



# Report

## Italian Red Cross Youth and the Climate Change Challenge

### Introduction

One of the aims of the "Associative Project" (identity card of Italian Red Cross Youth) is "to improve society we live in and life conditions of vulnerable people alleviating their suffering" and to "take part in every action that sustains them in relation to emerging needs".

With this mission Italian Red Cross Youth has chosen to act in the direction undertaken by the Climate Centre and the Federation.

World situation is in evolution due to climate change that is threatening the whole humanity.

Italian Youth interested in climate change challenge since 2007, with the aim of the reduction of effects on people and of its vulnerability, the increasing of response capability and the changing of mentality to decrease climate change causes. We got activities under way with the drawing up of the preliminary project called "*Climate in action!*" molded and elaborated thanks to training developed by youth volunteers. This preliminary preparation undoubtedly promoted exchange of good practices and ideas through participation to international camps and conferences such as:

- The Humanitarian Consequences of Climate Change, Red Cross/Red Crescent work conference 2007, Den Haag, The Netherlands
- International Youth Camp MDA in Israel
- International Youth Camp Atlantis 2008
- Youth on the Move Solferino 2009
- International Youth Camp Atlantis 2009

### Activities carried out till now

#### **2007**

"Climate in Action" Project birth

#### **2008**

Spreading of the project and creation of the informative video among Italian Red Cross Youth to promote climate activities

#### **2009**

February: 1<sup>st</sup> regional training workshop addressed to Italian Red Cross Youth dealing with:

- What is climate change?
- RC/RC International Movement and climate change (Climate Centre, IFRC opinion and NS projects)
- Risks in the world with particular attention to Mediterranean Area (climate change and biodiversity)
- 3 strategies: mitigation, adaptation and international cooperation





- Vulnerability and adaptation: humanitarian effects of climate change. Health and social risks, environmental displacements, hunger, drinking water availability.
  - Mitigation: International choices (Kyoto and climate negotiation), Collective choices (renewable energies), Individual choices (saving energy)
  - How to plan an activity
- 24 volunteers take part to this first workshop.



November: Sensitization within Italian Red Cross volunteers thanks to local informative days in the first region involved

December: 1<sup>st</sup> national training workshop addressed to Italian Red Cross Youth (18 participants + 1 young volunteer from Tunisia NS). We used more interactive activities such as:

- Role play in which each participant play the part of one of the representative around the international negotiations table (prime ministers, chiefs of states, scientists, NGOs representatives...etc)
- Films
- Activity in which recreate a map of the world starting from journals articles dealing with news of natural disaster linked to CC (this activity was very important to let youth understand the gravity and the urgency of the problem in all the world, including Europe).



## 2010

### January:

- Sensitization within Italian Red Cross volunteers thanks to informative days in the whole national territory (≈ 140 volunteers)
- Sensitization addressed to the population:

1. Information brochures distribution



## 2. Activities dedicated to children (8-13 years):

- activity books,
- Recycling material games: a target wall made of red and white recycled cans to destroy and then recreate drawing the Red Cross, a hockey path to cover with a tuna can, avoiding obstacles of unrecycled plastic and other waste...The message is the spreading of recycling rules and the possibility to reuse.



- quiz game with squares about our impact on the planet

