



— About ICVA

A global network of humanitarian NGOs

In 1962 a small coalition of refugee and migration-focused NGOs joined together to collectively tackle the challenges of forced migration. From these beginnings, ICVA has grown into a global and diverse network of over 150 NGOs dedicated to working collectively to make humanitarian action more principled and effective.

Our members include large and small, secular and faith-based, national and international NGOs, networks and consortiums, operating in 160 countries, with an estimated income of over USD 20 billion and an outreach to 8000 NGOs.

Our ICVA 2030 Strategy sets the framework for the direction and focus of ICVA's work from 2022-2030. Through our focus areas of Forced Migration, Coordination, and Financing we support NGOs to engage in and influence the humanitarian sector and beyond to ensure support to those in need remains rooted in principled humanitarian action.

Through our five transformations: Champion principled humanitarian action; Address impact of climate change; Be globally distributed and locally rooted; Be diverse, inclusive and live our values; and Proactively engage in agile collaborative partnership – we aim to evolve and transform the network. These transformations are integral to our work no matter what specific focus area or topic we are dealing with.

Our vision

The idea that drives us

A world in which crisis-affected populations are effectively protected, assisted and enabled to rebuild their lives and livelihoods with dignity.

Our mission

What we want to achieve

A global network of non-governmental organisations whose mission is to make humanitarian action more principled and effective by working collectively and independently to influence policy and practice.

Our Values & Principles

- · Our work is based on the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence as well as the Principles of Partnership.
- ICVA work towards a system that enables people affected by humanitarian crises to receive equitable access to quality assistance and protection rooted in international humanitarian and human rights law
- We promote innovative approaches to humanitarian policy development and implementation and offer evidencebased, solutions-oriented advocacy.
- We promote equitable inclusive engagement of NGOs and principled multi-stakeholder partnerships to realise the full value of diversity and to ensure the legitimacy of our work.

—— ICVA's global reach

Regional Presence

Historically based in Geneva, ICVA has representation in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Through the regional presence and proximity to country operations, ICVA provides an important link between global and regional perspectives and ensuring a connection to the operational realities of its members.

Through its regional presence ICVA works closely with members and NGO fora to:

- · facilitate ICVA's engagement with intergovernmental organisations and States in the regions
- Strengthen links between operational realities and global policies
- · Create opportunities for regional consultation and collective action on issues of common interest
- Support to country level NGO fora operating in humanitarian contexts

ICVA's work is adapted to different regions, working on the issues identified by members and aligned to the regional, country level and local nature of humanitarian crises and needs. We also aim to increase the degree to which local, national, and regional actors systematically participate in and inform global policies and influence, while maintaining support for translating from global to the local level.

Our ways of working:

- · Analysing and learning producing, sharing and exchanging information and analyses, and promoting learning.
- Convening members to collaborate on common issues
- Connecting NGO voices to global, regional and country-level policy development

Influencing and advocating - ensuring

a strong multi-faceted NGO voice is

Supporting – NGO engagement in an increasingly complex world

reflected in key policy decisions

Collaborating - with others to deliver principled humanitarian action

— Membership

Connecting NGOs

ICVA has over 150 members active in humanitarian response across the world. Members are humanitarian NGOs, large and small, secular and faith-based, national and international joined through a common commitment to principled and effective humanitarian action.

Membership in ICVA is open to national NGOs, international NGOs and NGO fora or networks.

ICVA's members guide the network's strategic direction.

Through ICVA, members:

- influence global policy and practice through access to UN and intergovernmental humanitarian policy and decision makers.
- Participate in collective and amplified NGO advocacy on humanitarian issues.
- · Bring the field realities of humanitarian practice to global and regional forums.
- Participate in the IASC mechanisms through ICVA's seat as a standing invitee to the IASC.
- Network, connect and exchange with a diverse global NGO membership, and other humanitarian stakeholders

- Stay informed on key debates and issues relevant to operations.
- Share information, expertise and resources.
- Shape the strategic direction of ICVA, be eligible to serve on the ICVA Board, and vote at the ICVA General Assembly.

Much of ICVA's substantive work is carried out within ICVA's working groups. Working groups provide members a forum to discuss issues, exchange information on specific situations, practices, projects, draft policy proposals, develop advocacy and undertake joint action.



For more information about becoming a member please contact:

Programme priorities for 2022-2024



FORCED **MIGRATION**

- Convene NGOs to collectively engage with and influence forced migration policy developments and providewww a safe space for NGOs to collaborate, exchange and advocate with key stakeholders, such as UNHCR and IOM
- Contribute to NGOs engagement with global initiatives to prepare and respond to forced migration and climate change, such as the the **2nd Global Refugee Forum**.
- Follow up to the **recommendations** from the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement.



COORDINATION

- Engage and support the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), including diverse NGO representation in all coordination mechanisms at global, regional and national levels.
- supporting NGO Fora as central actors within national coordination structures, addressing action, and continuing advocacy for alternative models of coordination to support principled and effective
- advocacy and action to improve



FINANCING

- Maintain a leadership role in key humanitarian platforms that
- Close engagement with OCHA Pooled Funds to improve funding pass-through to NGOs and increase participation of local partners.
- NGOs and UN agencies to negotiate simplified and harmonised conditions of partnership.

Transforming our network

Champion Principled humanitarian action

· Collaboration with ongoing initiatives and organisations working on IHL and humanitarian principles.

Address impact of climate change on humanitarian action

· Implementation of the five commitments and motion to action adopted by the 18th ICVA General Assembly, May 2021

Be globally distributed and locally rooted

 Support the localisation agenda through capacity strengthening activities and contribute to improving participation and representation of NGOs in humanitarian coordination structures at country level.

Be diverse and inclusive, and live our values

- Address issues of bias and racism both at the organisational and individual level, through sharing of good practices, peer to peer learning and other tools.
- Promote best practices for safeguarding, ensuring protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and fulfilling a duty of care.

Proactively engage in agile collaborative

partnerships Promote the Principles of Partnership

and, where relevant, challenge to change partnering practices so that multi-stakeholder collaboration can become truly transformational.



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

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