



Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

ACTIVITIES

- Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean
- XI Mediterranean Conference
- Mediterranean Exchange on social inclusion

YOUTH

- Atlantis VI – Values in Action
- Mediterranean RC/RC Youth Exchange on Blood Donation
- Seminar on Youth leadership in Palestine

PARTNERSHIP

- RC/RC Youth Summit 2010
- See of words
- Our white see II
- Congress Ortho Mare Nostrum
- Best practices on social inclusion
- Italian RC Youth – National Assembly
- IUCN – Mediterranean Forum

OPINION

The Principles and Values and Youth, signed by French Red Cross Youth Team, Caroline Soubie, Youth Coordinator



Social exclusion is defined as a multidimensional process of progressive social rupture, detaching groups and individuals from social relations and institutions and preventing them from full participation in the normal, everyday activities of the society in which they live.

2010, the **European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion** highlights the need to build a more inclusive society as it is a vital element of sustained economic growth, more and better jobs and social cohesion. The European Commission supported new initiatives in 2010 that focus on raising awareness and calling people to action, in support of the active participation of those experiencing poverty and acknowledging their right to live in dignity. The main objective of the EC is to eliminate the risk of poverty and social exclusion for 20 million people by 2020.

To this effect, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is addressing the issue of social exclusion through its **'Strategy 2020'**. One of its three supporting pillars refers to the promotion of social inclusion, as reaffirmed by the **Dubrovnik Declaration of the RC/RC XI Mediterranean Conference** in its commitment to improve the living conditions and livelihood of vulnerable populations and encourage their social inclusion.

For this reason, the CCM has supported the commitments of the Mediterranean Conference by addressing the issue in previous activities and continuing to work towards greater social inclusion through upcoming initiatives. Such initiatives include **The Mediterranean Exchange of Best Practices on Social Inclusion**, held in November and organized in collaboration with the Spanish Red Cross Social Intervention Department, along with other related activities which will be held throughout 2011.

ACTIVITIES

● **Seminar on water, environment and sustainable human development:** Last June the CCM and the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia organised the international seminar “Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean” in collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Environment, the Department of Environment of the Spanish Red Cross, the MENA Zone of the International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent, the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production of the United Nations, the City Council of Barcelona and the “la Caixa” Foundation.



More than 140 people participated in the seminar, representing 15 National Societies of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent in the Mediterranean and many other national and international organisations.

The Final Report, the Key Issues, and a short video of the seminar are now available at the CCM webpage.

Place: Barcelona (Spain)
Date: 29-30 June 2010

[Seminar on Environment](#)

● **XI Conference:** The Conference, which was organized and hosted by the Croatian Red Cross in Dubrovnik from the 17th to the 19th of March 2010, under the slogan “Mediterranean: Values in Action”, 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, and the role of youth in the future of the Mediterranean.



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.

The documentation and the presentations of the conference are now available at the CCM webpage and at FedNet:

[XI Conference
fednet.ifrc.org/sw195534.asp](http://fednet.ifrc.org/sw195534.asp)

● **Mediterranean Exchange on Social Inclusion:** The purpose of this exchange is to implement the outcomes of the Dubrovnik Declaration, which stems from the XI Red Cross and Red Crescent Mediterranean Conference, and to promote humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy in favour of changing mentalities towards a **more encompassing social inclusion of those who are the most vulnerable**. The Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean in collaboration with the Social Intervention Department of the Spanish Red Cross is organizing a Mediterranean Exchange on Social Inclusion Programs for next December.

In the frame of the Strategy 2020 of the IFRC and the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion the exchange aims to offer a platform of discussion and sharing of best practices on social inclusion that will help increase awareness and patterns of participation, focus on related responsibilities, and foster the humanitarian values throughout the Mediterranean area.

The best practices exchange will focus on five fields of actions: **Migrants, Employment, Gender, Childhood and the Elderly**, considering **community participation** as the fundamental unifying element.

The exchange will be developed throughout 5 days of technical visits, discussions and group sessions. It will be hosted by the Spanish Red Cross regional branches of Madrid and Valencia. Several visits to programs and Centres will be conducted, as well as a visit to the Spanish Red Cross Headquarters and provincial branches.



These technical visits will include: in Madrid, the Reina Sofia Center (Programmes for elderly and their caregivers and services for people affected by Alzheimer and other dementias), the SRC Headquarters (Social Intervention Department, Volunteer Department, International Cooperation Department, Youth Red Cross and Coordination Centre), and the Community Pozas Centre; in Castellon, the Provincial Office of SRC and its different programs (Employment Plan, Day care Centre for the elderly, Health School, and Sea rescue Headquarters), and the Community Centre of the SRC; in Valencia, the Children's cerebral palsy School of the SRC, the Provincial Office of SRC (Migrants and Teleassistance projects).

This activity is opened to all 25 National Societies in the Mediterranean, including technical staff and youth leaders.

The Agenda and the main objectives of the seminar are now available at the CCM webpage.

Location: Madrid, Valencia, Castellon (Spain)
Date: 29th November - 4th December

[Exchange on Social Inclusion programs](#)

YOUTH

● **Atlantis VI - Values in Action:** The CCM together with the French Red Cross organized the sixth edition of the Mediterranean Youth Camp, Atlantis. The aim of the camp is to enable young volunteers to meet and share experiences and knowledge, and to support youth in becoming agents of change within their communities.

Last summer camp focused on Social Inclusion, in line with the IFRC Strategy 2020 and the 2010 European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, as well as following and reinforcing the recommendations of the XI Mediterranean RC/RC Conference, celebrated in Croatia last March.



Around 80 young adults from 18 Mediterranean National Societies attended the camp, as well as representatives from the IFRC MENA, Europe Zones Offices and the Geneva Secretariat. The camp took place in Grans, France, near Marseille, from the 24th to the 31st of July, 2010.

The next edition of Atlantis will take place in Tunisia during the summer of 2011 and be organized by the CCM together with the Tunisian Red Crescent. The focus will be Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth & Volunteering.

The final report and a short video of Atlantic VI are now available at the [CCM webpage](#).

[Atlantis VI](#)

● **Youth Exchange on Blood Donation:** Last May a Mediterranean Youth Exchange took place in Barcelona which focused on blood donation and the prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, in line with the IFRC Strategy 2020 aimed at developing sustainable approaches to action in key areas, one of the most predominant being health risks. This exchange was open to all Youth Sections of the Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies and was 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.

The Final Report, the Conclusions and a short video of the seminar are now available at the CCM webpage.

[Youth Exchange on Blood Donation](#)



● **Seminar on Youth Leadership – Palestine:** This September, a 7 day Seminar on Leadership for Youth Coordinators took place in Ramallah (Palestine) and was co-organized by the CCM and the Palestine Red Crescent with support from the IFRC MENA Zone. 26 young adults participated, coming from the Palestine RC, French RC, Italian RC, Spanish RC and the CCM.

The two main objectives were to strengthen the knowledge and skills of youth coordinators, in order to enhance their performance within their daily community work, and to improve partnership among RC/RC National Societies in the Mediterranean region. **The seminar was an initiative following the main goals outlined by the Dubrovnik Declaration of the XI Mediterranean RC/RC Conference, mainly related to partnership and cooperation between NNSS, intercultural dialogue and the role of youth as agents of positive change in the community.**

To accomplish this, several themes were addressed including: IHL, leadership, communication skills, team work, conflict resolution, community work, principles and values, IFRC policies and procedures and awareness campaign design.

The workshops counted on a team of international RC/RC facilitators, among them were Flavio Ronzi (Italian RC Youth), Violaine Des Rosiers (IFRC - National Society/ Organizational Development Coordinator - Mena Zone), Charlotte Tocchio (YABC, P&V Department of IFRC), Soufia Galand (IFRC - North Africa Office), Caroline Soubie (French RC Head of Youth), Roberta Fusacchia (CCM) and Ariana Potrafki (CCM).

The methodology of the seminar was mainly interactive with the addition of some very useful theoretical lessons. Practical activities included role playing, exercises, real-life situations, discussions and the sharing of personal experiences about the different countries and the different RC/RC Youth structures and their volunteer management. The group philosophy was based on open-mindedness, flexibility and mutual respect.



Participants could benefit from practical evaluation activities that allowed them to use their newly acquired knowledge from the workshop in order to measure the achievement of the seminar's objectives.

The participants had the chance to strengthen their ability to work in groups and increase their capacity to motivate other volunteers within their community. Furthermore, through the multicultural approach that the seminar implemented, the youth leaders enhanced their cultural understanding, tolerance, and communication skills, thus becoming better, and more able, leaders to improve their communities.

Place: Ramallah, Palestine

Date: 20-27 September

[Seminar on Leadership for Youth](#)

PARTNERSHIP

●**The Youth Summit 2010:** This October a meeting was organized in Amman (Jordan) thanks to a partnership between the MENA, the Asia Pacific Youth Networks, and the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies. The goal of the summit was to empower young people to improve service delivery for vulnerable people across the region, and to actively implement Strategy 2020 at a national level.

The Youth Summit 2010 included 5 days of peer educator training on YABC activities, in order to equip the youth in every National Society within the *Asia Pacific and Middle East* regions to implement this successful and innovative program; and 2 days of “**Think Tank**”, where they discussed and developed a long-term regional youth strategy on how YABC training and approach can be turned into tangible humanitarian actions at National Society level. As a result a document has been produced and presented to the AP Regional Conference 2010

The main objectives achieved by the Summit were: **Training youth peer educators in the regions on** ‘Youth as Agents of Behavioral Change’; **Improving youth-led service delivery through greater exchange** of good practices and technical assistance; and **Profiling the contribution of youth and working together to develop** national youth policies and strategies that will contribute to the creation of an enabling environment for youth engagement.

The CCM supported the event and also participated through its youth officer who attended and delivered a presentation about the CCM, including it in the sharing of best practices among National Societies.

Place: Amman, Jordan
Date: October 9th – 17th



[Youth Summit](#)

●**“Sea of Words” short story contest:** The Anna Lindh Foundation and the European Institute of the Mediterranean have launched the third edition of their annual short story contest “A Sea of Words”, dedicated to young writers from the 43 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean.

The “Sea of Words” competition, taking place this year in the framework of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, aims at selecting the best short stories whose content is related to the consolidation of social dynamics which aim to reinforce inclusion, social conflicts resolution and respect of social justice and equality principles in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

The selected writers will have the opportunity to participate in a literary creation in the cities of Barcelona and Granada, and will also be invited to attend two literary creation workshops in other cities of the Euro-Mediterranean region during the first six months of 2011.

[See of words](#)

●**Our White Sea II: Networking for Sustainable Development:** The Euro-Med Youth Platform, an annual networking event which was held this year in Malta, was created in collaboration with the Maltese National Agency, SALTO Euromed Resource Centre and the Turkish National Agency.

The meeting tackled the issue, as well as delved deeper into the context, of how Youth NGOs and Organizations can sustainably maintain their networking channels. The meeting provided youth workers/leaders, who were already involved in networks, an opportunity to explore the possibilities of how activated networks can be supported.



40 participants were selected from among representatives of youth NGOs/Organizations already involved in networks from EU and Mediterranean partner countries.

The CCM participated through its youth officer presenting the CCM's role in the partnership and sustainable development among the Mediterranean National Societies.

Place: Malta
Date: 26th to 30th October 2010

[Our white see](#)

●**Congress Ortho Mare Nostrum:** This October the IV International Mediterranean Congress of Orthopaedic Surgery took place in Barcelona, and was organized by the Ortho Society Mare Nostrum. The aim of this conference was to facilitate communication and sharing of knowledge between Mediterranean specialists.

The CCM, as an agent of the Mediterranean region, participated by organizing a round table during the opening session in order to present the medical response role that the Red Cross and Red Crescent play in the face of emergencies. Ms Corachan, Vice-president of the Centre, gave an overview of the region, and Dr. Harald Veen, senior surgeon of ICRC, presented the main aspects of war surgery, challenges, modalities of treatment, protocols and specifications, as well as shared his medical experience during an emergency in Gaza last year.

Place: Barcelona (Spain)
Date: 14th October 2010

[Ortho Mare Nostrum](#)



IV MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
MEDITERRANEAN SOCIETY OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

●**Best practices on Social Inclusion:** This year the "VIII Seminar on Best Practices in Social Inclusion of the Spanish Red Cross" took place in Lleida (Spain), and was organized by the Spanish Red Cross in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Policy.

The Best Practices Program in Social Inclusion began in 2003 with the aim of contributing to the improvement of the quality of Social Intervention, by reflecting on a set of criteria that allow for the identification of an initiative or intervention as a best model practice, identifying and disseminating best practices, and exchange between the participants.

Place: Lleida (Spain)

Date: 4-5 November 2010

[Best practices Social Inclusion](#)

●**Italian Red Cross Youth - II National Assembly:** Last November the second National Assembly of the Youth of the Italian Red Cross was held in Milan.

The youth leaders at all levels (local, regional and national) and the regional and national deputies from the different areas, have met in Milan in order to discuss the new strategy and renew their commitment.

During the second day of the meeting several workshops were organized; the morning workshops, under the theme of "saving lives", dedicated to the humanitarian challenges and field commitment, while the afternoon the workshops, under the theme "changing lives", addressed the changes in the structure of the Italian Red Cross.



The CCM participated through its youth officer who was in charge of one of the afternoon sessions: *Youth, the present of the future: the role of the youth in the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.*

Place: Milan (Italy)

Date: 30th October - 1st November

[Youth Assembly IIRC](#)

●**IUCN-Mediterranean Forum:** The Mediterranean Forum of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) will be held in Malaga, Spain from the 22nd to the 25th of November in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, the Spanish Agency for International Development and the *Junta de Andalucía*.

The Mediterranean Forum 2010 will mark both the final event of the International Year of Biodiversity and the beginning of the next decade of biodiversity, establishing the basis for measuring progress towards achieving the post-2010 objectives in the Mediterranean.

The CCM has been invited to participate in this forum.

[IUCN Mediterranean Forum](#)

OPINION



The Principles and Values and Youth

The objectives of the youth camp Atlantis, this year organized by the CCM in collaboration with the French Red Cross, were to give participants the keys to be the agents of change in their communities, and to create an exchange concerning common challenges, as well as good practices, within the Mediterranean region. The camp has allowed more than 65 young people to create solid and sustainable bonds and to live the Principles and Values of the Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent!

Without a doubt, the Principles and Values of the Movement were at the heart of this initiative and at the exchange between the 18 national societies represented. With this in mind, Atlantis youth camp devised a full-immersion training program.

What is the difference between the principle of neutrality and the principle of impartiality? ...It's not always easy to define it! While all the young people who were present at the camp know, and act in the service of, the Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, they tried to rediscover and question the impact that these Principles and Values have on the daily practices of volunteers and, even more, on the cohesion of the Red Cross and Red Crescent International Movement.

Because of this, interactive exchanges of practical exercises based on concrete situations permitted the volunteers to understand that the Principles of the Movement, beyond cultural differences, guide their actions and are the basis for their sense of belonging.

The young people understood well that the Principles and Values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent are also very valuable for changing the attitudes within their national societies and for making the world go round!

Through the YABC program, the Principles and Values of the Movement enable the young people to become agents of change and to spread among their peers and society, as a whole, the values of humanity, respect and solidarity.

In this way, the young people could exchange their experiences with the dissemination of Humanitarian Values and the International Humanitarian Law.

The French Red Cross has had the pleasure of presenting its national "mobilize your power of humanity" program, through which the participants could spread Humanitarian Values to other young people in schools, and also introduced the role-playing game "Raid Cross" to raise awareness on IHL amongst the participants.

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