



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED  
AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## Humanitarian Financing Working Group Summary Meeting Notes

Tuesday 18 February 2019 15:00-16:30

ICVA Conference Room, 26-28 Avenue Giuseppe-Motta, Online webinar

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### NGO Member Participants included:

HI, ICMC, ICVA, IRC, NRC, Oxfam, Rescue, SCUUK

#### **1. Update on HFTT changes**

- The IASC has been going through structural changes, led by the IASC Secretariat and Principals, which affects the different Task Teams (TTs). ICVA is the co-chair with OCHA of the Humanitarian Finance TT.
- The TTs are going to become Results Groups (RGs). We have received at the end of January a note announcing that the TT will be sun-set at the end of January. OCHA, the co-chair, suspended involvement immediately.
- A transition period is ongoing through February. During this time ICVA is facilitating as the co-chair the transition to the RG as far as there is no update on the new co-chairs. An HFTT meeting will take place on 20 February to discuss the transition and tuning the existing work plan in accordance with the new RG plan.
- The planned HFTT retreat on 25 March, to go along the ICVA Annual Conference, is to be discussed during the 20 February meeting.
- ICVA has put itself as candidate for continuing as co-chair.
- The procedure for non-IASC members to be members of the TTs is unclear, but ICVA is collecting names of members that would like to be members of the HFRG, for lack of better procedure.
  - **NGO members that are interested in being members should send ICVA a note if interested.**

#### **2. Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls**

- The [initiative](#) was mentioned a few meetings ago.
- The funds should have been available to CSOs, but after discussion with VOICE, it seems that there is no direct path for access for NGOs, and that the funding will go to them as implementing partners through UN agencies.
- NGOs received a response that the initiative itself is not sure how CSOs will be involved, but that it will happen at country level, and will be led by the RC, so those NGOs that are interested should turn to them.

#### **3. OCHA CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform:**

- Next meeting will take place in Juba, South Sudan on 6 March. Work led by NRC and OCHA, together with local NGOs on the ground.
- The meeting will look at topics that are particularly interesting in the South Sudan context and bringing them to the local level.
- There are still some open spots and colleagues are invited, especially those working in South Sudan. Minutes will be shared afterwards.
  - **NGOs interested in participating can contact NRC**
  - **ICVA will touch base with NRC on the pooled fund.**
- A survey on the PF was sent a few weeks ago as part of a study on pooled funds. NGOs were asked to participate in this online survey. The data collected will manifest itself in the study and earlier as a conversation starter in the South Sudan meeting.
- There is an attempt to live-stream the event, but it will depend on the connection quality.

#### **4. Investigation Fund**

- As part of the ongoing dialogue on SEA that is in the work now, OCHA has set up a 1 million USD investigation fund for smaller organisations that do not have the capacity or funds to correctly treat allegations themselves.
- The exact way that it will be done and the way to access it is still ongoing discussion.
  - **ICVA will update once there is more information.**

#### **5. AOB**

##### **I. DFAT PSEA policy– feedback from partners**

- **Australia is looking into feedback on a new SEA Policy. Deadline is 22 February and feedback can be sent to Tanya Axisa [axisa@unhcr.org](mailto:axisa@unhcr.org).**

##### **II. UN Contracts**

- At the end of 2018 there were several back and forths with UN agencies regarding implementation of a new UN SEA Protocol for IPs. This raised some healthy discussion between agencies and NGOs.
- This led to an initiative to look into UN contracts in general, not only at the SEA parts. Led by Oxfam, this group is analysing and comparing clauses in the contracts and trying to suggest language changes and harmonization between the agencies.
- ICVA is helping to look across the agencies, and individual NGOs divided into teams looking each into a different agency.
  - **ICVA is trying to set up a discussion with several UN agencies in March, and the group will aim at having a product to share with them, such a one-pager for common language approach.**
- A cost-effect South Sudan paper has been circulating more widely and showing that this harmonization process is gaining momentum.

##### **III. UNICEF 2019 PCA**

- ICVA has just received the final version of the PCA, and from a quick review it seems that there are some positive changes but not all recommendations and suggestions were accepted.
  - **ICVA will review the contracts in depth and bring up points of concern.**
  - **ICVA will share the new PCA with the HFWG and the Contracts group**
- There is disappointment from the NGO side on the formal communication from UNICEF side, as there was no apparent attempt to consult with the partner NGOs prior to country roll-out.

- Partially as a result of this, UNICEF has established a new unit in Geneva that will be the entry point for dialogue between NGOs and UNICEF. This is positive as it is hard to know which unit and who in UNICEF does what.

#### **IV. UNHCR PPA DRAFT**

- ICVA is still involved in the input on the new PPA. One issue is that there has been no clear path for input. UNHCR has an ad-hoc group of NGOs that is not a formalized body and includes ICVA.
- Looking into making a more formalized process for NGO input, in order to prevent the quick consultation with ICVA as a box-ticking exercise. Important not to miss a change to bring input when we have the opportunity, as it does not happen frequently.
- For 2019 the language is unlikely to change, and the contracts were brought to ICVA very late in the year, but there is an attempt to approach the agencies earlier this year.
  - **ICVA will circulate the UNHCR PPA Draft**

#### **V. Feedback on the GB self-report**

- The GB self report: each year with deadline in March, GB signatories submit a report on the work streams. This year is a little different, as in late 2018 11 core commitments were identified instead of the 51 commitments. There are also new key indicators for each core commitment.
- This has been put into a spreadsheet that looks quite complicated and raises fears that reporting will not be done well because of this complexity.
  - **ICVA will send the deadline date to the group**
- Some NGOs were surprised by the structure of the template and the lack of consultations.
- There is a request to input on field-based results and a gender layer that makes it more complicated for signatories to fill without having prepared for it. The lack of consultation makes it hard to report on every single commitment.
- ICVA, as a co-convenor, was engaged in the indicators indentifications etc., so apparently the template was not even made in consultation with the co-convenors.
- Good opportunity to interact with InterAction, which is the NGO representative on the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group.

Next Meeting: Monday 18 March 2019