



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## The Power of Principled Partnerships

With the launch of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), the international humanitarian community has been asked “what must we change, do better, to make the humanitarian sector fit for purpose to respond to future disasters?”

The ICVA network has been active in all WHS regional and thematic consultations addressing this question, and collectively lobbying for the [Principles of Partnership: Equality; Transparency; Results-Oriented Approach; Responsibility and Complementarity](#) to be considered as key to unlocking the answer. The ICVA network believes that the **Principles of Partnership**, when committed to and implemented throughout the humanitarian sector, will open dialogue, improve processes, and foster principled and effective humanitarian action.

In support of the Principles of Partnership, the ICVA network has launched the [#ICVAPoP campaign](#), which **calls upon all humanitarian actors to ensure:**

- The Principles of Partnership are foundational in all humanitarian partnerships, including between and among: *affected populations, Member States, the UN, International Organizations, NGOs, the Red Cross Red Crescent, academia and the private sector.*

Building on this campaign, **ICVA urges the WHS Secretariat to:**

- Promote the Principles of Partnership and ensure they are reflected in key WHS outputs, specifically the Synthesis report and the Secretary General’s report.

## The relevance of the Principles of Partnership

Humanitarian responses need **partnerships of all kinds to be successful and meet the needs of affected populations.** Within an interdependent, interlinked and multilayered humanitarian landscape, diverse partnerships have emerged, ranging from formal to informal, arranged and rigid, open and varied. Since the inception of the Principles of Partnership in 2007 by the **Global Humanitarian Platform**, ICVA has seen the influence their application can have in partnerships between UN agencies and NGOs. ICVA remains committed to the Principles of Partnership’s relevance and application to other actors including communities, governments and the private sector.

Over the last eight years, practical research has been undertaken to test the applicability of the Principles of Partnership. Contributing to a framework for humanitarian agencies, [guidance and indicators](#) for the **application of the Principles of Partnership** now exist, which has strengthened institutional relationships and resulted in positive impacts on agencies’ ability to be accountable to one another and to the communities they seek to serve.

## The Principles of Partnership and the World Humanitarian Summit

As WHS processes continue, clear thematic action areas have emerged. To date, Regional and Thematic WHS recommendations have called for humanitarian action to become more **people centered**, more **locally led**, more **respectful and responsive** to local context and priorities. Alongside calls to **guarantee minimum resource requirements** to preserve life and dignity, there are calls to **build resilience** and **find new ways to respond** to protracted crises and displacement. Underpinning these emerging recommendations, consultations have clearly highlighted the need to **bring together diverse humanitarian actors**, to **strengthen partnerships** and to **promote collective action**.

**Successful humanitarian responses are grounded in interdependency and reliant on effective and principled partnerships.** The ICVA network believes that the Principles of Partnership remain a key catalyst in achieving these emerging WHS recommendations and commitments.

The ICVA network remains committed to ensuring that the Principles of Partnership are **more widely shared, applied and adopted** in the lead up to, and beyond the WHS. In pursuit of this goal ICVA is calling on other humanitarian organizations to support the Principles of Partnership and join the [#ICVAPoP campaign](#).

The WHS Secretariat's support for the Principles of Partnership is essential for future humanitarian action.

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