

**GISF  
MID-YEAR  
REPORT**

**2022**

**JAN - JUNE HIGHLIGHTS**

# MEMBERS AND ENGAGEMENT



Improving security risk management, through information sharing and strengthening networks

**141** Total Members

**19** Affiliates



**NEW MEMBERS, JAN-JUNE 2022**

**5**

MEDA, ShelterBox, Legal Action Worldwide, Corus International, Project Hope

## Launch of GISF's New Newsletter

Following feedback from GISF members during the member consultation at the Autumn Forum 2021, GISF launched its new member and non-member newsletters this April. By streamlining communications, the new newsletter provides one source to access the full range of relevant and upcoming GISF resources, news items, research, and events.

## GISF Mattermost Chat Channel

We have continued to promote Mattermost, adding two new relevant context channels (Ukraine and Burkina Faso) in the first half of the year, as well as four new regional channels: LAC, East Africa, West Africa, and MENA.

## SPRING FORUM



**DIGITAL SECURITY** | **83** Participants

This March forum covered a variety of topics and discussions, with a focus on digital security. We explored the opportunities, challenges, and innovations that digital technology poses for humanitarian security risk management (SRM), as well as issues such as developments in Ukraine and the applicability of traditional SRM approaches in the Northern Triangle.

As well as welcoming virtual participants from around the world, it was great to catch-up with members at the socials held in both Washington D.C. and Brussels following day one of the forum.

**71%** OF GISF MEMBERS ACTIVELY ENGAGE WITH GISF EVENTS, RESEARCH, AND CHAT-CHANNEL



**224** Total Mattermost users (members), June

**37** New mattermost users (members)

## We welcomed 5 new staff to the GISF Secretariat:

- Abby Fogarty - Admin Officer, UK
- Panos Navrozidis - Deputy Director, Americas
- Scarlett Moore - Research & Comms Assistant, UK
- Dan Ford - Research & Comms Assistant, Americas
- Linda Ineza - Admin & Projects Assistant, Americas

“ Thank you to all at GISF, we really value your support and the relationships it builds with other organisations. GISF Member

# EVENTS

Improving SRM skills and knowledge

GISF EVENTS JAN - JUNE 2022

49

“

MEMBER FEEDBACK, SPRING FORUM 2022

I think organising an event in three time zones, in two locations + virtually and delivering it seamlessly, almost with perfection was no mean feat! it was probably the best-organised virtual/hybrid event that I have attended, ever! Well done to everyone involved especially those behind the scenes. Great Job Folks!

## ROUNDTABLES

GISF organised many topical and timely roundtables, with over 276 participants, to meet the needs of members including:

**West Africa, Myanmar. Afghanistan, Ukraine, Haiti, Ethiopia, West Africa.**



## ▶ WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

Monthly webinars providing external analysis and an opportunity to encounter wider perspectives on contexts and topics of interest included:

**Saving Lives Together (SLT) and UN coordination, Ukraine and Kenya Elections (Dragonfly), NGO Security Toolbox Launch.**

The '**Supporting families of hostages - best practice from the family perspective (Hostage International)**' webinar in February heard from a former hostage and his mother about their experience and discuss lessons learned and good practice concerning supporting families during and after a hostage situation. We had a successful turnout with over 130 participants.

GISF's webinar in April on the recent GISF publication '**Achieving Safe Operations through Acceptance**' explored the ongoing challenges faced by NGOs and discussed ways to improve the way they cultivate acceptance. A number of the authors and other humanitarian experts, shared their insights on different aspects of acceptance, including its relation to humanitarian negotiations but also to staff diversity.

# 11 BLOGS



On current topics including:

- How can we keep our LGBTQIA+ colleagues safe?
- Geopolitical trends driving humanitarian security challenges
- Storytelling for Learning: using engaging ethical stories for effective security training
- The Afghanistan Crisis of 2021: a Black Swan?
- International Women’s Day 2022: ‘breaking the bias’ in humanitarian security risk management

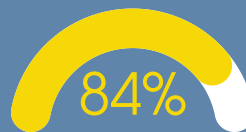


# GISF AMERICAS

GISF Americas continues to grow. Since January we have welcomed three new colleagues, and hosted several in-person events for members in the Americas. One such event, **Improving Inclusivity in SRM** workshop/roundtable that took place in New York sparked constructive and engaging discussions.

GISF's recent Americas Quarterly Learning Exchange and Social involved an update on GISF's global strategic efforts, including a focus on elevating the views of the Americas SRM community. These exchanges signify an ongoing opportunity for member learning and engagement, followed by a security social for GISF members and network members to get to know each other better and strengthen collaborations.

**87** External speakers and experts contributed to GISF Events and Research



**OF ALL GISF EVENT PARTICIPANTS VOTED THE EVENTS 'VERY USEFUL'**

## HUMANITARIAN NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS WEEK

**248 PARTICIPANTS**



GISF continues to lead on Integrating Security Risk Management Across Humanitarian Action, as part of the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW). Bringing together experts from across the aid world, GISF co-hosted nine virtual and face-to-face sessions in partnership with different actors such as the UN, ICRC, CBM, Raleigh International, as well as independent consultants.

The session 'Improving staff safety through effective donorship', held in conjunction with the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), made for an open and frank discussion regarding concerns of all donors in the humanitarian field and standards for SRM and best practice.

We continue to work with advocacy and policy experts to identify how, as security risk management professionals, we can input to and support the current work being done globally to raise awareness of the incidents impacting aid workers and how we can get better engagement from donors and governments to change the situation.



# RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Making good practice accessible for inclusive and effective SRM

## TOWARDS INCLUSIVE SRM



As part of its work looking at the intersection of diversity, equality and inclusion (DEI), GISF's new article examines the impact of 'race', ethnicity and nationality on aid workers' security and how this impact has not sufficiently been explored. The article gives a number of recommendations for organisations and staff, enabling organisations to overcome these challenges and make their security risk management practices more inclusive.

**74** RESOURCES ADDED TO WEBSITE LIBRARY

GISF NEWSLETTER  
**1,908**  
SUBSCRIBERS

**83** MEMBER'S VACANCIES SHARED

### **Inclusive Security Podcast Series** 3 new episodes released:

- Reflections in Inclusive SRM | with Catherine Plumridge (UNDSS)
- Inclusive psychological safety | with Mo Ali (The Innovation)
- Inclusive security at the UN | with Lisa Reilly (GISF)

“Tool box really exceptional and practical...Provides practical support for professional security risks management. Kudos GISF!  
GISF Member

## NGO SECURITY TOOLBOX







In March 2022, GISF launched its NGO Security Toolbox. The toolbox provides easily accessible guidance, resources and tools to help NGOs integrate good risk management practices into their operations in-country during humanitarian responses.



The toolbox enables both security specialists and non-security staff to access practical resources and tools on the go, and helps them put in place basic safety and security measures quickly, without having to start from scratch. As connectivity is often limited in emergencies, the toolbox can also be downloaded for use off-line.

I want to...

#### Topics

-  Assessment
-  Planning & Implementation
-  Incident Response
-  Information Management
-  Collaboration & Coordination
-  Training

### **Security and Safety Training Pack**

The modular format of the resources included provides comprehensive guidance to support security staff in delivery of security training, ensuring safety training can be adapted to the local operating environment, the threats that exist, and the needs of different staff.

### **NGO Security Collaboration Guide**

This guide provides NGO security staff with advice and practical resources to support them in facilitating effective collaboration with other organisations operating in the same context. Highlighting different models and options for organisational collaboration, it suggests how they can be established and maintained, and examines potential activities and support they can provide to humanitarian organisations.