# **ICVA Bulletin**

Highlights from September 2024



#### Dear Reader,

Our September bulletin shares updates on <u>forced migration</u>, humanitarian <u>coordination</u>, trends in humanitarian <u>financing</u>, the latest developments from the IASC and issues related to climate change, safeguarding, and localisation. The bulletin also covers <u>regional updates</u>, a preview of forthcoming <u>publications</u>, latest <u>learning opportunities</u>, job vacancies, and upcoming <u>events</u>.

If you would like to include relevant publications or events in the bulletin please contact <a href="mailto:edith.mecha@icvanetwork.org">edith.mecha@icvanetwork.org</a>.











## Message from ICVA

This edition of the ICVA Bulletin marks nearly one year since I joined ICVA. It has been a period of learning and growth, both for me and for the organisation. Over the past year, I've witnessed firsthand the dedication of our members and partners in navigating a world of increasing complexity. I remain deeply committed to driving forward ICVA's vision in this ever-evolving humanitarian landscape.

The past year has tested the global humanitarian system in profound ways, with escalating crises and entrenched conflicts dominating the landscape. From the ongoing war in Ukraine to food insecurity across Africa, NGOs have been stretched to their limits. Yet, few crises in recent months have captured our collective disbelief as the violent attacks on Lebanon and Gaza, which have inflicted immense suffering on civilian populations.

The 7 October 2023 attack by Hamas on civilians in Israel left a significant impact, resulting in deep loss and perpetuating the region's cycle of violence. Such attacks that target innocent civilians are unacceptable, further contributing to the ongoing humanitarian toll.

The scale of destruction in Gaza and southern Lebanon has been staggering. Airstrikes in densely populated areas, including refugee camps, have led to the loss of civilians, particularly children. Homes, hospitals, and schools lie in ruins, while humanitarian pathways remain blocked, severely restricting aid deliveries. The siege on Gaza has created a catastrophic humanitarian emergency, with civilians cut off from essential supplies like food, water, and medical aid. These actions are not only violations of international humanitarian law but also a grave moral failure.

For humanitarian actors on the ground, navigating these violent settings is perilous. Aid workers face constant danger, hospitals are overwhelmed, and access to those in need is limited. In these moments, the very principles that underpin humanitarian action are tested. At ICVA, we unequivocally condemn these attacks and call for an immediate cessation of hostilities. The protection of civilians must be at the forefront of any military operation, and all parties must adhere to international legal norms.

Beyond the Middle East, global crises continue to escalate. The Sudan conflict has caused widespread displacement and suffering, with over 4 million people forced to flee, straining resources in neighbouring countries. Essential services are crippled, and humanitarian access is restricted. ICVA and its members advocate for humanitarian access, cessation of hostilities, and support for local actors. Sudan's crisis highlights the urgent need for sustained funding and stronger international cooperation for protracted conflicts.

Climate change, too, has intensified its grip on vulnerable communities. Over the last year, extreme weather events have displaced millions and exacerbated food insecurity. The humanitarian sector faces the challenge of responding to these crises while adapting to the growing impact of climate change.

ICVA leads climate-responsive humanitarian action, with our <u>2030 Strategy</u> prioritising climate change as a humanitarian issue. Our advocacy at global forums like COP28 and the Global Refugee Forum has centred on the need for urgent, coordinated action to mitigate climate risks and support communities' resilience.

Amid these crises, ICVA has worked to strengthen partnerships between international, national, and local NGOs, advocating for equitable, localised responses to emergencies. Our work with UN agencies like UNHCR holds them accountable for fostering genuine partnerships, focusing on empowering local NGOs to lead humanitarian efforts.

Recent violence in Gaza and Lebanon highlights the importance of these partnerships. Local actors are often first responders, facing challenges in accessing resources. ICVA is committed to amplifying their voices, ensuring they have the tools and influence needed to respond effectively.

As we confront global crises, **the question of funding looms large.** Traditional humanitarian financing models are increasingly unsustainable. The rising demand for aid and the protracted nature of crises require more flexible, long-term funding solutions. ICVA continues to engage with governments and donors, advocating for a shift towards predictable funding that allows NGOs to plan and respond more effectively.

The past year underscores the need for radical transformation in the humanitarian system. The escalation of violence, coupled with climate change, food insecurity, and displacement, demands urgent action. As we look to the future, ICVA remains committed to leading this charge, ensuring NGOs have the resources, partnerships, and influence to drive change.

We cannot merely respond to crises as they arise. We must address their root causes and build a more resilient, equitable system that prioritises human dignity. The coming months

will bring new challenges, but also opportunities to rethink how we operate and advocate. At ICVA, we stand ready to rise to these challenges, together.

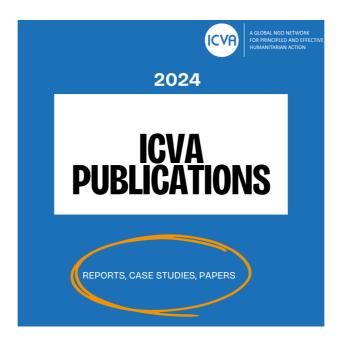


Dr Jamie Munn Executive Director | ICVA

## **ICVA Updates**

#### 1. Upcoming ICVA Publications

ICVA is leading on the following research and guidance and invites members and partners to share related work. We encourage discussions on collaboration for events and dissemination with the research leads.



#### **Humanitarian Financing:**

Pooled funds and risk sharing. ICVA has launched a deep dive on risk sharing among grantees/and sub-grantees of pooled fund mechanisms, and their donors building on invaluable work by the Risk Sharing Platform co-led by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ICRC and InterAction. The study looks to highlight, best practices, challenges and eventual solutions, in the context of advancing locally led action. Lead: Elise Baudot.

Data transparency report. This report will review challenges and provide recommendations to enhance INGO reporting on funding to NNGOs. It will assess the feasibility of NNGO reporting on INGO/UN funding and propose aggregate indicators for humanitarian pooled funds. Lead: Manon Glaser.

Quality funding and equitable partnerships. All Your Questions, Answered: Challenges and Best

Practices in the UNICEF-NGO Partnership Cycle.' Lead: Vania Gobbo.

### **Humanitarian Principles & Access:**

Guidance on principled engagement with governments and non-state actors. This guidance aims to support Country and Area Leadership to identify pressures their teams face in delivering assistance and empower frontline teams to negotiate principles access. Lead: Eileen Morrow.

Research on collective negotiation models in partnership with Clingendael. This research will review processes of collective NGO access negotiations, share case studies and identify challenges and promising practices. Lead: Eileen Morrow.

Bureaucratic & Administrative Impediments (BAI) report. An overview of the impact of BAI on crisis-affected populations. Lead: <u>Eileen Morrow</u>.

#### **Humanitarian Coordination:**

ICVA is conducting a Localisation baselines in Iraq led by <a href="Eman Ismail"><u>Eman Ismail</u></a> and continues to develop the Regional Localisation Barometer across West and Central Africa led by <a href="Adeline Benita">Adeline Benita</a>. Following the pilot phase in Mali and Burkina Faso (which is still ongoing), the project is set to expand into Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic. This work builds on ICVA's growing repository of measurements of localisation in Yemen and Ukraine.

A report on "Adapting Humanitarian Coordination Challenges, Innovations, and Future Directions for NGO-led mechanisms" led by <u>Albert Philip Burger</u>.

#### 2. Vacancies

ICVA is hiring Analysts and Information Management Consultants to analyse data related to the localisation barometer of humanitarian aid in Nigeria and Cameroon. Applications are due by 11 October 2024 for Nigeria and 15 October 2024 for Cameroon.

The Uganda Humanitarian INGO Forum is hiring a Forum Director. The position has recently been re-advertised and can be found here.



# **Forced Migration**

## 3. Informal Briefing between the World Bank Group and NGOs: 18 September

ICVA and InterAction convened an informal briefing on "After the Global Refugee Forum: A Development Perspective" attended by NGOs and Xavier Devictor, Senior Adviser on Forced Displacement at the World Bank Group. ICVA opened the discussions on how stakeholders can collectively build on the momentum from the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) to transform responses to refugee situations.

### 4. 8th Reference Group Meeting: 3 September

ICVA and UNHCR co-convened the 8th Reference Group Meeting under the GRF Multistakeholder Pledge: Advancing Localisation in Displacement and Statelessness Responses. The meeting endorsed the continuation of the Reference Group due to its expertise, provided pledge updates, and planned for an upcoming pledge contributors meeting. Participants also explored potential synergies with existing initiatives and strategies to mobilise further support for the multistakeholder pledge.

• For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:davina.said@icvanetwork.org">davina.said@icvanetwork.org</a>.

## **Financing**

## 5. Access to Quality Funding

#### The Due Diligence Reform Community of Practice is Launched!

ICVA, as part of the LOCAL Consortium (ICVA, HQAI, DRC and SPONG) is delighted to launch the Community of Practice (CoP) on Due Diligence Reform. The platform is supported by Save the Children and will bring together agencies currently working or planning projects in due diligence reform, to share lessons learned, promote synergies and avoid duplication. The CoP is open to all staff interested in due diligence including UN, NGOs, Community Based Organisations, NGO networks and donors.

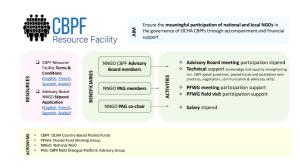
## **UNICEF Online Workshop on Equitable Partnerships and Quality Funding**

ICVA and UNICEF are organising follow-up workshops linked to the prioritised recommendations on quality funding and equitable partnerships from the UNICEF-NGO Partner Consultations ICVA co-hosted in March. The online workshop will take place beginning of November 2024 with the aim of examining UNICEF's partnership cycle, highlighting partner challenges, and showcasing best practices for overcoming these challenges, contributing to an updated CSO-Facing Handbook.

#### 6. Pooled Funds

# Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF) Resource Facility Update

ICVA is proud to host the <u>CBPF Resource</u> <u>Facility</u> which aims to empower local and national NGO voices in the governance mechanism of the CBPFs. All national NGOs (NNGOs) nominated to serve in CBPF Advisory Boards are welcome to apply for stipends to cover costs associated with their participation.



### **Launching Pooled Funds Community of Practice (CoP)**

ICVA, in partnership with Start Network, is delighted to convene the "Community of Practice of Pooled Funds". To kick start this process, ICVA will convene an inception meeting with pooled fund managers and interested donors to share common concerns and brainstorm the focus, processes, and next steps of the CoP.

### 7. Risk Management, Counterterrorism Measures and Sanctions

### IASC Task Force 3 Meeting: 25 September

The members of the former IASC Task Force 3 met to discuss the growing concern among donors about the risk of aid diversion to sanctioned groups, which has blurred the line between incidental benefits, such as taxes paid to authorities, and direct aid diversion. Participants emphasised the need for a unified narrative among humanitarian actors to clarify these distinctions when engaging with donors. The meeting also highlighted the upcoming renewal of UN Security Council Resolution 2664 and the importance of its renewal due to the positive impacts for enabling the delivery of life-saving assistance.

#### **Perspectives on Preventing Aid Diversion**

ICVA is gathering insights from members of the NGO Community (international, national, local) on their prevention and handling procedures for incidents of aid diversion. If you would like to share your experience, confidentially, take the <u>survey</u>. Submit your response by **15 October.** 

# ICVA Workshop: Risk Perspectives of Local and National NGOs – Bangkok: 13-14 December

ICVA will convene a safe space for local and national NGOs and international partners to discuss the risks of operating in complex environments and how these risks can be better shared and managed with their international partners.

#### 8. The Grand Bargain

## The Grand Bargain Self-Reporting Cycle 2024 Results are Out!

As signatories of the Grand Bargain (GB), ICVA and 56 agencies have completed the self-reports on key indicators such as quality funding, localisation, participation, risk-sharing, gender, and caucus outcomes. The GB Secretariat collaborated with the

Facilitation Group, Development Initiative, ODI, and ActivityInfo to create an online platform for data submission, with support from European Union/Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EU/DG ECHO) and Germany. This effort has improved the self-reporting process. Signatories have until 31 December 2024 to make any necessary adjustments by contacting the Grand Bargain Secretariat.

### **Launching the Gender Community of Practice**

The Grand Bargain Community of Practice on Gender, relaunching from the Friends of Gender Group, unites donors, UN agencies, INGOs, and local women-led organisations to promote gender equality in humanitarian action. Led by local women leaders since June 2023, the group has strengthened accountability on gender by securing mandatory data on funding to women-led organisations. To become a new member <a href="mailto:contact@feministhumanitariannetwork.org">contact@feministhumanitariannetwork.org</a>.

 For more information, please contact <u>elise.baudot@icvanetwork.org</u>, manon.glaser@icvanetwork.org and vania.gobbo@icvanetwork.org.

## **Coordination**

## 9. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Principals

The IASC Principals concurred that an IASC systemwide Scale-up for Lebanon should be activated for six months until 4 April 2025. Given the rapid evolving situation on the ground, the Principals will review this Scale-up after three months.

## IASC Deputies Group Meeting: 30 September - 1 October

The IASC Deputies group held their bi-annual meeting in Washington, DC. They discussed broad system-level issues, including the OCHA Flagship Countries pilot, humanitarian financing, and advancing gender equality and women's and girls' rights. The Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon joined briefly to provide updates and discuss ways the Deputies could enhance support for response efforts.

#### **Emergency Directors Group (EDG) Mission to Myanmar**

Following the EDG Mission to Myanmar from 25-30 August, the final mission report has been distributed to ICVA members. NGOs were represented during this mission by Trócaire (on behalf of ICVA) and the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response. Several debrief sessions have been conducted with the mission team and stakeholders, including donors. The EDG is also planning to meet with in-country leadership soon to discuss the next steps for continued follow-up.

#### Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG): 16 September

The OPAG of the IASC met to discuss the future work on **A People-Centered Change Agenda**. Different focus areas were identified with the group prioritising "Policy Coherence and Simplification" and "Support to Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs)". InterAction in cooperation with FAO, ICVA, NRC, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and UN Women will lead on developing a shared understanding of what a "people-centered

approach" means for the IASC's normative work and elements of a road map with key priorities and timeframe.

## The IASC Task Force on Localisation has Published Good Practice Summaries



As part of the activities of one of the workstreams in this task force, ICVA in collaboration with FAO compiled a Summary of Good Practices on Localisation. This document provides an overview of the participation, representation, and leadership of local actors, including women-led organisations, in coordination mechanisms. It highlights diverse good practices from various contexts, demonstrating local and national actors' leadership in humanitarian coordination. The summary aims to share knowledge and inspire progress toward meaningful local actor participation in humanitarian efforts.

## 10. ICVA Humanitarian Coordination Working Group (HCWG): 17 September

The Humanitarian Coordination team resumed its regular Working Group meetings. This member-only meeting concentrated on optimising the organisation of HCWG meetings to align with members' priorities and the team's 2025 priorities. Discussions also included reflections on the future of the IASC system and updates from recent EDG meetings.

# 11. ICVA-World Food Programme (WFP) Roundtable: Drawdown of UN Peacekeeping Missions

The WFP has conducted internal research on how the drawdown of peacekeeping forces affects its operations and the broader humanitarian response. The main findings have been shared with EDG members, and discussions are underway to develop joint advocacy messages to mitigate these impacts. In October, ICVA will host a consultation roundtable with its members to evaluate NGO perceptions and the specific effects on their operations.

• For more information, please contact <u>jeremy.wellard@icvanetwork.org</u> and <u>gabriela.miranda@icvanetwork.org</u>.

## 12. NGO Fora Support

ICVA delivers presentations on engaging with the IASC system, providing an overview of the global and in-country coordination architecture to local and international NGOs in Ukraine with a focus on effective engagement with the HCT. These presentations are delivered by ICVA's <u>Albert-Philip Burger</u> free of charge and on demand, specifically targeting senior country-level NGO staff.

• For more information, please contact <u>albertphilip.burger@icvanetwork.org</u>.

## **Transforming our Network**

### 13. Champion Principled Humanitarian Action

ICVA presented the online tool for discussing dilemmas and principled decision-making. The tool facilitates structured conversations for senior leaders and interagency platforms. ICVA's <u>Eileen Morrow</u> is available to facilitate these discussions for ICVA members and NGO Fora free of charge.

### 14. Address Impacts of Climate Change on Humanitarian Action

# Humanitarian Hub Applications Open - Mapping of Key Events and Engagement at COP29

For members and partners attending COP29, please note that OCHA will continue the humanitarian hub at COP29 in the Blue Zone for the IASC. The online application <u>form</u> and guidance note are available now, with a submission deadline of 11 October 2024. Early applications are encouraged.

# Against Time and the Odds: Accelerating Climate Action Today to Better Serve Populations Tomorrow

ICVA's Mirela Shuteriqi participated in Climate Action Accelerator discussions, focusing on operationalising climate commitments, empowering locally led action, and the crucial role of flexible funds in driving change. There is much to learn from frontline aid organisations. Locally led action needs to be further supported as it is essential for sustainably addressing the climate crisis, especially in times of geopolitical divisions and financial constraints.

## 15. Be Diverse, Inclusive and Live our Values

### Safeguarding

Online Conference: What's next for Safeguarding against Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Sexual Harassment? 16-17 October



ICVA, a consortium partner of the Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub, is supporting the Hub's <u>online conference</u> focusing on the future of safeguarding. The plenary sessions will cover key topics such as protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment in challenging contexts, intersectionality in safeguarding, locally led partnerships with CSOs, and leadership for cultural change. The conference will be available in English, French, and Arabic. <u>Register</u>.

• For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:alon.plato@icvanetwork.org">alon.plato@icvanetwork.org</a>.

## 16. Proactively Engage in Agile Collaborative Partnerships



#### ICVA at AidEX 2024: 23-24 October

ICVA and its members will actively participate in AidEX 2024 in Geneva. ICVA's Jamie Munn will moderate a session titled 'Saving Lives' or 'Life Saving' - What really matters? - exploring critical decisions on prioritising life-saving services versus maintaining dignity amidst limited resources. Additionally, ICVA's Jeremy Wellard will moderate a session on Leadership and Localisation: Where Do We Stand? and launch ICVA's new report on 'Localisation in Humanitarian Leadership.'

## **Region Specific**

## 17. Africa

#### **East and Southern Africa**

#### **Humanitarian Context**

Communities in East and Southern Africa are facing increased humanitarian needs due to climate-induced crises. In <u>Sudan</u>, over 490,000 people have been impacted by floods from June to September 2024, exacerbating an already fragile situation with displacement and heightened disease risks, including cholera, across 16 states. <u>South Sudan</u> is similarly affected, with severe flooding disrupting aid and access to essentials for over 700,000 people amid ongoing conflict and the effects of the war in Sudan. With up to 70% of its population facing food insecurity, South Sudan risks reaching IPC 5 Famine Classification, the most critical level of food insecurity.

For more information, please contact <u>addis.tesfa@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>nkirote.laiboni@icvanetwork.org</u>.

#### West and Central Africa

#### **Regional Advocacy Efforts**

The ICVA-led regional NGO advocacy working group has submitted a private letter to the organisers of the <u>Conference on the Central Sahel and Lake Chad Basin</u>. The event is cohosted by the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) and Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in cooperation with OCHA and UNHCR. The letter calls for stronger NGO involvement in Pledging Events as they are frontline responders and offers

recommendations for strengthening the humanitarian response.

ICVA will host a virtual briefing on 'Crises in the Central Sahel: Adaptation, Resilience, and NGO Leadership' in November for donors, diplomats, international organisations, and NGOs to highlight the crucial role of NGOs and discuss ways to support their efforts more effectively. For more information contact <a href="mailto:adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org">adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org</a>.

#### Renewal of the Board of the Sahel Regional Fund (SRF)

The SRF is launching a call for expressions of interest to identify new organisations, networks, or platforms to join the Board of Directors, representing humanitarian NGOs working in the Sahel region. Check the <u>application information</u>.

For more information, please contact <u>adeline.benita@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>fatoumata.konate@icvanetwork.org</u>.

#### 18. Asia and the Pacific

This month, severe flooding and storms have struck Bangladesh, <u>Nepal</u>, the Philippines, Laos, <u>Vietnam</u>, and Myanmar. In response, ICVA members are actively scaling up and coordinating responses to address the urgent humanitarian needs. Read the situation <u>here</u>.

#### Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Regional stakeholder consultations for the Global Compact for Migration will take place from October to December, leading up to the second Asia-Pacific Regional Review in February 2025. Following the Migration Network's briefing on 5 September outlining the consultation process, ICVA, APRRN and partners will follow-up for members who are interested in understanding and inputting into the process, particularly given the mixed movements seen in the region. Get in touch if you are interested in engaging in this process.

#### **Emergency Preparedness Working Group Meeting (EPWGM): 12 September**

ICVA, OCHA and IFRC convened the bimonthly EPWGM to discuss the Mpox situation in the region, the climate-induced displacement risk index, and Typhoon Yagi, as well as contributions to the global Inter-Agency Preparedness Early Actions and Readiness Group meeting on 1 October for greater collaboration and streamlining.

## **ECHO Regional Meeting**

ICVA was invited to be part of a panel on localisation at the ECHO Internal Regional Meeting on 12 September along with representatives from Centre for Humanitarian Leadership, START Network and local organisations, ACCORD and Friendship. The panel reflected on donors' progress on localisation commitments and where challenges still exist.

## Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2024: 14-18 October

ICVA and its members are actively involved in preparing for the <u>Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction</u>. Members are engaged in meetings, consultations, and contributing to developing sessions, an exhibition booth, and joint statements. This collaboration highlights ICVA's commitment to strengthening disaster risk reduction strategies in the region.



 For more information, please contact <u>keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>asma.saleem@icvanetwork.org</u>.

#### 19. Latin America



## Regional Fora Exchange: 26-27 September

At the Latin America annual Humanitarian Forum meeting, ICVA brought together international, mixed, and local NGO Forums from Colombia, Venezuela, Haiti, Ecuador, Guatemala, and the Coalition for the Defense of the Rights of Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Populations in Latin America and the Caribbean in Bogota, Colombia. Participants shared invaluable experiences and engaged in discussions on coordination mechanisms, regional challenges, and humanitarian finance with the support from ICVA's Humanitarian Financing team.

• For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org">lina.gomez@icvanetwork.org</a>.

#### **20. MENA**

ICVA is appalled by the cascading violence that is affecting hundreds of thousands of civilians, our colleagues, and our members. We stand united in calling for an end to this violence that costs so many innocent lives. We are proud to <u>support the efforts</u> of our members who are working tirelessly to save lives, alleviate suffering, and uphold human dignity in Syria, Lebanon, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

ICVA is supporting NGOs in MENA by connecting and convening members with key partners like OCHA ROMENA and UNRWA. ICVA is actively engaged in regional advocacy and collaboration through the OCHA Jerusalem Advocacy Working Group.

#### IASC Regional Emergency Response and Preparedness (ERP) Group in MENA

ICVA and Regional INGO Directors participated in the inaugural IASC ERP Group meeting with UN Representatives. The group aims to bolster humanitarian response by enhancing emergency preparedness and ensuring coherent support from regional offices to country counterparts. Key focus areas discussed include emergency response preparedness, regional analysis, operational support, humanitarian access, strategic communication and advocacy.

# 2024 Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan (3RP) Regional Planning Workshop: 18-19 September

ICVA participated in the 2024 3RP Regional Planning Workshop held in Amman. This annual event, organised by the 3RP Joint Secretariat, gathers Inter-Agency Coordinators from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, and Türkiye, along with regional partners, to identify strategic priorities and trends. ICVA co-moderated a session on localisation, focusing on progress, challenges, and opportunities across countries.

# Hear Our Voice Civil Society Conference on the Humanitarian Responses to the Syrian Crisis: 3 - 4 September

ICVA's Eman Ismail co-organised the inaugural "Hear Our Voice Conference - Regional 3RP Syria CSO Conference" in Amman. The conference, now set as an annual event, aims to elevate CSO voices on humanitarian needs and priorities in Syria and neighboring regions. Key discussions included early recovery, internal displacement, refugee inclusion, and localisation of humanitarian action. This year's edition focused on year-round advocacy planning aligned with commitments from the Brussels 8 Conference.

Further on 16 September, ICVA participated in the Syria Early Recovery Policy Dialogue organised by CARE, IRC, and Mercy Corps in Amman. ICVA



emphasised the importance of localisation and risk sharing in early recovery efforts, sharing insights from the "Syria Hear Our Voice" conference on the needs of local actors. The dialogue also included discussions on utilising infrastructure, like water and energy, to support early recovery and resilience while addressing climate change impacts.

For more information, please contact <u>eman.ismail@icvanetwork.org</u> or <u>stephanie.yousef@icvanetwork.org</u>.

## **Learning Opportunities**

**21. Free Guides on Risk Management for NGOs and Their Staff:** ICVA has teamed up with Disaster Ready to provide <u>free online learning resources</u> for professionals working in the fields of humanitarian aid and development. The guides aim to improve understanding of how to apply risk management best practices in daily work. The guides are interactive and can be accessed by creating a free account with DisasterReady and searching for <u>'Risk Management in Practice'</u> and 'Risk Management and Funding Partnerships.'

## **New and Noteworthy**

- **22.** Unprotected: Analysis of Funding for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action in **2023:** The <u>report</u> by Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility, UNHCR, and Save the Children, reveals severe funding gaps, with only 29.6% of requested funding received, highlighting disparities and the urgent need for increased support. Key findings stress that despite local actors' vital roles, only 2% of funding reaches them, urging immediate action from donors and leaders to prioritise child protection in crises.
- 23. Review of Regional Coordination Mechanisms in Response to Mixed Movements in the Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) Region: The <u>study</u> by the Institute of Studies on Conflicts and Humanitarian Action focuses on inter agency coordination mechanisms in the LAC region and their response to Mixed Movements, highlighting challenges and opportunities for managing human mobility.
- **24.** International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the Challenges of Contemporary Armed Conflicts: This sixth <u>report</u> by the ICRC addresses some contemporary challenges to IHL, such as nuclear weapons and protection of people in armed conflict, that are of increased interest among states and other actors.
- **25.** Call for Input: Sexual Abuse of Children in Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Contexts: The UN Special Rapporteur on the sale, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children is preparing a report for the 58th session of the Human Rights Council in March 2025, focusing on the sexual abuse of children in peacekeeping and humanitarian contexts. Contributions are invited from all interested parties and stakeholders. The deadline for <a href="mailto:submitting-input">submitting-input</a> is 1 November 2024.
- 26. Survey to Assess the Utility of the Practical Measures to Prevent and Mitigate
  Conflict-Induced Food Insecurity: The Practical Measures to Prevent and Mitigate
  Conflict-Induced Food Insecurity and its accompanying educational material was launched

5 months ago. InterAction is conducting a survey to assess its usefulness. Complete the survey before 15 November 2024.

- **27. Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub (RSH) Annual User Survey:** RSH is conducting a survey to gather feedback from its users on their experience with RSH services and products, with the option to skip questions about unused services and respond anonymously. Complete the <u>survey</u> before 27 October 2024.
- **28.** Localisation- An Unfinished Agenda Beyond 2026: LOCAL and HAI's paper explores the barriers to localisation from a Southern perspective, arguing that the humanitarian sector needed fundamental change.
- **29.** Colombia Protection Analysis Update: The armed conflict in Colombia has intensified due to the breakdown of agreements, causing attacks against civilians, gender-based violence, and recruitment of children into armed groups. Read more in the <u>update</u>.
- **30.** An Intersectoral Approach to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: The blog discusses the importance of integrating mental health and psychosocial support and social and emotional learning into education systems to support displaced children. This blog is part of ICVA and InterAction's Global Refugee Forum Blog Series.
- **31.** Gaza Humanitarian Access Snapshot #6 (11 September 9 October 2024): The Snapshot highlights the severe challenges faced by Palestinian NGOs and CSOs, alongside INGOs, in delivering aid. Many staff have been directly affected by violence and over 300 aid workers have been killed since October 2023.
- **32. COP29 Policy Briefing:** Save the Children's <u>briefing</u> emphasises the importance of creating a child-responsive New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance and continuing efforts to integrate children's needs and rights into climate policies, actions, and finance for the benefit of future generations.

## Mark your Agenda: Upcoming Events

October 8-10: ICVA Annual MENA NGO Fora Workshop Exchange and Members Meeting (POSTPONED)

October 8-10: Second Review Conference of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Africa

October 11: Intersos Rome Humanitarian Congress

October 14-18: Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

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

October 14-18: Geneva Peace Week

October 15: ICVA Humanitarian Coordination Working Group (Members Only)

**October 15:** <u>Delivering on the Outcomes of the First Global Stocktake for Children: COP29</u> Briefing

October 16-17: Safeguarding Resource and Support Hub online conference

October 16-17: Grand Bargain Annual Meeting

October 18: Meeting between ICVA Members and Rania Dagash-Kamara, World Food

Programme (ICVA Members Only)
October 18: EXCOM Side Event

October 22: Community of Practice on Pooled Funds

October 23-24: 13th Annual AidEx Conference 2024, Geneva October 23-25: WFP Annual Partnership Consultation 2024

October 24: ICVA AidEx Panel - 'Saving Lives' or 'Life Saving' - What really matters?

October 24: AidEx Session - Adapting NGO Coordination in Complex and Estranged Settings

November 4: ODI-HPG International Dialogue on Financial Barriers and Opportunities for

**Humanitarian Action Under Sanctions** 

November 6-14: GPC Global Protection Forum: The Future of Protection

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 13-14:** ICVA Workshop: Strengthening Humanitarian Partnerships Through

Effective Risk-Sharing, Bangkok, Thailand **December 18:** International Migrants Day

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