



Message from the Executive Director

It does not have to be this way

The September 2016 [New York Declaration](#) for Refugees and Migrants envisions greater international cooperation and responsibility-sharing, and called to develop two “global compacts”.

We are now in the fourth rounds of both the [Global Compact for Refugees](#) (GCR – [formal consultations](#) 8 to 10 May) and the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM – [negotiations](#) 14 to 18 May).

So far, there is an uneasy interface between both processes with unwillingness by some to build bridges between them. If reflected in the final compacts, in addition to [Internally Displaced Persons](#) not included from the start, additional categories of populations on the move will be left behind.

How and where are the victims of natural disasters, environmental degradation and climate change going to be adequately addressed in the Global Compacts? How are migrants in vulnerable situations, in particular, in an irregular situation going to be covered in the Global Compacts?

“Mixed flows” was the core of the New York Declaration addressing the question of large movements of refugees and migrants. Today, it has almost completely disappeared from both the GCM and the GCR.

During the GCM negotiations, we have seen some Member States arguing that equal access to fundamental rights enshrined in international human rights law and national legislation are contingent upon regular migration status.

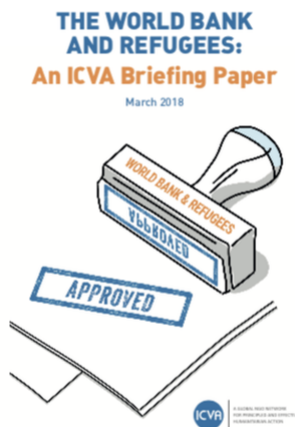
But we also hear an increasing number of governments expressing concerns regarding potential gaps created by insufficiently inclusive Compacts.

Along with other actors and groups, the [Civil Society Action Committee](#) of which ICVA is a co-convenor with ICMC and the NGO Committee on Migration, follows and bridges across the two Compacts - in terms of the content but also looking at how both will be implemented concurrently on the ground.

A strong consensus around these gaps created by insufficient inclusive Compacts and in making a concerted effort to fill them is one of the challenges for the remaining negotiations and formal consultations recognising that effective protection relies on the genuine commitment of States to implement international and legal instruments.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

ICVA Updates



1. ICVA's World Bank and Refugees Briefing Paper: Published in April, this [briefing paper](#) highlights the role of the World Bank in refugee contexts. The paper unpacks the Bank's financing instruments for countries hosting large refugee populations. It goes on to identify the opportunities and risks this would present and concludes by highlighting ways NGOs can engage with the World Bank on refugee-related issues. The briefing paper is based on extensive consultations, including a workshop organised by ICVA, in December 2017, which brought together representatives from NGOs, UNHCR and the World Bank.

Forced Displacement

2. The Global Compact on Refugees:

- a. Formal Consultations on the GCR:** For the third formal consultations (10-11 April), ICVA facilitated the drafting and delivery of three NGO statements: Reception and Admission; Meeting Needs and Supporting Communities, and Solutions. Thanks to the NGOs who contributed to the statements. You can read the [NGO statements](#) on the ICVA website.
- b. Webinar for NGOs on Responsibility-Sharing:** The 19 April webinar on "Responsibility-sharing for refugees: Lessons from policy and practice for the Global Compact on Refugees" examined effective mechanisms and incentives for mobilising resources. Prof. James Milner led the discussions around the challenges and tensions between the GCR's objective to promote more predictable and equitable response to large-scale refugee situations, and the fact that the GCR is voluntary and non-binding. The recording of this webinar is available to NGOs, upon request to Secretariat@icvanetwork.org
- c. Meeting with refugee host States on the GCR:** on 25 April, ICVA coordinated a meeting between member states from Asia, Africa and the Middle East and NGOs to exchange views on specific aspects of the GCR. Discussions were focused on the responsibility-sharing mechanisms proposed in the GCR Draft One, and areas which could potentially be strengthened through continued dialogue between NGOs and host states.
- e. Whole-of-Society Approach workshop, Bangkok:** at the 30 April workshop participants shared information on the GCR and on how actors can contribute to the process, strengthen common understanding of the 'whole-of-society' approach and consider how this concept might be operationalised in the Asia Pacific context. The workshop, supported by the US Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees (BPRM) and contributions through UNHCR from the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), took place ahead of the Second Annual Roundtable of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN).
- d. Whole-of-Society Approach / CRRF workshop, Nairobi:** Refugee Consortium of Kenya (RCK) and ICVA will convene a workshop on "Understanding and Maximizing the Whole-of-Society Approach for the CRRF roll-out in Kenya" on 17th May, 2018 at the Jacaranda Hotel, Nairobi. This workshop will build and expand on previous similar workshops organised at regional levels in Costa Rica (December 2017) and Thailand (30 April 2018 – see above). ICVA members be interested in the participation, please contact Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org

3. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and regular Migration (GCM): As we enter the fourth round of negotiations on the GCM, members of civil society, including migrants themselves, want to make sure that the text of the Compact respects the spirit of the New York Declaration and really helps protect the dignity of all migrants.

They see a real possibility that migrants in vulnerable situations might fall through gaps in protection currently proposed by the Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration. To

avoid this, members of civil society are making a strong collective call to all governments in an Open Letter. [Sign-on to this Letter](#) here before 18 May.

The letter, drafted by several members of the [Civil Society Action Committee](#), co-convened by ICMC, NGO Committee on Migration and ICVA, identifies key areas that must be addressed in the final version if the GCM is to achieve its goals and meet its original vision.

4. UNHCR NGO Annual Consultations: ICVA is working with the UNHCR Partnership Section to organise the 2018 UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations, which will take place from 27 to 29 June 2018, at the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG). The overarching theme of the event is “Putting People First”. The [Concept Note](#) and the [draft agenda](#) are available online. You have until **25 May** to register for this year’s UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations. On-line registration should be done using the following link: <http://reg.unog.ch/e/UNHCRNGOs>. To register, you will need to upload a passport-type photograph, an accreditation letter from your organisation, and if your organisation is UNHCR’s operational NGO partner, you will also need a recommendation letter from the UNHCR Country office. All the details regarding registration can be found [here](#). We look forward to seeing you in June, and do not hesitate to contact Arjun.Claire@icvanetwork.org if you need more information or clarification.

5. IDPs meeting with Ms. Cecilia Jimenez Damary (Special Rapporteur): On 18 April, ICVA facilitated a debriefing session with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Ms Cecilia Jimenez, following her recent visit to Niger (19-24 March). Ms. Jimenez-Damary highlighted the grave humanitarian situation of IDPs in Tillabery and Diffa and engaged in a discussion with participants. The Special Rapporteur’s detailed mission report can be found [here](#).

Humanitarian Financing

6. Implementation of the Grand Bargain – Field Engagement: ICVA is currently in the process of working with VOICE, OCHA, UNHCR, and NGO partners to develop workshop plans to engage field staff directly in strengthening the understanding and capacity to implement Grand Bargain commitments in operations. To engage with local and national partners a workshop in Mogadishu in June. An additional workshop for the Africa region may be held in Nairobi. If your organisation has an interest in participating or would like to share recommendations for areas of the Grand Bargain on which to focus in the workshops, please contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org Coordinator for Less Paper More Aid.

7. Continuing Field Visits for Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot: Between 26 April and 5 May Alex Gauss from GPPi continued to conduct field visits in support of the Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot – this time in Myanmar. A final field visit to gather feedback from pilot participants for Iraq will be planned in the coming months. Data gathered through the field visits will be used to support the interim review of the Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot, which will be conducted in June 2018. For more information on the Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot, or to express interest in joining, contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org, Coordinator for Less Paper More Aid.

Humanitarian Coordination

8. IASC Update:

Joint meeting of the IASC Working Group/ Emergency Directors Group: This meeting took place on 26 April in New York under the leadership of the Deputy emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Ursula Mueller. The [agenda](#) of the day was divided into four sessions:

- **Definition IASC Priorities for collective action.** Based on Peer2Peer analysis of priority areas and trends identified by field colleagues, priority issues for collective action were defined (based on delivery, protection, leaderships & coordination, and accountability to

affected persons). Priorities to be presented at next **IASC Deputies Forum on 16 May** and at the **IASC Principals meeting on 31 May**.

- Agreement on the core parameters of the **two new systems that will replace the current L3 emergency response mechanism**. While the two systems (**SCALE-UP** in response to new crises and **SUSTAIN** the level of response for biggest protracted crises) were welcomed, many questions about the dysfunction of the current L3 mechanism were left unanswered. A working group is responsible of developing a proposal for the IASC Principals meeting.

- **Addressing gaps and opportunities for IDPs in protracted urban settings**. The need to improve coordination regarding IDPs in urban settings was acknowledged as well as the need to map the many different initiatives around IDPs to achieve greater coherence.

- **Improving engagement and advocacy with governments and other actors to foster durable solutions for IDPs** mainly looked at, amongst others, integrating IDPs issues in the New Way of Working and collective outcomes.

Humanitarian Diplomacy was the leitmotif across the four sessions of the day. It will be on the agenda of the next IASC Principals on 31 May.

Humanitarian Partnership

9. ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2018: take places in New York from 19-21 June with the theme *“Restoring humanity, respecting human dignity and leaving no one behind: working together to reduce people’s humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability”*. It will be chaired by Ambassador Jerry Matthews Matjila, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in New York and Vice-President of ECOSOC. For more information: <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2018/humanitarian-affairs-segment>

10. ICVA Asia support to AADMER Partnership Group (APG) in ASEAN: ICVA continues to support the [AADMER Partnership Group](#) (APG) and the strengthening of this mechanism for civil society partnership with ASEAN and the AHA Centre around disaster management. During three days of meetings in Jakarta, ICVA and APG members discussed the APG strategy, resource mobilisation and membership. The results of a mapping of regional NGOs engaged in humanitarian and disaster preparedness work were presented, with the view to use this as the basis for inviting new regional NGO members to join the APG. Discussions on strengthening partnerships were also held with the new Head of Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs for ASEAN, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre and UNOCHA's representative in Jakarta. For more information contact Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org

11. New Way of Working Workshops in Dakar, Senegal May 2018: ICVA Africa is supporting the following workshops that are looking at issues related to the humanitarian, development and peace nexus. For more information about the workshops, contact Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org.

• **2nd Practitioners’ Support Network Workshop on Advancing Humanitarian Development Collaboration 28-29 May 2018, Dakar, Senegal:** This workshop will look at how to strengthen collaboration across the humanitarian, development and peace sectors in recurrent and/or chronic disasters in West and Central Africa.

• **Multi-stakeholder Regional Workshop on the New Way of Working, West and Central Africa – 31 May and 1 June, Dakar, Senegal:** Building on the regional NWOW workshops and high-level events in w017, this workshop will foster exchange on how to operationalise the NWOW, identify gaps and bottlenecks that hinder NWOW implementation, and support country teams to develop a roadmap.

13. “United against Inhumanity” (UAI): a new and evolving initiative concerned with the inhumanity that tends to characterise contemporary war zones and diminishing asylum space throughout the world. UAI aims to bring together civil society organisations and concerned individuals in every part of the world, committed to take action in support of UAI's

objectives, and to relieve the suffering of those caught up in armed conflicts. As part of this objective a series of consultations are being held in humanitarian “hubs” in order to define the objectives of the campaign. ICVA Africa attended the consultations held in Nairobi, Kenya on 4 May. The **next UAI consultation will be on 30 May in Bangkok**. If you are interested to know more or attend the consultations please contact Norah.niland@gmail.com.

14. Enhancing the agency and resilience of local civil society: ICVA participated in two meetings hosted by the Conrad Hilton Foundation on 25 and 26 April in Los Angeles.

“*Localisation of humanitarian aid*” addressed the challenges of implementing the localisation agenda in humanitarian response situations, and avenues for Philanthropic Foundations’ consideration to collectively and individually enhance civil society agency and resilience with specific focus on humanitarian action.

“*Enhancing the agency and resilience of local civil society*” engaged 30 like-minded organisations (mainly foundations and foundation infrastructures) on how to make it easier for smaller, non-registered or volunteer-based civil society groups representing the most vulnerable and marginalised communities to access the resources needed.

NGO Fora Support Programme

15. ICVA’s NGO Fora Support programme provides a variety of capacity strengthening and technical expertise to in-country humanitarian NGO Fora. In April, this included a visit to the NGO fora ACBAR in Afghanistan, and support to the emerging NGO Fora in Cameroon.



ICVA Asia Mission to Afghanistan: ICVA's Regional Representative for Asia conducted a mission to Kabul, Afghanistan to support ICVA members and partners working in country. Key areas of discussion included approaches to working in the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in Afghanistan, the role of donors including the World Bank in supporting refugees and returnees, and internal displacement and the return of refugees and undocumented migrants from Iran and Pakistan, Turkey and Europe. Questions were raised around whether the conditions for safe, voluntary return are present, despite major international agreements in this regard.

While in Kabul ICVA facilitated a workshop at the ACBAR, (Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief & Development), General Assembly on how the Principles of Partnership could be contextualised to the situation in-country and used to strengthen local partnerships. This complemented some interesting work on localisation taking place in-country, including the ACBAR Twinning Programme that matches INGO and NNGO partners to help strengthen capacity. ICVA will continue to support ongoing donor advocacy, discussion of cross-border issues and raise the importance of work on drought preparedness and displacement in coming months. For more information contact Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org

Humanitarian Learning Stream

16. ICVA Humanitarian Learning Stream: At the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, the UN and World Bank committed to a “new way of working” to transcend the humanitarian-development divide. Since then, the concept has been considered in the context of UN reform and the “triple nexus” – the nexus between humanitarian, development, and – when

appropriate – peace. Despite the many discussions, workshops and briefing papers, many NGOs and partners are yet to grapple with what this means for affected persons, the system as a whole, and NGOs.

In partnership with PHAP, the current learning stream series is taking a wider look at the humanitarian, development and peace nexus. For more information see the [ICVA website](#), or contact Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org



Topic 2: "The World Bank and the humanitarian, development and peace nexus" The second webinar will be held on 24 May at 15.30 Geneva time . This webinar will explore the role of the World Bank when working in the context of conflict and fragility, and how their approach has changed since the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. The session will also feature presentations from NGO representatives on how they are engaging in complex settings where the World Bank is working. For more information see the [ICVA website](#).

[Register here.](#)



Topic 3: "UN reform: the link to the "nexus" and what it means for non-UN actors" will be held on 8 June at 15.00 Geneva time. This webinar will look at the UN reforms in relation to the nexus, and the implications for NGOs and humanitarian action. For more information see the [ICVA website](#).

[Register here.](#)



Topic 1: The "nexus" explained: How and when do humanitarian, development and peace action come together?: The 12 April webinar explored how the thinking of the nexus has changed from the past, what makes it different this time, the opportunities, concerns and suggestions for NGO engagement in policy discussions. The webinar also looked at how humanitarian-development planning is working at country-level and examined the Emergency gap and the risks for principled humanitarian action.

If you missed the webinar you can watch it [here](#). For more information see the [ICVA website](#).



17. The (im)balance of partnerships: relationships, duties, agreements and reality: On June 13, 2018, HQAI and the Geneva Graduate Institute will bring together global experts around the topical issue of partnerships. Ignacio Packer, ICVA Executive Director, will open the panel with an inspiring keynote "Partners on the pitch! Kick in and explore". Following Ignacio's address and questions from the floor, the discussion will continue with the expert panel.

For more information and to register click [here](#).

18. Capacity building Workshops: [Building a Better Response](#) (BBR) project has launched a series of workshops to strengthen NGO capacity on the international

humanitarian coordination system. These workshops for NGO staff aim to improve understanding of the international coordination system and help participants identify where they can take action and engage directly within the system.

The next workshops are scheduled to take place:

- Kigali, Rwanda (1-day workshops), June 5, June 6, 2018 Deadline May 14, 2018
- Juba, South Sudan (3-day workshop), June 19-21, 2018 Deadline May 18, 2018
- Nigeria (locations TBD): July/August. to be confirmed

If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please send a request for additional information to: bbr@internationalmedicalcorps.org or Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org and Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org

New and Noteworthy

19. UNHCR reaffirms its commitment to Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) issues in all aspects of its work. The AGD policy also updates, deepens, and reaffirms UNHCR's five [Commitments to Refugee Women](#), which include provisions to support their economic empowerment or prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. To read the policy see [UNHCR website](#).

20. 3rd edition of the Professional Standards for Protection Work is now available: The third edition is the result of a three year long process that involved extensive consultations with partners in the humanitarian and human rights communities. Main areas of revision include the applicability for humanitarian and human rights actors. [Download the Standards](#). You can also find the video of the standards on [Youtube](#).

Forthcoming Events

ICVA Meetings and Events

May 17: Workshop: Understanding and Maximizing the Whole-of-Society Approach for the CRRF roll-out, Kenya

May 24: Learning Stream webinar: The World Bank and the humanitarian, development and peace nexus

June 8: Learning Stream webinar: UN reform: the link to the "nexus" and what it means for non-UN actors

July 12: Learning Stream Webinar : Perspectives of peacebuilding actors in the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

Other Meetings and Events:

May 8: CERF Advisory Group meeting, Geneva

May 8-9: 4th formal consultations on the GCR, UNHCR

May 14-15: Intergovernmental Negotiations of GCM 4/6

May 16: IASC Deputies Forum meeting, New York

May 9: IASC Deputies Forum, New York

May 28-29: " 2nd Practitioners' Support Network Workshop on Advancing Humanitarian Development Collaboration, Dakar, Senegal

May 30: United against Inhumanity (UAI) Consultation, Bangkok

May 31: IASC Principals Meeting, New York

May 31- June 1: " Multi-stakeholder Regional Workshop on the New Way of Working, West and Central Africa, Dakar, Senegal

June 5 & 6: Building a Better Response (BBR) workshop, Rwanda

June 13: The (im)balance of partnerships- Learning event, Geneva

June 12-13: 5th formal consultations on the GCR, UNHCR

June 19-21: UNHCR 72nd Standing Committee on Protection, Geneva

June 19-21: ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, New York

June 19-21: Building a Better Response (BBR) workshop, South Sudan
June 20: World Refugee Day
June 25-26: Annual Tripartite Consultation on Resettlement, Geneva
June 25-29: UNHCR NGO Annual Consultations, Geneva
July 3-4: 6th formal consultations on GCR, UNHCR
July 9-13: Intergovernmental Negotiations of GCM (6/6)
July 16-19: Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
August 19: World Humanitarian Day
September 19: Second anniversary of the adoption of the New York Declaration
October 8-9: IASC Working Group meeting
October: UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting (Geneva)

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