GCERF works with the government of Niger and the G5 Sahel to implement joint strategies by investing in local organisations that design and run programmes that support the emergence of anchors of stability and resilience. 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 resilient pastoralism, sustainable economic opportunities, conflict prevention and psychosocial support to victims of violent extremism.

Portfolio overview as of January 2023

Active grants

**Mouvement des Jeunes pour le Développement et l’Éducation Citoyenne (MOJEDEC)**
2022–2024 | Principal Recipient with 3 sub-recipients

- Reintegrating individuals disengaging from violent extremist groups, caring for victims of human rights violations, supporting participatory and inclusive local governance through capacity-building, technical and financial support for Income Generating Activity receivers among women and youth, community-level dialogue, awareness-raising campaigns and psychosocial support.

**Scouts de Niger**
2022–23 | Principal Recipient with 4 sub-recipients

- PVE awareness-raising through community theatre, economic opportunities through vocational training and networking spaces, coaching of youth and women to increase inclusion in decision-making, youth camps and dialogues with defence forces.

**ONG Garkua, Niger**
2023–25 | Principal Recipient

- Promoting the disengagement of young people from extremist groups, integrating young repentant into public services or the socio-economic environment of their communities of origin, with the support of public authorities, mediation training for religious leaders.

Investment Focus

Increase resilience of youth and women to the risks of violent radicalisation and extremism, strengthen local conflict resolution mechanisms, rehabilitate and reinsert ex-combattants, reintegration of young repentant.

Tillabéri region

Unemployed men and women and early school dropouts (15–25 years old), local authorities, traditional and religious leaders, young repentant, and local peace committees.

2022–2025

We work with the national government, through the Country Support Mechanism, and bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure a coordinated approach to the prevention of violent extremism in Niger.

Violent Extremism in Niger: Drivers

- **Low levels of legal literacy:** 95% of youth are not aware of their legal rights and duties and are vulnerable to violent extremist discourses.
- **Lack of economic opportunities:** Women and youth are impacted the most by the lack of economic autonomy and are at risk of radicalisation.
- **High insecurity in Tillabéri region:** With more than 11,000 people displaced within the region, a need for security pushes target groups towards cooperation with violent extremist groups.

8th

On the Global Terrorism Index 2022, with 74 attacks and 588 deaths in 2021.

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 three 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 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 the emergence of anchors of stability and resilience.

GCERF’s Added Value

GCERF focuses on building institutional capacity e.g., CSOs, government agencies, and community engagement forums

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

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

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

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

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
contact.sahel@gcerf.org