



Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

ACTIVITIES

- Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean
- Participation at Anna Lindh Forum
- Mediterranean exchange on social inclusion

YOUTH

- Atlantis VI
- Seminar on Youth leadership in Palestine
- Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Exchange on Blood Donation
- Mediterranean Youth Photo Contest on social inclusion

PARTNERSHIP

- Governing Board meeting
- CCM website
- Som.nit 2010
- XI Mediterranean Conference in Dubrovnik
- MoU IFRC-CCM
- Solferino 2010
- RC/RC Youth European Cooperation Meeting
- European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion
- WWF-Mediterraneo meeting

OPINION

Social effects of the global economic crises, signed by Social Intervention Department of the Spanish Red Cross



The Euro-Med region has one of the highest inequality rates between developed and developing countries and is facing important social challenges such as migration and population movement, environment degradation, economical and financial crisis, with lack of employment increasing rates of poverty which leads to social exclusion.

Last November, the Red Cross and Red Crescent International Federation adopted the Strategy 2020 as a guideline for the National Societies at worldwide level to promote all forms of humanitarian activities to prevent and reduce the vulnerability. It has three aims: save lives, protect livelihoods and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises; enable healthy and safe living; promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace. The National Societies are actively working to implement the Strategy 2020 to give response to the current humanitarian challenges as it has been recently highlighted at the Mediterranean Conference celebrated in Croatia, last March and the European Conference, celebrated in Vienna, this April.

In this same line, the CCM, as a Permanent Office of the Mediterranean Conference, is promoting several activities with the aim to exchange best practices and knowledge on the main issues discussed at the Conference, with special emphasize on youth volunteers as agents of behavioural change in their communities.

Some examples of the activities that will take place this year are: a Mediterranean youth exchange on blood donation and public health programs that will take place in Barcelona; the international seminar on water, environment and sustainable human development, in Barcelona, the youth Camp Atlantis VI that will take place in Marseille, or a Mediterranean exchange on best practices on social inclusion programs, next October.

You will find more information in this newsletter and further editions.

www.cruzroja.es/ccm

ACTIVITIES

●Water, Environment and Human Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean

This June, the CCM will organize an International seminar focused on Environmental issues and aimed to promote experience sharing among the participants and provide them tools to use in their sensitization campaigns. The seminar will have the technical support of the Spanish Red Cross Environment Department and will be hosted by the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia, with the collaboration of "la Caixa" Foundation, the Barcelona City Council, the Generalitat of Catalonia and the Spanish Ministry of Environment.

As Climate Change is closely linked to poverty, economy and health, the poorest communities are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and the lack of access to safe water and sanitation, therefore the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies has to regard the most vulnerable.

The Conference will contain plenary sessions and working groups about the humanitarian impact of Climate Change. Water scarcity, environmental degradation on health, migration and food security, economy in the Mediterranean region and exploring new mechanisms of action, among the main themes of the meeting.

The theoretical bases will be set by speakers from RC/RC Movement Experts, Experts from research institutes, private foundations and public and private national and international agencies involved in the issue while the sessions are expected to be a platform for debate of causes, effects and alternatives to implement and incorporate the results into the daily work of the RC/RC Societies.

The participants will be mainly from the RC/RC Societies in the Mediterranean Region and the aim of the Conference is to make them raise awareness about the challenges of Climate Change and water crisis, to promote a search for innovative and creative responses and a greater mobilization of public support to improve the current environmental situation not only in their National Societies but also in the civil population.

Place: CaixaForum
Centre Social i Cultural de l'Obra Social "la Caixa"
Av. Marquès de Comillas, 6-8, 08038 Barcelona
Date: 29-30 June 2010

http://www.mediterraneumrc.org/portal/page?_pageid=174_16150003_174_16150004&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30



●Participation in the Anna Lindh Forum 2010

The CCM was invited to participate in the Anna Lindh Forum, celebrated in Barcelona, last March, with more than 1100 participants from 43 countries in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The participation of the CCM took place in both areas, the Agora and in the Medina. In the frame of the Medina we had the opportunity to organize an info-session about the YABC – Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change-, which is an interactive and non-cognitive toolkit prepared by the IFRC focusing in violence prevention and culture of peace. Some of the areas covered by the YABC project are: non-discrimination and respect for diversity, gender and intercultural dialogue, aiming at empowering youth to be agents of social change.



The session had a theoretical part of presentation of main contents, followed by interactive practical part where some of the games and exercises used with young people were experienced by the participants which shown a great level of acceptance, highlighting the usefulness of the methodology in order to acquire new intercultural skills.

For the delivering of the session the CCM counted on the collaboration of the IFRC Department of Principles and Values, and the Italian Red Cross as well as its staff and volunteers. For the CCM, the participation at the Anna Lindh Forum has been allowed to share the task of RC/RC in the area of violence prevention, acquired relevant information of similar activities in the region and establish new potential partners.

Place: Barcelona (Spain)
Dates: 6th March 2010

<http://www.euromedalex.org/forum2010>

●Mediterranean Exchange on Social Inclusion

Next October a Mediterranean Exchange will take place in Spain, organized by the CCM in collaboration with the Social Intervention Department of the Spanish Red Cross in order to share best practices and strengthening network on social inclusion, migration and employment under the framework of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion and the Dubrovnik Declaration of the XI RC/RC Mediterranean Conference.

The meeting will include participants from several Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies and relevant experts. During the exchange participants will actively take part in technical workshops and visits to programs in order to learn from experiences already put into action, and to discuss and exchange on best practices from each National Society.

This initiative has the objective to enhance knowledge on different skills related to the starting up of favourable programs towards migration and employment issues, thereby contributing to social inclusion of vulnerable people.

YOUTH

●Atlantis VI

The CCM in partnership with the French Red Cross, is organizing the sixth edition of the Mediterranean youth camp Atlantis, which has become a regular meeting point for youth volunteers from the Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies in the Mediterranean.



In regards to the IFRC Strategy 2020 and in the framework of the European Year for Combating poverty and social exclusion the Atlantis VI will be devoted to Social inclusion issues and will have a special emphasis on other interrelated issues such as migrants assistance and protection, employment, respect for diversity or environmental themes.

The objectives of this news edition of Atlantis are the promotion of intercultural interaction and partnership between young volunteers, the consolidation of the capacities of the young people participating in order to encourage the implementation of practical actions related to social inclusion, the promotion of new initiatives and creative contributions, the sharing of strategies, good practices, and the acquirement of management skills for better serving local communities and to develop new creative ideas in order to reduce social exclusion in the Mediterranean region.

The Youth Camp will count on the support of the IFRC MENA Youth Network and the firm Abertis.

Date: 24th to 31st July 2010

Place: Grans, Marseille (France)

http://www.mediterraneumrc.org/portal/page?_pageid=174,16149907,174_162404&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30

●Seminar on Youth Leadership in Palestine

A Seminar on Leadership for Youth Coordinators organised by the CCM and the Palestine Red Crescent will take place next summer. The Seminar will promote knowledge and skills of Youth volunteers and partnership among RC/RC National Societies in the Mediterranean region. Some of the themes included in the seminar will be international humanitarian law, leadership, management, communication, teamwork, conflict resolution, community work, principles and values, policy and procedures.

This event is expected to provide a platform for discussion, consultation, policy development and exchange of best practices, using interaction and active participation such as role plays, real-life situations, etc., based on theoretical inputs. The participants will be youth volunteers from the Palestine Red Crescent and other Mediterranean National Societies. After the workshop the participants are supposed to be able to apply the acquired skills at their national level, such as improving the current youth structures, strengthening their ability to work in groups and motivate other volunteers in their current work with their National Society.

The seminar will also count on the support of the IFRC MENA Zone.

Place: Ramallah (Palestine)

Dates: September 2010

●Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Exchange on Blood Donation

Next May a Mediterranean Youth Exchange will take place focused on public health and, in particular, addressing blood donation, prevention sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS. This exchange is organized by the CCM in collaboration with the Spanish Red Cross Youth, and hosted by the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia, with the support of the Generalitat of Catalonia and is opened to all Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies Youth Sections.

This Youth Exchange will be organized in the frame of the celebration of the **World Blood Donors Day** which will take place in Barcelona next 14th of June under the theme: **“New Blood for the world”**. This international meeting has been promoted by the World Health Organization, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Federation of Blood Donor Organizations and the International Society of Blood Transfusion. In this context Barcelona is promoting the campaign “Barcelona is full blooded”.

The participants will be youth volunteers and/or coordinators. This event is expected to provide a platform for discussion and consultation by analyzing the different needs of the participant Youth Sections and finding the chances of partnership and network in order to contribute to a stronger and common RC/RC Mediterranean Youth Action on blood donation and HIV/AIDS and other STDs prevention responding to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Place: Barcelona (Spain)

Dates: 9-16 May 2010

http://www.mediterraneumrc.org/portal/page?_pageid=174,16243124,174_16243143&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30



**World Blood
Donor Day
Barcelona 2010**
New Blood for the World

●Mediterranean Youth Photo Contest on Social Inclusion

As 2010 is the **European Year of Fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion**, the CCM launched last March a Photo Contest for Youth in the Mediterranean about “Social Inclusion” with themes such as migration, gender perspective, employment, respect for diversity, equal opportunities, principles and values or intercultural dialogue.

The contest is addressed to the Youth of the Mediterranean RC/RC or neighbour countries aged from 18 to 30 years. The aim of the Photo contest is to give the Youth the opportunity to express themselves creatively and show their vision of social inclusion in its multiple dimensions.

The selection criteria will be the adequate relation of the photo to the proposed theme, the artistic quality of the photo, the originality and the ability to communicate the principles and values of the RC/RC.

The contest was launched during the XI Mediterranean Conference that took place in Croatia. The deadline will be the 15th of June 2010

The first prize will be the participation in the Mediterranean Youth Camp, Atlantis VI, which will be held in Marseille the last week of July 2010. There will be a selection of best photos to be exhibited at this Youth Camp and will be also published on the CCM website.

http://www.mediterraneumrc.org/portal/page?_pageid=174,16239359,174_16251366&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30

PARTNERSHIP

●Governing Board Meeting

Last February the 8th Governing Board meeting of the CCM took place in Valencia. The event counted with the participation of three international representatives and representatives from the Spanish Red Cross representatives. The General Director of Cooperation for Development and Solidarity from the Generalitat of Valencia greeted the participants at the opening session.

For this meeting the CCM made an exhaustive presentation of the activities organized during 2009 and took this occasion to make know the current ongoing activities under the framework of the Action Plan 2010. The member of the CCM Governing Board approved the Report of Activities 2009 and the Financial Report 2009, as well as the Action Plan for 2010.

Place: Valencia (Spain)

Date: 18th February 2009



●CCM website

The new website of the CCM has been revised and launched. This window is intended as a reference where information on the activities of the Centre, as well as conclusions and results of the meetings and information about the Mediterranean Conference can be found. This website is available in the official languages of the RC/RC International Movement and is divided in 5 sections: Issues, the CCM, the Mediterranean Conference, Partnership and Newsletter. The website aims at providing, as well, information on activities carried by the Mediterranean National Societies or relevant stakeholders that can be of interest at Mediterranean level. Furthermore we encourage you to make it participative and active and send us information about your activities that you would like to share with other National Societies and give us your comments and suggestions to make this tool more useful for all of us.

Please, visit us at <http://www.cruzroja.es/ccm>

●SOM.NIT 2010

Som.Nit is a direct action project of information for the prevention and reduction of risks associated with the consumption of drugs, which belongs to the Red Cross Youth in Catalonia.

We intervene mainly in nightlife areas, where we place stands and inform the youth about the substances consumed and the context in which they are consumed.

It's been 10 years since the Project SOM.NIT recognizes that drug use is a universal phenomenon, relative and complex, promoting and respecting the personal freedom and autonomy in decision making, offering objective, clear and realistic information, and exceeding the base model in abstinence and invisibility of drug use.

One of the main objectives of this year is improving service quality, providing better information on testing substances and alcohol tests, and creating suitable and comfortable spaces in the intervention areas to share information and experiences between volunteers and users.

Red Cross Youth in Catalonia
www.somnit.org/

●XI Mediterranean Conference

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Mediterranean Conference is a concrete possibility to implement the principle of respecting diversity, tolerance, peaceful coexistence and cooperation between the RC/RC National Societies who have different histories, cultures and ways of functioning. It convenes 25 National Societies who have an historical or geographical link with the Mediterranean. The first Med Conference was held in 1980 in Belgrade. Since then a number of 11 Mediterranean Conferences have been celebrated. The last one was organized and hosted by the Croatian Red Cross in Dubrovnik, from the 17th-19th of March 2010, under the slogan "**Mediterranean: Values in Action**".

Delegates from 22 Mediterranean RC/RC National Societies attended this Conference, as well as representatives from the IFRC, the ICRC, the European Institute of the Mediterranean, the International Organization for Migration, the RC/RC Climate Centre, the City Council of Dubrovnik and invited National Societies.

Considering the recommendations from the previous Med Conference, the Steering Committee agreements and the CCM action plan, the XI Med Conference focused on four panels: the challenges of protecting and providing assistance to migrants, the problems related to climate change and environment, the social effects of world economic crisis, the role of youth in the future of the Mediterranean.

The NNSS which have participated in the Conference emphasized their commitment to: support young people in the revision of Youth Policy and its adaptation to the Strategy 2020; encourage the implementation of the YABC approach; secure respect through diversity and social inclusion; fully play the role of auxiliaries to public authorities in order to better protect migrants, regardless of their status; integrate risks related to climate change in their action plans through partnership with the RC/RC Climate Centre and actively support the CCM.



The CCM, as a Permanent Office for the follow up of the resolutions of the Mediterranean Conference, gave support to the Croatian Red Cross in organizing the Conference, providing technical aid and facilitating partnership contacts.

http://www.mediterraneumrc.org/portal/page?_pageid=174.12733295.174.131907.40&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30

●MoU IFRC-CCM

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IFRC - Zones MENA and Europe- and the CCM is going to be signed. Its aim is to encourage a better collaboration between through exchanging of information, experiences and expertises among National Societies and through the implementation of joint activities on the following thematic areas: migration, environment and climate change, RC/RC principles and values, Youth, and achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. The signature will take place in the frame of the opening of the "Youth exchange on blood donation", organised by the CCM with the Red Cross Youth in Catalonia, next 10th of May.

Place: Barcelona (Spain)

Date: 10th May 2010

●Solferino 2010

Like every year, the 26th June, in Solferino (Italy) there will be the annual torch light procession to commemorate the idea of the Red Cross foundation by Henry Dunant, organised by the Italian Red Cross with the participation of volunteers from all over the world.

In the same place we celebrate now a days, in 1859 the Austrians army fought against Napoleon's one whereby almost 5000 men died, more than 22 000 were hurt. Shocked, Henry Dunant took the initiative to organize the civilian population to provide assistance to the injured and sick soldiers and he convinced the population to service the wounded without regard to their side in the conflict as per the slogan "Tutti fratelli" (All are brothers).

Place: Solferino, Italy
Date: 26th June 2010

●RC/RC Youth European Cooperation Meeting

The National Societies of the RC/RC European Youth Network met from 7th to 12th April 2010 in Vienna, Austria.

This event, called European Cooperation Meeting, is held every two years and during that the European Coordination Committee (ECC) is elected for two years, by the National Society Youth representatives.

This committee aims at stimulating the exchange of experiences and ideas, sharing a common view on various sorts of vulnerability, and encouraging the wide involvement of Youth within the Red Cross and Red Crescent International Movement.

The Mediterranean Region is represented in the ECC with two member elected from Greece and Italy.

Place: Vienna (Austria)
Date: from 7th to 12th April 2010

<http://www.ifrc.org/youth/development/networks/europe/index.asp>

●European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

Almost 84 million Europeans live at risk of poverty, which means having to cope with limited lifestyle choices that may lead to social exclusion. The guiding principle of the 2010 Year is to give voice to the concerns of people who have to live with poverty and social exclusion, and to inspire every European citizen to engage with these important issues.

The CCM will contribute to raising awareness about combating poverty and social exclusion through some specific activities such as a youth photo contest, Atlantis VI, an exchange of best practices and an international seminar.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp?langId=en>

●WWF-Med meeting

On the 14th of April the CCM was invited by the WWF Mediterranean Programme to collaborate to a training course for NGOs about networking strategies. The participants came from Montenegro and Serbia. The CCM presented the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its components, the mission and the objectives of the Centre and the importance of networking in the cooperation issues, especially underling how the Mediterranean Conference represents the most important RC/RC network in the Mediterranean. The CCM also showed its network tools (the website, the newsletter, the youth platform and the best practices database) and shared with the participants the results achieved and the projects to come.

<http://www.panda.org/mediterranean>

OPINION



Social effects of the global economic crisis

Financial deregulation, models of unsustainable economic growth, insufficient development and coverage of social protection schemes are relevant factors in the understanding of the special characteristics of a socioeconomic and financial crisis that increments the risks of social exclusion of millions of people worldwide and that is related, moreover, to other global crises such as the ones concerning energy, food and climate change.

The current crisis, its impact on vulnerable people and its effect on each National Society were addressed in the XI Mediterranean Conference of the RC/RC held in Croatia, last March. What are the consequences of this crisis? From the perspective of the Spanish Red Cross, in charge of preparing the working document on this topic for the Mediterranean Conference, the main consequences in the region are: unemployment rate increase, loss of household income, growth of population in debt, drop in the number of remittances from migrant workers, vulnerability of migrants, especially those who find themselves in an irregular situation, increase of black economy and emergence of labour exploitation, amongst others.

At the VIII European Regional Conference of the IFRC, held in Vienna on April 13-15, the crisis issue was also examined in the framework of the National Societies adaptation to a fast moving Europe, a region where the ageing of the population and the increasingly multicultural character of the communities pose new challenges. In the final document of the Conference, Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies appealed to solidarity across Europe in order to find adequate financial and human resources to fulfil the pressing needs of vulnerable groups.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent International Movement is on the front line, as part of the Civil Society, in meeting the needs of the most affected ones. Moreover, the experience in fighting against poverty and exclusion, in responding to emergencies, in carrying out social and health programmes, as well as awareness campaigns and being close to people, give us the possibility to develop Humanitarian Diplomacy actions aimed at defending the rights of the most vulnerable and improving social and cohesion policies.

Social Intervention Department of the Spanish Red Cross
<http://www.cruzroja.es>

e-mail: mediterraneo@cruzroja.es

Av. Portal de l'Angel,7, 4th floor · Office J-K · 08002 Barcelona (Spain) · Fax: +34 93 30 20 75

With the support of:



Phone: +34 93 302 15 85
www.cruzroja.es/ccm