

TAJIKISTAN

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

GCERF invites Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Tajikistan to apply for funding to implement programmes that promote rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R) of women and children returnees from Northeast Syria and Iraq, building on the previous work by other like-minded organisations and the Government of Tajikistan.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 10 January 2026 – 11:59 PM (Dushanbe time)

Background

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), a Swiss nonprofit foundation established in 2014, supports local initiatives that strengthen community resilience against radicalisation and violent extremism. In 2025, GCERF launched programming in Tajikistan following the approval of the Country Investment Strategy (2025–2028), the establishment of the Country Support Mechanism (CSM) and based on the Situational Analyses and Needs Report (August 2025), GCERF will prioritise:

1. Strengthening Local Capacity for Rehabilitation and Reintegration and Case Management
2. Rehabilitation and Reintegration Support for Vulnerable Women and Children Returnees

These efforts align with Tajikistan's National Strategy on Countering Extremism and Terrorism (2021–2025) and aim to promote social cohesion and equitable access to services in communities at risk.

Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

GCERF invites Tajik civil society organisations (CSOs) to submit EOIs for grant funding to implement rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R) initiatives for women and children repatriated from Iraq and Syria, as well as vulnerable groups in their communities.

Funding will be provided primarily through a **consortium model**, led by a Principal Recipient (PR) responsible for managing funds and supporting Sub-Recipients (SRs). In justified cases, GCERF may fund a Direct Grantee.

Beneficiaries

- Repatriated women and children from Iraq and Northeast Syria
- Vulnerable women and children in local communities (e.g. survivors of GBV, single mothers, migrant families)
- *Mahalla* activists, frontline workers (teachers, social workers, psychologists, religious leaders), and local authorities.

Geographic Locations

Khatlon, Sughd, and Districts of Republican Subordination (including Dushanbe).

Objectives

The funding will be directed towards strengthening the following objectives:

Objective 1. Local Capacity Building: Train frontline workers, promote tolerance, reduce stigma, and strengthen community-based case management.

- Leverage existing community structures, particularly local governance systems, to facilitate prompt social adaptation and family reunification.
- Increase awareness among the public and frontline workers about reducing stigma and discrimination against returnees by educating local service providers and assisting civil society in training these groups and communities to promote acceptance and reintegration of returnees.

Objective 2. Direct R&R Support: Provide education, psychosocial care, and economic empowerment to women and children returnees.

- Ensure educational and social integration for repatriated children by creating flexible and inclusive learning environments to foster their long-term development and well-being.
- Provide training and livelihood support to women, youth, and children to reduce vulnerability.

Grant size

- Objective 1: Up to USD 500,000;
- Objective 2: Up to USD 500,000

Grant duration

The grants will last up to 24 months

Eligible grantees

Legally registered Tajik CSOs (consortia preferred) with proven experience in community-based initiatives, financial management, R&R, or PVE programming.

Expressions of Interest

Applicants are asked to demonstrate that they meet GCERF's established prerequisites and that they possess the required capabilities to be a Principal Recipient of GCERF funding.

PREREQUISITES
(i) Legal registration in the Republic of Tajikistan.
(ii) Willingness and capacity to serve as a Principal Recipient (PR) within a consortium, if applicable.
REQUIRED CAPABILITIES
(i) Established trust and networks with target communities.
(ii) Proven experience in programme and project cycle management.
(iii) Strong financial and grant management capacity, including experience with international donors.
(iv) Demonstrated ability to manage or participate in consortia and oversee sub-recipients.
(v) Experience in community-level initiatives addressing drivers of violent extremism.

(vi) Expertise in providing referral, educational, and livelihood support to vulnerable women and children.
(vii) Prior involvement in rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees from Iraq and Northeast Syria.
(viii) Proposals must be submitted in English.

How to Submit an Expression of Interest

EOIs must be submitted in English by **10 January 2026** - 11:59 PM (Dushanbe time) to call.centralasia@gcerf.org with the subject line: "EOI-TAJ-R&R-[Organisation Name]".

Please ensure that your application includes the following documents (provided in attachment to this EOI):

- Copies of organisational registration documents
- Latest Audit Report
- Theory of Change in GCERF template
- Proposed organisation chart for the project (not for your organisation)
- Completed Annex A (Application form)
- Completed Annex B (Details of your past projects)
- Completed Annex C (Proposed budget)

For clarifications, contact contact.centralasia@gcerf.org.

Question and Answer Session

GCERF will host an online Q&A session for potential applicants on **15 December 2025, 3:00 PM** Dushanbe time at the following link: <https://meet.google.com/bxu-gpwd-uxd>.

Selection process

Applications will undergo:

1. Eligibility assessment
2. Committee evaluation for quality and relevance (minimum score: 70)
3. Award decision based on merit and available funding

GCERF reserves the right to fund one, multiple, or none of the submitted proposals.