

## BACKGROUND

Yemen is at the beginning of a long process of transitioning from eight years of humanitarian emergency toward stabilisation. Yemen ranks 22nd on the 2023 Global Terrorism Index, improving its rank by one spot compared to the 2022 ranking. Yemen performs better in the index than many other countries, which are presumably safer and more politically stable, suggesting that the situation in Yemen is under-reported or not disaggregated from the ongoing conflict in the country, which certainly includes violent extremist groups.

Yemen became a GCERF partner country\* in 2023, and the investment began in 2024. GCERF signed USD 2 million grants with two local civil society organisations (CSOs) to implement aspects of the investment strategy, which contributes to the community-based reintegration of children who were involved in the armed conflicts.

GCERF pioneers a unique model of investment designed to promote a whole-of-society approach and ensure the sustainability of our programmes. Under this model, in each partner country, we support national governments in establishing a steering committee called the Country Support Mechanism (CSM).

In Yemen, the CSM is chaired by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) and GCERF brings together relevant government agencies, civil society organisations, and donor representatives to provide strategic direction for the programmes, ensure results, and progressively inherit ownership of funding community-level efforts to prevent violent extremism.

## GCERF'S INVESTMENT STRATEGY IN YEMEN

GCERF's investment strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to address the drivers of violent extremism and guides civil society organisations in designing their programmes.

The investment focuses on:

1. Strengthening trust and tolerance among communities and leaders to foster community resilience and a renewed sense of purpose.
2. Increasing livelihood resources, leading to the economic resilience of vulnerable at-risk youth. Supporting rehabilitation and community-based Integration of Former Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups (CAAFAG) in their communities.
3. Awareness-raising on PVE for communities to take local actions to prevent violent extremism.



## WHERE

- Taiz
- Hadramout
- Aden
- Abyen
- Marib
- ADhali
- Lahjj

## Who

- Local and Informal Authorities
- Former Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups (CAAFAG) and Youth Soldiers
- Vulnerable Members of the Community into which these Children and Youth will be Returning to
- Members (frontline workers) of rehabilitation centres

\*Partner countries are those in which GCERF funds civil society organisations to implement initiatives aimed at preventing violent extremism.

CURRENT GRANTS

IMPLEMENTED BY		PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES	
<b>Principal Recipient:</b> Resonate! Yemen  <b>Sub-recipients:</b> Afaq Shababia Foundation –ASF, Psychiatric Care Development Foundation –PCF, Martyr Bin Habrish Foundation for Development –BHF		Increase community members' acceptance of reintegration, recovery, and mitigation of returnees and individuals at risk  Support the returnees and those at risk to gain confidence, resources, and opportunities to effectively re-integrate into society  Increase the capacity and knowledge of rehabilitation centres on rehabilitation and reintegration.	
AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION	GRANT AMOUNT	PERIOD OF THE GRANT	
Taiz, Hadramout, Aden	USD 987,307	January 2024 – December 2026	

IMPLEMENTED BY		PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES	
<b>Principal Recipient:</b> Deem For Development  <b>Sub-recipients:</b> Estijabah Foundation for humanitarian Aid and relief (ESTIJABAH), Qatarat Foundation for Development (Qatarat)		Improve and expand Rehabilitation centres' and service providers' operations capacity in the provision of comprehensive rehabilitation programme services for (CAAFAG) and the broader community.  Increase the Community members' and CSOs' acceptance and knowledge towards the re-integration of CAAFAG.  Increase Youth job preparedness and labour market skills	
AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION	GRANT AMOUNT	PERIOD OF THE GRANT	
Aden, Abyen, Marib, AD Dhali, and Lahjj	USD 996,458	January 2024 – December 2026	



GCERF’S VALUE PROPOSITION

GCERF’S UNIQUE MODEL OF INVESTMENT PRIORITISES:

**Community-ownership and localisation:** We invest in trusted grassroots civil society organisations that prioritise the needs and grievances of communities most affected by violent extremism. Many of these organisations have never received international funding before.

**Sustainability:** Our programmes involve all groups of society and strengthens trust between government, civil society and community members to build stronger, more resilient societies. This ensures that initiatives and structures continue to be relevant and effective.

**Robust monitoring and evaluation processes:** Our multi-layered monitoring and evaluation system, operating locally and globally, provides continuous feedback on programme effectiveness, identifies areas for improvement, and ensures objectives are consistently met.

**Knowledge sharing:** Our global network of civil society organisations working on PVE facilitates the exchange of good practices and lessons learned, fostering collaboration and enhancing the effectiveness of interventions. We also share our experiences through our participation in various conferences, publishing of articles and research papers in reputed journals to advance the understanding of PVE.

**Capacity strengthening:** We strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations to manage large-scale grants and implement effective initiatives, while also enhancing government capacity to develop comprehensive, holistic strategies to pre- vent violent extremism.

# KEY RESULTS

Cumulative from 2024 till April 2025

## 645

Participants in community and religious leaders dialogues

## 390

Participants in community visits, spreading awareness on CAFAAGs, and the best ways to support them

## 270

Radio flashes and Videos were aired across the implementation provinces to foster tolerance



MOSAL local technical focus group in Abyan. December 2024– Photo by Deem

## STORY OF CHANGE Empowering Knowledge and Commitment to Child Protection

In October 2024, the Deputy Manager of Dara Takaful, an orphanage dedicated to supporting orphans, attended the Child Protection Minimum Standards (CPMS) training by DEEM, SRI. Before the training, his understanding of child protection was limited, and he lacked awareness of how these standards could be applied in his role. However, the training proved to be a pivotal moment in his professional journey.

The training, which covered key child protection principles, significantly deepened his knowledge of CPMS. It was not just theoretical; it emphasized practical ethics and a mature approach to safeguarding children. The Deputy Manager described the experience as transformative, adding significant value to his personal and professional approach to child protection. He now fully understood how CPMS directly impacts vulnerable children's well-being, particularly those in orphanages like Dara Takaful.

As he progressed through the sessions, he actively sought out additional programs related to child protection and was determined to strengthen his ability to apply CPMS in his work. The knowledge gained from the training helped refine the orphanage's policies and practices, ensuring a more comprehensive and effective system of care for the children. The Dara Takaful, integrating CPMS standards into everyday operations.

Beyond his role at the orphanage, the Deputy Manager became a strong advocate for child protection. He actively spread awareness of children's rights and the importance of safeguarding their well-being within his network. His commitment inspired others to adopt CPMS standards and prioritise child protection in their own work.



**GCERF**  
Preventing Violent Extremism  
and Terrorism

Find out more about becoming an investor, our work, and the collective impact we make at:  
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