



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## IOM-NGO Regional Humanitarian Consultation 2019

29-30 October 2019 - Istanbul, Turkey

### Executive Summary



## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CSO – Civil Society Organisation

DRC – Danish Refugee Council

ICVA – International Council of Voluntary Agencies

INGO – International Non-Governmental Organisation

NNGO – National Non-Governmental Organisation

IOM – International Organization for Migration

MENA – Middle East and North Africa

M&E – Monitoring and Evaluation

NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation

NSAG – Non-State Armed Group

PSEA – Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

WASH – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

## ***Executive Summary***

The fifth annual IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultation was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 29-30 October 2019 under the overarching theme of humanitarian access in emergencies and protracted crises. The Consultation was jointly organised by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA).

Access is a fundamental pre-requisite to effective humanitarian response. Access – defined as the ability of humanitarian actors to reach populations affected by crisis, as well as the affected population’s ability to access humanitarian assistance and services – is pervasively and severely constrained in many of today’s crisis due to active hostilities and logistical challenges, attacks against humanitarians, bureaucratic restrictions, among other issues. Access impediments pose potentially devastating impacts and long-term consequences for civilians.

A total of 67 participants attended the Consultation, including 47 NGO representatives of 37 NGOs and 20 IOM staff. Participants brought in experience from work in 18 countries, mainly in countries in the region including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and Yemen (see Annex for a list of participants).

During the one and a half days of the Consultation, IOM and humanitarian NGO partners deliberated on the following topics:

- I. IOM-NGO complementarities in responding to access challenges and navigating the risk environment;
- II. Access to people in immigration detention for the provision of humanitarian assistance and services;
- III. Local capacity to increase access to the most vulnerable populations in contexts where operational presence is low.

In panel discussions and breakout groups, participants exchanged views on how IOM and NGOs can work better together to gain and maintain access to affected populations by identifying opportunities, gaps and challenges. Furthermore, IOM and NGOs explored how they can better structure their joint work in the region to more effectively protect and assist people in need. For each subject a number of action oriented recommendations were put forward by NGOs, as summarised below:

### ***I. NGO recommendations on IOM-NGO complementarities in responding to access challenges and navigating the risk environment (practical tools and approaches)***

#### ***Programme quality in challenging environments:***

1. IOM should ensure that affected populations are involved throughout the project cycle, starting with the concept and design phase;
2. IOM should support its partners in enhancing the monitoring and evaluation system (M&E) by allocating adequate resources to it.

**Shared approaches to security and risk management:**

1. IOM should ensure full transparency with donors and partners on the situation on the ground and the level of risks faced in that environment;
2. IOM should consider including duty of care provisions in its standard partnership agreements with NGOs.

**Collective strategies to mitigate challenges:**

1. IOM should support fora and platforms where actors can safely share information on challenges and constraints, agree jointly on red lines, reporting channels and good/promising practices that can catalyse capacity development of frontliners;
2. IOM should support partners in drafting and implementing capacity development plans.

***II. NGO recommendations on access to migration detention for the provision of humanitarian assistance and services***

**Enhancing the quality and scope of services provided to migrants in detention in crisis:**

1. IOM should further support partners to step up advocacy efforts in ending immigration detention, enhancing services and coordination and embracing a comprehensive community protection approach;
2. IOM is encouraged to continue investing in enhanced awareness of service providers and NGO' staff on human rights, quality of case management approaches, protection and other key subjects. IOM should continue to explore with partners how to improve the specialised services provided to vulnerable migrants, women and victims of GBV, LGBT, children, etc.;
3. IOM should further mobilise collective work at the benefit of migrants in detention through its participation to cluster and other interagency platforms. At the country level ensuring enhanced ownership of government's representatives is crucial.

**Engaging on alternatives to immigration detention in crisis:**

1. IOM should strengthen collaboration with NGO partners to capture evidence, promising practices and lessons learnt on alternatives to detention so that jointly with partners, it can elaborate and implement advocacy to a range of decision makers;
2. IOM and partners need to explore new ways of raising public support against immigration detention by also emphasising in migration discussions on integration and benefits from migrants' skills into the labor market.

**Addressing challenges to accessing migrants in detention in crisis:**

1. IOM should further promote understanding and respect for the humanitarian principles, including in context of immigration detention facilities;
2. IOM is encouraged to invest in focused local discussions and mapping to identify the key actors and understand the role they play and strategise with partners on how best they can be influenced to ensure access to migrants in detention in crisis.

### ***III. NGO recommendations on local capacity to increase access to the most vulnerable populations in contexts where operational presence is low***

#### **Shared context analysis and conflict sensitivity:**

1. IOM is encouraged to organise one to two days discussions and brainstorming sessions with operational NGO partners in various countries on context analysis and conflict sensitivity;
2. IOM should ensure NGO partners get more involved in IOM strategic planning processes to leverage mutual contextual analysis and understanding.

#### **Strengthening local operational capacity:**

1. IOM and NGO partners should jointly invest further in strengthening and supporting communities, their leaders and members;
2. International actors, including IOM, need to include a budget line into their proposals for capacity development of local partners. Recognising that capacity development is often needed on the administrative side by the local partners, IOM is also encouraged to advocate toward donors on the importance of allocating adequate budgets to cover such needs.
3. IOM and other international actors are also encouraged to consider seconding their staff to national/local partners so that other investments in capacity development are further sustained.

#### **Access advocacy and community acceptance:**

1. IOM should support and develop joint advocacy strategies with NGO partners to address access challenges. This should include working better together to understand the context and actors (i.a. through mapping exercises), ensuring complementarity between national and internal actors and strengthening accountability to affected populations.



## Annex: List of participants

	Organisation	Name
1	Amel Association International	Zeina Mohanna
2	Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants (ASAM)	Aysegul Yalcin Eris
3	Big Heart Foundation	Husni Al-Barazi
4	Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation	Tzehuei Tseng
5	Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation	Hu Faisal
6	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Audrey Crawford
7	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Ross Allen
8	Forearms of Change Center to Enable Community	Haneen Abu Murah
9	ICVA	Mirela Shuteriqi
10	ICVA	Ignacio Packer
11	ICVA	Vania Gobbo
12	ICVA	Eman Ismail Abu Mohammad
13	International Blue Crescent Relief & Development Foundation (IBC)	Muzaffer Baca
14	International Blue Crescent Relief & Development Foundation (IBC)	Tolga Baca
15	International Blue Crescent Relief & Development Foundation (IBC)	Yağnur Soray
16	International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)	Linda Samardzic
17	International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)	Enise Aymer
18	International Detention Coalition (IDC)	Junita Calder
19	International Detention Coalition (IDC)	Insaf Mounadi
20	IOM	Nina Stuurman
21	IOM	Abdelnaby Gagy
22	IOM	Giovanni Cassani
23	IOM	Elias Dawood
24	IOM	Meena Poudel
25	IOM	Dave Bercasio
26	IOM	Adela Poudratchi
27	IOM	Jeff Labovitz
28	IOM	Nicoletta Giordano
29	IOM	Yitna Getachew
30	IOM	Angela Staiger
31	IOM	Filiz Demir
32	IOM	Lidija Levkov
33	IOM	Bador Alsalboukh
34	IOM	Lado Gvilava
35	IOM	Mazen Aboulhosn
36	IOM	Colin Williamson



37	IOM	Adnan Baghajati
38	IOM	Tuba Pulat
39	IOM	Kubra Akyuz
40	Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization	Ayman Al Mufleh
41	KAFAA Development Foundation	Isa Barshushi
42	Kanem Borno Human Development Association (KABHUDA)	Ibrahim Bukar Wulo
43	Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (Korea NGO Council)	Jeunghwa Kwon
44	Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (Korea NGO Council)	Huigyeong Ji
45	Maram Foundation for Relief & Development (Maram)	Marwa Eissa
46	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid	Michela Gisella Maccabruni
47	Migrace Organization	Ali Emgaidesh
48	Muzun For Humanitarian & Development (Muzun)	Firas Elmusa
49	Near East Foundation	Lori Carruthers
50	NEAR Network Hayata Destek / Support to Life	Sema Genel Karaosmanoglu
51	Nonviolent Peaceforce	Tanya Walmsley
52	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Nina M. Birkeland
53	Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration (ORAM)	Anja Limon
54	Oxfam	Colette Fearon
55	Resource Center For Gender Equality (ABAAD)	Layal Nehme
56	RET	Kardelen Berfin Kobyaoglu
57	Samaritan's Purse	Ariana Schmidt
58	Save the Children International	Miya Tajima-Simpson
59	Shafak Organization	Omar Atik
60	STACO – Sheikh Taher Azawi Charity Organization	Almabrok Uheda
61	The Foundation For Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief (IHH)	Mustafa Talha Keskin
62	Uluslararası İnsani Yardımlaşma Derneği (IYD)	Tarek Alikhwan
63	United Peace Organization (UPO)	Ibrahim Modi
64	Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Dirk Hegmanns
65	Woman Support Association (WSA)	Muhammed Zahir
66	YUVA Association	Rifat Bozacioglu