



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from January 2021

The ICVA Bulletin is translated in French, Spanish and Arabic! You can find the translated versions and previous editions of the Bulletin on our [website](#).

Message from Executive Director

COVID-19 vaccines: high time for international solidarity

NGOs are a critical partner in the COVID-19 response. We continue to work with global stakeholders to ensure that people everywhere can access a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine.

With other conveners of influential civil society networks and platforms, ICVA calls upon States to step up the multilateral efforts and lead a truly global response (Read the "[Open Letter to States on Universal Access to COVID-19 Vaccines](#)" – 8 February 2021).

As NGOs we stand ready to support national authorities to uphold their responsibility to ensure quality vaccines reach all people living within their borders, without distinction of any kind. It is paramount to ensure that refugees, IDPS, asylum seekers, migrants, stateless people, indigenous populations and those living in conflict zones have access to vaccines on equal grounds with the rest of the population, and as per priority criteria recommended by WHO.

Ensuring vaccine doses for populations in humanitarian and emergency settings continues to pose major challenges. The first indicative distribution from the COVAX Humanitarian Buffer was unveiled last week by the [UN-backed COVAX facility](#). A needed initiative but as a measure of last resort and not an excuse for states to avoid their responsibilities.

Fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines is a question of moral and legal responsibility. It is also key to ending the pandemic and limiting its devastating socioeconomic impacts around the world. It needs leadership for a global allocation framework that puts humanity at the center.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA pdates

1. Save the Date: **ICVA General Assembly 18 &19 May 2021**

ICVA's online General Assembly will be the moment for members to approve the ICVA 2030 Strategy and choose a new Board for ICVA. We are very keen to see a dynamic election choosing a Board that represents the diversity of our membership. Members, please consider proposing candidates to stand for the Board and the Chair. Members are requested to review the [ICVA 2030 draft strategy](#) which is available in English, French, Arabic and Spanish. We look forward to your engagement!
For more information [see here](#).

2. Save the Date – **ICVA Annual Conference 25 & 26 May 2021**

The 2021 ICVA Annual Conference will once again be held **virtually!** We will be looking at climatic and environmental changes and humanitarian action. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

3. New Members

ICVA is pleased to announce that the following organisations are now members of the ICVA network:

- [DOCHAS – Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations](#), Ireland
- [Sustainable Development Foundation](#) (SDF), Yemen
- [ABS Development Organizations for Women and Child](#), Yemen

For more information about membership [click here](#) or contact fiona.wilkie@icvanetwork.org

Forced Migration

4. Global Refugee Forum follow-up

On 14 December, UNHCR organised the fourth informal briefing on the follow-up to the Global Refugee Forum (GRF). On this occasion, thanks to NGO inputs, ICVA delivered a statement focusing on Protection capacity, Solutions and Burden- and responsibility-sharing thematic areas. It also called on stakeholders to implement their pledges, including on statelessness, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The statement is accessible as delivered and in a more detailed version [here](#). Additional resources can be found on [UNHCR's dedicated webpage](#) including other NGOs' statements.

In 2021, stakeholders' engagement in the GRF follow-up started with a particular focus on youth and children, supported by civil society and ICVA members. On 13 January, the [Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts](#) organised an interactive event on "*Children and the Global Compact on Refugee One Year – What now?*" and Save the Children published an important report on "[Refugee education one year on from the Global Refugee Forum and the impact of COVID-19](#)". Moreover, fulfilling a collective GRF pledge, the [Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies](#) was launched on 25 January.

On 27 January, ICVA attended a virtual consultation on [the 2021 High-Level Officials Meeting](#) organised by UNHCR. It was also an opportunity to learn about [proposed orientations for the GCR indicator report](#). This meeting provided important information on the roadmap towards the first 'mid-term review' meeting of the GRF to be held this year on 14-15 December. ICVA will build on this event to support NGO engagement with the process.

5. UNHCR and NGOs in Europe dialogue

On 8 December, ICVA co-organised with [ECRE](#) and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe a third online thematic Dialogue between UNHCR and NGOs in Europe. The dialogue was an opportunity to exchange on the Greece context and its operational, policy, and advocacy-related implications as well as to discuss the concept and preparations of the 2021 upcoming regional UNHCR-NGO consultations in Europe.

6. UNHCR and NGO meetings on COVID-19 response

On 7 December, UNHCR and ICVA co-organised the last consultations of the year with NGOs on '**Mixed movements and the COVID-19 response**'. Following presentations by UNHCR, IOM, and the Mixed Migration Center, the discussion stressed the need to renew the humanitarian focus on service delivery, including access to quality safe shelters; strengthen collaboration between partners, particularly in the area of joint or complementary UN-NGO advocacy, while enhancing dialogue with States. Notes of the meeting and key documents have been disseminated to participants and are also available to members on the [ICVA webpage](#).

In 2021, UNHCR and ICVA will continue with a series of monthly UNHCR-NGO consultations aiming to create an enabling environment to continue exchanging on operational, policy and advocacy priorities. On 27 January, the first monthly consultation focused on a timely and urgent topic: **Climate Action**. The exchanges highlighted parameters for UNHCR and NGOs' engagement on climate action notably regarding the legal and normative framework and efforts in greening operations. Notes of the meeting and key documents are being disseminated broadly within the NGO community and made available to members on the [ICVA webpage](#).

7. High-Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges

The High-Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges final sessions took place in December with a focus on '[COVID-19 and Climate Change: What can we learn?](#)' (2 December) and the closing session on 9 December on '[Preparing on protection and solutions in the future](#).' Act Alliance, Refugees International and the European Network on Statelessness contributed NGO statements, which are accessible [here](#) and [here](#). An outline document including recommendations is expected to be issued by UNHCR. ICVA found that [the set of recommendations](#) from the 2020 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs constituted an important background document for the Dialogue.



**NANSEN
REFUGEE
AWARD**

8. The 2021 Nansen Refugee Award nominations

Do you know how to nominate individuals/organisations for one of the world's most prestigious humanitarian prizes? If so, few days remain by **submitting a nomination** for the Nansen Award until **28 February 2021**. More information on the Nansen Award, including on the nomination process, is available on [UNHCR dedicated webpage](#).

For more information on any of the above topics, contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

9. Migrants in vulnerable situations

The thirteenth **Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)** took place virtually on 18-26 January 2021, under the chairmanship of the United Arab Emirates. The title of this GFMD was "The Future of Human Mobility: Innovative Partnerships for Sustainable Development". Amid a global pandemic this focus gave an excellent opportunity to discuss concretely how to foster effective partnership which addresses the challenges faced in migration governance. Covering issues such as governance of labour migration, approaches to address irregular migration and addressing gaps in migrant protection etc. The GFMD also discussed its own future and the unique role of the Forum, while new related mechanisms are being developed, such as those under the Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration.

Two networking sessions were organised for the GFMD between civil society and governments focusing on COVID-19 Building Back Better for Migrants. ICVA co-facilitated one of the sessions. For more on the GFMD and Civil Society engagement in it,

please read [here](#).

The 6th session of the International Migration Law initiative, which took place in December focused on the law of the sea. It considered the extent to which the law protects the rights of migrants, including through the obligation to rescue and render assistance to those in distress and to ensure arrangement for distress communication and coordination within the area of responsibility. Speakers included Charles Heller, Researcher & Filmmaker and Co-President of [Migreurop](#); and Itamar Mann, Senior lecturer, University of Haifa, Faculty of Law, and legal advisor at the [Global Legal Action Network](#).

Financing

10. Grand Bargain 2.0 discussions

In early February, the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group released an initial draft proposal to reaffirm commitments to the Grand Bargain, reinforce political will to take action, and provide a structure to simplify workstreams. Signatories will have the opportunity to provide feedback into the discussion between now and the June 2021 Annual Meeting.

Netherlands and ICRC also hosted a 2-day workshop on 13-14 January to examine principles of risk sharing between donors and partners within the framework of the Grand Bargain. The discussions among the participants will also help to inform how the elements of risk sharing and improved trust are captured in the Grand Bargain.

11. OCHA Central and West Africa regionally hosted Pooled Fund:

In December 2020 a concept to pilot a Regionally hosted Pooled Fund version of the OCHA Country Based Pooled Funds was endorsed. During February, OCHA will approach donors to assess funding support for an initial country in the region in which to start the pilot. As next steps become clear, ICVA will reach out to members in the region to engage further in the advisory board and partner selection process. For more information contact jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org.

12. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5):

RG5 held an initial 2021 meeting in January to confirm workplan priorities for the year. These will include deliverables supporting quality funding, HDP Nexus financing, and improved simplification and harmonisation of UN systems. The COVID-19 Funding Flexibility measures developed by RG5 in 2020 will be extended through June 2021 as UN agencies and NGO partners gather evidence of their use in 2020 and discuss how to incorporate flexibility measures into standard practice. Current updates on the work of RG5 can be found on the [IASC website](#).

Coordination

13. COVID-19 GHRP Update

Universal access and non-discrimination: ICVA is closely following the COVID-19 vaccine dissemination globally and engaged in targeted advocacy. It calls for universal access to the vaccine, so that everyone, regardless of living location, race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, social origin or migration status, property, birth or other status, has access to an effective vaccine in a timely manner. Specific attention is called for access to vaccines for aid workers who are often in frontline of support to vulnerable population.

14. Duty of Care: In early January, ICVA organised a meeting among members to discuss protection of humanitarian workers in the aftermath of the French National Humanitarian Conference. Through contribution by ACF, ACTED, NRC, HI and MSF, participating members discussed at the Conference and some announced commitments of the French President towards a better protection of humanitarian workers. As this subject is crucial to the functioning of the sector and protection and assistance of affected populations, members discussed various opportunities offered by this Conference and its follow up.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

15. IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG):

The EDG is currently mid-way through its Annual Review of Operations and Humanitarian Coordinator Appraisals for 2020. This year, the reviews are being conducted separately with a different region considered each week. Feedback from this process is important for setting the forward-looking agenda for the EDG and the IASC Principals, and for helping to strengthen leadership and accountability within the HC system. ICVA has engaged NGOs and the NGO Fora in each relevant country for detailed feedback to inform this process.

16. The IASC Principals:

A high level of engagement continues at the IASC Principals level.

In light of the escalating conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia and the need for urgent scale-up of humanitarian response efforts, the ERC/Chair of IASC convened a Principals meeting on this context mid-December.

The Principals worked jointly on Values and Leadership in relation to sexual misconduct during a dedicate session in January.

ERC and Chair of the IASC also convened an ad hoc high-level roundtable with IASC Principals and gender-based violence (GBV) Partners to address funding gaps in GBV programming.

The IASC Principals remain intensely focused on mitigating the pandemic's impacts on the field operations globally.

17. Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

The first OPAG session in 2021 took place on the 21st of January and focussed on protection. The primary objectives of the session were to (i) identify key protection risks and trends during the COVID-19 pandemic and identify ways in which the IASC can address these, and (ii) agree on how to reinforce protection outcomes across IASC structures and entities ways of working and outputs. The summary record of the session is being finalised and will be [available here](#).

Also, noteworthy and related to protection, is that by end of 2020, OPAG endorsed the ToR for the Review of the IASC Protection Policy, to which ICVA also substantially contributed. The ToR for the IASC Committee membership to oversee and guide the IASC Protection Policy Review have also been drafted and the work is expected to start soon.

18. Update on IASC Results groups:

RG 1 Operational response:

As co-chairs of the Sub-Group on Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI) ICVA and InterAction have been developing a methodology and project framework for three case studies which will be conducted over the coming months in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Venezuela.

ICVA has led development of the new draft IASC guidance on strengthening participation and representation of local and national actors in coordination bodies. Working with a consultant, the guidance has been developed as a synthesis of over 80 reports or documents related to coordination, localization and participation.

There is a [call for applications](#) for Local and National Non-governmental Organizations (LNNGO) and/or LNNGO fora to join IASC Results Group 1 on Operational Response Sub-group on Localization. See more information below in the MENA Region section.

RG 2 Accountability and inclusion: No updates

RG 3 Collective advocacy: No updates

RG 3 Sub-group on climate:

The RG3 Sub-group on Climate met online on 28 January to discuss (i) update on climate-related events and initiatives of relevance to the group; (ii) input on the climate and environment charter for humanitarian organisations (more information below in the Navigating Change section); and (iii) update on the Climate Adaptation Summit outcomes.

RG 4 Nexus:

The work of RG4 has been intense in the past weeks as several sub-working groups have been activated. ICVA is particularly engaged in the groups related to enhanced NGO involvement in the nexus at global and country level. As well as the group dedicated to mapping Nexus progress globally and the group which ensures reform in the Development Pillar are translated in opportunities at the field level.

The ICVA nexus working group is being consulted to contribute to these working-groups.

For more information marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

RG 5 Humanitarian Finance: See update above under 'Financing.'

19. NGO Fora support:

ICVA has successfully completed its first round of the NGO Fora Support Project – an initiative which promotes NGO Fora collective action at field level during the COVID-19 Response; across four regions – Africa, Asia, MENA and Latin America. The project reached twelve (12) NGO Fora, providing them with added capacity and resources to better participate and be more integrated especially as “local actors” into the COVID-19 pandemic response. It strengthened their coordination structures at country levels, aimed to articulate the diverse voices of the fora's membership into regional and national policy discussions - especially around the localization agenda.

In December 2020, ICVA launched the second “Call for Expression of Interest 2.0” for NGO Fora Support; and the responses received are being articulated, reviewed and requests will be used to further engage with the prospective donors for funding. The fora responses that are prioritised for funding will be contacted through ICVA's regional representatives.

Navigating Change: cross cutting issues

20. Child rights

On the 16 February 2021, the IASC-endorsed guidelines “**With Us and For Us: IASC Guidelines on Working with and for Young People in Humanitarian Emergencies and Protracted Crises**” will be launched in a virtual high-level event. If interested to

attend, [please register](#).

21. Civil society space in humanitarian action Statement on protecting humanitarian aid workers

VENRO, the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid Organisations, has published a statement "[Out of the Shadows](#)" on strengthening international humanitarian law and protecting humanitarian aid workers worldwide.

ECNL Fact Sheet on assemblies in private spaces (January 2021)

This ECNL [factsheet](#) focuses on different aspects of the right of peaceful assembly and how international standards, including the [UN General Comment No. 37](#), apply to private gatherings. It gives a definition for what exactly is a private space where a peaceful assembly can take place. The factsheet also asks if a state can impose the same obligations and/or restrictions on private assemblies as on the ones held in public spaces. This document is in an easy-to-follow question and answer format.

22. Climate and environment action:

As part of the Advisory Committee to draft the **Climate and Environment Charter**, ICVA together with ICRC and IFRC held two online consultations exclusively with ICVA members and NGOs in the regions to share their perspectives, feedback and next steps.

As we move towards a final draft, we are continuing our consultations on the Charter. To streamline this process, **an online questionnaire in English, French, Spanish and Arabic** has been developed on the structure, contents, and ambitions of the current draft. You can access the forms, the draft charter more information on the charter and process on ICVA's [Climate and Environment webpage](#).

Consultations on the Draft Climate and Environment Charter

The Europe and U.S. consultations on the charter will be on 9 February 09.00 CEST or 16.00 CEST. To attend and for more information on these two consultations please [register here](#).

23. Safeguarding:

New IASC PSEAH Championship:

In January the [IASC PSEAH Championship](#) rotated from UNHCR's High Commissioner Filippo Grandi to UNFPA's Executive Director, Dr. Natalia Kanem. The priorities for UNFPA's Championship are to bolster PSEA country mechanisms, improve access to quality assistance and strengthen coordination and cooperation. This will be done through the creation of a PSEAH experts' roster, a review of IASC PSEAH measures so far, the development of a PSEAH training for GBV practitioners and consultations with UN and non-UN entities on strengthening coordination and cohesion in the response to SEAH.

Update on the Interagency PSEA Outreach and Communication Fund:

January 2021 saw the finalisation of most of the 19 grants given by ICVA and UNHCR in 2020 to NGOs in 19 countries in order to raise awareness to SEA (Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) and reporting channels in the communities they work with. Despite the significant challenges linked to COVID-19, the NGOs managed to create and disseminate information and communication materials that are context-specific and culturally appropriate, in close consultation and engagement with the affected communities that these projects targeted. ICVA and UNHCR see the Fund as a success and are looking to sustain it for at least the next two years.

ICVA Partnerships



24. Recordings of ICVA sessions at the STEP Into a Better World Event

ICVA, together with the [Civil Society Action Committee](#), co-organised the STEP event under the theme of "Sustainable Society". ICVA held three sessions over the two days. If you missed our sessions you can now watch the [recordings](#)!



Bank De-risking: Partnerships for Prosperity

"How can private sector partnerships work hand-in-hand with NGOs to reach the most vulnerable populations?"

This session will explore some challenges, innovations & solutions to Bank De-risking for meaningful partnerships to reach the most vulnerable populations.

[Watch recording](#)

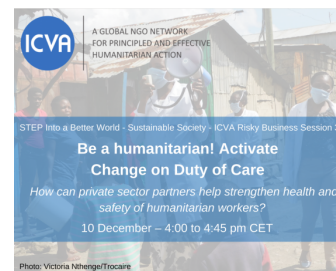


NGO-Business Partnership: Opportunities in Asia

"How to make inclusive business partnerships between NGOs and companies that can make a strong impact?"

This session will explore tips on successful, responsible and sustainable business-NGO partnerships in the Asia & Pacific region.

[Watch recording](#)



Be a humanitarian! Activate change on duty of care:

"How can private sector partners help strengthen health and safety of humanitarian workers?"

This session will discuss ways to replicate or join existing collective initiatives impacting duty of care for humanitarians as they contribute to health & well-being for all.

[Watch recording](#)

Region Specific

ICVA regional teams have been working intensively with inter agency coordination groups to ensure national and international NGO involvement and active contribution to the ongoing preparedness and response to the COVID19, including to liaise at the country, regional and global level.

25. Asia and the Pacific Region

Exchange on Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees

ICVA in collaboration with UNHCR and APPRN held a briefing and exchange between UNHCR and NGOs supporting countries related to [Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees Platform](#). The dialogue was an opportunity to exchange on priority project themes, ongoing initiatives, and key protection issues.

Regional Directors meeting

ICVA participated in the Regional Directors meeting in December 2020 which included presentations on the changes to the CERF guidelines, annual review of response situations and potential future risks in the region.

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Events

The Regional Humanitarian Partnership Events concluded in December. In total there were 14 events which covered topics from localised leadership in disaster resilience, mainstreaming quality and accountability, responding in the new norm in relation to COVID-19. Next steps will be the production of a policy paper which collates the findings from webinars, interviews and survey to highlight emerging humanitarian issues for the Asia Pacific region.

26. Africa Region

Humanitarian financing in the region

ICVA organised a briefing and exchange with members in Africa on the latest updates in Humanitarian Financing, including a consultation on the main features of the incoming Regional Pooled Fund for the Sahel.

The network has secured funding from the Swiss Development Cooperation for three years of support of Principled Aid in East Africa. The project will focus on NGO Fora in the region and will enhance relations and opportunities for their members.

Focus in the Horn of Africa

ICVA Africa has selected Somalia as the pilot country for a London School of Economic research around coordination of Humanitarian Aid and local actors.

ICVA Africa has launched a support program for some NGO Fora in the Horn of Africa to enhance their coordination capacity. Countries in crisis are benefitting from funding managed by ICVA to kick off coordination structures.

ICVA representatives have been participating to key global donors and IASC meetings related to existing crises, particularly in the Horn of Africa bringing regional and country level NGOs view formulated by members and Fora.

For more information contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org or Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org

27. MENA Region

Developing Stronger Networks Workshop

During the week of 7 December 2020, ICVA MENA conducted a three-day coordination workshop entitled, "Developing Stronger Networks" targeting the secretariats, steering committees and board members of 14 Syrian NGO Networks. The topics covered included:

The national, regional and international humanitarian coordination architecture, joint coordination skills, representation skills, networking and negotiation skills, and influencing humanitarian processes.

The workshop is a part of a strategic partnership with UNDP with the purpose of strengthening the capacity of Syrian NGO Networks to enable them to play a vital role in joint coordination and representation. This will be complemented by an upcoming workshop in March 2021 on good governance and strategic planning with the purpose of strengthening the Syrian. For this workshop, ICVA in MENA has [advertised for a consultancy opportunity](#).

Localisation research

ICVA in MENA has completed the research piece entitled “**Localisation in Humanitarian Leadership: Profiling National NGO Engagement in International Humanitarian Coordination Structures in the MENA Region.**” A meeting with OCHA Colleagues throughout MENA was conducted on 28 January to discuss the initial findings and recommendations. A regional launch event is being planned, more details to follow.

Call for Applications: IASC Subgroup to local and national NGOs/networks to join the sub group on localization

The IASC Result Group 1 Sub-group on Localization strives to further enhance localization efforts in the leadership and coordination of humanitarian operations. [The Call for Applications](#) presents background information on the Sub-Group and the selection process and criteria for Local and National Non-governmental Organisations (LNNGO) and LNNGO forums. The selected LNNGO representatives will be expected to contribute to the work of the Sub-Group by March 2021.

Please send your application to Eman Ismail (icvamenam@icvanetwork.org) with a copy to IASC correspondence (iasccorrespondence@un.org) by 15 February 2021, mentioning “IASC RG1 Sub Group on Localisation” in the title of the email.

For more information about the working happening in the MENA region, contact: Eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org and stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org

Learning Opportunities

28. [Epidemiology and Modeling Infectious Diseases in the Humanitarian Setting](#) by the READY Initiative. The goal of this training is to equip participants with foundational infectious disease epidemiology and modeling concepts and basic skills to interpret common data that is available for humanitarian emergencies. Targeted at NGO leadership, program managers and technical advisers, this training will include 2.5 hours of online, self-paced videos, and approximately 5.5 hours of live training, over a period of 2 weeks.

Three regional training sessions will also be held for Asia, East Africa and the Middle East regions between February and April 2021. Full details on this training, can be found on the [training website](#).



29. Join the webinar: Parliamentary action to end statelessness by 2024 on 25 February at 14:00 (CET), organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, UNHCR, and PHAP. The webinar will place particular attention on how to move beyond pledges made at the GRF and HLS in order to strengthen implementation of the #IBelong Campaign and the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness by 2024. Members of Parliaments who have led legislative efforts to address statelessness in their countries will share their experience, with time also for questions and discussion by participants. Click for [more details and to register](#).

ICVA's Learning opportunities and resources page:

ICVA's [learning resource page](#) is a curated list of learning and training programmes. Please share with us any interesting opportunities that would be useful to include on the webpage. For more information contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

New and Noteworthy

30. Humanitarian Access Overview by ACAPS

The new [Humanitarian Access Overview](#) has been released by ACAPS. Along with the report, there is a publicly available **access dataset** behind the analysis as well as an **interactive dashboard** to quickly check the level of access constraints per country.

31. [State of Humanitarian Professions \(SOHP\) in 2020](#). The study undertaken by Bioforce recognises 24 profession areas and, through consultation with humanitarian professionals, documents the key characteristics and changing nature of each. The study examines the extent to which each work area was considered a profession and whether it demonstrates indicators of professionalisation. The study also captures the views of humanitarians on the competencies required when working and operating in their professional area while distinguishing some of these competencies from equivalent non-humanitarian work.

32. *The Other Face of Globalisation COVID-19, International Labour Migrants and Left-behind Families in Bangladesh*

ICVA's ED participated in the launch [webinar](#) for the book: "*The Other Face of Globalisation COVID-19, International Labour Migrants and Left-behind Families in Bangladesh*".

The book, published by Bangladesh Civil Society for Migrants (BCSM) and its member organisation, Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), examines the vulnerabilities of low skilled Bangladeshi migrants in different destination countries after the outbreak of COVID-19. [Find out more.](#)

33. Participate in the [Humanitarian Gender Study](#).

The study includes two online surveys. The **Humanitarian Gender Bias Survey** assesses how gender biases affect humanitarian practitioners and influence the implementation of humanitarian programs (~30-minute survey). The **Humanitarian GBV Risk Mitigation & COVID-19 Survey** is a separate 30-minute survey examining gender-based violence risk mitigation and COVID-19 in humanitarian settings. We encourage everyone working in the humanitarian field, in any sector, to participate in one or both of the surveys available [here in 6 languages](#). Your participation will help improve gender equality and strengthen humanitarian programming, including in the context of COVID-19.

For more information contact Dr. Jennifer Scott (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center) and the Humanitarian Gender Study Team at humanitariangenderstudy@bidmc.harvard.edu or visit the study [website](#).

Mark Your Agenda

February 9: Consultations on the Draft Climate and Environment Charter
March 23-25: UNHCR 80th Standing Committee (online)

May 18-19: ICVA General Assembly (online)

May 25-26: ICVA Annual Conference (online)

May 28-29: World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center - 2nd Research conference on forced displacement

June 23: UNHCR informal briefing on the preliminary outcomes of stocktaking to date for the High-Level Officials Meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

June 25: Commemoration of the world refugee day

July 5-7: UNHCR 81st Standing Committee

July 28: 70th anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

August 19: World Humanitarian Day

August 30: 60th anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness

September 15-16 or 22-23: UNHCR 82nd Standing Committee

October 4-8: UNHCR 72nd Executive Committee

October 27: UNHCR consultation on modalities and programme for the High-Level Officials Meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

December 14-15: High-level officials' meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

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