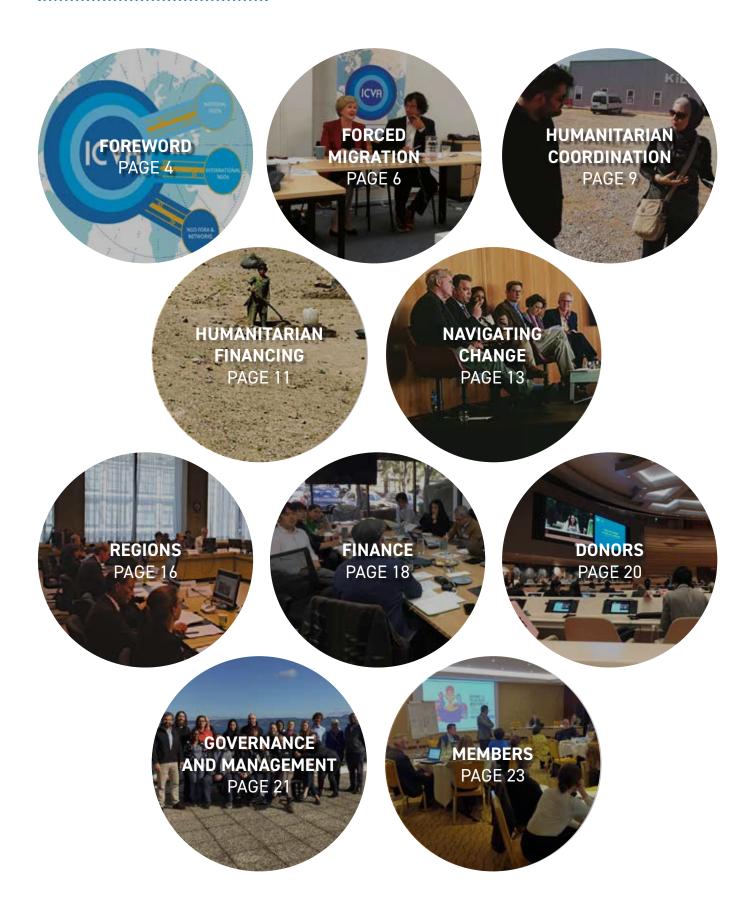




INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

CONTENTS



FOREWORD



Looking backward to move forward

Growing our agility to adapt

ICVA's work on forced migration aims to improve As the world around us changes with increasing speed and unpredictability, ICVA influences, supports, examines, convenes and connects to make sense of social, economic and political contexts that we inhabit. Framed by our three-year "Strategy 2019-2021" and "Theories of Change", in 2019, the understanding of the characteristics of the changing humanitarian environment was a constant focus for us. It contributes to the development of the ICVA network's capacity and ability and makes it easier to respond to many demands. From this perspective, the notion of organisational agility is a quality ICVA exercises.

One of ICVA's priorities for 2019 was to support NGO's in navigating change with a focus on the humanitarian/ development/peace Nexus, on localization, on civil society space in humanitarian action, and in advancing protection

from sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace. As we look at how power is shifting and new actors are emerging in humanitarian interventions, this raises new opportunities and challenges that reinforce our agility to adapt. ICVA's China engagement programme and our new partnerships evolving in Latin America are an example of how we have adapted in 2019.

Supporting stronger international cooperation and principled partnerships

NGO collaboration, international cooperation and multilateralism have given 2019 substance to international processes on which ICVA is engaged. Working together to translate promises of the Global Compacts on Refugees and for Migration into action has been a part of ICVA's Forced Migration portfolio. ICVA helps strengthen cohesion and build opportunities for positive impact on millions of uprooted people and hosting communities worldwide.

2019 presented an extremely challenging operational and funding environment for NGOs' humanitarian response. ICVA reinforced its roles as a key network for humanitarian coordination and on humanitarian financing. ICVA's Humanitarian Financing work in 2019 advocated to ensure the needs of populations affected by crisis are well funded, as well as ensuring better access to humanitarian financing for NGOs

ICVA engages in existing coordination mechanisms at the global, regional and country levels and promotes dialogue between NGOs and Humanitarian Coordinators. With the "ICVA NGO Fora Support Programme," strengthening incountry NGO coordination is a priority supported by results.

Leveraging ICVA's added value

In 2019, we connected, supported and exchanged on best practices in humanitarian response with other NGO networks, other civil society organisations and NGOs outside of our membership. We continue to be united in our diversity and in our purpose to influence an increasingly diverse group of stakeholders. Our efforts create partnerships with individuals, organisations, and businesses to collaboratively design and implement new policies and initiatives.

As reported in our external "Impact Study", critical opportunities remain to be addressed in leveraging ICVA's added value: the diversity of our growing membership, our "ways of working", the proximity of the ICVA Secretariat to the diverse humanitarian contexts, the outreach activities led by ICVA regional hubs.

Reaffirming the value of the humanitarian principles for humanitarians

The value of the humanitarian principles for humanitarians is repeatedly reaffirmed by ICVA. The recognition that the principles - humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence - are essential for humanitarians to meet the needs of affected populations. This is of primary importance for ICVA's work. It is critical that we are able to demonstrate, in practical, meaningful ways, that collective humanitarian advocacy efforts increase the implementation of effective and principled humanitarian action.

This year has again underscored the strength that ICVA, as a network, gains from collective work and common values. ICVA's strength depends on the engagement of its members for collective results. Our deepest appreciation to the ICVA members and highly committed individuals who have contributed to the results reported in this annual review.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director



Ignacio Packer Executive Director, ICVA

FORCED MIGRATION



Gillian Triggs, UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Protection

Introduction

ICVA's work on forced migration aims to improve protection, assistance and durable solutions for refugees, IDPs, stateless persons and vulnerable migrants.

Throughout 2019, ICVA has remained intentional with our collaboration and coordination with our NGO partners. This relationship allows ICVA to bring the voices of NGOs to influence humanitarian policies and practices and leverage equal and inclusive partnerships. Throughout the year ICVA has facilitated NGO involvement at various UN agency meetings.

Engagement with UNHCR

ICVA remains an essential connecting bridge between the NGO community and UNHCR. Strongly anchored in the Principles of Partnership, in 2019 we heavily advocated NGO views to various high-level UNHCR meetings. ICVA aimed to widen the space for NGOs to influence relevant policies and encourage high quality and mutually beneficial partnerships among various actors involved in assisting and protecting displaced populations and affected communities.

In 2019, ICVA's engagement with UNHCR has included:

UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations 3-5 July 2019:

ICVA co-organised the Geneva based UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations. The three-day event brought together over 450 NGOs from 243 organisations and 76 countries. Through lively workshops, sessions and thematic discussions, NGO and UNHCR staff debated around the theme: "Working together, better." There was a particular focus on data and evidence, the meaning of the regionalisation process for UNHCR-NGO partnerships, and how to ensure NGOs contribution to the first Global Refugee Forum which was held in December 2019.

UNHCR's 70th Executive Committee & Standing Committee meetings:

Through a collective process involving a wide range of NGOs, this year ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of 13 Statements at the UNHCR's Standing Committee meetings. The statements allowed the NGO community to provide perspectives and highlight key issues related to the discussed agenda items. Likewise, ICVA also facilitated the drafting and delivery of two statements for the 70th Executive Committee Meeting in October 2019. The statements focused on the High-level segment on statelessness and general debate and the Report of the NGO Rapporteur on the UNHCR-NGO

Annual Consultations. ICVA also organised a side event during the Executive Committee on "Durable Solutions through (re) integration: what it takes?" highlighting NGO reflections on what successful (re)integration looks like and the operational challenges in achieving this. All statements from the Standing Committee and Executive committee can be found on the Forced Migration page on the ICVA website.

Global Refugee Forum, 16-18 December 2019:

In December 2019, UNHCR organised the first ever Global Refugee Forum (GRF). Guided by the Global Compact on Refugees, the GRF gathered around 3,000 participants including NGOs and other civil society actors, States, refugees, UN Agencies and the private sector, in an effort to translate the principle of international responsibility-sharing into tangible, concrete and measurable actions.

Throughout the year, ICVA supported NGO engagement on the Global Refugee Forum. In the lead up to the Forum, UNHCR organized three preparatory meetings in Geneva in March, June and November and NGOs contributed through five collective statements coordinated by ICVA. Additionally, ICVA coordinated a compilation of a list of pledges from over 70 NGOs worldwide. This list was made available on ICVA website before any other pledges were made public. Around 900 pledges were submitted in the context of the Forum, the majority of which came from NGOs and civil society. Several pledges were related to the six main areas of focus (Arrangements for burden- and responsibility-sharing; Education; Jobs and livelihoods; Energy and infrastructure; Solutions; and Protection capacity). Based on ICVA's own pledge, in 2020 and 2021, ICVA will work to support NGOs' engagement in the GCR implementation and GRF follow-up.

Global Compact on Refugees:

ICVA continued its involvement to support NGO engagement with the implementation of the various elements of the Compact, contributing to exchanges with UNHCR and other actors. In 2019, ICVA notably contributed to the development of the three-year strategy on resettlement and complementary pathways and to discussions related to the Asylum Capacity Support Group, both arrangements foreseen in the GCR.

Moreover, thanks to support from the US Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, ICVA convened two workshops on 'reinforcing the understanding of the whole-of-society approach' in N'Djamena, Chad and on the 'multi-stakeholder approach to durable solutions' in Abidjan. Those workshops allowed participants to strengthen their common understanding of whole-of-society approaches in the context of implementing the GCR and CRRF.

Internally Displaced Persons & Guiding Principles (GP20):

With the number of displaced persons increasing, ICVA remains committed to support measures to improve the protection, assistance and solutions provided to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Since its launch in April 2018, ICVA has been supporting the implementation of the GP20 Plan of Action to Advance Prevention, Protection and Solutions for IDPs (2018-2020). As a member of the GP20 Steering Group and IDP Participation workstream, ICVA contributed to the organisation of a webinar in May 2019 on Confronting the Barriers to IDP Women and Girls' Participation in Humanitarian Settings.

ICVA also helped bring inputs from its members in the process of updating the UNHCR Policy on Internal Displacement. Once released, ICVA held discussions on the updated Policy with UNHCR Senior Advisor on Internal Displacement and ICVA disseminated UNHCR's Policy for Engagement in Situations of Internal Displacement, as well as its accompanying guidance package and contributed to a UNHCR's briefing in October.

Throughout the year, ICVA also engaged with the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and with developments related to the setting-up of a High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. Those activities will continue in 2020.

Venezuela displacement crisis:

ICVA followed closely the displacement crisis happening in Venezuela and in the Latin America and Caribbean Region.

In April, ICVA hosted a discussion with NGOs and other actors on the situation of Venezuelan women and children seeking refuge with a particular focus on the protection of women and girls.

ICVA also participated in the International Solidarity Conference on the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis in Brussels in October. The Conference aimed to raise awareness on the humanitarian crisis and displacement of 4.5 million people in the region; to show and call for solidarity at financial and technical levels; and to take stock of best practices.

NGOs contributed through insightful interventions, including a joint NGO statement developed through coordination between NGO networks ICVA, InterAction, and Voice. This statement on "Ensuring solidarity with displaced Venezuelans: supporting countries and communities hosting and protecting them" is available to ICVA members in both English and Spanish on the ICVA website.

Protection of vulnerable migrants:

In 2019 ICVA continued to co-convene the Civil Society Action Committee on Migration (Action Committee). Throughout the year, the Committee consolidated itself as a global platform for collective civil society coordination and engagement around the global governance of migration, including partnership and engagement with UN Member States, UN agencies, the private sector, and other stakeholders and partners at the global level.



Global Refugee Forum 2019

Joint engagement focused mainly on the modalities of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), as well as the UN Network on Migration and its Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund. Members also invested in further clarifying the three primary responsibilities of the Action Committee, namely: ensuring timely and strategic information sharing on global migration governance; providing a space for joint civil society strategising and action; and increasing access to engagement at all levels of global migration governance. A plan of thematic priorities for collective action will be developed and implemented starting in 2020.

International Organization of Migration (IOM):

Within its work on migration, ICVA continues to collaborate with IOM. In June 2019 ICVA co-convened the IOM-Civil Society Information Sharing on Migration & the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The meeting provided a key opportunity to proactively address the links between migration and development as experienced and pursued by NGOs and civil society. In October ICVA and IOM hosted the 2019 NGOs Regional Humanitarian Consultation in Istanbul, Turkey, bringing together over 65 participants. The consultation focused on the MENA region, issues around access and how a stronger partnership between NGOs and IOM could be instrumental in ensuring access and maintaining it. The meeting concluded with several concrete recommendations to be followed up mainly in the region but also beyond.

Forced Migration in 2020:

In 2020, ICVA will continue to act as an interface between the NGO community and UNHCR to promote effective collaboration to protect and assist refugees, IDPs, stateless persons, and returnees. This will include, coordinating NGO contributions to UNHCR meetings, and co-organising UNHCR NGO-Consultations. ICVA will deepen its engagement on the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), in its implementation and supporting NGO's in their collective learning.

Additionally, ICVA will continue to contribute to the work and the thematic priorities of the Action Committee on Migration, with a focus on migrants in vulnerable situations, especially in transit. ICVA will also support NGOs in their implementation of the Global Compact on Migration and its complementarities to the Global Compact on Refugees.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION



Eman Ismail, ICVA's Regional Representative in MENA with ICVA members, IHH in Turkey

Introduction

ICVA and its members work within a larger humanitarian ecosystem that includes governments, UN agencies, Red Cross and Red Crescent movement and NGOs. It can be a complex space involving many actors. A variety of coordination mechanisms have been created to help different actors operate more efficiently and effectively providing assistance and protection to those affected by disaster.

ICVA believes that effective collective action in complex humanitarian contexts is critical. Throughout 2019 ICVA has strengthened the collective ability of NGOs to actively engage in and influence the IASC coordination mechanisms, promoted dialogue between humanitarian leadership and NGOs, and supported NGO fora operating in complex humanitarian contexts.

Engaging in the IASC mechanisms

ICVA is a standing invitee of the IASC along with two other NGO networks (InterAction and SCHR). ICVA and its members participate in the different IASC bodies.

It took a few months for the transition to **the new IASC architecture reform** that was rolled out at the beginning of 2019. The key features of the new structure included the creation of an Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG) to drive the strategic policy work of the IASC and five time-bound Results Groups (RG). The OPAG supersedes the former IASC Working Group. The IASC Results Groups are responsible for delivering the agreed outputs under the five IASC Strategic priorities: Humanitarian Financing, Accountability and Inclusion, Collective Advocacy, Humanitarian-Development Collaboration and Operational

Response. In October, ICVA hosted a webinar the on IASC reform* with Mervat Shelbaya, Head of the IASC secretariat.

ICVA and its members are involved in the IASC Principals, the Deputies Forum, the Emergency Directors Group, the OPAG and its five Results groups. ICVA's participation is informed by feedback from members and NGO fora, and the participation of ICVA members in the meetings. Representatives from the Danish Refugee Council and Terre des Hommes regularly attended the EDG meetings.

In 2019 ICVA together with the networks Interaction and SCHR, successfully advocated for the inclusion of local and national NGOs in the IASC coordination structures and mainly in the OPAG and its RGs. In addition to the International Medical Corps (IMC), the Foundation for Rural Development (FRD), the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR), and the Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust (COAST) joined the OPAG through ICVA. This inclusion of national NGOs in global coordination mechanisms bring the field realities to the global policy discussions. Through ICVA, these organisations attend the OPAG meetings, which are co-chaired by ICVA member Norwegian Refugee Council.

ICVA actively contributes to each of the Results Groups, co-chairs the RG5 on humanitarian financing and encourages members to join and participate in the different groups. Key activities resulting from the work included dissemination of the Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, supporting the work on an Inter-Agency Learning Package on PSEAH, and organising a meeting with NGOs on Counter Terrorism to share knowledge and information.

Promoting dialogue between NGOs and Humanitarian Coordinators

ICVA regularly hosts Humanitarian leaders at the Office in Geneva- for open discussions with members and other interested NGOs. Throughout 2019 ICVA convened meetings with its members for discussions with the regional/deputy humanitarian coordinators for the Syria Crisis, Mali, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, MENA, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, and Jordan. These exchanges provide an opportunity to share information, increase understanding of the crisis/country context, and find ways for UN agencies and NGOs to better support each other in order to better serve the affected and host population.

Through ICVA, NGOs contributed to the **annual appraisal of humanitarian coordinators** conducted by the EDG. The feedback received from members working directly with the coordinators is much valued and helps shape the crucial role of the humanitarian coordinators in general.

Strengthening in-country NGO coordination

In many humanitarian crises, NGOs come together to establish networks and Fora to coordinate NGO efforts to deliver humanitarian assistance. In-country humanitarian NGO Fora contribute to the effective and principled delivery of humanitarian assistance. However, in a context of rising humanitarian needs and increasingly complex humanitarian crises, effective NGO coordination is more critical than ever.

For many years ICVA has actively supported humanitarian NGO coordination networks through a programme of direct support, mentoring and structured engagement on a range of issues. Key areas have included promotion of the role of Fora in collective NGO action, guidance on governance and membership-related issues, information sharing, capacity building, promotion of learning opportunities and advocacy on the importance of NGO coordination with donors and agencies.

ICVA has conducted a range of activities in 2019 to strengthen national and international NGO Fora, improve advocacy capacity and raise awareness of the key role of NGO Fora.

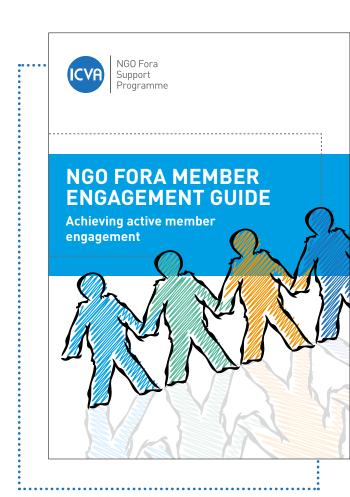
Examples of these activities include:

- Revamping and revising the www.ngocoordination.org website to allow easy access to essential resources for humanitarian NGO coordination.
- Produced an NGO Fora VIDEO: the power of collective action in delivering humanitarian assistance
- Published in partnership with Interaction, a joint induction guide for NGO Fora showing both areas of overlap, and where each networks complement the other in terms of humanitarian advocacy.
- Published "NGO Fora Member Engagement Guide", which presents good practice and key considerations for NGO coordination to achieve active member engagement.

- Hosted a workshop in Bangkok for 18 NGO Fora from Asia, MENA and Africa, on joint advocacy for Humanitarian NGO Fora.
- Provided ad hoc individual support to NGO Fora throughout the year on governance, strategic planning, human resource management and overall understanding of humanitarian system.
- Facilitated two peer-to-peer exchanges for NGO Fora.
 The Somalia NGO Consortium hosted staff from ACBAR,
 Afghanistan and the International NGO Fora Nigeria, to share best practices and lessons learned on governance and member engagement. The Japan Platform, JANIC (Japan),
 KCOC from Korea, ACFID and AHP (Australia) and CID (New Zealand) met in Australia for an exchange on how to improve principled and effective engagement between NGOs and donor government agencies.

Coordination in 2020

ICVA will continue supporting NGO engagement in existing coordination mechanisms at the global, regional and country levels. ICVA will reinforce its involvement in the Strategic Advisory Group of the Global Protection Cluster, the Advisory Board of the Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap) and in the different regional IASC groups. ICVA will continue to engage with senior humanitarian leadership and strengthened NGO collective action at country and global level, especially through the support provided to NGO Fora.



HUMANITARIAN FINANCING



IDP camp Herat, Afghanistan

Introduction

ICVA's Humanitarian Financing work advocates to ensure the needs of populations affected by crisis are well funded, as well as ensuring better access to humanitarian financing for NGOs. Resourcing humanitarian action is one of the key issues for NGOs and all other actors involved in providing humanitarian assistance. As a network we collectively promote adequate, accessible, transparent, principled and sustainable resourcing for humanitarian action. ICVA understands that NGOs need flexibility to respond to humanitarian crises and to have access to timely, predictable, earmarked or unearmarked funding that have realistic conditions and reporting requirements.

Grand Bargain

The "Grand Bargain" is a multi-stakeholder agreement between humanitarian donors and aid agencies. It aims to get more resources to people in crisis and to improve humanitarian action to be more effective and efficient. ICVA is a signatory to the Grand Bargain and has been involved in the process since it began in 2016.

In 2019, ICVA has worked closely with members, through ICVA's Humanitarian Financing Working Group, to provide regular reports and analysis, and to seek feedback to prepare ICVA's positions on the Grand Bargain related to two of the commitments; Supporting local and national responders; And reducing burdensome donor conditions.

At the regional and national levels, ICVA has pushed to understand how the Grand Bargain can be implemented to improve the work of field practitioners. Regional staff have been encouraged to approach regional representatives of workstream leads to help advocate for improved knowledge and development of Grand Bargain-linked activities in the field.

March 2019 marked the deadline for signatories to self-report. Signatories were requested to focus on the 11 core commitments and associated key indicators that were developed following the 2018 Grand Bargain annual meeting with a report released at the annual meeting in June 2019 in Geneva.

Donor conditions

The ICVA Donor Conditions Task Force (DCTF) continued to work on harmonisation and simplification of UN partnership agreements with UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and OCHA. While this work has progressed slower than desired, there was positive progress during the November consultations with UNICEF and WFP. In December, the DCTF discussed next steps to respond to the written feedback provided by UN agencies in response to the Oxfam-led analysis of partnership agreements conducted earlier in the year.

Islamic social financing

As part of its efforts to find ways to deepen and broaden the resource base for humanitarian work and its commitments to the IASC Results Group 5 on Humanitarian Financing, ICVA continued its commitment on better linking Islamic Social Financing to humanitarian need with a two-day workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 10-11 December, co-organised with Mercy Malaysia. The workshop aimed at following up on the recommendations from the 2018 Learning Lab on Islamic Social Financing by looking into a potential regional or national structure that will build a long-term conversation between Islamic Financing and Shariah experts and the humanitarian sector. The meeting was attended by more than 30 participants from Malaysian NGOs, Shariah institutions, Zakat boards and UN agencies.

IASC Results Group 5: Humanitarian Finance

In 2019 the work of the IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5) was focused on two strategic priorities: deepening and widening the resource base to reduce the humanitarian funding gap; and supporting the implementation of more flexible and simplified funding models, including multiyear funding, reduced earmarking, and harmonised UN systems. RG5 ended the year strong by putting in place an action plan for 2020.

Country based pooled funds (CBPF)

Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) are a valuable mechanism used by donors to pool their contributions to support country specific humanitarian efforts. These funds can be allocated directly to local NGOs, to support donor's localisation objectives.

In 2019 ICVA, along with Norwegian Refugee Council (current Chair of the OCHA-NGO Pooled Fund Dialogue Platform), aimed to develop a more systematic approach to identify how to improve participation of national NGO partners in the Pooled Fund Working Group, and how to improve NGO access to and use of pooled funds. The ICVA Humanitarian Finance Working Group (HFWG) is the primary platform for gathering input from members on issues related to Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF).

Financing in 2020

Looking forward to 2020, ICVA will continue to support the objectives of the Grand Bargain to:

- Better define quality funding terms related to multi-year and flexible funding and improve guidance for field practitioners;
- Further reduce burdens of management systems by supporting UN harmonisation efforts and implementation of the NRC-led Money Where It Counts initiative;
- Advocate with Germany for expanded use of the "8+3" harmonised narrative reporting template aimed at reducing reporting burdens.

ICVA is also finalising briefing papers in two key areas:

- On Islamic Social Financing for Humanitarians, with the support of ICVA member, Islamic Relief Worldwide.
 The briefing paper will both introduce Islamic Social Financing instruments to the humanitarian sector, with emphasis on their potential and challenges, and provide recommendations for the humanitarian sector to scale-up linkages to Islamic Social Financing as a significant funding source for humanitarian work.
- On risk management in practice for humanitarians. A series
 of papers will be released starting in February 2020 on
 risk management topics, including risk and organisational
 culture, security risk management, risk tolerance vs.
 appetite, and basic tools for practitioners.

The IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group, co-chaired by ICVA and OCHA, started 2020 with a face-to-face meeting in Geneva in January 2020. The agreed priorities for 2020 include the following:

- Map and promote financing instruments supporting humanitarian interventions with development co-benefits (funding the "Nexus");
- Produce a business case showing the contribution of multiyear humanitarian planning and unearmarked funding to more cost-effective humanitarian assistance;
- Facilitate the ongoing process of simplification and harmonisation of UN systems.

Initial action in 2020 to support these priorities will focus on providing final input to light guidance on field implementation of Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus programming being developed by IASC RG4; planning for a roundtable event on crisis financing; and carrying forward the dialogue on UN harmonisation.



Alon Plato, ICVA Policy Officer Humanitarian Financing, presenting at the Asia-Pacific Regional NGO Partnerships Week 2019

NAVIGATING CHANGE



ICVA Annual Conference 2019

This new focus area in 2019, looks to develop strategic thinking in navigating different cross cutting issues of Nexus, localization, civil society space, diversity and inclusion, PSEA, and risk management and their interconnections with each other and across the ICVA focus areas of forced migration, coordination and financing.

The Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus

A number of ICVA members joined the Nexus working group in 2019. The working group shares information and analysis on the nexus and how the NGO community is involved in dedicated regional and global seminars and events. Through this group, ICVA has been contributing to the debate around the humanitarian, development and peace nexus (HDPN) leveraging on the know-how and experience of NGOs in how humanitarian and development actors can better work together in addressing and reducing protracted crises, while safeguarding humanitarian space and principles.

ICVA and members actively participate in the IASC Results Group 4 (GR4): Humanitarian-Development Collaboration which launched in 2019. Work within RG4 has included consultations with OECD DAC donors and feeding into the new Internal Guidance for the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Through the RG4, ICVA co-chairs with WFP the community of practice on the Nexus (CoPN). The CoPN members share examples of good practice of where development and humanitarian actors work together to enhance resilience particularly in fragile settings.

Localization

Throughout 2019 ICVA and members have followed a wide range of initiatives and trends in the global debates on localization. ICVA actively participated in the Grand Bargain localization workstream and attended its three regional conferences in Africa, MENA and Asia-Pacific, and the global conference in Europe. ICVA was a Steering Group member for the 2019 World Humanitarian Action Forum and supported engagement through a number of members in this event. At regional level, ICVA supported a number of initiatives, including the developing localization workplans in Bangladesh, the MENA HPF Localization Task Team round table discussions, and convened meetings, dialogues and workshops with ICVA members and their partners.

Building on ICVA's briefing paper, "Localization Examined," published in 2018, ICVA in partnership with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy published a new paper "Unpacking Localization" in October 2019. This paper takes a deeper look at the processes and considerations associated with localization and poses questions for NGOs to help them as they engage more deeply in this complex topic.

Civil society space in humanitarian action

The ICVA network continues to be concerned by any trends resulting in less space for NGOs. The issue of erosion of humanitarian space, negative perceptions of civil society action by governments, uncertain regulatory environments and general growing restrictions on civil society all impact principled and effective humanitarian action. Not only does this erosion seriously impede NGOs in their ability to support affected populations, it also makes it harder to hold governments and powerful actors to account.

In 2019 ICVA remained committed to work with its members, States and other partners to support 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.

In June 2019 ICVA and PHAP held a webinar on "How do NGOs navigate shrinking civil society space?"* The discussion provided an overview of current challenges and trends regarding civil society space and how NGOs and other actors are working to counter initiatives that shrink this space. And in September, organised a meeting for NGO colleagues to share knowledge, information and brainstorm on collective action on counter terrorism measures.

Diversity and inclusion

In 2019 ICVA adopted a new diversity policy - reinforcing its longstanding commitment to diversity considerations. This is not a new area of focus for ICVA. Many ICVA members are pioneers of diversity – gender and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), disability, child rights, and the elderly. ICVA's participation in the IASC OPAG, RG 2 on accountability and inclusion, GenCap and the PSEA senior advisors groups, enables ICVA to reflect this experience of members in global policy development.

During 2019 a specific focus was given to children's rights. Following a scoping study on how partnership with UNICEF was perceived by NGOs working in humanitarian settings, ICVA and UNICEF hosted the UNICEF-NGO Consultations for Partnership in Humanitarian Settings 'Enhancing the Culture of Partnership'* in November 2019. A number of recommendations came out of the Consultations on how to improve humanitarian partnership to protect children in humanitarian settings.

ICVA briefing paper, "Unpacking Localization"

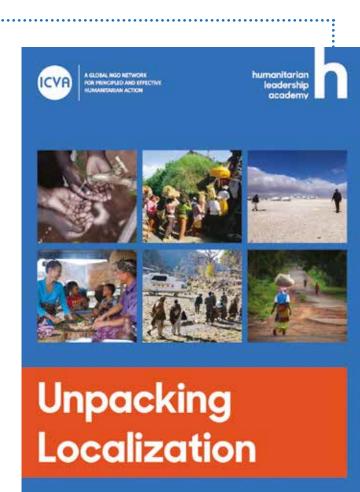
*More information on this topic can be found at www.icvanetwork.org

Advancing protection from sexual exploitation, abuse (PSEA) and sexual harassment in the workplace (SHW)

Since the 2018 adoption by ICVA members of a Commitment and Motion to Action on Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and Sexual Harassment, ICVA has contributed to the international debate on safeguarding to ensure sustainable improvements across the sector.

In 2019 ICVA has been involved in various cross-sector initiatives including through our membership with the IASC, and works collaboratively with many stakeholders to promote PSEA. ICVA is a member of the Misconduct Disclosure Scheme which is showing early signs of success. ICVA also participated in the consultations on a training for PSEA Coordinators led by IOM and influenced with specific language the strengthening of Principle 4 of the IASC Six Core Principles Relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

Overall, we have seen improvements across the sector in safeguarding policies, practices and resourcing, and an increase in accessible and tailored tools and guidance which can be found on the ICVA webpage on Safeguarding learning resources.



Risk management

A new subtheme in the focus area of Navigating change, is risk. The discipline of risk management is not new, and there has already been a significant amount of work to translate risk management practice and tools for use in humanitarian operations. Despite this, humanitarian organisations continue to struggle with applying risk management in their decision-making process. In November, ICVA and PHAP organised the first webinar in a series aimed at exploring the current state of risk management in the humanitarian sector. The webinar Risky Business: Reframing the fundamentals of risk management for humanitarians,* introduced the concept of risk management in humanitarian work, and the importance of developing an organisational culture that understands risk management as a discipline that cuts across all levels of an organisation.

ICVA Annual Conference 2019 – Translating Commitments into Action

At ICVA's 2019 Annual Conference, held in Geneva, under the theme "translating commitment into action," almost 200 participants, from 120 organisations based in over 40 countries, looked at the challenges that impact humanitarian action and their impact on humanitarian values and principles. At the conference, we heard from academics, think-tanks, civil society, governments, donors, Foundations, media, UN and international organisations that the humanitarian system is attempting transformation through organisational and system-wide change (e.g. - the World Humanitarian Summit, the Grand Bargain, the New Way of Working, the New York Declaration, the Global Compacts for refugees and migration, the Climate change Summit). We have heard from our NGO partners, that at country and local levels, there is more change happening than we know. We can be inspired from these changes and strive to ensure humanitarian work is effective and empowers those in vulnerable situations.

Navigating Change in 2020

In 2020 ICVA will continue its briefing series on examining risk management in the humanitarian space. The series aligns with the March 2020 ICVA Annual Conference theme of "Protecting Principled Humanitarian Action: An honest conversation on risk."*

ICVA will continue working alongside UNHCR and IASC on different tools to help NGO's strengthen their own internal polices, practice and advocacy on PSEA. This includes the release and rollout of an Inter-Agency Learning Package for Partners on PSEA and sexual harassment, and an ICVA-UNHCR PSEA Outreach Fund.

ICVA will also explore with its members on how to improve inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian action and better protection for the rights children in humanitarian context.

^{*}More information on this topic can be found at www.icvanetwork.org

REGIONS



COHAFA Council of EU 2019

Introduction

Throughout 2019, ICVA has grown its presence in the regions. Between various meetings with ICVA members, States, and other stakeholders, ICVA has supported humanitarian action by connecting, convening and promoting NGO voices through our regional hubs in Africa, Asia, and MENA.

Africa

ICVA Africa had a busy year engaging with members, NGO Fora and the African Union (AU). ICVA's Africa Representatives went on numerous missions to Mali, Dakar, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cameroon, Uganda and South Africa, in order to give support to our members, attend trainings and stay up to date on the latest inputs and crises.

Some of the major themes of ICVA Africa in 2019 were:

- Active engagement around the migration and displacement trends in Africa. During 2019 ICVA and its members engaged in policy dialogues and round tables related to the 2019 AU theme of the year "Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally displaced Persons: towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa."
- Regional preparedness working group on Ebola crisis.
 ICVA participated in the Ebola Regional Preparedness
 Donors' briefings co-chaired by OCHA and WHO. ICVA's contribution aimed at recalling the experience gained and the recommendations made by NGOs and highlighting the importance of community engagement in preparing and responding to disease outbreak.
- Active participation at Regional IASC and Interagency Humanitarian Partnership Teams in all Africa Sub regions, East Africa, Southern Africa and West and Central Africa.

- Advocacy for the Sahel Region. Through various meetings in 2019, including meetings with the Council of the European Union COHAFA, and IASC, ICVA advocated for support in the Sahel region to improve humanitarian development.
- UNHCR Regional Consultation Southern Africa
 Region in Johannesburg, South Africa
 One of ICVA's Regional Representatives for Africa participated in the UNHCR-NGO Regional Consultations in September 2019. ICVA has supported UNHCR and the NGOs in the preparatory works and was responsible for co-facilitating a session dedicated to NGOs and allowing space for NGO voices to be heard during the consultation. As a learning exercise, ICVA and UNHCR representatives met to review results and challenges and draft the adjustments to the next events.

Asia

In 2019 ICVA Asia engaged members and other humanitarian actors through various meetings, workshops and consultations on some of the region's current concerns and supported NGO engagement with ASEAN.

Some of the highlights of 2019 were:

• Engagement with ASEAN. ICVA's Executive Director and ICVA's Regional Representative travelled to Jakarta for highlevel meetings with the ASEAN Secretariat and AHA Centre, along with UNOCHA and NGOs, regarding the future of NGO engagement in the region. The meetings highlighted the interest and need for more structured and better-resourced engagement by NGOs with ASEAN and its policy and operational mechanisms. ICVA spent time in 2019 developing a revised approach to supporting NGO engagement in ASEAN for 2020, this will include supporting the expansion of the AADMER Partnership Group (APG) within the region.

- In 2019 ICVA broadened its engagement in China. ICVA supported the 'International Humanitarian Response Workshop: Experience and Innovation from Chinese Civil Society,' in October 2019. The workshop provided a platform for Chinese and international humanitarian actors to share knowledge and experience, and guiding participants to explore new ideas for greater collaboration in the field of principled and effective humanitarian response. More than 50 representatives from relevant government departments, INGOs and NGOs, UN and international NGO offices in China, enterprises and academic institutions participated in the workshop. ICVA, in partnership with the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG), published a joint paper on China: "Positive Disruption? China's Humanitarian Aid" The topic of the paper is how China's global aid programme is evolving and expanding prompting considerable interest from the international humanitarian sector. This paper can be found on the ICVA website.
- In November, ICVA co-organized the fourth Asia-Pacific Regional NGO Partnerships Week in Bangkok.

 The event brought together over 130 members and partners of ICVA and the Asia Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) in a series of meetings, events and workshops focused on strengthening humanitarian practice in the region. For 2019 the cross-cutting theme was "Accountability, Coherence and Protection." During the week, participants from the UN, NGOs, private sector and academia gathered together to share experiences, discuss and solve common challenges in a range of humanitarian topics such as climate change, disaster risk reduction, localization, protection and accountability to affected communities, and shrinking civil society space.

POSITIVE DISRUPTION? CHINA'S HUMANITARIAN AID December 2019 HUMANITARIAN HORIZONS PRACTICE PAPER SERIES HUMANITARIAN ADVISORY GROUP *** MINISTRIBUTED TO THE PAPER SERIES *** MINISTRIBUTED TO THE PAPER SERIES

MENA

In 2019 ICVA MENA prioritised meetings with members, developing partnerships, travelling to countries in the region and participating in the various meetings and consultations.

Some of the highlights of 2019 were:

- The first UNHCR-NGO Regional Consultations in MENA.
 2019 marked the first year to have the UNHCR Annual
 Consultations with MENA NGOs and Civil Society in the
 MENA region. The consultations was held in Amman,
 Jordan in June 2019. ICVA took the opportunity to meet
 with members and discuss some of the primary concerns
 of the region, particularly on the topics of accountability to
 displaced populations and support to host communities, in
 line with the Global Compact on Refugees.
- Member Briefing in Istanbul. ICVA hosted a member briefing in Istanbul in October as a sideline to the IOM/ NGO Consultation workshop. ICVA's Executive Director and ICVA's MENA Regional Deputy Representative met with 10 ICVA members to hear their recommendations on their engagement with ICVA and ICVA updated members on our up-and-coming trends.
- Discussions around Localization. In 2019 ICVA MENA focused on a number of trends in the region including lessons learned and best practices regarding localization. ICVA explored different collaboration opportunities with the ICVA member base in MENA and held discussions around challenges related to access, safety and security in high risk areas.

Latin America

In 2019 ICVA looked to create new partnerships in Latin America. With the rise of the displacement crisis, particularly the displacement crisis happening in Venezuela and in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, ICVA wanted to increase its presence and knowledge in the region, to learn how to best support ongoing humanitarian efforts.

ICVA hosted a staff member from FM4/Paso Libre for a threemonth secondment. The purpose of the secondment was to develop humanitarian NGO capacity in Latin America in the years to come by informing and influencing ICVA's work and for ICVA to better service and develop its Latin American NGO members. The secondment contributed to developing sustainable participation and representation of Latin American NGOs within the ICVA network.

FINANCE

As statutory auditor, PwC has audited the financial statements of ICVA for the year ended 31 December 2019. It is the opinion of the statutory auditor that "the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and comply with Swiss law, the association's deed and internal regulations".

The Audited Financial Statement can be found on the ICVA website.

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2019 (in Swiss francs)

Assets	Notes	2019	2018
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	1,113,858	847,235
Accounts receivable	7	557,173	633,089
Accrued income			
Prepaid expenses	8	7,000	7,916
Total current assets		1,678,031	1,488,240
Non-current assets			
Guarantee deposit	9	20,077	20,075
Equipment		27,145	27,145
Amortization		-10,858	-5,429
Total non-current assets		36,364	41,791
Total assets		1,714,395	1,530,031

Liabilities	Notes	2019	2018
Short-term liabilities			
Accounts payable	10	144,178	163,419
Accrued expenses	10	28,478	79,783
Deferred income	10	210,408	48,881
Total short-term liabilities		383,064	292,083
Long-term liabilities			
Lease liability		18,926	23,382
Total long-term liabilities		18,926	23,382
Total liabilities		401,990	315,465
Reserve			
General Reserve		927,387	546,220
Contingency reserve	12	63,022	64,133
Specific project balances		316,860	223,045
Net result for the year		5,136	381,168
Total reserves		1,312,405	1,214,565
Total liabilities		1,714,395	1,530,031

Statement of Income and Expenses for the financial year 2019 ended 31 December (in Swiss francs)

ended 31 December (in Swiss francs)		
	2019	2018
Membership Fees/Board Contributions and Donations	3,067,137	3,228,977
ICVA Membership Fees/Sphere Board Contributions	515,192	535,943
Australia - Permanent Mission to the United Nations' International Development Fund (IDF)	17,938	47,684
Denmark - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	416,120	155,400
ECHO - European Commission Humanitarian Aid	86,715	465,760
Luxembourg	110,114	-
German Humanitarian Assistance	575,096	555,134
IOM	31,805	-
Norway	166,633	-
UNICEF	112,871	-
Sweden - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	321,853	342,255
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	250,000	300,000
UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency	90,993	89,000
UNHCR GRF	6,600	-
PRM	63,083	199,622
IFRC	2,902	
Open Society Foundations	210,033	-
Hilton Foundation	89,191	
IKEA Foundation	-	538,179
Other Income	28,964	13,728
Staff costs	-1,924,079	-1,554,159
External Services	-329,843	-532,133
Premises charges	-130,540	-138,998
Maintenance, repairs and equipment	-10,524	-6,332
Travel expenses	-365,145	-382,080
IT expenses	-33,018	-50,487
Administration and office costs	-18,184	-16,389
Communications	-78,407	-109,744
Meeting, teleconference and webinar costs	-67,399	-82,062
Amortization (P&L)	-5,429	-5,429
Other costs	-3,511	-3,189
Net result before financial income and expenses	130,022	361,703
Financial income	53,487	-
Financial expenses	-85,669	-43,647
Net result after financial income and expenses	97,839	318,056
Net result before allocation to contingency reserves and specific project balances	97,839	318,056
Reduction in Contingency Reserves, Provisions and Specific Project balances	773,133	949,391
Increase in Contingency Reserves, Provisions and Specific Project balances	-865,837	-886,279
Net result for the year	5,136	381,168

ICVA is grateful to its membership and partners for dues, funding and other contributions and in-kind support. We thank Save the Children, ACTED, APRRN, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) for their support to the Regional Hubs. We also thank the Foundation for Buildings for International Organisations (FIPOI), the Canton of Geneva and the Swiss Federal Council (Confédération Suisse) for their continued support. We also thank the following governments and organisations for their generous support in 2019:











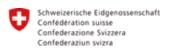


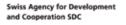




















GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Board

The ICVA board meets four times a year, with much of the work being done through the three committees: Finance & Administration Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Policy, Programme and Advocacy Committee.

ICVA Board as at December 2019

ACT Alliance:

Anoop Sukumaran - Chair

Action Contre la Faim:

Isabelle Moussard Carlsen

Africa Humanitarian Action:

Wossen Tesfaye

Amel Association International:

Virginie Lefevre

Christian Aid:

Jane Backhurst

International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC):

Walter Brill - Human Resources Focal Point

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC):

James Munn (replaced Rilito Povea) - Treasurer

Plan International:

Roger Yates - Vice Chair

Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK):

Eunice Ndonga

Terre des Hommes:

Steven Fricaud (replaced Thierry Sabaux)

Managing risks

In 2019 ICVA's risk management process did not have to deal with any allegations on sexual abuse and exploitation and sexual harassment in the workplace. Our risk management process did not have to deal with any safety and security incidents concerning staff, nor incidents of fraud.

Environment policy

ICVA is committed to being an environmentally responsible organisation, and implemented its first environmental policy in January 2019. The **policy*** establishes practices and guidelines for the ICVA secretariat to effectively reduce the carbon footprint and other environmental impacts of its activities while operating under a limited budget.

2015-2018 Impact Study Report

In February 2019, ICVA published an evaluation of its "2015-2018 Strategy". The report comprised interviews and document reviews and drew from interim impact studies conducted throughout the strategy cycle. The report looks at how ICVA has increased NGO understanding of the humanitarian sector and its policies, stimulated NGO engagement in policy and advocacy issues, influenced key debates within the humanitarian sector, and strengthened field level NGO Fora coordination.

What's to come in 2020?

In 2020, ICVA will be embarking on the **ICVA 2030*** process to look at further developing the "Collaborative Future for Effective Humanitarian Action." With the input of our members and stakeholders, we are assessing the future of ICVA going forward. The ICVA 2030 Strategy is part of the preparations for the General Assembly in 2021.

^{*}More information on this topic can be found at www.icvanetwork.org

ICVA staff

The ICVA secretariat team is based in Geneva, Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Amman and Bangkok.

ICVA staff as at December 2019:

- Executive Director Mr Ignacio Packer
- · Communications Officer Ms Christian Benadum
- · Finance Officer Mr Fabrice Cadoux
- · Policy Officer Forced Migration Ms Loise Dai Rocheteau
- · Senior Policy Officer, Head of Forced Migration Mr Jérôme Elie
- · Support Policy Officer Ms Vania Gobbo
- · Deputy Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific Ms Qingrui Huang
- · Director of Programme Mr Michael Hyden
- · Deputy Regional Representative for MENA Ms Eman Ismail
- · Programme Learning Coordinator Ms Nishanie Jayamaha
- · Head of Humanitarian Coordination Ms Emmanuelle Osmond
- · Policy Officer Humanitarian Financing Mr Alon Plato
- · Head of Humanitarian Financing Mr Jeremy Rempel
- · Regional Representative for Africa Mr Marco Rotelli
- · Director of Finance and Administration Ms Isabelle Saussereau
- · Director of Policy Ms Mirela Shuteriqi
- · Administration and Events Assistant Ms Mylene Soto
- · Deputy Regional Representative for Africa Mr Addis Tesfa
- · Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific Mr Jeremy Wellard
- · Information Officer Ms Fiona Wilkie



MEMBERS

Members as at December 2019

ABAAD

ACBAR

ACT Alliance

Action Contre la Faim (ACF)

ActionAid International

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

Afghan NGOs Coordination Bureau (ANCB)

Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA)

Africa Development Aid (ADA)
Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)

African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD)

Afrique Secours et Assistance (ASA)

Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED)

Agence de Développement Économique et Social (ADES)

All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)

Al Sham Foundation

AMEL Association (Lebanese Association for Popular Action)

Action for the Needy Ethiopia- ANE

ARDD-Legal Aid

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)

Association for Protection of Refugee Women and Children (HAMI)

Asylum Access (AA)

Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)

Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ) CARE International Caritas Internationalis (CI)

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)

Cross Regional Centre for Refugees & Migrants (CCRM)

Christian Aid

Church World Service (CWS)

CHS Alliance

Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust (COAST)

Community and Family Services International (CFSI)

Community Research and Development Organization (CRDO)

Community World Service Asia

Concern Worldwide

Cooperazione Internazionale - COOPI

DanChurchAid

Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Dutch Council for Refugees (DCR) - VluchtelingenWerk Nederland

Finn Church Aid Fortify Rights

Foundation for Rural Development (FRD)
Foundations Suisse Deminage (FSD)

Frontiers Ruwad Association

General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS)

Good Neighbors Geneva

Greek Council for Refugees (GCR)

Handicap International (HI)

HIAS IEDA Relief

IHH

International Blue Crescent Relief & Development Foundation

Interchurch Organisation for Development and Co-operation (ICCO)

International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)

International Consortium of Refugees in Iran

International Detention Coalition (IDC)

International Organization for Relief, Welfare and Development (IIROSA)

International Medical Corps (IMC)
International Refugee Rights Initiative
International Rescue Committee (IRC)

InterSOS

Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW)

Islamic Relief Agency (ISRA)

Japan Platform

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)

Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e.V.

Jordan Health Aid Society International (JHASI)

Jordan Paramedic Society (JPS)

Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC)

Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Malaysian Medical Relief Society (MERCY Malaysia)

Mauritius Council of Social Service (MACOSS)

Medaii

Médecins du Monde (MDM)

Mercy Corps

Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid

MUDEM RSC

New World Hope Organisations Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) Norwegian People's Aid

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

Office Africain pour le Développement et la Coopération (OFADEC)

Organization for Refuge, Asylum & Migration (ORAM)

Oxfam GB Paso Libre F4M

Pastoralist Community Initiative and Development Assistance (PACIDA)

Plan International

RedR India

Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) Refugee Council USA (RCUSA) Refugee Education Trust (RET) Refugee Solidarity Network (RSN)

Refugees International (RI) RefugePoint

Relief to Development Society (REDESO)

Rural Empowerment and Institutional Development (REPID)

Save the Children International Settlement Services International (SSI) Shaik Takir Azzawi Charity Organization (STACO) Society of Human Rights and Prisoners' Aid (SHARP)

Somalia NGO Consortium Stichting Vluchteling (SV)

Support to Life Syria Relief

Télécoms Sans Frontières International (TSFI)

Terre des Homes (TDH)
The Border Consortium (TBC)
Translators without Borders
Tzu Chi Foundation

Izu Chi Venro

War Child Canada Welthungerhilfe

Women's Refugee Commission (WRC)
World Vision International (WVI)

II. Observers

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Médecins Sans Frontières International (MSF)

III. Affiliate Members

ALNAP

Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM)



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

GENEVA OFFICE

26-28 Avenue Giuseppe Motta 1202 – Geneva – Switzerland Tel: +41 (0)22 950 9600 – Fax: +41 (0)22 950 9609 Email: secretariat@icvanetwork.org

www.icvanetwork.org

GICVAnetwork

REGIONAL HUBS

ASIA Bangkok, Thailand **AFRICA** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Nairobi, Kenya **MENA** Amman, Jordan

ICVA Secretariat recognises that its day-to-day operations impact the environment in a number of ways. ICVA Secretariat is therefore committed to minimise the potentially harmful effects of its activities wherever and whenever possible.

Photos: courtesy of ICVA