

Subject: ICVA Bulletin-Highlights from September 2018

Date: Friday, 5 October 2018 :



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA BULLETIN

Highlights from September 2018

Message from Executive Director

How can we better mitigate and share risk together?

Since the first round of Grand Bargain negotiations in February 2016, NGOs have voiced that the Grand Bargain does not adequately address the issues of risk.

Without addressing the underlying issues, Grand Bargain commitments made to localization, reduced burdensome donor conditions, and other elements cannot be achieved.

In the current context of high scrutiny over fraud, safeguarding and counter-terrorism, the systems have a low tolerance for risk. Donors are under increasing domestic pressure to justify the use of humanitarian funds and, as a consequence, programming becomes more risk-averse and donors' reporting requirements tend to limit the availability and quality of funding.

Risks are not borne equitably along the transaction chain. NGOs are impacted considerably, but the greatest impact is on the people affected by crisis.

Donors and NGOs are at the centre of the solution. They have the ability to mitigate and share the risk by engaging on partnership agreements, partner capacity assessments, and discussions over allegations and investigations. Only with closer collaboration and increasing levels of trust can donors and NGOs make a difference.

The recent Grand Bargain high level meeting emphasized that *"donors and aid organizations should commit to cascading efficient funding conditions equally throughout the transaction chain"*.

We believe it can and should also bring together donors, UN agencies and NGOs to find creative ways to collectively tackle risk and better serve the people.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director ICVA

ICVA Updates

1. Save the date: ICVA Asia Regional Members and NGO Fora Meeting 11-14 December, Bangkok: This year's event is organised in partnership with ADRRN, UNOCHA, CWSA and the Sphere Project. The agenda will include: ICVA Dialogue on 'Localizing the Nexus', the ADRRN AGM, Regional Innovation Forum, plus the Regional Launch of the Sphere Handbook Revision and the ALNAP State of the Humanitarian System Report. For more information, contact Jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org.

2. Save the Date: The 2019 ICVA Annual Conference will take place in Geneva on 26 March 2019, under the theme "Translating commitments to Actions". We will look at how the

following commitments are translated into action: the UN reform processes, localization, the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, and the Global compacts on refugees and migrants. There will be additional meetings on the 27 and 28 March - more information to follow.

**LOCALIZATION
EXAMINED:**
**An ICVA Briefing
Paper**
September 2018



3. Hot off the press: ICVA Briefing paper –

Localisation Examined: This latest briefing paper explores the evolution, opportunities, challenges and future trends of localization, and the impacts of these in terms of strengthening principled and effective humanitarian action.

[Download the PDF](#)

4. Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA): ICVA is working to collect input from members on current issues and concerns with PSEA in the lead up to the October 18 Safeguarding Summit hosted by DFID in the UK. A preparatory meeting for members takes place 16 October. For more information contact Secretariat@icvanetwork.org

5. ICVA Member update:

We are pleased to welcome [Mudem-RSC](#), Turkey to the ICVA network.

Please note that ICVA member International Islamic Relief Organization or International Islamic Relief Organization of Saudi Arabia ([IIROSA](#)) has changed their name to The International Organization for Relief, Welfare and Development.

Forced Displacement

6. NGO Statements delivered at UNHCR Standing Committee (19-20 September): ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of two NGO statements for the 73rd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme Standing Committee. The Statements focused on the [Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework](#) and the [Grand Bargain](#).

7. IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultations (25 September): This year's [Consultation](#) brought together 90 participants, including 61 NGO representatives from 39 NGOs in 20 countries around the overarching theme of internal displacement. Participants discussed ways to leverage NGO and IOM complementarities to respond to internal displacement challenges. There was widespread consensus that humanitarian and development actors need to go beyond siloed approaches to programming and focus on joint outcomes. A specific session on protection considered the need for NGOs and IOM to improve protection outcomes. Panellists from Colombia, Iraq and Bosnia underlined the importance of transitional justice in resolving internal displacement. The UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons made the first public presentation of her forthcoming report on transitional justice. Supporting local capacities, facilitating IDP participation including through using accessible language and the importance of data on internal displacement were other themes that cut across the discussions. For more information, please contact Jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org.

8. Global Compact on Refugees: The GCR text has been annexed to the High Commissioner's Annual Report, and is available in all UN official languages on the [United Nations Official Document System](#) (search with symbol: A/73/12). On 26 September, ICVA convened and facilitated a meeting between UNHCR and NGOs to take stock of the GCR Formal Consultations process and discuss the way forward in the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees once it is adopted. ICVA remains willing to support NGOs engagement in the process. For more information, please contact Jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org.

9. 2018 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges: takes place in Geneva on 19 and 20 December, and will focus on "[Protection and solutions in urban settings: engaging with cities](#)". As each year, ICVA will work to facilitate NGOs engagement with the High Commissioner's Dialogue through convening an informal group of 'Friends of the Dialogue'. To join the group, NGOs can contact Jerome.elie@icvanetwork.org.

10. Nansen Refugee Award: ICVA warmly congratulates this year's winner of the prestigious [UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award: Dr. Evan Atar Adaha](#), who runs the only working hospital in South Sudan's Upper Nile State and treats people forced to flee conflict and persecution. ICVA serves on the Nansen Refugee Award Committee and received the Award in 1963. We are proud of counting Dr. Atar among the list of awardees.

Humanitarian Financing

11. The Grand Bargain: On 14 September, Grand Bargain co-conveners met in Geneva to discuss implementation of recommendations coming out of the June Grand Bargain Annual Meeting. Co-conveners agreed to prioritize 11 core commitments to help focus implementation of the Grand Bargain. Workstreams covering multi-year funding and reducing earmarking agreed to reorganize into a single workstream moving forward. ICVA, as co-convenor of the reporting workstream with Germany, also agreed to collaborate on joint planning between the transparency, reducing duplication and management costs, and reporting workstreams moving forward.

On 23 September, in New York, Kristalina Georgieva, Grand Bargain Eminent Person, convened a meeting of high-level political representatives of Grand Bargain stakeholders with the intent to reinvigorate political commitment to the Grand Bargain. This group affirmed the decisions made at the 14 September meeting, worked on improving political commitment to resolve blockages in the needs assessment workstream, and initiated a discussion on developing a common understanding of risk in donor-NGO relations within the Grand Bargain.

12. Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot: On 13 September, ICVA and Germany co-hosted a workshop in Geneva for current and prospective participants in the current Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot in Iraq, Myanmar, and Somalia. GPPi shared the results of the recently completed [pilot mid-term review](#). The pilot will continue through May of 2019, with an increasing focus over the next few months on expanding participation and working toward scale-up and rollout. NGO partners interested in joining the pilot can contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org.

13. Learning Lab on Innovative Humanitarian Financing: Islamic Social Financing: 28-29 November in Malaysia: With support from Mercy Malaysia, ICVA, and an Expert Steering Committee, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Humanitarian Financing Task Team (IASC HFTT) is launching its inter-agency Learning Lab on Innovative Humanitarian Financing. The first module Islamic Social Financing will take place at the end of November

in Kuala Lumpur. This learning lab was triggered by the 2016 high-level panel report “[Too important to fail – addressing the humanitarian financing gap](#)” which noted that “Islamic social finance is an under-explored territory” that has “potential to provide solutions” to the funding gap. Agenda and speakers are under development. For more information contact Alon.Plato@icvanetwork.org

14. Progress on SEA – UNICEF contracts: Over the past month, a number of members have been following the implementation of the new [UN Protocol](#) on SEA Allegations Involving Implementing Partners. UNICEF, in particular, has taken a strong lead in rolling out new terms and conditions for partnership agreements aligned to the protocol. As of 26 September ICVA has helped to negotiate a postponement of the requirement to sign revised terms and conditions with UNICEF pending further dialogue with NGO partners on how to move forward. For more information on the UN protocol or the dialogue with UNICEF, contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org.

Humanitarian Coordination

15. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Update:

a. Update on the Ebola Situation in DRC: In early September, a follow-up meeting between NGOs in the DRC, in Kinshasa and Geneva and the Deputy Humanitarian Coordination and WHO in Geneva was organised to enable a discussion about the financing of the Ebola response and the perception of the use of armed escorts in some areas with challenging access. In subsequent meetings with DERC Ursula Mueller in Nairobi and Regional IASC members in Dakar, ICVA has advocated to parties to maintain NGOs involved in the planning phases.

On 21 September, the EDG discussed about the Ebola situation in DRC and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Yemen and the collective efforts undertaken by the humanitarian community to respond to the needs and face the different challenges. In collaboration with partners, ICVA has raised to the EDG elements worth further analysis in the Ebola response in Eastern DRC and consequently facilitated the discussion at the field level with the involvement of the DHC (contact marco.rotelli@icvanetwork.org for more information, and on Yemen contact Eman.Moankar@icvanetwork.org)

This meeting was the last one chaired by John Ging. We thank him for his support on providing qualitative space to NGOs to share their perspectives during these meetings. We also welcome Ms. Reena Ghelani, his successor.

b. Meeting with leadership: on 4 September ICVA organised a meeting between Martin Griffith, the UN Special Envoy for Yemen and on 14 September a meeting with Ute Kollies, Head of OCHA in Mali. Meeting with DERC Ursula Mueller in Nairobi for a debriefing on her recent visit in Mali, an information exchange ahead of her visit in Burundi and an overall overview of the humanitarian situation in the East Africa Region.

For more information, please contact: Emmanuelle.Osmond@icvanetwork.org

16. NGO FORA Support Programme: ICVA Supported the South Asia Together for Humanitarian Imperatives (SATHI) Network and Oxfam to present a Good practices learning day and SATHI Networks strategic planning on 25-26 September. The focus of the event on 26 September was on learning exchange through presentation of top 12 winning good practices shortlisted from 145 received from 18 countries. The presentations were followed by a detailed workshop for planning of SATHI ahead of their AGM coming up in December. SATHI Network brings together national-level NGO networks from South Asia to form a collective group for operational and advocacy support. For more information contact Jeremy.Wellard@icvantwork.org

Humanitarian Learning Stream

17. The learning stream on the **Humanitarian-development-peace-nexus** has come to an end. You can hear all the recordings of the webinars and read additional information on topics:

- **Topic 1:** [The “nexus” explained: How and when do humanitarian, development and peace action come together?](#)
- **Topic 2:** [The World Bank and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus](#)
- **Topic 3:** [UN Reform: The link to the "nexus" and what it means for non-UN actors](#)
- **Topic 4:** [Perspectives of peacebuilding actors in the humanitarian-development-peace nexus](#)
- **Topic 5:** [Donor perspectives on the Humanitarian-development-peace-nexus](#)

For more information contact Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

17. **New online introductory course on humanitarian access**, organised by ICVA member Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). This [online course](#) takes approximately 60 minutes to complete and is open to everyone, so please do share it with your colleagues. After successful completion of the course, you will be equipped with basic tools that will enable you to carry out an analysis of the access context, as well identify which actors and factors affect access. For further information, please contact nrcgeneva.policy@nrc.no

New and Noteworthy

18. **Investing in Integrity:** UNHCR has published its [Investing in Integrity package](#) which outlines the activities across UNHCR related to the prevention and response to fraud, corruption, SEA, SH and other forms of misconduct grouped into several broad thematic areas: risk management, investigation and enforcement; systems and tools; cultural change and capacity building; support to staff; and coordination and framework.

Forthcoming Events

ICVA Meetings and Events

October 22: Forced Migration in Asia and the Pacific: Future Impacts and Trends, Bangkok
November 7-9: National NGO Fora workshop Geneva
December 10-14: ICVA Asia Regional Members and NGO Fora meeting, Bangkok

2019

March 26 ICVA Annual Conference, Geneva

Other Meetings and Events:

October 1: IASC Deputies Forum, Geneva
October 1-5: UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting (Geneva)
October 1: UNHCR Nansen Award Ceremony
October 8-9: IOM International Dialogue on Migration, Geneva
October 8-9: IASC Working Group meeting, Geneva

October 18: DFID Hosted summit on PSEA, London

October 23-25: Asia-Pacific Conference on Refugee Rights (APCRR7), Bangkok

November 1-2: ICSC Global Perspectives Conference Berlin

November 5-8: Geneva Peace Week, Geneva

November (first week) R-IASC on West and Central Africa – Dakar.

November 29: IASC Principals meeting, Geneva

November (last week TBC), African Union Humanitarian Symposium, Nairobi.

December 3: IASC Principals Meeting, Geneva

December 4: Joint launch of the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2019 and the World Humanitarian Data and Trends Report 2018, Geneva

December 5-7: Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), Marrakech

December 8-9: Mayorol Forum, Marrakech

December 8-9: Youth Forum on Migration, Marrakech

December 6-11: CWSA Refresher ToT on Enhancing Collective Quality and Accountability to Affected Populations (Q&AAP), Bangkok, Thailand (registration closes 15 October)

December 7-11: CWSA Workshop on Managing Complaints Response Mechanism (CRM), Bangkok, Thailand (registration closes 15 October)

December 10-11: Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM, Marrakech

December 11: Asia Regional Launch of Sphere Handbook Revision and ALNAP SoHS Report, Bangkok

December 12: Regional Innovation Forum, Bangkok

December 18-19: High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, UNHCR, Geneva

December 5-6: Yaondee Cameroon, BBR Training

ICVA

Avenue Giuseppe-Motta 26-28

Geneva, GE CH 1202

Switzerland

secretariat@icvanetwork.org

www.icvanetwork.org

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