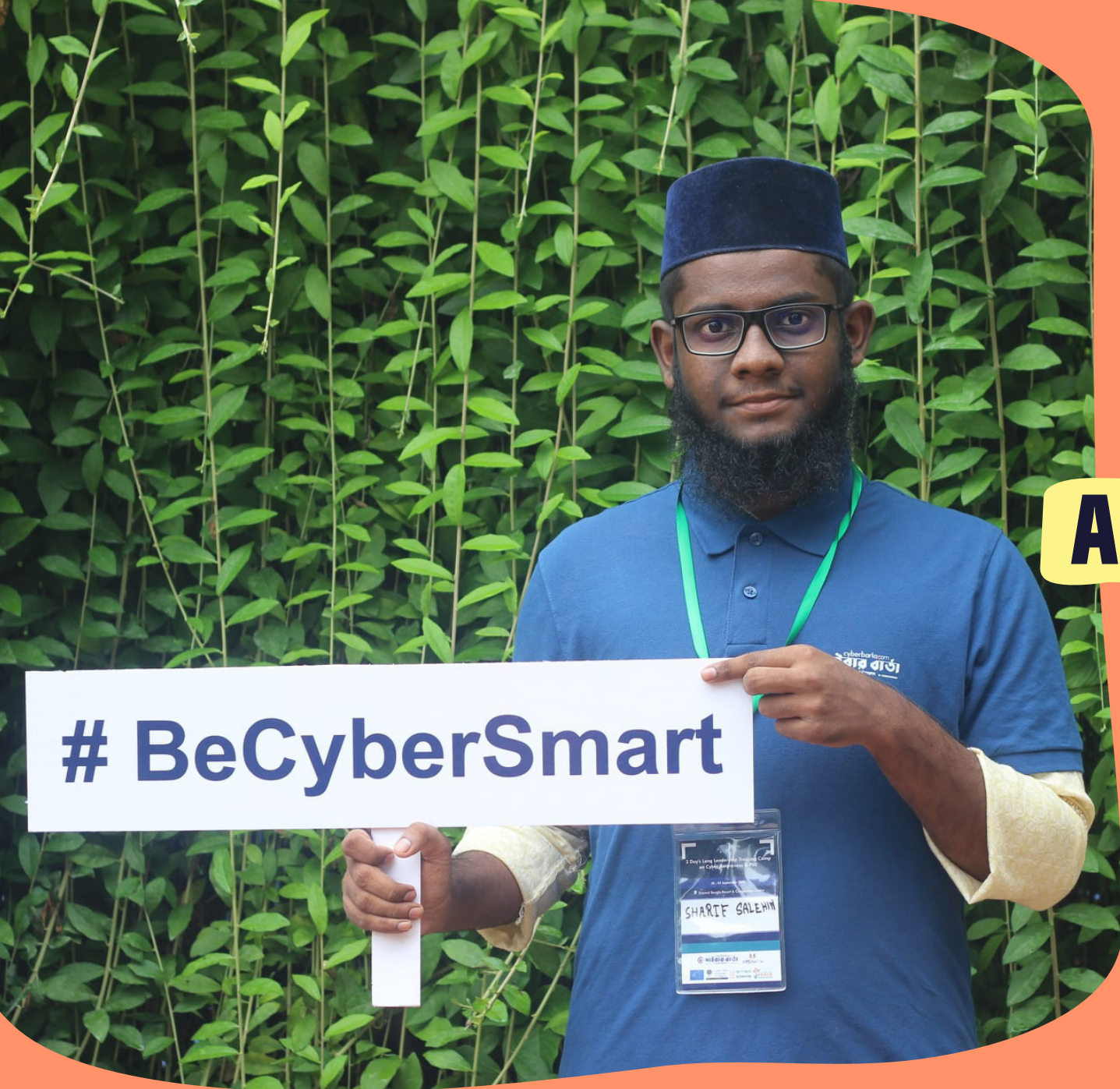
In 2022, GCERF strengthened its focus on specific contexts where people are most at risk of violent extremist recruitment: Mauritania and Iraq became new partner countries, and the groundwork was laid with governments of Yemen and Kyrgyzstan for future partnerships.

Significant investment in the Sahel was facilitated by collaboration with the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel), and it became clear that GCERF's learnings around rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees in the Western Balkans are yielding opportunities to apply these good practices in new contexts such as Kyrgyzstan and Iraq.

Globally, the programmes that GCERF supports have each been defined and developed by local actors, with strategies and tactics to prevent violent extremism tailored to specific causes and contextual factors which put communities at risk of radicalisation and recruitment by violent extremist groups. The 2022 annual portfolio overview highlights six broad areas in which programmes have achieved progress this year: fostering tolerance; applying a whole-of-society approach; creating access to livelihoods; equipping communities to contend with climate-related stress; fostering acceptance of returnees; and empowering women and girls.

Multiple examples of each of these themes on the following pages illustrate the resourcefulness, creativity, and insight that civil society partners and community members bring to bear, often working together with government and security actors, when empowered to design solutions to prevent violent extremism.





**A**

# Fostering Tolerance Within Communities

**# BeCyberSmart**



# BANGLADESH

## Partnering with educational institutions

**Rupantar: Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium**

**Khulna and Rajshahi District**

**Direct reach:** 358,375 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 43

In Bangladesh, GCERF has been investing in preventing violent extremism (PVE) programming since 2016, and after six years of investment, there are signs of significant improvement in the security situation. The country's Global Terrorism Index ranking now stands at 43, compared with 21 as of end-2016. Addressing the drivers of violent extremism and terrorism has also been an important contributor to Bangladesh's upcoming graduation from the least developed countries (LDC) category.

Multiple factors have played a role: the Government of Bangladesh's proactive approach and strengthened rule of law responses, interventions of civil society organisations, and the expansion of community-based organisations building resilience with support from international partners.

Multiple factors have played a role: the Government of Bangladesh's proactive approach and strengthened rule of law responses; interventions of civil society organisations; and the expansion of community-based organisations building resilience with support from international partners.

In 2022, the NGO Rupantar has collaborated with local educational institutions to raise awareness of PVE among youth in Khulna and Rajshahi Districts through the *Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium*, gathering them and four other civil society organisations. In these settings, interreligious tensions hamper peaceful coexistence, while insights gained through past studies show that private and public university students are most likely to be at risk of violent extremist radicalisation.

A total of 240 leadership training sessions on tolerance and inclusion were held to support students in rolling out PVE activities in their communities. In addition, three mock trials developed through the Inter-University Law Clinic (IULC) engaged university students and judges from the District and Supreme Courts in PVE-relevant debates.

In addition, the PEACE Consortium carried out Policy Level Advocacy Dialogues with diverse stakeholders, including the Supreme Court Appellate Division; the Attorney General of Bangladesh; the former Chairman of the Bangladesh Human Rights Commission; and deans, heads, and teachers of 15 national university law schools. One academic institution, the Khulna University School of Law, has committed to including a course about prevention of violent extremism in the curriculum going forwards, a clear indication of the sustainability of GCERF programming.



As Rupantar and other grantees in Bangladesh anticipate the end of current grants in 2023, building blocks have been put in place to ensure the continuity of the activities and local organisations created. The engagement to date with national and local stakeholders such as government officials and university faculties, including the formal collaborations developed, will be key to ensuring that the progress made thus far is sustainable in the long term.

# BURKINA FASO

## Local peace committees for conflict resolution

**Union Fraternelle des Croyants de Dori (UFC-Dori)**  
**Promoting peaceful cohabitation for communities**

**in the Sahel and the North by strengthening local mechanisms for social dialogue, socio-economic,**

**and religious exchanges**

**North and Sahel regions**

**Direct reach:** 1,762 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 2

In 2022, UFC-Dori continued to implement the project *Promoting peaceful cohabitation for communities in the Sahel and the North by strengthening local mechanisms for social dialogue, socio-economic and religious exchanges*.

As a means of fostering and reinforcing tolerance, sessions were held for students, women, and Quranic leaders, reaching more than 400 people with educational lectures on peaceful cohabitation and the importance of living together, including how the principles of social cohesion are embedded in Islamic teaching.

In 2022, the initiative also focused on strengthening the ability of communities to mediate and resolve conflicts, through village structures called Local Peace Committees (LPCs) which were previously established by UFC-Dori in the 10 target communities, through a GCERF grant. LPCs seek to maintain peace and social cohesion and to prevent potential threats by identifying extremist messaging or activity.

This year, with GCERF support, 43 delegates from the project villages were sensitised on the methods and benefits of local conflict resolution. In addition to conflict resolution strengthening, the sessions enhanced understanding between culturally diverse groups represented within the village LPC, usually composed of about 15 members and including a range of professions and interests.

LPCs have been established through village-wide participatory processes, allowing for community ownership of this initiative over the longer term. This participatory process also facilitates its effectiveness by building trust in the model, and strengthens social cohesion.

In Burkina Faso, governance-related grievances allow violent extremist groups to exploit the institutional vacuum created by the political context to strengthen their presence on the ground. In addition, conflicts between farmers and herders over access to land and the exploitation of natural resources are leading to increased tensions within communities. An ongoing lack of economic opportunities and an environment of radicalisation make children and youth vulnerable to violent extremist groups, which offer financial or other material incentives.

**Nowadays, changes are already noticeable in the village. At the beginning of the process, when we participated in the first activities on the LPC, we were not complete because the Fulani community was reluctant and did not participate. But with the awareness sessions that followed, the Fulani understood and sent their representative to join the committee.**

**Mr David Nanama**

Pastor and secretary of the Local Peace Committee (LPC) of the village of Ramsa in the commune of Séguénéga.

# THE PHILIPPINES

## Interfaith training for religious and tribal leaders

**Mahintana Foundation: Promoting Peace Engagements and Community Empowerment (ProPEACE)**

**Sarangani and South Cotabato Provinces, Mindanao**

**Direct reach:** 1,928 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 18

The threat of violent extremism in the Philippines is severe and persistent, driven by , governance-related grievances, unresolved historical grievances fueled by cultural and geographical divisions between Christian, Muslim and indigenous communities, and socio-economic pressures. The situation has, however, evolved positively in recent years, with the Philippines improving from 16th to the 18th on the Global Terrorism Index ranking.

The ProPEACE programme, implemented by the Mahintana Foundation, is working to improve peace and security by strengthening tolerance and respect within the 10 municipalities of Mindanao's Sarangani and South Cotabato Provinces. The focus of the programme has been to strengthen the capacities and skills of the Tri-people, a grouping specific to Mindanao which includes Muslims, indigenous peoples, and Christians, as well as youth among these groups.

Within Tri-people communities, ProPEACE engages with religious and tribal leaders including Ulamas and Ustads (experts in Islamic teachings), Haggais/indigenous pastors, Christian leaders, priests and ministries, students, and out-of-school youth in grant-supported activities which aim to foster tolerance. Interfaith dialogue sessions, intercultural exchanges, and mechanisms for participation in local governance have been central to this capacity-building effort and the aim of creating and reinforcing intercultural and interfaith tolerance.

In 2022, the programme worked with Ulama and Ustad organisations to train teachers, religious leaders, and students, and to integrate peace-building awareness into Tarbiya (education in Islamic values), taught in madrasahs, madaris, and mosques. Through module development and training, madari teachers gained teaching techniques and strengthened their understanding of interconnections between Islamic values and tolerance.

Developing conflict-resolution skills has also been an important aspect of programme activity implemented by the Mahintana Foundation. Workshops with Tri-people organisations focused on how to resolve conflicts within communities, and established links between Muslim Council of Elders for their inclusion in local governance structures, in which Christians and indigenous people are already represented. Activities targeted to Tri-people and youth were designed to increase interfaith and intercultural respect, and to encourage active participation in local governance.

**My knowledge was enriched about the culture of Tri-people, and I learned techniques on how to deal with or mediate conflicts. Usually, in the church, we would start with a prayer and listen to the sides of both parties - then we would give advice. In this training, I learned more ways or techniques on resolving conflict, such as conflict mapping.**

**Frances**

Participant, Mahintana Foundation Culture of Peace Workshop





As an outcome of the work, the Mahintana Foundation reported a clear trend of improved understanding of cultures and perceptions between groups of Tri-people. For religious leaders from Banga and Tupi, the importance of unity and mutual acceptance among Christians, Muslims, and indigenous people was also a trend observed by changed behaviour.

Looking ahead, the Mahintana Foundation and ProPeace will begin to implement a second phase of the programme through new grant funding as of 2023. Following recognition of Tri-people institutions and their inclusion in local governance in the first phase, this next phase will be focused on strengthening their functionalities, and inspiring other communities to establish similar institutions.

# NORTH MACEDONIA

## Chess and football tournaments to build tolerance

**Macedonia Young Lawyers Association (MYLA) – Center for Common Ground Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities North Macedonia**

**Direct reach:** 90 people

**Indirect reach:** 180 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 93



Prevention of violent extremism in North Macedonia is made particularly complex by a context of compound challenges; challenges; fragile interethnic relations; violence stemming from political rivalries; intolerant interpretations of Islam; limited access to quality education; poor employment prospects and a struggling economy; and a general sense of social exclusion among those returning.

Countries in the Western Balkans have had some of the highest number of returning foreign terrorist fighters (RFTFs) per capita in the world. The predominant focus of GCERF's grant portfolio in these countries is to prevent future violent extremist recruitment through reintegration, rehabilitation, and resocialisation support for returning combatants and their families.

To address these challenges in North Macedonia, 'Building resilient and inclusive communities' programmes are being implemented by the MYLA consortium in North Macedonia, and in parallel by the IDM consortium in neighboring Albania.

In 2022, MYLA brought together students of different social statuses and from different schools and ethnic backgrounds to participate in chess and football tournaments in the municipalities of Gazi Baba and Saraj, to promote inclusion and tolerance among young people who would otherwise be biased against each other.

By doing so, the programme is striving for a sense of social cohesion and acceptance of multiculturalism in the community, thereby reinforcing resistance to radicalisation and violent extremist ideas among young people.

In addition, activities organised by GCERF grantees in 2022 allowed schools to develop skills and ownership of the activities, making it possible to organise similar events in the future, and encouraging students' future interest and engagement.

As of 2023, the programme will continue to be implemented with the focus on different sports and cultural events in other municipalities of North Macedonia.





**B**

# A Whole- of-Society Approach to PVE Capacity- Building

# NIGERIA

## Journalist training for accurate coverage of violent extremism

**North East Youth Initiative for Development (NEYIF)  
Agents of Social Cohesion through Resilience  
Building and Community Peace Initiatives  
Training workshop for journalists on PCVE and how to report incidents of violence  
Sokoto State  
Direct reach: 50 journalists trained  
Country GTI ranking: 8 (5)**



NEYIF's whole-of-society approach to preventing violent extremism (PVE) recognises the critical role of the media to inform audiences through high-quality and unbiased reporting. In the absence of robust journalistic standards, members of the media may transmit poorly vetted or misleading information, stoking divisions which lead to violence. In tandem, the distortion of facts through poor media standards creates an opening for violent extremist ideas, radicalisation and recruitment.

In Sokoto State, the project implemented by NEYIF is strengthening media workers' capacity to accurately report on violent extremism through short training sessions on the prevention of violent extremism. Over three days, journalists representing the Daily Trust News Agency of Nigeria, Rima FM, Rima TV, Caliphate FM, Garkuwa FM, and Leadership Paper, among other media outlets, were trained by expert consultants on the fundamentals of violent extremism, drivers and indicators, and the importance of neutral and balanced reporting. The training also included standards for presenting multiple viewpoints, data and source verification, and conflict-sensitive content development.

The value of the trainings to improve journalistic standards in Sokoto State has been acknowledged by the Nigerian Union of Journalists, and additional future training requested. NEYIF will continue to conduct journalist training for the remaining two years of their grant, with the aim of training 150 journalists. Additionally, NEYIF will conduct annual monitoring visits to the media outlets which sent journalists to participate in the training to gauge how PCVE and conflict-sensitive reporting skills are being put into practice.

The North West is today the poorest region of Nigeria, and has become the epicentre of violent extremism in the country through a confluence of threat factors. These include increased frequency of Islamist violence and banditry, conflict between farmers and herders due to competition for natural resources, and climate-induced forced migration, among others. Attacks on rural villages frequently involve kidnapping accompanied by demands for ransom, as well as abduction of women and girls for forced marriage and sexual enslavement.

# BURKINA FASO

## Training for young herders: Awareness of radicalisation and conflict resolution

**Réseau Afrique Jeunesse (RAJ): Strengthening the regulatory role and dialogue catalyst of customary/religious leaders and community leaders through training for religious leaders North (Yatenga-Lorum), Sahel (Seno-Yagha) Regions**

**Direct reach:** 1,118 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 2

The Réseau Afrique Jeunesse (RAJ) (African Youth Network) intervenes in regions of Burkina Faso where the risk of radical extremist recruitment is most dire, by engaging pastoralists, farmers, internally displaced persons, and community and religious leaders.

RAJ's project and work in 2022 encompassed diverse components tailored to the settings targeted by the organisation for grant-supported interventions. Training sessions were held in the commune of Dori to reach young pastoralists, bringing together 30 young people to strengthen their ability to analyse conflicts, detect radical discourse, and prevent radicalisation of their peers. The participants were sent by the communities of Solhan and Gorgadji to strengthen community monitoring in these settings.

In the communes of Ouahigouya, Sebba, and Solhan, young herders trained by the project led 10 community dialogue sessions on prevention of radicalisation and conflict management.

Additional sessions in Gorgadji, Sebba and Solhan in late 2022 convened 90 young livestock herders (41 women and 49 men) to learn techniques to detect radical discourse within communities and methods for preventing radicalisation.

Participants learnt about options for community-led tactics to prevent and resolve conflicts and came to a consensus on the need to strengthen the use of these tools and tactics to reduce the influence of violent extremist groups on their communities.

As a next phase of the project, the young pastoralists will take forward activities designed to facilitate peaceful conflict resolution by setting up dialogue spaces and Community Watch Committees (CWCs) to monitor and support the resolution of conflicts within and between communities.

As a further positive outcome of the project, traditional and religious leaders in the target communities spontaneously convened their own meeting to support the CWCs set up by training session participants and RAJ. Empowered by increasing awareness of their own potential as change agents to prevent violent extremism, these traditional and religious leaders have been able to catalyse dialogue between community members and to bolster their participation in the prevention of violent extremism.

**The training made me very sensitive to the issue of community conflicts. I pay attention to the words I use in conversations with others and I often challenge people on the words they use in public... I organised a community talk with about 30 people, and I see their relief at being able to talk about it...**

**I can't say that I am safe, but I am calm and at peace today because several people tell me that they have understood the phenomenon a little more thanks to our exchanges and sharing. So I am hopeful and confident for the future.**

**Amadou Hamidou Diallo**

A young pastoralist living in the commune of Gorgadji, Burkina Faso, training beneficiary



# TUNISIA

## Engaging religious leaders to prevent violent extremism

### Takamul

Implemented by GCERF CSO primary recipient El Jahedh Forum (FEJ) and GCERF CSO sub-recipient TunisiaPLUS

Capacity-building for religious leaders

El Kef, Jendouba, and Tunis

Direct reach: 155 religious leaders

Country GTI ranking: 40

In Tunisia, the risk of violent extremist radicalisation is most acute for young people who face a variety of challenges which may strengthen attraction to extremist groups. An unemployment rate of more than 37% for youth aged 15 – 24 is compounded by political instability and widespread violence within communities. For many young people, motivation to leave Tunisia has risen – whether through legal or illegal means, including by engaging with violent extremist groups. For some, fundamentalist religious views may also appear to offer refuge.

< 20 >

Supported by GCERF, the civil society organisation Forum El-Jahedh through Takamul project has developed and carried out capacity-building sessions bringing together religious leaders in the cities of Tunis, Jendouba and Kef. Religious leadership in Tunisia represents an informal sphere which is not subject to control on the part of centralised government or religious authorities. The absence of oversight mechanisms creates an opening for religious leaders to propagate extremist ideas if they choose to, which in turn may create receptivity to violent extremist recruitment within faith communities.

The Takamul programme developed by Forum El-Jahedh recognises religious leaders as a first contact point between youth and religion, and seizes the opportunity to equip these leaders with insights and tools to teach tolerance, thereby diminishing the risk of violent extremist recruitment in their communities.

The capacity-building sessions focus on developing the soft skills of participants, including critical thinking, empathy, communication skills, an emphasis on positive rather than negative perspectives, and rational thinking. Following the training and dialogue sessions, 93% of participants self-evaluated their understanding of the concepts and skills shared as strong.

Building on the success of the programme to date and in collaboration with the Principal Recipient, Forum El Jahed, Tunisia+ will implement new rounds of capacity-building sessions in the coming two years with the aim of doubling the total number of religious leaders reached.



TOC

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# SRI LANKA

## Bridging religious, cultural and cultural diversity among youth

### HELVETAS Sri Lanka: EMPOWER

Empowering youth-led initiatives to prevent violent extremism

Direct reach: 8,800 people

Country GTI ranking: 29



Implemented by Helvetas in collaboration with several civil society subrecipients in Sri Lanka, the EMPOWER programme has begun to reach youth from diverse ethnic, religious, cultural and social backgrounds to foster understanding of violent extremism and its drivers. The programme, which was launched in 2022, focuses on risks related to hate speech and disinformation, and equips young people with skills to create positive narratives and to counter radicalisation.

As a first initiative, the Lanka Development Journalist Forum (LDJF) conducted a workshop for young people to organize a Facebook page through which messaging to counter violent extremist rhetoric is posted. A second training course focused on digital security, how to avoid online predatory schemes, and skills-building to recognise and counter fake news. A second civil society partner of the EMPOWER program, Local Initiatives for Tomorrow (LIFT) organised a Training of Trainers event for journalists, focused on ethical journalistic standards and techniques for local journalists in Batticaloa.

Building on the success of the early months of these projects, Helvetas and the programme subrecipients will continue to work towards countering violent extremist rhetoric and hate speech for the duration of the grant. A capacity building training for all sub-grantees on digital literacy is planned by Helvetas in 2023, to further strengthen the effectiveness of their interventions.

Sri Lanka's diversity of religions includes Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim and Christian communities. Historically, ethnic and religious tensions have at times fueled the risk of violent extremism. GCERF-supported programmes are striving to prevent interfaith and intercultural tensions through project activities in order to decrease this risk. Beginning in 2019, GCERF has invested in preventing violent extremism (PVE) programming in Sri Lanka designed to reach youth of diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds, to foster tolerance and dispel violent extremist ideology.

In 2019, attacks carried out on Easter Sunday fueled extremist propaganda and began to exacerbate existing ethnic and religious divides. In particular, social media channels have increasingly been used to spread prejudiced views and hate speech.



# THE PHILIPPINES

## Building a culture of peace in communities

### Teach Peace Build Peace Movement (TPBPM)

#### Peace Heroes Formation Program: A Holistic Peace Education Formation Programme towards Building a Culture of Peace in Schools and Communities

#### Metro Manila and Lanao del Sur

**Direct reach:** 659 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 18

GCERF has invested in preventing violent extremism (PVE) programming in the Philippines since 2019.

To address the risk of violent extremism and recruitment, the Teach Peace Build Peace Movement (TPBPM) strives to create a culture of peace by increasing the ability of individuals to respond to, resist, and recover from hardships and stressful situations by equipping community members with positive and peaceful lenses through which to put in perspective their experiences and challenges.

Following the launch of GCERF grants in 2019, the initial years of the Peace Heroes Formation Program: Building a Culture of Peace in Schools and Communities focused on children, youth, teachers, parents, community leaders, and local partners from Metro Manila and Lanao del Sur municipalities of the Philippines.

The programme includes two focus areas, or 'tracks', referred to as the Preventive Track for prevention of violent extremist recruitment, and the After-Care Track

for support and reintegration tailored to returnees, especially children and youth. Both tracks... learning methods, while the After-Care Track also harnesses the roles of diverse actors in the community, such as community leaders, teachers, parents, children, youth leaders, and local civil society partners to create a culture of peace.

In 2022, TPBPM implemented a series of peace education activities to reach diverse groups in the target communities: The Modular Peace Education Leadership Training and Psychosocial Support Workshop focused on youth leaders. In parallel, peace education sessions on Peaceful Parenting Styles and Understanding Children's Behavior were tailored to parents.

A separate initiative, Peaceful Communication and Peaceful Internet, is designed to tackle the risks of violent extremism posed by digital tools and

platforms. This initiative uses tools developed in 2022 for the After-Care Track, including an online modular orientation course and guidebook, to support returnees who have engaged in violent extremism.

TPBPM has also paved the way for important discussions among civil society participants, national, regional, and local government representatives, and the security sector, by launching the first training programme for After-Care of returnees and the communities receiving them.

From 2023, a new round of GCERF grant support will make possible the expansion of the Peace Heroes Programme. In this second phase, the programming will possible the expansion of security force personnel and local authorities in programme activities, training them on inclusive leadership, conflict transformation, peaceful communication, and innovative approaches to peace education.



# KENYA

## Sports activities to build trust between youth and local authorities

**Accelerated Response Initiative to Violent Extremism (ARIVE): Empowering youth-led initiatives in preventing violent extremism Implemented by Foundation for Dialogue (FFD), WomenKind Kenya (WOKIKE), and Worthy Vision Nyeri, Garissa, and Wajir counties**

**Direct reach:** 519 people (sporting activities only)

**Country GTI ranking:** 20

Exchanges of critical security-related information between communities and security actors can often be critical to countering violent extremist activity. A history of heavy-handed responses by security actors when interacting with community members has created an adversarial relationship, with the result that community members became hesitant to approach security actors with information regarding violent extremist activity in their communities. Mistrust and poor relationships between the two groups was therefore identified by grant implementers as a challenge to be overcome through programme activity.

To achieve this, ARIVE subgrantees Foundation for Dialogue (FFD) in Nyeri county, WomanKind Kenya (WOKIKE) in Garissa county, and Worthy Vision in Garir county have used sporting activities to bring

The primary driver of violent extremism in Kenya is the lack of socio-economic opportunities, and in particular the lack of employment opportunities for youth. In parallel, poor relationships between security actors and communities, especially young people, compound the risk of violent extremism due to pervasive mistrust between youth and security personnel. In arid north-eastern

provinces of the country, migration induced by climate change and the ongoing drought has created additional tensions surrounding access to water and grazing lands. From 2021 to 2022, Kenya witnessed an increase in violent extremist attacks, concentrated in the north-eastern and coastal counties, as well as in informal urban settlements in Nairobi and Mombasa.

together youth and security actors in an informal setting in order to build trust. In Nyeri, a volleyball tournament held by FFD included more than 10 teams drawn from the National Police Service, Kenya Wildlife Service, market traders, boda boda (motorcycle taxi) drivers and riders, and other groups.

In Garissa, a football tournament was organised by WOKIKE between youth and members of the police force and officiated by senior security heads. An awareness-raising session was held after the tournament to sensitise participants and onlookers on a range of topics: violent extremist recruitment and radicalisation; push and pull factors; narratives

to counter violent extremism; peacebuilding; and ways to improve youth-police relationships. In Wajir, a football tournament organised by Worthy Vision was held on the ground of the Wajir Kenya Police grounds. In addition to countering negative public perceptions of security actors and police, organisers used the opportunity of the sports event to sensitise youth and onlookers to violent extremist threats in the county, as well as methods to prevent and counter violent extremism.

The sub-recipients have scheduled further iterations of the sports tournaments before the sub-grants end in mid-2023.





**C**

# Creating Access to Livelihoods



# MALI

## Village savings and credit for small-scale businesses

**Initiatives Conseils Développement (ICD) Mali Resilience and Inter- and Intra-Community Cohesion Support Project (PARC-2i) Improving the socio-economic situation of communities and social cohesion through the provision of financial resources for income-generating activities and dialogue Bandiagara, Bankass, Djenne, Douentza, Koro, and Mopti regions/municipalities**  
**Direct reach:** 10,319 people  
**Country GTI ranking:** 4

In settings where ICD Mali is implementing the Resilience and Inter- and Intra-Community Cohesion Support Project (PARC-2i), risk of violent extremism stems from governance-related grievances within communities, which create openings for armed groups to replace legitimate authorities and to take advantage of a weakened State by offering protection and essential services.

Youth unemployment is also a driver of radicalisation: More than 17% of youth aged 15-24 are unemployed, leaving them vulnerable to the material incentives offered by violent extremist groups.<sup>1</sup>

1. ILOSTAT data, 2020

In the settings targeted by this grant-supported activity, income-generating activity (IGA) funds have been made available to 10 village savings and credit groups (Groupements Villageois d'Épargne et de Crédit) (GVEC). Each GVEC group makes loans to its members to carry out small-scale income-generating activities, or through the solidarity fund, to temporarily cover costs when a member is in need of funds for a specific event or social ceremony such as a baptism, marriage, or burial.

Through GVEC group lending efforts, community members have been able to access loans without

resorting to a financial institution, assisting 245 women and 30 men to acquire livestock, facilitate the sale of cereals, and acquire equipment to protect the health of livestock and increase their market value.

As a barrier to violent extremism, GVEC committees also build understanding of diversity by including representation of the different social and cultural communities. Weekly meetings help to reinforce social cohesion and a sense of solidarity between community members, while at the same time increasing financial empowerment within the community through access to small loans.





# BURKINA FASO

## Small-scale entrepreneurship training for youth

### RAJ

**Reduce the socio-economic vulnerability of young pastoralists by promoting their socio-professional reintegration through training in micro-entrepreneurship North (Yatenga-Lorum) and Sahel (Seno-Yagha) regions**

**Direct reach:** 1,118 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 2

Through a comprehensive approach to income-generating activities (IGAs), 85 young men and women were identified according to criteria related to prevention of violent extremism, such as the loss of their livelihoods due to the activities of violent extremist groups. Micro-entrepreneurship training workshops were held in Dori and Ouahigouya to equip the participants with a wide range of business skills. Focus areas included managing income-generating projects in a context of insecurity; developing commercial relationships; customer management; and the regulatory and legal requirements for business. Financial management skills were also covered in the sessions, including: the constitution of savings and working capital; the instruments and institutions in charge of decentralized finance; the rules of managing a revolving fund; and techniques of simplified accounting of their business. The



training sessions were organised as a prelude to the establishment of a revolving fund to support beneficiaries to create or strengthen an IGA, with the aim of contributing to increasing the economic resilience of communities affected by violent

extremism. Acknowledging that they had gained significant useful skills during the short training sessions, participants committed themselves to investing the knowledge received in their income-generating projects going forwards.

# NIGER

## Community-developed income-generation opportunities

**Mouvement des Jeunes pour le Développement et l'Éducation Citoyenne (MOJEDEC): Programme de Prévention de l'Extrémisme Violent et de la Promotion de la Résilience Communautaire (PEV-RC) Tri-border area (Burkina Faso-Mali-Niger), particularly north-west Tillabéri (Ayérou, Bibiyergou,) and south-west Tillabéri (Dargol, Gotéye, Torodi, Makalondi).**  
**Direct reach:** 8,150 people  
**Country GTI ranking:** 10

In Niger, a lack of economic opportunities as well as high rates of illiteracy increase vulnerability to violent extremist discourse, particularly among women and young people. In addition, for more than 115,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) in the Tillabéri region and their host communities, a high level of insecurity creates additional incentives for community members to seek protection or material support by cooperating with violent extremist groups.

To address these challenges, in 2022 MOJEDEC implemented the project “Programme de Prévention de l'Extrémisme Violent et de promotion de la Résilience Communautaire (PEV- RC)” beginning with a series of dialogue sessions in each of the six target communities of the project: Ayorou, Bibiyergou, Dargol, Gothèye, Makalondi, and Torodi. The training workshops were developed to reach those considered most vulnerable to violent extremist recruitment, including community minorities, young people, women living with disabilities, and IDPs.

The sessions engaged the participants to collectively identify opportunities for a total of 60 specific income-generating activities (IGAs) in their communities, with 30 to be led by young people and 30 by women.

In a separate series of 12 workshops, MOJEDEC provided skills-building workshops for 243 women and girls and 169 men, with participants receiving training on how to set up and manage small businesses. Group work and discussions were held in

the respective local languages, and each group was encouraged to develop income generation projects according to their local needs and perspectives.

Following the training, women and youth participants were given the opportunity to submit applications including proposals to receive support for the income generation activities that they wish to create. In total, 1,745 proposals were submitted for review by members of the six communities, of which 129 were selected by local committees made up of public servants and community authorities for project support.

By including both technical training and financial support, the project implemented by MOJEDEC in the Sahel is designed to build capacity within communities to create small businesses that they will be able to sustain and benefit from going forwards, including the necessary follow-up to ensure their sustainability. The initiative also prepares the ground for support and expansion of this approach by other partners.

**Since the advent of this insecurity situation, our village has been abandoned by the NGOs, and sometimes even forgotten by the local authorities. But thanks to this programme that the NGO MOJEDEC is implementing in the commune, and because they insisted on involving the women of our village, we have benefited from several training sessions... We think that with this support, the women will be autonomous by creating income activities.**

**Moni Tadamba**

Representative of the Findima women's group in the village of Gnaktiré in the commune of Makalondi



# NIGERIA

## Digital skills training for youth

### ActionAid Nigeria (AAN): Digital Skills Training for Youth in Kano State

#### Kano State

**Direct reach:** 120 young people

**Country GTI ranking:** 8

The project Digital Skills Training for Youth in Kano State project, developed by ActionAid Nigeria (AAN), aims to equip young women and men with digital and information and communication technology (ICT) skills to open pathways to employment in an increasingly globalised digital labour market. To address the fact that youth unemployment is a major driver of violent extremism in Nigeria, AAN worked with private-sector partners to develop a four-day digital skills training for youth in Kano State.

The initiative was created based on insights into the scarcity of employment opportunities for youth in Kano State. In particular, it was noted that strengthening ICT skills within this demographic group presents an opportunity to expand their marketable skills, and creates openings for entry into the labour market.

The skills training sessions provided participants with basic computer literacy skills; an understanding of hardware and software components of digital tools; how to create and use

an email account; basics of digital marketing; and how to safely use social media.

AAN's aim is to scale up the digital literacy training model and to implement similar training sessions

in Kaduna State. As of end-2022, a significant deterioration in the security situation in Kaduna State has delayed this next phase, however the expansion of the project is planned once security conditions improve.





# THE PHILIPPINES

## Strengthened agricultural livelihoods in indigenous communities

**Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID):  
Peacebuilding and transitional justice in transforming  
conflicts and preventing extremist violence  
Davao del Sur, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, North  
Cotabato, and Manguindanao  
Direct reach:** 14,825 people  
**Country GTI ranking:** 18

The organisation *Initiatives for International Dialogue* (IID) identified multiple, interlinked causes of violent extremist conflicts and risk of violent extremism in Mindanao. Economically and culturally marginalised communities often lack access to justice, face displacement, and in some instances have been dispossessed of their land. In addition, severe natural weather events, such as perennial flooding, have caused a loss of livelihoods and consequently left communities without income.

To address the risk of violent extremist engagement created by these factors, the IID-led consortium has developed a project which aims to provide equal access to opportunities and a sense of purpose to

these communities. From the outset, community ownership has been a priority, with community partners working on resilience and peacebuilding, and taking part in project incubation steps.

As objectives of the project, improving farming livelihoods of Indigenous community members as well as food security were goals identified. To achieve these goals, farming tools, livestock, and planting materials were provided to the community members, allowing them to rebuild long-term crops for sustainable farming; increase numbers of farm animals through breeding; and to be more self-sufficient in the near term by growing more dependable crops of vegetables and other foodstuffs.

In other communities, income-generating activity projects were launched, including a community cassava and banana farm and a chair and table rental project run by youth in Pikit.

From 2023, GCERF will support a new round of grantees in the Philippines under the leadership of Initiatives for International Dialogue as Principle Recipient. The new project, INCLUDE BARMM (Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao), will continue to implement livelihoods projects specifically tailored to marginalised communities, youth, and women's groups.



# SOMALIA

## On-the-job training for youth in small businesses

**Somali Wellness and Economic Recovery Consortium (SWERC)**

**Implemented by GCERF CSO primary recipient Horn of Africa Peace Network (HAPEN) and GCERF CSO sub-recipients Integrated Development Focus (IDF) and Iftiin Foundation**

**Beled Hawo and Kismayo, Jubaland**

**Direct reach:** 33 entrepreneurs given grants

**Country GTI ranking:** 3

Limited access to wage-earning opportunities for young people is a significant driver of violent extremism in Somalia, compounded by a lack of government services, poor social cohesion and climate-related stresses including food insecurity and displacement, stemming from years of persistent drought.

Unemployed youth in the country are also more vulnerable to violent extremism by commonly held age-related biases and a tradition of clan loyalty. Frequently, older individuals are prioritised for employment opportunities, or individuals are excluded from employment based on their identity. As a result, significant numbers of young people have little or no work experience on the basis of which to be employed.

To foster concrete solutions to these challenges, the Somali Wellness and Economic Recovery Consortium (SWERC) Business Network created an on-the-job training programme for youth, in the cities of Kismayo and Beled Hawo. The Network began by identifying 90 entrepreneurs, whose businesses were selected based on criteria including their length of establishment and their demonstrated ability to hire and retain new staff. The businesses which agreed to engage with the project range widely, from general stores, electronics and hardware shops, grocery or restaurant businesses and petrol stations, among others.

At the outset of the project, selected entrepreneurs were sensitized on youth-inclusive business practices before receiving in-kind support to their businesses. Subsequently each SWERC Business Network grantee is preparing to receive a youth trainee to integrate into their business as the next phase of the project. To date, the Business Network is operational in Beled Hawo, with activities led by SWERC sub-recipient IDF.

Going forward, Iftiin Foundation will make further in-kind disbursements in 2023 to businesses in the city of Kismayo, and both sub-recipients will then begin regular monitoring of the Network grantees to gauge progress of the on-the-job training opportunities, and the evolution of their youth trainees. In mid-2023 the youth trainees will receive training to develop their own business plans, after having completed their on-the-job training opportunities.

Since 2006 Somalia has been embroiled in the fight against the terrorist organisation Al Shabaab (AS), which controls large swaths of the country, particularly in the central and southern regions. Al Shabaab uses intimidation and violence against civilians to maintain this control, including targeted assassinations of individuals they deem to be opponents of their mission. AS regularly attack government and African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) infrastructure and have carried out attacks in other countries across East Africa.

Al Shabaab supports its operations, including recruitment efforts and incentives, through a sizeable network of illicit financial activity and enforced zakat (Islamic tithes).





**D**

# Building Resilience to Climate Impacts



# BURKINA FASO

## Community Watch Committees to address tensions linked to climate stress factors

**Réseau Afrique Jeunesse (RAJ): Strengthening endogenous community mechanisms to prevent radicalisation and violent extremism in the North and Sahel regions**

**North (Yatenga-Lorum) and Sahel (Seno-Yagha) regions**

**Direct reach:** 1,118 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 2

The project managed by the Réseau Afrique Jeunesse (RAJ) (Africa Youth Network) in the North and Sahel regions of Burkina Faso incorporates various components designed to strengthen community resilience against violent extremist recruitment. By establishing Community Watch Committees (CWCs) and by training women and youth leaders of community

associations, as well young pastoralists (herdsmen/women), the project takes a multi-pronged approach to building understanding of violent extremism and signs of radicalisation within communities. Following their training, young pastoralists have organised community watch committees and have carried out community dialogues on prevention among their peers.

Through the RAJ initiative, community dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution protocols have been put in place to provide standard steps and means of resolving tensions so that escalation towards violent extremist activity is avoided. Frequently, the cause of such tensions derives from increased climate-related stresses, such as competition for shrinking water resources, arable, or grazing land.

Once made aware of these community mechanisms, traditional and religious leaders have expressed strong interest in engaging with these groups and platforms, to establish connections with youth and women's associations, thereby allowing for a collaborative approach to prevention. In the North region these stakeholders have also received training, and are engaged in developing and managing community protocols for conflict resolution and awareness-raising within communities.

Since the launch of the project and the different community mechanisms, there are clear indications of their effectiveness. Across six communities, 60 community watch committee participants were able to detect 28 separate cases of early signs of radicalisation or discrimination, which made possible case-by-case support for the vulnerable individuals.

The CWCs also play a role in disseminating the knowledge they have gained more widely: nine awareness-raising and discussion sessions organised by the committees reached 270 people, to advocate for the role of young people in social cohesion, and for tolerance with respect to diverse religious faiths.

**I thank the facilitators who came for the talk. I ask them to multiply the awareness sessions. We were able to understand the consequences of conflicts and the extent to which they can impact the way communities live together.**

**Fadima Oumarou**

Village of Bombori, Sebba commune, Burkina Faso





# NIGERIA

## Community-level response teams to seek peaceful coexistence

### Women Environmental Programme (WEP) and the Murna Foundation: Training Community-Level Response and Peacebuilding Teams (CRPTs)

#### Musawa Local Government Area, Katsina State

Direct reach: 30 in 2022

Country GTI ranking: 8

In Nigeria, poorly resourced and understaffed national security agents are unable to adequately provide security for the whole of the country. Rural areas are particularly affected by the lack of security actors, thus allowing violent extremist groups to operate with relative impunity.

The Murna Foundation is implementing training of Community-level Response and Peacebuilding Teams (CRPTs), aimed to address the absence of sufficient security actors in the settings targeted by the project. While they are not rule-of-law actors *per se*, the CRPTs are a type of early-warning and early-response mechanism to address low-level conflicts and disputes before they escalate in to communal violence. Unresolved conflicts and disputes often present opportunities for violent extremist groups to manipulate the parties and to create entry points for extremist recruitment.

The effectiveness of the CRPT model is linked in part to the diversity of the teams. Members are drawn from formal security agencies, civil society organisations working in peacebuilding, religious, community, traditional, and women leaders, and community defence organisations.

Through the project, CRPT members are trained on drivers of violent extremism, radicalisation, and recruitment, as well as on techniques for alternative dispute resolution for use at the community level.

Collaboration has also been strengthened between the CRPTs and formal security actors. When team

members recognise that a conflict or case is severe, they are thus able to refer the conflict to formal security agencies. The CRPTs are also linked with the State Peace and Response Team (SPRT) to ensure that community-level insights into security threats and incidents can be rapidly communicated to state agencies for resource allocation and response.

The CRPTs are a strong example of GCERFs goal of supporting sustainable projects. While the Murna Foundation periodically monitors the work of the CRPTs and offers training, the Community Response and Peacebuilding Teams have taken root and now function independently, one year after they were launched.

**I never knew that after my retirement I would still be on active duty and to be of help to my community. I have seen first-hand how important knowing how to resolve conflict is. I am happy I support my community to keep peace and I will continue to put in my effort to ensure peace. More people are trusting and relying on the (response and peacebuilding) team to intervene even in little matters.**

#### Anonymous

Retired Nigerian Army soldier recruited to join a community level response and peacebuilding team, Musawa local government area

# MALI

## Dialogue spaces for farmer-herder conflict resolution

**Initiatives Conseils Développement (ICD) Mali Resilience and Inter- and Intra-Community Cohesion Support Project (PARC-2i) Mopti region and the cercles (administrative regions) of Bandiagara, Bankass, Djenné, Douentza, Koro, and Mopti**  
**Direct reach:** 10,319 people  
**Country GTI ranking:** 4 (7)

The Resilience and Inter- and Intra-Community Cohesion Support Project (PARC-2i) was designed to prevent the instrumentalisation of local conflicts and tensions by strengthening the ability of community leaders to anticipate, manage, and prevent crises which create a risk of radicalisation within communities. The comprehensive approach also equips community leaders to track the location and status of natural resources and livestock markets, to monitor conflict risks, and to disseminate information within communities.

In addition, a system of Dialogue Spaces empowers communities to manage conflicts in a peaceful manner - or to prevent them altogether. The Dialogue Spaces work with a traditional approach to conflict management. Dialogue Space members are chosen at a community general assembly in the presence of local government administrators and communal and village leadership.

Once appointed, members of the Dialogue Spaces are responsible for conducting awareness-raising sessions within communities as a means of preventing potential conflicts, bringing together at least 10 people per session. Session topics are designed to be practical and applicable to everyday tensions that may arise: peaceful methods of resolving conflicts, equitable management of natural resources or parameters for animal roaming and grazing, how animal pathways should be defined to facilitate their access to water points, or how to manage obstruction of animal paths, for example.

Where a conflict has arisen, Dialogue Space community representatives are responsible for

convening discussions with village or community authorities to find ways out of the crisis or to resolve the dispute.

As of 2022, Dialogue Spaces have been established in 12 villages within the territory where conflicts between farmers and herders related to access to natural resources and seasonal migration have been most frequent. The experience of ICD-Mali as implementers of the PARC-2i Project has shown that Dialogue Spaces are effective in strengthening social cohesion by promoting peaceful cohabitation, a climate of trust, and strengthened social ties between communities.

In settings where ICD-Mali is implementing PARC-2i, the risk of violent extremism stems from governance-related grievances within communities, which create openings for armed groups to replace legitimate authorities, and to take advantage of a weakened

State, by offering protection and essential services.

Youth unemployment is also a driver of radicalisation: 17.4% of youth aged 15-24 are unemployed, making them vulnerable to material incentives to join violent extremist groups.



# Fostering Acceptance of Returnees

**E**



# KOSOVO

## Reintegration of former combatants and their families

### THE CDF Consortium: Kosovo-wide Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programme

#### Workshops on trauma processing for the children of returning foreign terrorist fighters

**Direct reach:** 163 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 90

To address the factors creating risk of violent extremism in Kosovo, the CDF Consortium project currently supports returning foreign terrorist fighters

(RFTFs) and their families to reintegrate into their community of origin by providing skills training and access to economic activities. In parallel, the project works to strengthen the capacity of government and civil society frontline workers involved in the rehabilitation and reintegration process for returning foreign terrorist fighters. Seeking also to prevent new recruitments, the initiative includes activities to reach community members who have not left to join foreign terrorist efforts, but are identified as at high risk of violent extremist radicalisation.

Former combatants and their families encounter multiple and complex challenges when returning home. They often face stigma, lack knowledge and education, and may have few professional skills through which to access employment. In addition, they frequently contend with psychological problems and challenges with disassociating from radical ideology.

**In one of the art therapy sessions, one of the participants started to speak, something that psychologists had not achieved through counselling. Everyone was surprised listening to her speaking... What I think pushed this girl to speak was the non-prejudicial atmosphere, the sincere compliments that I gave her, without knowing that she needed them so much.**

Project leader, speaking about a trauma-processing workshop

The risk of violent extremism in Kosovo is characterised by polarisation within communities in a post-conflict setting, creating avenues for radicalisation and openness to extremist narratives to take hold. In the past decade, Kosovo has seen some of the highest numbers of individuals recruited as foreign terrorist fighters per capita. Between 2012 and 2016, an estimated 358 Kosovo citizens, predominantly adult men, travelled to Syria and Iraq. In addition, at least 81 children were born to Kosovar nationals in conflict zones. As of May 2022, 253 citizens had returned to Kosovo and around 86 were still expected to return, of whom nearly half were children. More recently, the country has also seen an increase in arrests related to domestic extremist violence.

In a component of the project tailored specifically to children, grant sub-recipient Integra developed a series of trauma-processing workshops using drama and art therapies. Held in school environments, the workshops are designed to focus on the physical and spiritual issues faced both by the children of RFTF and their peers. The workshops are designed to foster creativity, leadership, self-expression, positive thinking, and the development of soft skills.

Building on positive outcomes of the trauma processing workshops thus far, these sessions are slated to continue through the end of the grant in 2023, with new funding planned in 2024 to shore up the sustainability of training programmes. The approach developed through these workshops is currently being integrated into the curriculum of the University of Prishtina's psychology department, enabling a more long-term application of good practices developed through the programme.



# ALBANIA AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Comprehensive support for returnees and their families

### **Terre des Hommes and the Counselling Line for Women and Girls (CLWG)**

#### **Prevention and safe reintegration: Holistic approaches and resilience to violent extremism**

##### **Albania**

##### **Atlantic Initiative**

#### **Preparing an enabling environment for rehabilitation and reintegration**

##### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Direct reach:** 89 frontline workers, 36 returnees

**Indirect reach:** 1.3 million people

**Countries GTI ranking:** 93

GCERF's three grants to Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina were developed to implement a regional investment strategy for the Western Balkans after initial evaluations showed that a similar approach to rehabilitation and reintegration could be applied in these countries given similar drivers and risks of violent extremist engagement.

In Albania, grants to Terre des Hommes and the Counselling Line for Women and Girls (CLWG) currently support 26 families with a comprehensive set of interventions, including psychosocial support, legal aid, tutoring, basic needs, and vocational training

programmes. Vocational training and after-school courses for children have proven to be pivotal for returnees and their family members, who may lack the basic literacy skills and education which would allow them to find employment or to integrate with peers.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Atlantic Initiative is implementing activities with three main rehabilitation and reintegration objectives: capacity-strengthening of national and local institutions and frontline practitioners; improving strategic communications on these processes within institutions and to the public; and increasing social cohesion and community agency to create an enabling environment for the reintegration and resocialisation of returnees.

As of end-2022, vocational training for RFTFs was slated to continue in both Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina through 2023. In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina expects to repatriate an additional 120 returning nationals in 2023, the majority of whom are women and children. In anticipation of the resources needed for their rehabilitation and reintegration, preparatory work by GCERF and local partners in Bosnia and Herzegovina for potential grant support will be instrumental to this process.

In the Western Balkans, the predominant manifestation of violent extremism is the incidence of returnees from conflicts abroad, also known as Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (RFTFs). Countries in the Western Balkans have had some of the highest number of returnees per capita in the world. GCERF's grant portfolio in the Western Balkans aims to provide reintegration, rehabilitation and resocialisation support to returnees and their families. In particular, creating access to livelihoods plays an essential role in empowering returnees and their families, and in strengthening the resilience of communities against violent extremism.

**I came back to my home country a year ago at the age of 16, after spending the last 10 years in Syria and a year in a detention centre in Syria. I had no formal schooling and I did not know how to read and write. It has been very hard to catch up with my peers. I have received tutoring support, clothing, and psychological counselling support. It is still very hard, but I am almost all caught up with my schooling.**

Returnee reached through the Terre Des Hommes programme in Albania



# SAHEL TRI-BORDER AREA

## Rehabilitation of ex-combatants in prisons and communities

### Think-Peace

**From Young Armed Repentant to Young Positive Actors of Change JRA-JAC.**

**of Mopti (Koro, Bankass), Gao (Gao, Ansongo) and Ménaka (Ménaka), tri-border area of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger**

**Direct reach:** 15,140 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 4-8

In the tri-border area of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, governance-related grievances have created openings for violent extremist groups to take advantage of weakened States by presenting themselves as an alternative source of protection and essential services. Youth unemployment is also a driver of radicalisation: 17.4% of youth aged 15-24 are unemployed, making them vulnerable to the material incentives offered by violent extremist groups.

The project *From Young Armed Repentant to Young Positive Actors of Change* is designed to reach ex-combatants and ex-prisoners as well as the communities they return to. On the one hand the project encourages ex-combatants and ex-prisoners to surrender their weapons, and to engage with communities, to counter and prevent violent extremism. The initiative also engages ex-prisoners, ex-combatants, women and youth to participate in community decision-making and reconciliation, offering them training in leadership skills, advocacy and conflict resolution.

To implement this project, Think Peace is working in partnership with the National Directorate of Penitentiary Administration and Supervised Education (DNAPES), to carry out an assessment of the psychological disorders of detainees within prisons of Gao and Mopti, in order to understand their mental state. The evaluations facilitate specific diagnoses for prisoners and referral to support groups providing psychosocial support in order to facilitate their reintegration.

In addition, community conciliation meetings have been put in place to understand and respond to tension or dysfunction within the community, and to provide an opportunity for the regional arms regulation authorities to urge gun owners to hand in their weapons. The sessions are based on a participatory approach through sharing of experiences among ex-combatants, and advocacy training equipping participants to advocate with local elected officials and administrative authorities, for their concerns to be considered in local development policies.

Think Peace will continue its listening sessions in prisons and organising exchanges and experience sharing with ex-combatants and repentants while also providing entrepreneurship training for these beneficiaries.

**Gradually, the farmers had occupied all the animal passages with fields. Every time I brought my animals to the field, the farmer would take them to the pound under the pretext that my animals had crossed their fields and I said nothing, but in return I always paid a fine... because of my ex-combatant status, so as not to give the impression of making trouble.**

**Souleymane T.**

Herder and former combatant, Koro, Mali

# THE PHILIPPINES

## Assistance and livelihoods support to widows of former combatants

**Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society – CBCS PROTECT PEACE IN BARMM PROJECT (Promoting Resilient and Organized Citizenry Towards Empowerment and Community Empowerment for Peace in BARMM)**

**North Cotabato, Maguindanao, Tawi-Tawi, Sulu, Basilan**

**Direct reach:** 7,988 people  
**Country GTI ranking:** 18 (17)

Since 2019, Protect Peace in BARMM Project has worked to build capacity for peacebuilding, social cohesion and resilience in 70 communities identified because they are considered high risk for violent extremist engagement, across the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao.

A significant focus area has been to expand access to meaningful livelihoods in communities where combatants of former rebel groups and violent extremist groups are present, in order to provide alternatives to the incentives these groups offer. The initiative promotes peaceful engagement with local government entities, to foster a comprehensive approach to returnees, including access to livelihoods for returnees and their families.

In 2022, subrecipients of the grant managed by CBCS implemented activities with widows of the violent extremist Abu Sayyaf Group in Sulu, aiming at their integration into society, assisting a cooperative of women to develop a proposal for restoration of an income generating fishpond project, and acquiring sewing machines for other widows. The initiative also supported the creation of the Lupahsug Women Widows Association, accredited by the Ministry of Labor and Employment of the Bangsamoro

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, which includes 30 widows.

As of 2023, GCERF is funding a new round of grantees in the Philippines including the second phase of the Protect Peace initiative. In this second phase, the project will be expanded to provide livelihoods training and support to former combatants from recognised Moro fronts, as well as widows and children in areas affected by violent extremism.







# Empowering Women and Girls



# NIGERIA

## Safe spaces for women and girls shared experience and empowerment

**Nigeria; AAN- SARVE III in Kano and Kaduna States, AAN – Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS)**

**WEP- SAVE in Katsina State**

**WEP – Women Safe Space (WSS)**

**Direct reach:** 834 women

**Country GTI ranking:** 8 (5)

In Northern Nigeria, conservative patriarchal norms largely restrict women to the home and to domestic roles. However the Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) and Women Safe Space (WSS) initiative has been developed to take advantage of the key role that women already play as primary caregivers and dispute mediators, and to further empower women as agents to prevent violent extremism.

The initiative, implemented by three GCERF subrecipients in Kaduna, Kano, and Katsina States, aims to equip women of all ages with critical thinking skills, and to facilitate the essential role they play to reinforce the stability of communities and to prevent violent extremism. The Safe Spaces have been established as informal gathering places where only women and girls are allowed, in which they are free to discuss issues that affect them and their communities without men present.

As a key step in the process of setting up WGSS and WSS more than 65 women leaders were trained to lead and facilitate dialogue within the spaces.

In all of the Safe Spaces, awareness-raising sessions are held about violent extremist threats and methods of recruitment, and how to identify early signs of violent extremist radicalisation within their families or communities. Instruction also includes how to report violent extremist incidents and individuals to formal

security personnel. In addition, some Women and Girls Safe Spaces have also chosen to incorporate the nexus between sexual exploitation and abuse towards women and girls, and violent extremism, in awareness-raising activities.

For future replication and expansion of the Women and Girls Safe Space model, links have been made by the project implementers with the Kaduna and Kano Ministries of Women's Affairs.





# KENYA

## Reinforcing importance of women as leaders of peace initiatives and groups

**Act! ARIVE programme.**

**SR: WOKIKE, Garissa County**

**Strengthening Capacities of Institutions and Communities to Reduce VE in Garissa County**

**Direct reach:** 150 people

**Country GTI ranking:** 20

In arid north-eastern provinces of the country, migration induced by climate change and the ongoing drought creates additional tensions surrounding access to water and grazing lands. From 2021 to 2022 Kenya witnessed an increase in violent extremist attacks, concentrated in the north-eastern and coastal counties, as well as in informal urban settlements in Nairobi and Mombasa.

The project initiated by the GCERF subrecipient WOKIKE focuses on two main pillars to strengthen engagement and empowerment of women in the effort to prevent violent extremism: fostering dialogue between religious leaders, and dialogues to enhance the role of women in peace structures.

To develop counter-narratives to violent extremist rhetoric posing a risk to their communities, 50 women drawn from women's groups, traders, and people living with disabilities held structured discussions with clerics and other religious leaders, and jointly developed action plans to resolve conflicts over resources or political tensions in order to ensure sustainable peace within communities.

During the dialogue sessions, participants also recognised that women and children bear the brunt of increasing communal conflicts and sought to enhance women's roles in peace structures. Within the Garissa County Engagement Forum (CEF) for example, it was agreed to deliberately prioritise women's issues and perspectives on violent extremism, and security related issues, by ensuring that women hold leadership roles in the structures and processes. Women were appointed as CEF pillar heads and empowered to lead CEF secretariat meetings.

Advocacy by the CEF to mainstream women's participation in other county peace structures was also discussed and agreed upon, with a view to increasing women's participation County Peace Forums, County Land Management Boards, Nyumba Kumi committees, grazing committees, and inter-religious groups. WOKIKE is the only subgrantee of the ARIVE programme specifically working under the outcome of 'Engaging women in formal and informal security structures.'

While the current grant activity is due to end in 2023, WOKIKE will hold additional activities to build capacity within five women's support groups in two sub-counties, on preventing and countering violent extremism and identifying early signs of radicalisation and recruitment.



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# TUNISIA

## Listening circles for women who are highly vulnerable to violent extremist activity

**WeLoveSousse – cercles d'écoute Mnhla, Raoued; North Jendouba, Fernana; Saquiet Sidi Youssef, Sers; Bouzguem (South Kasserine) Zouhour; Jelma Bouzid Est**

**Mise en place d'espaces d'accueil, d'orientation et de capitalisation sur les questions de la prévention de l'extrémisme violent**

**Direct reach:** 62 people (first phase)

**Country GTI ranking:** 40

In Tunisia, women are particularly impacted by violent extremism through the experience of having their child being recruited by a violent extremist group, or in some instances because they themselves have been radicalised.

To create a forum for support to women whose lives are touched by violent extremist trends in diverse ways, the organisation (WeLoveSousse) has developed a programme of 'Cercles d'écoute', or listening circles, in order to provide an alternative to the local security response to violent extremism within communities, which has not addressed the needs of vulnerable women for support, counselling or further referral.

The listening circles are chaired by a psychologist who is also available to offer individual counselling and support, in addition to the group sharing session. Within the group, a series of listening circle meetings also allows for women to find common ground, and to support each other in the face of similar traumatic experiences, or challenging situations in their family life.

Beyond serving as a support mechanism for the participants, the Cercles d'Ecoute are a setting to make women aware of their rights, strengthen their parenting skills with respect to dissuading children from violent extremist ideas, and to be aware of administrative or security resources that are available to them as challenges arise. The personnel engaged to implement the project and the listening circles are specifically trained to be able to foster listening and orientation skills within the group, and to create a safe and supportive environment.







SECTION  
**4**

# OUTREACH

## Launch of GCERF's three-year funding replenishment process

On 20 September 2022, high-level representatives of 18 countries gathered at a pledging conference on the margins of the UN General Assembly to announce commitments to GCERF of US\$66 million for 2022 through 2024.

The funding represents a 24% increase over the previous three-year period and was the first time that GCERF called on donors to make multi-year commitments. Pledges were made by 15 traditional donor countries, and for the first time, contributions were also made by three States in which GCERF-supported projects are underway.

The Replenishment process initiated in 2022 will ensure greater predictability of funding, allowing GCERF to sustain and expand its support to countries for prevention activities.

**We see GCERF as a major ally to protect our youth and communities from terrorists who seek to indoctrinate them. By giving communities a sense of hope, tolerance, and the prospect of peace, the projects that GCERF supports are making a tangible difference.**

**President Mohamed Bazoum of Niger**





SECTION  
**5**

**GOVERNANCE  
AND HUMAN  
RESOURCES  
OVERVIEW**



## GCERF's Governing Board

As GCERF's decision-making body, the Governing Board has a range of responsibilities, including guiding GCERF's strategic direction and promoting GCERF's mission in order to mobilise resources. In 2022, GCERF held its first Board Meeting hosted by a partner country on 15-16 June in Tirana, Albania. A second hybrid Board Meeting was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 28-29 November.

The Board took 18 decisions on issues critical to the evolution and work of GCERF in 2022, including strategic direction, approval of new country investment strategies, and expansion of grant making to new partner countries: Mauritania, Mozambique, and Chad.

Among the decisions taken, the Board agreed to adjust the composition of the 15 voting constituencies to better reflect the growing number of donor and partner countries. This step maintains the overall number of constituencies, equal representation for donor and partner countries, and continued representation for civil society, the private sector, foundations and think-tanks.

All Board decisions are publicly available on GCERF's website at: <https://www.gcerf.org/board-decisions/>.

The Governing Board membership can be found in Annex 1a.

## The Independent Review Panel

GCERF's Independent Review Panel (IRP) is an impartial group of 13 experts providing rigorous technical assessment to guide the use of GCERF grant funding. The IRP also provides expert advice on specific country assessments and investment strategies, ensuring quality programming, specificity for the prevention of violent extremism, and alignment with national priorities. Members are appointed by the Board, with three new members approved at the 17th Board Meeting.

In 2022, IRP members contributed by reviewing several portfolio investment strategies before they were put forward to the Board, including for Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Philippines. They also provided guidance in the creation of several grants for Tunisia, Nigeria, Niger, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka.

IRP members also contributed significantly to knowledge-sharing, as co-facilitators of GCERF's Global Communities of Practice and GCTF CVE working group workshops on several occasions sharing insights into peer-to-peer learning, sustainability, opportunities for innovation, and the future of prevention of violent extremism.

The Independent Review Panel membership can be found in Annex 1b.



## Country Support Mechanisms (CSMs)

GCERF fully recognises the importance of coordinating with national governments in supporting their response to violent extremism, as well as the essential role of civil society, development partners, and other donors to support governments in their efforts to prevent violent extremism. To ensure full and effective coordination with and between these different stakeholders, GCERF's model calls for a range of representatives

working in the PVE space to form a Country Support Mechanism (CSM) as a precursor to the design and implementation of grants.

The CSM supports funding decisions for grants made through GCERF's Core Funding Mechanism, typically for a period of three years. CSMs play an essential role in both grant development and grant management, from the call for Expressions of Interest in a country, to the validation of grantee Principal Recipients and sub-grantees, to input and agreement on GCERF's investment strategy, and subsequent facilitation and support to implementing partners during the active grant phase.

## The Secretariat

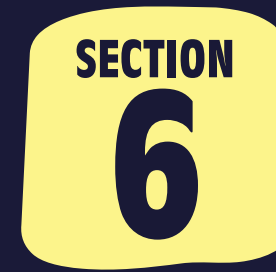
In 2022, the Secretariat's Human Resources and Administration Unit continued to facilitate GCERF's growth, launching recruitment processes to strengthen diverse areas of work of the organization and to reflect the expanding country portfolio. Deputy Executive Director and Deputy Head of Portfolio Management roles were added to reinforce leadership capacity. Six new Geneva-based professional and intern positions were created, as well as two additional National Advisor consultancies.

As of end-2022, GCERF's personnel included 47 people including 38 staff and interns in Geneva, and 10 National Advisors based in countries where grant implementation is underway (with some recruitments still in process). Workforce members represent 25 nationalities, and 64% are women.

The HR and Administration Unit also launched projects to refine GCERF's processes, working environment and culture in 2022. Innovation to seek the most cost-effective and best quality travel and IT support available have been launched to improve organisational efficiency. An independent third-party 'person of trust' was appointed, as a resource for confidential consultation by staff. Processes to mitigate and address risk were strengthened, and a project to identify new physical office space was begun, to accommodate GCERF's current and anticipated growth as a maturing global fund.







# FINANCE UPDATE

The Finance and Compliance Unit plans and organises financial resources and manages annual and project audits, while complying with international accounting standards. It also provides technical support to grant-making, grant-management, and grant-closure activities, and conducts regular financial training and support for grant recipients in countries.

The Finance and Audit Committee continues to oversee and advise the Secretariat on matters related to finance, audit, risk management or internal control. In 2022, an annual audit was conducted by an external company (BDO SA Ltd, Switzerland) on GCERF's financial statements. Auditors reported an unqualified opinion with no issues or findings in their report, including on the internal control system.

A number of grant recipients underwent financial examinations by BDO LLP (United Kingdom), as well as financial spot checks conducted by the Secretariat. Whenever necessary, findings led to an implementation plan in order to correct errors and weaknesses and to improve the recipients' financial capacity.

Internal control and risk-management systems continued to be strengthened in accordance with the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) model of internal control. Current procedures and processes continue to be reviewed and improved on a regular basis. The development of grant-management software was launched in 2022 and is underway.



# Donor Contributions to GCERF as of End-2022 (USD millions)

|                                    | Total contributions confirmed in 2022 | Total contributions 2014-2022 | Cash | In-kind contributions |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| <b>Australia</b>                   | 0,9                                   | 6,6                           | 6,6  |                       |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                | 0,0                                   | 0,0                           | 0,0  |                       |
| <b>Canada</b>                      | -                                     | 3,4                           | 3,4  |                       |
| <b>Denmark</b>                     | -                                     | 2,1                           | 2,1  |                       |
| <b>European Union</b>              | 12,0                                  | 26,3                          | 26,3 |                       |
| <b>France</b>                      | 0,8                                   | 3,8                           | 3,8  |                       |
| <b>Germany</b>                     | 7,1                                   | 13,1                          | 13,1 |                       |
| <b>Italy</b>                       | 0,5                                   | 3,4                           | 3,4  |                       |
| <b>Japan</b>                       | 0,6                                   | 8,3                           | 8,3  |                       |
| <b>Kofi Annan Foundation</b>       | -                                     | 0,1                           | 0,1  |                       |
| <b>Liechtenstein</b>               | -                                     | 0,3                           | 0,3  |                       |
| <b>Morocco</b>                     | -                                     | 0,0                           | 0,0  |                       |
| <b>Netherlands, Kingdom of the</b> | -                                     | 17,1                          | 17,1 |                       |

|  | Total contributions confirmed in 2022 | Total contributions 2014-2022 | Cash         | In-kind contributions |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| <b>New Zealand</b>                         | 1,8                                   | 3,0                           | 3,0          |                       |
| <b>Niger</b>                               | 0,1                                   | 0,1                           | 0,1          |                       |
| <b>Norway</b>                              | -                                     | 4,6                           | 4,6          |                       |
| <b>Private Sector</b>                      | -                                     | 0,1                           | 0,1          |                       |
| <b>Qatar</b>                               | -                                     | 10,0                          | 10,0         |                       |
| <b>Spain</b>                               | 0,0                                   | 0,0                           | 0,0          |                       |
| <b>Sweden</b>                              | -                                     | 0,2                           | 0,2          |                       |
| <b>Switzerland</b>                         | 0,7                                   | 11,9                          | 10,4         | 1,5                   |
| <b>United Kingdom</b>                      | -                                     | 2,6                           | 2,6          |                       |
| <b>United States of America</b>            | 5,0                                   | 24,8                          | 23,5         | 1,3                   |
| <b>Contributions to GCERF through GCSP</b> | -                                     | 1,7                           | -            | 1,7                   |
| <b>Total (USD millions)</b>                | <b>29,6</b>                           | <b>143,4</b>                  | <b>139,0</b> | <b>4,5</b>            |





SECTION  
**7**

# ANNEXES

# ANNEX 1A

Board Members (as of 31 December 2022)



## AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, AND NEW ZEALAND

**Board Member:** Mr Tetsuya Yamada, Director, International Safety and Security Cooperation Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tokyo

**Alternate Board Member:** H.E. Mr Jeffrey Roach, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations Office in Geneva Affairs and Trade, Wellington



## BANGLADESH

**Board Member:** H.E. Mr Masud Bin Momen, Ambassador and Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Dhaka

**Alternate Board Member:** H.E. Mr Md. Mustafizur Rahman, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office in Geneva



## CANADA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

**Board Member:** H.E. Ms Hema Kotecha, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations in Geneva

**Alternate Board Member:** Ms Christine Constantine Director, Counter-Terrorism and Anti-Crime Capacity Building Programs (ICC), Global Affairs Canada



## CIVIL SOCIETY

**Board Member:** Mr Fulco Van Deventer, Vice-Director, Human Security Collective, The Hague

**Alternate Board Member:** Ms Selena Victor, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Mercy Corps Europe, London



## EUROPEAN UNION, FRANCE, DENMARK, AND ITALY

**Board Member:** Mr Jesper Steen Pedersen, Deputy Head of Unit, FPI.1 - Peace and Stability - Global Threats, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), European Commission, Brussels

**Alternate Board Member:** Mme Amélie Delaroche, Deputy Head of the Suppression of Terrorism and Organized Crime Department, Strategic, Security and Disarmament Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, Paris



## FOUNDATIONS

**Board Member:** Ms Emman El-Badawy, Head of Research, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, London



## KENYA

**Board Member:** H.E. Dr Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations Office in Geneva



## KOSOVO, NORTH MACEDONIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, AND ALBANIA

**Board Member:** H.E. Mr Xhelal Svecla, Minister of Internal Affairs of Kosovo, Pristina

**Alternate Board Member:** Mr Zlatko Apostoloski, National Coordinator for Prevention of Violent Extremism and Counterterrorism of North Macedonia, Skopje



## MALI, NIGERIA, NIGER, BURKINA FASO, AND MAURITANIA

**Board Member:** H.E. Mr Abiodun Richards Adejola, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations Office in Geneva

**Alternate Board Member:** H.E. Mr Mamadou Henri Konate, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mali to the United Nations Office in Geneva



## POLICY, THINK AND DO TANKS

**Board Member:** Mr Eelco Kessels, Executive Director, Global Center on Cooperative Security, New York



## PRIVATE SECTOR

**Board Member:** Ms Jessica Long, CSO and Managing Director, Closed Loop Partners, New York

**Alternate Board Member:** Mr Tony Carroll, Founding Director, Acorus Capital; Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C.



## QATAR

**Board Member:** H.E. Dr Mutlaq Majed Al-Qahtani, Ambassador and Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar for Counterterrorism and Mediation, Doha



## SWITZERLAND

**Board Member:** H.E. Mr Christian Frutiger, Ambassador, Assistant Director General and Head of Global Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Bern

**Alternate Board Member:** Dr Daniel Frank, Deputy Coordinator for International Counter-Terrorism, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, Bern



## TUNISIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

**Board Member:** Ms Neila Feki, Vice-President, National Counter Terrorism Commission of the Republic of Tunisia, Tunis

**Alternate Board Member:** Ms. Margarita Gutierrez, Undersecretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government of the Philippines (DILG), Manila



## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, AND GERMANY

**Board Member:** Mr Ian Moss, Deputy Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

**Alternate Board Member:** Ms Naomi Yorks, Deputy Head of Section, Counterterrorism and National Security Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, The Hague



# ANNEX 1B

Independent Review Panel Members  
(as of 31 December 2022)



**Mr Keneshbek B. Sainazarov (IRP Chair)**

Asia Regional Director and Uzbekistan Country Director, Search for Common Ground



**Mr Christian Leke Achaleke**

Pan-Commonwealth Coordinator, Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network



**Mr Adam Ravnkilde**

Senior Strategic Adviser, Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, European Union Advisory Mission in Iraq



**Dr Andrew Glazzard**

Professor, Coventry University, United States Institute for Peace



**Sir Malcolm Evans**

Professor of Public International Law, University of Bristol Law, Chair, United Nations Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture



**Mr David Malet**

Associate Professor of Justice, Law, and Criminology, American University



**Ms Eya Jrad**

Rule of Law, Security, and Human Rights Specialist



**Ms Fatima Star U. Lamalan**

Project Coordinator, Salaam Movement, Ateneo de Davao University



**Ms Humera Khan**

President, MUFLEHUN



**Dr Lisa Schirch**

Senior Advisor on Policy, Alliance for Peacebuilding on Human Security



**Mr John Sampson**

Senior Principal Global Practice Specialist, DAI



**Mr Keneshbeck B. Sainazarov**

Asia Regional Director and Uzbekistan Country Director, Search for Common Ground



**Ms Maud Roure**

Head of Programmes, Transitions to Peace and Promoting Youth Leadership, Kofi Annan Foundation



**Dr Medinat Abdulazeez Malefakis**

Fellow, Collegium Helveticum ETH Zurich

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