

ICVA Annual Conference
20 March 2018

Navigating the Nexus: NGO Perspectives

Humanitarian

Development

Peace

CONCEPT NOTE

As policy makers debate how to best approach the “triple nexus” – the inter-connection between humanitarian action, development, and peace – NGOs are sitting on decades of experience navigating all three. Anchored in the ICVA network’s dedication to principled and effective humanitarian action, ICVA’s 2018 Annual Conference will provide a space to ICVA members and key stakeholders to:

1. Explore the extent to which all three approaches can best connect, putting people at the center (*collective outcomes*)
2. Interact with, and better understand, key actors working on peace and development (*comparative advantage*)
3. Analyze country-specific experiences, teasing out the risks and opportunities presented in the nexus – particularly with regard to humanitarian principles (*context*)
4. Consider ways for NGOs to best connect to initiatives like the New Way of Working (NWoW), the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), and the World Bank’s work in situations of conflict and fragility (*partnership*)

Approach

This interactive conference will begin and end with the voices of affected persons, including refugees, NGOs, civil society and non-traditional actors. Speakers will be selected based on their relevant field experience. Participants will have an opportunity to interact with leaders driving the NWoW, CRRF and World Bank initiatives.

Objectives

The conference aims to provide participants:

- A better understanding of development and peace actors and how they work in relation to humanitarian actors
- Increased awareness of the opportunities, challenges and risks of working in the nexus
- Nuanced suggestions of how to navigate the triple nexus through good practice
- Clarifications regarding the role of NGOs in various nexus-related developments
- Implications for humanitarian operations (funding, capacity, principles, etc.)

The conference’s outcome document will capture key learning from the event and opportunities for future collaboration.

Background

ICVA’s briefing papers on the [New Way of Working](#), the path towards a [Global Compact on Refugees](#), the [Grand Bargain](#), and the World Bank will be useful pre-reading materials in advance of the conference.