



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Statement from ICVA

ICVA scoping study: Civil society space in humanitarian action

<https://www.icvanetwork.org/resources/scoping-study-civil-society-space-humanitarian-action>

Geneva, 29 November 2018 -

Civil society space is increasingly a key issue for humanitarian organisations.

An independent study carried out for ICVA provides a collective perspective of civil society needs and defines the potential role of ICVA in strengthening and supporting a more inclusive and diverse civil society.

The study identifies a wide variety of civil society needs, which include: accessibility and translation of documentation, support to national organisations and to NGO fora, advocacy support, research and data on the closure of civil society space, capacity building, among others.

Some of these recommendations will find their way in our [2019-2021 Strategy](#) and will reinforce our efforts to promote principled and effective humanitarian action.

The study also helps guide strategic decision making about where best impact can be made. In 2019, ICVA will further engage on the role of Philanthropic Foundations in humanitarian action. Philanthropic Foundations play an indirect yet key role in this shrinking civic space context, where – in collaboration with humanitarian organisations - they have the power to influence new resourcing practices, the evolution of accountability mechanisms and discussions around risk.

ICVA supports emerging practices that contribute to more direct and democratic resourcing of local civil society, and believes it reinforces the potentials for its membership to navigate, protect and expand civil society space.