

BACKGROUND

Since 2000, Indonesia has faced violent extremism, including international terrorism and domestic militant activity, with major incidents like the 2002 Bali bombings. After a period of calm, ISIS-inspired attacks resurfaced in 2016, though no terrorist attacks occurred from 2023 to 2025. Despite this, extremist recruitment and activities persist. Jemaah Islamiyah (JI), a key VE organisation, officially disbanded on June 30, 2024, with over 2,400 members renouncing ties and pledging allegiance to the government. However, experts warn of splinter groups, and the continued arrests of extremists highlight ongoing risks of radicalisation and terrorism.

Indonesia became a GCERF partner country* in 2023, with our investment beginning in 2024, and programming starting in 2025. GCERF is currently managing three grants totaling USD 2.3 million in partnership with three local civil society organisations (CSOs) to implement our investment strategy in Indonesia. This supports efforts to prevent violent extremism (PVE) as part of the 2020–2024 National Action Plan for Preventing and Overcoming Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism (NAP-PCVE). The NAP-PCVE is currently under revision and is expected to be adopted in 2025.

GCERF pioneers a unique model of investment designed to promote a whole-of-society approach and ensure the sustainability of our programmes. Under this model, in each partner country, we support national governments in establishing a steering committee called the Country Support Mechanism (CSM). In Indonesia, the CSM is chaired by the National Counter Terrorism Agency (BNPT) and brings together relevant government agencies, civil society organisations, and donor representatives to provide strategic direction for the programmes, ensure results, and progressively inherit ownership of funding community-level efforts to prevent violent extremism.

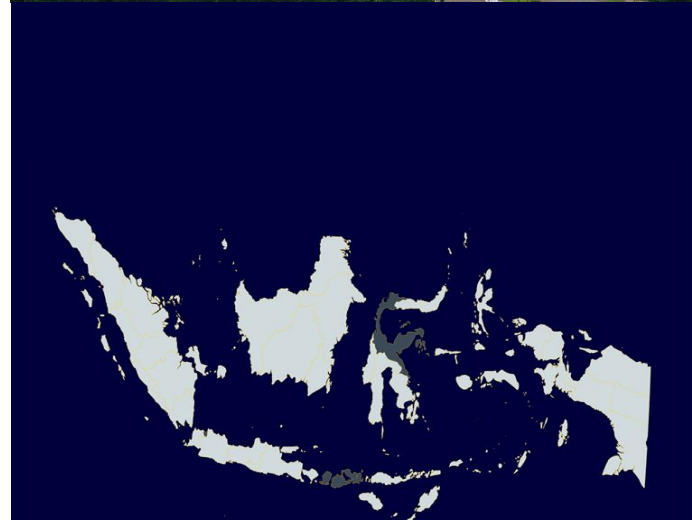
GCERF'S INVESTMENT STRATEGY IN INDONESIA

GCERF's Investment Strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to address the drivers of violent extremism and guides civil society organisations in designing their programmes. According to GCERF's needs assessment and consultations with relevant stakeholders, there are five main drivers of violent extremism in Indonesia:

1. Ideological drivers: extreme religious interpretations
2. Poverty & Economic Exclusion: VE groups exploit vulnerabilities
3. Political & Regional Tensions: electoral polarisation and alienation
4. Gaps of Moderate Religious Organisations: Gaps in formal religious education enable informal radicalisation channel
5. Online Radicalisation: Lack of critical thinking and digital literacy

The primary objective of GCERF's investment is to enable prevention and resilience-building of different groups against VE in Indonesia. To achieve this, GCERF funds programmes that support rehabilitation and reintegration of people returning from conflict areas, supporting integration of former detainees released from prison, and addressing online and offline radicalisation in formal and informal educational institutions.

*Partner countries are those in which GCERF funds civil society organisations to implement initiatives aimed at preventing violent extremism.








WHERE






- West Nusa Tenggara
- Central Sulawesi
- Jakarta
- West Java






WHO

- Youth aged 15 to 30, including university students, students from religious boarding schools, and teenagers aged 15 to 18, particularly those from families of former VE fighters.
- Remote, Isolated, Economically & Socially Vulnerable Groups
- Returnees & Former Detainees
- Supporting structures include frontline workers, educators, local authorities, and standardised procedures for rehabilitation and integration.
- Female Community and Religious Leaders

GRANTMAKING IN PROGRESS

 IMPLEMENTED BY		 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES
Principal Recipient: The Habibie Center (THC) Sub-recipients: Nusatenggara Centre (NTC), Lembaga Penguatan Masyarakat Sipil (LPMS)		R&R programs integrating economic opportunities in Bima. Community resilience efforts in Bima and Morowali. Critical thinking skill programs for youth in Bima.
 AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION	 GRANT AMOUNT	 PERIOD OF THE GRANT
Bima City (West Nusa Tenggara) and Morowali (Central Sulawesi)	USD 700,000	2025 – 2027

 IMPLEMENTED BY		 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES
Principal Recipient: Wahid Foundation (WF) Sub-recipients: La Rimpu, Libu Perempuan, Yayasan Inklusif		R&R programs with livelihood support in Bogor. Digital literacy training for youth in Poso and Bogor. Community resilience programs targeting female community and religious leaders in Bogor and Poso.
 AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION	 GRANT AMOUNT	 PERIOD OF THE GRANT
Bogor Regency, (West Java) and Poso (Central Sulawesi)	USD 700,000	2025 – 2027

 IMPLEMENTED BY		 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES
Principal Recipient: Nurani Perdamaian Indonesia (NPID) Sub-recipients: Lembaga Perlindungan Anak-NTB (LPA), Lembaga Bina Damai Resolusi Agama (LEMBIDARA), SKP HAM		R&R initiatives in rehabilitation centers and prisons in Jakarta, Poso, and Bima. Livelihood-oriented R&R programs in Poso and Bima.
 AREAS OF IMPLEMENTATION	 GRANT AMOUNT	 PERIOD OF THE GRANT
Jakarta, Poso (Central Sulawesi), Bima (West Nusa Tenggara)	USD 900,000	2025 – 2027



GCERF'S VALUE PROPOSITION

GCERF'S UNIQUE MODEL OF INVESTMENT PRIORITISES:

Community-ownership and localisation: We invest in trusted grassroots civil society organisations that prioritise the needs and grievances of communities most affected by violent extremism. Many of these organisations have never received international funding before.

Sustainability: Our programmes involve all groups of society and strengthens trust between government, civil society and community members to build stronger, more resilient societies. This ensures that initiatives and structures continue to be relevant and effective.

Robust monitoring and evaluation processes: Our multi-layered monitoring and evaluation system, operating locally and globally, provides continuous feedback on programme effectiveness, identifies areas for improvement, and ensures objectives are consistently met.

Knowledge sharing: Our global network of civil society organisations working on PVE facilitates the exchange of good practices and lessons learned, fostering collaboration and enhancing the effectiveness of interventions. We also share our experiences through our participation in various conferences, publishing of articles and research papers in reputed journals to advance the understanding of PVE.

Capacity strengthening: We strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations to manage large-scale grants and implement effective initiatives, while also enhancing government capacity to develop comprehensive, holistic strategies to prevent violent extremism.