

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from June 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, financing, coordination; our transformations including climate action, child rights, and safeguarding; and updates from our regional hubs.

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Happy Reading!

Message from Executive Director

Ask what you can do for the Implementation of the Grand Bargain Commitments

We had hard but needed discussions at the Grand Bargain Annual meeting held last week in Geneva. NGOs welcomed progress reached, while also highlighting that [ongoing work is needed](#) to further enhance such results across all the Grand Bargain commitments.

Progress on localization remains a priority as demonstrated also by the establishment of a Caucasus on the subject. ICVA is honored to continue to represent the NGO constituency in the [Facilitation Group](#), together with [Alliance for Empowering Partnership](#) (A4EP) that takes over Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR).

The core issues addressed through the Grand Bargain continue to be relevant areas that need attention if we are to further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the humanitarian system. Despite its weaknesses, the Grand Bargain has been a useful tool to push action faster and further than might otherwise have been possible in many areas. It is a unique platform with donors, NGOs, UN, and Red Cross movement all engaged - this is not replicated elsewhere.

Grand Bargain Principals made commitments and announcements to take individual action in the next 12 months to achieve the desired transformation. *"Ask not what the Grand Bargain can do for you—ask what you can do for the implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments"*.

ICVA committed a) to enhance the transparent reporting of humanitarian data by NGO partners and b) to remain committed to represent the NGO voice on the Facilitation Group until a transition point after June 2023.

Consistent with the Grand Bargain commitments and adopted at the ICVA General Assembly May 2021, ICVA also continues its transformations and evolutions within the network as part of its [2030 Strategy](#).

The need for improved transparent access to humanitarian data, particularly financial data, has been a common theme across many Grand Bargain discussions - quality funding, localization, handling of "overhead"/indirect costs, intermediary pass-through funding, etc. ICVA is developing a course of action with NGO colleagues to clarify how NGOs can improve on existing levels of transparency and reporting and convene appropriate staff to agree on plans of action for how to make this happen. It is expected that these contributions, in addition to action from other constituencies, can improve the base of publicly available knowledge on financial flows through the humanitarian system.

ICVA remains committed to represent the [NGO voice on the Facilitation Group](#). ICVA will fully support the process to develop a vision for the future of the Grand Bargain and collaborate with NGO partners to support identification of clear options for maintaining action on the commitments while simplifying process where possible.

While advancing on implementation, we do need to take advantage of the opportunity at the end of GB 2.0 to take stock of how we can further simplify, refine, and focus efforts to ensure the Grand Bargain remains a relevant tool to promote action.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

Forced Migration

1. UNHCR Global Consultations with NGOs

From 7-10 June, NGOs and UNHCR joined in the [2022 Global Consultations](#) on "**Localization and Climate Action**" co-organized by UNHCR and ICVA. Through a hybrid format, participants from many regions exchanged on partnership, localization, and climate action thus feeding into the process of finalizing a set of recommendations related to each session of the Global Consultations. Participants also voted for the top twelve recommendations to be prioritized for future follow-up. Once finalized, those joint recommendations will be presented at the 73rd UNHCR's Executive Committee in October of this year, along with a summary of the debates that took place at the Global Consultations.

2. Global Compact on Refugees Implementation and Preparations for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum

This month, UNHCR launched an NGO reference Group gathering fifteen NGO networks (including ICVA) active at global level and in all regions worldwide. This Group's [objectives](#) are to serve as a consultative mechanism for the preparations of the second Global Refugee Forum in 2023. The Reference Group will be used to share information, provide advice, and gather collective NGO analysis and perspectives. One aim of the NGO Reference Group will also be to facilitate NGO engagement in the process of developing future pledges, enhance the matching of pledges, and identify and co-design the process of the next Global Refugee Forum. Check out more information on the [Reference Group](#).

Additionally, on 16 June UNHCR organized the second virtual quarterly informal briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees of the year, providing useful planning details for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum and the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges in December 2022. You can access the [recording, summary, and presentation](#) for more details.

3. 2022 Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR)

On 20-22 June, ICVA joined delegates from UNHCR, States, NGOs and Refugee-led Organizations at this year's ATCR in Geneva. Co-chaired by the US Department of State's [Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration](#) (BPRM) and [Refugee Council USA](#), the event focused on "Reemerging and Building Globally". Find more details through the event's [concept note](#), a BPRM [media note](#) as well as the [NGO statement](#) and [Refugee](#) statement. At this event, ICVA's Head of Forced Migration, Jérôme Elie, spoke on a panel which examined the intersection between climate displacement and resettlement, particularly highlighting how climate change can exacerbate the vulnerability of refugees, thus adding urgency to resettlement needs. The ATCR was particularly the opportunity to issue the UNHCR's [Projected Global Resettlement Needs for 2023](#) and a "[Third Country Solutions for Refugees: Roadmap 2030](#)" as the successor process to the [Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways \(2019-2021\)](#).

4. Launch of the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement

On 24 June, the United Nations Secretary-General launched his [Action Agenda](#). ICVA and NGOs will continue to actively engage in the Action Agenda implementation as well as in following up on the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. In doing so, they will particularly build on the [InterAction and ICVA membership feedback on the draft Action Agenda](#) and aim at exchanging with the recently appointed UN [Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, Robert Piper](#). ICVA members including [Plan International](#) and [Refugees International](#) also issued reactions after the launched Action Agenda.

5. UNHCR 84th Standing Committee

Thanks to NGO inputs provided, ICVA coordinated the drafting of three NGO collective statements delivered at UNHCR's 84th Standing Committee in Geneva on 28-30 June. The NGO statement on [International Protection including Solutions](#) highlights and describes the numerous dangers posed by responsibility shifting. The NGO statement on this year's ExCom Conclusion focusing on [mental health and psychosocial support \(MHPSS\)](#), conveys several recommendations including on resource mobilization, quality interventions, and the integration of MHPSS into protection and response strategies to support the rights of displaced populations. The NGO statement on [UNHCR's engagement on internal displacement](#) strongly encourages UNHCR to advocate for all actors to maintain the momentum and implement the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement's recommendations and the Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement.

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

6. Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

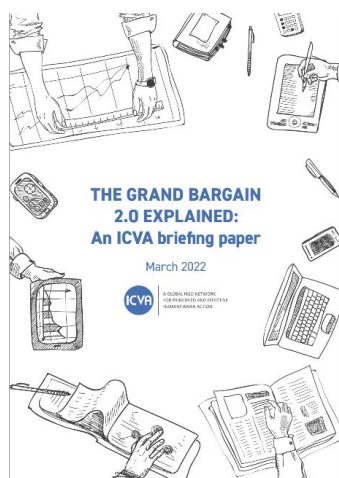
France and Senegal will co-chair the [Global Forum on Migration and Development](#) (GFMD) from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2023. In order to position the Forum's discussions at the heart of the 21st century priorities, the co-chairs have chosen "The impact of climate change on human mobility" as their main topic. The chairship was launched at the GFMD Friends of the Forum meeting on 30 June with the GFMD Mechanisms: Business Mechanism, Mayors Mechanism, Youth Stakeholders and Civil Society Mechanism represented by ICMC.

Financing

7. 2022 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting

The 2022 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting took place on 30 June and 1 July, with Sherpas and Facilitation Group Principals meeting face-to-face for the first time in two years. Now at the mid-point of implementation in the two-year cycle of the Grand Bargain 2.0 initiative, signatories gathered to discuss progress so far as well as commitments to action moving forward.

Between June 2022 and June 2023, ICVA will commit to actions in two areas: First, to enhancing the transparent reporting of humanitarian data by NGO partners, including developing a course of action with NGO colleagues to clarify how to improve on existing levels of transparency and reporting through systems such as OCHA FTS. Second, ICVA will remain committed to represent the NGO voice on the Facilitation Group until a transition point after June 2023, with an emphasis on supporting the process to develop a vision for the future of the Grand Bargain.



For those tracking Grand Bargain implementation, look for updates in the coming days to be shared with the ICVA Humanitarian Finance Working Group. Consolidated commitment statements from signatories should be available soon on the Grand Bargain [website](#). More detailed information on Grand Bargain 2.0 can be found in the [ICVA Grand Bargain 2.0 Explained briefing paper](#).

[Download the paper](#)

8. OCHA Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs)

On 21 June, the Pooled Fund Working Group met in New York for a bi-annual face-to-face meeting. Several key updates were shared with Working Group members (including donors, UN agencies, and NGO partners). Notably, progress on the Ukraine Fund was highlighted, which has now seen contributions top USD 208 million in 2022, the largest single-year increase in a pooled fund. Lessons learned on initial implementation of the Regionally-hosted Pooled Fund (RhPF) model should become available in the coming weeks, which will be an important reference for the potential expansion of the current West-Central Africa RhPF implemented in Niger and Burkina Faso. Common themes throughout discussions included the need to focus on improved local partner access to CBPFs as well as the need to further simplify due diligence processes for partners. The meeting also marked the handover from Canada to Switzerland as chair of the group for the next year.

Current updates on OCHA Pooled Fund financial flows are available [here](#) on the Pooled Funds Data Hub website.

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

Coordination

9. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

The Deputies Group (DG)

The DG met on 27 June to discuss IASC response to climate crisis and the impact of the Ukraine crisis in the humanitarian action globally. On the climate crisis response, after hearing from the humanitarian Country Coordinator on ongoing work respectively in Somalia and South Sudan, the Group discussed also other humanitarian contexts where climate change impacts substantially, pushing people further into extreme poverty and displacement. The Group focused on the role of IASC, agreeing as next steps to strengthen joint collective advocacy to inform UN climate COP processes, including resource mobilization for climate induced humanitarian action; and strengthen early warning and early action analysis by forging closer partnerships with climate actors and other critical non-IASC partners. A time bound IASC group will also be established to support the Deputies at a technical level.

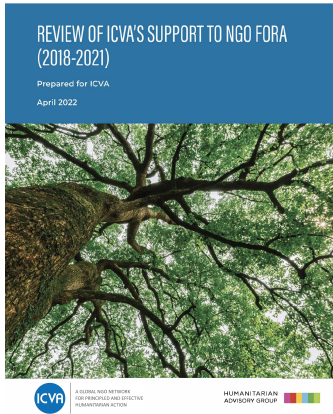
On the impact of Ukraine crisis, the Group also received additional information by FAO, WHO and UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. As next steps, it was agreed to strengthen systematic analysis on the impact of the Ukraine crisis and share regularly with the relevant IASC bodies, as well as develop IASC key messages on such an impact to facilitate consistent messaging among IASC members, including on mitigating the indirect impact of sanctions on humanitarian action. The Emergency Directors Group (EDG) will also map the impact of the Ukraine crisis on fragile and humanitarian contexts and take the required preparedness actions to mitigate its impact on vulnerable communities.

Further, the EDG met to discuss the situations in Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia, DRC and North West Syria and to consider the forward agenda for support missions. Face to face meetings for ICVA members were held in Geneva with the Humanitarian Coordinators (HC) for Mali, Nigeria and Lebanon. In Amman, a meeting was held with Muhannad Hadi, the Regional HC for the Syria response.

Elsewhere, the final report of the Peer-to-Peer Support Mission to Burkina Faso has been released and is available to members on request.

The Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

The OPAG met on 15 of June to review the areas of work and deliverables that the IASC Task Force (TF) 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space - with a focus on Bureaucratic Impediments and Counter Terrorism (COTER), and the IASC TF 2 on Accountability to Affected People will prioritize during their term. After hearing from the co-chairs of each of the TFs, IASC members commended the preparatory work done by members of the two TFs and shared few comments with them especially on close collaboration among the various TF, further efforts needed to boost TFs membership diversity, reach out to States and donor agencies and ensure linkages with relevant initiatives and actors beyond the IASC.



10. NGO Fora

ICVA commissioned a review of ICVA's support to NGO fora between 2018 and 2021. The report, prepared by the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG), had two objectives:

- To review the effectiveness and relevance of ICVA's work to support international and national NGO Fora on their advocacy, coordination, and engagement priorities.
- To give evidence-based forward-looking recommendations for ICVA's ongoing work with NGO fora, considering the findings of the review and the expressed needs of NGO Fora.

We thank our partners who have participated in the review. The findings of the report are generally positive, with partner fora finding support in ICVA's actions. However, the report also highlights areas of improvement, and the recommendations outlined in the report will be implemented in the coming months. Check out the [report](#).

[Download the report](#)

11. COVID-19

In June, ICVA accompanied WHO and UNICEF representatives from the [CoVAX Vaccine Delivery Partnership](#) to South Sudan to learn more about how their work is supporting COVID-19 vaccination targets to be met in humanitarian settings. NGOs are supporting 80-90% of the health services in South Sudan and their role in supporting vaccination is key.

There is significant pandemic fatigue, both in South Sudan and in other humanitarian contexts, due in part to the strong assumption that the impact of the pandemic on low-income countries has been mild. However, [recent research](#) found that the burden of COVID-19 is far higher in developing countries than in high-income countries and while deaths are expected to reduce, it has significant implications for health and health systems. This underscores the continued need to ensure vaccine and medical equity to populations.

Vaccines and delivery financing are now available at scale to support COVID-19 rollout in humanitarian settings. The engagement of NGOs in rolling out vaccines is critical – both to ensure that at-risk populations are protected and that the significant funding available is leveraged to the greatest extent possible to support the restoration of routine immunization, stabilize health services that have been significantly impacted by donor funding cuts.

- For more information, contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org.

Transforming our Network

12. Champion Principled Humanitarian Action

Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas (EWIPA)

On 17 June in Geneva, Ireland concluded consultations on the final text of the Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences arising from the use of EWIPA. The Final text of the Declaration can be found [here](#). In preparation for the consultations, ICVA organized a meeting with civil society to share information on the relevance of the Declaration, the process and its standing, as well as the role of civil society in influencing outcomes, including by looking at the signing of the Declaration by States and the monitoring of its implementation. Check out the [recording of the meeting](#).

Humanitarian Access

IASC Task Force 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space (with a focus on COTER and BAI)

Co-chaired by OCHA and NRC, this task force has two key objectives: 1) Mitigating the impact of Counterterrorism legislation and sanctions on humanitarian action, and 2) Addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments to enable principled, timely and effective humanitarian action. The workplan is in the process of being finalized.

The Task Force met in June to discuss donor driven beneficiary screening procedures and their implications on principled and effective humanitarian assistance and the roll-out of the IASC [Guidance](#) on Understanding and Addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments to Humanitarian Action.

- For more information, contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org.

Civic Space

“Funding Local Civil Society in Partner Countries: Toolkit to Support Implementation of Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society”

ICVA members had the opportunity to provide input and feedback to first toolkit that will be produced by the DAC's Community of Practice on Civil Society. The focus of this toolkit is pillar two on **strengthening leadership of civil society in partner countries with a focus on funding modalities**. The toolkit is intended to inform donor/CSO dialogue and progress on this aspect in the implementation of the Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society in Development Co-operation and Humanitarian Assistance. You can find more information on the [DAC website](#) on the recommendation.

Compilation of Good Practices on Engaging with Human Rights Systems

The Human Rights Liaison Unit at UNHCR recently published a [compilation of good practices](#) which gathers examples from around the world where human rights systems have made an impact on protection environments. The list includes both cooperation between the Protection Clusters and the human rights systems.

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

13. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action

30 June 2022
10:00 - 12:00 (CEST)



The Climate Charter – A Practical Guide: Session 6 **The Road to COP27: Strengthening humanitarian perspectives**

Photo: DFID/IDRC/Thomas Omondi

phap.org/30jun2022

There was great interest among humanitarian NGOs on how to strategically engage in the lead-up to “ [The Road to COP27: Strengthening humanitarian perspectives](#) as part of the 6th session of the [Learning Series on Climate Change and Humanitarian Action](#) run in collaboration with PHAP. On this webinar, we heard from Jasmine Moussa from the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the UN in Geneva on Egypt’s priorities as the COP Presidency. We also heard from IFRC’s Kirsten Hagon, Practical Action’s Colin McQuistan, Norwegian Refugee Council’s Nina Birkeland, and Oxfam’s Lyndsay Walsh on ways for humanitarian NGOs and actors to strategically engage leading up-to COP27.

Check the [webinar recording and useful resources](#) around this subject.

[Listen and watch the webinar recording](#)

- If your organization is interested to join efforts, please contact us via email climate@icvanetwork.org with a copy to nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org.
- Also check more information on ICVA's [Climate and Environment webpage](#).

14. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

Localisation

IASC Localisation Task Force Number 5

The TF is co-chaired by NEAR, UNICEF and Titi Foundation as ICVA representative. ICVA Secretariat works closely with Titi Foundation to contribute with the inputs of the ICVA network.

The TF members had a meeting this month to finalize the workplan and to consult the TF members on the agreed upon activities to be implemented related to the following priorities:

- Engagement: Operationalizing the IASC guidance on the engagement and leadership of local actors in humanitarian coordination
 - Capacity sharing
 - Resourcing
-
- For any further information about the members from local and international actors and about the priorities, please contact eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org.

Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus

IASC Task Force 4 had a call on the Syrian situation. The meeting brought together practitioners from the UN and NGOs. The impact of political categorizations of needs has been identified as a major obstacle to consolidation of the Nexus approach in that context and thus the need to intensify dialogue with donors on political and conflict sensitive programming and funding tools. The nexus call will cover Iraq and is planned for 24 July at 1 pm EAT.

- For more information on the work of ICVA on the HDP Nexus kindly contact marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org.

15. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

Child Rights

Report Launch: Education in Emergencies Financing in the Wake of COVID-19: Time to Reinvest to Meet Growing Needs

On 16 June 2022, the Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies launched a report on the state of financing education in emergencies (EiE) worldwide especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The document provides an up-to date global overview and analysis that can help improve EiE funding going forward. Access the [full report](#).

Gender

ICVA recently joined the [Call to Action](#) on Protection from Gender Based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE) and participated at the 2022 Call to Action Annual Partners Meeting held on 15 -16 June in Copenhagen. The event amplified the role of local and women-led organizations at reducing prevalence of GBViE. As a new Call to Action partner, ICVA is committed to ensuring implementation of the 2021-2025 Road Map to achieve policy frameworks and enable coordination within the GBV sector.

Safeguarding

2022 PSEA Outreach and Communication Fund

Early June, UNHCR and ICVA launched the third round of the Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). For the first time online only, the call for applications ran throughout the month of June attracting more than 1000 applications. The review and selection of grantees will now be carried out by a steering group of experts from NGOs and UN agencies. We thank all applicants for their interest in this PSEA Outreach and Communication Fund.

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

Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH) Webinars

Webinar: Safeguarding and inclusion of the most vulnerable people in humanitarian operations

On 6 July, the RSH held the above webinar in French exploring the importance of inclusion and safeguarding the most vulnerable with specific focus on how humanitarian and development organizations can ensure proper safeguarding of people with disabilities and management of complaints adapted to people with disabilities.

Webinar: Instilling good organizational culture towards prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment within organizations

The Resource and Support Hub in South Sudan will host the above webinar on 13 July to provide participants with the knowledge to reflect and engage on issues that lie at the root of sexual misconduct, power imbalance and gender inequality and pave way for commitments and follow-up actions in organizational culture change. [Register](#) for the webinar.

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

16. Proactively Engage in Agile Collaborative Partnerships

DG ECHO Questionnaire on Equal Partnerships with Local Responders

The aim of the questionnaire is to gather the views and suggestions of a broad range of stakeholders on issues around localisation. [Fill the questionnaire](#) by 26 August 2022.

Region Specific

17. Africa

Impact on Humanitarian action of the Counter Terrorism Measures

ICVA consulted members in Africa on the new IASC position paper on COTER measures, highlighting the urgency of action with regards to adapting the regulation to the specific humanitarian needs in complex contexts.

Peer-2-Peer (P2P) Mission in Burkina Faso

ICVA, with one of its members, participated in the IASC P2P Mission in Burkina Faso. The report is about to be completed and the debriefing sessions with members will start in the coming weeks.

Dialogue Stabilization

The second dialogue meeting between humanitarian and stabilization actors took place in Dakar, Senegal with a focus on Civil military coordination and beneficiaries' identification. Two other meetings are intended for exchanges on risk analysis and protection.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group List, please connect with marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org or addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org or adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org.

Horn of Africa Drought

Rainfall deficits during the recent March - May 2022 rainy season have been the most severe in at least the last 70 years in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. The ongoing, four-season drought has been the most extensive and persistent event since 1981. Grave concerns are raised by elevated risks of a fifth below-average rainy season in October-November-December. A [new report](#), co-authored by one of the ICVA Regional partners (Centre for Humanitarian Change) on the drought response was released in June on the worsening humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa, with a specific focus on Somalia. The report highlights that while the limited humanitarian funding is clearly a major problem, it is far from the only problem, and much more can be done to re-orient and re-focus the response in light of available data, knowledge, and experience. Read the report and check the recommendations for donors, agencies, governments, and others working to address the crisis.

The Ethiopia Humanitarian INGOs (HINGO) Forum is Recruiting a Forum Director

The HINGO Forum exists to strengthen principled humanitarian response. The HINGO Director is a senior management position and is responsible for facilitating coordination among members of the HINGO Forum, the elected Steering Committee, and external stakeholders. The coordination entails ensuring effective information exchange, as well as representing and advocating on common positions and agreed interests of the HINGO Forum and wider NGO community.

- If you are interested in applying for this role or would like further information please contact: hingo-sc@googlegroups.com or reach out to marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org or advocacysupport@icvanetwork.org for further information.

18. Asia and the Pacific

Resource and Support Hub (RSH) South Asia

RSH South Asia hub has completed country assessments for Pakistan and Bangladesh to analyze the safeguarding landscape to design and operationalize national level hubs. These reports will be launched soon through the quarterly RSH newsletter.

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

19. Latin America Region

Latam Regional NGO Fora Exchange Workshop

A Regional Fora Exchange will be held on 19 and 20 September in Bogotá Colombia. More details about the meeting will be shared soon.

Elsewhere, The Institute for Conflict Studies and Humanitarian Action presented its [study on the triple nexus in practice](#). The study analyzes Spanish cooperation actors' acceptance of this triple nexus approach between humanitarian action, development and peace approach as well as their knowledge about how best to operationalize it by identifying challenges they face in terms of financing, planning and coordination.

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

20. MENA

MENA Regional NGO Fora Exchange Workshop

ICVA in MENA hosted a two-day Regional NGO Fora Exchange Workshop in Amman, Jordan on 21 -22 June. Different Representatives from 17 International and Local NGO Networks from Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, oPt, and Libya joined in-person to exchange information, learnings, and strengthen interaction, coordination, networking, and further collaborative efforts.

This workshop included sessions to foster links and enable the exchange of information among the NGO Networks (local and international) in the MENA region. There were discussions on challenges and opportunities specific to NGO Fora Networks, Bureaucratic Impediments, Negotiation and Influencing, NEXUS, and Localization. The workshop concluded with set of follow up actions with the different representatives. ICVA aims to consistently keep this engagement with the NGO fora in the region.

Yemen Senior Officials Meeting

The fourth Senior Officials Meeting (SOM IV) on the humanitarian crisis in Yemen took place in Brussels on 23 June 2022, with the participation of the main humanitarian actors active in the country. The meeting was co-hosted by the European Union and Sweden and was preceded by consultations and technical working groups. There were around 100 participants including donors, United Nations agencies, ICRC, World Bank and international and Yemeni Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and development actors. Participants agreed on 11 concrete measures addressing humanitarian advocacy, access, quality of aid and the nexus between humanitarian, peace and development initiatives. Participants agreed to establish a monitoring and early warning capacity on food security to allow timely action against famine. Read the [co-chairs summary](#).

Regional Operations Framework for Refugee Return to Syria Workshop

The Regional Durable Solutions Working Group (RDSWG) issued the Regional Operational Framework (ROF) for Refugee Return to Syria in March 2019. The purpose of the ROF is to detail ongoing actions and activities related to refugee return. The Regional Return Context and Scenario Workshop is being conducted as part of the update process of the ROF to allow for a broader consultation with RDSWG members on key points related to context changes since the drafting of the original document as well as projections related to return.

Localisation Workshop

On 23 June 2022, the Syrian Civil Society Networks Platform hosted a workshop on *Localization, where we are and what we have achieved so far*. Localization, principles commitments, and measurement. Eman Ismail, ICVA MENA Regional Representative, participated in the panel discussion hosted during this workshop and spoke about the status of localisation globally and in MENA as well as the progress and challenges in the different contexts.

Localisation MEAL Framework Reporting Workshop

The workshop was held in Jordan with assigned organization Focal Points, ICVA MENA Regional Representative participated and presented in a session about ICVA approach on Localisation, and the progress and opportunities from global and regional perspectives.

Resource Safeguarding Hub - MENA

On 21 June 2022 the RSH Yemen Hub held a webinar on Safe Programmes where the panelists discussed the key measures that are needed for safe programming and shared their experience around ensuring programmes are safe in their organizations. Check [information](#) on the panelists, webinar recording and access the slides.

- 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

21. Strengthen your skills, network with your peers and further your career in the humanitarian sector with Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies [short online courses](#).

New and Noteworthy

22. Grand Aspirations: Dutch Relief Alliance and the Grand Bargain 2.0

DRA released a [report](#) on their progress towards the Grand Bargain commitments, focusing on accountability, partnership, localisation, and innovation.

23. OXFAM Report: Footing the Bill: Fair finance for loss and damage in an era of escalating climate impacts

The [report](#) highlights the need for a new finance facility to ensure loss and damage is addressed in a way that is accessible and sustainable, is additional to adaptation, mitigation and ODA commitments, and is delivered in accordance with the principles of climate justice.

24. The Loss and Damage Collaboration

Are you looking for support to address climate change related loss and damage? Check out the Loss and Damage Collaboration [website](#) for more information on how they could help you.

25. International Labour Organization (ILO): Major Breakthrough on Occupational Health and Safety

The International Labour Conference has recognized occupational health and safety as a [fundamental principle and right at work](#). This adds the right to a healthy and safe working environment to the four rights adopted in 1998 by the ILO.

26. Global Protection Funding

For the second year in a row, the team at Global Protection Cluster has led analysis on mid-year stock take of Protection Funding's field operations. Read the [report](#) to find out about the results.

Agenda

August 19: World Humanitarian Day

August 29 – September 1: [Africa Climate Week 2022 in Gabon](#)

September 19: NGO Fora Regional Workshop in Bogota

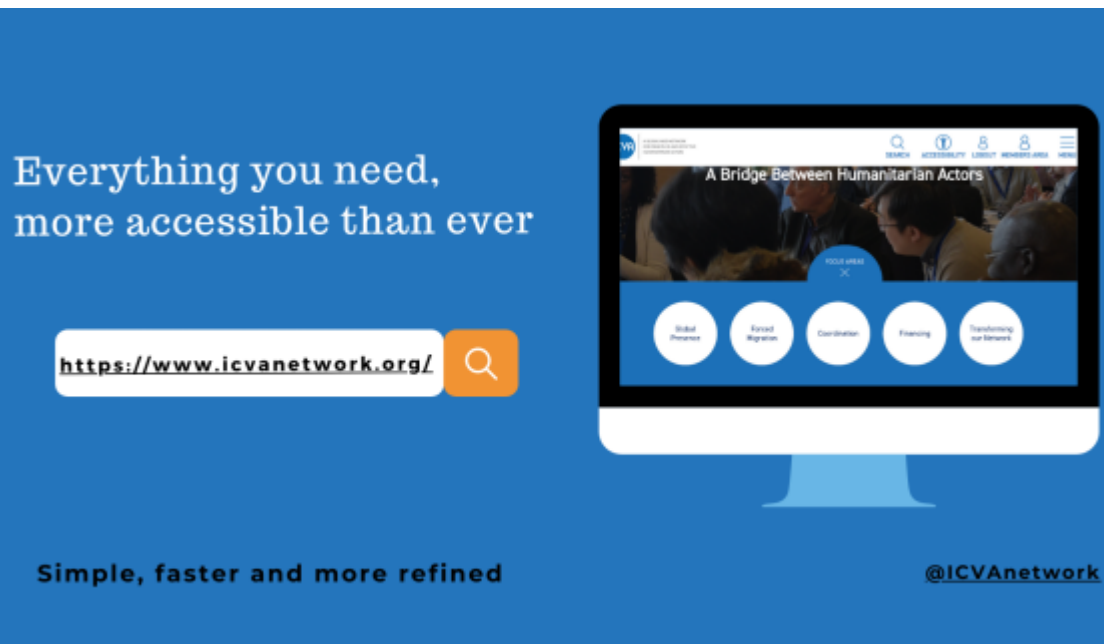
September 19-23: 85th meeting of the UNHCR Standing Committee

October 10-14: 73rd session of the UNCHR Executive Committee

October 16: [World Food Day](#)

December 7-8: High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges

December 18: [International Migrants Day](#)



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