

Iraq Calls for Expressions of Interest – 2026

Information Session Summary – FAQ

We are pleased to share this summary of questions raised during the information session on GCERF's 2026 Calls for Expressions of Interest (EoIs) in Iraq held on 01 June 2026. GCERF has launched **two separate calls**, each with a distinct objective and funding scope.

The first call focuses on supporting the rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R) of returnees from Syria with an indicative grant range of 500,000 to 1,000,000 USD. The second call supports the National Committee for Countering Violent Extremism (NCCVE) in advancing national P/CVE priorities, including communication strategies, online de-radicalisation, and related areas, with an indicative grant range of 500,000 to 700,000 USD. Both calls have a maximum implementation period of 24 months.

Funding under both calls will be provided exclusively through a consortium model, led by a Principal Recipient (PR) responsible for managing funds and working with Sub-Recipients (SRs). The **submission deadline is 14 June 2026 at 11:59 PM Iraq time**. Full call information is available on the GCERF website, and the links to both EoIs are included in the communication accompanying this document.

The full application documents and related forms for each call are available at the links below:

- R&R call: [Call for Expressions of Interest in Iraq – Rehabilitation and Reintegration](#)

- P/CVE call: [Call for Expressions of Interest in Iraq – Supporting the Implementation of the National CVE Strategy](#)

Please note that applications must be submitted in English, and incomplete submissions will not be considered.

*** We encourage you to read the EOIs very carefully and follow the call guidelines.**

I. Application Scope and Eligibility

1. Should organizations apply to one or both calls?

Organizations may apply to either calls or to both calls simultaneously. However, as the R&R and PVE calls are separate, applicants are encouraged to apply in the thematic area where they have the strongest expertise and implementation capacity.

2. Can an organization participate in multiple consortia?

Yes. An organization may participate in more than one consortium. However, within the same call, it should serve as principal recipient (PR) in only one consortium, while it may participate as a sub-recipient (SR) in another. SRs may join multiple consortia, though ideally no more than 2–3. We encourage applicants to develop consortia that reflect their experience, expertise, and organizational mandates.

3. Are international NGOs (INGOs) eligible to apply?

INGOs may apply as principal recipients (PRs), however **priority** is given to Iraqi civil society organizations to lead implementation.

4. Are newly established organizations eligible to participate?

Newly established organizations may join a consortium as sub-recipients. They are not encouraged to act as principal recipients (PRs) without demonstrated institutional experience.

II. Consortium Requirements

1. Do consortium members need to be identified at the proposal stage?

Yes, all consortium members must be identified at the proposal stage. Their role and added value to the project should be clearly explained.

2. What is the minimum/maximum number of consortium members?

At least 1 PR and 1 SR. Realistic numbers vary between 3-5 SRs. However, very large consortia are discouraged. We encourage applicants to develop consortia that reflect their experience, expertise, and its mandates.

3. Is a consortium agreement (between the PR and SR) required at the EOI stage?

No. A consortium agreement between the PR and SR is not required at the EOI stage; it will be requested later in the process. There is no separate consortium application template. Information on the SRs should be included in the consortium lead section of Annex A.

4. Can non-Iraqi organizations be part of the consortium?

Grant implementation must be primarily led by Iraqi-registered local organizations. INGOs (registered in Iraq) may only apply as part of the consortium with strong justification.

5. Should PRs submit the audit reports for the SRs?

No. Only the lead applicant (PR) submits the form. SR details will be reviewed later. PRs are fully responsible for the SR evaluation and

performance, including ineligible expenditure incurred by the SR identified by GCERF's auditors.

6. *Can a consortium engage an external agency to deliver a specific product, such as media content or an assessment?*

Yes, but the agency would be engaged as a service provider rather than as an SR. Service providers are not required to be registered in Iraq.

III. Programme Design and Priorities

1. *How many consortia will be funded under each call?*

The number funded under each call will depend on the budgets requested and the overall quality of the proposals received. At least one consortium will be funded under each call.

2. *What are the main selection criteria/assessment?*

A brief description of the criteria will be provided as Annex 1 at the end of this document.

3. *Do proposals need to cover all listed locations?*

No, applicants should select locations based on identified needs and justify them clearly. However, priority will be given to consortia working in more than one of the priority locations mentioned in the EOIs.

IV. Phase 1 – Case Management System (CM)

1. *Is there an existing case management system?*

Yes, a system was developed in Phase 1 and is currently operational.

The successful applicant will be expected to leverage and further strengthen the work completed by GCERF and its partners during Phase 1. The development of a new case management system is not required.

2. *What is expected in this new call?*

The CM system should be expanded and enhanced. The ultimate goal is to support the institutionalization and transfer of system ownership and management to relevant government entities ensuring national ownership and sustainability.

3. *Will Phase 1 information be shared with applicants?*

Yes. A brief summary of Phase 1 will be included as Annex 2 at the end of this document. More information will be shared with the winning applicant.

V. Budget and Financial Guidance

1. *In which currency should budgets be submitted?*

Budgets should be submitted in USD only at the EOI stage.

2. *How detailed should the budget be?*

Budgets do not need to be highly detailed at the proposal stage. At this stage, they should indicate costs in general terms against each outcome area. A more detailed budget will be developed later during grant making, with support from GCERF's grants finance team.

3. *Is there a standard allocation ratio?*

As a general principle, approximately 70% should be allocated to programme activities and up to 30% to management costs. Eligible costs may include staff salaries, consortium management costs, and other costs directly related to programme implementation, as agreed with GCERF.

VI. Reporting and Compliance

1. *What are the reporting requirements?*

Quarterly programmatic and financial reporting is required, along with annual technical reviews, using standard GCERF templates. Reported data must be appropriately disaggregated in accordance with GCERF reporting requirements.

2. *Can the grant agreement be shared before submission?*

This will not be possible at this stage. However, if you have any specific questions, we remain available to respond.

VII. Timeline and Process

1. *Is there a second stage after the EOI?*

Yes. Shortlisted applicants will move to a next stage that includes due diligence and a co-creation process with GCERF to develop the full proposal package.

2. *Can the submission deadline be extended?*

Yes. The deadline has been extended to **14 June 2026, 11:59 PM Iraq time.**

VIII. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Impact

1. *Are there predefined indicators for PVE programmes?*

At the proposal stage, the Theory of Change (template provided in application package) is expected to reflect the core programme logic elements. The selected candidates will then develop a complementary Results Framework comprising of indicators of measurement. There is no fixed framework provided; applicants are expected to propose appropriate indicators.

2. *How should behavioural change be measured?*

Applicants are encouraged to propose in the narrative credible, contextually appropriate approaches for measurement at the individual and community levels in accordance with the developed Theory of Change.

Annex 1. Summary of GCERF's First Round of Investment in Iraq, Phase I

Programme Overview

GCERF began investing in Iraq in January 2024. As part of its work on rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R), GCERF led the USAID-funded Returning with Hope (RWH) programme in Iraq, with a total investment of USD 5 million.

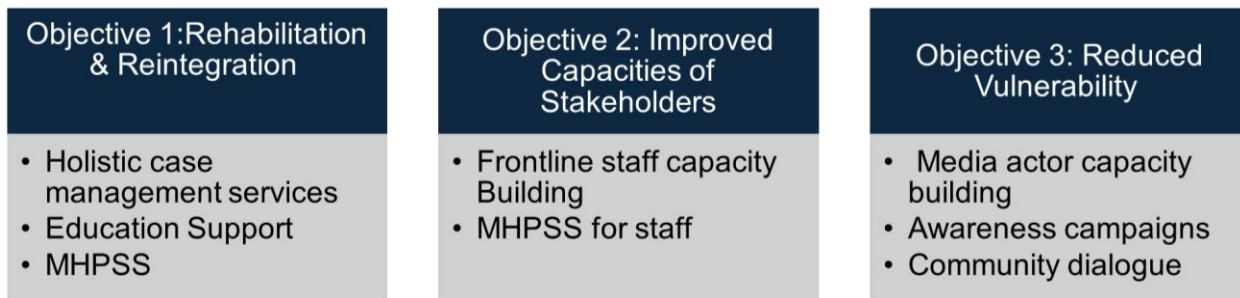
Implemented from February 2024 to January 2026, the programme was delivered through five local civil society organisations across the governorates of Ninewa, Anbar, and Salah al-Din. The GCERF implementing partners were: Aid Gate Organization (AGO), Al-Tadhamun Iraqi League for Youth (TILY), Ashour for Relief & Development (ARD), Iraqi Institution for Development (IID) and the United Iraqi Medical Society for Relief and Development (UIMS).

Objective

The programme aimed to strengthen the systems, institutions, and enabling environment supporting the rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees from Al-Hol camp in northeast Syria through:

- Holistic case management
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for returnees
- Education support for returnee children and caregivers
- Frontline capacity building
- Community dialogue and media engagement to reduce stigma and improve acceptance

Figure 1. Phase 1, Theory of Change



In terms of **output results**, GCERF support established 6 Holistic Case Management centres and 3 MHPSS centres as safe spaces for returnee reintegration, while also capacitating 6 local media platforms to promote positive reintegration narratives. In total, over 20,000 individuals were supported.

Phase 2 can build on Phase 1 by strengthening the case management system, improving coordination and referrals, and addressing persistent challenges such as stigma, service gaps, and barriers to sustainable reintegration.

Only complete applications will be evaluated.

Annex 2. Table 1: Mandatory Eligibility Requirements

Requirement	Evidence / Supporting Documents
Experience in Rehabilitation, Reintegration, P/CVE, and case management	Past project portfolio, project reports, references
Organization is officially registered as an NGO in Iraq	NGO registration certificate and related legal documentation

The evaluation will be conducted using a weighted scoring approach, with 70% allocated to the technical evaluation and 30% to the financial evaluation. The scoring scale shown below will be applied to each of the criteria listed in Table 2.

Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaching Expectations	Below Expectations
4	3	2	1

Table 2: Evaluation Criteria:

Section	Criteria / Requirement	Supporting Documents
1. Proposed Programme Concept	Applicant's knowledge of the context of violent extremism in the proposed location	Proposal narrative / concept note
	Theory of Change (ToC)	Theory of Change document and in proposal section
	Intervention strategy and organization's expertise	Proposal, organizational profile, relevant experience
2. Organisational Capacity	Organization's policies and guidelines (Demonstrate strong financial and grant management capacity, including experience with international donors)	Part 1: All policies required in the EOI template (<i>prior to the consortium management section</i>)
3. Consortium Management Capacity	Capacity to manage consortium partnerships and governance	Part 2: Consortium Management Section of the EOI template
4. Past Projects	Proven experience in thematic areas, programme design and management capacity. (Expertise in referral systems, education, and livelihood support for vulnerable women and children, capacity to support community initiatives addressing local VE drivers, established trust and credibility with target communities)	Annex B Past project summaries, references, completion reports, donor-funded project lists