

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from November 2022



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Dear Readers,

In this bulletin, we share the most recent news related to our focus areas of forced migration, humanitarian financing and coordination. We continue to transform the ICVA network to be more engaged in operationalizing principled humanitarian action, in addressing the impact of climate change on humanitarian action, pursuing being globally distributed and locally rooted, being diverse, inclusive and living our values, and proactively engaging in agile collaborative partnerships. Check more on the [transformations](#) of our ICVA 2030 Strategy. We also share our updates from our regional hubs and so much more.

Don't miss to follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) for more updates.

Message from Executive Director

The Inhumane “New Normal” is not Ours

Stress is being felt in economic as well as political spheres. In purely financial terms, the cost of the Global Humanitarian Response plans is over \$50 billion in 2023, according to the [Global Humanitarian Review](#). Over \$10 billion more than the figure for the start of 2022...

The gap between the cost of humanitarian aid, and what donors provide, keeps growing. The resources are stretched for everyone, but more so in some emergencies. Other forms of global solidarity fluctuate and reforms to reduce humanitarian needs are far behind.

The ability of people to withstand threats or shocks, their ability to adapt to new livelihood options, in ways that preserve integrity and that do not deepen vulnerabilities is sometimes beyond human comprehension but has its limits. We have collective responsibilities on our commitments to people, to the value we attribute to our own humanity.

At least [222 million people are food insecure](#) of which 45 million people facing starvation. Without adequate support the risk of famine can continue skyrocketing with developmental, economic, social and health repercussions equally devastating and long-lasting.

In 2022, [over 100 million people](#) have been forcibly displaced, almost 40% of them are children. Other alarming figures. Addressing the opportunities to support displaced and stateless people across the globe, the 2022 [High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges: Development Cooperation](#) (07 and 08 December), focuses on [development cooperation](#). In its [collective statement](#), NGOs make recommendations on early action, inclusion, and solutions for forcibly displaced and stateless persons as well as host communities.

Right-sizing the humanitarian system for the future demands needs more than increasing the resources of the humanitarian system and increasing the efficiency of the humanitarian system - as you will be reading in the Bulletin reporting [on the Future of the Grand Bargain](#). These are both important; but so is re-evaluating the scope of the humanitarian systems ambitions and its role in relation to others.

The logic of the triple nexus is that reducing humanitarian needs calls for joined-up efforts between humanitarian, development and peace actors – although nexus efforts to date are far from achieving that aim. One of the top line messaging at the COP27 is to strengthen coordination between different funding mechanisms (climate, development, humanitarian, peace) to facilitate cost-effective transformative adaptation in fragile settings.

ICVA's focus on principled partnership and localization aims to contribute to address the persistent shortcomings in how international actors relate to and support local and national NGOs, rather than hinder progress. As reported by ICVA in this Bulletin, the critical role played by local and national actors - including women-led organizations - is reflected in increasing levels of leadership and participation.

What we are experiencing today, is more than an escalation of humanitarian crisis, but a crisis of humanity. We are gravely concerned by the violations of international humanitarian law. We promote urgent support and tolerance for a principled humanitarian endeavor and to protect the operational space. Two topics ICVA will continue to work on as per our [strategy ICVA 2030](#) and our [priorities for 2023](#). Some of our contributions, as a network of NGOs, to refuse the inhumane as the "new normal".

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

2023
Annual Conference

Date: 17 March 2023

Venue: Maison de la Paix, Geneva

**Theme: The right time and the right place:
Improving access to humanitarian quality funding**

#ICVAconference2023

1. Registration Open for ICVA Annual Conference 2023 and ICVA Membership Day

Registration is now OPEN for ICVA's 2023 Annual Conference! This will be the first in-person conference since COVID-19. The event will be held on Friday 17 March at Maison de la Paix, Geneva. The theme will be: **The right time and the right place: Improving access to humanitarian quality funding.**

The annual conference will provide an opportunity to take stock of the cross-cutting implications of financing issues in the humanitarian system and ways to take action to influence change.

The conference will aim to:

- Increase awareness and establish common understanding of the **key challenges in humanitarian finance**, including the need to look for solutions across the system, not limited to increasing funding volume.
- Examine the options for the future of the **Grand Bargain** and solidify NGO support for a preferred way forward.
- Discuss the state of the **localization agenda**, with a particular focus on further joint efforts to ensure effective resources and support are accessible by local partners.
- Support peer exchange on NGO efforts to **link climate action and financing** opportunities to strengthen humanitarian action.

For more information and to register see ICVA's 2023 Annual Conference [webpage](#) and the [concept note](#). Due to limited seating, we will do our best to accommodate representatives of the diversity of organizations with a degree of priority to members of ICVA.

Use **#ICVAconference2023** to join the conversation on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

ICVA Membership Day

The Membership Day will be held on Thursday 16 March 2023 at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. The event is only open to ICVA members and invited guests. It will provide an opportunity for members to engage and interact on issues of common concern.

2. Meet our New Members

ICVA is growing and we are pleased to announce that the following organizations are now members of the ICVA network:

- [Fraternidade](#) – International Humanitarian Federation (FFHI), Brazil
- [International Association for Refugees](#) (IAFR), USA
- [Mercy Hands Europe](#), Switzerland
- [NGO-federatie](#) and [Acodev](#), Belgium
- [Orphan Foundation](#) / Yetim Vakfi, Turkey
- [Peaceland Foundation](#), China
- [Trocaire](#), Ireland
- [Welthungerhilfe](#), Germany

We look forward to working with them to make humanitarian action more principled and effective. Learn more about our [members](#).

Forced Migration

3. Meeting on The World Bank Group's 2023 World Development Report

On 7 November, InterAction and ICVA organized a second meeting with its members on the 2023 World Development Bank Report on cross-border mobility of refugees and migrants. Mr. Xavier Devictor, Co-Director of the Report, outlined the World Bank's direction at this point in the drafting process and exchange with NGOs *inter alia* on the safeguard of the dignity and rights of refugees and migrants, its interplay and holistic approach; the intersection between climate change, conflicts, and displacement, effective policy responses, and how all intersect with development. Check out additional information on the [report](#) including the concept note.

4. UNHCR Quarterly Consultations with NGOs

UNHCR and ICVA co-organized the fourth and final consultations of the year on 9 November on "**UNHCR's engagement with Development Banks**" with The World Bank Group, and NGOs. The objectives of the meeting were to look at UNHCR's approaches to partnerships with development actors specifically on multilateral development banks and how it supports strengthening development cooperation to advance protection, inclusion, and solutions for refugees, internally displaced persons, and stateless persons. The example of refugee inclusion into national systems in Uganda has been particularly highlighted. The meeting was also an opportunity to make connections with the upcoming [2022 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges](#) on Development Cooperation on 7-8 December. Notes will be circulated to participants. Access [here](#) more information on the Quarterly Consultations.

5. Global Compact on Refugees

ICVA continued its engagement within [the NGO Reference Group](#) for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, joining the third meeting of the group this year on 21 November to discuss the current expression of interests of NGOs to work on specific initiatives, pledges and potential collective work. Further details on the preparations for the second Global Refugee Forum were also conveyed by UNHCR through the [fourth informal briefing](#) on 23 November. The [pledges matching portal](#) was released as well as [the call for interest](#) for refugees and organizations led by displaced populations to engage in the second Global Refugee Forum.

6. Internal Displacement

The [Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons](#), Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, met during a meeting on 21 November with Geneva-based ICVA members and, at the start of her mandate, to hear about NGO perspectives and areas of engagement on internal displacement, including follow-up to the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement and implementation and the UN Secretary-General Action Agenda on Internal Displacement. It was also an opportune time for NGOs to share views and analysis on priorities for and means of engagement with the mandate over its three-year term notably in terms of the thematic focus of upcoming priorities, reports, and follow-up to what has been already done. ICVA will continue to engage its members with the Special Rapporteur in the near future.

7. Ukraine – Temporary Protection

Based on the UNHCR report "[Implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive: six months on](#)" published in October 2022, of which ICVA members and its partners have contributed to, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe and ICVA organized a meeting with ICVA members and partners to discuss the practical implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive. It was the opportunity to deep dive into the report's context, methodology, findings, and a number of details on emerging practices to address barriers to refugee, third country nationals, and stateless people rights. ICVA will continue to work with its members and partners to ensure a common understanding of the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive and potential common prioritization of issues to tackle.

8. UNHCR and NGOs Europe Regional Dialogue

On 24 November, ICVA co-organized with [ECRE](#) and UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe a dialogue between NGOs and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe on The Protection Situation of Refugees from Ukraine. The online dialogue focused on regional protection profiling and monitoring, an analysis of the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive in light of the key findings of UNHCR report "[Implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive: six months on](#)". The dialogue was an important opportunity to discuss and exchange on protection gaps and ways forward notably with specific insights from [Halina Niec](#) and [Save the Children](#).

- For more information, please contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org.

9. Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

Building the Future Today with Migrant and Refugee Community Organizations, 14 December, 15:00-16:30 CET

Caritas International is joining forces with Red Clamor and the RAEMH network to organize an online discussion about how migrant and refugee community organizations operate within our society. What challenges do they face? How does this affect their place in relation with other actors involved in the field of migration and how the international community can build a more fraternal and inclusive society together with migrants and refugees. Register for the [webinar](#).

Financing

10. The Future of the Grand Bargain

Grand Bargain signatories and stakeholders are in the midst of discussions among constituencies to inform **proposals on the future of the Grand Bargain**. This follows the publication of the [findings of the survey on the Future of the Grand Bargain](#) in October. A group of more than 60 NGOs also released a joint statement on the future of the Grand Bargain on 1 December available [here](#).

ICVA coordinated a first **NGO Constituency call** on October 31 around (i) the continuation of the Grand Bargain and timeline, (ii) the future scope of the Grand Bargain, (iii) further structure/format of the Grand Bargain and (iv) the level of investment in the process. A second consultation call is scheduled in the coming weeks to conclude discussions on the scope, structure and resourcing of the process moving forward.

A **Grand Bargain Signatories meeting** was held on 21 November to discuss the outcome documents produced by the [Caucus on Quality Funding](#) and [Caucus on the Role of Intermediaries](#), Signatories' implementation efforts to date and call for their endorsement by the end of 2022.

In addition, lessons learned from the Grand Bargain **caucus on Quality Funding** and recommendations for the way forward, consolidated by IRC, can be read on this [webpage](#). Check an update on the [main achievements](#) of the **caucus on Funding for Localization**. The caucus will reconvene in mid-December.

- For more information, contact jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org.

11. UN Partnerships

Following participation in the World Food Programme (WFP) Annual Partnership Consultations, ICVA continues to engage with WFP to ensure we collectively build on the momentum created by the FLA Partner Survey preliminary results and agree on a plan of action to address key challenges in WFP-NGO Partnerships in the short-term.

12. Pooled Funds

ICVA participated in Platform Advisory Group (PAG) meeting on 8 November to discuss the OCHA Fund Managers workshop and the organization of the Pooled Fund Working Group – (PFWG) biannual meeting in January dedicated to localization. ICVA also participated in the Switzerland-NGO Dialogue Platform monthly meeting on 16 November to discuss the January PFWG meeting and the rollout of the revised Country-based Pooled Funds (CBPF) Global Guidelines.

The donor members of the PFWG and the members of the Advisory Group of the CBPF-NGO Dialogue platform shared a letter with OCHA on the status of the **revised Global Guidelines on CBPF**. Their publication is expected before the end of December.

13. Quality Funding

ICVA was invited to give a presentation at the Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative on 3 November about counter-terrorism measures and their adverse effects on humanitarian financing and effective principled humanitarian action.

ICVA welcomes the publication of [IASC Guidance on the Provision of Overheads to Local and National Partners](#) in November. The guidance includes key advocacy messages to donors, notably that they should commit to covering the full costs associated with delivering humanitarian programming and to communicating directly with local actors to better understand the challenges they face because of poor indirect cost coverage.

We also welcome the [IASC Research Report on Overhead Cost Allocation in the Humanitarian Sector](#), which inter alia recommends the adoption of a clear and harmonized approach to cost classification to enable wider systemic changes.

- For ICVA members interested in joining the Humanitarian Finance Working Group or engaging more directly in the work on UN partnerships, contact manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org.

Coordination

14. IASC Principals

The Emergency Relief Coordinator and Chair of the IASC, convened the second IASC Principals bi-annual meeting in 2022 to discuss key humanitarian crises, Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection, humanitarian funding and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment. They discussed critical humanitarian situations, including Somalia, Ethiopia, Ukraine, Haiti and Afghanistan and agreed on actions to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs on the ground.

15. Emergency Directors Group (EDG) Mission to Ethiopia

ICVA joined a team of senior NGO and UN representatives from the IASC EDG that undertook a mission to Ethiopia from 8-12 November 2022. The objectives of the EDG mission were three-fold: i) to check on progress being made on the scale-up; ii) to support harmonized messaging and outreach to partners on resources/capacities, notably for the drought response; and iii) to recommend ways of addressing gaps in support of the HCT and the scale-up's extension to 31 January 2023. While the mission's initial focus was on the urgency of the drought response, the team also engaged in discussions around the readiness of humanitarians to take advantage of access openings made possible by the 2 November cessation of hostilities for the northern conflict.

Despite the logistical and access challenges, the EDG mission managed to visit some severely affected communities but know that many areas are not accessible and the situations there are likely to be far worse given the sheer humanitarian impacts of multiple intersecting crises. In the drought areas and some conflict-affected parts, there is limited humanitarian capacity to effectively respond to needs in situations of fragility, where coping mechanisms have been exhausted by years of recurrent hardship. The mission team clearly appreciated the quality of delivery that is possible when partners work together and an enabling environment is in place. However, it was clear this quality of assistance is not yet being provided at scale where it is needed.

16. Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

The OPAG of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee convened on 29 November. Participants discussed the preliminary findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation (IAHE) on the humanitarian response to COVID-19. OPAG members welcomed the draft report, shared comments and agreed to continue to liaise with the IAHE COVID-19 team to provide feedback on the draft report, including the recommendations.

The second part of the discussions focused on Accountability to Affected People (AAP). OPAG members were introduced to the report by Ground Truth Solutions (GTS), Listening is Not Enough. The report provides a synthesis of existing data gathered by GTS, supplemented by data provided by the Humanitarian Needs Assessment Partnership. Basing itself on the perceptions of crisis-affected communities of humanitarian assistance, the report points out the failings of the current system and the urgent need to change. OPAG members linked the findings of the report to the work of the Task Force Two and welcomed the IASC Principals commitment to accountability to affected people.

17. ICVA Support Mission to Ukraine

From 15-28 November, ICVA's Head of Coordination undertook a support mission to Ukraine. The focus was to support the development of a more structured NGO forum, including to look at how to adapt lessons learned from other contexts and to support NGO advocacy with external partners including recommendations for strengthening their engagement through feedback to the EDG. The mission was a chance to introduce ICVA's work to NGO colleagues and partners, and support discussions between international and local actors around engagement with the IASC system. ICVA met with a range of operational NGOs and partners, including local actors to gather information and perspectives on the response.

As a follow up to this mission, ICVA will support the Ukraine NGO Resource Centre to implement a localization baselining project, working with local research partners; and will continue to engage NGOs around the preparations for the Operational Peer Review and the IASC Interagency Humanitarian Evaluation, both of which are scheduled to commence early in 2023.

- For more information, contact jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org.

18. Humanitarian Access Influencing

ICVA Humanitarian Access Working Group

The ICVA Humanitarian Access working group met in November to discuss crisis analytics and how stronger engagement of crisis-affected populations and feedback mechanisms can support humanitarian access. The next meeting on 10 January will look at organizational policies and procedures that are necessary in access negotiations.

The IASC Task Force 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space

Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI) have traditionally been viewed as an NGO/individual agency problem and are now recognized by the IASC as a system-wide priority issue impacting effective and principled humanitarian response. In November, ICVA, InterAction and OCHA hosted a peer to peer exchange on the rollout of the [IASC Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments Framework](#) to strengthen collective understanding and uptake of the guidance among humanitarian agencies and country level coordination mechanisms. NGOs are encouraged to share tools and templates related to identifying and addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments.

Call for input – 2023 Thematic Reports to the UN Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly

The responses will be used to prepare thematic reports to the Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly. These documents will be published online. Submit your [input](#) by 28 February 2023.

- For more information and expressions of interest, contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org.

19. COVID-19

The [COVID-19 Vaccination Delivery Partnership](#) is wrapping up its work in April 2023. They are hosting a “Joint Convening on COVID-19 Vaccinations in Humanitarian settings” in Nairobi in mid-February 2023 with the following objectives:

- Review progress in reaching high-risk groups (such as older people and health care workers) with COVID-19 vaccinations in humanitarian settings
- Identify critical bottlenecks to vaccination in humanitarian settings
- Identify actionable recommendations aimed at specific stakeholders to address the needs in humanitarian settings for this and any future pandemic

Three working groups have been established who will meet on a weekly basis to discuss the following topics that will be presented at the convention for action. Interested NGOs and NGO Fora are welcome to join these groups and the summit:

(WG1) Leveraging humanitarian architecture and humanitarian actors in pandemic response;

(WG2) Upstream supply, regulatory and legal considerations on downstream implementation in humanitarian settings; and

(WG3) Health Systems Strengthening and Pandemic Preparedness and Response in humanitarian settings.

- For more information and expressions of interest, contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org.

Transforming our Network

20. Champion Principled Humanitarian Action

Declaration on Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA) gets Signed

On 18 November, ICVA joined the EWIPA Conference in Dublin, where 82 countries signed a landmark [declaration](#) that seeks to better protect civilians from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. This international pledge is the first of its kind. The declaration could be an important step in reducing the harm that explosive weapons cause, but it will require strong interpretation and effective implementation. Check out a [joint statement](#) from top UN and ICRC leaders urging stepped up global support to protect civilians from EWIPA.



Launch of the Independent Review of the Implementation of the IASC Protection Policy Report

The event, which took place on the 29 November, was organized by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) together with the IASC Protection Policy review Co-Champions, UNHCR and InterAction; and co-hosted by the Permanent Missions of Norway and Switzerland. The event provided an opportunity to dialogue with the Co-Champions and key protection actors on how the recommendations of the [review](#) will be taken forward.

[Read the Review](#)

Civic Space

Civil 7: Strengthening Protections for Civic Space Worldwide (Workshop)

On 18 November, ECNL, [Civil7](#) (C7) and [VENRO](#) co-hosted an online workshop on “[Strengthening Protections for Civic Space Worldwide - G7 Role and Opportunities](#).” ICVA participated in the panel on “How does shrinking civil space cut across various topics and issues: examples from practice” and highlighted the multiple challenges faced by humanitarian NGOs/CSOs working in already restricted environments supporting most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Discussions featured how civic space crosses over with various engagement groups of C7, experiences of putting civic space on the G7 agenda, and strategies around building on these experiences and preparing advocacy for G7 2023 in Japan.

21. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action

COP27 Engagement: Analyses, Key messages, Announcements and Resources

ICVA has compiled a "[COP27 Engagement: Analyses, Key Messages, Announcements and Resources](#)" document of information collected before, during and after COP27, which took place from 6 to 20 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. The document attempts to capture the information on COP27 that is relevant to the humanitarian sector. ICVA will continue to engage with members and partners on how humanitarian NGOs can share lessons learned with the various processes as we head towards COP28.

[Read the Document](#)



- For more information visit ICVA's [Climate and Environment webpage](#), or contact nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org.

22. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

Localization

BHA/USAID Draft Localization Policy

ICVA would like to thank all members who provided their valuable inputs to the draft BHA/USAID Localization policy. All inputs were combined and shared with the BHA policy team. We will keep you well informed on recent developments.

IASC Localization Task Force (TF)5

ICVA works with other TF5 members to collate best practices about the meaningful participation of local actors in the humanitarian coordination platform. TF5 held a meeting last month to discuss key action points and to share updates about the progress of the subgroups focusing on Priority Areas 1 (operationalization of the IASC Localization Guidance) and 3 (resourcing development paper). Discussions also involved a deep dive into the work of the Priority Area 2 Sub-Group (capacity sharing) around the scoping paper developed on capacity sharing and the related consultation plan. ICVA has shared the scoping paper on capacity sharing with members in order to collate their feedback and suggestions before finalizing.

Regional Stakeholders Event in MENA Region

The Stakeholders event is centered around strengthening Women Led Organizations, Women Rights Organizations, Girl Led Organizations, , feminist organizations representation and active participation in the management and coordination processes of humanitarian systems, as well as strengthening localization strategies in contexts of humanitarian action. The Stakeholders event will be held online during a three-day period beginning end of January to beginning February 2023. The event is organized by UNICEF, WFP, UN Women and ICVA.

Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus

Community of Practice Network (COPN)

As co-chairs for the COPN on NEXUS, ICVA and WFP hosted a session on Iraq on 16 November. UNDP presented on operationalizing the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) NEXUS in Iraq through the Iraq Durable Solutions Mechanisms, UNDP programmatic contributions to the NEXUS, and the transition. NCCI, the mixed forum in Iraq also spoke about the transitions, plans to move forward, and challenges. Mercy Hands, a local organization presented their best practices on NEXUS programming. The next COPN will take place in January 2023. To share any ideas with us or to come forward as a speaker, contact Stephanie Yousef at stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

States of Fragility

OECD released the newest report titled, "[State of Fragility 2022](#)." The report outlines how the world is currently responding to fragility and presents many options for better policies. A pop-up session on this report was hosted by the IASC Task Force 4 on Humanitarian Development Collaboration and its linkages to peace.

- Members can join the ICVA NEXUS Working Group mailing list, by sending an email to stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

23. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

Child Rights

Education Cannot Wait (ECW) High-Level Financing Conference (HLFC) in Geneva, Switzerland on 16-17 February 2023

The HLFC will take place at the International Conference Centre Geneva and will include a high-level segment and a series of roundtable discussions on positioning the educational needs of children and youth left behind in crises high on the international agenda. In-person participation in the HLFC is by invitation only. Invitees should confirm their participation by completing the [online registration form](#) by 31 December 2022. The event will be live streamed and remote participants are welcome.

Gender

The inter-agency Protection Standby Capacity Project (ProCap) and Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap) Advisory Groups meeting took place on 22 November. It was an opportunity to discuss (i) the projects' support models drawing from Humanitarian Coordinators' experience, strategic guidance and advice, (ii) the IASC Protection Policy Implementation review, and (iii) share updates on project implementation.

The Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH)

ICVA is a consortium member for the [Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub](#).

Learning from the RSH Africa Regional Mentoring Programme

In 2020, RSH designed a mentoring programme to be rolled out in the three Africa Hub countries - Ethiopia, Nigeria and South Sudan. They aimed at improving awareness of safeguarding practices as well as strengthening staff capacity among less-resourced civil society organizations. Check out their [learning brief](#) for more information about this innovative project including what they've achieved, challenges faced during implementation, insights gained from adapting programs for diverse contexts and lessons.

The RSH for Eastern Europe Launch

On 21 November, the RSH Eastern Europe was officially launched during a well-attended online event. RSH Eastern Europe is a programme that serves civil society organizations responding to the war on Ukraine. It provides practical and accessible safeguarding resources aiming to reduce the risk of harm to those they work with. You can watch a recording of the [event](#) and explore their [website](#) for more information.

RSH Ethiopia Hub End of Phase Workshop

After two years of building safeguarding knowledge and capacity among less resourced civil society organizations, the RSH Ethiopia Hub has ended its current phase. A workshop was conducted to celebrate its achievements and discuss ways forward on safeguarding in Ethiopia. ICVA, through the partnership, contributed to the event.

Safe Communications: Webinar

On 29 November, a webinar for local actors in Jordan took place on Safe Communications for Civil Society Organizations. The webinar highlighted the sensitivity of safe communication and how an organization should act to ensure they communicate in safe manners with others. ICVA kick-started the discussion by sharing [the 8 tips on how to make your communication safe](#), developed by the RSH.

Safeguarding Training in Pakistan

On 16 November, The RSH South Asia Hub conducted a training on safeguarding in Hyderabad and Karachi, Sindh. The training was conducted at a local NGO office in collaboration with the National Humanitarian Network, which is also committed to supporting RSH in promoting the safeguarding agenda.

The Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Risk Overview (SEARO)

The SEARO beta [has been released](#) on the IASC PSEAH website. SEARO is a Composite Index that brings together indicators on a range of different factors that can influence the risk of SEA. It categorizes countries with ongoing humanitarian response operations according to their level of risk, enabling comparisons of risk between countries and assessing how those risks change over time. It can help different actors such as IASC members, donors and NGOs to make more informed use of limited humanitarian resources towards priority issues and countries of concern. ICVA is part of the advisory group for this project and believes it can be a useful tool while remaining cautious that it should not be the sole tool for prioritizing risk countries. We invite you to check it out and give feedback to the project [here](#).

- For more information, contact alon.plato@icvanetwork.org.

24. Proactively Engage in Agile Collaborative Partnerships

European Humanitarian Forum (EHF) in MENA

The second edition of the European Humanitarian Forum will take place in Brussels and web streamed from 20 - 21 March 2023. Check out more [information](#). ICVA is engaged in all regions with different modalities of support to ECHO for the organization of the regional warm up sessions/consultations to be held mainly in January.

Region Specific

25. Africa

Eastern and Southern Africa

Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2023

GHO 2023 launched in **Geneva on Thursday, 1 December**, 2022, with sequential launches in Addis Ababa (in partnership with the African Union) and Riyadh (in partnership with King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre - KSrelief). For the Launch with the AU, ICVA representative for Eastern and Southern Africa spoke on the panel “Climate change and global food insecurity - key drivers of humanitarian needs,” highlighting the need to render responses in the region to respect the commitments under the Grand bargain.

Bilateral Meetings

In the East African region, ICVA has held a number of bilateral meetings with various members and partners to plan for 2023 and beyond and create synergies. The discussions included preparation for the EHF, where ICVA will be providing a platform for members in the region to provide inputs on climate change as well as International Humanitarian Law.

IGAD Nairobi Summit

About 200 government officials, private sector players and UN Agencies joined IGAD Member States in Nairobi from 24-26 October to take stock of the implementation of the Kampala Declaration. Discussions revolved around barriers of refugees to market linkages, financial inclusion, digitalization and energy. ICVA participated in a panel discussion and highlighted the need for principled partnership frameworks in undertaking the journey towards a durable solution.

Launch of an Advocacy Hybrid Learning Programme

ICVA Africa Hub have announced the launch of an advocacy hybrid learning programme, to be held during February and March 2023. The Collectively Influencing Change in Complex Contexts programme has been organized for members and secretariat of the NGO Fora and networks in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The programme aims to enhance strategic skills to better analyse humanitarian contexts and design effective advocacy strategies and plans in support of collective humanitarian action, in 2023. The online sessions will be held every Wednesday in February, with the in-person workshop on the 21 and 22 March, in Nairobi, followed by the East/Horn of Africa Fora/Networks - Communities of Practice meeting on 23 March 2022.

- For more information contact Maxine Clayton:
advocacysupport@icvanetwork.org and addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org

West and Central Africa

Dialogue with the diplomatic community in Dakar

On 3 November, OCHA facilitated a meeting with 11 diplomatic representations in Dakar including Burkina Faso, European Union, Nigeria and Germany. Two representatives from UN and two representatives from NGO were invited to provide a briefing on the humanitarian situation in Sahel pointing out the impact on civilians and their protection, the growing food and nutritional insecurity, the extension of the crisis to coastal countries and the restriction of humanitarian space.

Humanitarian-Stabilization Dialogue

Following the dialogue sessions held at regional level between the humanitarian community and UNDP's stabilization facility, UNDP organized an event in Dakar on the 16 of November titled "Stabilization-Humanitarian Dialogue: how do we operationalize it on the ground". The NGOs at country and regional level were invited to intervene on the challenges met on the field regarding stabilization approaches and how to mitigate the related risks.

Regional IASC (RIASC)

The RIASC focused in November on:

- The degradation of the situation in Ghana with the intervention of the Regional Coordinator Ghana. A request for more coordination between coastal countries was addressed, as well as the need for training and lessons learned from Sahel experience regarding the military response and its potential impact on civilians and humanitarian space.
- The upcoming conference for the Lake Chad Basin (January 2023). Discussion under some major concerns to: (i) focus on stabilization and not on durable solutions and (ii) that it could be difficult to have strong and durable commitment from political actors less than 1 month before the Nigeria elections.
- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group List, please connect with addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org or adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org.

26. Asia and the Pacific

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW) 9-14 December in Bangkok



The face-to-face RHPW will kick off on Friday, 9 December at the Rembrandt hotel in Bangkok. The event is organized by ICVA in collaboration with UN Humanitarian, Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network, and Community World Service Asia. In the margins of RHPW, ICVA will also hold a regional member's day, the first since 2019, which will bring together ICVA members to share and exchange on strategies for adapting to the changing humanitarian landscape. We look forward to deepening the relationship with our members. Check our [website](#) for more information.

Prior to the RHPW, ICVA in collaboration with UN Women is organizing a four-day Regional Women's Humanitarian Leadership Training programme for women-led NGOs and Civil Society Organizations in the selected countries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar from 6 - 8 December 2022. The training focuses on strengthening leadership, collective advocacy, connecting women across the region, donor and partner engagement and policy influence, and other related topics tailored to the participant's needs and expectations.

Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week 2022

High Commissioners Dialogue on Protection

In the lead-up to the High Commissioners Dialogue on Protection, ICVA participated in the regional roundtable for Asia which focused on solutions and development cooperation in Afghanistan and the neighbouring host countries. The dialogue involved representatives from the Banks, Donor Community and UN. Key findings from the dialogue will also be presented as part of the global dialogue.

Pakistan Flood Crisis

In November, ICVA Deputy Representative travelled to flood-affected areas to meet with members on how they are working to meeting the needs of flood-affected communities.

Regional UNHCR and NGO Consultations

Preparations are underway for the Regional UNHCR and NGO consultations to be held in 2023. A survey was sent to ICVA members to solicit opinions on key topics they want to discuss and how they would like the consultations to be held. ICVA will be working with APRRN, APNOR and UNHCR to support organizations in the consultations.

- For more information about ICVA's work in Asia and Pacific, contact keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org or asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org.

27. Latin America Region

Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) January 2023 - December 2024

The Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V) launched a USD 1.72 billion [regional plan](#) to support the needs of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. This year's plan provides a framework for a coordinated operational response for 228 partner organizations involved in helping refugees and migrants.

ECHO Humanitarian Implementation Plan

The Regional Office DG-ECHO for Latin America and the Caribbean presented the ECHO Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) 2023 on 5 December. The modality was hybrid.

Update on the Development of a Flash Appeal to Respond to the Cholera Outbreak in Haiti

The Flash Appeal key figures encompass a target population of 1.4M people, funding requirements of \$135.4M, and 37 humanitarian partners responding in a coordinated manner. According to PAHO/WHO, at the end of October, 2,886 suspected cases, almost 3,000 hospitalizations, 334 confirmed cases, and 70 deaths related to cholera were reported on the island of Hispaniola. However, it is mentioned that the numbers recorded by Médecins Sans Frontières are higher. The Health Sector Group (led by PAHO/WHO and IFRC) is holding meetings to respond to the cholera outbreak. UNICEF has declared a level 2 emergency to address the crisis in Haiti, which implies providing reinforced support, including virtual support from the regional and global levels.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Latam mailing list, contact lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org.

28. MENA

Durable Solutions Platform (DSP) Regional Learning Workshop Practical Approaches to Displacement in the Middle East

On 21 and 22 November, the DSP Regional learning workshop took place in Amman, Jordan to support practitioners by drawing upon insights, learnings and experiences of 'how' integrated programming has been approached in different contexts, the links to advancing durable solutions and how this knowledge can be leveraged to inform and support the way forward. This workshop brought together a diverse group of stakeholders and provided a platform for shared experiences. Discussions focused on integrated programming, partnerships, economic and financial inclusion, localization and locally-led approaches, and area-based approaches. ICVA MENA Regional Representative, Eman Ismail, participated in the workshop and facilitated the session on localization and locally-led approaches.

Harvard Humanitarian Initiative: Webinar Series

On 22 November, ICVA MENA Deputy Regional Representative participated as a panelist for the webinar on "Toward Local Humanitarian Engagement: The Role and Experience of National Actors in Negotiation." For information on their upcoming events, visit their [website](#).

- 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.

Learning Opportunities

29. Free Courses – Risk Management and Funding Partnerships

ICVA has partnered with DisasterReady to make free online learning resources available for humanitarian aid and development professionals to better understand how to apply risk management best practices in their daily work. Check out the [free courses](#) on Risk Management in Practice and Risk Management and Funding Partnerships.

30. Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies

The **Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action** Scholarship and 10% Early Bird discount is open until 1 February 2023. Check out more [information](#) and view [all courses](#) for 2023.

New and Noteworthy

31. Immediate Global Action required to Prevent Famine in the Horn of Africa

International aid agencies have called for immediate global solidarity to help prevent famine in the Horn of Africa. Read the [joint statement](#).

32. Generation Hope: 2.4 billion reasons to end the global climate and inequality crisis

The [Generation Hope report](#) by Save the Children profiles the voices and opinions of more than 54,000 children from 41 countries. They are not only an antidote to apathy but also provide us with the needed inspiration for change.

33. Save the Children Global Ventures

This [initiative](#) by Save the Children aims to catalyze private sector investment to transform the lives of disadvantaged children.

34. Advancing Disability-inclusive Action on Internal Displacement

IDMC [report](#) shares lessons from organizations of persons with disabilities, NGOs and civil society on how to mitigate some of the risks IDPs with disabilities encounter and highlights promising tools and practices to guide future action.

35. Carbon Billionaires: The Investment Emissions of the World's Richest People

A [study](#) by Oxfam International of the investments of 125 of the world's richest billionaires found that on average they are emitting 3 million tonnes a year, more than a million times the average for someone in the bottom 90% of humanity.

36. Preparing for the Unpredictable: Ensuring the Protection and Inclusion of Refugees from Ukraine in Romania and Moldova

This [report by Refugees International](#) highlights recent findings and recommendations from their research trip to Romania and Moldova while examining how stakeholders approach a shift from an emergency humanitarian response towards one more tailored to supporting integration.

37. SEADS Handbook

The [handbook](#) will help you decide whether a crop-related response is appropriate, necessary, and feasible in a specific context. If a crop-related response meets these criteria, the Handbook will help you design, implement, and evaluate that response well.

Agenda

December 5: Launch of the [IASC Guidance on the Provision of Overheads to Local and National Partners](#)

December 6: [Save the Date for the Virtual Launch of the Mixed Migration Review 2022](#)

December 6: UNHCR Pledging Conference for 2023

December 6: The High-level conference on drought and climate resilience in Somalia, hosted by the League of Arab States and the United Nations

December 6: [Webinar: 'The CHS as an operational tool to address climatic and environmental challenges into humanitarian response'](#)

December 6-8: [10th Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action](#)

December 7: [City + Refugee Collaboration: An Online Event on Local Partnerships Leading to Global Impact](#)

December 7-8: [UNHCR High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges](#)

December 7-8: [Global Humanitarian Policy Forum \(virtual\)](#)

December 8: [ALNAP Webinar: Are humanitarians paying enough attention to learning on the frontline?](#)

December 9-14: [Registration - Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week 2022](#)

December 10: ICVA Asia Pacific Annual Membership Meeting

December 15: [Africa Regional Launch of the SEADS Minimum Standards for Supporting Crop-related Livelihoods in Emergencies](#)

December 15: [Webinar: RSH Ethiopia Hub Celebration](#)

December 18: [International Migrants Day](#)

2023

January 19: [The GSMA Innovation Fund for Anticipatory Humanitarian Action](#)

March 16: [ICVA Membership Day, Geneva](#)

March 17: [ICVA Annual Conference, Geneva](#)

April 17-28: [9th Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week \(HNPW 2023\)](#)

April 26-28: [2023 Humanitarian Leadership Conference](#)

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