

A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from July 2021

Message from Executive Director

Extraordinary measures in unprecedented times

Today, we are grappling with serious challenges in ensuring aid delivery fuelled by growing disdain for international humanitarian law and disregard of the resolutions concerning the protection of civilians and the humanitarian space.

Security incidents affecting humanitarian organisations have also increased in a drastic way, tenfold around the world in the last 20 years. Far too many humanitarian workers, our NGO colleagues, are in danger, injured, missing or killed.

Alongside ICRC, UN experts and UN Security Council members, <u>ACF, on behalf of NGOs</u>, called for robust action by the Security Council to protect civilians in armed conflict and to preserve humanitarian space (<u>UN Security Council Briefing 16 July 2021</u>). As stated by ACF at the meeting: "*We need swift condemnation followed by ambitious action when humanitarian space is ignored*".

Divisions among Council members over access to those in need increase suffering on the front lines. The great words spoken in New York, Geneva and capitals about protecting civilians and preserving humanitarian space must be translated into reality in conflict zones.

Extraordinary measures are needed in unprecedented times.

On 19th August, <u>World Humanitarian Day</u>, we honour and pay tribute to humanitarians providing life-saving support and protection to people most in need. In addition to increased measures for the safety and security of aid workers, World Humanitarian Day advocates for enhanced efforts towards the survival, well-being and dignity of people affected by crises. The great words and statements we will hear on World Humanitarian Day, must be translated into action.

Humanitarian space(s) must be protected, without exception !

This year's World Humanitarian Day highlights the immediate human cost of the climate crisis. It advocates for world leaders to take meaningful climate action for the world's most vulnerable people. In this Bulletin, you will read how ICVA is contributing to <u>address the impact of climate change on humanitarian action</u>, as one of the ICVA network's transformation adopted by the <u>ICVA 18th General Assembly</u> in May (<u>ICVA2030</u>).

Ignacio Packer Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates

1. ICVA Annual Conference 2021 – Follow up!

If you missed any of the sessions, you can still catch up by <u>watching the recordings</u>! All details for the conference are still available on <u>our website</u>, and do look at the <u>Annual</u> <u>Conference 2021 Report</u>.



2. World Humanitarian Day and Climate Change- 19 August

This year, the WHD will highlight the immediate human cost of the climate crisis by pressuring world leaders to take meaningful climate action for the world's most vulnerable people. The **#TheHumanRace** campaign– a global challenge for climate action in solidarity with people who need it the most – to put the needs of climate-vulnerable people front and centre at the UN climate summit (COP26) in November. More information on the WHD microsite https://www.worldhumanitarianday.org/

Partners are encouraged to organise events and engage the media to help drive awareness about the climate emergency and its human cost. <u>Please do keep us (ICVA) informed if</u> you are interested in organising events around the WHD to share and promote.

Forced migration

3. UNHCR 81st Standing Committee

Thanks to valuable NGO contributions, ICVA coordinated the drafting and delivery of three NGO statements during the 81st meeting of the Standing Committee (5-7 July 2021) on: International Protection including Solutions, Statelessness and the Oral update on the preparations for the High-Level Officials Meeting. ICVA also launched the call for inputs related to the NGO statements at the upcoming 82nd UNHCR Standing Committee and 72nd Executive Committee.

4. Making the forcibly displaced visible: socio-economic data and evidence

The World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center (JDC) on Forced Displacement and ICVA organised a meeting on 1 July on the JDC Strategy 2021-2023 and work plan. The Danish Refugee Council, RELON-Kenya, the Global Refugee Youth Network and other NGOs engaged with the JDC Team on the Strategy and work plan discussing the protection focus, the JDC position in the wider context of data and analysis and its engagement with the external stakeholders, particularly NGOs and Refugee Led-Organisations/Initiatives. More information on the JDC Strategy 2021-2023 is accessible here. ICVA remains committed to supporting NGOs' engagement with the JDC and looks forward to the upcoming Annual Strategic Advisory Council meeting.

5. UNHCR and NGOs Dialogue in Europe

On 6 July, ICVA co-organised with <u>ECRE</u> and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe a third dialogue within the framework of the 2021 UNHCR Regional Consultations with NGOs. Focusing on the EU New Pact for Migration and Asylum, the meeting gathered 70 participants, from UNHCR and NGOs. The first panel discussed how the proposed Pact can improve protection and access to solutions for refugees in Europe through joint or

coordinated action, while the second panel provided an institutional update on the status of the Pact. As with other regional consultations between UNHCR and NGOs, the outcomes of this meeting will feed into the reporting provided at the UNHCR Executive Committee in October 2021 and be shared with participants.

6. Call for proposals from the Dutch Council of Refugees to improve refugee protection and inclusion at the borders of Europe

Last summer the Dutch Council of Refugees (DCR) launched a call for proposals for the STEP-UP pilot fund in Spain, Italy, and Croatia. And after a successful round, they are now launching **STEP-UP fund II** in **Spain**, **Italy**, **Croatia**, and additionally **Greece** to improve refugee protection and inclusion at the borders of Europe. **Are you**, **or do you know**, **an NGO** in one of the above-mentioned countries interested in a small grant of up to 10.000 EUR **to strengthen your organization?** Then, the Dutch Council of Refugees would like to invite you to apply. You can read more about the STEP-UP fund II call for proposals on DCR website.

7. Global Refugee Forum (GRF) follow-up: UNHCR Virtual informal briefing on the preliminary outcomes of the stocktaking on the Global Compact on Refugees

On the 8 July, UNHCR held a virtual informal briefing on the preliminary outcomes of the stocktaking on the Global Compact on Refugees, ahead of the December 2021 High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM). The briefing focused on progress made in GRF pledges implementation at global and regional levels despite challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as updated plans for the HLOM. During the exchange, ICVA welcomed the focus on Durable Solutions for one of the five roundtables and reiterated the importance of focusing on all solutions including local integration and local solutions. ICVA also called for a continued detailed discussion on the three Support Platforms around the HLOM. Recordings of the regional presentations and are available on the dedicated <u>UNHCR</u> webpage.

Legal aid in humanitarian settings to foster protection and durable solutions: The report on the 4 March webinar organised by <u>INTERSOS</u> and ICVA on <u>"Fostering protection</u> and durable solutions through legal aid in humanitarian settings" is now available <u>here</u>. This webinar built on INTERSOS' GRF pledge to produce a "<u>Provision of Legal Aid in</u> <u>Humanitarian Settings – Lessons Learned Paper</u>" and framed as part of the ICVA GRF pledge to support NGOs engagement with the Global Compact on Refugees process.

8. UNHCR and NGOs monthly consultations

On 28 July, UNHCR and ICVA co-organised a consultation with NGOs on "**NGOs and the Protection of LGBTIQ+ People in Forced Displacement: Addressing the Blind Spot**". The consultation was an opportunity to brief NGOs on the outcomes of the June 2021 Global Roundtable on Protection and Solutions for LGBTIQ+ People in Forced Displacement (more information accessible <u>here</u>) and exchange notably with <u>HIAS</u> and the <u>African Human Rights</u> <u>Coalition</u> speakers about gaps, challenges and opportunities to enhance the protection of the LGBTIQ+. The consultations very much focused on inclusive services for LGBTIQ+ notably in health and livelihoods as well as capacity-sharing, partnership with civil society and ethical data collection and management. Notes from the meeting and documents will be disseminated to participants and will be also available to ICVA members on <u>our webpage</u>. More information on the monthly consultations is also accessible on <u>the UNHCR website</u>.

For more information, please contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

9. Migrants in vulnerable situations

Global Civil Society - Member States Dialogue on Engagement in the IMRF

Following the Civil Society Consultations on the International Migration Review Forum

(IMRF), expected to take place in New York in May 2022, the Civil Society Action Committee organised the First Global Civil Society Dialogue with Member States. The Dialogue, which took place on 28 July 2021, provided an opportunity to civil society organisations to learn more on some Member States preparations towards the IMRF as well as exchange on what civil society sees as priority gaps to be addressed through joint efforts. The recording of the webinar is available <u>here</u>.

IOM- Civil Society

On the 7 July, the International Partnerships Division (IPD) of IOM held a **virtual IOM-Civil Society Information Sharing Session.** The Session covered the topics of Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) work in the context of COVID-19; IOM's Policy on the full spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration (RRR); and Updates from the UN Network on Migration. The IOM's new policy on the full spectrum of Return, Readmission and Reintegration (RRR) can be found <u>here.</u>

Financing

10. Transition to Grand Bargain 2.0 and a new Facilitation Group

Following the June Grand Bargain Annual Meeting work continues to finalise details of the Grand Bargain 2.0 framework. Co-conveners for remaining workstreams will do additional outreach by September to revise strategies for implementation of commitments. ICVA is also engaged in ongoing discussions with NGO colleagues on how to support the proposed 'national reference group' and 'caucus' concepts, designed to connect more effectively to local actors and address political blockages respectively. Membership in the Facilitation Group will transition in September, with ICVA and NEAR networks taking over representation of the NGO voice. Coordination has now begun with SCHR, the current NGO representative, to ensure a smooth transition. The Grand Bargain 2.0 framework and current updates are available on the IASC Grand Bargain website <u>here</u>.

11. Grand Bargain Annual Independent Report 2021

Five years since the launch of the Grand Bargain, this Annual Independent Report analyses both the progress made and challenges faced during 2020, and the longer-term outcomes achieved since the Grand Bargain was established. Click here to <u>read</u> the report.

12. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5)

RG5 members remained focused on the top priority deliverables remaining for 2021 which include harmonised funding flexibility measures, cascading of overhead/indirect cost coverage to all partners, and harmonised cost classifications. Work is currently underway to finalise a questionnaire to help identify the current range of practice with regard to overhead costs among humanitarian actors. Final discussions on transitioning the current IASC funding flexibility guidance into standard practice will conclude later this year. These discussions will also be coordinated with the Grand Bargain Quality Funding workstreams to ensure alignment with commitments on flexible, multi-year funding. More information on current RG5 deliverables and outputs can be found on the IASC website <u>here</u>.

13. Country Based Pooled Fund-NGO Dialogue Platform

There is an opportunity to engage in the Platform Advisory Group (PAG) of the CBPF-NGO Dialogue Platform. For those of you who work with organisations that engage closely with the OCHA Country Based Pooled Funds, this is an opportunity to become more involved in the NGO leadership of the Dialogue Platform and the OCHA Pooled Fund Working Group.

The purpose of the Platform is to provide an open and inclusive forum for regular dialogue

between OCHA and NGOs to inform the strategic direction and management of CBPFs. The Platform is a consultative forum that provides input, feedback and suggestions on policy, operational and advocacy issues, to advance the relevance, reach and effectiveness of the CBPFs and inform best practices. It draws on NGOs' knowledge and engagement with CBPFs, and facilitates and coordinates the sharing of experiences and ideas with OCHA. The Platform is also a space for OCHA to consult with NGOs, disseminate information, and gather suggestions for improvement.

The Platform is currently looking for three new members to join the PAG, one INGO and two NNGO.

If you are interested, please share an expression of interest with Clarissa Crippa (<u>Clarissa.crippa@nrc.no</u>) no later than 25 August 2021.

Coordination

14. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

The IASC Principals: On 16 July, the IASC Principals met to discuss the situation in Ethiopia and to follow up on the visit by the Emergency Directors Group to Ethiopia and Tigray. The Principals endorsed the recommendations made by the EDG members and discussed ways forward for the interagency response.

IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG): Between 5-12 July, the IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG) conducted an Operational Support Visit to Ethiopia, including to Tigray Region. The objective of the visit was to look at how the humanitarian response across the Tigray region can be better capacitated and resourced to reach more people in need, and to ensure the IASC system is sufficiently mobilised to support the necessary step changes in the response. The NGO participants were ICVA members World Vision and Lutheran World Federation, along with InterAction. In follow up to the visit, a debriefing was held with Geneva-based donors, and recommendations made to the IASC Principals.

Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG): After a short break during summer, the next meeting of the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group will take place on the 8 September and focus on engagement with Non-State Armed Groups (NSAG).

HC In-Briefings: ICVA facilitated a meeting for NGOs with the RC/HC for Ukraine, Ms. Osnat Lubrani and the Head of OCHA Ukraine, Mr. Ignacio Leon, to discuss the humanitarian situation and how it is important not to forget conflict continues to affect 3.4mil people, and in addition to consider those further impacted by COVID-19. The HC commended strong humanitarian efforts despite challenges, including towards mobilising funding for HRP. At the meeting, Representatives of DEMAC shared with the HC an update on their new case study on Diaspora organisations and their humanitarian response in Ukraine and offered to provide a briefing to the HCT in future.

Humanitarian Programme Cycle Steering Group: The Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) Steering Group met with an updated membership and ratified its new TOR. NGOs are represented in the group by ICVA, InterAction and Care (acting as SCHR representative). ICVA will also be seeking expressions of interest from a national NGO representative to join the group. The ToR and draft workplan for the group were discussed and approved. Updates were shared on the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) and the HRP costing review, and the group brainstormed on the integration of COVID-19 into needs analysis and response.

15. COVID-19 Vaccines

#Vaccines4All: Open letter to EU & UK leaders

Concord Europe started a campaign <u>#Vaccines4all</u> which pushes for EU and UK leaders to put an end to vaccine hegemony, support manufacturing efforts in other countries and support vaccine delivery in-country. <u>Find out more and sign the open letter</u> and stand for a

world where all people have equal access to the vaccine without any discrimination.

16. Meetings with OCHA leadership

ICVA Head of Coordination had an introductory **meeting with the Acting Director of OCHA Coordination Division and Head of OCHA Geneva Office,** Ms. Wafaa Saeed. This meeting was a chance to discuss ICVA's structure, areas of focus and ways of working and to consider areas for ongoing and future engagement with the OCHA Coordination division which includes the Inter-Agencies Services Branch (IASC Secretariat), the Assessment, Planning and Monitoring Branch and the Emergency Response Support Branch. The Division is responsible for assessing situations and needs; supporting the leadership of Humanitarian Coordinators; managing a range of rapid response tools; developing common strategies to address issues such as negotiating access, mobilising funding and other resources; and monitoring progress.

ICVA Head of Coordination had an introductory meeting in Geneva with the new **Head of the OCHA MENA Desk in New York**, Mr. Tareq Talamah. Tareq has worked previously in several contexts in the MENA region and shared enthusiasm for his new role supporting humanitarian leadership in response efforts. Over the next 3 months he will be conducting extended missions to Syria (Damascus, Gaziantep, Amman), Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq and oPt to spend time in each setting. He is planning to meet with NGOs and the Fora in each location to hear their perspectives on the humanitarian system and how it can be strengthened.

17. Update on IASC Results groups

RG 1 Operational response:

• **Sub-group on Localization**: the RG1 subgroup members will resume meetings by the end of August and the local actors will be invited to join the discussion and review the priorities in the workplan till the end of this year.

RG 2 Accountability and inclusion: no update

RG 3 Collective advocacy: The Results Group held a special ad-hoc meeting to bring together NGO and UN actors involved in advocacy on food insecurity and famine prevention. The meeting aimed to improve alignment between various NGO-led initiatives and the UN efforts, particularly the High-Level Task Force on Famine Prevention established by OCHA, WFP and FAO. Further meetings of the group will discuss how to develop a common platform and messaging for join advocacy, including public campaigns and donor engagement.

• **Subgroup on Climate Change:** The Subgroup on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and Collective Advocacy met online on 14 July to discuss World Humanitarian Day (19 August) preparations, OCHA's planned Anticipatory Action/Adaptation events, and focal points for COP activities.

RG 4 Nexus: Work on the Nexus is currently focusing in identifying practical tools to better support the operationalisation of the Nexus at the country level.

ICVA has exchanged with several countries in the last weeks and, in collaboration with WFP as co-facilitator of the community of practice on the Nexus is exploring with the RG4 leadership how the CoPN could contribute to this action.

The Result Group members are currently working at the content of the modules of the Nexus Academy, an inter-agency effort hosted by UNDP that will provide crucial support to Nexus focal points deployed in operations. The ICVA Nexus working Group is contributing to the content of the first module '*What is the Nexus*'.

RG 5 Humanitarian Finance: See update above under 'Financing.'

18. NGO Fora Support:

ICVA has launched a call for participants for a **training on Gender in Humanitarian Action in four countries in the East Africa region** to support fora and their membership. This training is offered by IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project GenCap in collaboration with ICVA, for NGO or Secretariat staff from fora/networks in Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia.

For more information, please contact Addis Tesfa at addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org

Localization Baselining: ICVA in partnership with Humanitarian Advisory Group have initiated a project to collate inputs for advocacy with different partners to highlight specific areas where support is needed to enable tracking progress against localisation commitments at local and national levels. The project will provide initial technical support for local partners and in-country consultants on how to approach localisation baselining process (as outlined in the Localisation Measurement Framework) and approaches to identify key priorities for collective action by national and international stakeholders in each country. ICVA will support NGO fora to identify and refine tools or strategies most useful to support progress in the priority areas in their respective countries and provide technical input for finalising of country level outputs. ICVA in in discussion with local CSOs in Yemen about this project, and is looking to work with NGO fora in Nigeria and Uganda.

For more information contact Eman.ismail@icvanetworkorg

Navigating change: cross cutting issues

19. Civil society space in humanitarian action

Survey to better understand NGOs practices, procedures and policies vis-à-vis private security : In November 2020, the Global Interagency Security Forum (GISF) published Module 14 of GISF's <u>Security To Go Risk Management Toolkit: Contracting Private Security</u> Providers, in collaboration with the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers' Association (ICoCA). Today, humanitarian NGOs' contracting of private security providers continues to raise crucial questions for the sector. Noting this trend GISF, in collaboration with ICoCA, has launched <u>a survey</u> to better understand NGO practices, procedures and policies vis-à-vis private security. We invite HQ, regional and country-level staff from humanitarian organisations, especially NGOs to share their experiences. Survey findings will help design an interactive training guide on private security contracting. The survey is also available in French and Spanish.

For more information, please contact information: Juliette Jourde at j.jourde@icoca.ch

20. Safeguarding

The PSEA Outreach Fund: After the success of the 2020 round of the Interagency PSEA Outreach and Communication Fund, ICVA and UNHCR launched a new round where the Fund will provide rapid, targeted financial support to NGOs to develop and disseminate outreach and communication materials on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by aid workers. Local stakeholders have noted the need for effective, updated information, education and communication materials on PSEA that are tailored to local cultural contexts, operational realities, the groups that are most at risk, and which take into account languages, literacy, age and capacity, among other things. The Fund has received this year over 1000 applications that have now been shortlisted and the finalists are being selected by a Steering Group of experts from NGOs and UN agencies, according to strict criteria and ensuring a geographic coverage and diversity of target groups. You can read more about the Fund <u>here</u>.

For more information, contact alon.plato@icvanetwork.org

Region Specific

21. Asia and the Pacific

On 12 July, ICVA in collaboration with ADRRN and GNDR supported a stakeholder consultation to help inform the **CSO input into the 2021-2024 Action Plan on the Sendai** framework for the Asia Pacific region. Purpose to influence priority areas.

For more information about the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction have a look at ADRA's recent <u>learning sessions on Youtube</u>.

On 8 July the **Regional Emergency Preparedness working group** was conducted which highlighted the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, ongoing challenges faced by humanitarian organisations in terms of security and bureaucratic impediment and possible displacement across the region. It is likely Afghanistan will remain high on the regional agenda.

• For more information about ICVA's work in Asia and Pacific, contact Keya Saha-Chaudhury, Keya.Sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org



Webinar Series: COVID-19 Vaccination - Things you need to know.

The National Humanitarian Network of Pakistan with support from ICVA is hosting a series of online sessions to enhance public awareness on the safety, effectiveness and benefits of COVID-19 vaccine that would help counter myths, misconceptions and promote vaccine acceptability.

The second webinar to be held on **10 August 2021, 2:30 p.m Islamabad.** Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan – Senior Scientific Officer, NIH will present this webinar about "*Myths and Misconceptions about COVID - 19 Vaccination*". To attend the webinar <u>click here</u>

22. Africa

AU's Humanitarian Summit: The Continental Humanitarian Summit and Donors/pledging conference by the African Union (AU) will take place in **November 2021 in Equatorial Guinea.** ICVA is in contact with the relevant department within the AU to provide space for ICVA members. The themes of the Summit will be:

- Climate change and Disasters in Africa
- Food Security and Humanitarian Implications
- COVID-19 and Health Challenges in Humanitarian Space in Africa
- AU theme of the year 2021 Arts Culture and Heritage

For more information, contact addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org

AU –EU Summit: ICVA organised a meeting between its membership and ECHO (regional and headquarter) to discuss the upcoming AU EU summit and explore synergies between the membership and ECHO.

ICVA's Dakar/West and Central Africa representation: ICVA pursues plans for representation for West and Central Africa based in Dakar. A follow-up visit during the second week of July with members and donors, identified overarching issues, and provided feedback on concrete proposals to support more efficient coordination and advocacy.

As part of its renewed Dakar presence, ICVA now participates in the Access working group (lead by NRC and OCHA). The group aims at discussing all access issues in the region, and where necessary, proposes region-level initiatives to support the countries. Members in countries without fora nor Dakar-based representation can contact ICVA should they want their access issues to be brought forth in the working group.

For more information, contact ngosupport@icvanetwork.org.

ICVA co-organises UNHCR – NGO consultations in the Africa Region: Weeks of intense preparation for the Regional Consultations UNHCR and NGOS in Western Central Africa and Southern Africa. ICVA is co-hosting the consultations and working alongside UNHCR and ICVA members to ensure that the consultations will contribute to aid effectiveness. The themes of the consultations' sessions are: Partnership; Localization ; implementation of the GRF pledges. Invites have been issued via the Africa Working Group. Do not hesitate to contact ICVA Africa for more information.

• For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group List, please connect with <u>marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>Addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org</u>

23. MENA Region

During the month of July, ICVA in the MENA region continued its various efforts through convening, collecting, connecting, explaining, influence & advocating, and supporting.

ICVA MENA participated in a **workshop on Programmatic Lessons Learned and Preparedness efforts in case of third wave of COVID-19** held by the OCHA office in Jordan on 5 July. Together with the RC/HC, key actors from donors and the NGO community ICVA contributed to the discussions related to the Lessons Learned / Preparedness plans. OCHA Jordan to publish an outcomes summary. ICVA MENA will host a Capacity Strengthening Program and Learning for local CSOs Network in Yemen on "Good Governance, Strategic Planning and Humanitarian Coordination Training Development and Facilitation." The virtual tailored training sessions will focus on network governance, joint coordination, and global and regional humanitarian coordination systems. The training will commence in late September. More information please contact ICVA MENA.

Virtual meetings and engagement with members in Libya/Tunis: ICVA MENA conducted several virtual meetings with partners and NGO members in Tunisia/Libya and met with an array of members and partners to provide an update on different initiatives and collaboration opportunities. The discussions delved into two main topics and how they relate to Tunisia/Libya context: Localisation & Nexus. According to our research "Localisation in <u>Humanitarian Leadership</u>", local and national NGOs in Libya have limited capacity to effectively engage in humanitarian structures. ICVA will continue to advocate with relevant organisations on how to advance the localisation agenda in Libya.

ICVA MENA attended the **LIF Roundtable: Durable Solutions and Transitional Justice**. This project supported by HPG and InterAction and the Libya Protection Sector and facilitated by the Libya INGO Forum presented findings of a recent action-research project on durable solutions and transitional justice in Libya. The Roundtable session shared the initial findings with senior leadership, facilitated a discussion about what this means for LIF members, and opportunities to strengthen protection advocacy going forward.

 For more information or to be included in the ICVA MENA Mailing List, please connect with <u>eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org</u>

24. Latin America Region

UNHCR-NGO Regional Consultations in Latin America will be held in September. We are working with UNHCR and supporting the work groups where some of our members participate.

 For more information or to be included in the ICVA Latam Mailing List, please connect with lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org

New and noteworthy

25. Elrha's new learning paper is called: '<u>Impact evidence and beyond: using evidence to</u> <u>drive adoption of humanitarian innovations</u>' Innovation literature and practice show time and time again that it is difficult to scale innovations. Even when an innovation is demonstrably impactful, better than the existing solution and good value for money, it does not automatically get adopted or used in mainstream humanitarian programming. Why? Elrha's learning paper, 'Impact evidence and beyond: using evidence to drive adoption of humanitarian innovations', explores the answers.

26. Save the date: 8th Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week - 02 to 20 May **2022**: The 8th Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW 2022) will be held in a hybrid format (mixed face-to-face and remote meetings) over a three-week period from 02 to 20 May 2022. The first and last of these three weeks will be held remotely, while the events during the second week will be organised face-to-face from 09 to 13 May 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda

August 10:Webinar Series: Myths and Misconceptions about COVID - 19 VaccinationAugust 19: World Humanitarian DayAugust 30: 60th anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness

September 1-3: UNHCR NGO Consultations in Southern Africa
September 15-16: UNHCR 82nd Standing Committee
October 4-8: UNHCR 72nd Executive Committee
October 4-8: Alliance 2021 Annual Meeting for Protection Children in Humanitarian Action
October 27: UNHCR consultation on modalities and programme for the High-Level Officials
Meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

December 9-10: - Global Humanitarian Policy Forum (GHPF) **December 14-15**: High-level officials' meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

2022

May 2-20: 8th Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW 2022)

ICVA

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