

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from November 2023

The ICVA logo consists of the letters 'ICVA' in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid blue circle.

A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Dear Readers,

In this bulletin, we bring you the latest news concerning our focus areas: forced migration, humanitarian financing, and humanitarian coordination. We continue to transform the ICVA network to be more engaged in operationalising 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 ICVA

Beyond COP28: A Call to Action for Climate Resilience and Global Collaboration

In 2023, we observe significant milestones such as the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the second Global Refugee Forum, and COP28 in the United Arab Emirates (30 November to 12 December). Despite these achievements, this year stands out as the [warmest on record](#), bringing severe impacts such as rising sea levels and extreme weather events.

Recognising the toll on lives, COP28 dedicated a day for relief, recovery and peace on 3 December. Humanitarian actors advocated for vulnerable communities facing climate change, especially those in conflict and fragile contexts.

Key outcomes include the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund supporting nations vulnerable to climate impacts, and the [COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery, and Peace](#) urging increased financial support for climate adaptation. Initiatives like the [Getting ahead of Disaster Charter](#) were also launched.

We also launched the Secretariat for the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#), which ICVA proudly hosts, supporting commitments of humanitarian organizations. Collaborating with Climate Action Network International, ICVA initiated a [Joint Call for Action on the Loss and Damage Fund](#), involving over 200 global organizations in advocating for increased financial support.

While celebrating achievements, ongoing collective advocacy remains crucial for local action and community resilience. Governments and donors must ensure accessible funding mechanisms with flexibility and accountability. Urgency is paramount, given the current impact of climate change on I

flexibility and accountability. Urgency is paramount, given the current impact of climate change on lives and livelihoods. Looking beyond the COP28, a collective effort is essential to translate global policies into tangible actions, revolutionizing approaches for timely, efficient, collaborative, and inclusive solutions.

Nishanie Jayamaha

Learning and Climate Change Program Coordinator | ICVA

ICVA Updates



The graphic features a central text area flanked by decorative blue and orange geometric shapes with white dots. The text includes the conference title, date, location, theme, and hashtag.

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ICVA

A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION

21 March 2024 | Maison de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland

Theme: Rethinking Coordination: Accountability, Credibility and Trust in Principled Humanitarian Action

#ICVAconference2024

1. Save the Date: ICVA 2024 Annual Conference and 19th General Assembly

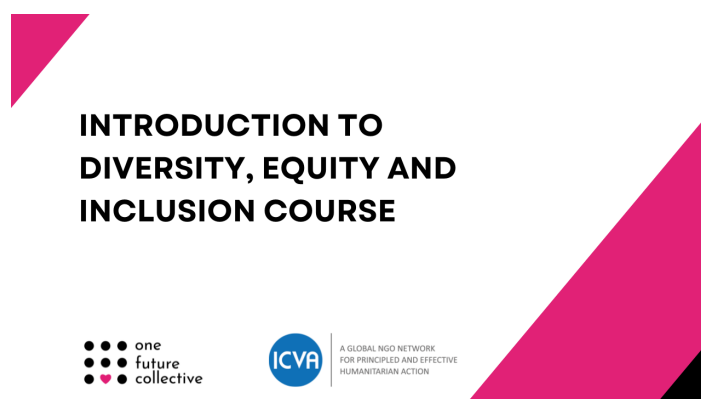
We are pleased to announce that [ICVA's Annual Conference](#) will be held on **21 March 2024** at the Maison de la Paix in **Geneva, Switzerland**. The theme of the conference is "*Rethinking Coordination: Accountability, Credibility and Trust in Principled Humanitarian Action*".

The Annual Conference will also include the global launch of the revised Core Humanitarian Standard.

The 19th ICVA General Assembly will take place on **20 March 2024** at the International Conference Centre in **Geneva, Switzerland**. During this assembly, members will elect a new Board and Chair, amend the Statutes, approve the Strategic Priorities 2025-2027 and review the work of the past three years.

We will provide further details about both of these events soon. In the meantime, we encourage you to save the dates.

2. New - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion eLearning Course



The graphic features a pink triangle in the top left and bottom right corners. The central text is bold and black. At the bottom, there are logos for 'one future collective' and 'ICVA'.

INTRODUCTION TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION COURSE

one future collective

ICVA A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Enhance your knowledge and understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the humanitarian

sector with our latest eLearning course. Our self-paced course was created by [One Future Collective](#) and offers comprehensive DEI principles and contextualization within the humanitarian sector. The short and engaging videos provide useful insights into the impact of DEI on the sector. This course is ideal for any level of expertise, whether you want to learn about DEI for the first time or wish to refresh your knowledge. Don't miss the chance to unlock the power of DEI for a more inclusive and equitable humanitarian sector. Check the course on our [website](#).

3. We are Hiring

We are looking for our next Head of Humanitarian Finance. This role leads our work in this area and requires an understanding of funding mechanisms, analysing current accessibility and advocating for enhanced accessibility. The role sits within the policy team at ICVA. Check for more details on our [website](#).

FORCED MIGRATION

4. Armenia Emergency Refugee Response Plan, Online Regional Dialogue with UNHCR

The UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Europe and ICVA organized an online meeting with NGOs on the Armenia Refugee Response Plan on 10 November. Throughout the discussions, humanitarian actors in Armenia presented the protection and assistance needs of refugees, highlighting potential ways in which NGOs can contribute to solutions and bolster resilience. The speakers from Mission Armenia, the Armenian Red Cross, the UNHCR Operation in Armenia, and People in Need shared valuable insights. The meeting aimed to plan for longer-term considerations to ensure an effective and sustained response to the needs of refugees in Armenia.

5. NGO Meeting with the Office of UN Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement

On 14 November, ICVA and InterAction organized a meeting for NGOs with the Office of the UN Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, focusing on Colombia as a case study within the context of the Action Agenda. The Director of the Colombia NGO Forum provided a detailed overview of the internal displacement situation in Colombia. Additionally, the Chief of Staff from the Office of the UN Special Adviser presented updates on the progress made in implementing the Action Agenda. This was the third meeting held with NGOs in 2023, designed to foster discussion and collaboration among NGOs and the UN regarding solutions to internal displacement.

6. Informal Briefing with NGOs, the World Bank Group and UNHCR-World Bank Joint Data Centre

On 16 November, a meeting was held between NGOs, representatives from the World Bank Group, and the UNHCR-World Bank Joint Data Centre. The World Bank presented their work on forced displacement and their priorities for the upcoming Global Refugee Forum. The new head of the Joint Data Centre provided a four-year overview of the Centre's focus. A key outcome of the briefing was a commitment from ICVA and the World Bank to deepen engagement on forced displacement issues in 2024.

For more information, please contact davina.said@icvanetwork.org or loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org or gabriela.miranda@icvanetwork.org.

FINANCING

7. The Grand Bargain Beyond 2023

ICVA participated in a virtual meeting of the Grand Bargain Ambassadors and the Facilitation Group with the Signatories. The purpose of the meeting was to share plans and priorities for the upcoming months and for the Signatories to share their own transformational practices and plans. To learn more about the discussion and information shared during the meeting, read the [summary notes](#).

ICVA Webinar on the Grand Bargain

In our October bulletin, we highlighted ICVA's webinar for its members and NGO Fora at the regional and country levels on the Grand Bargain beyond 2023. You can now access the webinar recording [online](#) and check the [presentations](#).

8. Pooled Funds

Flash Appeal: Occupied Palestinian Territory

In November, the first update of the Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory was issued. It identifies a financial requirement of approximately US\$1.2 billion to meet critical needs for 2.7 million people across the oPt, the 2.2 million population of the Gaza Strip and 500,000 from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem from October until 31 December 2023. The plan outlines the minimum to prevent further loss of life considering the ongoing siege and bombardment of Gaza and the escalating situation in the West Bank. UNRWA's requirements are also included. Check out more [information](#).

For more information, please contact manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org.

COORDINATION

9. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Principals

ICVA joined the second IASC Principals bi-annual meeting in 2023 to discuss key humanitarian crises, the climate crisis and COP28, addressing global humanitarian needs through the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, the centrality of protection and IASC Principal advocacy. The IASC Principals discussed critical humanitarian situations, including the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Sudan, Niger and the Democratic Republic of Congo and agreed on actions to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs on the ground.

In response to the situation in Israel and the oPt, the IASC Principals issued two statements. The [first](#), released on 5 November, called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, while the [second statement](#) issued on 16 November highlighted the Principals' decision not to participate in the establishment of any "safe zone" in Gaza that does not have the approval of all parties involved.

10. IASC Deputies Group Mission to Burkina



ICVA participated in an IASC delegation three day official visit to Burkina Faso, focusing on the needs of crises affected people, strengthening partnerships with authorities and partners for more impactful humanitarian efforts, and advocating for sustainable solutions. The delegation engaged with government officials, member states, donors, civil society organizations and affected communities. The meetings explored avenues to address the crisis, bolster community resilience, and collaborate for an effective humanitarian response. For more information, refer to this [press release](#).

11. ICVA Support Mission to Ukraine

ICVA's Head of Coordination travelled to Ukraine from 19-26 November on an NGO Coordination Support Mission. The agenda included the final workshop for the 2023 follow up to ICVA-supported [localization baseline](#) that was completed earlier in the year; and to engage NGOs around the follow up to the Operational Peer Review (which ICVA joined in early 2023). Various meetings were held with NGOs at local and national level, local authorities, donors, and UN leadership to discuss the response efforts and the pivotal role of NGOs in addressing systemwide issues.

The mission will inform ongoing engagements, including those at the IASC Emergency Directors Group. In follow up, ICVA will continue discussions around NGO advocacy on humanitarian principles in the response, including emphasis on increasing access to all people in need wherever they are located. ICVA continues to offer targeted support to the Ukraine NGO Platform, and the newly established Ukrainian CSO Alliance. This support includes exploring how lessons learned from other contexts can be adapted in areas such as membership, governance, advocacy, and resourcing.

12. ICVA NGO Network Exchange

The 2023 ICVA NGO Network Exchange, held in Rome from 8-10 November, aimed to facilitate peer-to-peer learning focused on the impact of NGO Networks with donor governments. Bringing together representatives from NGO Networks in Australia, Canada, EU, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, and US, the event underscored the crucial role played by NGO Networks in donor countries. These networks contribute significantly to fostering a favourable policy environment, cultivating a robust NGO community, and ensuring the delivery of high-quality humanitarian action. This exchange was tailored for NGO Networks working closely with their respective donor governments in areas such as financing, policy, advocacy, and the coordination of NGOs operating in global humanitarian settings.

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

13. NGO Fora Support

ICVA provides customised support to NGO fora on engagement with IASC coordination mechanisms at country level and in matters of governance. This support is free of charge and can be tailored to the specific needs of the fora and includes peer-to-peer guidance for directors, training sessions for steering committees and members, and ad-hoc intervention on pertinent issues.

For more information, please contact albertphilip.burger@icvanetwork.org.

14. Humanitarian Access and Negotiation

ICVA and the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation have a strategic partnership to provide country level workshops in collaboration with the NGO Forum and its members. These workshops aim to support NGOs in analysing contextual dilemmas and challenges and improving their collective ability to negotiate humanitarian access more effectively. Provisional workshop locations for 2024 have been proposed to support NGOs in Colombia, Ukraine, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Libya.

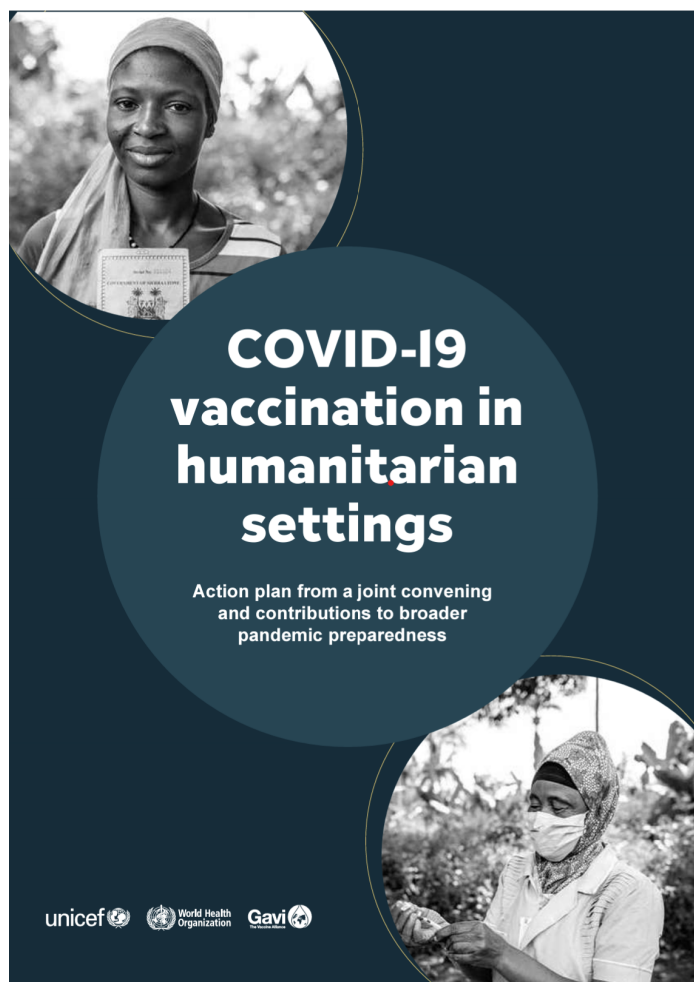
IASC Task Force 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space

The Task Force convened to discuss feedback on the ERC's briefings regarding SCR 2664 and the Gaza sanctions. During the meeting, the draft ICVA report on the IASC Bureaucratic and Administrative Framework, indicators and impacts of BAI was presented for feedback.

For more information, please contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org and manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org.

15. COVID-19

Pandemic Preparedness and Response



ICVA is pleased to announce the release of the [COVID-19 Vaccination Action Plan](#) for Humanitarian Settings, which aims to provide a more equitable pandemic response in humanitarian settings. The plan was developed with inputs from donors, host country governments, UN agencies, Gavi Vaccine Alliance, Africa CDC, and ICVA members. ICVA played a significant role in its development, with three working groups shaping its contents, including the ICVA co-chaired “Leveraging humanitarian architecture and humanitarian actors during pandemics” working group. ICVA members including Intersos, MSF, Tamdeen Youth Foundation, Titi Foundation, the Uganda and Somalia NGO Fora, ACF, CARE, Save the Children, HIAS, IRC, IMC and World Vision provided inputs. The action plan, which outlines practical actions and lessons learned, seeks to address the underlying factors that lead to inequitable access to vaccines in humanitarian settings.

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

Advocacy & Communications

In November, the Advocacy and Communications Team (ACT), comprising UN and NGO humanitarian and communication experts, convened three times. The meetings addressed the Gaza/Israel crisis, COP28, the Global Humanitarian Overview, and the 2024 Humanitarian Financing outlook. OCHA and ICVA serve as co-chairs for the ACT, facilitating regular updates and discussions.

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

Transforming our Network

16. Champion Principled Humanitarian Action

ICVA has formed a Principled Humanitarian Action Steering Committee comprising of DRC, Save the Children, HERE Geneva, Islamic Relief the Myanmar NGO Forum, Oxfam, Medair, CCHN, Sphere, and representatives from both the Sudan national and international NGO Fora. The aim is to develop a framework and guidance for navigating contextual dilemmas and promoting principled humanitarian action in restrictive access environments. The Humanitarian Access Working Group recently met to further develop this framework, and ICVA will be publishing a series of papers on principles, access, and engagement in the coming months.

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

Global Perspective Sector Conversation

The International Civil Society Center recently hosted the Global Perspectives Conference, where leaders of national and international civil society organizations came together to discuss the world's most pressing challenges. This year's event was titled "Moments of Truth" and was held in partnership with West Africa Civil Society Institute, CIVICUS, CyberPeace Institute and ICVA on 9 November. The goal of the conference was to exchange ideas and experiences and make connections to drive positive change. Check out [more information](#).

17. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action

ICVA Engagement in COP28

The 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) kicked off on 30 November in the UAE with active participation from ICVA and its members in several initiatives. These efforts include:

ICVA hosting the Secretariat for the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#), which has received support from nearly 400 humanitarian organizations and 13 governments. The initiative seeks to assist these organizations in fulfilling their commitments to combat the adverse effects of climate change and reduce their environmental footprint. Technical support and expertise will be provided to help organizations set targets, implement projects, and measure their progress. ECHO and USAID have provided substantial commitment and support in establishing the Secretariat, and IFRC and ICRC have co-led the development of the Charter.

The development of key messages to support coordinated advocacy for addressing the climate crisis. The IASC sub-group on Climate has created the [IASC Action Plan](#) for Engagement, which includes [documents](#) such as the IASC Topline Key Messages, the Expanded Key Messages, The materials focus on [averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage](#) from a humanitarian perspective, ensuring consistent messaging with key stakeholders. Additionally, ICVA along with 74 countries and 40 international organizations, have endorsed the [COP28 Declaration](#) on Climate, Relief, Recovery, and Peace, pledging investment and action to build resilience in countries and communities affected by conflict, fragility, or humanitarian crises.

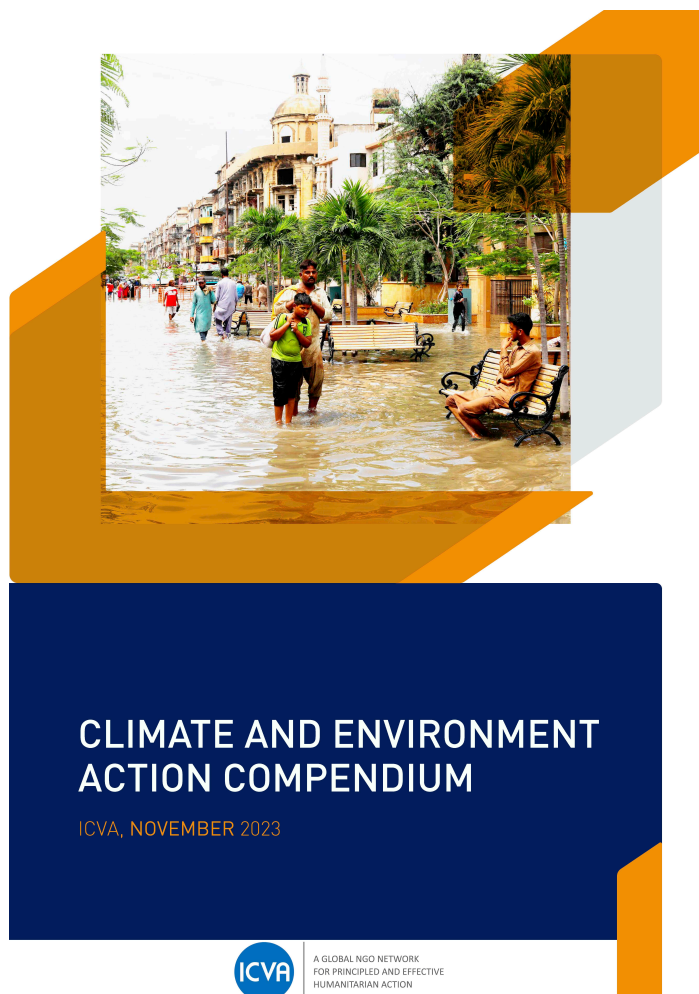
Furthermore, the Risk Informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) and the UAE COP28 Presidency have created a Charter on Finance for Managing Risks called "[Getting Ahead of Disasters](#)," which aims to optimise financial resources to manage climate-related risks and protect vulnerable communities. Interested parties can visit the official [website](#) of the Charter or contact reap.secretariat@ifrc.org and climate.reliefrecoverypeace@cop28.com to submit commitments.

Climate and Environment Action Compendium

ICVA has updated the Climate and Environment Action Compendium, which encompasses a range of resources related to building resilience, risk analysis, adaptation, environment sustainability, and nature-based solutions. The compendium aims to promote knowledge sharing and inspire action by presenting the work that is currently being undertaken by organizations across these areas. Organized by categories and keywords, the compendium is regularly updated with the latest initiatives and

solutions from various entities. Its objective is to facilitate the exchange of resources and learning to strengthen climate and environment action. Read the [Compendium](#).

For more information, please contact nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org.



18. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

The IASC Task Force 5 on Localization

In the November Task Force meeting, members discussed progress and workstream activities. The Development Initiative presented the [results](#) of its recent mapping of UN/INGO policies and donor policies. Discussions centered on the need to recognize overheads as essential to promoting locally-led initiatives and strengthening local partners. IASC [guidance](#) on the Provision of Overheads to Local and National Partners was presented as a framework for achieving this objective through system-wide approaches and intermediary partnerships. The meeting also highlighted the importance of overhead allocation in the humanitarian sector and the importance of aligning INGO policies to scale up Indirect Cost Recovery.

For more information, please contact eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org.

Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus (HDPN)

NEXUS Training

ICVA played a key role in enabling the engagement of NGOs in the Nexus training organized by the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel on 6 - 9 November. The event brought together 60 participants from the West and Central Africa region, including representatives from government, NGOs, and the United Nations. Led by Abdoulaye Mar Dieye, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel, and in partnership with Nexus Academy Team, the training focused on operationalizing the nexus in the Sahel context and identifying ways to strengthen South-

South cooperation on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus (HDPN).

Invitation to the Global Community of Practice on Nexus in Yemen

The Global Community of Practice on the HDPN, the IASC and the Issue Based Coalition on HDPN for the Arab States are holding a Community of Practice dialogue on the Nexus in Yemen on December 13th, 2023. The objective is to promote dialogue on how the UN system can best support HDPN interventions and enhance the effectiveness of guidance. The event, titled "Leaving no one behind - exploring the nexus approach in Yemen", will take place online. Use this [Teams link](#) to participate.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Consultation - Draft Report on Implementation of the Development Assistance Committee's 2019 HDP Nexus Recommendation

The International Network on Conflict and Fragility organized a consultation with CSOs focused on the implementation of the DAC's 2019 recommendation on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. The draft report on the consultation's outcomes will be revised using the feedback provided by the CSOs, and the final version is expected to be released in February 2024.

For more information, please contact stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

19. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

ICVA Launches Speakers Bureau - A Diverse National Humanitarian Speakers Database

The ICVA Speakers Bureau had a successful launch in November 2023, with a total of 120 applicants. The initiative aims to develop a diverse database of knowledgeable national humanitarian speakers who can effectively advocate for the needs, priorities, and perspectives of affected communities. The first round of training, provided in partnership with OCHA, was given to 26 NGO speakers. Read more about this [initiative](#).

Safeguarding

Common Approach to Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (CAPSEAH) Consultation

The [CAPSEAH](#) is a guide aimed at those contributing to humanitarian, international development, and peacekeeping work to tackle SEAH. It brings together existing practices, policies, and standards into a simple guide consisting of a collective vision for action, common principles, minimum recommended actions, and guidance on implementation. The draft version is open to all for consultation until 9 February 2024, and feedback will be used to shape the final version ahead of its launch later in 2024. As a member of the Steering Committee guiding the development of this work since 2022, ICVA encourages its members to complete the consultation which is available in English, Spanish, French and Arabic. For further details and access to the consultation, click the [link](#) or contact the CAPSEAH team at commonapproach.pseah@fcdo.gov.uk or alon.plato@icvanetwork.org.

Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund - 2023 Project Summaries

The 2023 call for applications for the [Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund](#) received a significant response with over 2,100 NGO submissions across diverse regions and contexts. After a rigorous selection process, seven finalists were chosen to receive funding for the implementation of their projects. These organizations have commenced their initiatives and are expected to conclude by February 2024. To learn more about their projects, refer to the [2023 PSEA Fund project summaries](#).



INTERAGENCY PSEA COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION FUND

2023 Project Summaries

November 2023

Webinar on Power, Privilege and the Role of Leaders in Safeguarding

ICVA is a consortium partner for the Safeguarding Resource & Support Hub. On 22 November, RSH held a webinar aimed at empowering CSO leaders in Pakistan to recognise, challenge and address instances of power and privilege that may contribute to safeguarding issues. The speakers drew on their experiences within the humanitarian and development sector to discuss how power dynamics impact relationships among organizations, staff, donors, partners and communities. In addition to highlighting the importance of self-awareness, reflexivity and empathy, the webinar emphasised the role of collective action in creating inclusive and safe spaces for all, especially marginalised or oppressed groups. Watch the recording of the [webinar](#).

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

Region Specific

20. Africa

East and Southern Africa

Improved Efficiency and Inclusion in Humanitarian Action



ICVA participated in the 11th African Union Annual Humanitarian symposium, titled "Advancing Effective and Inclusive Humanitarian Action in Africa," from 27-29 November 2023. During the symposium, ICVA

members highlighted the need for greater efficiency in humanitarian action, including through access-related talking points and the protection of civilians, preservation of humanitarian space, and upholding international humanitarian law. The Kampala Declaration and AU policy frameworks were also prominent themes. ICVA moderated a panel on "*Effective and Inclusive Approaches in Humanitarian Action Leading to Solutions and Development*", which included a speaker from the refugee led and ICVA member Bondeko Refugee Livelihoods Center.

Regional Principles of Partnership (PoP) Workshop

In November, ICVA organized a PoP workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, bringing together ICVA members and representatives from NGO Forums from the ESA region. The two-day workshop focused on enhancing participants' understanding of the PoP and its practical application in the humanitarian landscape. Discussions covered key partnership aspects, including the humanitarian partnership cycle, diverse partnerships types, and principles of localization and complementarity. Following the workshop, a Community of Practice meeting convened various NGO forums from the East and Horn of Africa region. In addition, ICVA organized a half-day round table bringing together workshop participants and partners and donors including UNHCR, ECHO and Oxfam to share and exchange on upcoming reforms around due diligence, risk sharing and donor localisation policies. The PoP was funded by USAID and the ongoing collaboration with the Swiss Development Agency.

Access Negotiations and Influencing Workshop

In collaboration with ICVA, the secretariat of the Ethiopia Humanitarian INGO forum (HINGO) organised a one-day workshop in November 2023 for Country Directors working with HINGO's members. The workshop provided a platform for HINGO's secretariat, Steering Committee members and the wider membership to jointly take stock of the changing humanitarian context in Ethiopia, including complexities around humanitarian access, and to identify collective engagement, influencing and coordination gaps within the Forum and with other critical stakeholders. During the workshop, HINGO forum members conducted a stakeholder mapping and agreed on strategies to address key humanitarian access and coordination gaps.

Collective Advocacy Strategy Validation Workshop with the South Sudan NGO Forum

In collaboration with ICVA, the secretariat of the South Sudan NGO Forum organized a one-day workshop for its members to review, discuss and validate a collective advocacy strategy. The workshop, held in November 2023, followed an inception workshop conducted in September 2023. The initial workshop identified the need for an advocacy strategy to guide the Forum's advocacy initiatives.

Subsequently, ICVA worked with the NGO forum to draft the advocacy strategy, incorporating the perspectives of various stakeholders, including international and national NGOs, and donor organizations.

The validation workshop provided a platform for the Forum secretariat and ICVA to present the draft strategy to Forum members, and to discuss the alignment of the strategy with the NGO Forum's overarching mission to effectively support member NGOs in the principled delivery of humanitarian aid to save and improve lives in South Sudan.

Regional PSEAH Training of Trainers Webinar

The Strengthening Local Humanitarian Action to Respond to Climate-induced Emergencies (SLHAClimate) led by International Medical Corps (IMC) and ICVA and funded by the Ministry of Europe for Foreign Affairs, France, aims to enhance the capacity of local and national NGOs (L/NNGOs) in responding to humanitarian and climate-induced emergencies across Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. As part of this project, ICVA is organizing a regional training of trainers (ToT) on protection from sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (PSEAH) from November to December 2023. This initiative supported by the Hilton Foundation, includes participants from South Sudan, specifically representatives from local and national NGOs and the South Sudan NGO Forum. A recent webinar and wider training session was organised for six staff from NGOs in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia, two representatives from LNNGOs in South Sudan, and four representatives from Fora/networks in Somalia, Ethiopia and South Sudan. The objective is to establish a proficient pool of trainers in PSEAH to contribute to the project's overarching goal of strengthening local humanitarian action in the face of climate-induced emergencies.

For more information, please contact addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org or nkirote.laiboni@icvanetwork.org.

West and Central Africa

Regional Task force on Access and Humanitarian Principles

On November 16, the regional task force on access and humanitarian principles, led by OCHA and NRC, discussed stabilization approaches, particularly in Liptako-Gourma. The aim was to exchange ideas on the impact and risks for humanitarian actors, establish common positioning, and discuss their involvement in the process. This was a follow-up to the regional dialogue between UNDP stabilization program and humanitarian actors, which issued recommendations. The meeting sought to clarify the way forward for humanitarian actors in the region.

Regional IASC (R-IASC) Meeting

On November 30, the R-IASC meeting took place, led by OCHA and co-led by ICVA. The Humanitarian Country Team from Cameroon presented the main challenges faced by the country and requested support from the region in terms of advocacy, technical expertise, high-level visits, and clarification on Cameroon's positioning in the WCA region. During the second part of the meeting, the IASC secretariat presented the main outcomes of the recent IASC Principal discussion on Niger. The discussion focused on ways the regional level could support and contribute to the outcomes and recommendations made by the IASC Principals.

For more information, please contact

adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org or fatoumata.konate@icvanetwork.org.

21. Asia and the Pacific

Launch of Preparing to Enhance Protection in Disasters (PrEPD)

On 7 November, ICVA and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) co-hosted the virtual launch of the Preparing for Enhanced Protection to Disasters (PrEPD) [Toolkit](#). This comprehensive resource aims to integrate protection and accountability principles into disaster preparedness and response efforts, with a focus on addressing climate fragility and protection risks. The launch event featured presentations from CRS and firsthand testimonies field practitioners who have used the toolkit in their work. The PrEPD Toolkit is a valuable resource for individuals working to safeguard and empower those affected by disasters.

Asia Pacific Climate Week

ICVA and its regional members participated in the Asia Pacific Climate Week 2023 held from 13-17 November, in Johor Bahru, Malaysia. They exchanged climate solutions with policymakers, practitioners, businesses, and civil society from the region to increase ambition for climate action ahead of COP28, and to contribute to the first Global Stock take. ICVA members shared their experiences in integrating climate adaptation and mitigation into their humanitarian programmes and advocating for vulnerable and affected populations' rights and needs.

Consultations: Principles of Partnership

ICVA and Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) co-hosted four virtual exchanges in November, which focused on Implementing the Principles of Partnership (PoP) in the Asia Pacific region. This facilitated discussion brought together national and international NGOs, UN agencies, and donors to share challenges and good practices in applying the PoP in their work. The exchanges served as a valuable forum for participants to learn from one another's approaches. The insights from these exchanges will inform ICVA and HAG's ongoing work to support effective humanitarian action and localization efforts. The Principles of Partnership workshop on the 14-15 December will further validate this discussion.

For more information, please contact

keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org or asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org.

22. Latin America

Cartagena Declaration 40th Anniversary NGO Statement

ICVA invites interested organizations to participate in a face-to-face meeting in Bogota on 28 February, 2024, to discuss the scope and challenges arising from the Cartagena Declaration on its 40th anniversary. This event offers a unique opportunity for local, national, and international NGOs working in

Latin America to strategically position themselves for upcoming events in Chile. If your NGO is interested in attending, please complete this [survey](#) to confirm your attendance.

For more information, please contact lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org.

23. MENA

Hostilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt) and the Region.

As the hostilities in oPt and the region continue, ICVA is working closely with members, the NGO fora and advocacy groups in oPt, Egypt, Lebanon, OCHA etc. to enhance coordination, facilitate information sharing and advocate for crucial interventions during a humanitarian pause. ICVA supported various initiatives such as:

The Regional Advocacy Working Group complements the work of NGO networks in Egypt, Lebanon, and OPT by identifying opportunities for collective advocacy. Meeting bi-weekly, the group engages with OCHA, other UN agencies, donors, and member states, to discuss key advocacy efforts.

Working group on Funding Issues, established by OCHA ROMENA and regional INGOs, this group focuses on advocacy messages related to funding issues, aid diversion and counter-terrorism measures.

Regular meetings with INGOs and OCHA ROMENA. Two meetings were held in November to exchange information on the current emergency in Gaza, and updates on the new ROMENA office in Amman.

Regional Directors Group holds bi-weekly meetings to discuss updates and actions for various countries in the Middle East and North Africa, including the ongoing conflict in the oPt.

Regular exchange among NGOs in Egypt and oPt, and support for NGO network's coordination efforts. ICVA facilitates regular exchange calls among NGOs in Egypt and oPt to exchange information and discuss synergies. Furthermore, as part of its regular support to the NGO network, ICVA has expanded its support to the INGO network in Palestine, AIDA, to strengthen and expand its coordination capacity.

For more information, please contact eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org or stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

New and Noteworthy

24. Loss and Damage Finance for Children: Save the Children, UNICEF and Plan International's [report](#) examines the climate-related losses and damages that threaten the rights and wellbeing of children, and explores their potential as active agents of change.

25. Norwegian Refugee Council Launches a New Fund to make Humanitarian Operations more Sustainable: The Norwegian Refugee Council has launched a [new fund](#) to finance the replacement of diesel generators with solar technology in order to reduce the carbon footprint of humanitarian operations.

Agenda

December 7: Working across the HDP nexus: What have we learned? [Register](#)

December 10: Human Rights Day

December 11- 12: Human Rights High Level Event: [Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)

December 11: Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) Launches in Geneva, Addis Ababa, Doha. All events will be live streamed on WebTv.un.org

December 11-13: [Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week-Asia Pacific 2023](#)

December 12: [Safeguarding against SEAH: Cultivating effective culture, leadership and governance](#)

December 12: [Leveraging the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus and Improving Protection through a Whole-of-society Approach: Good Practices from the Asia-Pacific](#)

December 12: In-person: [Advancing Refugee Leadership and Participation as a Core Element of the 'Whole-of-Society Approach'](#). [Register by 8 December](#)

December 12: [Locally Led Action to Address Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies: Leadership of Women-Led & Refugee Women-Led Organisations](#)

December 12: [Bridging the Gap between Climate Action and Forced Displacement: Connecting COP28 and the Global Refugee Forum](#)

December 13-15: Global Refugee Forum

December 14: In-person: The Multistakeholder Pledge: Advancing localization in displacement and statelessness responses. [Register](#)

December 14 - 15: Global Humanitarian Policy Forum

2024

January 10-11: [International NGO Conference](#): The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Facilitating the Integration of Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Migrants in Social and Protection Systems in European Contexts

January 23-24: Pooled Fund Working Group biannual meeting, Geneva

February 20: [Humanitarian Xchange](#)

February 21 - 23: CCHN-ICVA Negotiation Workshop

March 14-15: Call for Papers - Internal Displacement and Solutions" Conference.

March 18-19: European Humanitarian Forum 2024

March 20: ICVA 19th General Assembly

March 21: ICVA Annual Conference

April 29 to May 10: Humanitarian Networks and Partnership Week, remotely (April 29 to May 3) and in Geneva (May 5-10)

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