



Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

ACTIVITIES

- Seminar on Social inclusion of vulnerable groups, Tunisia
- Seminar on Sustainable Development and Climate Change for the North of Africa, Morocco
- World Congress on Humanitarian Policy, Barcelona
- International Meeting on Gender and Migration in the Mediterranean, Palermo

YOUTH

- Atlantis IV, Serbia
- Exchange on good practices for drugs programme, Padova and Barcelona
- Clown Camp, Italy
- Youth Forum, Croatia
- DICsat, Tarragona

PARTNERSHIP

- Anna Lindh Foundation
- Chair UNESCO in Intercultural Dialogue
- European Year of Intercultural Dialogue
- EuroMed Permanent University Forum

OPINION

**Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement preparing for
Climate change**



EDITORIAL

The Centre for Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CCM) is launching the first edition of the Mediterranean Newsletter. With quarterly editions, this newsletter is aimed at being a tool for the sharing of information about events, good practices and initiatives about the activities of Mediterranean National Societies.

The objective of the CCM is to support the follow up on the issues discussed at the Mediterranean Conferences, and particularly those relating to: Migration and Population Movement; Environment, Youth, Partnerships, Human Rights and the promotion of Principles and Values, and the Millennium Development Goals (such as the fight against poverty, access to healthcare, water and disaster risk reduction, amongst others.). The CCM has, as well, an important role in the promotion of partnerships among the Mediterranean National Societies and other significant stakeholders present within the region. The CCM is supported by the Spanish Red Cross and has been based in Barcelona since 2006.

Our task during 2008 is specially guided by the initiative of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue which is a crosscutting issue in all our actions (whether it is youth, climate change or MDG, etc.).

This intercultural dialogue is particularly relevant in our *Mediterraneum* which has always been a space for ethnic and cultural exchange, socially complex and extraordinary issues. And, it is in this spirit that we ask you to help us to be really "Mediterranean" by working together with us on this newsletter by sending us your inputs, feed-back and stories in order for it to become a dynamic and interactive information tool for the whole region

Thank you!
Gracias!
Merci!
شكرا



Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro

ACTIVITIES

● **Seminar on Social inclusion of vulnerable groups through labour market:** Among the Millennium Development Goals established by United Nations, poverty and hunger are two main points to beat. The Tunisian RC and the CCM organize this seminar in order to sensitize on the importance of employment as means of social inclusion. Mediterranean NS were invited to participate and discuss about the set up of employment plans addressed to migrants, refugees, rural communities and vulnerable people who are in a situation of social exclusion.

Location: Hammamet (Tunisia)

Date: from 26th until 29th June 2008

[Link to Social inclusion Tunisia](#)

● **Seminar on Sustainable Development and Climate Change for the North of Africa:** Climate change has become a major concern since it is threatening the neediest populations, due to the rise of disasters and the scarcity of resources. The Moroccan RC and the CCM organized a seminar on climate change and its consequences, and searched to raise awareness about environmental conditions, and discuss proposed solutions, as well as the programmes that shall be applied.

Technicians, volunteers, representatives from IFRC, ARCO, and the Environmental Authority of Morocco, participated. There were the collaboration of the RC/RC Climate Centre and the World Wild Foundation-Mediterranean, besides the sponsorship of Abertis.

Location: Mahdia (Morocco)

Date: from 28th until 31st March 2008

[Link to Climate Change Morocco](#)



● **World Congress on Drugs Humanitarian Policy:** Upon the Roma Consensus, promoted by the Italian RC and the Senlis Council, this congress has been set up by these 2 organizations together with the Spanish RC, (with the implication of CCM and the SRC Committee in Catalonia). The aim of the event has been the engagement of RC/RC in the formulation and implementation of humanitarian approaches to drug policies.

Location: Barcelona (Spain)

Dates: from the 5th to the 7th of March 2008

[Link to World Congress on Drugs Barcelona](#)

● **International Meeting on Gender and Migration in the Mediterranean:** organized by the Italian RC with the collaboration of the CCM, and participation of 25 NS. It promotes an exchange of experiences among the Mediterranean RC/RC Societies to improve programmes and structures in order to respond to the needs of migrants. Recommendations made by the participants were to strengthen cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination in order to better protect and assist migrants and returnees.

Location: Palermo (Italy)

Date: from 14th until 17th February 2008

www.cri.it/pages/get?type=event&sec=ATT&esec=ATT&i=667

[Link to Gender and Migration Palermo](#)

YOUTH

● **Atlantis IV:** hosted by the Serbian RC and jointly organized with the CCM. The Atlantis is a summer camp for Youth volunteers of Mediterranean NS to develop their humanitarian capabilities. It promotes intercultural dialogue and the ability to improve programmes that respond better to their community needs. In this edition the main topics will be: leadership, climate change, first aid and human values, focused on intercultural dialogue. Besides the Mediterranean NS, this camp will count on the participation of some Central Asia and other European NS outside the Mediterranean area.

Location: Mitrovo Polje (Serbia)

Dates: from July 24th until July 31st 2008

[Link to Atlantis IV Serbia](#)



● **Exchange on good practices for drugs programme:** Has been launched by the Italian RC (Padua Committee) with the support of the Venetian Regional Government and been endorsed by CCM together with the Youth Spanish RC. Its aim is to promote knowledge on youth policies regarding social intervention mainly focused on youth drugs problems. Twenty young volunteers will have the chance to participate on programmes and discussions, as well as technical visits in order to seek better policies and mechanisms for new awareness campaigns.

Location: Padua and Venice (Italy) – Barcelona (Spain)

Date: July and September 2008

[Link to Exchange on good practices Padua_Barcelona](#)

● **Clown Camp 2008:** Organized by the Italian RC together with the CCM, the event is aimed at those people who live in a difficult situation (migrants, disabled people, children, etc.) Through clownery, the volunteers from many Mediterranean countries are encouraged to transmit their message of peace and humanity.

Location: Zafferana Etnea (Italy)

Dates: from the 23rd to the 30th of August 2008

www.pioniericlowncamp.it/index.php

● **Youth Forum:** meeting held every 2 years to highlight the importance of Youth participation in decision making and democratic processes. This year, there were 4 main topics: international networking, health, migration and diversity. The recommendations arisen were: each NS to have a National Youth Policy; the strengthening of training of Youth leaders; the development of a consistent Volunteer Policy; the consolidation of Youth representation in decision making bodies; finally, the necessity of carrying out a European survey on membership, volunteers and activities.

Location: Zagreb (Croatia)

Dates: from 22nd of April until 27th of April 2008.

www.ifrc.org/youth/about/networks/europe/ECM/

● **DICsat:** This event is launched by the Youth RC in order to deepen the volunteer's training in several fields of action through the setting up of workshops concerning Environment, Health (drugs) or Leaders' training. The CCM has participated with the Youth Officer as trainer of trainers.

Location: Altafulla (Spain)

Dates: from 4th until 6th April 2008

PARTNERSHIP

● Anna Lindh (Euro-Mediterranean) Foundation:

It is a European Commission organization, created with the aim of bringing individuals and organizations from both shores of the Mediterranean closer through dialogue. Nowadays, the ALF has networks in 37 countries in the Mediterranean area, and counts on a great array of partners as well, among which is the CCM. This 2008 is promoting the *1001 Actions for Dialogue* international campaign. Within this framework the CCM is leading several Workshops on *Intercultural Dialogue* (Catalonia, Solferino and Expo Zaragoza). These initiatives aim to sensitize the youth volunteers about the humanitarian challenge of inter-cultural dialogue, respect for human dignity, and fight against discrimination and prejudices in the action of RC/RC Movement.

www.euromedalex.org/Home/En/Home.aspx

● **Chair UNESCO in Intercultural Dialogue:** An agreement has been established between the CCM and the Chair Unesco in Intercultural Dialogue (Rovira Virgili University) for the staging of students in order to promote Mediterranean initiatives on intercultural dialogue and promotion of Principles and Values.

www.urv.cat/catedres/unesco.html

● **European Year of Intercultural Dialogue:** The EYID is a European Union initiative, established by a decision of the European Parliament and the Council, launched for the 2008, that seeks the recognition of Europe's great cultural diversity. Their goal is to fulfil these goals by implementing European-level projects. The CCM has become partner of the EYID and is promoting several initiatives on this framework (workshops, seminars, exchanges and others) as explained on this newsletter.

www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu/
[Link to EYID](#)



● **EuroMed Permanent University Forum:** This organization has been created to empower universities so that they could meet the needs of the Mediterranean citizens of both shores, guaranteeing their progress and enhancement, in line with the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Union, the member states, the already existing networks and the institutions committed to the development of our societies. It counts with 85 members. The CCM has been accepted as associated member of the EPUF due to its role in sensitization mainly related to the Mediterranean Conference priority issues.

www.epuf.org/en/welcome.html

OPINION



Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement preparing for Climate Change

Overwhelming scientific evidence, record-breaking temperatures world wide and real-life projections of increasing weather-related disasters show that climate change is a very real threat for the world today. The impacts of disasters will fall disproportionately upon developing countries and poor people in the poorest countries will be hit the hardest. Faced with growing demands on its humanitarian work, the RC/RC established a Climate Centre in 2002. The core mission of the RC/RC Climate Centre is to support NS to reduce people's vulnerabilities to the negative impacts of climate change.



Photo: Obed Wewo, Indonesian Red Cross, Residents of Tanjung Bena village, Bali, Indonesia, and local Red Cross volunteers planting mangroves to help stop coastal erosion in the village during the UNFCCC climate conference (COP 13).

In order to rapidly build capacity on climate risk management with RC/RC National Societies, the Climate Centre developed the *Preparedness for Climate Change* program. Since 2006, 35 NS are analyzing the impacts of climate change in their respective countries and integrating the increase of risks in their existing programs and policies. Key for RC/RC action on climate change is the cooperation with other organizations operating in this field. Knowledge institutes and Meteorological Offices for example can produce vital information for NS. The use of early warning systems and relevant forecast information will improve their preparedness (and thus also their response) to weather extremes and disasters.

The Hague, 7 July 2008, by Fleur Monasso, Program Officer, Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre

www.climatecentre.org

e-mail: mediterraneo@cruzroja.es