

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from August 2023



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

Rethinking the Grand Bargain: Streamlining Humanitarian Systems for Real Impact

All too often, the systems we put in place to make our work more effective become objectives in themselves. Ironically, these systems then become a burden that hinders our ability to achieve the goals they were designed to aid. The humanitarian space is not exempt from this vicious cycle. Despite our best efforts and substantial investments to refine our approach to crisis response, **humanitarians still struggle to balance time and resources to satisfy demands of the system instead of addressing the needs of people in crises.**

When the Grand Bargain was developed in 2016 it was intended to address some of these challenges directly. The humanitarian system was facing a funding shortfall of \$16 billion (unprecedented at the time), and the Grand Bargain recognized the need to reframe processes and relationships within the system to maximize effectiveness and efficiency.

ICVA was closely engaged with the Grand Bargain from the beginning, participating in the initial negotiations, co-convening the workstream on harmonized narrative reporting with Germany, and participating in the Facilitation Group. In September, ICVA rotated off the Facilitation Group following the consultations to develop the "Grand Bargain Beyond 2023" framework.

It was never envisioned that the Grand Bargain would resolve all humanitarian funding issues, but rather

reduce administrative burdens, improve trust between actors, and notably, engage a broad range of humanitarian stakeholders as equals. **A critical take away from the original Grand Bargain is a recognition that how we work as humanitarians matters, not only our technical outputs.**

The Grand Bargain has also struggled to achieve its original vision. This is due in part to the inherent contradiction between the signatories' desire for a light bureaucratic process and the intentional effort required to change an entrenched humanitarian system. The new Grand Bargain framework beyond 2023 emphasizes further simplification and reduction of formal structures.

So, how do we move forward effectively with the Grand Bargain? Despite all of its weaknesses, particularly in demonstrating support for local actors, demand for implementation remains high. This is not driven by an interest in the systems and processes of the Grand Bargain itself, but by the desire for change in how humanitarian actors engage with each other to support people in crises. **Essentially, we need to talk less about the Grand Bargain as an objective itself and more about specific actions to make the system work for those in need - to fulfill the underlying commitments. Doing this well without a reliance on heavy structures will require even more attention from individual signatories to take action.**

As long as we, as signatories, are committed to taking it forward, let's think of the Grand Bargain as a critical opportunity to match the characteristics of funding to the needs in humanitarian contexts in which we are attempting to make a difference; to get needed resources to the right place at the right time. **This is not about saving money; it is about how we work to align a system to better meet the needs of real people.**

Jeremy Rempel

Head of Humanitarian Finance | ICVA

ICVA Updates

1. ICVA 19th General Assembly and 2024 Annual Conference

The 19th General Assembly and 2024 Annual Conference will be held on 19 and 20 March 2024 respectively in Geneva. Stay tuned for more information.

2. Staff Update

We welcome our new team members: Davina Saïd as Head of Forced Migration and Alex Badrutt as Learning and Climate Change Officer.

3. We are Hiring

ICVA is seeking a consultant to support the planning and organization of the regional workshop on strengthened partnerships for principled and effective humanitarian action in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). [Apply](#) by 15 September 2023.

FORCED MIGRATION

4. Global Refugee Forum (GRF) – Third Formal Preparatory Meeting

The third and final formal preparatory meeting for the [GRF](#) took place on 1 September in Geneva. The [updated draft programme](#) including parallel high-level events was presented. For speaking opportunities during the high-level events, UNHCR offered to facilitate conversations with the relevant pledge stakeholders (email inquiries should be sent to: hggcr@unhcr.org). Logistics for the event as well as important protocol considerations were also outlined and will be consolidated and shared by UNHCR in mid-November.

Mr. Arafat Jamal, coordinator for the Global Refugee Forum 2023 provided an update on pledge development and announced that to date 38 UN Member States have made specific and measurable commitments. He encouraged all stakeholders to [support pledges](#) that have not received sufficient support or visibility so far. New pledges can be submitted via the [GCR platform](#). The official summary and recording of the meeting will be made available [here](#).

The upcoming informal preparatory meetings will take place on 18 October (online) and 17 November (in person at CICG, Geneva).

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

5. 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 - Good Practices and Lessons Learnt

The Federation for Non-Governmental organizations for Children Romania, together with CARE France, ICVA, and EUROCHILD, have the great pleasure to invite you to an International Conference focused on the role of civil society organizations in the integration of refugees in social and protection systems in a European context. The conference will take place online and in Bucharest on 10-11 January 2024. Check more information and register [here](#).

6. Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

Call for Submissions to the GFMD Policies/Practices Database

The GFMD Secretariat is inviting civil society to contribute examples of policies and best practices to the [GFMP Platform for Partnerships](#) by submitting a [form](#) with details about their practice by 8 September.

Second Session of the International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) 2023: “Think about Tomorrow, Act Today: The Future of Human Mobility and Climate Change”

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is calling for interested stakeholders to participate in the second session of the International Dialogue on Migration to be held on 5-6 October 2023 virtually and in person in Geneva. The session aims to discuss solutions for climate migration-related challenges, particularly with regards to mobility governance. Participants may register by completing an [online registration form](#) by 26 September 2023.

FINANCING

7. The Grand Bargain

Current updates from the Grand Bargain Secretariat can be found [here](#).

Grand Bargain Facilitation Group Meeting

The Grand Bargain Facilitation Group and the Ambassadors met on 5 September in Geneva, followed by a hand over from outgoing members (A4EP, ECHO, Germany, ICRC, ICVA, OCHA and UNHCR) to the incoming Facilitation Group (ECHO, Germany, IFRC, InterAction, NEAR, OCHA and UNICEF). The discussion focused on the proposed priorities for 2023-2024 and ways to put them into action. A Sherpa-level Facilitation Group meeting took place on 6 September providing a chance to define the work plan, based on the discussions of the previous day.

Grand Bargain Annual Meeting 2023 - Summary Note

In June 2023, Grand Bargain Signatories gathered at the Annual Meeting to take stock of progress and agree on the operationalisation of the next iteration of the agreement. Jan Egeland's tenure as Grand Bargain Eminent Person came to an end. Jemilah Mahmood, Manuel Bessler and Michael Köhler -the Ambassadors responsible for championing progress over the next three years took their new roles. Read the [summary](#) of the Annual Meeting 2023.

8. Pooled Funds

Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) - NGO Dialogue Platform Advisory Group (PAG)

The CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform Advisory Group (PAG) has concluded its selection process. From 1 September for a period of two years, the composition of the PAG is as follows:

Co-chairs: IRC (INGO) and Field Medical Foundation (NNGO).

Syrian NGO Alliance (NNGO network).

Position to be filled (global NGO network).

Rehabilitation Empowerment and better Health Initiative (NNGO).

Position to be filled (NNGO).

Action Against Hunger Spain (INGO).

People in Need (INGO).

The application for a second NGO network seat and the NNGO seat will be opened as soon as possible.

9. Risk Management, Counterterrorism Measures and Sanctions

Webinar - Primer on Bank Derisking of NGOs

InterAction and ICVA are organizing a webinar on 13 September to address the issue of bank derisking. The webinar is intended for member organizations seeking to understand bank derisking, its implications, and the ongoing efforts of governments and NGOs to deal with the issue.

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

COORDINATION

10. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Principals

Mr. Martin Griffiths, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) convened an ad hoc IASC Principals meeting on 25 August to debrief on his mission to Myanmar. This visit forms part of efforts to boost the visibility of the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar and to address key challenges in relation to bureaucratic and administrative impediments and a strategic approach to access, including in hard-to-reach areas. The IASC members expressed their appreciation for the ERC's visit and commended his efforts to improve access and address impediments to humanitarian assistance. Members stressed the importance to bring attention to this crisis, increasing visibility for the work done on the ground and securing funding. They highlighted the fact that many agencies, including NGOs and local organizations, continue to deliver assistance despite the challenges, whilst maintaining a low profile. A summary of the discussion is available to ICVA members upon request.

11. Emergency Directors Group

The Emergency Directors Group conducted a mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) from 28 August to 1 September. Mission objectives were to:

- 1) engage with the humanitarian community, authorities, and partners on the ongoing system wide humanitarian scale-up response in Eastern DRC and programmes and projects implemented, to determine where additional regional and/or HQ resources are needed to achieve the operational benchmarks and implement the related operational plan.
- 2) share progress and seek views from the humanitarian community on the implementation of the system wide scale-up aimed at strengthening collective support for the Humanitarian Country Team, including food security, nutrition, protection (including GBV) and health/disease outbreak responses.
- 3) identify ways to support the humanitarian community to address key access constraints, bureaucratic & administrative impediments and to expand operational space where possible. A debrief on the mission will be scheduled.

12. Support to Local NGO Coordination in Ukraine – Localization Baseline Study

The understanding of localization in the humanitarian response in Ukraine remains a key policy and practice concern for donors and humanitarian actors. While localization of the humanitarian response in Ukraine is frequently stressed as a priority, there have been only limited efforts to date to build evidence, evaluate impact, strengthen accountability, and develop strategic tools that can facilitate practical approaches to local leadership and quality humanitarian response. This initiative attempts to establish 'where we are' in terms of the localization of humanitarian assistance in the response.

Stakeholders can then establish the direction of travel to reach an objective, both collectively and independently. It further creates a baseline from which actors in Ukraine and elsewhere can continue to regularly assess humanitarian localization development by using the same methodology as with other responses across the globe.

The [Localization Baseline study](#) for Ukraine has been completed and is available online in English and Ukrainian.

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



13. NGO Fora Support

ICVA was one of two NGOs, the other being Trócaire, that participated in the Syria earthquake Operational Peer Review mission from 5 July to 14 July, which reviewed the coordination systems supporting the response.

ICVA provides on-demand support to NGO fora on forum governance and engagement in humanitarian coordination. Our tailored content is aimed at NGO fora directors and steering committee members. It consists of a mix of formal presentations and open discussions based on our extensive experience with over 60 national and international fora around the world. Through these sessions, we aim to provide valuable insights and lessons learned on the inner workings of NGO coordination structures and the global and country-level architecture of the IASC.

For more information, please contact albertburger@icvanetwork.org.

14. Humanitarian Access Influencing

IASC Task Force 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space

The IASC Task Force 3 convened on 30 August to discuss the Emergency Relief Coordinator's (ERC) decision to extend the mandate and workplans of the IASC subsidiary structures for an additional six months (until June 2024), the upcoming IASC webinar series on UNSC Resolution 2664 and other educational resources, and the situation in Niger and ECOWAS sanctions.

IASC Webinars on UNSC Resolution 2664 on 29 and 31 August

Based on discussions of the IASC Task Force 3, NRC and OCHA, as co-chairs of the Task Force, held four IASC webinars on Resolution 2664, which introduced a humanitarian exemption in UN sanctions regimes. The Resolution requests the ERC to brief UNSC Sanctions Committees periodically, with information collected from the field forming the basis of these verbal briefings. The webinars addressed the resolution and its impact on the humanitarian community. Specifically, they aimed to make the reporting requirements clear, making it easier for field workers to participate effectively, and ensuring that everyone understands these requirements in advance of the first reporting exercise. Deadline for inputs to OCHA is 30 September. ERC briefings to the Sanctions Committees will start in October.

The first two webinars focused on colleagues in non-francophone countries concerned by the 1267 sanctions regime (ISIL and Al-Qaida) including Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan and Syria, and those in non-francophone countries concerned by a country-specific UN sanctions regime, as well as for some, the 1267 sanctions regime, including Libya, Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Resources and guidance have been shared with participants and can be shared upon request.

IASC Taskforce 3 on Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI) Use Case Report

The hindrances presented by BAI pose an ongoing challenge for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) seeking to reach affected populations in various humanitarian contexts. ICVA is leading the development of the [IASC BAI Framework](#) use case report and identification of key indicators that can assist in the monitoring of BAI's impact on humanitarian efforts.

ICVA Humanitarian Access Working Group

The Group convened in August to deliberate on the findings of a research study on [Principled Humanitarian Action in Afghanistan](#). This research builds on the findings of HERE Geneva on [Principled Humanitarian Programming in Yemen](#). The group have developed a concept note proposing the development of mapping and guidance for NGOs coordinating at the country level to better understand and support principled humanitarian action. This guidance will enable NGOs to engage in dialogue and identify shared or coordinated approaches to humanitarian dilemmas while also facilitating the identification of principled humanitarian outcomes.

Launch of Toolkit on Analysing the Impact of Restrictive Measures on Humanitarian Action

ICVA is supporting the organizing of a webinar in Asia and the Pacific on 5 October to launch a new toolkit for analysing the impact of restrictive measures on humanitarian action. The toolkit was created by Humanity & Inclusion, Action Against Hunger, Doctors of the World France, and the Norwegian Refugee Council, with funding from the ECHO-funded project "Presence, Proximity and Protection." The toolkit aims to enable the sustainable and consistent production of information regarding the challenges and risks that restrictive measures pose to principled humanitarian action in different contexts. The webinar is open to all interested participants, especially NGOs working in environments where restrictive measures are in effect. For more information, please write to asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org.

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

Transforming our Network

15. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action



IASC Key Messages on Averting, Minimizing and Addressing Loss and Damage from a Humanitarian Perspective

The IASC Deputies have endorsed key messages developed by the Sub-group on Climate. This [document](#) will serve as an ongoing, evolving resource, and will be regularly updated to reflect the latest efforts and decisions leading up to [COP28](#), happening in Dubai from 30 November to 12 December 2023.

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

16. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

IASC Localization Task Force 5 (TF)

ICVA actively engaged with members from the IASC Localization Task Force to review the TF priorities and workplan, while co-leading workstream 1 on operationalising the [IASC Guidance](#) on strengthening participation, representation and leadership of local and national actors in IASC humanitarian coordination mechanisms. Throughout August, the TF regularly convened to implement the objectives outlined in the agreed-upon workplan, which centered on operationalising the IASC guidance, funding, and capacity strengthening.

Multistakeholder Pledge: Advancing Localization in Displacement and Statelessness Responses

ICVA and UNHCR are co-leading the Joint Pledge on Advancing Localization in Displacement and Statelessness Responses. The joint Pledge is a cross-cutting commitment that aligns with all four objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees. ICVA is directly involved in the ongoing work of three main working groups: Funding, Inclusion in Decision-Making, and Capacity-Sharing. Further, ICVA has been contributing collective suggestions and comments to the ongoing process of developing stronger and more equitable partnerships with local civil society organizations. Check more information about the [Localization pledge](#).

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

IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultations

The sixth annual IOM-NGO Humanitarian [Consultation](#) will take place on 11 October 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. Discussions will focus on culture change on localization and meaningful participation. The Consultation will examine IOM-NGO joint approaches to localization and accountability in order to identify scalable good practices and actionable recommendations. [Register](#) by Friday, 22 September 2023.

17. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

Gender

Women-Led Organization Cross-Regional Workshop

ICVA has been focusing on supporting women-led organizations as part of their efforts to advance the role of local actors. To further this goal, ICVA's regional teams in MENA, Africa, as well as Asia and the Pacific organized a virtual, cross-regional follow-up workshop in September. The workshop brought women who previously participated in regional training workshops in MENA, Asia and the Pacific, and Africa together to share leadership experiences and good practices and build solidarity across regions. Participants reflected on the skills and knowledge they gained from the training, discussed how they have utilised these skills, shared challenges they still face, and created networking opportunities.

Persons with Disabilities



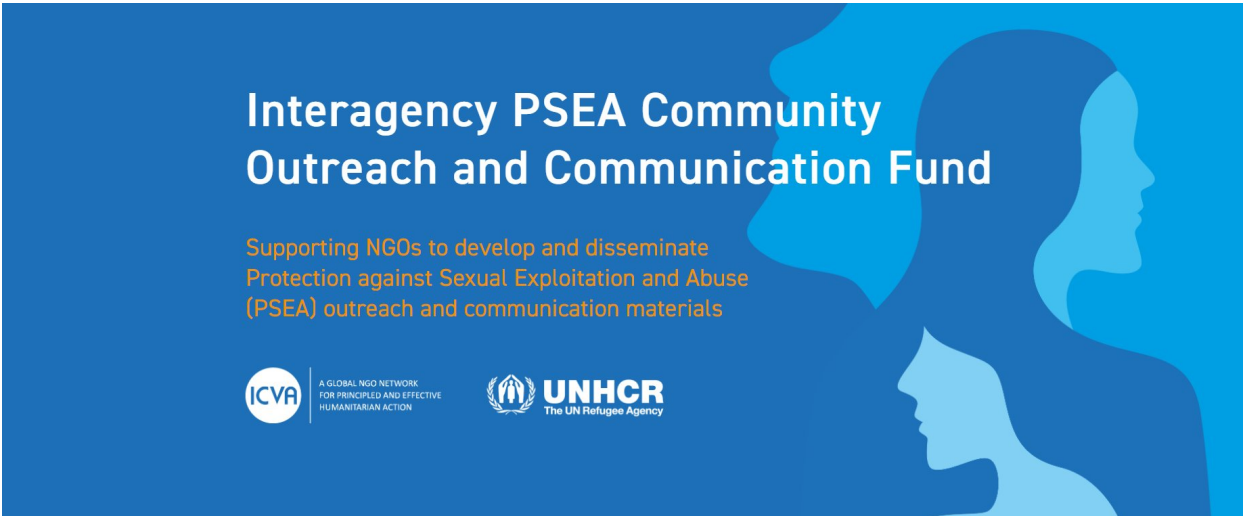
Progress towards the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action: An ICVA Perspective

ICVA has launched an online report examining the implementation of IASC Guidelines on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action. The report is based on interviews and consultations with various humanitarian actors, including ICVA members, the Organization of persons with disabilities, NGO Fora and other actors. In addition, the report evaluates supplementary measures taken to promote inclusion and offers valuable recommendations for further action. Read the [full report](#).

For more information, please contact vaniagobbo@icvanetwork.org.

Safeguarding

Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)



In August, the UNHCR and ICVA launched the fourth round of their Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication [Fund](#). The call for applications attracted over 2100 applicants from all parts of the world and covering all humanitarian contexts. The review and selection of successful applicants is currently underway by a panel of experts from NGOs and UN agencies. We are grateful for the overwhelming interest shown in the PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund.

The Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub Eastern Europe (RSH EE) Safeguarding Challenge

RSH EE, of which ICVA is a consortium partner has launched a [Safeguarding Challenge](#) that aims to support organizations in strengthening their safeguarding practices. The Challenge consists of interactive tasks that require participants to display their knowledge and understanding of various aspects of safeguarding. Successful completion of all activities unlocks the RSH Safeguarding Challenge Cup and entitles participants to enter a raffle for a personalised Safeguarding Clinic for their organization.

Safeguarding Matters E-learning Course

RSH EE provides a free e-learning course on [The Safeguarding Matters](#) that comprises five modules available in English, Romanian, Ukrainian, Russian and Polish. Register and complete the course to gain a comprehensive understanding of key safeguarding facts, knowledge and activities, and earn a certificate as well.

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

Region Specific

18. Africa

Complete Survey to Join ICVA Africa Working Groups

ICVA is strengthening its presence in Africa to better serve our members on the continent. To meet your expectations, we are establishing two separate working groups: one for East and Southern Africa (ESA) and another for West and Central Africa (WCA). To indicate your interest and preferred group, please [complete the survey](#) before 17 September 2023.

West and Central Africa

Workshops for National and Local NGOs in Mali

In the framework of a project supported by Hilton Foundation and Danish International Development Agency, ICVA organized two workshops in Mali in August. These workshops aimed to strengthen coordination and collaboration between local and international humanitarian organizations operating in Mali. Currently, ICVA and DanChurchAid are partnering on a project to strengthen coordination and collaboration between local and international humanitarian organizations in Mali, Iraq, and South Sudan.

Capacity-Building Workshop Empowers 20 NGOs with Fundraising Techniques

From 11-13 August, ICVA conducted a fundraising capacity-building workshop aimed at strengthening the fundraising capacities of 20 national and local NGOs. The workshop, which was conducted by an external specialist, covered topics such as the concepts, key principles of fundraising, the mechanisms and stages involved, and enabled participants to develop a draft fundraising strategy specific to their organization.

Workshop on the Humanitarian Coordination Architecture

ICVA conducted a virtual workshop on 24 August which was attended by 45 participants from 38 national and local NGOs involved in humanitarian work in Mali. The objective of the workshop was to provide a better understanding of the humanitarian coordination structure to the participants. Following the training, discussions brought to light several specific challenges that national NGOs are encountering. These included limited awareness of the 5W tool, insufficient visibility of their field activities, lack of human capacity to engage in coordination mechanisms, and the importance of enhancing connections between operational and strategic bodies. These challenges and solutions will be addressed during dialogues with key stakeholders in Mali. Participants also expressed a strong desire for this type of workshop to be held regularly.

UNHCR-NGO Regional Consultations

UNHCR and ICVA are co-organizing the 2023 UNHCR Regional Consultations with NGOs on 12 - 13 September 2023. The aim of the consultations is to enhance the partnership between UNHCR and NGOs to promote the protection and inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless persons. Discussions will include topics such as the upcoming Global Refugee Forum, inclusion in social protection systems, gender, return and reintegration in accordance with international standards, protection monitoring and community-based data collection, and partnerships between UNHCR and NGOs.

The conclusions and recommendations from these consultations will inform future collaboration between UNHCR and NGOs and will be presented at the 2023 ExCom meeting, the 2023 High-Level Officials Meeting on the GCR, and the Global NGO Consultations in June 2024. [Register for the consultations.](#)

For more information, please contact adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org or fatoumata.konate@icvanetwork.org.

19. Asia and the Pacific

Regional Roundtable on Myanmar

On 13 July, ICVA hosted a hybrid roundtable to explore regional perspectives and responses to the crisis in Myanmar. Experts and academics analysed how key regional member states, including ASEAN, China, India, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, and Bangladesh, are approaching Myanmar and the Rohingya situation. The aim of the roundtable was to enhance the understanding of NGOs in the region about the complex interests and connections of regional state actors with various actors in Myanmar in order to support their humanitarian diplomacy work.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and ICVA

ICVA's Regional Representative presented ICVA's focus areas, regional presence in Asia and the Pacific, and ways of collaboration with ADB in a brown bag session on 30 August 2023. The aim was to improve understanding and partnership between ADB and NGOs working in fragile contexts and disaster-prone areas. ADB staff attended from different departments and offices and expressed their interest and appreciation for ICVA's work and role. The session generated questions and suggestions for further engagement and follow-up. ICVA looks forward to strengthening its collaboration with ADB and facilitating the humanitarian-development nexus in the region.

Engaging with Contingency Plans and Introduction for Interagency Working Groups Members

ICVA and OCHA along with Asia Pacific working group on Emergency Preparedness, Gender in Humanitarian Action, GBV in Emergencies, and Accountability to Affected Populations Working Groups, and the PSEA Network, will hold a webinar on September 21 to strengthen the role of national and local organizations in emergency contingency planning. This event aims to address the challenges that have prevented these organizations from taking part in the planning and

implementation of these plans. The webinar will provide guidance on how organizations can make meaningful contributions to the interagency contingency planning processes. The priority countries for contingency planning processes in the region are Cambodia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, and Timor-Leste.

UNHCR – NGO Regional Consultations

UNHCR, in collaboration with ICVA, APRRN and APNOR are organizing the regional NGO consultations between 14 - 15 September 2023. These consultations will provide a platform for NGOs and Refugee Led Organizations to share their expertise and experiences on finding sustainable solutions to forced displacement issues.

ADSP-ICVA Explainer to the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees



Report available in
English



The [document](#) is a collaboration between ICVA and the Asia Displacement Solutions Platform (ADSP). It aims to clarify the structure and workings of the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees, and, provide an overview of how NGOs and others can productively and proactively engage with this Platform.

Making Displacement Safer Workshop

ICVA participated in the three-day workshop organized by the Global Network for Disaster Reduction to discuss approaches to including communities in identifying and resolving displacement-related issues. The event was held from 7 - 9 August and brought together various Civil Society Organizations to share insights.

For more information, please contact keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org or asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org.

20. LATIN AMERICA

Cartagena D+40 Academic Event

ICVA will be hosting an event on 15 -16 September in Bogota for the region's network of academics.

The event will include protection experts from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, and other countries who will work towards creating a document that reflects on the commemoration of the Cartagena Declaration and developing recommendations for its implementation in the region. The thematic areas that will be reviewed include protection and assistance in mixed movements, stabilisation and regularisation, inclusion and integration, and climate displacement and protection.

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

21. MENA

Humanitarian Crises in Morocco and Libya

ICVA has been proactive in reaching out to members, L/NGOs, INGOs, fora, and UN partners which are responding to the crises in the frontline as well as remotely. Updates and reflections on the ongoing responses are being collected to help identify potential gaps and challenges in the response. Dedicated coordination and advocacy mechanisms are being established to coordinate advocacy and communications efforts at both regional and global levels. We will be sharing updates on the responses regularly during the coming weeks.

Please get in touch with ICVA MENA team eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org and qingrui.huang@icvanetwork.org if you have any query, updates or reflections on the responses.

UNHCR – NGO Regional Consultations

UNHCR, in collaboration with ICVA, are co-organizing the MENA Regional Consultations with NGOs and Civil Society under the theme, 'Solutions with a focus on Inclusion and Gender Equality'. The consultations will take place virtually with limited in-person participation in UNHCR MENA Regional Bureau Office on 25 September at 12:00 pm (Amman time). Following the consultations, UNHCR and ICVA will provide an online learning opportunity on 26 September, in Arabic from 12:00 - 4:00 pm (Amman time), covering UNHCR's mandate, international protection, solutions, humanitarian coordination architecture, and Localization. Additionally, this session will also explore global trends and emerging challenges faced by forcibly displaced individuals and the communities hosting them.

Regional UNDP Validation Workshop - Climate, Gender, and Displacement Nexus

ICVA MENA Regional Representative participated in a UNDP-organized validation workshop on Climate Change, Gender & Displacement Nexus in the Arab States: Evidence from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Yemen. ICVA shared insights regarding the current landscape and programmes addressing related key issues, the necessary policy and advocacy actions, and the partnerships needed for an effective response. The workshop aimed to identify entry points and opportunities for the way forward.

ICVA Engagement with Syria Northwest Fora

ICVA has been working closely with the new steering committee members and coordinators from Syria Northwest Fora to provide guidance on good governance and strategic priorities, with a particular focus on localization priorities.

ICVA Supports Localization Efforts of Members

ICVA is committed to providing technical support and collaboration opportunities to its members in Jordan, Iraq, Yemen, and Syria to advance their localization priorities. Through numerous discussions, ICVA continues to explore ways to assist its members in the region and enhance their capacity to respond to humanitarian needs.

For more information, please contact

Learning Opportunities

22. E-learning course on “Scaling Up Disaster Risk Reduction in Humanitarian Action: The course is being offered by UNITAR and UNDRR and available in five modules. It explores how to integrate disaster risk reduction into humanitarian response, helping practitioners strengthen risk-informed programming in various contexts.

New and Noteworthy

23. Kompas – A Multilingual Information Gateway: CLEAR Global with support of Mercy Corps and USAID/Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance has [launched Kompas](#), a multilingual information gateway to help people affected by the war in Ukraine access vital information.

24. Climate-smart Programmes and Operations for National Societies: A Comprehensive New Guide from the IFRC: This [guide](#) helps National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the IFRC achieve their goal of factoring climate and environmental risks into all their programmes and operations by 2025.

25. Feedback Survey on the Updated Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS): CHS is inviting you to participate in a confidential survey to provide feedback on the proposed updated version of the Core Humanitarian Standard. Take the [survey](#) by 20 September 2023.

26. Action for Humanity launches £5 Million Humanitarian Response for Morocco Earthquake Recovery: The [initiative](#) aims to provide immediate assistance, support the recovery and reconstruction of affected areas, and alleviate the suffering of earthquake survivors.

27. Human Rights Situation in Occupied Crimea: People in Need and Human Rights House Foundation are hosting an event to discuss the human rights situation in occupied Crimea, featuring a screening of Nariman: The Voice of Crimea. There will be a panel discussion and an exhibition of photographs from Kyiv-based photographer Albert Loes. [Register](#) to attend before 25 September 2023.

Agenda

September 19-20: UNHCR Regional Consultations Europe

September 28 - October 3: [Contextualising Safeguarding, Community Engagement & Communication 5-day Workshop](#)

September TBC: UNHCR Regional Consultations Western and Central Africa

October 9-13: UNHCR 75th Executive Committee

October 9-12: [Middle East and North Africa Climate Week](#) (MENACW 2023), UNFCCC, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

October 11: [IOM NGO Consultation](#) - Localization Framework and AAP Framework. by 22 September 2023.

October 18: Third Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees, Virtual

October 23-27: [Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week](#) (LACCW 2023), UNFCCC, Panama City

October 30-31: WFP Annual Partnership Consultation, Rome and Hybrid

November 17: Fourth Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees, Geneva **November**

29: Virtual Launch of the Mixed Migration Review 2023 "Regional issues through regional perspectives". [Register](#).

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

December 12: Advance side events Global Refugee Forum

December 13-15: Global Refugee Forum

2024

March 18-19: European Humanitarian Forum 2024

March 19: ICVA General Assembly 2024

March 20: 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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