



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from June 2021

The ICVA Bulletin is translated in French, Spanish and Arabic! You can find the translated versions and previous editions of the Bulletin on our [website](#).

Message from Executive Director

Still Too Important to Fail

The [experience of Grand Bargain \(GB\) implementation](#) over the last five years demonstrates that positive change is possible when there is strong political will accompanied by collaborative efforts on technical solutions.

This year, during the [GB Annual Meeting](#) (15-17 June), signatories renewed their commitment and discussed a simplified framework for the Grand Bargain 2.0. The aim is to carry the GB forward with a focus on quality funding and localization as key “enabling priorities”. In ICVA’s view they build well upon previous achievements, address some weaknesses while still maintaining a close link to the initial core commitments.

As stated by ICVA in “[Make the “Grand Bargain” Grand Again](#)” (July, 2018), the GB will succeed only when its aimed transformations of increased efficiency and effectiveness will substantially benefit frontline workers. Bringing the GB 2.0 to the frontline is also where ICVA commits itself. All political decisions that will be made in GB 2.0 should be as field oriented as possible and with truthful participation of all actors, including national and local NGOs, communities and people affected by crisis. Moreover, COVID-19 has demonstrated how important it is to have timely, quality, and flexible funding and sound policies and practices of joint risk management for operations on the ground. As highlighted in the [ICVA statement on implementation of the Grand Bargain 2.0](#) (June 2021), these are also our priorities as we join the new GB Facilitation Group.

ICVA stands ready to support Jan Egeland, as [Eminent Person](#), and we stand ready to work with all of you, not by bargaining, but by meeting these important imperatives that cannot be failed.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates



ICVA VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MAY 2021

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND
HUMANITARIAN ACTION:
HOW CAN NGOs MITIGATE AND ADAPT?

» Watch the recordings!

1. ICVA Annual Conference 2021 – Follow up!

If you missed any of the sessions, you can still catch up on what was shared by [watching the recordings](#)! Each of our four sessions were recorded so you wouldn't miss anything.

All details for the conference are still available on [our website](#), including the World Café [Initiatives and Key take-aways](#) document! Stay tuned for our **Annual Conference 2021 Report** which will be published in the coming weeks!



ICVA's 2020 Annual Report

2. Don't miss [ICVA's 2020 Annual Report](#)!

In our Report you will find extensive information on how ICVA responded to the challenges raised in 2020. We have collectively engaged on a tremendous amount of humanitarian work at local, national, regional and global levels. Find out more and discover ICVA's key achievements from the year!

READ NOW

Forced Migration

3. Internal displacement

Realising national accountability and international responsibility to address internal displacement

On 3 June, Plan International, World Vision and ICVA, together with the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, organised a roundtable with NGOs and other stakeholders on the basis of an [interagency submission](#) on 'Realising National Accountability and International Responsibility'. With the aim of generating inputs for the recommendations of the upcoming High-Level Panel's report, the roundtable specifically focused on the potential opportunity to create 1) a Global Forum or Platform on internal displacement and/or to enhance regional forums and 2) a position of Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on solutions to internal displacement (or a similar/adapted position). The summary of the report

is [accessible here](#).

The World Bank Group approach to internal displacement

The World Bank Group (WBG) and ICVA members gathered remotely on 15 June to discuss the WBG's principles for engagement on conflict-induced internal displacement and explore synergies with NGO approaches. Linked to the Bank's recent paper '[A Development Approach to Conflict-Induced Internal Displacement](#)', the meeting was an opportunity to consider various aspects associated with a development approach, including how to ensure IDPs can access development opportunities, how to increase our joint understanding of their vulnerabilities, as well as promoting engagement at regional and country levels with NGOs and affected communities. Notes will be shared with participants and further engagements will be explored.

Housing, land and property issues in the context of internal displacement

The Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, Ms. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, issued a [new report](#) in June 2021 on housing, land and property issues in the context of internal displacement. Housing, land and property issues affect the safety, living conditions, health, livelihoods and prospects for durable solutions of internally displaced persons. Presented at the Human Rights Council on 25 June, the [report](#) contains relevant elements related to housing, land, and property and its legal and policy frameworks, human rights, challenges as well as recommendations.

4. Global Refugee Forum (GRF) follow-up

On 17 June, World Vision Zambia, UNHCR Zambia and ICVA organised an online meeting focused on 'advancing local integration in Zambia', linked to the Government of the Republic of Zambia's 2019 GRF pledge "to complete the local integration of former refugees from Angola and Rwanda". Gathering over 40 representatives from the Government of the Republic of Zambia, NGOs, the UN Resident Coordinator, UNHCR, UNDP and other UN Agencies, the meeting allowed to reflect on opportunities and requirements to build on this pledge. Participants highlighted progress made over the years on local integration, but also identified challenges and ways forward. A summary report is now being drafted and will aim to inform discussions on durable solutions at the [High-Level Officials Meeting](#) of December 2021.

5. UNHCR and NGOs monthly consultations

On 8 June, UNHCR and ICVA co-organised a consultation with NGOs on "**Child Protection**." UNHCR and NGOs including speakers from [Jordan River Foundation](#), [HAART Kenya](#) and [Save the Children](#), discussed ways of improving child protection capacity, in particular through UNHCR-NGO partnerships and despite staffing gaps; tackling lack of funding and sometimes of expertise at operations level; and advocacy gaps, all of which were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The consultation drew upon the upcoming UNHCR data and analysis report on gaps in child protection and provided targeted and concrete recommendations to improve child protection capacity in light with the recent [2021 UNHCR Best Interests Procedure Guidelines](#) and [Guidance on promoting child protection outcomes through cash-based interventions](#). Participants also focused on work done through community-based protection, linked with localization efforts. Notes will be disseminated to participants.

On 30 June, UNHCR and ICVA also co-organised a consultation on "**The preparations of the High-Level Officials Meeting (HLOM) and 2019 Global Refugee Forum follow-up**" and discussed NGOs reporting on their experience in stocktaking on the implementation of pledges, the next steps in the lead-up to the [December HLOM](#) including on matching pledges and entry points for NGOs. In particular, [The Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts](#) and [International Disability Alliance](#) presented their analysis on the pledges made under child protection and disability as well as provided related recommendations to enhance the implementation of those pledges. Notes will be shared to participants. More information on the Monthly Consultations can be [found here](#).

- For more information on any of the above topics,

contact: jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org and Loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org

6. Migrants in vulnerable situations

Global Compact on Migration

The first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) is expected to take place in New York in May 2022. The forum will consider progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration. In preparation, several regional and global events are taking place. To prepare for the IMRF, the Civil Society Action Committee (AC) convened an open global civil society consultation on 28 June to review initial civil society ideas, expectations and strategies for engagement in the IMRF. Other similar events will be undertaken, and inputs will be presented to Member States in a series of dialogues leading up to May 2022.

UN SR on the human rights of migrants report on pushbacks

The UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Felipe González Morales has published his [recent report](#) to the Human Rights Council that is dedicated to addressing the human rights impact of pushbacks of migrants on land and at sea. The publication draws on various sources, including submissions by civil society and other stakeholders. The report highlights how in recent years pushbacks have been reported along most migration routes from all regions and how they deny migrants their fundamental rights by depriving them of access to protection defined in international and national law, as well as procedural safeguards.

International Migration Law

The 12th and last session of the International Migration Law (IML) Initiative took place on the 6 July. Co-organised by ICVA, the [Civil Society Action Committee](#) and the International Migrants Bill of Rights (IMBR) Initiative at Cornell University, this initiative gave the opportunity to NGO colleagues to learn more on international law, share among themselves as well as with experts and other stakeholders on various initiative aiming at ensuring implementation of the legal framework at the benefit of migrants. The last session, which focused on advocacy strategies for protecting migrants' rights hosted the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Mr. Felipe González Morales and Hon. Maya Sahli-Fadel, Commissioner, Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa. This Session was open to all and the recording will be shared on the [International Migration Law](#) and [Civil Society Action Committee](#) websites once available.

Financing

7. Grand Bargain 2.0

The 2021 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting took place on 15-17 June with signatories meeting for virtual discussions on the proposed Grand Bargain 2.0 framework. Participants expressed broad support for the Grand Bargain 2.0 framework while identifying the need for further development of key details on plans for the new caucus and national reference groups. Moving forward, the Facilitation Group (FG) will add an additional seat to be filled by a local NGO representative. The NEAR Network will fill the seat in 2021, with a planned transition to A4EP after one year. ICVA will also take over the second NGO seat on the FG from SCHR, which has represented NGOs for the past two years. Once new donor representatives are confirmed, the new FG members are expected to start in September. Between July and September SCHR, NEAR, and ICVA will reach out to NGO colleagues to identify priority action points in support of Grand Bargain 2.0 rollout.

The Grand Bargain Secretariat has compiled available [signatory statements](#) on Grand Bargain 2.0. ODI also released their independent [annual review](#) of the Grand Bargain shortly before the annual meeting.

8. IASC Humanitarian Finance Results Group (RG5)

Work continues in RG5 on the current top two priority deliverables on funding flexibility and

cascading of overheads / indirect costs. Updates will be available following the July RG5 main and sub-group meetings on progress, with results expected for both deliverables before the end of the summer. At the start of June, RG5 Co-chairs ICVA and OCHA also presented an update to OPAG on HDP Nexus financing work. With the primary focus of the Grand Bargain 2.0 shifting toward resolution of political blockages, RG5 and GB Quality Funding work stream members will also discuss a division of labour to ensure appropriate coverage of technical and political issues.

9. NGO Risk Management

With the completion of the ICVA risk management webinar series conducted in collaboration with PHAP, ICVA has initiated a consultancy to support two objectives: 1) the development of a series of risk management mobile guides with DisasterReady; 2) completion of scoping work to develop recommendations on how to support improved risk management practices for country-level humanitarian staff. Look for opportunities in July and August to provide inputs into the scoping work on risk management next steps.

Coordination

10. COVID-19 Vaccines (COVAX Humanitarian Buffer and UN System-Wide Vaccination Programme)

The consultant supporting NGOs in the rollout of the Humanitarian Buffer completed her contract in mid-June. Through participation in global working groups advising the NGO representatives on the EDG and Global Health Cluster and conducting individual and regional dialogues with NGOs, she helped to ensure a good flow of information and that NGO concerns were well represented throughout. The next phase of support to NGOs related to COVID-19 vaccinations in humanitarian settings is currently being developed.

Regional Covax Humanitarian Briefings

In June, there were Covax and Covax Humanitarian briefings held for the regions in Africa, MENA, and Asia and Pacific. The briefings included discussion on:

- Updates on the COVID-19 vaccine roll out and the Covax Humanitarian Buffer
- Discussion on emerging challenges and good practices
- Discussion on next steps for monitoring and advocacy

11. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG):

The EDG met to discuss two specific contexts: the status of the Scale Up Protocol activation for Northern Ethiopia, and the challenges facing the humanitarian system in Haiti. The group also met to discuss horizon scanning for the coming months and to consider the increasing impact of COVID-19 and new variants of the virus on humanitarian settings globally.

Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

In June, OPAG met twice to discuss respectively humanitarian-development collaboration and financing the nexus; as well as the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 focusing in specific on protection risks for women and children. The summary record of the meetings together with any new documents endorsed by OPAG can be [found here](#).

12. Update on IASC Results groups:

RG 1 Operational response:

Sub-group on Localization:

An induction meeting was held with the eight LNNGOs who recently joined the IASC RG1

Subgroup on Localisation. The eight organisations represent four regions:

- MENA: Baghdad Women's Association and The League of Syrian Networks (SNL)
- Asia: National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors, Bangladesh (NAHAB), Bangladesh and Representative from Women Empowerment Organization (WEO), Pakistan.
- Latin America: representatives from CARITAS, Venezuela and Cruz Roja Hondurena, Honduras
- Africa: representatives from Refugee Law Project, Uganda and Women in Humanitarian Response in Nigeria Initiative (WiHRiNI), Nigeria

During the meeting there was a presentation by ICVA MENA Regional Representative about the RG1 subgroup work-plan and ICVA's efforts in different areas related to localization.

Additionally, ICVA supported the IASC RG1 co-chairs from UNHCR and the Somali NGO fora in reviewing the work plan and on discussing the main priorities till the end of 2021.

RG 2 Accountability and inclusion: No updates.

RG 3 Collective advocacy: No updates.

RG 4 Nexus:

On 21 June, East Africa CoPn held a meeting on the theme of "Gender in Humanitarian Action". If you would like more information from the meeting contact: marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org

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

13. NGO Fora Support

ICVA has organised a meeting in Nairobi between the Ethiopia INGO forum, HINGO Director, NGOs Regional Directors and Donors. The meeting has been particularly effective in highlighting operational challenges and what NGOs need to operate. As a follow up, HINGO has been in position to negotiate support from Donors in this critical phase.

ICVA has been working intensely to prepare the R-IASC in Dakar, liaising with members and NGO fora in the regional offices and at the country level. Updates on Nigeria's limited humanitarian assets and a follow up on the inter-agency mission held in Cameroon earlier this year will also be part of the agenda.

ICVA has been organising exchanges between the UN leadership and NGOs in Africa. Members have exchanged with Edward Kallon, RC/HC in Nigeria and with Suzanna Tkalec, the incoming DHC for the Democratic Republic of Congo.

14. ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS)

The 2021 [ECOSOC HAS](#) took place on 23-25 June in Geneva. The theme for the 2021 HAS was "*Strengthening humanitarian assistance to face the challenges of 2021 and beyond: mobilising respect for international humanitarian law, inclusion, gender, innovation and partnerships*". Three high-level panel discussions were held during the HAS under the following themes:

- "Health care in times of COVID-19: a global protection agenda"
- "Innovation as a driver of change: the use of new and emerging technologies and humanitarian data"
- "Humanitarian action and climate change: advancing anticipatory approaches, strengthening resilience and enhancing collaboration in response to the climate crisis"

In addition to the high-level panel discussions, the organisation of the HAS included opening and closing sessions and adoption of the annual ECOSOC humanitarian resolution. A series of virtual side events were also held on the margins of the HAS, where many ICVA members were actively engaged.

Navigating Change: cross cutting issues

15. Child Rights

Alliance 2021 Annual Meeting for Protection Children in Humanitarian Action: 4-8 October 2021

The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (the Alliance) is organising its *2021 Annual Meeting on Child Protection in Humanitarian Action* over a virtual platform from 4-8 October 2021. Under the theme of, "*Preventing Harm to Children*," the meeting aims to explore the lessons learnt, promising practices and innovative approaches to preventing harm to children in humanitarian contexts. Examples of prevention programming in emergencies from other sectors are also solicited to share learning and create connections across sectors. Please **register** using [this online form](#) by **1 August 2021**.

16. Civil society space in humanitarian action

The Solidarity Play Book

The [International Civil Society Centre](#) has launched the [Solidarity Playbook](#), a collection of 18 case studies on resilience and solidarity mechanisms developed by international civil society organisations and coalitions to address civic space restrictions and changing operating conditions for civil society. Please find the case studies and the key findings from the Playbook - including different ways civil society actors can act in solidarity - in [the newsletter](#).

Report launch: Bank De-Risking of Non-Profit Clients: A Business and Human Rights Perspective

The report "[Bank De-Risking of Non-Profit Clients: A Business and Human Rights Perspective](#)" was recently published by the European Public Interest Law Clinic of New York University Law School in Paris, in cooperation with Human Security Collective (HSC), ABN AMRO and Dentons Netherlands. The report explores decisions made by banks that lead to de-risking and explains the forms, root causes and consequences of de-risking, the relevant human rights norms and practical actions to allow banks to manage perceived risks of their Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) clients whilst respecting human rights.

For the report launch, Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) were part of a webinar organised by the Human Security Collective (HSC) and Dutch Bank ABN Amro. You can [watch the webinar recording](#) and [access the slides](#) from the presentation.

- For more information see ICVA's [Civil Society Space webpage](#) or contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

17. Climate and Environment action:

Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations

You can now find useful **tools**, **resources** and **guidance** to support the implementation under each commitment of the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#).

ICVA is a Signatory to the Charter and will continue our commitment in engaging on this theme through the "[Commitment and Motion to Action on Climate and Environment](#)," adopted by ICVA members at the General Assembly on 18-19 May 2021. We encourage other organisations to sign-up too! You can take a look at the list of [Signatories](#).

Carbon Accounting Tool

ICVA is part of a project together with ICRC, IFRC and other organisations that aims to engage and collaborate with as many humanitarian organisations as possible to develop a shared standard and a tool to measure carbon emissions. Learning from existing tools already built, the group will jointly agree on how Green House Gass (GHG) emissions should be measured in the humanitarian sector, and then a tool will be adapted/developed and freely offered to the sector, together with online training and a user guide. This project is envisioned to be the cornerstone for a sector-wide collaboration on reducing the negative

footprint globally.

- For more information visit ICVA's [Climate and Environment](#) webpage or contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

18. 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 Call for Applications, which was this year available in English, French and Spanish, was open between 15 June and 2 July, during which the Fund received over 1000 applications that will now be reviewed and selected by a Steering Group of experts from NGOs and UN agencies. You can read more about the Fund [here](#). For more information, contact: alon.plato@icvanetwork.org.

19. Human Rights

The 47th regular session of the Human Rights Council

The 47th regular session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) was officially inaugurated on the 21st of June and will last until 13th July. The High Commissioner for Human Rights opened the session presenting her annual report on human rights. She highlighted the importance of the Secretary General's [Call to Action for Human Rights](#) and described it as a blueprint that connects the UN pillars of development, peace and security, and human rights to support the full spectrum of all human rights (see [the full statement](#) of the High Commissioner for Human Rights).

Other highlights of the 47th session of the HRC include the interactive dialogue (ID) on the central role of states in responding to pandemics and other health emergencies; the ID with the Special Rapporteur on migrants; with the Special Rapporteur on internally displaced persons; with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women; with Special Adviser on Prevention of Genocide, etc. A number of IDs focused on country specific human rights situations, including in Venezuela, Syrian Arab Republic, Central African Republic, etc.

Call for comments and textual suggestions: Draft Convention on the Right to Development

At the request of the Human Rights Council ([res. 39/9](#)), the Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development submitted a [draft convention on the right to development](#), including [commentaries](#), to the [21st session of the Working Group](#). OHCHR kindly invites all United Nations Member and Observer States, specialised agencies and other intergovernmental organisations with observer status, national human rights institutions with "A status" and NGOs with ECOSOC consultative status to submit comments and textual suggestions on the draft convention to the right to development. Please send your submission **no later than Friday, 20 August 2021**, to r2d@ohchr.org, in English and in MS Word or compatible format. All submissions will be made available on the webpage of the Working Group.

Region Specific

20. Asia and the Pacific

IASC Regional Director's Meeting

On 15 June ICVA participated in the first Regional Directors Meeting for 2021. Resident Coordinator from Myanmar and Nepal provided updates on the situation regarding the Coup and the COVID-19 situation. The discussion on Myanmar was a follow up to points raised during the IASC Deputies Director Meeting in the previous month. Each of the Regional working groups also shared key highlights, including introduction to the new interagency regional PSEA coordinator for the region.

UNHCR NGO Consultations

ICVA co-chaired the regional UNHCR- NGO consultations, between the 21-30 June, with UNHCR and the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN). The overall theme of the consultation was the 'Socio-economic inclusion of refugees in the covid context'. As all sessions were virtual, it enabled diverse participation from NGOs, RLO and UNHCR. A broad range of topics were covered from UNHCR policy reform, progress of GRF commitments in the region, statelessness, localization and climate change. Next steps will be to feed into global discussion and continue to encourage collaboration between UNHCR and NGOs at a regional level. A big thank you to all ICVA members who provided critical contribution in terms of developing sessions, speaking and engaging in active discussion.

- For more information on the working happening in the Asia region, contact: Keya.Sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org

21. Africa Region

UNHCR-NGOs consultations in the region

ICVA and the UNHCR East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Bureau have collaborated for the first UNHCR-NGOs consultations in the region. Numerous NGOs have actively participated by bringing valuable insights from operations. Numerous NGOs and fora have also been contributing to the UNHCR Africa Bureaus joint session (Pretoria, Nairobi and Dakar) with the Head Quarter in Geneva on climate action and environment.

BBR East Africa online Training

BBR East Africa online Training was held on 22-24 June. Seven slots were secured from the East African Forum/Network CoP. ICVA facilitated engagement in the session workshops, including the sessions on PoP and Climate action in Humanitarian programming in East Africa.

Training on Gender in Humanitarian Action

In September 2021, there will be an online training for CoP East Africa on the topic of "Gender in Humanitarian Action". The Objective of the training is to create a pool of skilled trainers in gender equality programming, who can employ the Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) training toolkit and adapt its methodologies to provide tailored gender equality training, particularly for country Fora members and relevant stakeholders on gender equality in humanitarian action.

The Africa Union Humanitarian Summit

The AU is preparing for its Humanitarian Summit due to be held in the last quarter of 2021. ICVA is actively participating in the preparations of the summit and will communicate with the membership on ways to engage with the union. ICVA is also preparing a meeting between its members and the ECHO on the AU EU summit, this meeting will focus on ways to engage in the lead up to the summit.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Africa Working Group, contact:

22. MENA Region

Partnership with UNDP Syria and the Local Syrian Networks based in Gaziantep

The partnership is ongoing to working actively with the Syrian Networks engaged through the UNDP Syrian NGO Network Engagement and Partnership Programme. ICVA has provided these networks individual coaching sessions related to strategic planning. These networks were able to thoroughly analyse their current structure and examine the strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities. As a result, ICVA has supported 8 networks in finalising their strategic framework for the next 2-5 years. ICVA will continue this support to the local actors and provide connection and linkages with other members.

Capacity Strengthening Program for Yemen CSO Networks

The ICVA MENA team has started planning for a Capacity Strengthening and Learning Program for Yemen CSO Networks. ICVA team will work with a consultant to develop and deliver a virtual tailored training, with supporting tools and resources, for Local Yemen CSO Networks to strengthen their skills on humanitarian coordination, good governance, strategic planning and humanitarian coordination training development and facilitation. More information will be shared soon. For now, you can see the TOR for the training on the [ICVA website](#) and on [Reliefweb](#).

Members Briefing meeting with Mr. Muhannad Hadi, Regional Humanitarian

Coordinator (RHC) in Syria. ICVA organised alongside OCHA, a virtual briefing with humanitarian partners in Geneva, Local Syrian networks in Gaziantep and INGOs based in MENA Region in June. The purpose of the briefing was to support the senior humanitarian leader in broadening her understanding of country-specific humanitarian concerns and priorities, align expectations with key partners on their role and objectives, and strengthen relationships with stakeholders at HQ. Different members had focused on different issues related to funding, the renewal of UN cross border resolution, the support needed by OCHA on advancing the role of local actors (especially women led organisations), the expected support by OCHA to shed light on protection issues and the vital role of NGOs in life-saving programmes.

Humanitarian Pool Fund (HPF) Localization task Force in Jordan

ICVA MENA continued their participation at HPF/HCT Localization Task force in Jordan where a discussion took place on progress and challenges to share the Localization Monitoring and Evaluation Framework with HPF for endorsement. The HPF has kindly endorsed the framework, ICVA with members from JIF, JONAF and the great support of UN Women will continue the efforts to operationalise the framework with shared responsibilities and partnership sense.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA MENA mailing list, please connect with eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org or stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org

23. Latin America Region

The ICVA and FM4 team, continue to participate in the monthly REDLAC meetings coordinated by OCHA in the region. These meetings aim to be an information bridge between the regional groups and the organisations in our network at the global level.

UNHCR-NGO Regional Consultations in Latin America

ICVA and FM4 are working together with UNHCR on the upcoming regional NGO consultations. More information will be shared soon about the agenda and ways to be involved.

- For more information or to be included in the ICVA Latin America Mailing List, please contact: lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org

Learning Opportunities



24. Recording available: Risk Management and Funding Partnerships

You can now find the **recording and podcast** of the ICVA and PHAP webinar, “[Risk Management and Funding Partnerships](#).” The webinar examined the role of risk management in good funding partnerships as NGOs engage with external funders. Risk management practices are playing an increasingly important role in partner selection and engagement when NGOs receive funding from UN agencies or government donors. This webinar is the fifth and final webinar of the Learning Series on [Risk Management in Practice](#). Our next Learning Series will begin in September on climate, environment and humanitarian action.

- **ICVA’s Learning opportunities and resources page:** ICVA’s [learning resource page](#) is a curated list of learning and training programmes. Please share with us any interesting opportunities that would be useful to include on the webpage. For more information contact: nishanie.jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

New and Noteworthy

25. Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2021

Development Initiatives’ [Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2021](#) launched on 22 June. The report provides a comprehensive picture of the global financing landscape for humanitarian response in a year like no other. It set out how humanitarian needs changed in 2020, and the extent to which funding met those needs. [Read the report for more information](#).

26. Protection Funding: a mid-year review

The Global Protection Cluster (GPC) has led analysis on a mid-year stocktake of Protection Funding of field operations. In the first half of 2021, protection risks continued unabated with over 200 million people impacted by conflicts and disasters. The 32 National Protection Clusters have planned protection assistance for 101M people in need of protection with 2,1BN USD requirements. The [mid-year review](#) concludes that as of mid-2021, the situation is on track from a funding perspective. However, in addition to funding, continued diplomatic efforts are needed to promote respect of International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law, as well as timely and principled access to the people in need of protection.

27. Professional Standards for Protection Work

ICVA is actively engaged in the Advisory Board aiming at supporting the promotion of the [Professional Standards for Protection Work](#). The Standards were established to create a common baseline, to ensure that protection work undertaken by humanitarian and human rights actors meets minimum but essential professional standards in the interest of both the affected populations and the community of protection actors. The standards reflect shared thinking and common agreement among humanitarian and human rights practitioners. They were first formalised in 2009 following a two-year ICRC-led consultative process and subsequently revised in 2013 and 2018. The Advisory Board is now considering whether further revisions are needed to better reflect current contexts and development within the sector. To make the Standards more accessible and user-friendly, the latest revision

was turned into an [eLearning](#) mobile guide by Disaster Ready.

28. The Refugee Engagement Forum (REF) Good Practice Study

[U-Learn Uganda](#) recently published their [REF Good Practice Study](#) report. The Refugee Engagement Forum (REF) is a unique, participatory mechanism designed to systematically ensure refugee voices are taken into account. Through a representative system, elected REF members are able to directly advocate on behalf of their communities up to the highest level of Uganda's refugee response coordination structure. [Find out more.](#)

Mark Your Agenda

July 5-7: UNHCR 81st Standing Committee

July 28: 70th anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

August 19: World Humanitarian Day

August 30: 60th anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness

September 15-16 or 22-23: 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 14-15: High-level officials' meeting (Global Compact on Refugees implementation/Global Refugee Forum follow-up)

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