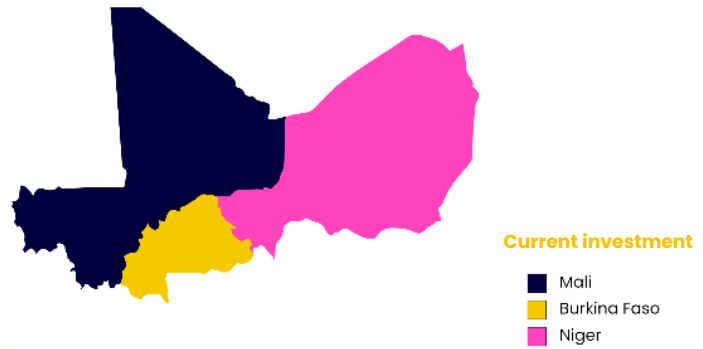


GCERF-funded activities in Sahel **engage local stakeholders** to support and **strengthen the capacity of communities** to mobilise, organise and effectively engage with their members and local authorities on topics such as resilient pastoralism, inter-community conflicts, conflict prevention, child protection, psychosocial support to victims of violent extremism, socio-economic reinsertion of ex-combatants and prisoners, human trafficking and modern slavery.



Portfolio overview as of January 2023

Active grants

Union Fraternelle des Croyants Dori (UFC-Dori), Burkina Faso
2022-24 | Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

Réseau Afrique Jeunesse (RAJ), Burkina Faso
2022-24 | Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

KEOGO Burkina Faso
2023-25 | Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

Réseau de Communication sur le Pastoralisme (RECOPA) Burkina Faso
2023-25 | Principal Recipient with 1 sub-recipient

Initiatives Conseil Développement Mali (ICD-Mali)
2022-24 | Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

Think Peace, Mali
2022-24 | Principal Recipient with 2 sub-recipients

Femmes et Développement, Mali
2023-24 | Principal Recipient with 3 sub-recipients

Association des Scouts de Niger (ASN)
2022-23 | Principal Recipient with 4 sub-recipients

Mouvement des Jeunes pour le Développement et l'Éducation Citoyenne (MOJEDEC), Niger
2022-24 | Principal Recipient with 3 sub-recipients

ONG Garkua, Niger
2023-25 | Principal Recipient

Investment started: 2016
Investment to date: USD 16.2 million
Current investment: USD 9.35 million
Active grants: 10

Investment focus



Increase resilience of youth and women to the risks of violent radicalisation and extremism, strengthen community mobilisation and local conflict resolution mechanisms.



Burkina Faso, Chad*, Mali, Mauritania*, Niger



Women, children, youth, repentant youth religious and traditional leaders, farmers and pastoralists, internally displaced persons, host communities, students, and local authorities.



2016-2025



GCERF works with governments, through the country support mechanism, and bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure a coordinated approach to prevention of violent extremism in Sahel.

*Country Needs Assessment underway

Violent Extremism in Sahel: Drivers

Youth unemployment and radicalisation

Lack of sustainable economic opportunities and radicalisation make children and young people vulnerable to violent extremist groups, which offer alternative material incentives.

Farmer/herder conflicts

These conflicts over land, access and exploitation of natural resources, lead to increased tensions within communities.

Governance-related grievances:

Violent extremist groups thrive on the weakened state power and exploit an institutional vacuum resulting from the political context to increase their presence on the ground.

Human trafficking and modern slavery

are on the rise in Mali. Victims of these human rights abuses are more vulnerable to radicalisation.

Current Programming in Sahel: Systems Approach

GCERF delineates 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 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.



The JRA-JAC programme ("From Young Armed Repents to Young Actors of Positive Change") implemented by Think Peace aims to promote the disengagement and reintegration of repentant youth from non-state armed groups and violent extremists through community outreach.

"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."

Herder and ex-combatant in Mali



Awareness raising campaign, Mali



Awareness session by delegates, Burkina Faso



Participatory theatre, Niger

GCERF's Added Value



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



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**