

BACKGROUND

Yemen is at the beginning of a long process of transitioning from eight years of humanitarian emergency towards stabilisation. Yemen ranks 23rd on the 2024 Global Terrorism Index, improving its rank by one spot compared to the 2023 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, GCERF was invited by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) to cooperate with the relevant government agencies, civil society organisations, and donor representative in the internationally recognized Government of Yemen.

This collaboration provides strategic direction for the programmes, ensures results, and progressively inherits ownership of funding community-level efforts to prevent violent extremism. GCERF's work is aligned with the Yemen Humanitarian Plan (2023) further reflected in its investment strategy in Yemen.

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
- Abyan
- Marib
- Al Dhale
- Lahej

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	
Principal Recipient: Resonate! Yemen Sub-recipients: Afaq Shababia Foundation –ASF, Youth Without Borders Organization for Development (YWBOD), 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	



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 prevent violent extremism.

IMPLEMENTED BY		PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES	
Principal Recipient: Deem For Development Sub-recipients: 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, Abyan, Marib, AIDhalea, and Lahej	USD 996,458	January 2024 – December 2026	

KEY RESULTS

Cumulative from 2024 till October 2025

643

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



Monitoring visits for programme and project team.



Local partner mid-assessment workshop in Aden

STORY OF CHANGE

Rehabilitating Juvenile Care in Aden

As part of the humanitarian intervention aimed at enhancing child protection and reintegration into society, Deem for Development Organization launched a GCERF-funded project centered on rehabilitating a Juvenile Center in Aden.

The center had been in deteriorated conditions prior to the rehabilitation project and thus underwent a significant transformation. The facilities are not fully renovated, rooms were refurbished with new beds, and air conditioning units powered by solar energy were installed.

An administrative staff member at the center confirmed that the improvements were not merely cosmetic, but effectively enhanced the protective environment within the facility, "The project came at a time when we desperately needed change. There had been repeated complaints from both children and staff about the deteriorating facilities, but today we can carry out educational and recreation activities in a much safer environment that respects the dignity of the children".

This intervention promotes the dignity of children and their right to live in a safe environment that supports their psychological and social development and renews their hope for a better future.



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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