

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, socio-economic reinsertion of ex-combatants and prisoners, and human trafficking and modern slavery.

Portfolio overview as of January 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)

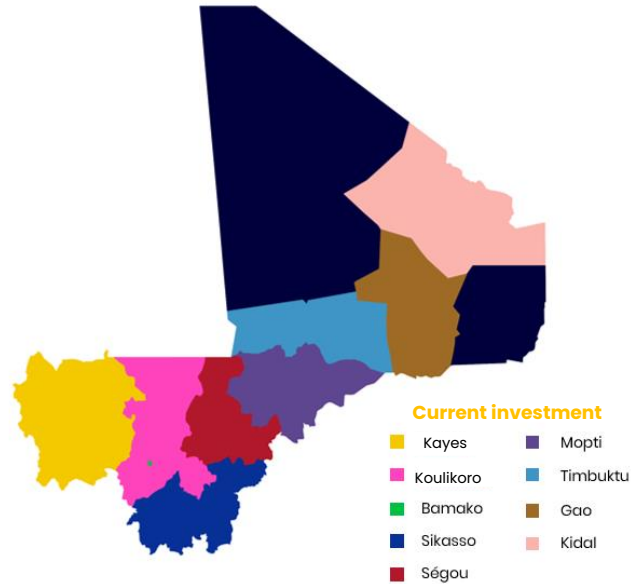
2022-24 | *Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients*

- ❖ 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.



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, human trafficking and modern slavery.



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.



Provisional drilling for water access



Community conciliation meeting

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)

7th

On the Global Terrorism Index 2022, with 333 attacks and 574 deaths in 2021

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:

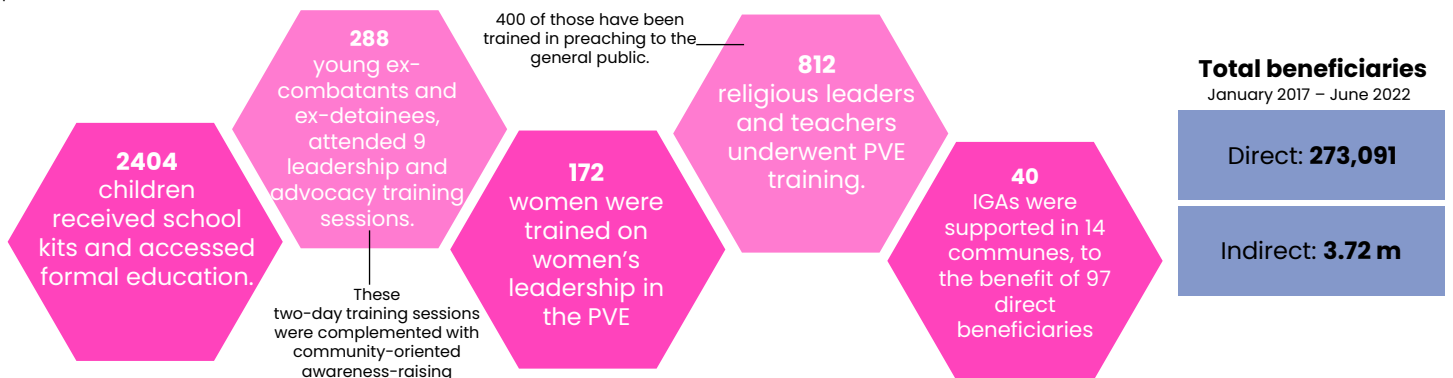
To contribute to improvements in the social ecology to create conditions conducive to prevention and resilience-building.

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.

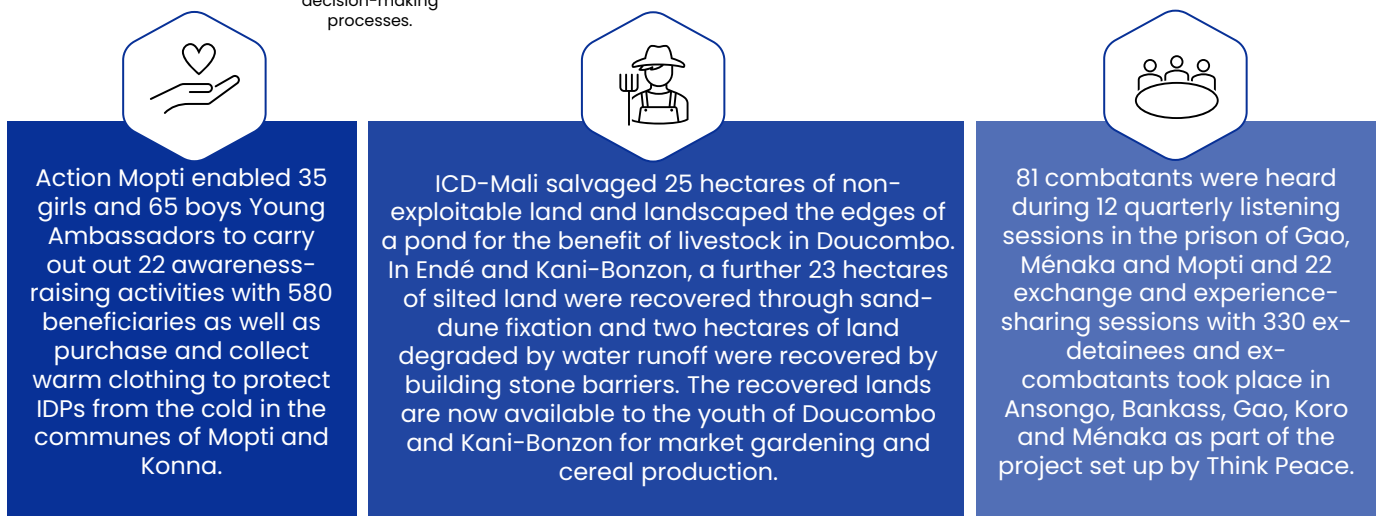
Key Outputs*

* April 2022 – December 2022



Key achievements*

* Oct 2022 – December 2022



This final quarter of 2022 marks the end of two grants: Action Mopti and AMSS. Both grantees produced a completion report on their programme.

"I know that after this training my life will not be like before. I feel useful for my family and my country, and I can only be grateful to the project for giving me a reason to live."

- A young boy in training for Bogolan dyeing in Niaréla.

Story of Change

Before the arrival of the JRA-JAC (“From Young Armed Repents to Young Actors of Positive Change”) program and for nearly a year, a conflict existed in Mr. Souleymane T.* local community. The 36 years old herder and former combatant, who lives in Koro, testified: “Gradually, the farmers had occupied all the animal passages with fields. Every time I brought my animals to the field, the farmer would take them to the pound under the pretext that my animals had crossed their fields and I said nothing, but in return I always paid a fine. In fact, I was a little afraid to enter this conflict because of my ex-combatant status, so as not to give the impression of making trouble.

With the arrival of the JRA-JAC project, I was included because of my ex-combatant status. Since then, I have been participating in activities as a beneficiary of the JRA-JAC project’s interventions, which aim to promote the disengagement and reintegration of repentant youth from non-state armed groups and violent extremists through community outreach.

The project’s activities have taught me many things that have calmed my heart and made me understand life in a new and positive way. I was particularly touched a few months later, in September, by the establishment of the reconciliation committee in Koro thanks to the JRA-JAC project. The purpose of this committee is to identify, analyse and resolve community problems.

At the first meeting of this committee, the participants discussed the issue between me and the farmer. The exchanges finally led to a happy ending with the adhesion of all to a verbal agreement on the respect of the passage of the animals to the grazing areas. From then on, our conflict was resolved, and everyone went about their business freely. I would like to thank the JRA-JAC program and its partners who not only allowed me to do my work freely without pressure or fear, but also gave me back my confidence, casting glimmers of hope for the facilitation of my social reintegration.”



Souleymane T., herder and ex-combatant. Photo: Think Peace



Think Peace promotes the engagement of ex-combatants and ex-detainees in community-based PVE by using an inclusive approach, with training sessions involving all actors affected by armed groups:

“This is the first time that a local organisation has implemented a project in support of ex-combatants and ex-detainees in certain regions of the north. The activities on the ground are already having a positive effect, especially on the mental health of young people and women.”

- Representative of Regional Development Agency in Gao



GCERF’s Added Value

 <p>GCERF focuses on building institutional capacity e.g., CSOs, and government agencies.</p>	 <p>GCERF invests in building a PVE-focused community of practice with CSOs, government agencies, and experts</p>	 <p>Communities are at the forefront of project design and implementation, and the programme works with existing community structures for sustainability</p>
 <p>All project design and implementation are done in coordination with NCTC, leading to nationally-aligned, locally-led programmes</p>	 <p>GCERF connects CSOs, communities, and other stakeholders with government and security actors, leading to better coordination and relationships</p>	 <p>GCERF’s consortium model and capacity-building approach enables us to work in remote areas</p>

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