

ICVA Bulletin

Highlights from June 2024

The ICVA logo consists of the letters 'ICVA' in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a solid blue circle.

A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Dear Readers,

In this bulletin, we bring you the latest news concerning our focus areas: forced migration, humanitarian financing, and humanitarian coordination. We continue to transform the ICVA network to be more engaged in operationalising principled humanitarian action, in addressing the impact of climate change on humanitarian action, pursuing being globally distributed and locally rooted, being diverse, inclusive, and living our values, and proactively engaging in agile collaborative partnerships. Check more on the [transformations](#) of our ICVA 2030 Strategy. We also share our updates from our regional hubs and so much more.

Don't miss to follow us on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#) for more updates.

Message from ICVA

Strengthening Solidarity and Protection

World Refugee Day is marked each year on 20 June, and this year the focus is on 'solidarity with refugees'. The [UNHCR global trends report](#), which is released in June, shows a concerning rise in forcibly displaced persons globally. At the end of 2023, it stood at 117.3 million. Only midway through 2024, it has reached 120 million.

Protection is essential for rebuilding lives, but accessing asylum and protection is becoming increasingly difficult. Furthermore, there has been a noticeable surge in xenophobia, racism, and negative public narratives around refugees.

For forcibly displaced people from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Palestine, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, and many other places, solidarity, solutions, and protection are more important than ever. Protection must include access to essential services, legal rights, and a conducive environment to thrive. Inclusive policies that protect the rights of all and empower individuals are crucial.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) play a vital role in addressing immediate humanitarian needs and fostering long-term solutions for forcibly displaced persons, working directly with and for communities. In recognition of the significant role, knowledge

and influence that NGOs possess, and as operational partners, they are consulted by UNHCR through a variety of formats, in differing locations and on a wide spectrum of topics.

On 11 - 13 June, UNHCR and ICVA co-organised the [Global Consultations in Geneva](#). This provided an opportunity for local, national and international NGOs to present their perspectives on common areas of concern. The consultations attracted over 200 representatives from NGOs, including organisations led by forcibly displaced and stateless persons. The event focused on three themes: Solutions, Inclusion, and Gender Equality which built upon the outcomes of the [seven Regional Consultations](#) held in 2023.

As part of the Global Consultations meeting, UNHCR and NGOs co-created policy, advocacy, and operational recommendations based on these themes. For the recommendations to be truly impactful, they must be applied to strengthen the humanitarian system and, by extension, programming on the ground. The final recommendations for 2024 will be presented by two NGO Rapporteurs during the 75th Session of the UNHCR ExCom.

In 1994, ICVA's Executive Director Delmar Blasco stated that whilst UNHCR is without a doubt the UN agency with which NGOs 'have the best working relationship,' there were inevitably areas to be improved upon. These rested on a desire from NGOs to be consulted on operational matters sooner and more often through open and clear communication, and for bureaucracy to be much lessened. Thirty years later, ICVA's current Executive Director Jamie Munn opened the Global Consultations together with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi. Jamie similarly reflects that "Mutual accountability in a partnership isn't about peace and love; it's about acknowledging the painful points, learning from them, and addressing them together.

This acknowledgment is crucial because it fosters growth, strengthens the relationship, and ensures that both partners feel heard and valued." The [Principles of Partnership](#), emphasising equality, transparency, and results-oriented approaches, have played a pivotal role in this evolution. Over the past three decades, significant progress has been made as UNHCR, in partnership with NGOs, has continuously worked towards a more inclusive, communicative, and efficient collaboration, ultimately enhancing their collective impact on refugee support and protection.

Davina Saïd
Head of Forced Migration | ICVA

ICVA Updates

1. Opening Soon: Call for Applications for Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)



ICVA and UNHCR are pleased to announce that a new call for applications to the PSEA Fund will launch in mid-July 2024 via the [PSEA Fund website](#). Similar to previous years, the 2024 Interagency Community Outreach and Communication Fund on PSEA will offer rapid, targeted financial support to NGOs for the creation and distribution of PSEA outreach and communication materials. Additionally, these materials developed through the Fund will be accessible to all IASC members and the broader sector for their use or adaptation.

We encourage those interested in applying to regularly check the PSEA Fund website, especially the Call for Applications section. Also, stay tuned for updates shared through the [ICVA](#) website and [social media](#) channels.

2. We are Hiring

ICVA is hiring for the following position and consultancies:

- Localisation Project Officer

Consultancies:

- Updating Humanitarian Financing Materials
- Data Transparency
- Risk-sharing in Humanitarian Funding Constructs

Check more information on our [website](#).

3. Meet our new Colleague

We are excited to welcome to the team Beatrix Masime as Grants Compliance Coordinator.

Forced Migration

4. Informal Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons

On 17 June, ICVA organised an informal dialogue for its members with Paula Gaviria Betancur, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons. During the discussion that was led by the ICVA Executive Director, the UN Special Rapporteur provided

insights on strategic planning for her mandate, outlined plans for 2024-2025, and highlighted opportunities for NGO involvement in the present global landscape.

- For more information, please contact davina.said@icvanetwork.org and loise.dairocheteau@icvanetwork.org.

5. Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

Civil Society Regional Consultations on the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) 2024-2025 Programme

The GFMD Civil Society Mechanism is hosting regional consultations in July to gather feedback on the proposed thematic priorities and plans for the upcoming 2024-2025 GFMD programme. Save the dates for these consultations: [Latin America and the Caribbean & North America](#), [Asia and Pacific](#), [Africa](#), and [MENA](#).

Financing

6. The Grand Bargain (GB) Beyond 2023

Grand Bargain Secretariat Update

Current updates from the Grand Bargain Secretariat can be found [here](#).

Grand Bargain NGO Constituency Brainstorming

The Grand Bargain NGO Constituency group, co-chaired by InterAction and NEAR, held a second brainstorming session before the Facilitation Group meeting on 12 June. NGOs called for better commitment tracking, increased involvement of local actors, and clear priority communication among all stakeholders. Recommendations focused on improving accountability, broadening donor support, and fostering fair partnerships. Discussing proposals for monitoring progress systematically through communities of practice, the session highlighted the importance of inclusivity, accountability, and clear priorities to fuel transformational change within the GB framework.

Grand Bargain Strategic Dialogue on Innovative Financing

Ambassador Kohler convened a first discussion on Innovative Financing co-hosted by ICRC/HIF HUB and World Economic Forum on 24 June to address the humanitarian financing gap. The meeting gathered humanitarian actors and donors to discuss scaling efforts, leading to the decision to establish a Community of Practice and a playbook for replicating financing structures and initiatives.

Additionally, Ambassador Koehler leads the Caucus on Scaling up Anticipatory Action, launched in February 2024 to shift humanitarian efforts towards proactive measures. Despite minimal current funding, the caucus aims to improve efficiency, understanding,

funding security, and coordination. The caucus intends to share its results at the 2024 Annual Meeting and the Anticipation Hub Global Dialogue Platform in October 2024. Check more in [Ambassador Michael Koehler](#) interview on VOICE Out Loud 37 on Anticipatory Action.

Grand Bargain Secretariat Staffing Update

The Grand Bargain Secretariat is now fully staffed with Samar Al-Attar as the Senior Leader, Björn Hofmann as the Senior Adviser, and Melissa Gonçalves Marques as the Policy & Communications Officer. They will support Grand Bargain Ambassadors, the Facilitation Group Sherpa, and Signatories to drive Grand Bargain processes towards tangible outcomes. Contact the Grand Bargain Secretariat at gbsecretariat@un.org.

7. Access to Quality Funding

UNHCR-NGO Global Consultations, Partnership Session

On 13 June, as part of the UNHCR-NGO Global Consultations held in Geneva, ICVA participated in a panel on partnerships. The panel discussed humanitarian funding challenges, emphasising the importance of diverse funding sources, supporting local NGOs, and promoting flexibility and inclusive dialogue. Recommendations included political awareness and capacity-building. Following the UNHCR-NGO Global Consultations, UNHCR convened International non-governmental organisations partners for an in-person workshop focused on addressing partnership challenges. Key discussions included simplifying procedures, enhancing predictability, and better engaging local actors. Recommendations included multi-year agreements, transparent communication, and strategic planning for efficient collaboration.

- For more information, please contact elise.baudot@icvanetwork.org and manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org.

Coordination

8. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Principals

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Deputies Group

The IASC Deputies Group met on 1 July to discuss the draft management response plan to the independent Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) review. The Deputies appreciated both the review and the work done to respond efficiently to the gaps and challenges identified through the draft management response plan. They concluded with a recommendation for the IASC Principals and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to endorse the draft.

9. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Workshop

On 25 -27 June, experts from country, regional, and global levels on AAP gathered in Bangkok, Thailand for a global dialogue on the Participation Revolution. The workshop, supported by ICVA and CHS Alliance, aimed to discuss advancements in people-centered approaches in the IASC system and gather insights on impact, gaps, and visions for the future. The workshop was preceded by virtual dialogues led by the CHS Alliance and was part of ICVA's Strengthened Partnerships for Principled and Effective Humanitarian Action, supported by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA).

- For more information, please contact jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org

10. NGO Fora Support

ICVA provides governance best practices sessions for NGO fora, tailored for directors, steering/executive committee members, and the wider membership. Additionally, ICVA offers introductory sessions on engaging with IASC structures to enhance understanding and clarify NGO roles, with the flexibility to adapt to different contexts. In June, ICVA conducted a session on Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) engagement in Myanmar. Furthermore, ICVA supports National NGO engagement within HCTs through monthly peer-to-peer sessions over 6 months to improve participation quality and address specific needs, coordinated through in-country OCHA offices upon request.

- For more information, please contact albertphilip.burger@icvanetwork.org.

Transforming our Network

11. Champion Principled Humanitarian Action

Promoting Ethical Advocacy in Humanitarian Contexts

ICVA led and moderated a panel discussion with the CARE Global Humanitarian Advocacy Meeting in Geneva in June. The session delved into the theme of "Balancing bold advocacy with access in complex settings: Ethical challenges, humanitarian principles, and advocacy in politicised conflicts," drawing insights from ICRC, ICVA, and CARE's experiences.

The Principled Humanitarian Action Steering Committee met to review the recent High-Level Negotiation workshops conducted with the Sudan and Afghanistan NGO Fora, facilitated by ICVA and CCHN. These workshops focused on dilemmas and decision-making processes to help participants establish principled stances and understand the consequences of compromises. During the meeting, the Steering Committee addressed challenges arising from donor conditions and host government interference in humanitarian action, emphasising the importance of communicating these impacts to donors.

Fostering Collaboration for Enhanced Humanitarian Negotiation Capacity

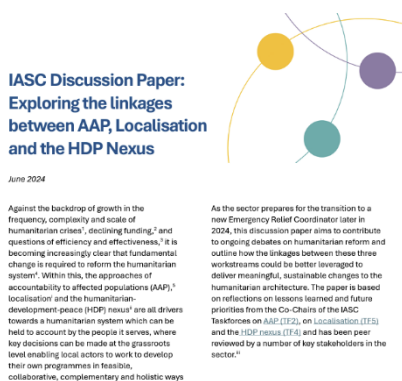
In June, ICVA attended a session on “Approaches to build the negotiation capacity of humanitarians” at CCHN’s World Summit on Humanitarian Negotiation. Speakers emphasised the criticality of coordination and collaboration for effective humanitarian action but noted that competition and reluctance to share sensitive information often undermine this collaboration. ICVA through its partnership with CCHN supports NGO Fora with workshops for humanitarian leaders to strengthen collaborative approaches to humanitarian negotiations.

- For more information, please contact eileen.morrow@icvanetwork.org

12. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

Localisation

IASC Discussion Paper: Exploring the Linkages between Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), Localisation and the Humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) Nexus



Within the framework of IASC Taskforces, ICVA has contributed to a new IASC discussion paper exploring the linkages between AAP, localisation and the HDP nexus and how they could be better leveraged to deliver meaningful, sustainable changes to the humanitarian architecture. The approaches of AAP, localisation and the HDP nexus are all drivers towards a humanitarian system which is people centered and can be held to account by the people it serves. Read more in the [paper](#).

Child Rights

In early July, ICVA met with UNICEF Country Representative in Central African Republic. The discussion focused on the situation of the children in the country, the humanitarian needs and the government efforts towards further investments in development. The NGO landscape and the humanitarian financing perspectives were also discussed, highlighting the good existing collaboration between UNICEF and NGO partners in the country.

- For more information, please contact vania.gobbo@icvanetwork.org.

Safeguarding

Interagency PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund -2023 Project Summaries



INTERAGENCY PSEA COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION FUND

2023 Project Summaries

June 2024

In 2023, the PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund awarded 7 grants to NGO projects globally. These projects focused on enhancing engagement with specific groups such as adolescent girls, language minorities, persons with disabilities, individuals of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, residents in remote areas, and communities at risk of transactional sex. The selected projects were supported by the interagency PSEA Fund Steering Group to develop their initiatives effectively. Read more on the [2023 project summaries](#).



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

13. Proactively Engage in Agile Collaborative Partnerships

Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus

The IASC Task Force on Humanitarian Development Collaboration concluded its mandate on 1 July 2024. Currently, there is an ongoing reflection on the future of the Global Community of Practice. Please participate in a brief [survey](#) to provide your input on the future direction of this community of practice.

- For more information, please contact stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

Region Specific

14. Africa

East and Southern Africa

Tackling Forced Displacement as a Development Challenge

On 24 June, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees gave a [speech](#) at the University of Nairobi focusing on addressing forced displacement as a development challenge. ICVA and some members attended the event. The High Commissioner also launched the [Refugee Resource Centre](#) (RRC), a joint initiative of the University of Nairobi and UNHCR. The RRC aims to tackle the challenges of forced displacement in Kenya and beyond by serving as a research hub, promoting knowledge exchange, and hosting discussions and lectures on sustainable inclusion of refugees, asylum seekers, and host communities to influence public policy and practice.

- For more information, please contact addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org or nkirote.laiboni@icvanetwork.org.

West and Central Africa

Third Regional Community of Practice on Localisation Advocacy

In May, ICVA hosted the third Regional Community of Practice on localisation in West and Central Africa. NGOs and Forum representatives in the region came together to discuss advocacy issues and identify actionable steps for collective advocacy. The meeting aimed to discuss advocacy issues surrounding localization and define actionable steps for collective advocacy. Presentations from the National NGO Forum of Mali, Alima, and the DRC NNGO Forum were given, highlighting global advocacy campaigns, operational models, and definitions of localisation. During the meeting, common challenges were analysed, priority advocacy areas were defined, and joint targets were identified. It was decided that a regional task force on advocacy for localisation would be created.

6th Dialogue United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel /NGO on “Humanitarian Diplomatie”

On 5 June, ICVA and the Special Coordinator for the Development of the Sahel co-organised a dialogue on humanitarian diplomacy. The event featured leaders from national and regional UN and NGOs, who discussed their recent activities, particularly advocacy efforts. The International Crisis Group representative shared insights on the powers and influences in the region and new targets for humanitarian diplomacy.

- For more information, please contact adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org or fatoumata.konate@icvanetwork.org.

15. Asia and the Pacific

IASC Regional Director’s Meeting

On 5 June, ICVA members from the region and ICVA's Regional Representative took part in the IASC Regional Director's meeting. The meeting, held twice a year, focused on the impact of the Myanmar crisis on the region, specifically in Bangladesh. Updates on the regional pooled fund were shared, along with the collective objectives of the regional working groups.

Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Meeting

On 13 June, the bimonthly regional EPWG meeting was hosted by ICVA, IFRC, and OCHA. El Nino's impact on the region and early forecasting on La Nina were presented. Catholic Relief Services presented their protection in preparedness [toolkit](#) (PrePD), and a regional logistics working group was revitalised.

Regional Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Group

The [working group](#) on AAP/PSEA will restart, following the appointment of a new Regional PSEA Coordinator and AAP coordinator in June. ICVA will co-chair the group, facilitating linkages with our existing PSEA work and that of our members. The group will work with in-country AAP/PSEA focal points as well as regional actors focused on strengthening the implementation of AAP and PSEA commitments.

- For more information, please contact keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org or Asma Saleem asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org.

16. Latin America

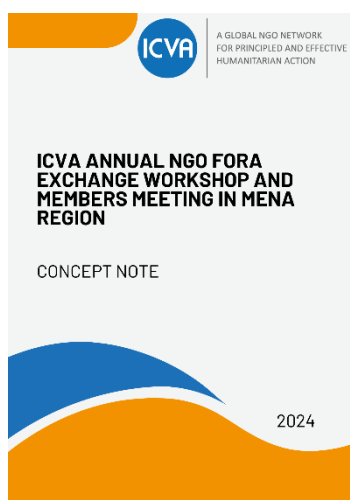
Cartagena D+40

Local and international NGOs, including members of ICVA, participated in the last Cartagena D+40 preparatory meeting in Bogota, Colombia on 19-20 June. The meeting focused on the theme of Protection in Contexts of Forced Displacement by Disasters. Access information on the previous meetings in this [link](#). To prepare for the upcoming meeting with States, a virtual meeting will be held with NGO representatives to review the first draft of the Chile Action Plan. Following this, a hybrid format meeting with States will be held where recommendations will be made to the document.

- For more information, please contact lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org.

17. MENA

ICVA Annual NGO Fora Workshop



ICVA will be hosting the annual NGO Fora workshop in Amman, Jordan on 9 - 11 September. The workshop aims to provide a platform for local and international NGO networks to share insights, enhance coordination and discuss humanitarian collaboration in challenging environments. The theme of the workshop is "Strengthening NGO Coordination" and will cover a wide range of related topics. Check more information in the [concept note](#). Interested participants can register [here](#), with a limit of two representatives per fora. For sponsorship requests, please contact stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

Gaza Crisis

On 11 June, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the United Nations hosted the "Call for Action: Urgent Humanitarian Response for Gaza" Conference. ICVA Secretariat and some of its members in the region attended. The objective was to agree on practical measures to address immediate needs. For more information on the outcomes and statements, visit this [link](#).

ICVA continues its support to NGOs in the region by connecting and setting up various meetings with key partners, such as OCHA ROMENA, UNRWA, donors, and others. ICVA also holds regular NGO Forum Exchanges with Jordan, Palestine, and Egypt. Additionally, ICVA remains actively engaged in the regional advocacy working group and regularly communicates with the OCHA Jerusalem Advocacy Working Group.

- For more information, please contact eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org, or stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org.

Learning Opportunities

18. ICVA Humanitarian Learning Stream:The [Learning Stream](#) offers free courses on crucial humanitarian topics such as climate change and humanitarian action, risk management in practice, humanitarian financing and coordination and demystifying the Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Nexus. Explore the [courses](#) and start your learning journey today.

19. Gender in Emergencies Group is organising the following trainings in 2024: [rapid gender analysis secondary data review](#), [rapid gender analysis secondary data review in French](#), [gender markers in English](#), [rapid gender analysis primary data collection](#), and [rapid gender analysis primary data collection in French](#).

New and Noteworthy

20. World Refugee Day 2024: Solidarity with and Solutions for Refugees: Refugees Seeking Equal Access at the Table (R-SEAT), shares their [experiences and perspectives](#) on World Refugee Day 2024. As a refugee-led organisation, they offer insights on uniting as a global community to support displaced persons.

21. Assessing the Reality of Corporate Social Responsibility in Yemen: Private Sector Engagement in Yemen's Humanitarian and Development Response: This [study](#), funded by DANIDA and sponsored by DRC and Tamdeen Youth Foundation, assessed Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives in Yemen and provided recommendations for enhancing private sector involvement in humanitarian and developmental responses in the country.

22. Out of the Ordinary: New Approaches to Financing NGO-led Crisis Response Mechanisms: NRC's [report](#) examines new approaches being implemented by NGOs and donors to provide insights on effectively applying lessons from the eight reviewed mechanisms.

23. Education Under Attack 2024: Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack's [global study](#) found that education is frequently under attack, with students and teachers being killed, raped, and abducted, while schools and universities are bombed, burned down, and used for military purposes in at least 28 countries over the past two years.

24. Open Call for Proposals - Education and Climate: Education Cannot Wait seeks proposals addressing the intersection of climate change and education in emergencies and protracted crises. [Submit](#) before 5 August 2024.

25. Unlocking Futures – Seven Key Insights on Financing for Education in Emergencies: Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies' new [analysis](#) outlines seven key insights for unlocking financing for education in crisis settings, highlighting persistent challenges and untapped opportunities to address the chronic underfunding of education in these contexts.

26. Who holds the Levers of Design? Insights and Ideas for Cash and Locally led Response: Christian Aid, in collaboration with a few national NGOs, has produced a [briefing note](#), arguing that there is more value in local actors' contribution and potential in cash transfer programming than is often assumed.

27. Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2024: The [2024 GHO](#) requires \$48.65 billion in funding to aid 187.8 million people, but only \$7.85 billion has been provided as of May and funding has decreased by 19%, with many response plans receiving below-average support. The increased requirements reflect heightened needs in Syria, Libya, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Burundi.

28. The World's Most Neglected Displacement Crises in 2023: NRC's [report](#) highlights a record-breaking USD 32 billion shortfall in aid budgets, leaving 57% of humanitarian needs unmet in 2023, resulting in severe hunger, families fleeing repeatedly, and children unable to access education.

29. Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Analysis of the Australian Aid Budget: At the end of May, ICVA's member network, the ACFID published its Analysis of the Australian Aid Budget for 2024-2025 financial year. The [analysis](#) includes trends of humanitarian assistance over the years and highlights the static nature of humanitarian funding despite growing needs globally.

Mark your Agenda

2024

July 15: [United Nations Secretary-General's Global Call for nominations for senior leadership positions](#)

July 16: [Launch of the 2024 Aid Transparency Index](#)

July 19: Grand Bargain self-reporting

July 25 - 26: [Evaluating humanitarian action: steps, challenges and real-time learning](#)

July 30: World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

August 19: World Humanitarian Day

September 4: Third quarterly informal briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees

September 12 - 13: 91st meeting of the UNCHR Standing Committee, Geneva

October 14-18: 75th plenary session of the UNHCR Executive Committee, Geneva

October 23-24: 13th Annual [AidEx](#) Conference 2024, Geneva

November 20: World Children's Day

November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

December 2: Fourth quarterly informal briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees

December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities

December 10: Human Rights Day

December 10 - 12: Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week (RHPW) – Asia Pacific 2024

December 18: International Migrants Day