

GCERF supports the localisation and implementation of the National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism (NSCVE) and County Action Plans (CAPs). Two new components were added to our revised Investment Strategy in 2023: rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R) and relationships between communities and authority figures.

**Investment Focus**



Coordination and capacity strengthening of County Engagement Forums; Enhancing Rehabilitation & Reintegration; Improving community-security relationships



- The Coast (Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Mombasa, Tana River)
- Northern and North eastern (Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Wajir)
- Metropolitan Nairobi (Kiambu, Meru, Nairobi, Nakuru, Nyeri).
- Uasin Gishu



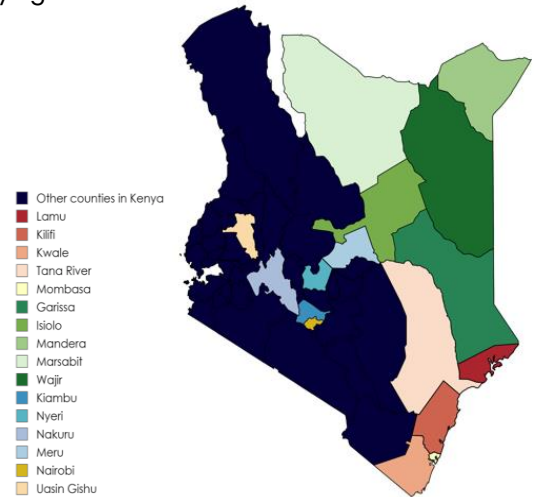
Government entities; CSOs and CBOs; Women, men, boys, and girls in vulnerable communities; Individuals who have disengaged from VEOs and their family/host communities; Frontline workers; Influencers



2021-2025



Our primary focal point within the Government of Kenya is the National Counter-Terrorism Centre (NCTC). Our partners also coordinate with national and county level government actors, as required.



Investment started: 2018  
Investment to date: USD 10.1 million  
Current investment: USD 5.4 million  
Active grants: 3  
Target counties: 16

**Portfolio overview as of June 2024**

**Act Change Transform! (Act!)**

**Accelerated Response Initiative Against Violent Extremism (ARIVE)**

2021 – 2024 | Principal Recipient with 12 Sub-Grantees

- ❖ Capacity strengthening of CEFs and support to increase the leadership and coordination capabilities of Lead CSOs; linkages to economic opportunities for women and youth; improving community- security relationships; and support to efforts to mainstream PVE within wider developmental and security structures.

**Regional Pastoralists Peace Link (RPPL)**

**USALAMA NI UAMINIFU –Enhancing Trust between the community and the police in Northern Kenya**

2024-2025 | Principal recipient with 2 Sub-Recipients

- ❖ Enhancing trust and collaboration between the community and security actors in Isiolo, Garissa and Mandera

**Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies (CHRIPS)**

**Supporting Initiatives in Rehabilitation and Reintegration (SIRR)**

2024-2025 | Principal recipient with 4 Sub-Recipients

- ❖ Providing psychosocial support to disengaged members of VEOs and survivors of attacks, creating sustainable networks of R&R and supporting criminal justice actors

**Violent Extremism in Kenya: Drivers**



**18th**  
On the Global  
Terrorism Index  
2024

**Key achievements**

January – March 2024

The NSCVE review process has been conducted with various stakeholders, including government, civil society organisations, law enforcement, religious leaders, etc.

160 people joined community justice circles, identifying key causes that have the potential to be exploited by extremists and then proposing mutually acceptable solutions.

Two new grants (RPPL and CHRIPS) held launch events and initial stakeholder meetings to prepare for implementation activities.



Leadership and Advocacy Sensitization for TVET PVE Club

**Stories of Change**

**TVET PCVE Clubs: A youth becomes a community bridge**

Joseph is a participant in the Leadership and Advocacy Sensitisation for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) PCVE Clubs.

Joseph's story unfolds in the backdrop of Lamu County, where life's rhythm is often interrupted by challenges less visible to the outside world. A young man from Witu town, his early life was shaped by the limited horizons that confined many in his community—where the shadow of unemployment loomed large, and the whispers of violent extremism occasionally found willing ears among the disheartened youth.

The turning point for Joseph came during the Leadership and Advocacy Sensitization for TVET PVE Clubs. The workshop wasn't just about listening; it was about engaging, questioning, and envisioning a role for oneself beyond the constraints of the present, and through the workshop, he learned about leadership, not as a distant concept reserved for the few, but as a quality that could be nurtured within. He discovered advocacy, not as mere rhetoric but as a tool for tangible change, particularly in the realms of peace and security.

After attending the workshop, he saw potential not only in himself but also in his peers and felt an urgent need to bridge the gap between potential and reality in his community. As a first step, he gathered a group of friends to share what he had learned, using his own story as a testament to the power of positive engagement.

The small group soon grew, and their meetings became a regular feature in Witu town, attracting the attention of both community leaders and local youth.

Seeing the enormous potential of youth as a force for peace, he began to work with local initiatives focused on PVE. His advocacy work, based on a genuine belief in his community's capacity for change, began to resonate more widely. Joseph became a bridge, bringing together different stakeholders. Today, Joseph's impact is tangible. Not only has he been instrumental in promoting youth engagement in peacebuilding, but he has also helped steer his peers away from the path of extremism. Through workshops, peer mentoring and community projects, Joseph has ignited a collective spark of resilience and hope in Witu town.

Joseph's journey illustrates the profound impact of empowering young people with knowledge, skills and the belief that they can be positive change-makers and architects of their future..

**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 **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](http://www.gcerf.org)  
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