ICV A Bulletin

ICVA Bulletin- Highlights from October 2017

ICVA Updates

1. ICVA's Leadership Transition: After nearly 5 years of service as ICVA's Executive Director, we wish Nan Buzard all the best as she begins her next adventure working on innovation at the ICRC. Her contributions have been greatly appreciated.

ICVA's Board is pleased to announce the selection of Ignacio Packer as the next ICVA Executive Director. With 30 years of experience in humanitarian work and development issues, Ignacio has built a sound field experience. Until recently, he was the Secretary General of the Terre des Hommes International Foundation, and previously has worked for the European Bank for Latin America, KPMG, Médecins Sans Frontières, the European Association for Development and Health, and for the Swiss Tropical Institute. He is an international expert on human rights and social issues, and is enthusiastic about ICVA's mission to advance principled and effective humanitarian action. Ignacio will join the team on 2 January 2018. In the meantime, Melissa Pitotti, ICVA's Head of Policy, will serve as acting interim ED till the end of the year.

2. Save the Dates: ICVA's Annual Conference and General Assembly (20 and 21 March 2018):

By popular demand, the topic of ICVA's 20 March 2018 Annual Conference is "Navigating the Nexus." Drawing on lessons learned by NGOs through the decades as they have straddled the humanitarian-development-peace nexus (also known as the "triple nexus"), the conference will consider putting people at the centre, introducing participants to new partnerships, thinking through ways to maintain humanitarian principles, and considering how to elevate NGO voices in global processes related to the New Way of Working, the path towards a Global Compact on Refugees, and the World Bank's increasing role in conflict and fragility.

ICVA's 17th General Assembly, on Wednesday 21 March, 2018, will bring together ICVA members to celebrate the network, elect a new Board and approve the 2019-2021 Strategy. We appreciate all of the members who have taken the time thus far to participate in our survey and interviews as part of ICVA's "100 Members in a 100 Days" outreach effort.

Forced Displacement

3. Global Compact on Refugees/CRRF: On 3 October, ICVA organised a meeting between NGOs and the Ms. Caroline Njuki, Senior Programme Coordinator at the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). The meeting raised awareness and understanding about the regional process linked to the 25 March 2017 Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan on Somali Refugees, now that a Road Map and Results Framework has been adopted for a comprehensive regional approach. On 17-18 October, the second and third Thematic Discussions on the Global Compact on Refugees were held in Geneva with many NGOs attending. Ahead of this meeting, ICVA helped NGOs register for the event and held a preparatory meeting on 12 October. Notes from this meeting are available to members. On 26-27 October, ICVA participated to the San Pedro Sula Regional Conference in Honduras, which resulted in the launch of a regional application of the CRRF (Marco Integral Regional para la Protección y Soluciones – MIRPS) in Central America and the adoption of the San Pedro Sula Declaration by six states (Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama). Key notes from this conference will be made available to members.

On 31 October, the UNHCR-IFRC-NGO Reference Group held its monthly meeting with a focus on an update on the CRRF roll-out in the East and Horn of Africa Region. Notes will be made available to members. For more information, please contact Jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org.

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4. UNHCR's Executive Committee meeting: From 2-6 October, UNHCR held its annual Executive Committee meeting, with a special segment on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). The key issues discussed at the 5-day meeting were of responsibility-sharing, UNHCR's work to implement its Grand Bargain's commitments, the #IBelong campaign to end statelessness by 2024, IDPs, and the Global Compact on Refugees. Committee members adopted the Conclusion on machine readable travel documents for refugees and stateless persons. NGOs delivered statements on the General Debate, Protection, and the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations. Many thanks for all NGOs who contributed in drafting and delivering them. All statements are available on ICVA's webpage. The NGO side event on "1967 Protocol at fifty: Protection and solutions in a new era?" was well received. Background documents for all the topics discussed at the ExCom meeting are available on UNHCR's website.

Humanitarian Financing

5. Understanding the World Bank: In response to ICVA members' interest in better understanding the World Bank's move into situations of fragility and conflict, ICVA is working on its next briefing paper, "The World Bank and Refugees." ICVA is also exploring with the World Bank options to open up channels of dialogue with NGOs to promote better understanding and engagement in humanitarian settings. Watch this space!

6. The Grand Bargain Transitions Again: The old and new Grand Bargain Facilitation Group members met in Berlin for a technical handover meeting on 24 October. ICVA appreciates the service of SCHRI serving as an NGO voice in the old Group, and InterAction for taking the baton in the new Group. ICVA also appreciates InterAction, SCHRI and VOICE's cooperation, with support from InterAction, in forming a platform for NGO signatories to ensure coverage of all ten Grand Bargain Workstreams. For those interested in seeing the results of the 26 September workshop to find synergies between the five donor-conditions related workstreams (transparency, reporting, reduced earmarking, reduced duplication/management costs and multi-year funding/planning), please contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org.

7. Less Paper More Aid: The Harmonised Narrative Reporting Pilot work co-led by ICVA and Germany continues, with a focus on engaging country level staff of pilot participants in Somalia, Myanmar, and Iraq. A pilot orientation briefing for NGOs engaged in Somalia was held on 12 October in Nairobi, with good participation from participating NGO partners and interested parties. Further country-level orientation briefings are now being planned for Myanmar in November, and Iraq in December.

Year-end reporting for 2017 should provide the first broad use of the harmonised 8+3 reporting template. If you are a participating NGO that has not seen any guidance from participating donors on reporting, feel free to reach out so we can follow-up.

ICVA is also pleased to see a new study commissioned by OCHA/FCS on behalf of the IASC HFTT underway to explore how Partner Capacity Assessments (PCAs) can become more inter-operable at the country level. ICVA continues to work with UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and OCHA/FCS to promote NGO consultations in light of their work to harmonise approaches towards NGOs.

For more information or to follow-up on the above items, contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org.

8. Pooled Funds Update

- The next OCHA-NGO CBPF Platform Meeting: ICVA encourages interested NGOs to participate in the 19 November meeting of the OCHA-NGO Platform on Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) to be held in Amman, Jordan on 19 November. The purpose of the Platform is to provide an informal forum for regular dialogue between OCHA and NGOs to inform global policy issues related to the management of CBPFs and complement discussions already taking place at the country level. The meeting is open to all NGOs, but we encourage participation from those with significant previous experience with CBPFs (in multiple settings), who may be members of Advisory Boards, CBPF review committees, and/or strongly engaged in strategic issues related to CBPFs at the country, regional or global level. An agenda is being finalised and will include a
presentation of the “Quick Fix” changes to the CBPF Global Guidelines, sharing of best practices from CBPFs in the region and group work to identify potential changes for the “Major Changes” phase of the Global Guidelines revision. For more information, contact Ms. Kristina Ptitsyna of OCHA at cbpf-ngo@un.org or Maya Kapsokavadis of Oxfam at mkapsokavadis1@oxfam.org.uk. Oxfam co-chairs the Platform with OCHA.

- **Pooled Fund Working Group:** ICVA thanks the many NGOs who expressed interest in serving in the Pooled Fund Working Group advising on Country-Based Pooled Funds management by OCHA/FCS. ICVA is currently working with InterAction and SCHR to review the nominations. The next meeting of the PFWG will take place in New York on 14 December. The revised Operational Handbook for Country-based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) and its annexes, which will replace the versions endorsed in February 2015 are now available on OCHA’s website.

- **CERF:** Under the Central Emergency Response Fund’s (CERF) window for underfunded emergencies, the CERF Secretariat is looking for NGOs’ feedback on CERF’s analysis and the list of countries being considered for the 2018 first round selection. A discussion will be convened later this year between ICVA’s Humanitarian Financing Working Group and the CERF Secretariat. For more information, contact sophie.helle@icvanetwork.org.

### Humanitarian Coordination

9. **The IASC Principals:** Many of the IASC Principals have been active this past month on the Rohingya refugee response, including ERC Mark Lowcock who conducted a joint mission with Tony Lake to Bangladesh. ICVA will soon be gearing up for the 4 December meeting of the IASC Principals to be held in Geneva, with a special look at humanitarian financing, the L3 system, a simulation focused on epidemics and the IASC structures below the Principals level. The Chair of ICVA’s Board, Dr Faizal Perdaus, will give a presentation on financing for local actors.

10. **The IASC Working Group:** Although the 10-11 October joint meeting of the Working Group and the EDG was canceled, the Working Group has nevertheless been busy reviewing its 10 subsidiary bodies. An *ad hoc* Working Group meeting on the Humanitarian-Development Nexus Task Team gave the Team the greenlight to proceed with its workplan, particularly with regard to developing “light” guidance on how to develop collective outcomes. ICVA was pleased to host a subsidiary body co-chair meeting on 6 September to promote synergies.

11. **IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG):** On the recommendations of the EDG, the IASC Principals have extended the IASC system-wide Emergency Responses (L3 Responses) for Iraq until 31 December 2017, for Syria until 31 March 2018 and Yemen until 31 March 2018. The IASC Principals have also declared the activation of the IASC system-wide L3 Emergency Response for the DRC focusing on the Kasai region, the Tanganyika and South Kivu provinces. The DRC HCT had developed operational benchmarks that are considered as the framework to guide the collective surge effort. The decision to activate an L3 response was made on the basis of the analysis of the situation on the ground against five criteria: scale, complexity, urgency, capacity and reputational risk. A new DSRSG/RC/HC, Kim Bolduc, has been appointed. For more information, contact emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org.

12. **Support to NGOs involved in the Rohingya Refugee Response in Bangladesh:** At the request of ICVA members and partners engaged in the Rohingya refugee response in Bangladesh, ICVA’s Regional Representative for Asia conducted a mission to Dhaka and Cox’s Bazar. The purpose of the mission was to support NGO and NGO Fora engagement during scale up of the response, and particularly to facilitate conversations with national and international NGOs on how to best work together and engage with government- and UN-led coordination mechanisms. ICVA also facilitated a meeting for NGOs with the Emergency Relief Coordinator during his mission to Cox’s Bazar, where key NGO issues regarding the response were raised. As a result of the mission, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) in Cox’s Bazar agreed that due to the major role being played by NGOs, a dedicated NGO Coordination and Support Cell would be established to support NGO leadership, partnerships and capacity building in the response. For more information, contact Jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org
13. Peer-2-Peer Support mission to CAR: ICVA participated in the Peer 2 Peer (ex-STAIT) mission in Central African Republic from 3-13 October. The humanitarian crisis in the CAR remains a cause for concern due to the resurgence of violence earlier this year, and the large number of IDPs. The Peer 2 Peer team, supported by colleagues from UN agencies and from INGOs, carries out missions in countries affected by humanitarian crisis. Missions are a light review of the humanitarian operation looking at issues impacting the effectiveness of the response. For more information, contact emmanuelle.osmond@icvanetwork.org

14. Sudan Inter-Agency Mission Briefing for NGOs: An Inter-Agency Mission from Sudan consisting of the OCHA Sudan Head of Office, the Sudan Country Directors of ADRA, OXFAM America, Danish Refugee Council and ZOA, and the Refugee Consultation Forum Coordinator briefed around 20 NGO staff in Geneva on 20 October. For more information, contact nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

15. WFP Partnership Consultations: ICVA was pleased to participate in the 24-25 October World Food Programme (WFP) Annual Partner Consultations looking at the Four Famines, the "triple nexus," and the risks/opportunities presented by harnessing digital technologies for aid delivery. Read WFP's latest messaging on #FightingFamine (e.g. Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen)

16. Register for the 9 November webinar: NGOs in government-led and refugee coordination contexts the final in the learning stream series on humanitarian coordination. This webinar will focus on how NGOs engage, work and interact with government-led coordination and refugee coordination structures. We have a line-up of speakers from policy and headquarter levels: Humanitarian Outcomes, UNHCR, and from NGOs at country-level: SHPERE India and ACT Alliance Uganda, sharing their perspectives of how these coordination structures work and how NGOs engage in such contexts. Don't forget to register for the next Learning Stream webinar and watch the introductory video.

17. Understanding the ASEAN: the role of the AHA Centre: ICVA's first webinar in a new series aimed at Understanding Regional Humanitarian Actors - Understanding ASEAN: The role of the AHA Centre. The webinar was an opportunity to discuss and share with members and NGO partners the operations and structure of the AHA Centre (ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management), the opportunities for partnership between NGOs and the AHA Centre and perspectives on how this type of model is helping to better engage multiple stakeholders in the region and globally. To Watch the recorded webinar.

18. The New Way of Working: What is it? What does it mean for NGOs? ICVA's 5th webinar on humanitarian coordination had a record online attendance of 300 people. The webinar had speakers from OCHA and UNDP – the two agencies leading on the New Way of Working – and Action Against Hunger and Danish Refugee Council (Djibouti and Ethiopia) unpacking overall goals, what changes are needed across the sector, how these changes impact NGOs, and how can NGOs influence this process. If you missed the webinar, you can now watch the recording and the introductory video, and read the New Way of Working Examined ICVA briefing paper

19. ICVA's Learning Stream series for 2018: Navigating the Nexus: how NGOs engage and work in humanitarian, development and peace action was voted by members and viewers as topic for the next learning stream series. The learning stream will explore lessons learned, best practices and challenges that NGOs face when working in humanitarian, development and peace contexts. We will hear from actors that work in the development and peace sectors and identify ways of engaging and working together. We will also look at the challenges and implications on humanitarian principles and action faced by NGOs when working in the triple nexus. Stay tuned for this learning stream on ICVA's website in early 2018.
20. Alnap new paper *Using Evidence to Allocate Humanitarian Resources* recommends ways forward which can be incorporated into ongoing reform efforts, such as clarifying priorities and investing on evidence.

21. Geneva Peace Week 2017: [Geneva Peace Week](#) is a collective action initiative facilitated by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform in collaboration the Swiss Confederation. This year Geneva Peace Week will take place from **6-10 November 2017** and will focus on the theme of Prevention and effective pathways for implementation. The theme builds on the prioritisation of prevention by UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who in his address to Members of the UN Security Council on 10 January 2017, said "Prevention is not merely a priority, but the priority. If we live up to our responsibilities, we will save lives, reduce suffering and give hope to millions."

22. 4th Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW 2018): the [Leading Edge Programme](#)’s flagship event will be held on **5-9 February in Geneva, Switzerland**. HNPW provides participating networks and partnerships with an opportunity to strengthen year-round collaboration in areas of common interest to ultimately achieve high impact and sustainable results.

23. Future of Aid: **What will humanitarian crises look like 15 years from now?** Populations are growing alongside increased inequality. Conflicts are becoming more protracted and regionalised and environmental disasters are on the rise. This [report](#) from IARAN looks at how the aid sector will need to evolve and adapt to promote a more effective humanitarian ecosystem between now and 2030.

### Forthcoming events

**ICVA Meetings and Events**

**November 9**: Topic 6 of the Learning Stream on Humanitarian Coordination: NGOs in government-led and refugee coordination contexts  
**March 20, 2018**: ICVA Annual Conference, Geneva  
**March 21, 2018**: ICVA 17th General Assembly, Geneva

**Other Meetings and Events:**

**October 2-6**: UNHCR Executive Committee 68th meeting, Geneva  
**October 17-18**: UNHCR Thematic Discussions Two & Three for the Global Compact on Refugees, Geneva  
**October 26-27**: Regional Conference on the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework, San Pedro Sula, Honduras  
**November 6-11**: Geneva Peace Week - Prevention and effective pathways for implementation  
**November 14-15**: UNHCR Thematic Discussions Four & Five for the Global Compact on Refugees, Geneva  
**November 28-December 1**: IOM 108th Council, Geneva  
**December 4**: IASC Principals Meeting  
**December 12-13**: High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges, Geneva  
**February 5-9, 2018**: Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, Geneva

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### Humanitarian Coordination

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