

GCERF works with the Malian government to **implement its national action plan** by investing in local organisations that **design and run programmes that contribute to prevention-related outputs** of the plans.

GCERF-funded activities **engage local stakeholders** to support and **strengthen the capacity of communities** to mobilise, organise and effectively engage with their members and local authorities on topics such as inter-community conflicts and socio-economic reinsertion of ex-combatants and prisoners.

Portfolio overview as of August 2023

Active grants

Think Peace

2022-24 | *Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients*

- ❖ Conflict resolution structures, reintegration of ex-detainees and ex-combatants; creating community action plans for PVE; improving political participation and economic opportunities for youth and women and improving access to basic services for communities; emergency programme.

Initiatives Conseil Développement Mali (ICD-Mali)

2022-24 | *Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients*

- ❖ Improving pastoral resilience through infrastructure investment, local management mechanisms for natural resources and conflicts, and establishment of a credit and savings collective.

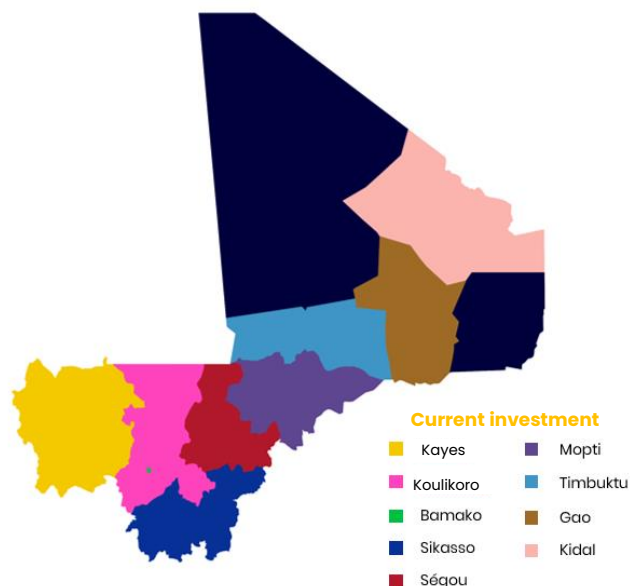
Femmes et Développement, Mali

2023-24 | *Principal Recipient with 3 sub-recipients*

- ❖ Capacity building of community mechanisms to strengthen social cohesion; information and communication campaign through local radio stations to overcome the lack of knowledge about extremist ideology; support the economic insertion of women and youth.



Drilling for water access



Investment started: 2016
Investment to date: USD 10.1 million
Current investment: USD 3.2 million
Active grants: 3

Investment focus



Strengthening community mobilisation and engagement with local authorities on inter-community conflicts, socio-economic reinsertion of ex-combatants and prisoners, promotion of women and youth leaders in community-based conflict management mechanisms.



Kayes, Mopti, Koulikoro, Timbuktu, Bamako, Gao, Sikasso, Kidal, Segou



Women, youth, religious and traditional leaders, farmers and herders, students, and local authorities.



2016-2024



GCERF in Mali works with the government, through the country support mechanism, and bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure a coordinated approach to prevention.

Violent Extremism in Mali: Drivers

Youth unemployment:
17.4% of youth aged 15-24 are unemployed, making them vulnerable to material incentives from VE groups (ILOSTAT data for 2020)

Human trafficking and modern slavery
are on the rise in Mali. Victims of these human rights abuses are more vulnerable to radicalisation (Sourced from grantee reports)

Governance-related grievances:
VE groups thrive on the weakened state power, acting as a replacement for legitimate authorities by offering protection and essential services (sourced from donor report)

4th

On the Global Terrorism Index 2023, with 272 attacks and 944 deaths in 2022

Current Programming in Sahel: Systems Approach

GCERF delineates the Sahel within the context of the Group of Five Countries for the Sahel, also known as G5 Sahel, the intergovernmental body to promote regional cooperation in development and security matters. Our focus is on the central Sahel region covering Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Our engagement in the region will directly bolster the implementation of National Action Plans of the five countries working in partnership with local, national, regional, and global partners.

GCERF's strategy for engagement in the Sahel region is built around two strategic objectives:

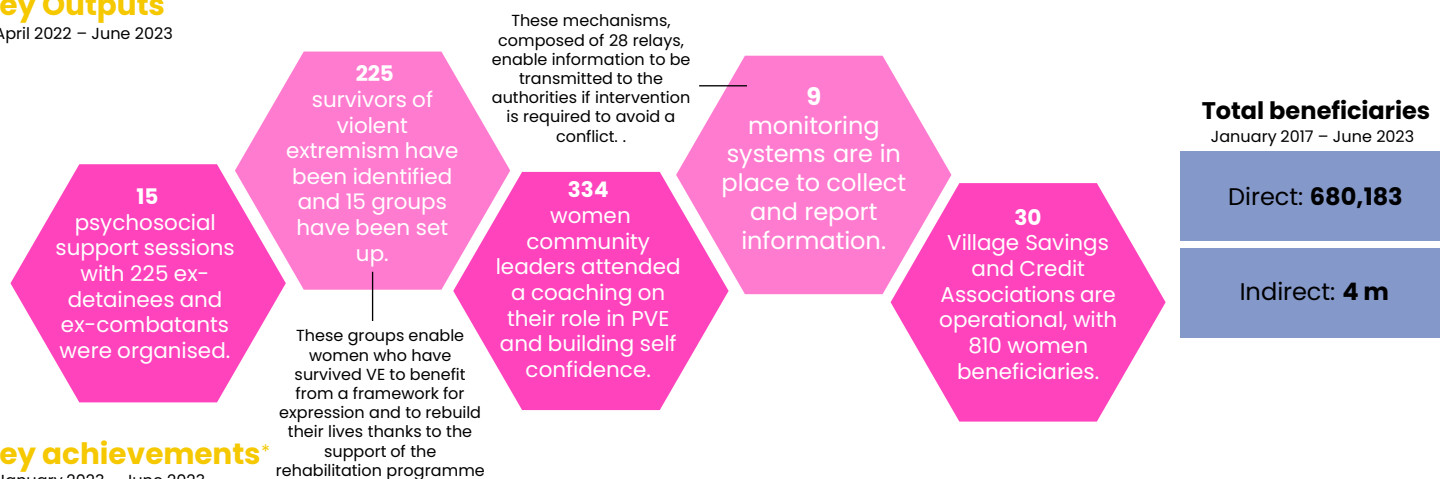
To contribute to improvements in the social ecology to create conditions conducive to prevention and resilience-building.

To facilitate community-led rehabilitation, disengagement, and (re)integration, including people disengaging from criminal, non-state armed, and violent extremist groups.

GCERF will mobilise and invest up to USD 10 million – in the Sahel region – to meet these objectives in a minimum period of three years. GCERF will prioritise resilience and prevention programming, including cross-border projects, that meet these objectives – all within the scope of regional and national NAPs and equivalents in order to achieve its overarching objective of supporting stability and resilience.

Key Outputs*

* April 2022 – June 2023



Key achievements*

* January 2023 – June 2023



Think Peace provides a forum for exchanging and sharing experiences in order to help prevent violent extremism and radicalisation by raising awareness in communities. The sessions are run by ex-combatants and ex-prisoners, who have become ambassadors for non-violence.

"This awareness session is made for us, the youth, since we are the adults of tomorrow. Anyone who manages to educate and train the youth well, has laid the foundation for a more peaceful future."

– A young women participant of the awareness sessions in Koro.

Story of Change

On the outskirts of Bandiagara, a facilitator from the project implemented by ICD-Mali recently met a herder with his herd, who had come from the village of Mory in the commune of Muetumo. His name is Moussa.

The host asked Moussa why he had come, and the herder replied that he had come to camp in the Doucombo area just before he found himself there after a terrorist attack in that same town.

Moussa said that his place of origin, the commune of Muetumo, is under considerable pressure on natural resources, particularly water and animal grazing. These pressures are created by gathering animals from various backgrounds fleeing areas of insecurity where thefts and abductions of animals are frequent.

This herder may also be vulnerable to the rhetoric of violent extremist groups when they promise free and unlimited access to grazing areas under their control. Moussa is only concerned with improving the feeding conditions of his animals.

In Bandiagara, this herder is also confronted with the need for more pasture, and the high cost of water for animals at the town's water points is a challenge. For watering, he uses makeshift wells that are almost dry.

This is why the facilitator directed Moussa to the Bandiagara Livestock Feed Bank, where he can now obtain supplies weekly.

Thanks to the financing of ICD-Mali's livestock food banks and this proposal, Moussa avoided taking risks by moving away from the city towards risky areas and ending up in a zone where violent extremist groups are rampant.



Bandiagara Livestock Feed Bank



FEDE strengthens the skills of women's and young people's community organisations to become agents of change in PVE through the quality of their decisions, which become more inclusive and sensitive to the needs of individuals and reflect the diversity of the community.

"We wanted to set up projects for a long time, but we did not know how to go about it. The module on programme and project management gives us the key to do that."

- A women leader from Mopti, who heads a collective women transformers



GCERF's Added Value



GCERF focuses on **building institutional capacity** e.g., CSOs, and government agencies.



GCERF invests in building a PVE-focused **community of practice** with CSOs, government agencies, and experts



Communities are at the **forefront of project design and implementation**, and the programme works with existing community structures for sustainability



All project design and implementation are done in coordination with NCTC, leading to **nationally-aligned**, locally-led programmes



GCERF connects CSOs, communities, and other stakeholders with government and security actors, leading to **better coordination** and relationships



GCERF's consortium model and capacity-building approach enables us to work in **remote areas**

Find out more about becoming an investor, our work, and the collective impact we make at: www.gcerf.org
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GCERF Outreach

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