



BACKGROUND

Camps and prisons in northeastern Syria and Iraq house numerous citizens of Kyrgyzstan (men, women, and children) who travelled to the region to join violent extremist groups. Bishkek stands out as a global leader in repatriating its citizens, especially women and children, ensuring that once they return home, they undergo successful rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Additionally, in Kyrgyzstan, there are also a significant number of individuals serving prison sentences who are either related to violent extremism or are at risk of radicalisation.

COUNTRY SUPPORT MECHANISM (CSM)

In Kyrgyzstan, CSM is under renewal, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs has taken the initiative and is renewing the composition of the group by including various agencies that will work not only on rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R), but also on broader efforts to prevent violent extremism (PVE). CSM provides strategic direction for the programmes, ensure results and progressively inherit ownership of funding community-level efforts to prevent violent extremism.

OUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY IN KYRGYZSTAN



Support the rehabilitation, resocialisation, and reintegration of people returning from Iraq and Northeast Syria with a special focus on women and children.



Support the reintegration of individuals convicted of extremist offences through comprehensive support during incarceration and upon release.



Create an enabling environment for return, rehabilitation and reintegration of people and prevent others from leaving.

2023

Kyrgyzstan became a GCERF partner country in 2023

USD 2 M

GCERF's total investment in Kyrgyzstan to date

USD 2 M

Active grants value

7

Current civil society partners

DRIVERS OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Socioeconomic marginalisation, particularly among women, characterised by widespread poverty and unemployment

Religious and ideological vacuum; disillusionment with the secular system

Political instability and financial corruption undermining public trust in state institutions

GCERF FOCUS AREAS AND POPULATION GROUPS IN KYRGYZSTAN



LOCATIONS

1 Ysyk-Köl
2 Chuy
3 Jalal-Abad
4 Osh

POPULATION GROUPS

Women and children returning from Iraq and Northeast Syria

Women at-risk of radicalisation and recruitment by VE groups

Convicts charged with violent extremism or terrorism or those at-risk of radicalisation

Frontline workers (psychologists, social workers, members of educational institutions)

Government authorities

KEY RESULTS*

400

Women and children returning from Iraq and Syria received comprehensive psychosocial support to address trauma and facilitate their reintegration into communities

300

Government members and women group leaders received training on R&R and trauma- and violence-informed care (TVIC) for improving the effectiveness of R&R processes

200+

Frontline workers, government authorities and religious leaders trained on referral mechanisms, case management and social issues to strengthen R&R efforts and create an enabling environment

100+

Returnee women and women leaders equipped with vocational skills and entrepreneurship support to facilitate sustainable reintegration into communities

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We must unite our efforts to provide comprehensive support to returnee women as they adapt to new living conditions. Only through collaborative work, concrete actions, and practical assistance can a woman feel the support of society and gain confidence in herself and in her future. It is crucial to create real opportunities for social and economic support. I am ready to contribute to delivering such comprehensive assistance.

-Head of Municipal Territorial Unit (MTU), Osh city

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Scan the QR code for additional information or visit our website: www.gcerf.org/kyrgyzstan/



*Cumulative figures from July 2024 until December 2025