

Subject: ICVA Bulletin - Highlights from May 2021

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From: ICVA Secretariat



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from May 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

The Future is Unwritten

As ICVA addresses some of the immediate operational and policy challenges, the last year has been an opportunity to look at the [longer term for humanitarian NGOs](#) and how to support the way NGOs navigate change. The [ICVA 2030 Strategy](#), adopted on 19 May at the ICVA 18th General Assembly, sets ambitious transformations in this [9-year strategy](#) supported by [Strategic Priorities 2022-2024](#). The transformations for the network are not simply important for ICVA; they are important for the sector.

The choice made by ICVA's General Assembly is one of adaptation, collaboration and re-discovering roles. This requires all of us to shift power, improve accountability, build social connections and strengthen trust. As NGOs, we are best placed to write our own future, so long as we are able to act from a willingness to be reactive to the needs of the people we desire to serve, rather than protect the status quo within the system.

Alongside conflict and disease, climate change is one of the top drivers of humanitarian need. The way NGOs address the impact of climate change on humanitarian action is one of the transformations of the [ICVA 2030 Strategy](#). The ICVA General Assembly adopted the [Commitment and Motion to Action on the Climate and Environment](#). Aiming to galvanise and steer collective humanitarian action, the General Assembly decided to sign on the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#).

[ICVA's 2021 Annual Conference](#) which was held on 25 and 26 May, covered issues around maximising the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reducing our greenhouse gas emissions but, primarily, it was on stepping up our response to growing humanitarian needs and helping people adapt to the impacts of climate and environmental crises.

The Annual Conference and the follow-up are about rolling up our sleeves on the climate change issues of main concern to those involved in humanitarian response and policy.

This goes with the expectations, the hope, that we are all rolling up our sleeves as right-holders, as "We the Peoples" and as consumers with a moral obligation to our children and future generations. We have to change individually for this needed transformation and this is not necessarily comfortable.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA updates



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
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HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA 2021 General Assembly Board election results



Africa Humanitarian Action
Mr Wossen Tesfaye



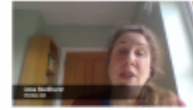
Amel Association International
Ms Virginie Lefèvre



Amity Foundation
Ms Chunxiang Ling



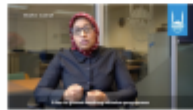
Concern Worldwide
Ms Réiseal Ní Chéilleachair



Christian Aid
Ms Jane Backhurst
New Board Chair



Dignidad y Justicia en el Camino A.C. (FM4 Paso Libre)
Mr Luis Enrique Gonzalez



Islamic Relief Worldwide
Ms Shahin Ashraf



Translators Without Borders
Ms Aimee Ansari



War Child
Dr Unni Krishnan

1. ICVA General Assembly - Follow up

[ICVA's General Assembly](#) was held on 18 & 19 May. We had a high level of participation with 105 organisations registered and attendance of a minimum of 100 participants at any moment for our first online General Assembly.

The General Assembly adopted the [ICVA 2030 Strategy](#), the [Strategic Priorities 2022-2024](#) and the [Commitment and Motion to Action on the Climate and Environment](#). Proposed amendments to the [ICVA Statutes](#) were approved. Members also [reaffirmed principles and standards](#) they adopted individually when joining ICVA and/or reaffirmed individually in 2017.

The General Assembly [elected a new Board](#) and Chair. Ms Jane Backhurst of Christian Aid, was elected as Chair. The new Board elected Dr Unni Krishnan as the Vice Chair at their first meeting on 20 May.

Our thanks to all the nominated candidates for standing and for their ongoing commitment. We also thank the outgoing Board and the Chair, Mr Roger Yates for their excellent work during the past three years.



#ICVAconference2021

ICVA VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

25 & 26 MAY 2021

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND
HUMANITARIAN ACTION:

HOW CAN NGO'S MITIGATE AND ADAPT?

2. ICVA Annual Conference 2021 - Follow up

We enjoyed a lively and informative [Annual Conference](#) this year! With over 1,300 participants we were thrilled to engage with ICVA members, NGOs, NGO fora, States, donors, UN agencies, experts and other climate and environment sector stakeholders to

share experiences, lessons learned, challenges and ways forward around the issues of *climate, environment and humanitarian action*.

If you missed any of the sessions, you can still catch up on what was shared by [watching the recordings!](#) Each of our four sessions were recorded so you wouldn't miss a thing.

All details for the conference are still available on our [website](#), including things like the [speaker bios and list of initiatives](#), [background and further reading](#), and the [concept note](#).

Stay tuned for our **Annual Conference 2021 Report** which will be published in the coming weeks. More details to come!



ICVA's 2020 Annual Report

3. Discover ICVA's key achievements from 2020!

In our [Annual Report](#) you will find extensive information on how ICVA responded to the challenges raised in 2020. Through diverse approaches and multiple streams of activities, ICVA lived out our mission to make humanitarian action more principled and effective by working collectively and independently to influence policy and practice.

The digital format reduces our environmental impact, links to our website and showcases some of our video content.

We are proud to share it with you!

[READ NOW](#)

Forced Migration

4. The World Bank Group framework and approach to forced displacement

On 12 May, ICVA organised a meeting between the World Bank Group and its members on the IDA 19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees, the Refugee Policy Review Framework and the Global Compact on Refugees implementation. NGOs from various regional locations provided their insightful perspectives on the Bank's ongoing projects with forcibly displaced and host communities, policy dialogues as well as challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Notes will be shared soon with ICVA members and further exchanges will be organised in the near future, in particular on the Bank's work on internal displacement.

5. UNHCR and NGOs in Europe Dialogue

On 27 May, ICVA co-organised with [ECRE](#) and UNHCR Regional Bureau of Europe the second dialogue of the year within the framework of the UNHCR Regional Consultations with NGOs. Gathering 35 participants, both from UNHCR and NGOs, the Dialogue focused on several regional situations as well as common initiatives that can be addressed jointly by UNHCR and NGO partners. Drawing on several calls from the [NGO statement on Europe](#) delivered at [UNHCR 80th Standing Committee of March 2021](#), NGOs and the Europe Bureau Director also exchanged on current externalisation trends, access to asylum and territory, pushbacks, family reunification and the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. Moderated by ECRE, the Q&A part included NGOs' interventions related to Greece, Turkey, the EU Pact, family reunification, as well as pushbacks along the Western Balkan route.

6. Executive Committee Conclusion on international protection and durable solutions in the context of a public health emergency

On 10 May 2021, ICVA and UNHCR organised a briefing for NGOs, on the process of developing the 2021 Executive Committee Conclusion focusing on international protection and durable solutions in the context of a public health emergency. The briefing was an opportunity to discuss the process and main aspects of the draft conclusion with the ExCom Rapporteur, Dr. Gregor Schotten from Germany, including the role of NGOs and displaced populations in preventing and responding to a public health emergency; safeguarding fundamental international protection principles; inclusive policies and access to health care; access to durable solutions. ICVA will remain engaged on this process, on behalf of NGOs.

7. Protection and Solutions in mixed movements along the Central and Western Mediterranean routes

UNHCR and the [Mixed Migration Center](#) launched a '[Roadmap for advocacy, policy development, and programming: Protection in mixed movements along the Central and Western Mediterranean Routes 2021](#).' The roadmap contains key recommendations for advocacy, policy development, and programming to enhance the protection of refugees and migrants in mixed movements and to advocate for solutions. ICVA will keep its members apprised of future engagement on the issue. More information on the roadmap can be found [here](#).

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

8. Migrants in vulnerable situations

2021 International Dialogue on Migration: The 2021 International Dialogue on Migration took place from 25 to 27 May. This year's theme was "*Accelerating integrated action on sustainable development: migration, the environment and climate change*". ICVA contributed to Panel Three discussions examining the linkage between Migration, Environment and Climate Change and the Humanitarian, Development, Peace Nexus (HDPN). This was the opportunity for the ICVA ED, in his panel contribution, to report back on this topic from the ICVA Annual Conference.

International Migration Law Initiative: The International Migration Law Initiative, organised by ICVA, the Civil Society Action Committee and the International Migrants Bill of Rights, held its 10th session in May. The session focused on internal displacement and migration governance. The speakers, Martina Caterina, Legal Officer at UNHCR and Chair of the GPC Task Team on Law & Policy, and Barbara Essig, Policy Expert at the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), gave an overview of the international legal framework relating to internal displacement and illustrated the link to the Global Protection Cluster. The session also delved into an analysis of global and regional trends and patterns and highlighted NGO good practices and protection challenges in addressing internal displacement.

Financing

9. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5)

ICVA and OCHA as Co-chairs of RG5 had the opportunity to update the IASC Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG) on 27th May with a focus on funding flexibility, quality funding, and cascading of overheads. Two key asks were presented to OPAG on funding flexibility: First, to extend the current COVID-19 funding flexibility measures for the duration of Covid-19 response. This will both ensure that flexibility measures will continue to meet the needs of country-level partners in the short-term and enable RG5 members to complete the internal review work necessary to complete discussion on a proposal to convert Covid-19 flexibility measures into standard practice. Second, to support a set of advocacy messages on quality flexible funding to facilitate consistent messaging between IASC Principals and donor governments contacts (such as GHD). In order to support use of quality flexible funding among IASC members and expand cascading to local partners it is critical for donors to also expand support in alignment with Grand Bargain commitments.

A brief update was also shared with OPAG on the current work led by UNICEF and OXFAM in RG5 to examine cascading of overheads (or indirect costs). Under this action area RG5 will look at both how indirect cost rates are established and how they are cascaded through the system to local partners. Over the next couple months work will focus on survey and data gathering to support the development of best practice guidance and recommendations.

10. UN Harmonization

Work continues on efforts to update the 2019 NGO analysis of UN partnership agreements. The initial updates to the analyses are complete for UNICEF, UNHCR, OCHA, WFP, and UNFPA. Discussions are now underway to schedule bilateral meetings with each agency. Although this work is currently the focus of a small group of NGOs, the intention is to simplify language in partnership agreements for all NGO partners of UN agencies, and harmonize agreement language and process across agencies where possible. As materials are completed and discussed with UN agencies, they will be shared with ICVA members through the Humanitarian Finance Working Group and the Humanitarian Finance page on the ICVA website.

11. Grand Bargain 2.0

The 2021 Grand Bargain annual meeting will take place virtually on the 15-17th of June. This year will include an important discussion on the proposed Grand Bargain 2.0 framework, which is designed to carry the Grand Bargain forward with a focus on quality funding and localization as key “enabling priorities”. This year is also a key transition for the leadership of the Grand Bargain with Jan Egeland of NRC taking over as Eminent Person. For current updates, access to key documents, and statements by signatories on Grand Bargain 2.0, refer to the IASC Grand Bargain website [here](#).

In preparation for the Annual Meeting, ICVA has released a [statement on the Grand Bargain 2.0](#). For other current updates, access to key documents, and statements by signatories, refer to the IASC Grand Bargain website [here](#).

Coordination

12. COVID-19 Vaccines (COVAX Humanitarian Buffer and UN System-Wide Vaccination Programme)

Efforts to support NGO engagement in COVID-19 vaccination efforts continued in May. The ICVA team followed discussions and shared regular updates for members regarding progress to date on staff vaccinations and the expected launch of the Humanitarian Buffer in early June. Globally, vaccination efforts remain hampered by lack of availability of vaccines and hesitancy within many communities to embrace vaccination programmes. ed regularly.

- ICVA has established a special Working Group for COVID-19 Vaccines and the Humanitarian buffer. If you would like to designate any contact(s) in your organisation to join this Working Group, please email Sophie.battas@icvanetwork.org with the details.

13. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

IASC Deputies Forum Meeting: An IASC Deputies Forum meeting took place on the 11th of May, focusing on the situation in Myanmar. Various ICVA members in the country and region contributed to the discussion.

IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG): The focus of discussions at the EDG during May was on the activation of Scale Up Protocols for the humanitarian response in Tigray, Ethiopia. Following the recommendation by the EDG, the Principals confirmed this designation which is intended to urgently mobilise the necessary capacities and resources of IASC members and partners to substantially ramp up the humanitarian response in the Tigray region, including the adjacent areas of northern Ethiopia.

Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG): OPAG met twice during May. In the meeting on the 19th of May, OPAG continued the discussion on strengthening collective Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), by also reflecting on the proposal for an Independent Commission for Voices in Crisis ([ICVIC](#)).

The meeting on the 27th of May offered an opportunity for a deep dive on humanitarian financing with a focus on funding flexibility, quality funding and cascading overheads. The OPAG also reviewed the status of delivering on key RG5 priorities for the remainder of 2021.

14. Update on IASC Results groups:

RG 1 Operational response:

Sub-group on Localization:

- The IASC Guidance on “*Strengthening participation, representation, and leadership of local and national actors in IASC humanitarian coordination mechanisms*” is nearly finished. ICVA and ICVA members contributed to developing the key aspects of the guidance. Once it’s endorsed, it will be shared widely with members.
- One of the main objectives the subgroup on Localization is working on is to enhance the inclusion of local NNGOs in the IASC structure. This would allow for an inclusive and wider participation of L/NNGO so they can reflect and contribute to advancing the localization discussions in all IASC processes.
- Earlier this year the sub-group on Localization held a call for interest to open the group to all local actors from the different regions. After reviewing 120+ applications, we are pleased to announce that the IASC subgroup on Localization will be joined by representatives from local and national NGOs and women led networks from the different regions: MENA, Asia, Africa and Latin America. ICVA will continue to work closely with the local representatives and provide them with needed support during the induction programme and beyond.

- For more information, contact: eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org

RG 1 Sub-group on Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI): A consultant engaged by ICVA and InterAction (as co-chairs of this group) finalised the drafts of three case studies on addressing BAI in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Venezuela. The Sub-Group is continuing to finalise the drafts and synthesize the findings towards developing tools or guidance for IASC members to support them with addressing BAI in their work.

RG 2 Accountability and inclusion: No updates this month.

RG 3 Collective advocacy:

The IASC Results Group 3 on Collective Advocacy met on 5 May 2021 to discuss work on counterterrorism, famine prevention advocacy efforts, priorities regarding non-state armed group (NSAG) engagement and the development of the Climate and Environment Charter.

RG 3 Subgroup on climate change: The RG3 Subgroup on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and Collective Advocacy met online on 19 May 2021 to discuss World Humanitarian Day (August 19), an update was shared on the upcoming campaign and partner engagement. The campaign revolves around the climate crisis, with a plea to create a greener, safer, more resilient world. There was also a brief update on the Climate and Environment Charter.

RG 4 Nexus: ICVA is preparing with the OECD INCAF a session to exchange with NGOs on the OECD DAC recommendation on the Nexus and ways for NGOs to consider formal endorsement.

Following a joint UN/Donors/NGOs presentation to the Community of Practices on the implementation of the Nexus in DRC, the RIASC for West and Central Africa in Dakar was further briefed on 11 May on the achievements in the country. This presentation should be followed by further debate to identify the key factors for success and help define the role of the region for supporting Nexus implementation.

In order to support a better understanding of the Nexus for NGOs in West Africa, ICVA has started organising information sessions on the Nexus, its definitions, challenges and opportunities. The session for CAR took place on 28 May, with more countries to follow.

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

15. ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS)

The 2021 ECOSOC HAS will be held from 23-25 June 2021 under the theme "*Strengthening humanitarian assistance to face the challenges of 2021 and beyond: mobilising respect for international humanitarian law, inclusion, gender, innovation and partnerships.*" The draft [programme](#) and [calendar](#) are now available on the [ECOSOC HAS website](#), which will be updated regularly.

16. NGO Fora Support: The NGO fora support programme supports country networks and addresses the adaptations needed to better serve their members during the COVID-19 pandemic. The outreach of the programme is to 30 NGO Fora with 1/3 of them supported with small flexible grants in addition to the technical support, capacity exchanges, connections and advocacy work.

In **Asia Pacific** we are pleased to share that funds will continue to support efforts of the National Humanitarian Network in Pakistan and Humanitarian Forum Indonesia in meeting members needs to better disseminate information on COVID-19 and subsequent vaccine roll

out, including exchanges on best practice.

ICVA co-facilitated the **Eastern and Southern Africa IAWG Communications and Advocacy Group**, with the first meeting held on 20 May. This meeting facilitated the discussion on priorities for the coming months and possible opportunities for joint activities and/or synergies. This first meeting identified South Sudan geographically and the regional food crisis for upcoming proactive advocacy. This was followed up with a meeting, where ICVA supported the South Sudan NGO Forum Strategic Advisor and the IAWG discussion, where a 'Round Table' event was agreed for the run up to the 10-year South Sudan Independence anniversary.

The **Communities of Practice Network of NGO fora** in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan met on the 17 May, the theme for this meeting was peer learning on NGO Fora Strategic planning processes and the launch of a light ICVA led Training Needs Assessment for Fora Secretariat, Steering Committees and members.

Navigating Change: cross cutting issues

17. Civil society space in humanitarian action

How can civil society organisations build resilience when civic space is shrinking? How can they act in solidarity with others who experience undue threats and challenges? The [Solidarity Playbook](#) captures 18 examples of resilience and solidarity mechanisms, developed by international civil society organisations (ICSOs) and coalitions to address civic space restrictions and changing operating conditions for civil society.

- For more information see ICVA's Civil Society Space webpage or contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

18. Climate and environment action

The Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations is ready to sign!

ICVA has signed on to the Charter following a decision by ICVA's 18th General Assembly. The ICVA GA encourages ICVA members to consider signing the Charter individually.

The Charter includes seven high-level commitments to guide the sector's response to the climate and environment crises. First among them is a commitment to step up the humanitarian response to growing needs and help people adapt to the growing impacts of these crises. Second, the Charter makes a commitment to maximise the environmental sustainability of humanitarian programmes and operations and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while maintaining the ability to provide timely and principled assistance. These commitments will only be possible by embracing local leadership, increasing the capacity to understand climate and environment risks, and working together across and beyond the sector to mobilise even more ambitious climate action.

You can find the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#) in **English, French and Spanish**. The link also includes **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**. The Arabic version will be made available shortly.

Humanitarian organisations can sign the Charter by emailing climatecharter@icrc.org.

A website and home for the Charter is under construction and will be available shortly. Specific guidance on the implementation of the Charter will be made available there.

Region Specific

19. Asia and the Pacific

Save the date: UNHCR 2021 Annual Regional Consultations with NGOs - 21-30

June: UNHCR Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) and ICVA, are organising the 2021 Annual Regional Consultations with NGOs **virtually between 21-30 of June 2021**. '**Socio-economic inclusion of refugees in the COVID context**' is the main theme for the consultations. However, the event will include other thematic topics such as localisation, climate change and statelessness. [See here to register](#).

Recordings available from the Regional 2020 Humanitarian Partnership Event: The webinars that were held during the regional 2020 Humanitarian partnership event (co-hosted by ADRRN, ICVA and OCHA) were recorded and you can now [watch the sessions here](#). A paper outlining key themes from the discussions and complementary interviews/surveys will be available shortly

Response plans launched: In May the [HRP for Pakistan](#) was shared. It focuses on targeting the 4.3 million of the most vulnerable including Afghan refugees and those affected by compounding impacts of multi hazards such as drought. It is intended as a complement to existing government plans and mainstreams previous plans on COVID-19. Similarly, the [2021 JRP for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis](#) was launched on 18 May by the Government of Bangladesh and the humanitarian community. It seeks USD 943 million to meet the needs of about 1.4 million Rohingya refugees and vulnerable Bangladeshis in Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazilas in Cox's Bazar district. So far more than 35 percent of the total requirements have been committed. INGOs and local NGOs provided comments during the launch calling for support to education, livelihood services, protection and greater refugee participation while durable solutions are sought. Due to the escalating number of [COVID-19 cases in Nepal](#), a 4 month appeal has been put together targeting 750,000 of the most vulnerable focusing on need for health supplies such as oxygen cylinders.

- For more information on the working happening in the Asia region, contact: Keya.Sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org

20. Africa Region

ICVA is supporting and participating in a **P2P mission to DRC**. The mission was originally scheduled to commence on 30 May, but had to be postponed due to the Nyiragongo eruption. The mission is now scheduled for 19 July.

ICVA has been working on the launch of the “**Localization baseline and roadmap**” **program** in collaboration with the Hilton Foundation and the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG). For the program, Uganda and Nigeria were the selected countries for the Africa region.

Invited by OCHA, ICVA and its members have been meeting and exchanging with the incoming **OCHA deputy director for Eastern and Southern Africa**. Among the many priorities, the meeting focused on South Sudan and Ethiopia and will be followed by southern Africa, with focus on Mozambique and Madagascar in line with OCHA's calendar of visits.

ICVA organised a briefing and exchange with ICVA members and the incoming **DHC for Mozambique**, Jose Baraona, and a bilateral meeting with the RC in DRC.

The ICVA Africa team held discussions on the organisation of the East Africa - Building a Better Response (**BBR**) **virtual workshop, scheduled for June 22-24**, and were able to secure **5 slots on the workshop** for the CoPN, with one place for each Forum (Ethiopia,

Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan) and the Somalia Nexus.

At the end of May and beginning of June ICVA Executive Director and the regional representative visited **ICVA members in Dakar**. The visit aimed at consolidating the commitment toward the network of members in a region characterised by rapidly deteriorating indicators in central Sahel and in the lake Chad basin regions. After consultations with members, ICVA has committed to re-establishing an in-person presence in Dakar.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group, contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org or Addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org

21. MENA Region

After much support and efforts from ICVA in MENA, it's a pleasure to see that **two LNNGOs from MENA have been selected to join the IASC localization subgroup** starting from this month. Congratulations to [Baghdad Women's Association](#) and the for being selected.

ICVA MENA has spent the month working actively with the Syrian Networks engaged through the **UNDP Syrian NGO Network Engagement and Partnership Programme**, based in the Turkey- Gaziantep hub. ICVA has provided these networks individual coaching sessions related to strategic planning. These networks were able to thoroughly analyse their current structure and examine the strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities, as well put together a strategic framework for the upcoming 2-5 years.

ICVA MENA has begun research into the evolution of these Syrian networks. We will release a case study examining the transformation, achievements and challenges, and will provide recommendations for further advancement to key stakeholders such as donors, UN agencies, INGOs, and other counterpart local and national CSOs.

3RP Regional Steering Committee Meeting held on 24 May 2021: ICVA was invited to the 3RP Regional Steering committee to share insights and feedback related to resource mobilisations from the NGO perspective. ICVA Regional Rep. shared key recommendations related to the vital role that are carried out by local actors, emphasising on the collaboration among different actors rather than competition. Furthermore, the importance of evidence-based advocacy and the storytelling and how we can collate data related to long lasting impact. The meeting was co-chaired by Regional UNHCR Director and Regional UNDP Director, with attendance from UN agencies, world bank and other stakeholders.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA MENA mailing list, please connect with eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org or stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org

22. Latin America Region

On 20 May, a **meeting was held with ICVA members in central America** and in coordination with InterAction. The main point was to better understand the challenges and impressions that NGOs and INGOs have regarding the coordination system and to gather inputs of the region. It was agreed to continue working together to create spaces for advocacy in the region.

On 10 June, a meeting with the colleagues of ICVA LATAM will be held to follow up on ICVA's efforts to involve NGOs in the region around the **COVID-19 and COVAX vaccination process** and debate and share their perceptions at a country level. The meeting will address: financing of delivery and distribution, dissemination of humanitarian buffer information at the country level, comments, and observations on COVAX from individual experience.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Latam Mailing List, please connect with lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org

Learning Opportunities



23. Webinar: Risk Management and Funding Partnerships, 10 June, 15:00 – 16:30 (CEST)

Risk management practices are playing an increasingly important role in partner selection and engagement when NGOs receive funding from UN agencies or government donors. Join ICVA and PHAP for this upcoming webinar where we *examine the role of risk management in good funding partnerships as NGOs engage with external funders*. You can [Register](#) for the webinar now. This webinar is part of the Learning Series on [Risk Management in Practice](#). You can find the previous webinar recordings and podcasts on the site.

Register!

24. Collaborative platform for the Humanitarian Encyclopedia

[The Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies](#) has launched the next phase of its **Humanitarian Encyclopedia** project, which aims to bring greater understanding across 129 humanitarian concepts. The new platform offers:

- Co-produced humanitarian concepts and expertise notes
- Library of relevant humanitarian resources
- Mapping of humanitarian actors
- Interactive platform with forums, webinars, and e-learning modules

Get involved, work on concepts with us and share your expertise! [Click to find out more](#).

25. National NGO Program on Humanitarian Leadership (NNPHL), Training Opportunity

NNPHL is now accepting applications for their **10 Leadership Training Program, Latin America & the Caribbean**. NNPHL is an innovative training and professional development initiative for humanitarian professionals, combining a rigorous curriculum of leadership training, online learning and coaching. By the end of this learning process, NNPHL participants will have the skills, knowledge, and confidence to take on leadership responsibilities within a variety of humanitarian organisations. To learn more about this program, please [visit the NNPHL website](#). To apply to be part of NNPHL's first Latin America and Caribbean cohort, [click here](#).

- **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

26. World Summit on Frontline Humanitarian Negotiation 28 June – 3 July 2021

This summer, the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation (CCHN) is bringing together frontline negotiators, humanitarian policymakers, scholars, donor and government representatives for a world-class conference tackling the most challenging present-day issues related to humanitarian negotiation. The six-day global event will take place in Caux, Switzerland and will be livestreamed on an interactive platform that makes real-time participation from around the world simple and engaging. [Click for details and to register.](#)

27. Exploring partnership and principles in conflict contexts

On 2 June the report '[Towards Principled Humanitarian Action in Conflict Contexts - Understanding the Role of Partnerships](#)' launched. The report captures the voices of over 120 local/national humanitarian practitioners in Nigeria and South Sudan and provides some fresh insights into understanding how partnering might support principled humanitarian action. [PBA](#) commissioned by [Charter for Change](#)

28. Research publication: “COVID-19 Implications for Localisation: A Case Study of Afghanistan and Pakistan”

Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) and GLOW Consultants recently published research on: “[COVID-19 Implications for Localisation: A Case Study of Afghanistan and Pakistan.](#)”

HAG and [GLOW Consultants, Pakistan](#), conducted this study across the two countries as part of the [Humanitarian Policy Group's \(HPG\)](#) ongoing research on how the pandemic has influenced the localisation of humanitarian aid.

29. High Level Webinar: Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing (MHPSS): Cope, Recover, Thrive

This event will provide a platform for national health authorities and multilateral organisations to showcase and explore possibilities to act on our collective resolve to increase MHPSS for everyone, illustrating how including MHPSS as a cornerstone of national health policy strengthens societies' ability to recover and thrive. The event is organised by War Child, IFRC, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands and will take place on 11 June at 14.00 (CEST). For more info and registration see [here](#).

Mark Your Agenda

June 9: UNICEF-NGO webinar: The CCCs- a new tool to partner with UNICEF (in French)

June 10: Webinar: [Risk Management and Funding Partnerships](#), 10 June, 15:00 – 16:30 (CEST)

June 10: [Being Heard](#): Enhancing opportunities for participation of IDPs in decision making

June 11: Webinar: [#DontForgetYemen](#) - Famine and Human Rights Violations in Yemen

June 21-30: UNHCR 2021 Annual Regional Consultations with NGOs in Asia and Pacific

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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