

Terms of Reference

ATLANTIS IX

“Saving water. Saving lives”

Bosnia and Herzegovina
30th June-7th July 2013



**Centre for the Cooperation
in the Mediterranean**

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Mediterranean Youth Camp of the Red Cross and Red Crescent

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INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CCM) together with the Red Cross Society of Bosnia-Herzegovina will organize the 9th edition of the Atlantis Youth Camp. This event will take place in Bosnia-Herzegovina, during the first week of July 2013 and will be hosted by the Red Cross of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Atlantis Youth Camp has consolidated itself as a referential meeting point to bring young volunteers together from across the region and to empower them to promote human rights, cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, and to counteract stereotypes and discrimination. Aiming to be a melting-pot for cross cultural exchange and dialogue, a valuable opportunity to share experiences beyond the borders, the overall objective of the Camp is to use intercultural dialogue as a tool to build young volunteers' capacities as agents for positive change within multicultural societies.

As determined by the 11th Red Cross/Red Crescent Mediterranean Conference held in Dubrovnik in 2010, the Mediterranean region calls - among other humanitarian priorities - for environmental sustainability, especially in terms of managing scarce water and energy resources and mitigating the effects of climate change. Therefore, in its 2013 edition, the Atlantis Youth Camp will gather Mediterranean Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth around a common theme: **the role of youth in advocating in favour of the promotion of environmental sustainability, focusing on the access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a recognized human right, and tackling the assets of youth participation in a timely, green growth process¹.**

The event aims to be dynamic, participative, practical and useful so as to allow participants to hand over their knowledge to their peers. The workshops will be based on a learning process which stimulates creativity, active participation and initiative, and will be facilitated by RC/RC peer educators and international experts.

¹ 'Green growth is about making growth processes more resource efficient, clean, and resilient without necessarily slowing them. Green growth policies are thus an essential part of implementing sustainable development (Hallegatte et al. 2011). Such policies allow countries to better capture environmental benefits and to maximize co-benefits—outcomes that are beneficial for the environment as well as for the economy and for social equity. Therefore, green growth is compatible with most short- and medium-term national policy objectives' *Toward Green Growth in Mediterranean Countries*, CMI MED 2012 Report, World Bank.

The Youth Camp will be displayed in the framework of the **International Year of Water Cooperation** and the **European Year of Citizens**, and under the umbrella of the **Strategy 2020 of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)**, which aims at a better fulfilling of the potential of the Red Cross/Red Crescent at all levels, and the development of sustainable approaches in addressing three key areas: disasters, health risks and social exclusion, and culture of non-violence and peace. Crucially, IFRC Strategy 2020 highlights that coping with increasing humanitarian needs also requires a change in mind-sets and attitudes on how we live, and on how we relate to each other.

Accordingly, the Atlantis Youth Camp is also set to fulfil the overall vision of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as defined by its Constitution (Article 4, version 2007): *inspire, encourage, facilitate, and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.*

Moreover, the **11th RC/RC Mediterranean Conference** emphasized the need to mobilize human resources, especially young people, as actor of behavioural change to strengthen the dialogue with governments and to promote humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy so as to change mentalities towards a more encompassing social inclusion of those who are the most vulnerable.

ACTION FRAME

Water is the essence of life. Safe drinking water and sanitation are indispensable to sustain life and health, and fundamental to the dignity of all. Yet 884 million people do not have access to improved sources of drinking water, while 2,5 billion lack access to improved sanitation facilities. While these numbers shed light on a worrying situation, the reality is much worse, as millions of poor people living in informal settlements are simply missing from national statistics. The roots of the current water and sanitation crisis can be traced to poverty, inequality and unequal power relationship, and it is exacerbated by social and environmental challenges: accelerating urbanization, climate change and increasing pollution and depletion of water resources.

As underlined by the World Bank Report 'Adaptation to a Changing Climate in Arab Courtiers' (2012) the southern Mediterranean countries are already experiencing the effects of a changing climate: higher temperatures and extreme events such as drought and flash floods may well become the new norm in both rural and urban areas. By 2050, water runoff is expected to decrease by 10 percent. Recurrent droughts may spur increased rural-to-urban migration, adding additional stress to the already overcrowded cities. As many Mediterranean countries suffer from "chronic water scarcity", it is estimated that climate change will reduce water runoff by 10 percent by 2050. Currently, the region suffers a water deficit (demand is greater than supply), and with increasing populations and per capita water use, demand is projected to increase further, by 60 percent, by 2045.

Access to safe drinking water is a fundamental precondition for the enjoyment of several human rights, including the rights to education, housing, health, life, work and protection against cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It is also a crucial element to ensure gender equality and to eradicate discrimination at a global level. Evidence to this is given, among others, by the fact that the livelihoods of men and women are potentially at risk due to climate change and the access to water. Men and women have different vulnerabilities, largely based on their respective roles in society. Men in rural areas are likely to follow the current trend of moving to cities to seek paid employment, because their traditional livelihoods have become unsustainable. Rural women would then face the double challenge of having to devote more time to daily activities, such as fetching scarce water, while assuming the farming and community responsibilities of the absent men. Left unaddressed, these changes in the family structure have the potential of becoming significant sources of stress².

In order to address the current environmental crisis, the international community has increasingly recognized that access to safe drinking water and sanitation must be

²'Adaptation to a Changing Climate in Arab Courtiers', World Bank, 2012.

considered within a human right framework. Such approach can act as a fillip to mobilize individuals, in particular young people as agents of behavioural change, inform them on their rights and empower youth to realize them. This approach is based on the principles of participation, empowerment, non-discrimination, accountability and transparency. It also entails that individuals and communities should have access to information and decision-making, advocating for the accountability of governments to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation for all.

Such access is explicitly referred to, for instance, in the Convention of the Right of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In 2002, the United Nation Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted its general comment No.15 on the right to water defined as the right of everyone *“to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses”*. In 2006, the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights adopted guidelines for the realization of the right to drinking water and sanitation. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) too has underlined that the starting point and the unifying principle for public action in water and sanitation is the recognition that water is a basic human right. In 2008, the Human Rights Council created the mandate of *“the independent expert on the issue on human rights obligations related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation”* to help clarify the scope and the content of these obligations. Finally, in July 2010 the UN General Assembly declared water and sanitation a basic human right. The human right to water was confirmed in Rio+20 where underlined was the importance of the right to *“safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights”* (para. 67).

The right to water and sanitation confirms that access to minimum essential supplies of safe water and basic sanitation is a legal entitlement, rather than only a moral priority. The right to water provides a basis for individuals and groups to hold governments and other actors to account. Full recognition of access to water and sanitation as a right gives a real mandate to government officials to promote access to water and sanitation for all. Communities and other organizations can use the right to lobby the responsible agencies for improvements and call on them to fulfil their obligations.

Moreover, as underlined by the 2012 MED Report³, and in the context of the world economic crisis, an incorrect management of water resources and environmental degradation not only reduce the quality of life in the region but also hamper economic efficiency, job creation, and growth prospects. By contrast, green growth policies aim to promote economic development, social equity, and inclusiveness (Hallegate et al. 2011).

³ *Toward Green Growth in Mediterranean Countries*, CMI MED 2012 Report, World Bank

In a context of well designed policies related not only to water management, but to environment as a whole, green growth holds the potential of net job creation, especially in the Mediterranean context where youth unemployment rates, worrying as they are now, are expected to soar in the next decades.

1. RC/RC frame work

The vision of the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** (IFRC) is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world. The action of the IFRC is guided by its **Strategy 2020** that defines three strategic aims, one of which is “enable healthy and safe living”: *“We strengthen community resilience by helping people to be as healthy as possible and to prevent or reduce risks where they can, so that they may enjoy better and safer living that is also respectful of the environment. Community resilience is important for rich and poor people alike, particularly in the face of global threats such as climate change, economic crises and pandemics. Adapting ways of living to a changing world also requires us to advocate for supportive public policies, influence psychological and social attitudes, and reach out to help all those who are most vulnerable because they have the least means to cope [...] We encourage action on the underlying social, behavioural and environmental factors that determine good health. This action includes influencing public policies and social mobilization to act specifically on the local factors that have the greatest potential to reduce preventable death, disease, injury and disability. These local factors can include health education, greater access to potable water and sanitation, better personal hygiene [...] This also means breaking intergenerational cycles of neglect and deprivation that prevent many people from benefiting from health-enhancing opportunities and achieving their full human potential.*

The water and sanitation policy is also an integral part of the IFRC health and care strategy, developed in 2003 and defining the actions required to address the lack of access to safe water and sanitation. The IFRC is also working on long-term development programming under the ten-year Global Water and Sanitation Initiative (GWSI 2005-2015), contributing to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. Under this initiative, the IFRC establishes a set of criteria that should be met by all the RC/RC water players and promotes the integration of technology with the community management and behavioural change.

The **International Committee of Red Cross** (ICRC) is helping provide water and sanitation for over 20 million people in 48 countries affected by conflict, violence, or their after-effects. Working with the authorities, Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

and communities, the ICRC repairs war-damaged pipe networks, keeps water supplies drinkable, delivers water and provides toilets and latrines. As well as preventing diseases, safe water and decent sanitation can restore a measure of dignity to people suffering the effects of conflict. The ICRC firmly believes that local cooperation, dialogue and innovation hold the keys to addressing this humanitarian challenge: *"When communities recognize water as an issue of common interest and concern, and decide to work together, rather than fight about it, they can come up with shared and sustainable solutions that build resilience and spur innovation,"* said the head of the ICRC's water and habitat unit, Jean-Philippe Dross, *"Water can be an incredibly divisive issue, but it can also be a tremendous source of collaboration, creativity and capacity-building."*

The **Mediterranean Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**, which convenes 25 National Societies who have historical or geographical link with the Mediterranean, creates a link between countries of Europe, Middle East and North Africa and aims at strengthening cooperation and encouraging dialogue between National Societies from the region with distinct cultural and historical features, contributing to the fulfilment of the International RC/RC Movement's purposes.

The mission of the **Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean** is to facilitate the follow up on the resolutions of the Mediterranean Conference, specifically as regards the Dubrovnik Declaration stemming from the last Conference, held in Croatia in 2010, which tackles the role of youth; environment and climate change; the social effects of the world economic crisis; assistance and protection to migrants: all interrelated areas in which youth play a fundamental role.

Being aware of the imperative to protect vulnerable populations in all circumstances and taking their role of auxiliaries to public authorities as a starting point, Mediterranean National Societies, in the Dubrovnik Declaration, have emphasized the need to:

- Integrate risks related to climate change in programme planning;
- Strengthen the dialogue with governments in order to help them take into account the humanitarian impact related to the degradation of the environment;
- Establish multiple specialized partnerships;
- Mobilize human resources, especially young people as actors of behavioural change.

2. International framework

At the **United Nations** Millennium Summit, in September 2000, a declaration (Millennium Declaration) was adopted by which the **Millennium Development Goals** emerged, an integrated set of time-bound targets for extending the benefits of globalization to the world's poorest citizens. Among them was target 10: *to cut in half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water*. At the Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development, in 2002, this target was expanded to include basic sanitation, and water as a resource was recognized as a critical factor for meeting all the Goals. Since Johannesburg, further international deliberations on water and sanitation supported advanced cooperation and action in this area. Given the magnitude of the task, in December 2003, the United Nations General Assembly, in resolution 58/217, proclaimed the period 2005-2015 the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life'. The decade officially started on World Water Day, March 22, 2005.

The primary objective of the 'Water for Life' Decade is to promote efforts to fulfil the international commitments made on water and water-related issues by 2015. Its challenge is to focus attention on action-oriented activities and policies that ensure the long-term sustainable management of water resources, in term of both quantity and quality, and include measures to improve sanitation.

On 28 July 2010, through resolution 64/292, the United Nations General Assembly explicitly recognized the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledged that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights. The Resolution calls upon States and international organizations to provide financial resources, help capacity-building and technology transfer to help countries, in particular developing countries, to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all.

The United Nations declared 2013 the **International Year of Water Cooperation**, encouraging all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels, also through international cooperation aimed at the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as to increase awareness of their importance (resolution 65/154).

UNESCO also stands in full support of the human right to water. Through its Water Programmes, it provides the necessary scientific and educational backbone upon which water professional and politicians build the decisions they make in order to respect, protect and fulfil the right to water. UNESCO stated that *“non discriminatory access to water and sanitation is regarded (...) as a pre-requisite for the realization of*

several other human rights, such as the right to life, dignity, health, food, and an adequate standard of living and education”(UNESCO’s contribution to OHCHR’s study, 2007). UNESCO believes that we urgently need to stop the current unsustainable exploitation of water resources and develop integrated management strategies at local, regional, and national levels. Such strategies will pave the way for the actual implementation of the right to water and should be grounded in the recognition that we are trustees of water resources that must be conserved for future generations. Moreover, it is fundamental that local communities have real, meaningful involvement in management decisions: without participation, solutions cannot be sustainable.

On the other hand, since its establishment, the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has worked to promote sustainable water resources management practices through collaborative approaches at the national, regional and global levels. After more than 30 years, water resources management continues as a strong pillar of UNEP’s work. To address new and emerging challenges in water resources management UNEP has significantly revised its Water Policy and Strategy whose overall goal is to contribute substantively to environmental sustainability in the management of all water resources, utilizing integrated ecosystems approaches, as a contribution to the internationally agreed targets and goals relevant to water and socio-economic development.

Since 2000, the **EU** has been committed to meeting the Millennium Development Goal of better access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. The **European Union Water Initiative (EUWI)** was launched in Johannesburg at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002. The initiative involves the EU and partner regions (donors, governments, civil society and the private sector). Since its establishment, the EUWI has had a significant global impact in the water sector: above all, it has helped to establish the EU-ACP Water Facility, providing secure access to water and basic sanitation for some of the poorest people in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, as well as to improve water management in these regions. In its "[Agenda for Change](#)" for development policy, the **European Commission** stresses that new policies should tackle inequalities and in particular give poor people better access to land, water and energy without harming the environment. Overall, the European Commission has already helped more than 32 million people to gain access to improved water supply and more than 9 million people to sanitation facilities since 2004. Building on the achievements of the EU Water Initiative and the EU-ACP water facility, the EU is committed to continue supporting international cooperation and promoting innovative approaches reinforcing the link between water and other sectors such as agriculture and energy.

On 23 October 2000, **EU Water Framework Directive** was adopted with the aim of establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water. This Directive

included the recognition of the crucial role of citizens and citizens' groups in getting clean water. In April 2009 the European Commission presented a [White Paper on adapting to climate change](#) which highlights the need "to promote strategies which increase the resilience to climate change of health, property and the productive functions of land, inter alia by improving the management of water resources and ecosystems". The accompanying [Impact assessment](#) and the [Policy paper on Water, Coasts and Marine issues](#) provide an in-depth analysis of the role of water and ecosystems in the transmission of potential climate change impacts to the economy and society. By the end of 2012 the Commission will present a 'Blueprint to Safeguard European Waters', which, together with the analysis of all plans for 110 river basin districts, will perform a review of the Strategy for Water Scarcity and Droughts and of the vulnerability of water and environmental resources to climate change and man-made pressures.

On its Resolution 1809 (2011) "Water: a source of conflict", the Parliamentary Assembly of the **Council of Europe** recommends that the authorities of the member and non-member states of the Council of Europe recognize that access to water is a fundamental human right, in line with the United Nations General Assembly [Resolution 64/292](#) of 28 July 2010 and United Nations Human Rights Council [Resolution 15/9](#) of 30 September 2010; apply and, if necessary, revise the rules of international water law; review the systems for the joint management of transfrontier rivers and aquifers; take the necessary measures to manage river basins; develop international waterways; improve transparency and the flow of information between all stakeholders; ensure that the activities pursued in their countries do not damage the natural resources in other countries; apply to the International Court of Justice for peaceful settlement of disputes on resource sharing among several states; promote fairer water charges and provide distribution services of drinking water of good quality and in sufficient quantities as well as acceptable, accessible and affordable sanitation services, as recommended in the Human Rights Council [Resolution 15/9](#).

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Given the urgency determined by the above mentioned scenario, the 2013 edition of the Atlantis Youth Camp will tackle the issue of environmental sustainability and human rights, with a focus on the access to safe drinking water and sanitation. The overall objective of this edition is to build the capacities of RC/RC Youth leaders to become promoters of a culture of active citizenship in the promotion of sustainable consumption and the respect of human rights, through intercultural dialogue and exchange of experiences in accordance with the RC/RC Principles and Values.

The respect of the Principles and Values is the foundation of a common understanding in order to empower youth to promote a global culture of respect for diversity, non-violence and social inclusion. The RC/RC “Solferino Youth Declaration” (2009) wants to be the milestone of this Youth Meeting, as it states: *“In a world full of challenges, we the youth of the Movement commit ourselves to [...] inner change and the development of skills to promote harmony and positive attitudes within communities; live our seven Fundamental Principles as agents of behavioural change; and renounce violence, promote non-discrimination and respect for diversity, and a culture of peace in the world.”*

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Provide young volunteers with knowledge and tools to promote an environmentally sustainable lifestyle;
- Build and support capacities of young volunteers to promote the access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a human right;
- Train young volunteers to act as agent of change within their communities in order to disseminate a human rights based approach towards the environment, hence building a culture of non violence and peace;
- Promote intercultural interaction, partnership and networking among young volunteers of the Red Cross/Red Crescent across the Mediterranean region.

CONTENTS OF THE CAMP

In order to achieve its objectives, Atlantis IX will deploy a number of sessions so as to provide the youth participants with specific knowledge and trainings.

1. Human Rights and the Environment

Participants will work on methodologies for planning and running youth projects to spread an understanding of Human Rights, their basic and principal elements, and the relation with environmental issues. Participants will discuss the importance of these issues within the context of their community and plan youth projects and initiatives.

2. Sustainable Consumption and Gender

"Women, with their pivotal role in societies, can be a major influence on the attitudes and behaviour needed to accommodate new forms of livelihood and social organization." (World Bank, 2012). Participants will use practical activities and group work to consider the role of gender in addressing environmental issues and adopt them in youth programmes as well as in their daily lives.

3. Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC)

YABC is an IFRC tool that empowers youth to play a leading role in transforming mindsets and behaviours in their local community. It integrates peer-education and non-cognitive learning and uses games and artistic platforms to promote community behavioural change.

4. Leadership skills

The aim of this workshop is to improve participants' capacities to play a leading role in their National Societies, promoting a positive change in attitudes and behaviours. Using games that build trust, credibility, cooperation and communication skills, participants will learn to use creativity to solve problems, to listen actively, to work and think as a team, and to trust one another.

5. Youth Employment and Green Economy

In a context of scarce environmental resources and lack of job opportunities, investing in youth and green economies may shed light on present and future possibilities. Through the workshop participants will be introduced to green growth with the aim to enhance innovative approaches to promote long-term sustainable solutions with regards to current environmental challenges.

6. Water, Sanitation and Health: actions ant RC/RC Youth Level

The aim of the workshop is to consolidate participants' knowledge on the issues addressed and foster their initiative at local level to improve livelihoods. Enhancing the network among Youth sectors through programmes and actions at regional Youth level are also foreseen.

METHODOLOGY AND FORMAT

The Atlantis IX will be based on an interactive and participative approach. The methodology, thanks to the long experience of facilitators on international Youth training and the use of a peer education approach, will be geared to interaction and active participation (role plays, exercises, real-life situations, discussions, sharing personal experiences about the participants' countries and also about their Red Cross/Red Crescent Youth structures and volunteers management). The group's philosophy will be open mindedness. At the same time, participants will profit from practical evaluation activities that will allow them to use the knowledge acquired during the meeting to measure the level of achievement of the objectives.

The team of facilitators will consist of RC/RC peer educators and field expert of other international organizations. In previous activities the CCM counted on the collaboration of UNEP; UNESCO; UICN; WWF and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre; the IFRC Europe and MENA Zones as well as the IFRC Principles and Values Department.

PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 50 to 60 young volunteers coming from Mediterranean National Societies, selected between those who are actively involved in the development of programmes and activities of their Youth Branch.

The requested profile of participants is RC/RC youth volunteers aged 18-28. The volunteers must be able to understand and express themselves in English. Additional knowledge of French will be an asset. Participants must be able to show a flexible attitude in an environment of intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding.

We would like to remind National Societies that gender equality in the selection of participants is highly appreciated.

WHERE: Bosnia and Herzegovina

WHEN: 30th June- 7th July 2013

WORKING LANGUAGE: English and French

Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean
October 2012

**CENTRE FOR THE COOPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
PERMANENT OFFICE OF THE RED CROSS
AND RED CRESCENT OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**

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