



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from November 2020

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

2021, No Second Chance

There has been a prioritisation of humanitarian funding this year to deal with the frontline COVID emergency, but there are alarming warnings of what funding shortfalls could mean for the years to come. The financial horizon looks particularly gloomy and fears that the next ten years are going to be more of a “decade of recovery” than a “[decade of action](#)” in terms of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The pandemic has overshadowed the growing climate urgency while societies, humanitarians, donors and others must become more “climate smart” as called for by the [IFRC World Disasters Report](#).

The biggest donor countries and aid organisations have re-committed to accelerate [getting more means to front line workers](#) and into the hands of people in need. The humanitarian needs are not shrinking, they have skyrocketed since the beginning of the year. A huge challenge to deliver on the ambitions of our collective and individual commitments.

Staying and delivering amid the COVID-19 crisis has been central for the coordinated international support in 2020. We have to continue improving on delivery and accelerate effectiveness and efficiency as a core ambition between donors and humanitarian organisations.

To deepen and broaden the resource base for humanitarian action as well as to impact on the humanitarian needs, more private sector financing and influence is solicited. ICVA partners on the “[STEP into a Better World: A call to action](#)” (9-10 December), engaging with private sector leadership to offer joint space for NGOs and business community to see how to best get involved and what needs to be done to make the involvement as effective as possible.

NGO front line staff and humanitarians from other organisations, civil servants but also individuals from the affected communities are displaying impressive courage, commitment and compassion. They should be commended as they will continue preventing some of the worst outcomes in 2021.

However, we still don't have a response that matches the scale of the crisis. All hands-on deck are needed in 2021 to shrink the needs, increase efficiency, and narrow the funding gap.

The multiple events affecting humanitarian action in particular during 2020 call for further urgent global momentum and political will to transform the lives of millions of people around the world.

We must honour collectively our commitments for principled humanitarian action and

champion them. We may not have a second chance.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates



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

This has been a tumultuous year for ICVA members and Secretariat. We have learned new ways of working to overcome the challenges. As we look ahead to the ICVA General Assembly, the Board has decided to use these new ways of working and to hold **the General Assembly online on 18-19 May 2021**. While we lose the opportunities of visiting Geneva and meeting face to face, we gain opportunities for wider engagement in the event. And of course, to save money and reduce our carbon footprint.

The General Assembly will be the moment for Members to approve the ICVA 2030 Strategy. The Secretariat will be sharing a draft for comment in January. Please take time to read this and send any comments and suggestion to be considered for the final version.

The General Assembly will also be the moment to 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.

Finally, we are making the regular review of the ICVA statutes. Members are welcome to submit proposals for change.

Do watch out for communication from the Secretariat on all of these processes, and please engage with them.

Sincerely,
ICVA Board

Forced migration



2. Nominations for the 2021 Nansen Refugee Award
Nominations for the Nansen Award are **now open**. Each year UNHCR recognises an unsung hero to be its annual Nansen Refugee Award laureate – in recognition of their outstanding work helping forcibly displaced or stateless people. [Nominations can be made](#) up to 28 February 2021. More information related to the Nansen Award, including on nomination process, is available on [UNHCR dedicated webpage](#).

3. 2020 Virtual Retreat on Asylum/Refugee Status Determination procedures through refugee legal empowerment

Asylum Access, Namati, Saint Andrew's Refugee Services and UNHCR organised a virtual retreat on 12 and 16 November, with two lively sessions. Participants from NGOs, Refugee-led organisations and UNHCR considered the recent tools, innovations and creative solutions that actors around the world are taking up to support the legal recognition of refugees in their contexts, especially in light of COVID-19 and several emerging global processes. During the retreat, ICVA Head of Forced Migration made a presentation situating legal empowerment in relevant global processes, particularly the Global Compact on Refugees, the Asylum Capacity Support Group and pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum. For more information, contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org

4. UNHCR and NGO meetings on COVID-19 response

On 2 November, UNHCR and ICVA resumed global exchanges with NGOs on the COVID-19 situation. This meeting addressed 'Challenges and response to sexual and gender-based violence in the COVID-19 context', notably highlighting the recent publication of [UNHCR Policy on the Prevention of, Risk Mitigation and Response to Gender-based Violence](#). Notes of the meeting and key documents have been disseminated broadly within the NGO community and are also available to members on the [ICVA webpage](#). For more information, contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

5. UNHCR and NGOs in Europe Dialogue

On 24 November, ICVA co-organised with [ECRE](#) and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe a second online Dialogue between UNHCR and NGOs in Europe. The dialogue focused on the key results of the global [UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations](#) and on forced displacement related the Nagorno-Karabakh armed conflict and the ongoing humanitarian response. The dialogue was an opportunity to discuss and exchange around topics of common interest as well as ways forward. For more information, contact jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

6. High-Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges

On 4 & 18 November, two sessions of the [High-Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges](#) took place, on 'Protection considerations' and on 'Resilience and inclusion in health.' ICVA recalled the direct link to the [2020 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs](#), including [the set of recommendations](#) resulting from the Consultations. For more information, please contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

7. Internal displacement

On 4 November, a bilateral exchange between ICVA staff and the Secretariat of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement was organised to discuss on recent developments, the way forward and how cooperation between the Panel and NGOs can continue. More

information on ICVA's work related to the Panel can be [found here](#) and for more information contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org

8. 2020 Afghanistan conference

Ahead of the Afghanistan pledging conference on 23 & 24 November, ICVA attended two events related to 'the High-Level Consultation on Return and Reintegration: Building a Future for all Afghans on Durable Solutions for Displaced Afghans' and to 'Reintegrating refugees and returnees.' Notes and a brief analysis have been shared with ICVA members. More information about the conference, including the civil society statement coordinated by the British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group, is [available here](#).

9. Migrants in vulnerable situation

Global Compact for Migration (GCM)

The first regional review of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) took place on 12-13 November in the UNECE region. It provided a key opportunity for States in the region to review the implementation of their commitments in the GCM and to assess whether regional and national policies are aligned with the Compact. To date, 26 Member States have submitted written inputs and 17 more have been received from other Stakeholders in the region. The regional review was also preceded by a multi-stakeholder consultation, where civil society actors were actively engaged. All the relevant documents and some recordings from the event sessions can be [found here](#).

To follow up and contribute to the GCM review processes in other regions, [refer to the timeline](#) for engagement.

Impact of COVID-19 on displaced populations

ICVA and the Program on Forced Migration and Health of the Columbia University organised the panel discussion 'Preventing and Mitigating Indirect Health Impacts of COVID-19 on Displaced Populations in Humanitarian Settings'. ICVA members from Jordan and Pakistan were among the speakers on the panel. There was also a launch for a [knowledge brief on the subject](#).

International Migrants Day: Global Celebration of Our Rights and Our Struggle for Justice. On the occasion of **18 December**, which marks International Migrants Day, the two-year anniversary of the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), and the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Migrant Workers Convention (MWC), the [Civil Society Action Committee](#) (co-convened by ICMC, NGO Coalition on Migration and ICVA) in conjunction with CCRM, MFA and GRFDT, are jointly co-organising "[International Migrants Day: Global Celebration of Our Rights and Our Struggle for Justice](#)." Find the programme on the [webpage](#).

Financing

10. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5):

RG5 met for its standard monthly call on 24 November. Key action items over the next few months for the group will include improving a focus on localization, both through increased participation of local NGOs in the work of the RG, and through more explicit involvement of local actors in implementation of deliverables at the country level. RG members also discussed the current efforts to increase funding flexibility of UN agreements in the context of COVID-19 and these will likely be extended through June 2021 as discussion continues on how to implement more permanent flexibility measures. The full text of the IASC funding flexibility measures is [available here](#). Priority work plan deliverables for RG5 in 2021 will be finalised in December and shared through the IASC.

11. IASC COVID-19 Quality Funding and GHD engagement:

IASC RG5 members also met with the Good Humanitarian Donor (GHD) group members on 20 November to discuss quality funding (multi-year, flexible) as well as the specific IASC COVID-19 funding flexibility measures adopted in June. This discussion represented a reengagement between IASC RG5 and the GHD with the intent to have more regular dialogue in 2021. The objectives of the meeting included sharing current evidence on the impact of quality funding on field operations and establishing next steps with donors to implement improved quality funding streams. It was agreed in the short term that RG5 will engage bilaterally with GHD members to advocate for increased implementation of quality funding. Development Initiatives, with support from NRC, has produced a catalogue of quality funding practices useful as a reference tool [available here](#).

12. UNHCR adjustments to partnership agreements in 2021:

UNHCR has now completed several updates on changes to various elements of partnership agreements that will impact 2021 agreements. Notably, the increased levels of budget flexibility at the output level will be further enhanced for partners that are low risk (the range of flexibility will be 30% to 50%). Partners will need to continue budgeting for staff salaries based on UNHCR-assessed salary ranges for local and international staff, however, expenditures may reflect real costs as long as the overall budget remains within the agreed amount. The definitions of direct and indirect costs used by UNHCR with partners will also be aligned with the Money Where It Counts initiative, although the current system of project integrity and support costs will remain in place for 2021. For the most current documents and UNHCR partnership agreement templates, visit the [UN Partner Portal](#).

13. CERF releases \$25M for women-led projects battling gender-based violence

The United Nations humanitarian chief, Mark Lowcock, has released \$25 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to support women-led organisations that prevent and respond to gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.

The funding has gone to the [United Nations Population Fund](#) (UNFPA) and [UN Women](#) who have been asked to channel at least 30 per cent of it to organisations run by women that prevent violence against women and girls, and help victims and survivors with access to medical care, family planning, legal advice, safe spaces, mental health services and counselling. [For more information read here](#).

Coordination

14. COVID-19 GHRP Update

The fourth Progress Report for the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) for COVID-19. [The progress report](#) presents the collective achievements the UN and NGOs have made in the COVID-19 response thus far. It presents the overview of the current context in which the COVID response is taking place, as well as examples of how partners have innovated and adapted programmes and delivery to overcome constraints. The report also provides a funding and resource mobilisation analysis and an update on pooled fund support to the crisis. This is the final GHRP progress report for 2020.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

15. IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG):

This month the EDG met to discuss the situation in Cameroon, DRC and Ethiopia, and also conducted a Horizon Scanning session which included presentation of the IASC Early Warning Early Action analysis.

16. The IASC Principals

The IASC Principals' bi-annual meeting took place on-line on 30th November. The agenda mainly covered the horizon scanning of humanitarian contexts. IASC Principals also held their now monthly meeting on the response to the COVID-19 outbreak 2 November including on water and sanitation as well as health and logistics updates.

17. Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

The two meetings of OPAG that took place in November focussed on the work of associated entities: The Global Cluster Coordination Group; the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) Steering Group; the Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action; the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluations (IAHE) Steering Group and the Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in Emergency Settings. Their future accountability to OPAG or other structures within IASC was also discussed.

OPAG also held an engaging discussion on the impact of COVID-19 in humanitarian response and what it means in terms of its work priorities for the year to come. Subjects covered include localization, humanitarian-development collaboration, protection, GBV, PSEA, and AAP. Summary record of the meetings [can be found here](#).

18. IASC Duty of Care Minimum Standards

The [IASC Duty of Care Minimum Standards](#) were endorsed in November.

The document guides IASC members and standing invitees in the implementation of adequate duty of care provisions in the context of COVID-19, for all personnel regardless of nationality and contractual type. They were developed by an OPAG task team, under the co-leadership of ICVA and WFP, as per OPAG's request to 'convert the ICVA [call for action on duty of care](#) into a set of IASC minimum standards and commitments to be adopted by the IASC'. It also relates to the action point from the IASC's Principals meeting on 10 July 2020, namely to 'strengthen duty of care support to humanitarian actors on the ground and ensure more pronounced engagement of IASC members on duty of care issues. ICVA thanks its many members who contributed to the development of these standards and will continue to support them in ensuring their implementation on the ground.

19. Update on IASC Results groups:

RG 1 Operational response:

ICVA continued its contributions to RG1 through a number of actions happening in the sub-groups:

Localization: a focus on developing guidance for HCTs and Clusters regarding the inclusion of local and national actors.

Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI): ICVA and InterAction as co-leads are developing an interagency process for conducting country-level case studies on BAI in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Venezuela, which will be conducted in the first half of 2021.

RG2 Accountability and inclusion: No updates this month.

RG 3 Collective advocacy:

The [IASC Key Messages on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and COVID-19](#), developed by Results Group 3 on Collective Advocacy, was endorsed this month. These messages address the climate change related concerns in the context of humanitarian action and COVID-19. The objective of these key messages is to facilitate consistent messaging among IASC members during upcoming climate change events.

RG 3 Subgroup on Climate Change

The subgroup on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and Collective Advocacy of the IASC Results Group 3 on Collective Advocacy met online on 11 November 2020 to discuss (i) a briefing on OCHA's anticipatory action activities, particularly lessons learned from Bangladesh, and looking ahead; (ii) the common narrative; (iii) a joint side event around the Adaptation Summit; (iv) tour de table of recent and upcoming climate change key events/publications.

RG 4 Nexus:

The RG4 met to finalise the work plan for 2021. ICVA has committed to support the work in most of the key priorities involving NGOs, including learning about what works for INGOs

and NNGOs under a nexus approach and Engagement with the 40+ countries undertaking a CCA and/or UNSDCF (UN development planning process) in 2021 to ensure inclusiveness. Additionally, in collaboration with PBSO, UNICEF and ICRC, we will work at developing messaging about how to make nexus approaches compatible with humanitarian principles, based on concrete challenges shared by members and others. As co-chair of the RG5 and of the Community of Practice on the Nexus (CoPN), ICVA will continue to contribute by facilitating the relations between the two result groups. The CoPN is currently focusing on disseminating and exchanging with members on the [issue paper on Peace](#) which was recently published.

For more information marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

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

20. The Global Humanitarian Policy Forum: 9-10 December 2020

OCHA is organising a series of interactive discussions on the longer-term health, socio-economic, political, ethical, and security challenges exposed or aggravated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and concurrent crises. The discussions will identify common experiences, examples of programmatic and organisational change, and suggestions for systemic adjustments to further optimise the ways in which humanitarians work and collaborate. Find more information on the agenda and [register here](#).

21. NGO Fora Support:



JONAF launches results of its COVID-19 surveys, and phase two of its response plan to combat second wave of COVID-19:

In efforts to activate the role of local organisations in supporting the government, the Jordanian National NGOs Forum (JONAF), on the 19 November launched two publications on the results of surveys (JONAF Response to C-19 Assessment and Strengthening Localization in Jordan Localization: Reinforce and support do not replace or undermine) carried out on its members on COVID-19. See link for survey publication: [Survey Report](#); [C-19-response-assessment](#). With the second phase of the COVID-19, the Fora developed and [3-month action plan](#).



The National Humanitarian Network Pakistan organised a knowledge exchange – webinar, on the topic “The transformation of civil society through Survival, Adaptation, and Institutionalization of Adaptation.” The knowledge exchange informed participants about the government policies and the corresponding adaptation of civil society to adjust to these policies. The recording and presentation of the webinar are [available online](#).

For more information on NGO Fora Support, contact: obebe.oluchukwu@icvanetwork.org

TAREMINET meeting on Localization

TAREMINET (Tanzania Refugee & Migration Network) on 6 November, in Dar-es-Salaam, held a workshop on localization with relevant Tanzanian government officials. ICVA contributes to TAREMINET within ICVA's NGO Fora Programme support and contributed during the event. For more information, contact: Michael.hyden@icvanetwork.org

Navigating change: cross cutting issues

22. Child rights

UNICEF – NGO 2020 Annual Consultation

On 17-19 November, UNICEF and ICVA organised the UNICEF – NGO Partnership in Humanitarian Action 2020 Annual Consultation 'Working Together to Address Emerging Challenges'. Attended by 470 participants working in 85 countries, the Consultation considered progress in the engagement undertaken in the previous consultation and in the overall 2020 partnership. Issues such as the impact of COVID 19 on the partnership, funding flexibility measures and simplified procedure were discussed together with other crucial issues for the sector. Such as how anti-racism and anti-discrimination as well as the localization agenda contribute to a respectful, diverse, inclusive, equitable and mutually accountable partnership. The session recordings, background documents and resources can be accessed by registering in the [online platform](#).

23. Localization

IASC RG1 Co-chairs of the subgroup on Localization (UNHCR and the Somali NGOs Fora), encourage NGOs to share their feedback on how the [IASC Interim Guidance note on Localization](#) is being operationalised at country level. You are invited to report on the efforts in which you have been able to measure certain progress, and to share your constructive feedback on how the guidance on Localization has been beneficial at the country level and global level. For more information or questions, contact the ICVA focal point on Localization: Eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org

See also information on localization under “NGO Fora Support Programme” and “Region Specific”.

USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) would like to invite local and national NGOs to a webinar on new applicant requirements on Thursday, December 17, 7:00 - 10:00 am EST. The session will aim to:

- Provide local organisations/potential new partners with an overview of BHA, their Mission and how they work.
- Increase the understanding of potential new partners about how best to work with BHA on International Disaster Assistance (IDA) funded response, recovery and disaster risk reduction activities.
- Increase understanding of potential new partners of the Special Requirements for New Applicants.

To attend, [register here](#) by **December 15**. Once registered, you will receive information on how to connect to the meeting. Please send any questions to BHA.NGOpartnerships@usaid.gov

24. Civil society space in humanitarian action

On 4 December, a panel discussion on the UN and Civic Space: Strengthening Participation, Protection and Promotion was held focusing on the UN's role to promote and protect civic space under the Secretary General's [Call to Action for Human Rights and the UN Guidance Note on Civic Space](#). The recording of the discussion can be [found here](#).

ICVA Partnerships



25. We invite you to participate in the "[STEP into a Better World: A call to action](#)" event led by [Impact17](#) and together with EU Business School, through ONResearch.

STEP into a Better World is a virtual conference dedicated to driving action for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals which have been collated into four accessible themes:

- Sustainable society
- Technology & innovation
- Environment & nature
- Partnering for a Better World

ICVA, together with the [Civil Society Action Committee](#), is co-organiser of the STEP event under the theme of "Sustainable Society". **ICVA will be leading 3 sessions over the two days.** See below for more information on ICVA's sessions!

The Civil Society Action Committee will also be leading 4 sessions, [see here!](#) (Some speakers for the sessions are still to be confirmed, so for now the only names that appear on the document are those of the secretariat staff).

We encourage you to join us and register using our free VIP tickets, thanks to Impact17!

[Register here!](#)



ICVA's 1st session at STEP: 9 December 3:15-4:15pm CET

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.



ICVA's 2nd session at STEP: 10 December 10:00 am CET

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.



ICVA's 3rd session at STEP: 10 December 4:00 pm CET

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.

Register here!

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.

26. Asia and the Pacific:

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Events

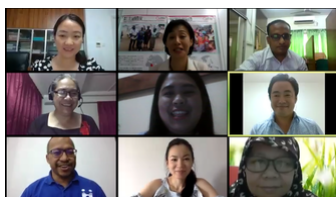
The Regional Partnerships events which are co-hosted by ICVA, ADDRN and OCHA are **ongoing until mid-December** and have so far drawn good and diverse participation and leadership from a range of ICVA members and partners in the region to discuss pertinent topics. The webinars have included themes such as local and community leadership, emergency preparedness, addressing multiple hazards, quality and accountability etc. Key points from these events will feed into a policy paper for the region planned for early next year. For more information on ongoing events [see here](#).

- 8 December: [Localized Surge Capacity in Humanitarian Action- Lessons from COVID-19](#)
- 14 December : [Preventing statelessness and mitigating the impact of statelessness on life of affected individuals](#)
- 14 December: [Accountability & Quality Mainstreaming of Q&A:Panel discussion](#)
- 17 December: [Guardian's of the Planet: Children and Youth Voices on Climate Crisis and DRR](#)

The Regional IASC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG)

The EPWG, where ICVA is co-chair, included a real time lessons learned session on the recent cyclone/flooding responses in *Vietnam, Philippines and Cambodia*. This is the second round of responses (requiring international assistance) to be conducted where COVID-

19 restrictions are still in force, the first being tropical cyclone Harold. The meeting drew on operational experiences from UN, INGO and IFRC colleagues at regional and country level responding to the crisis. Participants highlighted how responses have been adapted for COVID-19 and common challenges faced across the countries which will help preparedness efforts moving forward.



ICVA-ADRRN-HFI-HI NGO learning series: “Humanitarian Work in the New Normal Age”

Human Initiative (HI) and Humanitarian Forum Indonesia (HFI), with support from Asian Disaster Reduction and Responds Network (ADRRN) and ICVA, produced a webinar series (5 webinars) between July and the end of 2020. The webinars aimed to create a platform for CSOs and CSO networks in Asia and the Pacific to have open discussions on critical themes focused on how CSOs are adapting themselves to address the needs in a COVID-19 era.

The last webinar was held on **25 November** on the topic: **The Impact of Multi-hazard Threats Towards Multi-sectoral Humanitarian Response**. You can view the [recording here](#).

For more information on the Asia & the Pacific region, contact: Keya.Sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org

27. Africa Region:

African Union 8th humanitarian symposium

ICVA participated in the [8th humanitarian symposium](#) organised by the African Union Commission, where representatives of AU member states, experts and civil society were present. ICVA, participated in the panel “Supporting Inclusive Humanitarian Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic in Africa” where we shared the views of ICVA membership on issues related to access and movement restrictions related to COVID-19 and highlighted some of the consequences of these restrictions on the most vulnerable populations the community serves. Furthermore, ICVA provided some key recommendations, based on the consultations that were conducted with the membership (through various working groups) to the AU commission.

NGO discussion on the response in Ethiopia

On 9 November ICVA organised the first regional meeting among NGOs to discuss the response in Ethiopia, this has proven to be an important exchange in the preliminary phases of the coordination. ICVA is also discussing how to support NGO coordination in country through small grants.

Discussions on Regional Pooled Fund for the Sahel

ICVA in collaboration with ICVA member, NRC, held a well-attended exchange with NGOs in Africa to brief them about the discussions on the Regional Pooled Fund for the Sahel and other updates from our Humanitarian Financing Focus area.

In collaboration with OCHA Humanitarian Leadership Strengthening Section, ICVA hosted a **briefing for NGOs with the UN RC/HC for Chad**.

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

28. MENA Region:

Discussions on Localization,

On 19 November, ICVA MENA Regional Representative presented ICVA’s key

recommendations on how to work collectively to advance the discussion on localization, and provided a brief overview about the NGO Fora Support Programme in MENA at the Jordan National NGOs Forum (JONAF) virtual and in-person event. At this event, two publications were released [JONAF COVID-19 Response Assessment](#) and [Strengthening Localization in Jordan: Reinforce and support do not replace or undermine](#) which were lead by JONAF and supported by ICVA's NGO Fora Support Programme.

ICVA Workshop: “Developing Stronger Networks” 7,8 & 10 December 2020

ICVA MENA is currently developing and planning for an upcoming workshop entitled, “Developing Stronger Networks”. The Workshop will be conducted on 7, 8, and 10 December and will target 11 Syrian NGO Networks. The workshop programme is part of a wider set of targeted workshops focusing on good governance, strategic planning and enhancing the Syrian CSOs network engagement at different regional and global advocacy and coordination platforms.

Research piece on Localization in Humanitarian Leadership in the MENA Region

ICVA MENA is currently wrapping up the research piece on Localization in Humanitarian Leadership in the MENA Region and is expected to launch in early 2021. This research has a key focus on the progress that has been made by LNNGO to enhance national humanitarian leadership and the challenges related to their active engagement at the decision making and coordination level. Key inputs and recommendations from both national and international NGOs and UN agencies are in place across the region who are genuinely committed to increasing national voices within humanitarian coordination structures.

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

29. Latin America Region:

The ICVA Latin America region members and partners meeting held on 11 November was a call on how better make the humanitarian needs and actions in the region more visible in international discussions. The ICVA members and partners in the region wish to further use the assertive link provided by ICVA as a global network.

ICVA's work plan for 2021 in partnership with FM4 Paso Libre aims to address some of the concerns and discussions that were brought up during the regional meeting including on the close collaboration with the Colombian Fora under the ICVA NGO Fora Support Programme.

For more information about the work happening in the Latin America region, contact: lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org

Learning Opportunities



30. The recording is now available for the webinar “Organisational Culture Matters: Leadership, staff well-being and living our values” organised by ICVA, PHAP and the CHS Alliance, on **3 December!**

Liza Jachens, Organisational Psychologist at Webster University, **Ann Muraya**, Director of Organisation Health for Thrive Worldwide, **Melissa Pitotti**, consultant for the ICVA-CHS Alliance joint project looking at the CEO role in driving organisational culture change and co-Initiator of the CHS Alliance Initiative to Cultivate Caring, Compassionate Aid Organisations, together with CEOs **Amanda Khozi Mukwashi**, of Christian Aid, and **Dhananjayan (Danny) Sriskandarajah**, CEO of Oxfam GB, shared their own experiences leading culture change within their organisations where top management plays a critical role in managing risks and ensuring that staff and those we assist in our day-to-day work are cared for

and those we assist in our day-to-day work are cared for.

A briefing paper on this joint ICVA-CHS Alliance project on the CEO role in driving culture change to enable a positive workplace culture and safeguard staff well-being will be shared soon.

This webinar is the fourth webinar of the [Learning Stream on Risk Management in Practice](#).

ICVA's Learning opportunities and resources page: ICVA's [learning resource page](#) is a curated list of online and face-to-face (when available) 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

31. IFRC 2020 World Disasters Report

In November, the IFRC [2020 World Disasters Report](#) was launched. The World Disasters Report analyses climate disaster trends and shows how we can tackle the humanitarian impacts of the climate crisis together.

32. Global Humanitarian Overview

Published by OCHA, the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) offers an overview of the current state and future trends in humanitarian action. OCHA hosted its virtual global launch on 1 December.

Mark your agenda

November-December: [Regional Humanitarian Partnership Events](#) – Asia & the Pacific

December 2: High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges 2020 - COVID-19 and Climate Change: what we can learn?

December 3: ICVA & PHAP webinar: [Organisational Culture Matters: Leadership, staff well-being and living our values](#)

December 9: High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges 2020 – Preparing for protection and solutions for the future

December 9-10: [STEP into a Better World](#)

December 9-10: Global Humanitarian Policy Forum

December 14: UNHCR's 70th Anniversary

December 15-16: Annual Meeting of the UN Network on Migration

December 18: International Migrants Day: Global Celebration of Our Rights and Our Struggle for Justice

- 2021 -

May 18-19: ICVA General Assembly, Online

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