Forced Displacement

1. The Urban Refugee Task Team Seeks Your Support: The High Commissioner’s Structured Dialogue on UNHCR-IFRC-NGO Partnership recommended strengthened engagement and collaboration in urban refugee settings. As a result, a UNHCR-NGO Urban Refugee Task Team has been hard at work to identify and promote the adoption of good practices. Please check out urbangooodpractices.org and upload your own good practices. Also, stay tuned for the announcement of a webinar series on urban refugees. Topics covered will include livelihoods, community
outreach and ICT, mental health, and other interesting issues.

2. **Q&A on the Implementing Framework**: ICVA members are invited to a question and answer (Q&A) session on the Enhanced Framework for Implementing with Partners with the Head of UNHCR’s Implementing Partner Management Service, Fatima Sherif-Nor on Tuesday, 15 April from 15:00 – 17:00 Geneva time. The Framework provides UNHCR’s standard operating procedures for establishing and managing partnerships. UNHCR is currently updating its Framework, including elements related to partner selection and retention, the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), and monitoring. To help inform partners about these changes, UNHCR is developing guidance notes and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for each new policy issued, starting with selection/retention and also the new PPA template. UNHCR will integrate additional questions into the FAQ documents. To see the latest materials available, visit [www.icvanetwork.org](http://www.icvanetwork.org). For more information, please contact Melissa Pitotti.

3. **NGOs Deliver Strong Statements at UNHCR’s Standing Committee meeting on Operations**: We’d like to thank all the NGO representatives who volunteered to draft and deliver joint NGO statements for the 4-6 March Standing Committee meeting. Many government and UNHCR managers gave positive feedback and questions for follow-up. The final statements were on Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Conclusions. For the statements delivered by UNHCR managers, please CLICK HERE. NGOs who would like to help with statements for the 1-3 July UNHCR Standing Committee meeting on protection are encouraged to contact Melissa Pitotti.

4. **UNHCR Updates Member States on the Implementing Framework**: To see the PowerPoint presentation delivered by Ms. Fatima Sherif-Nor, Head of Service of the Implementing Partnership Management Service, during the 6 March side event on Enhanced Framework for Implementing with Partners, CLICK HERE. ICVA’s UNHCR Working Group has been very active on this issue; for more information, please contact Melissa Pitotti.

5. **UNHCR Launches a Renewed Protection Manual**: UNHCR has launched a new version of the "UNHCR Protection Manual: a Compilation of Law, UNHCR Guidance and Policy Papers, and Other Documents Related to International Protection." This version, which replaces the static 2011 UNHCR Protection Manual, allows documents to be continuously updated. Users can therefore expect that, whenever they consult the Protection Manual, it will contain the latest UNHCR guidance or policy on a particular topic.

6. **ICVA welcomes Bob Kitchen, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit of the International Rescue Committee**: As of 1 April, Bob Kitchen has replaced Ian Ridley from World Vision International. The ICVA Secretariat is very grateful for the work Ian has done with sharing the perspective and experience of WVI in the EDG while advocating constructively on behalf of all ICVA members. ICVA welcomes Bob and his EDG humanitarian and management experience from deployments to Afghanistan, Congo, Sudan, Iraq, Sierra Leone, and more recently the new contexts in all sectors of Forced Displacement.

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Humanitarian Coordination

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CAR, CHAD and seven other humanitarian emergencies. As ICVA, we are excited about the contribution Bob and IRC will bring to the EDG.

7. DRC, IRC, and ICVA to Set Priorities for 2014-2015 EDG: On 9 April DRC, IRC, and ICVA will hold a strategic planning meeting to set some priorities for the EDG in 2014-2015 with NGO Geneva Representatives. We would like to encourage all interested members to share your perspectives and analysis on the current modus operandi of the EDG. For more information please feel free to contact Egil Kvernmo.

8. Key Actions to Bring About a Step Change in Humanitarian Delivery in South Sudan: On 5 March, the IASC Principals requested the Emergency Directors Group to propose key actions to bring about a step change in humanitarian delivery in South Sudan. The EDG prepared the paper outlining several key actions that can be taken immediately in the areas of leadership, capacity, access, delivery, and funding to bolster the response due to the fact that there are serious challenges faced by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). The IASC Principals and Emergency Directors Group continue to be available to support the effort of HCT in order to bring about the step change in relief effort. Please see document attached.

9. AAP-PSEA Helpdesk Survey, AAP Coordination: The IASC AAP / PSEA Task Team is exploring the possibility to set up a helpdesk service with the aim to facilitate and share knowledge and information on issues related to AAP/PSEA. The aim of the survey is to understand what you and your organization would expect from the service in terms of information and how you would potentially use it. Please complete this very important survey indicating your preferences as they will inform the next steps. CLICK HERE to access the survey.

10. Inter-Agency Vacancies in CAR and The Philippines: The Central African Republic is looking for an Inter-Agency AAP Coordinator. If you or a colleague are interested, please contact Amy Martin, Deputy HoO and David Loquercio and remember to include a resume.

The Philippines is also looking for an Inter-Agency AAP Coordinator. If you're interested or know of a colleague who might be interested, please contact David Carden HoO and Veronika Martin including a resume.

11. Merging of the Agriculture, Cash for Work and Food clusters/sectors into a Food Security Sector: The HCT coordination review in oPT has led to a merging of the Agriculture, Cash for Work and Food clusters/sectors into a Food Security Sector that will function in relation to both the HCT and the UNDAF. The Inter-Cluster Forum (ICF) is tasked with strengthening partnerships and collective accountability through better distribution of cluster lead agency/coordination responsibilities among UN agencies and NGOs.

12. Feedback on IASC Consultation on Cluster Arrangements in Colombia: The Colombia HCT has revised the humanitarian architecture in the country. Protection, Health, Shelter, WASH and Food Security and Nutrition continue as active clusters. Education in Emergencies has become a sector co-chaired between UNICEF and the Ministry of Education and the Early Recovery cluster is transitioned from stand alone cluster to become a cross cutting issue. The HCT now operates through two different mechanisms: the strategic Core Group and the broader Ministry of Education and the Early Recovery humanitar
Quality & Accountability

13. IASC: Call for Volunteers on L3 Follow Up: The 86th IASC Working Group meeting was held in New York on 11 and 12 March 2014. Volunteers have been requested to work with Kate Haff on articulating the common messaging around the declaration of an L3 in a slow-onset crisis situation and outlining measures that should be taken collectively to respond adequately as the situation unfolds and prior to having to declare an L3. If you are interested, please contact Kate Haff, with a cc to <iasccorrespondence@un.org>. In addition, please find attached: the final Humanitarian Task Team Work Plan. There has been a request that you please take a few minutes to complete the survey to help better organize and prepare the next IASC WG meeting. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Manisha Thomas.

14. Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action: On 17 December 2013, the IASC Principals statement on the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action was adopted at the IASC Principals meeting in Geneva. The statement affirms the commitment of the IASC Principals to ensuring the centrality of protection in humanitarian action and the role of Humanitarian Coordinators, Humanitarian Country Teams and Clusters to implement this commitment in all aspects of humanitarian action.

15. AAP/PSEA TT Work Plan for 2014-2015: The IASC Accountability to Affected Populations including Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Task Team (AAP/PSEA TT) has an agreed work plan for 2014-2015. One activity in this work plan is to establish a ‘help desk’ service with the aim to share and collect knowledge and information on issues related to AAP and PSEA. The Humanitarian Accountability Partnership, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Sphere Project have combined to establish a platform that will serve all IASC organizations, whether needing basic AAP/PSEA information, or detailed technical assistance. In order to understand what you and your organization would expect from such a service, a short survey has been devised to capture your preferences in how such a ‘help desk’ should operate. This survey represents the first step in establishing the service. Please complete this short survey, by Wednesday, 16 April 2014 to have your say. Should you have any questions related to the survey, please contact Massimo Nicoletti Atlimari, HAP. Should have any questions related to the AAP/PSEA Task Team, please contact the Task Team’s Coordinator, Matthew Serventy.

16. CWS-P/A Launches First Quality and Accountability Booklet on Project Cycle Management in Pakistan: On 11 March, as part of Church World Service-Pakistan/Afghanistan’s long-term commitment to enhance quality and accountability in humanitarian and development interventions, a booklet on Quality and Accountability for Project Cycle Management was launched. This booklet provides a practical roadmap to project cycle management and underlines how to incorporate quality and accountability beginning at the designing stage. The aim of the booklet
is to ensure quality and accountability of affected populations at each stage of an intervention and contributes to CWS-P/A’s efforts of promoting Q & A amongst the humanitarian and development sector. It also aims at informing the international efforts on harmonization of quality and accountability initiatives.

### ICVA Updates

#### 17. Three New Members Join the ICVA Network – FRD, GCR, and REDESO:

ICVA is pleased to announce three new members to the network:

Foundation for Rural Development (FRD) is a Pakistan-based organisation that is active in both the humanitarian and development spheres, whose mission is to improve the socio-economic conditions of people through equitable and sustainable utilization of resources and empowering vulnerable groups. FRD provides humanitarian assistance and support to populations affected by natural disasters, manmade disasters, and other emergencies, while helping to build up the resilience of these communities.

Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) is the largest NGO in Greece exclusively dedicated to refugee issues, and has been active since 1989. GCR programmes and activities are aimed to promote the rights of asylum seekers and refugees in Greece through the provision of direct free legal and social services and advocacy work. GCR cooperates with many national and international stakeholders, including refugee and migrant communities and organisations, to foster partnerships and to effect change in legislation and awareness.

Relief to Development Society (REDESO) strives to provide relief and sustainable development to vulnerable communities, particularly to refugee-affected areas in Tanzania. REDESO promotes any charitable services and development schemes that will provide relief in times of distress, promote poverty alleviation, and advance health and education in Tanzania and elsewhere.

#### 18. New ICVA Staff: The ICVA Secretariat welcomes new arrivals to the ICVA staff: Jane Bennett, Finance and Grants Manager, Manuela Corbolino, Account Assistant, and our new Jordan-based Regional Program Officer, Yafa Ajweh.

### In the News!

#### 19. ACTED Workshop in Geneva: On 16 April, there will be a workshop in Geneva organized by ACTED at the International Environment House 2. This workshop serves as an opportunity to present the project led by ACTED and funded by the FCO about ‘Evaluating the resilience of communities hosting Syrian refugees in Jordan.’ UN agencies and NGOs as well as representatives of the government will be attending this workshop because the project involved both the communities and the government of Jordan.
20. Feedback on Emergency Telecommunications Cluster engagement with NGOs: The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is mandated to provide timely, predictable and effective Information Communications Technology services to support the humanitarian community in carrying out their work efficiently, effectively and safely. In order to increase NGO participation in the ETC, the World Food Programme as the global cluster lead, along with NetHope, World Vision International (WVI), and Télécoms Sans Frontiés (TSF) have agreed upon initiating an effort specifically focused on getting more NGOs involved with the ETC at the global and country levels. The purpose of this effort is to further strengthen collaboration at the global level between NGOs and the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster. This survey is intended to review the engagement of the ETC with the NGO community at the global and country levels. Take time to fill it out, and forward to colleagues at your regional and country offices (especially Philippines, Central Africa Republic, Mali, Syria and South Sudan). The survey is best filled by NGO staff at the global, regional or country levels with responsibility for inter-agency collaboration, as well as IT leaders and managers with responsibility for emergency operations.

21. Study on the Future of the International NGO: Adeeb Mahmud, a Director with FSG in the US, recently co-authored a study on behalf of the Hewlett Foundation on the future of the international NGO. The study can be found here: http://www.fsg.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/PDF/INGO_Ahead_of_the_Curve.pdf and more information is available on the microsite: www.futureingo.org. The study includes the Disruptions Facing the INGO Sector, offers Approaches for Greater Impact and suggests ways to Enable the INGO of the Future.

22. “Who is a Refugee?” Training Opportunity: Asylum Access and Bar Council Malaysia are pleased to offer training on international refugee law on 29 April 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Professor James C. Hathaway, one of the leading authorities in the field, will lead an intensive daylong training and discussion to answer the question of who is a refugee in Malaysia. The training is open to lawyers, advocates and service providers interested in learning more about international refugee law and its application in Malaysia. Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Location: Bar Council Malaysia, No. 13, 15 & 17, Leboh Pasar Besar, 50050, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia To register, please fill out this registration form. Space is limited. For additional information, please contact Amalia Greenberg Delgado.