

Community World Service Asia (CWSA), Pakistan

Mr. Marvin Parvez

Organisation Profile

Community World Service Asia is a humanitarian, development & advocacy organization, registered in Pakistan, head-quartered in Karachi and implementing initiatives in South & South East Asia. We aim to address factors that divide people by promoting inclusiveness, shared values, diversity, and interdependence. Marginalized communities are assisted irrespective of race, faith, color, age, sex, economic status, or political opinion. Respecting the right to choose how to live, we work with marginalized communities to overcome the impacts of inequalities and lead peaceful, dignified and resilient lives.

Community World Service Asia has been serving communities in the region for the last six decades and continues to partner with a growing number of Governments, Multi-lateral Organizations, International Professional Networks and a host of National, Local and International NGOs. Our organization is comprised of a committed governing board and a diverse team who work through a robust accountability framework while maintaining strong relationships with communities and partners.

Our focus areas include: Emergencies, Climate Action and Risk Reduction, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene and Quality and Accountability. We engage in the self-implementation of projects, cooperation through partners, and the provision of capacity building training and resources at the national, regional and global levels.

Nominee Information

Mr. Marvin Parvez



Video presentation



Gender: Male

Job title: Regional Director

Focus Area 1 - Forced Migration ICVA will support members in their work to improve protection, assistance and durable solutions for refugees, IDPs, stateless persons and migrants in vulnerable situations:

As the team leader for CWSA, Marvin Parvez's direct involvement with ICVA started in 2008 at the time of Cyclone Nargis in Burma. Where he was the ACT Coordinator and managing emergency relief operations for large population of displaced communities by the Cyclone Nargis. During this response, he was tasked to put together a joint unit for coordination and quality & accountability (and raised funding for the unit & the ACT Appeal). During Cyclone Nargis, he was the Coordinator for ACT Alliance Response and also focal person for HAP & Sphere work.

Marvin has also managed Afghan Refugee Programs in Pakistan & Iran.

Marvin has worked with displaced populations in Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Burma & Thailand.

Currently he is managing refugee services for CWSA in Pakistan and implementing programs for Afghan returnees, expelled from Pakistan.

Focus Area 2 - Coordination ICVA will work to strengthen the collective ability of NGOs to actively engage in, influence or lead humanitarian coordination mechanisms to ensure they are inclusive, contextualised and accountable.

Marvin has vast experience of coordination/collaboration during large and complex emergencies in the region. He has led well-coordinated programs during some of the largest disasters in the region (Afghan Civil War, the 2004 Tsunami, Pakistan 2005 earthquake, Tohoku Earthquake & Tsunami and other major responses). CWSA was the Chair of Pakistan Humanitarian Forum during the Pakistan 2005 Earthquake and the lead agency for ACT Alliance. Marvin has now developed a network in Asia & Pacific on Shrinking Space Challenges (covering countries from Iran to Fiji). Marvin will be starting in the coming months HELP CLINICS for I/NGO Networks on FATF & Financial Regulation (covering Asia – Pacific). Marvin has a long history of active work & collaboration with ICVA & its members.

Focus Area 3 - Financing ICVA will work to ensure financing of humanitarian action meets the needs of populations affected by crises while ensuring adequate NGO access to principled, quality funding. Marvin has been serving communities in Central Asia, South Asia and East Asia for 34 years & understands the system & stake holders. In Asia & Pacific, Marvin has been an advocate for just and empowering partnerships between all stakeholders (currently serves on the board of Alliance for Empowering Partnerships). He has managed large multicultural teams and back-donor grants in highly stressful environments (Afghanistan, Burma, Sri Lanka, Iran & the Philippines).

He is an active advocate of quality & accountability (Vice Chair of HAP Certification Board), signed Regional Partnership Agreement with Sphere and continue to implement programs as one of the most active regional partners.

CWSA also leads the ADRRN ACCOUNTABILITY HUB in Asia Pacific (in the last 20 years CWSA has trained over 12,000 aid workers in Q&A in Asia, Pacific, Middle East & Africa). In partnership with ICVA, ADRRN & OCHA, CWSA has been organizing one of the largest gathering of Practitioners & Academics in Asia – Pacific for networking & learning.

Please indicate whether, if elected as a member of the Board, you would be willing to stand for election for

- **Chair – Yes**

If yes, what qualities would you bring to the position of Chair?

1. The commitment to put communities first above all else is the quality he will bring to the board. Marvin's experience of working with diverse communities, environments, partners & programs have both humbled him and fuelled his pursuit for larger humanitarian impact.
2. Marvin's relationships & credibility as an advocate across Asia & Pacific promoting localization, quality/accountability and dignified partnerships in the sector is another quality he will bring to the board
3. Marvin is not new to the governing structures, he has served on several boards of INGOs, Networks and National/Regional Organizations. He has also served on ICVA nomination Committee in the past.