

## BACKGROUND

Niger is situated within one of the most fragile regions globally, the Central Sahel. The country is particularly affected by the rapid expansion of violent extremism in the Liptako-Gourma region as well as ongoing instability linked to the Lake Chad Basin. In this environment, porous borders, transnational trafficking, and irregular migration interact with structural vulnerabilities such as marginalisation, competition over natural resources, weak security and justice systems, and climate-related pressures. These overlapping dynamics have deepened socio-political divides, strengthened local support systems for armed groups, and contributed to the entrenchment of violent extremism in Niger.

## COUNTRY SUPPORT MECHANISM (CSM)

GCERF in Niger is working with the government, through the country support mechanism, and bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure a coordinated approach to prevention. 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 NIGER



Improve trust and social relationships aimed at strengthening peaceful coexistence and building resilience.



Facilitate community-led rehabilitation and (re)integration of actors and victims of violence, including people disengaging from criminal, armed, and extremist groups.

**2021**

**Niger became a GCERF partner country in 2021**

**USD 5.6 M**

**GCERF's total investment in Niger to date**

**USD 2.5 M**

**Active grants value**

**10**

**Current civil society partners**

## DRIVERS OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

**Competition over natural resources and climate pressure**

**Marginalisation and socio-political inequalities**

**Longstanding governance-related grievances**

## GCERF FOCUS AREAS AND POPULATION GROUPS IN NIGER



### LOCATIONS

- 1 Tillabéri (Region)
- 2 Dosso

### POPULATION GROUPS

- Unemployed men and women
- Early school dropouts (15-25 years old)
- Local authorities
- Customary and religious leaders
- Ex-combatants & prisoners (including their families)
- Local peace committees
- Departmental Security Councils
- Community-based radio stations
- Internal Displaced Persons

### KEY RESULTS\*

**800+**

community members engaged through dialogues and consultations to address grievances before violent extremist groups exploit them

**500+**

women and young individuals at risk of radicalisation trained in vocational skills to strengthen their resilience against the financial incentives used economic resilience

**350+**

Ex-combatants and detainees received psychosocial and entrepreneurship support to enable their reintegration into communities and prevent recidivism

**25**

Children of former fighters and ex-combatants have been enrolled in school to facilitate their growth and reintegration.

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"I was born in the municipality of Bosso [...] I lived among Boko Haram for more than 10 years, deep in the bush, in brutal conditions - manipulated, isolated, with almost no hope of ever returning to a normal life. But disengagement is possible, and reintegration is real. Today, we are living proof that former fighters can change: we have turned our backs on violence, we reject any idea that incites extremism, and we are rebuilding our lives with dignity. Our story is a message to those still out there. Leaving is possible, and there is a future on the other side.

-22 years old, former Boko Haram combatant.

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Scan the QR code for additional information or visit our website: <https://www.gcerf.org/niger/>



\*Cumulative figures from 2024 until December 2025