

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from June 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 operationalizing principled humanitarian action, in addressing the impact of climate change on humanitarian action, pursuing being globally distributed and locally rooted, being diverse, inclusive, and living our values, and proactively engaging in agile collaborative partnerships. Check more on the [transformations](#) of our ICVA 2030 Strategy. We also share our updates from our regional hubs and so much more.

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

Message from ICVA

World Refugee Day: Embracing Inclusion and Justice

On 20 June the international community celebrated World Refugee Day emphasizing the need for positive changes in the lives of refugees. Coinciding with the [Grand Bargain Principals' Annual Meeting](#), it was a powerful reminder of the purpose behind our joint commitments.

[The 2023 World Refugee Day](#) focused on inclusion under the tagline "*Hope away from home. A world where refugees are always included*", highlighting the importance of durable solution for refugees, including local integration and inclusion. To ICVA, it provided an additional opportunity to celebrate the strength and resilience of refugees. We also commended the efforts of ICVA's members and other civil society actors, private sector, host States and communities who support refugees in building new lives.

However, more needs to be done including ensuring increased government funding for refugee inclusion. It is also crucial that such efforts do not come at the expense of international aid budgets. Protecting and including refugees at home and supporting vulnerable populations abroad are just causes, which go hand in hand and require adequate budgeting of their own.

To fulfil our humanitarian obligations and uphold international legal norms, we must also do more to safeguard the right to seek asylum and ensure safe legal pathways. The tragic deaths on the Greek coast on June 14, as other similar tragedies, could have been avoided.

The [Missing Migrants Project](#) has documented 56,912 reported cases of deaths or missing people in international migration since 2014. Causes include inadequate search and rescue operations, harsh conditions during journeys, lack of health care, and violence at and around international borders. All regions are concerned. Many cases have not been investigated, breaching principles of justice and accountability.

This June, 228 organizations, including ICVA, signed a [joint letter](#), urging the UN Human Rights Council to establish an independent international monitoring mechanism to investigate human rights violations at international borders and contribute to accountability and redress for victims and their families. This is another example of how civil society organizations, including diaspora and refugee-led groups, play a crucial role in upholding refugee law and international human rights law. Our contributions encompass service provision, monitoring, advocacy, and the pursuit of justice.

As Geneva is preparing to host the second Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December this year, ICVA is supporting its members to engage and contribute to this important platform. We have already shared information on the Forum with members and will continue to support NGOs active participation in joint pledges to enhance refugee protection and durable solutions.

World Refugee Day calls for a world that embraces inclusion and justice. By working together, we can take the right steps for the benefit of refugees and all humanity.

Mirela Shuteriqi

Acting Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates

1. Staff Update



We welcome Fatoumata Konate as ICVA Deputy Representative for West and Central Africa. Fatoumata is currently based in Bamako-Mali but will join our regional hub for West and Central Africa in Dakar-Sénégal during the summer.

Forced Migration

2. UNHCR and NGOs Quarterly Consultations

In June, UNHCR held its quarterly consultations with NGOs focusing on the [Refugee Coordination Model](#) (RCM). The goal of the consultation was to keep NGOs abreast of the upcoming revisions to the RCM, and to share on the new tools and guidance to be developed aiming at improving partners' experience going forward. Operational staff with refugee response experience were the targeted audience for these consultations. NGOs shared their views on current gaps and areas for improvement.

3. UNHCR 87th Standing Committee

The [UNHCR 87th Standing Committee](#) was held on 14 -15 June. During the meeting, the [UNHCR 2022 Global report](#) was released, shedding light on global trends of forced displacement, achievements, and challenges faced by the organization and its partners in addressing multiple crises and growing humanitarian needs. ICVA facilitated the drafting of the two [NGO statements](#).

4. Solutions to Internal Displacement

On 23 June, ICVA and InterAction organized the second quarterly meeting of their members with the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, Mr. Robert Piper. This meeting was an opportunity to receive an update and exchange with NGOs on the progress made in the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and office of the Special Adviser. For more info Action Agenda on Internal Displacement please read the [blog page](#) and the [explainer document](#).

5. Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) & 2023 Global Refugee Forum

On 7 June, the second informal briefing for the Global Refugee Forum was held and chaired by Mr. Arafat Jamal, Coordinator of the Global Refugee Forum 2023. Representatives from multi-stakeholder initiatives updated on progress, including ongoing work on the mega-pledges. The updated [list of multi-stakeholder pledges](#) is now available together with the presentation and summary of the [briefing](#). ICVA and UNCHR are co-convening the Advancing Localization in Displacement and Statelessness Responses multistakeholder [pledge](#).

6. Feedback Session on World Bank's Evolution Roadmap

In January 2023, the World Bank Group's (WBG) Boards of Executive Directors launched a process to review its vision and mission, operating model, and financing capacity. To gather input and opinions, they conducted a consultation process known as the [Evolution Roadmap](#). As this roadmap will impact both humanitarian and development NGOs, ICVA and InterAction collaborated to host a hybrid feedback session on June 29. This session provided an opportunity for WBG and NGO members to exchange thoughts and opinions regarding the Evolution Roadmap.

For more information, please contact: gabriela.miranda@icvanetwork.org.

7. Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular

Migration (GCM)

The United Nations Network on Migration has published a note on Stakeholder engagement in the second round of Regional Reviews of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. This note can be found on the UN Network on Migration [website](#) along with the Regional Reviews Framework and Roadmap.

Call for Current Practices: Implementing the GCM at the Intersection of Migration and the SDGs

In the run-up to the first SDG Summit in New York in September 2023, the Migration Network Hub is seeking practices which can inspire and inform others working at the intersection of migration and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Initiatives can be submitted through the [Hub's Repository of Practices](#) until 31 July 2023.

Call for an Independent International Monitoring Mechanism to Investigate Human Rights Violations in International Borders

Concerned about policies and practices of migration governance that lead to deaths, torture and other grave human rights violations at and around international borders, 228 organizations, including ICVA, signed in June a [joint letter](#), addressed to the UN Human Rights Council. The letter calls upon the Human Rights Council to establish an independent international monitoring mechanism to investigate human rights violations in international borders and contribute to accountability and redress for victims and their families.

Financing

8. The Future of the Grand Bargain

Grand Bargain Secretariat Update

Check current updates from the [Grand Bargain Secretariat](#).

Grand Bargain Annual Meeting on 19-20 June

The Grand Bargain Annual meeting this year marked the transition from Grand Bargain 3.0 to the [Grand Bargain Beyond 2023](#), which will guide implementation of commitments through 2026. Recognising the unique value of the [Grand Bargain](#) to drive efficiency and effectiveness in the humanitarian sector, the [66 Signatory donors and aid organisations](#) endorsed the new way forward at the Annual Meeting. A number of changes will be made to the overall structure and focus of the Grand Bargain, however, one of the more significant changes is the shift from a single Eminent Person to guide the Grand Bargain to three new Grand Bargain Ambassadors: Jemilah Mahmood, Manuel Bessler, and Michael Köhler. Read the [Signatories' statements](#) on the occasion of the [Grand Bargain Annual Meeting](#) and the individual [Grand Bargain action points/commitments](#) put forward by the Signatories beyond June 2023.

Facilitation Group update

The current Facilitation Group will transition to a new group between July and September. Both NGO seats on the group will be handed over to new representatives: InterAction will replace ICVA, and NEAR will replace A4EP.

9. Access to Quality Funding

UNHCR Partnerships

On 7 June, UNHCR presented a general progress update to partners on key partnership reforms and transition plans. Key elements presented included the new Partnership Agreements, streamlined processes on PSEA capacity, procurement

capacity and partnership joint monitoring verifications and project audits, financial reporting, and the use of PROMS system (Project Reporting Oversight Management Solution) for the monitoring of implementation, collaboration with partners and risk mitigation. An updated partner handbook will be available in early 2024. With UNHCR financial and budgeting systems preparing for data migration, partners were also informed of changes in the timeline of the project financial reports and potentially instalment schedules. Partners were invited to engage directly with UNHCR operations on the transition plan and timeline adjustments.

World Food Programme Partnerships

On 15 June, World Food Programme (WFP) presented to partners the Field Level Agreement (FLA) Review roadmap and progress on the first round of FLA review measures. Changes in this first round include the increase of budget flexibility, the simplification of the process of budget increase, the change of the budget template to include additional cost categories for non-metric ton-based costs, the provision of additional contacts to facilitate communication and regular meetings, and the development of guiding principles for longer term FLA, which are almost finalised. The second round of FLA review measures will focus on longer term FLA, filling FLA gaps, RB capacity strengthening, streamline invoicing process and WFP performance evaluation.

10. Pooled Funds

Pooled Fund Working Group Biannual Meeting

The Pooled Fund working Group met in Geneva in 26-27 June for one of its two in-person meetings per year. The two-day meeting covered a range of topics linked to OCHA Country Based Pooled Funds, including:

Ongoing rollout of the new Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) Global Guidelines. All CBPFs should complete the process of drafting new Operational Manuals based on the new Global Guidelines by the end of July. As the new Operational Manuals are approved, they will be rolled out country by country. Check the [Global Guidelines](#).

Regionally-hosted Pooled Funds (RhPF). OCHA continues to expand use of the RhPF model in West and Central Africa (WCA) with a new funding envelope open in Mali. This expands the regional approach in WCA to include Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso. It was also announced that there is an intention to expand use of the RhPF in other regions. Check the 2022 [annual report](#) for the Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa.

ICVA Launch and Roundtable Discussion of the Pooled Funding at a Crossroads Report

On 28 June, ICVA co-hosted with Switzerland and HERE-Geneva the launch event for the “Pooled Funding at a Crossroads: A Comprehensive Review and Analysis” [report](#). Following opening remarks by Switzerland and ICVA, an overview of the key findings of the research was presented by its authors, Marzia Montemurro and Elise Queguiner, before OCHA CBPF Section, A4EP and Sahel Regional Fund Manager to provided key remarks on the report. A discussion was held with participants to the event, around humanitarian pooled fund mechanisms and avenues to explore to enhance the efficiency, impact and access to pooled funds to the benefit of people affected by crisis. Check the [recording and presentations](#).



11. Risk Management, Counterterrorism Measures and Sanctions

IASC Task Force 3 on Preserving Humanitarian Space

Discussions among the IASC Task Force 3 have continued on the UNSC Resolution 2664 and the ERC annual reporting to Sanctions Committees, the Syria sanctions EU exemptions and screening of beneficiaries, among others.

Risk Sharing Framework

The Risk Sharing Platform was established in 2021 and is co-led by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ICRC and InterAction. Through this Platform, signatories to the Grand Bargain from national and international NGOs, Red Cross/Crescent movement entities, UN agencies and government donors, seek to improve the way organisations share risk, with the ultimate goal of better supporting affected people. A [Risk Sharing Framework](#) which provides a basis for interested humanitarian actors to further pursue risk sharing as a means to enable more effective delivery of support to affected people was published this month. It is not a directive tool, but rather a principled approach that can be adapted and used by actors as they see fit. Check the [Risk Sharing Documentation Template](#).

Coordination

12. Joint IASC Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG) and Emergency Directors Group (EDG) Meeting

On 23 June 2023, a joint meeting of the IASC Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG) and Emergency Directors Group (EDG) took place to discuss the ERC [Flagship Initiative](#). Mr. Ramesh Rajasingham, Director OCHA Coordination Division, briefed members on the Initiative and its progress. NGO members to OPAG and EDG expressed their support for further investment in accountability to affected people, as well as some concerns regarding ownership and inclusiveness of the process and differences across pilot countries.

13. Humanitarian Coordinator Briefings

ICVA hosted NGO briefings with Mr. Mohamed Ag Ayoya, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (DSRSG/RC/HC) in the Central African Republic and Mr. Matthias

Schmale, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) in Nigeria. These meetings provided NGOs in Geneva and the region the opportunity to engage directly with humanitarian leadership on a range of coordination, operational and advocacy issues.

14. New Sub-Working Group on the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC)

ICVA represents members on the IASC [Humanitarian Programme Cycle Steering Group](#) where discussions are expected to focus increasingly on the question of HPC reform and lightening and effectiveness of the HPC processes. Topics include Humanitarian Needs Overviews and Humanitarian Response Plans, the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF 2.0), HRP Costing, HPC Monitoring Framework and Localization. The new ICVA Sub-Working Group on the Humanitarian Programme Cycle will be a space to exchange and prepare inputs for the HPC Steering Group meetings, determine appropriate member representation in discussions and contribute to or influence the future direction of a substantive area of work within the humanitarian coordination field. If you would like to be part of this new sub-working group, please email coordination@icvanetwork.org to subscribe.

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

15. Humanitarian Access Influencing

Strengthening Humanitarian Access through Effective Influencing & Negotiations: Workshops for Senior NGO Leadership

In 2023-24, ICVA and the Centre for Competence on Humanitarian Negotiations (CCHN) are offering humanitarian access influencing and negotiation workshops for senior NGO leaders in eight countries. The workshops support NGO leaders, both individually and collectively to strengthen their approach to addressing humanitarian access impediments.

The overall aim is to provide NGOs, both individually and collectively, with new tools and insights to support more effective external engagement to maximise the delivery of principled and effective humanitarian assistance to crisis-affected populations.

In June, two workshops were conducted with NGO leadership in Cameroon and Burkina Faso to provide a framework for exchange on access challenges between national NGO and international NGO country directors, combining CCHN tools and the collective approach within NGO forums.

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

Transforming our Network

16. Address Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action

On 6 July, ICVA and PHAP hosted the 8th webinar in their Learning Series on [Climate Change](#) and Humanitarian Action titled "[Humanitarian Response and Loss and Damage Finance: Coordinating Action to Meet Rising Needs.](#)" The webinar analysed how climate finance and humanitarian response can better collaborate to tackle climate-related emergencies. An expert panel discussed the relationship between loss and damage financing and humanitarian response, identified mutual learning opportunities and ways to improve existing coordination efforts. The webinar also set the groundwork for future joint efforts between the two sectors in advocating for and supporting loss and damage finance. Check the [recordings](#).

6 July 2023
15:00 - 16:30 (CEST)

ICVA **PHAP**

The Climate Charter – A Practical Guide: Session 8
Humanitarian Response and Loss and Damage Finance: Coordinating action to meet rising needs

phap.org/6jul2023

Photo: Francesca Mold/UNMISS

Updates from the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS)

In the margins of the [ECOSOC HAS from 21- 23 June](#), ICVA took part in a consultation and a workshop on "Accelerating climate action and finance for communities affected by conflict and fragility by COP28". Participants to both events included Member States, Donors, UN Agencies, NGOs, and other humanitarian and development partners. The events aimed to build agreement on an initial package of measures to address the gap in climate action and finance to fragile and conflict-affected areas.

ICVA Acting Chairperson, Shahin Ashraf, gave the keynote speech at the side event organized by Climate Action Accelerator, which was titled "Fit for Purpose: How to get to a Low Carbon and Resilient Humanitarian Sector?" During the event, ICVA member, ACTED, shared their experiences in maintaining a low carbon footprint while responding to humanitarian needs.

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

17. Be Globally Distributed and Locally Rooted

Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus

Stock-take: Implementation of the DAC Nexus Recommendation

On behalf of the **Peace & Security Thematic Working Group of the DAC-CSO Results**, ICVA and Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) have collaborated to create a [survey](#) to evaluate the implementation of the [DAC Nexus Recommendation](#). The survey contributes to the evaluation of progress and informs the spotlight report on the Recommendation's uptake and implementation. The report focuses on the HDP Nexus areas that require accelerated action. The survey takes 15 minutes to complete and is open to CSOs working on the Triple Nexus until July 19, 2023.

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

18. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

Child Rights

Survey on Climate Change and Education in Emergencies

Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies (EiE) has commissioned a survey on climate change and education in emergencies. The aim is to see how the climate crisis impacts children and youth's access to education in crisis settings. EiE

practitioners, policy makers, decision makers, and academics are encouraged to complete the survey, available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#), by 14 July. The findings will be published in 2023 flagship report and contribute to development of collective recommendations and advocacy on the interplay between climate change and EIE.

2023 UNICEF-NGO Partnership Survey: Deadline for Inputs 28 July 2023

As a follow-up to the [2019 UNICEF-NGO Scoping Study](#), ICVA and UNICEF are conducting a 2023 UNICEF-NGO Partnership Scoping Study survey to gather NGO feedback and perceptions on their partnership with UNICEF. The survey aims to understand what works well, identify challenges, and draw up recommendations to strengthen the partnership and achieve better results for children in humanitarian settings. It will also feed into the UNICEF-NGO Global Consultation planned for October 2023. The survey is open to both current active partners as well as NGOs who have partnered with UNICEF over the past five years, and can be completed by multiple staff from each organization. The [survey](#) is available in English, French, Spanish or Arabic. Please submit your feedback by Friday 28 July 2023 CoB Geneva time.

For more information, please contact vania.gobbo@icvanetwork.org.

Safeguarding

PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund: Call for Applications Opening Soon

NEW
PSEA COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION FUND WEBSITE!

Explore the website

Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund

Supporting NGOs to develop and disseminate Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) outreach and communication materials

ICVA | UNHCR

49 Projects Funded | 171 Deliverables Produced | 43 Languages

[Call for Applications](#) | [Contact](#)

ICVA has launched the [PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund website](#). This website allows local NGOs and other stakeholders to access information about the PSEA Outreach Fund, which supports NGOs in running outreach projects about PSEA. The website also features a report of best practices from the first three years of the Fund, as well as a Deliverables Database containing over 170 materials created by funded projects and summaries of all 49 supported projects. A new call for applications to the PSEA Fund will open in August 2023. We encourage those interested in applying to visit the [PSEA Fund website](#) regularly and to keep an eye out for any updates which will be shared through ICVA and its main communication channels beforehand.

Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund -2022 Project Summaries

In 2022, 15 grants were awarded through the PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund to projects worldwide with a focus on vulnerable groups such as adolescent girls, language minorities, persons with disabilities or SOGI people. Read more in the [2022 project summaries](#).



INTERAGENCY PSEA COMMUNITY
OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION FUND

2022 Project Summaries

May 2023



2022 Project Summaries

Region Specific

19. Africa

East and Southern Africa

UNHCR NGOs Consultation in East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region

UNHCR in collaboration with ICVA organized the 2023 Regional Consultations with NGOs on 13-15 June 2023. The consultations were held online focusing on three key themes: Solutions and Inclusion, Livelihoods and Resilience, and UNHCR Programme Reforms and Partnerships. The outcomes of the consultations will inform respective regional priority settings and organizational strategies of UNHCR, NGOs, and civil society actors. ICVA emphasized that these consultations are an opportunity to exchange ideas and influence policy to work better together at the benefit of refugees, internally displaced persons, stateless persons and other people affected by crisis. Access the [recordings](#) of the sessions.

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

Watch the Recordings

West and Central Africa

Dialogue between UNISS and the NGOs

On 15 June, the third [dialogue](#) between The United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel and the NGOs took place in Dakar. The exchanges focused on organized crime in the Sahel region and the peace pillar of the Nexus. The dialogue is led by Abdoulaye Mar Dieye, Under Secretary-General, United Nations Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel, and ICVA.

ECHO Regional Humanitarian Implementation Plans Consultation

ICVA presented the results of a survey conducted with INGO and NNGO fora from Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, CAR, DRC, Togo, and Bénin during ECHO's regional HIP consultation on Access and Localization held on 27 June. The presentation highlighted the perception of regional added value, needs,

and propositions for regional support to countries.

Improving Access Monitoring for Humanitarian Community

During the Regional Task Force on Access and Humanitarian Principles monthly meeting on 27 June, OCHA and NRC presented complementary access monitoring tools for the humanitarian community and discussed the upcoming flooding and physical access constraints.

For more information, please contact

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

20. Asia and the Pacific



More than 180 organizations joined the [UNHCR consultations](#) with NGOs and Refugee led organizations (RLOs) on 14-15 June, co-organized by UNHCR, ICVA and the regional networks, the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) and the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR). This was a precursor to the upcoming hybrid-format NGO consultations in Bangkok in September. The two sessions focused on the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) and UNHCR-NGO partnerships. Through engaging presentations and fruitful discussions, organizations gained a better understanding of the GRF process, received important updates on partnership agreements in the region, and shared ideas on how collaboration and discussions between NGOs and RLOs could be strengthened moving forward.

Early Warning for All initiative (EW4All)

The UN Secretary-General's EW4All initiative is aiming to provide early warning systems for all people across the world. This project is starting with 30 countries over the next five years and involves global leads such as UNDRR, Red Cross Movement, ITU, and WMO, each focusing on a specific pillar. The regional Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), co-chaired by ICVA, introduced this initiative at their meeting with regional directors on 20 June where they discussed the upcoming priority countries in the region, involvement of local CSOs, and connections to other regional initiatives. The group agreed to provide ongoing updates through the EPWG.

Participation in Pilot Training Session on Meaningful Refugee Participation

The Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR) invited ICVA regional representatives to participate in a pilot program for a training on meaningful participation led by refugee experts. The program aims to foster genuine refugee participation based on findings from various studies, including the "Meaningful Refugee Participation as Transformative Leadership" guidelines, which ICVA members contributed to. The training offers not only suggestions and space for discussion but also a chance to connect with mentors from their Refugee Learning Opportunities (RLO) program. This collaboration will support better participation of those with lived experience while building their capacity and implementing transformative leadership.

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

21. MENA

Brussels VII Conference Side Event: Regional Refugee and Resilience plan (3RP) Role in Enhancing National and Local Capacities in Host Countries

On June 8, ICVA MENA took part in one of the Brussels VII Conference Side Events: "Integrating humanitarian and development approaches in the context of forced displacement: 3RP's role in enhancing national and local capacities in host countries". The event, co-chaired by UNHCR and UNDP, discussed ways to strengthen partnerships across the HDP Nexus in a changing funding landscape. ICVA emphasized the pivotal role of local actors and CSOs in addressing the increasing needs of Syrian refugees. It was also noted that these local actors will be key in supporting resilience and sustainable approaches in host countries.

Briefing Session on the Operational Peer Review (OPR) for the Syria Earthquake Response

ICVA MENA organized a virtual briefing session on 26 June to inform NGOs about and improve their engagement in the upcoming OPR mission from 2-14 July. The session covered the nature of OPR missions, their methodology, expected results, and practical advice on preparation. This session was an important step towards ensuring the effectiveness of the feedback participation process and improving the outcome of the OPR mission.

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

Learning Opportunities

22. Thought Leadership Course - Synergizing Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

United Nations System Staff College and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction have developed a [leadership course](#) focusing on implementing disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and integrated planning. The two-hour course is free and available to all.

23. Free Guides on Risk Management for NGOs and their Staff

ICVA has teamed up with DisasterReady to provide [free online learning resources](#) for professionals working in the fields of humanitarian aid and development. The guides aim to improve understanding of how to apply risk management best practices in daily work. The guides are interactive and can be accessed by creating a free account with DisasterReady and searching for "[Risk](#)

[Management in Practice](#)" and "Risk Management and Funding Partnerships."

24. Digital Protection Basics for Humanitarian CSOs in Asia

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN OHCHR) Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO) has produced a [Digital SecurityTips series](#) and online self-paced courses, specifically designed for human rights defenders in South-East Asia. [Click here for instructions](#) to access the holistic digital security training.

New and Noteworthy

25. Feedback Survey on the Updated Core Humanitarian Standard

Take part in CHS [confidential survey](#) to help them identify any adjustments needed for the proposed updated version of the Core Humanitarian Standard. Complete the survey by 15 September 2023.

26. Falling Short: Addressing the Climate Finance Gap for Children

A [report](#) from Plan International, Save the Children, the Children's Environmental Rights Initiative (CERI) coalition, and UNICEF has found that only 2.4% of international climate finance supports projects that incorporate child-responsive activities, and calls for increased and accelerated financing to ensure children's environmental rights are upheld.

27. "The Risks we face are beyond Human Comprehension": Advancing the Protection of Humanitarian and Health Workers

The [report](#) by Action Against Hunger, Médecins du Monde and HI aims to identify solutions and operational-oriented recommendations to improve the safety and security of INGOs and L/NGOs working in crisis settings and disaster response, and inform policy discussions at local, regional, and international levels.

Agenda

July 6: [ICVA-PHAP Webinar: Humanitarian Response and Loss and Damage Finance: Coordinating Action to Meet Rising Needs](#)

August 3-5: [Cash Transfer Programming \(CTP\) Workshop](#). Register by 10 July.

August 18: Webinar: [The power of words: The relationship between language and safeguarding](#).

September 1: Third Formal Preparatory Meeting for the Global Refugee Forum, Geneva

September 4-6: [African Climate Action Summit](#), Nairobi, Kenya

September 4 – 8: [Africa Climate Week](#), UNFCCC, Nairobi, Kenya

September 13-14: UNHCR 88th Standing Committee

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 -TBC - UNICEF NGO Consultations

October 9-13: UNHCR 75th Executive Committee

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

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

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

December 12: [Advance day for side events on Global Refugee Forum](#)

December 13-15: [Global Refugee Forum](#)

2024

March 19: ICVA General Assembly

March 20: ICVA Annual Conference



International Council of Voluntary Agencies - ICVA
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