





Kyrgyzstan became the first Central Asian GCERF partner country in 2023 following a partnership request letter from the Kyrgyz government. It is also represented on the GCERF Governing Board. The focus of GCERF's investment in Kyrgyzstan is to support the rehabilitation, re-socialisation and reintegration of returnees from Iraq and Syria; prevent others from becoming radicalised; and support people released from prison. These priorities were identified through an independent Country Needs Assessment conducted in 2023.

Building on its expertise and experience in other countries (particularly Albania, Kosovo, and North Macedonia), GCERF is facilitating support for Kyrgyz returnees. In GCERF's experience, creating an enabling environment for return is essential to reducing stigmatisation and preventing new radicalisation. GCERF is therefore investing in PVE work in at-risk communities, providing them with much-needed services to promote social cohesion and more equal access to economic and social opportunities.

Investment Focus

- 
 Supporting the rehabilitation and reintegration of people returning from Iraq and Northeast Syria with a special focus on women and children.
- 
 Strengthening the capacity of frontline workers, psychologists, social workers, members of educational institutions, state officials and local authorities for sustainable R&R.
- 
 Strengthening the livelihoods and economic opportunities for women to counter the economic challenges that can push people towards extremist ideologies.
- 
 Creating an enabling environment for return, rehabilitation and reintegration of people and prevent others from leaving.

Areas of Investment



GCERF is planning to invest USD 8 million over four years in Kyrgyzstan.

Portfolio overview as of June 2024

SOS Children's Villages Kyrgyzstan

Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

- ❖ Addressing trauma and providing psychological support to women and children returning from conflict zones, providing access to education for children returnees, conducting social reintegration programmes to improve their acceptance and social cohesion.

Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI)

Principal Recipient with 4 sub-recipients

- ❖ Strengthen the capacity of state officials, frontline workers, and national experts to improve the rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees. Enhance frontline workers' understanding of peaceful Islamic narratives to counter extremism. Improve the skills and livelihoods of women to address economic challenges, a key driver of violent extremism.

Violent Extremism in Kyrgyzstan: Drivers

