

# ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from February 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 share the most recent news related to our focus areas of forced migration, humanitarian financing and coordination. We continue to transform the ICVA network to be more engaged in operationalizing principled humanitarian action, in addressing the impact of climate change on humanitarian action, pursuing being globally distributed and locally rooted, being diverse, inclusive, and living our values, and proactively engaging in agile collaborative partnerships. Check more on the [transformations](#) of our ICVA2030 Strategy. We also share our updates from our regional hubs and so much more.

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

---

## Message from Executive Director

### Humanitarian Financing: The Right Time and the Right Place

Needs rise every year and there is a need for more money every year. On the claim that the system is better than ever, how is this possible?

It is about signing a larger cheque but not only. The solutions in addressing the shortfall in humanitarian financing must also be found internally within the humanitarian system, including what we define as humanitarian space, and how we coordinate humanitarian action among aid agencies, other stakeholders and across humanitarian-development—peace and climate silos. There is ample scope to improve the global humanitarian response system.

We have gathered an impressive lineup of panelists at ICVA's 29<sup>th</sup> [Annual Conference](#) in Geneva on 17 March. Under the theme "*The right time and the right place: improving access to humanitarian quality funding*", panelists will address a range of timely and important issues.

Improved access to quality funding that is flexible and committed over longer periods of time is an important commitment of the Grand Bargain will be addressed. So will the forward-looking on how we can effectively anticipate and respond to global trends that increasingly affect humanitarian space and action.

Ultimately, we, as the NGO community need to identify ways in which we can influence donors and other stakeholders to fund in ways that reduce burdens on the system. We must also examine potential changes in our own behavior to improve efficiency and ensure that funds effectively reach frontline responders as directly as possible.

The [ICVA Annual Conference](#) will be preceded by an [ICVA Membership Day](#) on 16 March which will provide an opportunity for NGOs to further engage and interact to forge collective action in providing principled humanitarian action.

The ICVA Annual Conference and the ICVA Membership Day will not just catalogue the challenges. We aim to increase common understanding including the need to look for solutions across the system, examine the options of the Grand Bargain, discuss the state of the localization agenda and support peer exchange on NGO efforts to link climate action and financing opportunities.

The key learnings will serve as foundation for ICVA's policy and advocacy work in the year ahead. The ICVA Annual Conference is followed by the 2023 European Humanitarian Forum and the Grand Bargain Annual meeting providing an opportunity to bring collective NGO messages to those discussions.

We owe it to people to work collectively to find solutions.

**Ignacio Packer**  
Executive Director | ICVA

---

## Forced Migration

### 1. Global Refugee Forum Preparations & Global Compact on Refugees Implementation

In light of the preparations for the second Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December 2023, UNHCR convened the **first formal preparatory meeting for the GRF** on 2 February. ICVA is supporting NGO engagement through information dissemination and coordinating the development of collective NGO statements to be delivered at the formal preparatory meetings. The statement is accessible [here](#). Thanks to [Plan International](#)'s delivery on behalf of the NGO community, the statement highlights key recommendations for the **development of the programme, the engagement and participation modalities**, and the **pledges and initiatives**. Read more information on the formal preparatory meetings on [UNHCR dedicated webpage](#) including [the note](#) on the preliminary considerations for the development of the programme for the second GRF. The call for expression of interest to take the lead of the draft of the second collective NGO statement will be released soon by ICVA.

### 2. Internal Displacement

On 13 February, The [Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons](#), Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, met with ICVA members to exchange about her mandate functions, thematic and countries priorities and opportunities for collaboration. Internal displacement due to disasters and the negative effects of climate change, generalized violence, including criminal violence, as well as effectively ensuring the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) while strengthening the development approach were among the themes of the exchange. Meaningful participation of IDPs in decision-making is also a top priority highlighted by the Special Rapporteur. Key takeaways will be circulated to members and ICVA will continue to facilitate cooperation efforts with the Special Rapporteur.

- For more information, please contact: [loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org](mailto:loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org).

# Financing

## 3. The Future of the Grand Bargain

### Grand Bargain Secretariat updates

The Grand Bargain Secretariat developed a [guidance on how to implement the Grand Bargain commitments at country-level](#) with the aim of translating results achieved so far into practical examples of implementation and to strengthen linkages at county-level.

The list of Grand Bargain Caucuses outcome documents' endorsers has continued to grow. 31 Signatories endorsed the outcome document on the Role of Intermediaries and 34 endorsed that on Quality Funding. You can find the [overview of endorsers](#) on the Grand Bargain website.

The Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) is the 66<sup>th</sup> Signatory to join the Grand Bargain. Read their [statement](#).

### NGO Constituency Consultation Meetings

Two NGO constituency calls were convened by ICVA on 9 and 16 February to further discuss options for the future of the Grand Bargain. The NGO constituency mainly explored the proposed expansion of the scope of the agreement to include the shrinking of needs, and deepening and broadening of the resource base, as areas identified in the 2016 report "[Too Important To Fail – addressing the humanitarian financing gap](#)", the timeline and structure of the future iteration of the Grand Bargain. NGOs have stressed the need to ensure a timeline for the Grand Bargain that is realistic and aligned with the potential expanded scope. Specific emphasis must be put on the importance of the sustainability of the Grand Bargain process, beyond the strong accountability that should be provided by short term milestones. ICVA also used this opportunity to call on NGOs to endorse the Caucuses Outcome Documents on the Role of Intermediaries and Quality Funding, as a signal of ongoing support of Signatories for the Grand Bargain moving forward and caucuses as a relevant tool to resolve political blockages.

### Grand Bargain Facilitation Group Updates

For the past couple of months, the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group members focused on the proposal for the next iteration of the Grand Bargain beyond June 2023. The Facilitation Group Technical Focal Points and Sherpas held discussions at the end of January and in February on the timeline, scope, structure, governance, and resourcing of the agreement. The Facilitation Group will continue to work on developing a final proposal on the future of the Grand Bargain for signatories to endorse before the June annual meeting.

Grand Bargain self-reporting for 2022 concluded in February, with 92% of signatories submitting reports. The Annual Independent Review of self-reporting will again be conducted by ODI, which is reaching out for individual interviews in March.

Beginning in February 2023, Germany took over from ICRC as the Facilitation Group Chair for the next two months.

### Grand Bargain Localization Workstream Financing Subgroup Meeting

On 1 February the Grand Bargain Localization Workstream subgroup on financing co-chaired by Oxfam and A4EP held a virtual event as part of the series "Humanitarian Finance Data Systems: Stock-taking and Collective thinking on improvements". The session took stock of existing humanitarian data tracking systems, and about what may be missing and wanted by data users.

## 4. Access to Quality Funding

## **ECHO, Expert-level brainstorming, Expanding the donor base – Introducing new approaches – Report from 9 February 2023**

On 9 February, DG ECHO organized a workshop in Brussels to discuss the broadening of the global donor basis for humanitarian aid. The expert-level brainstorming attended by ICVA Executive Director Ignacio Packer was an opportunity to identify and discuss actionable steps for the EU and its Member States, and exchange on innovative approaches to ensure a better and fairer sharing of responsibility among donors to respond to growing humanitarian needs.

## **5. UN Partnerships and Donor Conditions**

### **WFP, Annual Partnership Consultation (APC) 2023**

WFP is starting to plan the APC scheduled for October 2023. Each APC session will be co-organized by WFP, an international NGO and a local NGO, and WFP aims for all presenters and panelists to participate in person in Rome. Partners are invited to provide concrete and structured ideas to shape APC sessions by filling in [this survey](#) by 10 March COB.

In February, WFP held a meeting with partners on the proposed updates to the **Field Level Agreement (FLA)** based partnership model. The agenda features updates on the fixed and variable cost categories, budget line-item flexibility, guidance on longer term FLAs, and communications-related issues.

Also in February, **InterAction convened a meeting with WFP's Deputy Executive Director** for Programme and Policy Development, Valérie N. Guarnieri. Discussions focused mainly on the operational situations in Afghanistan and Yemen, and the global food security and donor landscape, with some time left to discuss partnerships. NGOs have continued to emphasize the importance of reducing the bureaucratic and administrative burdens of partnership and ensuring that there is a clear process for follow-up on partner concerns raised through mechanisms such as the 2022 WFP Partner Survey.

### **UNICEF, Revised Partnership Documents**

UNICEF has started using revised partnership documents, notably a [revised PCA template](#) and [revised Partner Declaration](#), both available on the UN Partner Portal. ICVA members discussed the revised UNICEF partnership documents during the Humanitarian Finance Working Group's February meeting and shared concerns about communications and some specific clauses. ICVA will continue engaging with UNICEF in March on the revised partnership documents, consultation, and communication process, and share feedback from members with UNICEF.

## **6. Pooled Funds**

### **Pooled Fund Working Group (PFWG), Platform Advisory Group and CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform**

The NGO Platform Advisory Group (PAG) met on 8 February to debrief from the PFWG biannual meeting on Localization held in January. Upcoming priorities for the PAG include launching the selection process for the next NGO co-chair which will be taking over from Save the Children by 1 September; continuing engagement with donors and OCHA on funding to support L/NNGOs participation in the PAG; and ensuring continuity in the PAG as the term of its various members comes to an end between August and September 2023.

The CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform met on 15 February to discuss the Syria and Türkiye earthquake response and possible support actions of the PFWG. OCHA provided an update to PAG members and Switzerland, as CBPF co-chair, on the [Syria Flash Appeal](#) in response to the Earthquake. The Syria Cross-border Fund (SCHF) has launched a USD 50 million Reserve Allocation for the response and is supported by a loan from the CERF. In addition, the Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF) is scaling up ongoing projects in earthquake related-areas, by immediately providing an estimated USD 5-7 million in cost extensions to frontline partners. The ERC approved an [additional USD 25 million from CERF](#) to boost aid efforts in the earthquake-stricken areas of Syria, on 10 February.

As a follow-up to the extensive revision of CBPF Global Guidelines in 2022, the PFWG will hold a thematic webinar on the roll-out of the [revised CBPF Global Guidelines](#) on Wednesday 22 March.

- For more information, contact [jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org](mailto:jeremy.rempel@icvanetwork.org) or [manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org](mailto:manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org).

---

## Coordination

### 7. Inter-Agency Standing Committee - IASC

#### IASC Principals

Mr. Martin Griffiths, ERC and Chair of the IASC, convened on 16 February an ad hoc Principals meeting to discuss the response to the earthquake in Syria and Türkiye.

Top on the agenda was the capitalization on existing coordination structures in Türkiye, stepping-up humanitarian diplomacy efforts to address challenges in cross-line operations and stepping-up advocacy with key member states and the sanctions committee to facilitate the flow of funds and critical humanitarian supplies into North-west Syria.

#### IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG)

The EDG met on 28 February and 01 March for the **Annual Review of Operations and Humanitarian Coordinator Appraisals**. Over two days, the EDG members discussed the full range of response contexts and issues facing the humanitarian system, considering challenges and achievements in 2021 and highlighted priorities for leadership in the year ahead.

#### Humanitarian Leadership Strengthening

ICVA held a Humanitarian Coordinators (HCs) **In-Briefing** with Mr. Ghulam Isaczai, DSRSG/RC/HC in Iraq. The purpose of the in-briefing was to support the humanitarian coordinator to broaden their understanding of NGO perspectives around country-specific humanitarian concerns and priorities, align expectations with key partners on their role and objectives, and strengthen relationships with stakeholders at Headquarters.

ICVA supported the development of a new **IASC Humanitarian Coordination Pool**. This will be a roster of pre-identified and pre-vetted high-calibre humanitarian professionals from across organizations like the UN, Red Cross/Red Crescent movement, NGOs, and other organizations, who are qualified for humanitarian coordination leadership positions and HCs. This new approach will provide enhanced access to senior leaders with significant coordination experience who are not part of current Resident Coordinator Pools. The call for NGO interest will be launched in June 2023.

#### Civil 7 (C7) process

Under the 2023 **Japanese G7 Presidency**, ICVA continues to support the Civil 7 (C7) process. ICVA co-leads the **Working Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Conflict** with ICVA member Japan Platform. The group met twice this month to discuss priorities for this group and developed draft text for the Civil7 communique which will be finalized at the end of March. The C7 will take place in Japan on 13-14 April. Check out [more information](#).

### **Humanitarian-Development Joint Coordination Mission to the Philippines**

ICVA's Head of Coordination joined OCHA, the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), and UNHCR on a multi-partner mission to scope out mechanisms and initiatives that are either in place (and related learning for replication) or will be required to institute a robust and practical nexus approach across the work of the UN system and its partners in the Philippines. The mission team traveled to Mindanao and Manila, and met with communities, NGOs, government, UN, and donors to discuss nexus approaches in the context of their work. The Philippines is currently developing its UN Sustainable Development Framework (2024-2028) and is a priority country for the Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacements; and one of 4 countries selected to pilot OCHA's ERC Flagship Initiative on re-imagining humanitarian space.

- For more information, contact [jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org](mailto:jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org).

## **8. NGO Fora Support**

The yearly Annual Review of Operations (ARO) and Humanitarian Coordinators Appraisal questionnaires, developed in collaboration with InterAction, were submitted to NGOs from 9-19 February. 212 responses were collected, the results feeding into the feedback by InterAction and ICVA for both exercises. The ARO took place on 28 February, and the Appraisal on 1 March.

### **Tailored NGO Governance Support from ICVA**

As part of its NGO Fora Support Programme, ICVA makes available on demand sessions on Fora governance. The sessions cover the various components of NGO fora (General Assemblies, Steering Committees, Secretariats...), their various roles and responsibilities, and how to ensure accountability towards members. The sessions can be tailored for a stronger emphasis on key elements depending on needs and are provided online. Sessions last between 1 to 2 hours, questions and answers included.

### **Dedicated Resource for NGO Coordination**

Following the earthquake that hit Türkiye and northwestern Syria on 6 February, ICVA is deploying a short-term (3 weeks) dedicated resource to support NGO coordination efforts on the Turkish response. The goal will be to analyse the context and offer models of NGO coordination that are inclusive and lead to a more efficient response.

- For more information, contact [albertphilip@icvanetwork.org](mailto:albertphilip@icvanetwork.org).

## **9. Humanitarian Access Influencing**

### **IASC Task Force 3 on COTER and BAI – 22 February 2023**

At their latest meeting, IASC Task Force 3 members had an in-depth conversation around the challenges of providing aid to Syria and Türkiye amidst counter-terrorism measures. Members raised key requests for both governments: a streamlined process that exempts relief and infrastructure rebuilding efforts from sanctions against NW Syria groups or al-Assad's regime; proactivity when it comes to overcompliance & de-risking risks; as well as funding vital earthquake response activities.

The IASC TF3 members welcomed the [French Conseil d'Etat's](#) decision that donor organizations cannot compel NGOs to screen their beneficiaries against sanctions. Moreover, it was noted that such obligation does not exist in either EU law or French domestic legal framework and alternative means of verification are unavailable from them. This ruling reaffirms NGO independence on this critical issue.

### **ICVA Humanitarian Access Working Group**

The team convened to explore strategies for overcoming obstacles and determine the effects of public advocacy versus private negotiations. They also argued that it is essential for organizations to set unambiguous boundaries, bottom lines, and objectives so area managers and project managers understand what they can or cannot negotiate with their counterparts.

- For more information and expressions of interest, contact [eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org](mailto:eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org).

## **10. COVID-19**

### **Joint Convening on COVID-19 Vaccinations in Humanitarian Settings and the Contribution to Broader Pandemic Preparedness**

ICVA participated in the Joint Convening held on 14-15 February in Nairobi, Kenya. This unique event convened a broad range of stakeholders from across the humanitarian sector with the purpose of critically reviewing the current situation pertaining to COVID-19 vaccine delivery in humanitarian settings, sharing lessons learned and best practices, developing actionable solutions for immediate implementation, as well as informing future pandemic planning and response.

The meeting focused on leveraging humanitarian architecture and humanitarian actors for effective pandemic responses, regulatory and legal considerations impacting implementation in humanitarian settings, and health systems strengthening and pandemic preparedness and response in humanitarian settings. ICVA's Policy and Advocacy Coordinator contributed to this important gathering by leading Working Group 1 on Leveraging Humanitarian Architecture and facilitated sessions and the meeting closure. ICVA called for strengthened NGO engagement in pandemic response planning and decision making, adequate and timely financing for NGOs to deliver medical countermeasures in humanitarian settings and for strengthened community engagement in risk communication and pandemic response.

- For more information and expressions of interest, contact [eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org](mailto:eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org).

---

## **Transforming our Network**

### **11. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action**

#### **IASC Climate Sub-Group Meeting**



ICVA participated in a workshop organized by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Climate Sub-group on 15 and 16 February and facilitated discussions around the themes of embracing the leadership of local actors and communities and collective and collaborative ways of working. The sub-group has been tasked by the IASC Deputies Group to develop a roadmap of three to five years on the climate crisis and a draft Action Plan for COP 28 and climate advocacy in 2023. ICVA will be reaching out to engage more with membership on the work of the Sub-group.



### INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

INFORM, which is a collaboration of the IASC Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning and Preparedness and the European Commission, has published the [INFORM Climate Change Risk Index](#), which quantifies the impacts of climate change on the future risk of humanitarian crises and disasters.

### REAP Early Action: The State of Play 2022

The [REAP State of Play 2022 report](#) provides a snapshot of early warning and action commitment, investment and activity over the previous year. The report aims to identify gaps and opportunities in the delivery of early action, highlight examples of good practices, and support REAP's mission.

- For more information on ICVA's activities, including the [Learning Stream on Climate Change and Humanitarian Action](#), visit the [Climate and Environment webpage](#). If you have any questions and/or would like to join the Climate Change Working Group please email: [nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org](mailto:nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org).

## 12. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

### IASC Localization Task Force 5

This month, OPAG set out to explore how local actors can take the lead in humanitarian coordination and collaboration. To this end they identified best practices of meaningful participation from different local actors while also giving co-chairs a platform to seek assistance with taking on challenges in advancing their role. The next step sees TF5 members and ICVA reviewing these applications as well as making decisions about widespread dissemination.

### Measuring Humanitarian Localization in Yemen

A network of Yemen CSOs led by Tamdeen Foundation introduced an initiative to reinforce the role of local actors. ITAR for Social Development conducted baseline research on the progress of localization in Yemen. The Measurement Localization - Framework and Tools2 developed by HAG and Pacific Islands Association of NGOs was utilized and contextualized for the country and crisis in Yemen. This framework includes seven pillars of Partnerships, Funding, Capacity Strengthening, Coordination and Complementarity, Policy Influence, Leadership, and Participation. Technical support was provided by ICVA and the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG).





This comprehensive research is expected to provide tangible evidence on the current state of localization in Yemen as well as actionable insights on how to further empower local organizations working on the ground. [Access the report in English and Arabic.](#)

[Download and Read](#)

### **The European Union Consultation on Localisation in Yemen**

ICVA has been working in collaboration with the EU delegation to plan several consultations with Yemeni CSOs to learn, share experience and improve programme implementation. Consultations were held in Amman, Aden, and Sanaa. The consultation in Amman, moderated by ICVA MENA Regional Representative, involved local actors from Yemen, donors and INGOs. The consultations provide a platform for meaningful dialogue between stakeholders on the challenges of localization and how local and international actors can work together to support civil society development in Yemen.

- For more information, contact [eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org](mailto:eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org).

### **Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus**

#### **Nexus Academy Module 3: Nexus Stakeholders and Trilingualism**

On 9 February, ICVA MENA Deputy Regional Representative was a panellist on a Nexus Academy session on Nexus Stakeholders and Trilingualism. She shared insights into effective communication techniques being used in humanitarian contexts, highlighted best practices along with viable solutions for overcoming potential hurdles. To help further strengthen this understanding of HDP (Humanitarian, Development and Peacebuilding) Nexus approaches among all involved parties, a ‘Nexus Essentials’ course has been created featuring five comprehensive modules- ideal for anyone new or experienced alike working within crisis affected areas. Take the [free course online](#).

- To join the ICVA NEXUS Working Group mailing list, send an email to [stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org](mailto:stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org).

## **13. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values**

### **Persons with Disabilities**

#### **Regional Roundtable Discussions on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action**

ICVA sought to understand how the IASC Guidelines on Disability Inclusion have been promoted and implemented regionally, and NGO needs regarding tools and capacity-building. To gain these insights they consulted a range of actors including NGOs, UN agencies, regional fora – resulting in a draft report outlining their key findings. This was then presented at three regional discussions across Asia, Africa, and MENA; enabling best practices from each local area to be heard and included.

The **virtual regional consultation in Asia Pacific** drew attention to the importance of amplifying the voices of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in a humanitarian context. In addition to technical agencies, regional technical forums/networks and humanitarian practitioners, the virtual gathering was attended by NGO staff and organizations of persons with disabilities who are involved in decision-making and implementation related to response activities in humanitarian settings. Additionally, UNICEF, HelpAge International, and the Cebu DiDRR network shared their work on disability inclusion in humanitarian action.

- For more information, contact [vania.gobbo@icvanetwork.org](mailto:vania.gobbo@icvanetwork.org).

## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub Eastern Europe (RSH EE) Marks one year of the war on Ukraine

The Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub Eastern Europe, of which ICVA is a consortium partner, commemorated one year since the war in Ukraine started. Check out [this video](#) to see some of the extensive work that has been done to create and localise important safeguarding materials. Explore more resources [here](#), including videos, blogs, and webinars.

- For more information, contact [alon.plato@icvanetwork.org](mailto:alon.plato@icvanetwork.org).

## 14. Proactively Engage in Agile Collaborative Partnerships



### European Humanitarian Forum

In the lead up to the European Humanitarian Forum, to be held in Brussels on 20-21 March, ICVA facilitated an interactive virtual EHF field warm up session on localization in the MENA region on 24 February. Several ICVA members and NGO fora participated in the session. Topics covered ranged from protection of aid workers, bureaucratic impediments, to non-traditional and innovate financial mechanism. This followed as equivalent warm up session held in Bangkok in December 2022.

Also in February, senior humanitarians from 13 African countries convened virtually to strategize how best to tackle the access barriers that impede humanitarian diplomacy. Representing a range of international and national NGOs, UN agencies, Red Cross movements, and institutional donors they discussed tactics and compiled their reflections in a two-page report with key recommendations which will be presented at the forthcoming European Humanitarian Forum high level panel dedicated solely on improved access.

Some thirty National NGO leaders from ICVA members and NGO Fora attending the [European Humanitarian Forum](#) had a preparatory meeting on 7 March with EHF team of ECHO.

## Region Specific

### 15. Africa

#### East and Southern Africa

##### African Union Summit Side Event

At the margins of the African Union Summit, ICVA and its members participated in the civil society organizations (CSOs) event organized by Amani Africa to discuss how CSOs can have a real impact on AU processes - particularly when it comes to humanitarian policy. The group discussed ways of deepening CSO participation regarding diplomacy and practice in order to spark exponential progress across the continent.

##### Building a Better Response (BBR) Workshop and Launch



In mid- February, a three day [BBR workshop](#) was held in Nairobi, at which ICVA, and members South Sudan NGO Forum, Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and World Vision International attended. Following the workshop, BBR launched their new e-learning platform, during which ICVA ESA Representative made remarks around the key role that the BBR project is playing in enhancing the capacity of ICVA members' understanding of the global humanitarian architecture.

##### ICVA Collective Advocacy Learning Programme

The ICVA learning programme - Collectively Influencing Change in Complex Contexts for members and secretariat of the NGO Fora and networks in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan, completed the first phase of the online programme in February 2023. The trainer will now provide individual and country coaching sessions during March to support the influencing strategy development. In March 2023, ICVA will implement the next phase of the learning programme which will include a two-day in-person workshop which will be held in Nairobi on 28-29 March and a one-day Communities of Practice workshop in Nairobi with the Directors of NGO Fora and networks on 30 March. This workshop will bring together NGO Forum/Network Directors from four countries (Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan) to share experiences, enhance peer to peer learning, and discuss priority areas for collective action.

- For more information contact Maxine Clayton: [advocacysupport@icvanetwork.org](mailto:advocacysupport@icvanetwork.org).

##### Strengthen State Initiatives for Better Results

ICVA recently conducted two workshops and state level coordination consultations in Khartoum, Sudan from 30 January to 2 February in partnership with the Sudan INGO Forum. The goal of the visit was to explore priority issues on the state level, facilitate knowledge exchange between state-level coordinators, and inform national-level activities that would complement and bolster state initiatives.

## West and Central Africa

### Regional IASC Meeting

On 1 February, the regional IASC convened in Dakar to discuss ways of strengthening their operations and better responding to regional coordination needs. Representatives from different agencies shared insights gathered at the 3rd Lake Chad Basin Conference held in January in Niamey, providing valuable feedbacks for further improvements. The regional Task Force on Access and Humanitarian Principles also hosted a workshop series focused on counterterrorism measures on March 3. Attendees were invited to reflect upon IASC guidance as well as United Nations Resolution 2664 and ongoing studies by NGOs while exploring evergreen methods of collaboration amongst humanitarian communities concerning these matters.

### The 14th United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) Steering Committee Meeting

On 16 February, the 14<sup>th</sup> UNISS steering committee convened in Dakar. For the inaugural time, NGOs were welcomed to participate through an ICVA representative. The previous day saw 'Deep Dive' sessions centered on water as a catalyst for development in the Sahel; representatives from various HC/RCs and regional heads of agencies reflected on how to best position UNISS strategically within the current geopolitical, social economic and humanitarian contexts of the Sahel.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group List, please contact [addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org](mailto:addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org) or [adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org](mailto:adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org) or [nkirote.laiboni@icvanetwork.org](mailto:nkirote.laiboni@icvanetwork.org).

## 16. Asia and the Pacific

### High-Level Negotiation and Influencing Programme



ICVA and CCHN partnered with National Humanitarian Forum and Pakistan Humanitarian Forum to host a three-day workshop program in Pakistan from 27 February to 1 March for 27 senior NGO managers from local and international NGOs. The workshop was co-facilitated by senior humanitarian experts from ICVA and CCHN and combined cutting-edge research with practical, contextualized approaches. Through this workshop, humanitarian leaders in national and international NGOs deepened their insights into the operational context, identified opportunities for delivering change, strengthen relationships and personal insights, and enhanced impact through effective engagement.



“大谈判”2.0版说明  
国际志愿机构理事会简报

2022年3月



A GLOBAL NETWORK  
FOR HUMANITARIAN AND CIVIC  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

### The Grand Bargain 2.0 Explained – An ICVA Briefing Paper (2022)

ICVA member, The Amity Foundation has translated to Chinese this briefing paper that aims to help humanitarian actors better understand and engage in the Grand Bargain 2.0 from 2021-2023. Read the paper in [English and Chinese](#).

[Download and Read](#)

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

## 17. Latin America Region

### Solidarity Conference for Venezuela

The High-Level International Conference in Solidarity for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants and their Host Countries and Communities, co-organized by the European Union and the Government of Canada, will take place in Brussels, Belgium, on 16-17 March 2023. Registration has now closed but stay tuned for further developments about this event.

### High-Level Solidarity Roundtable in Support of the 2023 Northern Central America Humanitarian Response Plan

On 15 February 15, the High-Level Solidarity Roundtable in support of the Humanitarian Response Plans 2023 in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras was held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The event was co-organized by the European Commission, the US, Canada, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and OCHA. Check the recording of the [event](#).

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Latam mailing list, contact [lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org](mailto:lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org).

## 18. MENA

### Earthquake Response in Türkiye and Syria

ICVA Team has been actively working with its members, partners, and NGO Fora in Türkiye and Syria to provide a unified and coordinated response to the humanitarian emergency. ICVA is committed to providing sustained support to the local NGO Fora Syrian Network League, in the form of an advocacy role that will increase their visibility and engagement at a regional and global level. Additionally, ICVA has assigned a short-term consultant to assess the IASC coordination architecture for Türkiye, as well as engage with other local and international coordination efforts. This assessment is intended to identify common issues or interests that can be addressed by NGOs working on the response.

At various regional meetings relating to the Earthquake, ICVA has been actively taking part in conversations. These include Gender in Humanitarian Action/GiHA, Regional SIRF meetings, and other ad-hoc meetings focusing on humanitarian relief in both countries. Through these engagements, ICVA has sought to gain greater understanding of the situation, as well as share its own knowledge on best practices and strategies.

### **High-Level Pledging Event on the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen**

At the high-profile pledging event on Yemen's humanitarian crisis, international donors stepped up to make a generous commitment of USD 1.2 billion towards helping millions in need - though it falls short of what is required for full relief from this devastating situation.

Access the [NGO statement](#), [financial announcements](#), [the video and written](#) statements.

### **Gender In Humanitarian Action (GIHA) Stakeholders Event in 2023**

On 5,8 and 9 February the hybrid virtual GIHA Stakeholders Event took place in Amman with the objective of strengthening MENA humanitarian coordination structure. Participants joined from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, and Yemen and showcased the need for a larger-scale stakeholder group workshop/consultation and articulated the need for better gender responsive humanitarian coordination, financing, and programming. ICVA in MENA supported the preparation of the event and the Regional Representative, moderated Day 2 of the event.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA MENA Mailing List, contact [eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org](mailto:eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org) or [stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org](mailto:stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org).

---

## **Learning Opportunities**

### **19. Building a Better Response Online Course**

This new self-paced [e-learning course](#) on humanitarian coordination covers a range of key topics essential for effective response, such as foundations of humanitarian action, the international humanitarian architecture, planning and funding the response, international law and standards, as well as complex emergencies. Access the course in English and other five languages.

### **20. Crisis Leadership Program**

The Centre for Humanitarian Leadership is offering a new [Crisis Leadership Program](#) course called 'Grow' which is designed for people who have experience in conflict, disaster, or crisis response and who are actively working on the response to the Ukrainian crisis. The eight-week blended learning program will equip participants with leadership skills and insights into the disaster response system. [Apply now](#).

---



## New and Noteworthy

### 21. INGO and Syrian NGOs Demanding Unfettered Access and Massive Scale-up of Humanitarian Response

35 NGOs working in Syria, including ICVA members are sounding an alarm [to draw attention and action](#) for those affected by the catastrophic earthquake. They urge urgency on scaling up support as well as taking measures now to bring much needed humanitarian aid.

### 22. One Year After the Escalation of the War in Ukraine - Making International Funding Work for Women's Organizations

The CARE [briefing note](#) provides an overview of the key funding challenges faced by WROs and WLOs in Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, and Romania.

### 23. Call to Action for Survival & Resilient Wash in the Course of the UN 2023 Water Conference

ICVA has joined other Humanitarian actors to [call on governments](#) to champion the WASH Road Map and make commitments to take concrete action to strengthen the WASH sector in Fragile, Conflict and Violent settings.

---

## Agenda

**March 6:** First Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees, Geneva

**March 7-9:** UNHCR 86<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee, Geneva

**March 9:** [Webinar -The Localization of Humanitarian Research](#)

**March 10:** [Addressing the Impact of Sanctions on Humanitarian Work – Side Event](#)

**March 16-17:** The High-Level International Conference in Solidarity for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants and their Host Countries and Communities

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

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

**March 20-21:** [European Humanitarian Forum](#)

**March 28 – 29:** Learning programme - Collectively Influencing Change in Complex Contexts

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

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

**May 17:** Second Formal Preparatory Meeting for the Global Refugee Forum, Geneva

**June 7:** Second Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees, Virtual

**June 14-16:** UNHCR 87<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee

**June 19-20:** [Grand Bargain Annual Meeting](#)

**June 20:** World Refugee Day

**June 21-23:** [ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment - Geneva](#)

**September 1:** Third Formal Preparatory Meeting for the Global Refugee Forum, Geneva  
**September 13-14:** UNHCR 88<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee

**October 9-13:** UNHCR 75<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee  
**October 18:** Third Informal Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees, Virtual

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

**December 12:** Advance side events Global Refugee Forum  
**December 13-15:** Global Refugee Forum

ICVA  
Humanitarian Hub  
16 La Voie-Creuse  
Geneva, CH 1202  
Switzerland  
[secretariat@icvanetwork.org](mailto:secretariat@icvanetwork.org)  
[www.icvanetwork.org](http://www.icvanetwork.org)

[Unsubscribe](#)



You are receiving this email because you have subscribed to the ICVA mailing list. You can unsubscribe at any time. For more information about our privacy practices please visit our website.