

Seminar on Water, Environment and Human Sustainable Development

Barcelona

29th - 30th June 201

Organized by:





In collaboration with:





Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production



Ajuntament de Barcelona Cooperació Internacional, Solidaritat i Pau



International Federation of Red Cross And Red Crescent Societies الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهللال الأحمر MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ZONE



In the frame of:







Our World, Your Move ourworld-yourmove.org

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SUMMARY

This seminar took place in Barcelona, Spain, on the 29th and the 30th of June 2010. It was organized by the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean together with the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia and in collaboration with the IFRC (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies), the Spanish Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs (through the Environment Department of the Spanish Red Cross), the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production of the UNEP (United Nations Environment Program), the Barcelona City Council and "la Caixa Foundation".

All the thematic sessions which contributed to the outcome of the event were devoted to the topic of current challenges related to environment and sustainable human development in the Mediterranean.

143 participants attended the meeting. Among them the representatives of 13 National Societies: Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Spain, Syria and Tunisia; as well as representatives from the IFRC MENA Zone and Europe Zone, the RC/RC Climate Centre, the European Commission, the UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) through the RACCP (Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production), the IUCN_Med (International Union for the Conservation of Nature), the WWF Mediterranean Programme, the UNESCOCAT, the National Centre of Environmental Education, the CEDIH (Spanish Red Cross Centre of Studies for International Humanitarian Law), the Ludevid Business and Environment, the Mobadara Association of Morocco, and the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament. In addition, representatives of the Government of Catalonia and the Barcelona City Council also participated.

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A two days format was followed, with relevant thematic sessions, in order to promote the exchange of experiences and the sharing of best practices between public and private bodies, research and training centres.

Through the thematic sessions -Strategies and Policies, Water, Environment and Health, Global Change and Climate Change, Environmental Education and Sustainable Consumption, Water and Vulnerability- the seminar highlighted the fact that a common change in attitudes and behaviours is needed to translate the raising awareness on climate issues into responsible behaviours. At the same time, a strong coordination among all stakeholders is the best way to succeed in mitigating the negative effects of climate change in the Mediterranean.

Along with the sessions, relevant side events and activities were displayed. Visits were organized both to the 'Fàbrica del Sol' ('The Sun Factory'), an old gas supply installation now serving as an example of a self sufficient renewable energy factory, and to the city water storage, a great example of the sustainable use of water. The activities also included the 'Solar oven and stove' project of the Spanish red Cross in Barcelona, the 'Terra Game' of the Spanish Red Cross and various Spanish Red Cross exhibitions, such as 'Moving through Water', 'Climate Change' and 'Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment'.

The participants were asked about their degree of satisfaction regarding the seminar through questionnaires that examined not only the methodological side of the seminar but also its contents. The results of these evaluations gave a very positive review of the event, with 88% of the answers confirming the seminar as good or very good.

Content CDs were handed out to participants with the presentation documents from each session of the seminar.



1. CONTENTS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 General context

Maintaining a good quality of our environment is essential for sustainable development. The poorest communities are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and lack of access to safe water and sanitation. These problems require international approaches, as climate change, declining biodiversity and the depletion of the ozone layer cannot be solved individually by nations. If we maintain the current trend of continued growth of economy and population without new technologies and without drastic changes to how resources are used, our planet cannot sustain the global economy. Due to this situation, some experts warn of a possible collapse of the current levels of production and consumption as climate change leads to having less food and clean water and to an increasing number of diseases under extreme weather conditions.

In turn, water is a limited natural resource essential to life. All settlements have sprung up around the existence of water, which determines the possibility of continuity of communities. The disappearance of water sources in many cases has led to the disappearance of villages and to the connected exodus. Its relevance is that the access to drinking water or not determines the level of poverty of many people, as it allows the development of the economy.

The direct and indirect human cost of the lack of access to drinking water is enormous. This, coupled with the lack of basic sanitation leads to serious problems for both health (as for example the spread of diseases transmitted by contaminated and stagnant water), and economic problems, particularly in relation to the employment of women who spend several hours daily to fetch drinking water. It also causes social problems,



due to the limitations in the development of countries.

This reality is particularly remarkable in the Mediterranean, a region with precarious balances of environment and socio-economy, marked by water scarcity, pollution of the seas, uncontrolled urban development in coastal areas and a migration from rural regions to the urban ones. The region is also undergoing a marked and growing deforestation and desertification of its green lungs.

According to the representatives of the institutions involved in the seminar, if current trends in emissions of greenhouse gases continue, relevant uncertainties surround predictions of regional climate changes, yet it is likely that the Mediterranean region will also warm significantly. The outlook for precipitation is not as certain, but most projections point to more precipitation in winter and less in summer over the region as a whole. As a consequence, the frequency and severity of droughts could increase across the region.

The first impacts of climate change will be experienced in the Mediterranean water resource system. Reductions in water availability would hit southern Mediterranean countries the hardest. In Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Syria, Malta and Lebanon, water availability already falls below, or approaches 1,000 m3 per person per year - the common benchmark for water scarcity. Even relatively well-endowed countries, such as Spain, Greece and Italy, could suffer ever-more frequent regional water shortages due to the twin problems of climate change and rising demand. Furthermore, reductions in food security would increase the risks of malnutrition and hunger for millions in the south.

Future climate change could critically undermine efforts for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region through its impacts on the



environment and social and economic well-being. While in many respects climate change exacerbates existing problems rather than creating new ones, the sheer magnitude of the potential problems means it cannot be ignored. The long-term sustainability of the Mediterranean region requires keeping climate change within tolerable bounds. Current understanding of safe limits points to the need for prompt international agreement - and action - to make the required drastic cuts in emissions of greenhouse gases in order to stabilise their atmospheric concentrations.

In this context, and in line with the work developed in past years, as well as the objectives of the Strategy 2020 of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the commitments of the XIth Red Cross and Red Crescent Mediterranean Conference, the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean and the Spanish Red Cross, organized the International Seminar on Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean, which aimed at creating spaces for reflection and debate related to the water crisis and its possible alternatives based on different approaches and areas of responsibility.

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1.2 Objectives

General objectives

As explained in Annex I, through the thematic sessions -Strategies and Policies, Water, Environment and Health, Global Change and Climate Change, Environmental Education and Sustainable Consumption, Water and Vulnerability- the seminar highlighted the fact that a common change in attitudes and behaviours is needed to translate the raising awareness on climate issues into responsible behaviours. At the same time, a strong coordination among all stakeholders is the best way to succeed in mitigating the negative effects of climate change in the Mediterranean region.

Along with the sessions, relevant side events and activities were displayed. Visits were organized both to the 'Fàbrica del Sol' ('The Sun Factory'), an old gas supply installation now serving as an example of a self sufficient renewable energy factory, and to the city water storage, a great example of the sustainable use of water. The activities included the 'Solar oven and stove' project of the Spanish red Cross in Barcelona, the 'Terra Game' of the Spanish Red Cross and various Spanish Red Cross exhibitions, such as 'Moving through Water', 'Climate Change' and 'Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment'.

The primary objective of this International seminar was to offer a detailed analysis of the humanitarian impact of climate change, water scarcity and environmental degradation in the Mediterranean region on issues such as health, food security or economy, providing at the same time, best practices at local level.

It also aimed to raise awareness about the challenges of climate change



and water crisis in the Mediterranean region, support a change in attitudes about environmental issues the region is facing, promoting a search for innovative and creative responses also more effective and better coordinated, promote a greater mobilization of public support for action in order to improve the current environmental situation.

Specific objectives

- a) Review the current situation regarding the consumption and access to water and climate change impacts in the Mediterranean region and analysing its human causes.
- b) Promote the exchange of information on ongoing programmes of the National Societies of the region and other major players.
- c) Examine the interrelationships between climate change and water shortages and other humanitarian challenges and priorities in the Mediterranean.
- d) Explore new mechanisms of action and deal with environmental challenges in the region.



1.3 Contents and methodology

According to the programme established by the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean, several subjects were developed in five sessions during the seminar, as follows:

- Strategies and Policies
- Water, Environment and Health
- Global Change and Climate Change
- Environmental Education and Sustainable Consumption
- Water and Vulnerability

The aim of these sessions was to start a debate about causes, effects and alternatives to implement and incorporate the results into the daily work of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies with the community, especially regarding the most vulnerable.

The complete programme is detailed in Annex II.

This meeting was planned as a platform for the exchange of information regarding programmes which are being implemented by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the region, as well as by the other national and international actors involved.

The debate was focused on the sustainable human development phenomenon from its global dimension, taking into account different perspectives: the consumption and access to water and climate change impacts in the Mediterranean, the exchange of information on ongoing programmes of the National Societies of the region and other major players, the interrelationships between climate change and water shortage and other humanitarian challenges and priorities, the research of new



mechanisms of action and dealing with environmental challenges in the region.

The above mentioned topics were dealt in independent sessions that had a chairperson who provided a generic vision of the topic and a series of participants who contributed with practical work experiences – both from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and from other invited national and international organisations, specialised in water and sustainable environment related issues.

The sessions' format offered a floor for participants to share their knowledge, experiences, and best practices, while including a time for open debate at the end of every session.

The first session ("Strategies and Policies") introduced the strategies implemented by the IFRC (Strategy 2020, Water and sanitation policy, Global water and Sanitation Initiative, Inter-Agency tools and standards), the Government of Catalonia (the 2026 Cat-strategy) and the European Commission. It highlighted the need for a common Mediterranean policy on water and environmental issues, a common strategy to be adapted to each Mediterranean country, since the Mediterranean is a very diverse region. The session also underlined the need to promote a change in attitude and in behaviour in order to embrace a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle.

The second session ("Water, Environment and Health") presented the initiative "Local Agenda 21", run by the City Council of Barcelona, the "Blue Plan", an action plan concerning the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean, run by the BP-RAC (Blue Plan of the Regional Activity Centre within the United Nations Environment Programme), the strategies adopted by the Health Department of the



Government of Catalonia to achieve a healthy environment and the projects run by the IFRC MENA Zone to approach a safe access to water and sanitation.

The third session ("Global Change and Climate Change") analysed the impact of global change and climate change on the Mediterranean region taking into account the risk management and the territorial approaches to these issues. The participants who gave a contribution to this session were: the RC/RC Climate Centre, the IUCN-Med (International Union for Conservation of Nature), the WWF (World Wildlife the Fund) Mediterranean Project, the Spanish Red Cross, the Department of Environment and Housing of the Government of Catalonia. This session underlined the role of prompt information for an early action, the importance of the preservation of the biodiversity and the ecosystems and the value of prevention. The Spanish Red Cross presented a programme carried out in the Southern areas of Mauritania to promote a sustainable environment, preserve natural resources, develop alternative technologies yet holding on to traditional knowledge.

The fourth session ("Environmental Education Sustainable and Consumption") provided some examples of ongoing projects in the Mediterranean region: the educational programmes of the Unescocat, the youth exchange programme "Tomorrow, sharing water" run by the City Council of Barcelona, the environmental projects of the Spanish Red Cross, the awareness campaigns of the RACCP, the environmental voluntary project of the Red Cross Youth in Catalonia, the project "Green Households" of the National Centre of Environmental Education, the programme "Climate in Action" run by the Italian Red Cross and the Morocco Red Crescent Youth Activities on environmental education.



The last session ("Water and Vulnerability") underlined the value of water as a human right and its importance for implementing a sustainable human development. This session included the interventions of the CEDIH (Spanish Red Cross Studies Centre for International Humanitarian Law), the Ludevid Business and Environment, the Spanish Red Cross in Valencia, the Mobadara Association of Morocco and the *Agència Catalana de Cooperació per al Desenvolupament.*

The reason why organisations and associations that were not part of the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement were invited is that we believe in the importance of sharing knowledge and information about different programmes on Sustainable Environment. In some cases they might have different approaches, and the exchange can be very valuable for both parties.

Throughout the seminar, side events and activities were also carried out with the aim to raise participants' awareness and to approach dynamics and tools that will be possibly included in their National Societies environmental programmes.

On the 29th June, participants had the opportunity to choose between one of the following visits within the city area of Barcelona:

- the *Fàbrica del Sól* (Sun Factory), a pioneer sustainable building made of non-polluting and recyclable materials, including solar panels and water collecting systems
- the Joan Mirò city water storage, a great example of the sustainable use of water.

Both facilities are run under the supervision of the City Council of Barcelona and the visits to their premises counted on the presence of



approximately 30 participants each.

On the 30th attendants were given the chance to actively be part of the demonstration of the Terra Game, a role play organised by the Spanish Red Cross, focused on climate change and on building a responsible attitude towards decision-making and consumption.

Participants also had the opportunity to observe the functioning of a solar oven and stove, owned by the Spanish Red Cross in Barcelona.

The solar oven proved to be a practical demonstration on how viable and fruitful a sustainable consumption is. Proper meals were cooked only using solar energy.

During the seminar, participants could take advantage of the following exhibitions:

- "Moving through water" of the Spanish Red Cross, Environment Department
- "Climate Change" of the Spanish Red Cross Youth in Catalonia
- "Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment" of the Spanish Red Cross in Community of Valencia

At the end of the seminar participants received a CD compiling all the documents from each presentation delivered during the seminar, as well as further relevant documents provided by the speakers.

The content of speeches and other documents are available in the website of the CCM: <u>www.cruzroja.es/ccm</u>.



1.4 Key issues

The meetings and discussions have shown that water scarcity, environmental degradation and climate change are interrelated and depend on the human model of development. This reality is especially relevant in the Mediterranean region, where there are many environmental risks, where the economic inequalities are still evident and where climate change projections show a region hard hit from the standpoint of environmental, social and economic development.

During the days of seminar we have seen that is still time to halt the power of negative impacts of these projections. And for that we need to promote a sustainable development, involving a change in behaviour, a change in our consumer lifestyle and an exploitation of natural resources.

The world is changing and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement has to work to mitigate the negative effects of these changes. We need to change attitudes and behaviours and focus on the social and economic impact of environmental challenges.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement may work in two main areas in this framework: the general awareness for a better preparedness in case of natural disasters, since everyone is vulnerable in front of the effects of climate change; the promotion, especially addressed to youth, of behavioural changes in order to embrace a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle.

We need to find a Mediterranean strategy for a sustainable development, a common water policy. We don't need a unique strategy but a common strategy to be adapted to each Mediterranean culture in order to achieve a sustainable development.



The environmental strategy has to contain appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology options and aim to improve community participation. Alignment with Governmental plans and policies must be ensured, as we have to advocate and facilitate access to safe and clean water and raise awareness on the authorities.

Our approach on water policies, since it is still focused on supply, needs to be changed. We have to promote high quality programmes and policies, financial considerations (water demand management, water saving policies or cost recovery principles) and we need to incorporate sustainable water practices into sectoral policies (agriculture, energy production, climate change...).

We need to ensure an adequate funding for ongoing and planned initiatives and commit people to get involved and provide sources to development programmes.

Information on environmental issues needs to be as specific as possible in order to have more time to reduce risks. At the same time, we cannot expect information to be perfect: we need to act as soon as possible, moving from pilot projects to structured programmes.

We must translate the raising awareness on climate issues into responsible behaviour, linking knowledge to action.

For detailed information on Key issues see Annex III.



1.5 Monitoring

The real success of the seminar also depends on the possibility to implement the activities at the level of each National Society and reinforce alliances at the local, national, and international level.

What also seemed important was that the seminar should be an opportunity for participants to build new contacts, which can lead to future collaborations.

During the seminar the participants got the chance to meet other National Societies and organisations that work in the environmental framework and share experiences and ideas in order to develop new networks and implement activities at local level.

Moreover the key issues of the seminar will serve as a compilation of information and opinions as well as technical resources to taken in account while developing national and international strategies to promote a sustainable human development.



2. ORGANIZATION

The seminar took place in Barcelona, the 29th and 30th of June 2010.

During the preparatory period, members of the staff of the CCM visited the available facilities in order to decide which hotel would lodge the seminar and discussed on several logistic and organisational aspects as well as the relations with the media.

The Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia was in charge of the communication and dissemination aspects at the regional level, and they collaborated with the CCM for national and international dissemination.

The seminar took place at the Caixa Forum, from the 29th to the 30th of June 2010. Participants were lodged in the Ayre Hotel of Gran Via, very close to the venue.

2.1 Facilities and equipment

The Caixa Forum is located in city centre, by the Espanya Square, and not far from Barcelona's main airport, El Prat.

The conference hall was provided with WiFi internet connection, which allowed both the organization and the speakers to work online.

The hotel had free internet WiFi connection too and it put one meeting room at the organisers' disposal as a secretary.

The translation was ensured by four professional translators and a technician responsible for the microphones and ear-phones for the

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simultaneous translation.

Three meals per day were provided in the dining room of the Ayre Hotel. During each day there were two coffee breaks, one in the morning and the other one in the afternoon, in which the participants could have coffee and snacks.

2.2 Official ceremonies

On the 28th June participants were welcomed at the City Hall of Barcelona by the Deputy Major Ms. Imma Mayol, accompanied by the Vice-president of the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia, Mr. Josep Masip and the Vicepresident of the CCM, Ms. Marta Corachan. After the official welcoming, participants enjoyed a cocktail dinner at the Caixa Forum.

On the 29th all participants were officially introduced to the opening of the Seminar in the Caixa Forum venue by the President of the Spanish Red Cross in Catalunya, Mr Josep Marquès i Baró, who then gave the floor to:

- Mr. Salvador Samitier, Director of the Catalan Office for Climate Change
- Mr. Manel Vila, Commissioner of Cooperation, Solidarity and Peace of the City Council of Barcelona.
- Ms. Marta Corachan, vice-president of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean
- Mr. David Elvira, General Director of Health Resources of the Government of Catalunya



2.3 Participants

One hundred and forty three people participated in the event. Among them were representatives of the National Societies of Italy, Malta, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Spain (several branches and national leaders).

In addition the IFRC MENA Zone, the Europe Zone and the RC/RC Climate Centre also took part in the seminar.

Furthermore, the international meeting counted on the participation of many other organisations and experts, such as:

- the Secretary of the Royal Academy of Pharmacy in Catalonia and Professor of Soil Science at the University of Barcelona, Miquel Salgot de Marçay
- the Principal Administrator DG Environment of the European Commission
- the responsible for Sustainable Development of the Catalan
 Governmental department of Environment and Housing
- the Director of Communication and Environmental Education of the Environmental Department of the Barcelona City Council
- Specialists from the RACCP (UNEP)
- the Head of the Environmental Health Department of the Health
 Protection Agency of the Government of Catalonia
- the Head of Relations with Spanish Institutions of the IUCN-Med
- the Capacity Building Officer of the WWF Mediterranean
 Programme
- the responsible for International Relations and Development Cooperation of the Catalan Governmental department of Environment and Housing



- the Head of the Sustainability Programme of the Unescocat
- the Director of the Youth programme of the City Council of Barcelona
- Responsible of the Education and Cooperation Department, CENEAM (National Centre of Environmental Education)
- A representative (Professor) of the CEDIH (Spanish Red Cross Studies Centre for International Humanitarian Law)
- the Director of the Ludevid Business and Environment
- the Vice president of the Mobadara association
- the Director of the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament

The sessions were chaired by the following key-speakers:

- Mr Fernando Reinares, President of the Environmental Commission of the Spanish Red Cross
- Ms Marta Corachan, Vice-President of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean
- Mr Daniel Fernandez, Environmental Desk of the Spanish Red Cross
- Mr Aitor Murciano, National Director of Spanish Red Cross Youth
- Mr Ramón Jane, Director of International Cooperation of the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia



2.4 Logistics and staff

An invitation letter was sent a few months before the seminar to all the National Societies of the Mediterranean, signed by the Vice-president of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean.

The procedures of requesting visas for the participants who needed them were carried out by the Centre thanks to the support of the Spanish Red Cross Headquarters (President Cabinet). The Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia collaborated in the transfers' organization to and from the railway station and airport, communication and dissemination during and before the event, and joint management of the organisational aspects of the seminar.

The majority of participants arrived the day before the beginning of the sessions and left at the end of the seminar or the following day (depending on their flight schedules).

During the seminar, the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia mobilized several volunteers and staff of various branches to support the organization of the event, as well as materials and supplies necessary for the development of the seminar. The CCM also mobilized its staff and volunteers to support the implementation of the event (prior, during and after the event).



2.5 Visibility

Information on the seminar (programme, objectives and contents) was distributed together with the invitation letter to the National Societies of the Mediterranean Conference, as well as between other partners and components of the Movement.

Prior to the event, the CCM promoted the Seminar in several occasions through the Newsletter.

Relevance and visibility to the Seminar was also given by the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity of United Nations as well as by the IUCN, RC/RC Climate Centre and by the Spanish Red Cross.

The presentations were compiled in a CD which was distributed among participants at the end of the Seminar. More information about results (report, key inputs and presentations) will be disseminated among participants and partners, such as the members of the Steering Committees of both the Mediterranean Conference and of the CCM, and will be also available on the Website of CCM (www.cruzroja.es/ccm).



3. EVALUATION

A questionnaire was drafted and handed out after the seminar in order to obtain an evaluation of the seminar regarding the satisfaction of the participants on various levels.

It asked questions about the highlights of the seminar as well as the areas which needed improvement. In addition, the questionnaire included rankings for the level of satisfaction regarding both contents and logistics of participants to measure.

In general the participants concluded that their expectations concerning the seminar **had been met** and the participants' **evaluations were very positive.**

As we can see from the chart below, the percentage of participants who evaluated the seminar as **good or very good was of 86%**.





As far as the **contents** of the seminar are concerned (satisfaction of expectation, topics, methodology, usefulness, group dynamics...) the percentage of participants who evaluated it as **good or very good was** of 83%.



Concerning the **logistics** of the seminar, the percentage of participants who evaluated it as **good or very good was of 90%**.



Barcelona, August 2010

ANNEX I

TERMS OF REFERENCE



WATER AND HUMAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Barcelona, 29-30 June 2010

Maintaining a good quality of our environment is essential for sustainable development. The poorest communities are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation and lack of access to safe water and sanitation. These problems require international approaches, as climate change, declining biodiversity and the depletion of the ozone layer can not be solved by individual nations. If we maintain the current trend of economic and population continued growth without new technologies and without drastic changes to how resources are used, our planet can not sustain the global economy. Because of that some experts warn of a possible collapse of the current levels of production and consumption as climate change leads to have less food and clean water and disease increasing under extreme weather conditions.

In turn, water is a limited natural resource essential to life. All settlements have sprung up around the existence of water, which determines the possibility of continuity of the community. The disappearance of water sources in many cases has led to the disappearance of villages and the exodus. Its importance is that the access to drinking water or not determines the level of **poverty** of many people, as it allows the development of the economy.

The direct and indirect human cost of the lack of access to drinking water is enormous. This, coupled with the lack of basic sanitation leads to serious problems for both **health** (as for example the spread of diseases transmitted by contaminated and stagnant water), and <u>economic</u> <u>problems</u>, particularly in relation to the employment of women who spend several hours daily to fetch drinking water. It also causes social problems, due to the limitations in the development of countries.

This reality is particularly remarkable in the Mediterranean, a region with precarious balances of environment and socio-economy, marked by water scarcity, pollution of the seas, uncontrolled urban development in coastal areas and a migration from rural regions to the urban. The region also has a very marked and growing deforestation and desertification of its green lungs.

In this context, working along the lines developed in last years as well as the commitments of 2020 Strategy of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean and the Spanish Red Cross, organize an International Seminar on Water











In collaboration with:





and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean, which aims to create spaces for reflection and debate deals with the water crisis and its possible alternatives based on different approaches and areas of responsibility.

This seminar will include the participation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the region, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and experts from major national and international agencies involved in the issue.

The seminar will be held in Barcelona on the 29th and 30th of June 2010.

General objectives

The primary objective is to offer a detailed analysis of the humanitarian impact of climate change, water scarcity and environmental degradation in the Mediterranean region on issues such as health, migration, food security or economy, providing at the same time, best practices at local level.

It also aims to raise awareness about the challenges of climate change and water crisis in the Mediterranean region, support a change in attitudes about environmental issues facing the region, promoting a search for innovative and creative responses also more effective and better coordinated, promote a greater mobilization of public support for action to improve the current environmental situation.

Specific objectives

a) Review the current situation regarding the consumption and access to water and climate change impacts in the Mediterranean region and analyzing the human causes of it.

b) Promote the exchange of information on ongoing programs of the National Societies of the region and other major players

c) Examine the interrelationships between climate change and water shortages and other humanitarian challenges and priorities in the Mediterranean.

d) Exploring new mechanisms of action and dealing with environmental challenges in the region.

Format

A seminar-format of 2-day conference with plenary sessions and working groups. The aim of which is getting a debate about causes, effects and alternatives to implement and incorporate the results into the daily work of

In collaboration with:



Cruz Roja Española









the Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent with the community, especially regarding the most vulnerable.

Partners

Organized by the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean With the technical support of the Environment Department of the Spanish Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross Youth Hosted by the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia With the collaboration of: Spanish Ministry of Environment, IFRC MENA Youth Network and "Ia Caixa" Foundation In the frame of: Global campaign "Our world. Your Move" and International Year of Biodiversity of United Nations

Language

The conference will be held with simultaneous translation in the following languages:

-French -Spanish -English

Dates

29 and 30 June 2010.

Speakers

RC/RC Climate Centre Other Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Experts Experts from research institutes, private foundations, associations and public and private national and international

Place

Barcelona (Spain)







In collaboration with:



ANNEX II

PROGRAMME

SIDE EVENTS

19.00h

-Reception at the City Hall of Barcelona, chaired by Ms. Imma Mayol, Deputy Mayor Hall of Croniques of the City Hall. Saint Jaume Square, 1

29th June

28th June

18.30h

-Visit to the Fabrica del Sol (Participants will have to choose between which site to visit.) http://www.mcrit.com/crbs/principal/principal.htm P°. Salvat Papasseit. 1. Barcelona

18.30h

-Visit to the Joan Miró city water storage (Participants will have to choose between which site to visit.) http://www.clabsa.es/ESP/VisitaDiposits.asp

30th June

11.00-14.30h

-Solar oven and stove Project of the Red Cross in Barcelona functioning with explanation guide throughout the morning Caixa Forum

16.00 - 18.00h

-Demonstration of the 'TERRA Game' of the Spanish Red Cross (demonstration of the role play) Caixa Forum

29th and 30th June

9.00-19.00h

-Exhibition "Moving through Water", of the Spanish Red Cross Caixa Forum

9.00-19.00h

-Exhibition "Climate Change" of the Spanish Red Cross Youth in Catalonia Caixa Forum

9:00-19.00h

-Exhibition "Protect your livelihood, Don't exploit the Environment", of the Spanish Red Cross in Valencia

Caixa Forum

Caixa Forum

Social and Cultural Centre of la Caixa Community Projects in Barcelona Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia. 6-8 08038 Barcelona



In collaboration with:



Contact:

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WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE **MEDITERRANEAN**

Barcelona, 29th and 30th of June 2010



ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

PROGRAMME

9,30-10,30h

Opening ceremony

29 June

10,30-11,00h

Break

11,00-12,00h

Opening Speech

Delivered by: Miquel Salgot de Marçay Secretary of the Royal Academy of Pharmacy in Catalonia and Professor of Edaphology and Agricultural Chemistry at the University of Barcelona Chaired by: Josep Marquès, President of the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia

12,00-14,00h

Strategies and Policies

-IFRC Strategy 2020, Leon Prop, Head of Operations for Europe

-European Commission, José Rizo, Principal Administrator DG Environment "Towards policies of water and environment in the Mediterranean. The perspectives of the CE"

-Ministry of Environment

-Government of Catalonia, Department of Environment and Housing, Mireia Canyelles, Responsible for Sustainable Development "2026.cat strategy for the sustainable development of Catalonia"

Debate

Chaired by: Fernando Reinares, President of the Environment Commission of the Spanish Red Cross

14,00-16,00h

Break

16,00-18,00h

Water, Environment and Health

-City Council of Barcelona, Sònia Frias, Director of Communication and Environmental Education, Environment Department, "Urban environment and the Local Agenda 21" -Blue Plan, RACCP (UNEP), Vanessa Rodríguez, International Cooperation Specialist, "State of the environment and development in the Mediterranean" -Government of Catalonia, Health Department, Dr. Antoni Plasència, Director General of Environmental Health, "Environment and health"

-IFRC, Dr. Kasbar Tashjian, Coordinator of health and social services of the MENA Zone, "Water and sanitation in the MENA zone, a comprehensive approach"

Debate

Chaired by: Marta Corachán, Vice-president of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

18,00h

End of the day

30 June

9,00-11,00h

Global Change and Climate Change

-RC/RC Climate Centre, Madeleen Helmer, Director, "Climate change and risk management" -UICN-Med, Andrés Alcántara, Head of Relations with Spanish Institutions, "Environmental Sustainability"

-WWF-Mediterranean Programme, Anna Ludlow, Capacity Building Officer, "Climate change: erosion, desertification and drought in the Mediterranean" -Spanish Red Cross, Noemí Muñoz, International Cooperation Specialist, "Environmental sustainability in agricultural projects in southern areas of Mauritania"

-Government of Catalonia, Department of Environment and Housing, Susanna Rivero, Responsible for International Relations and Cooperation for Development, "TACC-UNDP Project (Territorial approach on climate change)"

Debate

Chaired by: Daniel Fernández, Environment Specialist of the Spanish Red Cross

11,00-11,30h

Break

11,30-14,00h

Environmental Education and Sustainable Consumption

-Unescocat, Sara Batet, Head of Sustainability Programme, "Water, climate change and consumption models: an educational approach" -City Council of Barcelona, Lluís Coromines, Director of the Youth Programme, "Tomorrow, sharing water" -Spanish Red Cross, Sara Casas, Environment Specialist, "SRC Strategy on Environmental Education"

-RACCP (UNEP), Enric Villamore, Sustainable Consumption Specialist, "Innovation and cultural changes to sustainable consumption" -Red Cross Youth Catalonia, Mariona Bigas, Environment Specialist -National Centre of Environmental Education, Julio Rodríguez Vivanco, Cooperation and

Education Department, "Green households: taking action"

-Morocco Red Crescent, Ali Amziane, Youth representative

-Italian Red Cross, Simone Pelissetti, Red Cross Youth, "Climate in action"

Debate

Chaired by: Aitor Murciano, National Director of Spanish Red Cross Youth

14,00-16,00h

Break

16,00-18,00h

Water and Vulnerability

-CEDIH, Javier Guisandez, Professor at CEDIH, "Water as a human right and polemological factor" -Ludevid Business and Environment, Manel Ludevid, Economist, "Water management and social vulnerability"

-Spanish Red Cross in Valencia, Luis Gorriz, Project "Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment"

-Mobadara Association, Morocco, Mohamed Moumni, President, "Water and Vulnerability in Eastern Morocco"

-Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament, Andreu Felip i Ventura,

Director, "Water and vulnerability"

Debate

Chaired by: Ramon Jane, Director of International Cooperation, Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia

18,00-18,15h

Break

18,15-19,00h

Closing Session



ANNEX III

KEY ISSUES



Seminar on «WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN»

Barcelona (Spain) 29th and 30th of June 2010 Organized by:





In collaboration with:





Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production



Ajuntament de Barcelona Cooperació Internacional, Solidaritat i Pau



International Federation of Red Cross And Red Crescent Societies الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهللال الأحمر MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ZONE



In the frame of:







Our World, Your Move ourworld-yourmove.org


KEY ISSUES OF THE SEMINAR

The Seminar was organised by the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean, together with the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia and in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies MENA Zone, the "la Caixa" Foundation, the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Spanish Production of United Nations, the Ministry of Affairs Environment and Rural and Marine (through the Environment Department of the Spanish Red Cross) and the Barcelona City Council.

The seminar's general objective was to offer a detailed analysis of the humanitarian impact of climate change, water scarcity and environmental degradation in the Mediterranean region on issues such as health, food security or economic development, providing, at the same time, best practices at local level. It also aimed to raise awareness about the challenges of climate change and water crisis in the Mediterranean region, support a change in attitudes about environmental issues facing the region, promoting a search for innovative and creative responses to improve the current environmental situation.

This meeting was planned as a platform for the exchange of information regarding programmes which are being implemented by the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies in the region, as well as by the other national and international actors involved. All of this in order to bring about procedure alliances, joining the experience of action of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent and many other public and private organizations who also play a key role in environmental issues.

The debate focused on the sustainable human development phenomenon from its global dimension, taking into account different perspectives: the consumption and access to water and climate change impacts in the Mediterranean, the exchange of information on ongoing programmes of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other major players, the interrelation between climate change and water shortages and other humanitarian challenges and priorities, the research of new mechanisms of action dealing with environmental challenges in



the region. In order to do so, the seminar was structured in five thematic areas:

- ✓ The first one focused on the strategies and policies about environmental issues in the Mediterranean.
- ✓ The second thematic area was devoted to the relation between water, environment and health
- ✓ The third one analysed the impact of the Global Change and the Climate Change, taking into account the effects of climate change, the risk management and the territorial approaches on climate change
- ✓ The fourth thematic area focused on environmental education and sustainable consumption, providing some examples of ongoing projects in the Mediterranean area
- ✓ The last one approached the theme of water and vulnerability

The above mentioned topics were dealt in independent sessions with a chairperson who introduced speakers and encouraged the debate. Each table was set up by several speakers who contributed with practical work experiences - both from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and from other invited national and international organisations, specialised in each of the topics raised.

The result of the information displayed, as well as that of the subsequent debates and the conclusions gathered by the chairpersons, led to a document of some key lines, which are not meant to be exhaustive, but that put together the main points of the work carried out during the meeting.

As a general idea we should mention that the meetings and discussions have shown that water scarcity, environmental degradation and climate change are interrelated and depend on the human model of development. This reality is especially relevant in the Mediterranean region, where there are many environmental risks, where the economic inequalities are still evident and where climate change projections show a region hardly hit from the standpoint of environmental, social and economic development.

During the days of the seminar we have seen that it is time to halt the power of the negative impacts of these projections. And



for this reason we need to promote a sustainable development, involving a change in behaviour, a change in our consumer culture and an exploitation of natural resources.

The world is changing and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement has to work to mitigate the negative effects of these changes. We need to change attitudes and behaviours and focus on the social and economic impact of environmental challenges.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement may work in two main areas in this framework: the general awareness for a better preparedness and adaptation to climate change impacts, since everyone is vulnerable in front of the effects of climate change; and the promotion, mainly addressed to youth, of behavioural changes in order to embrace a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle.

We must translate the raising awareness on climate issues into responsible behaviour, linking knowledge and action.

We need to ensure an adequate funding for ongoing and planned initiatives and commit people to get involved and provide sources to development programs.

Information on environmental issues needs to be as specific as possible in order to have more time to reduce risks. At the same time we cannot expect information to be perfect: we need to act as soon as possible, moving from pilot projects to structured programmes.

We need to find a Mediterranean strategy for a sustainable development, a common water policy. We don't need a unique strategy but a common strategy to be adapted to each Mediterranean context, reality and cultural ways in order to achieve a sustainable development.

Environmental strategies need to contain appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology options and aim to improve community participation. They must ensure the alignment with Governmental plans and policies, as we have to advocate and facilitate access to safe and clean water and raise awareness of the authorities.

We have to promote high water quality programmes and policies, financial considerations (water demand management, water saving policies or cost recovery principles) and we need to



incorporate sustainable water practices into sectoral policies (agriculture, energy production, climate change...).

We will hereby explain the key ideas presented in each session.

Opening speech - Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean

 Miquel Salgot de Marçay, Secretary of the Royal Academy of Pharmacy in Catalonia and Professor of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry at the University of Barcelona

Introduced by:

 Marta Corachan, Vice-President of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

Water is a key tool for sustainable development, both because of its important role in agriculture and as a means of transport, with special regards in the Mediterranean region.

Mr Salgot de Marçay highlighted the definition of sustainability, meant as a way of organizing human activity so that society and its members are able to meet their needs and express their full potential at present while maintaining the biodiversity and the natural ecosystems.

The Mediterranean is a diverse region: the need and the use of water change from the islands to the northern and southern coasts, and among them.

We cannot plan a unique water and environmental strategy for the Mediterranean: we have to find several solutions to be adapted to every Mediterranean country, supporting supranational initiatives, adapted to the social and economic conditions of the country.

An integrated management of water resources needs to be promoted, including conventional water (surface and groundwater), non-conventional water (reclaimed water) and technological water (desalinated water). We need to improve the



relation energy/water, since there is a lot of power lost for water treatment and a very little use of natural treatment systems or self-purification.



Theme I. Strategies and Policies

Chaired by:

 Fernando Reinares, President of the Environment Commission of the Spanish Red Cross

Participants:

- IFRC, *Leon Prop*, Head of Operations for Europe
- European Commission, José Rizo, Principal Administrator DG Environment
- Government of Catalonia, Department of Environment and Housing, *Mireya Canyelles*, Responsible of Sustainable Development

IFRC "Strategy 2020"

As remarked by Strategy 2020, the world is changing. Changes are neither positive nor negative yet their *effects* can be positive or negative. The RC/RC International Movement has to mitigate the negative effects of changes, and in order to do so, we need to change our mindsets and behaviour and look at the social and economic impact of environmental policies. The common environmental strategies must ensure the alignment with Governmental plans and policies: RC/RC International Movement has to advocate and facilitate access to safe and clean water and raise awareness on the authorities.

The RC/RC International Movement has to focus on changing minds about water and sustainable environment. To reach this aim, we have to promote youth projects and sharing of best practices.

Everyone is entitled to live in a sustainable and respectful environment, to have access to natural resources and to be protected against various forms of pollution.

For further information: http://www.ifrc.org/sp/who/strategy2020.asp?navid=03_03



European Commission: "Towards policies of water and environment in the Mediterranean. The perspectives of the EC"

A Mediterranean policy is necessary in order to agree on a new water agenda on the basis of common needs, common objectives, past experiences and emerging issues.

In the sharing of common objectives, remarked was the need to give priority to water issues, to simplify the cooperation (rationalizing the planning and the management of water resources and finding better ways to use water) and to promote a better funding. We have to support high quality programmes and policies, financial considerations (water demand management, water saving policies or cost recovery principles) and we need to incorporate sustainable water practices into sector policies (agriculture, energy production, climate change..).

Significant human and financial resources are needed to guarantee appropriate use of water meeting socio-economic and environmental needs in the region.

The European Commission will strengthen dialogue and ownership, involving other key ministries and promoting environmental integration into other sectors, it will ensure and transparency, promote the exchange openness of experiences and the sharing of results, support financial assistance to complement founding from other sources and it will ensure a better coordination, targeting on activities where added value is clear and improving the coordination with international bodies and initiatives, while also improving coordination of research with EU policies.

For further information:

Horizon 2020 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enlarg/med/horizon_2020_en.htm

 Communication establishing an environmental strategy in the Mediterranean (also in French and Arabic) <u>http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006_0475en01.pdf</u>

• Eurpean Nieghbouhood policy http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm

• Euro-Mediterranean Partnership http://ec.europa.eu/world/where/index_en.htm



<u>Department of Environment and Housing, Government of</u> <u>Catalonia: "2026.cat strategy for the sustainable development of</u> <u>Catalonia"</u>

In a context of socio-economic crisis like the current one, the Government of Catalonia promotes the 2026 cat strategy, which is an opportunity to address the main challenges in Catalonia, contributing to short-term innovative solutions to improve employment and increase wealth.

Such strategy promotes the harmonization of economic development with the improvement of the well-being and the quality of life; the internalization of the costs and the value of the ecosystems and biodiversity; a horizontal and vertical integration; the participation in decision making; the building of an inclusive society offering equal opportunities.

The 2026 strategy aims at ensuring water quality and quantity, reducing water consumption in order to increase efficiency. It also aims at strengthening the link among sectoral planning (energy, urban development, irrigation, forest management...) and water policies which are still too focused on supply and on projects linked to agricultural use of water.

For further information:

http://mediambient.gencat.cat/cat/ciutadans/educacio_ambiental/edscat/edscat_inici.htm



Theme II. Water, Environment and Health

Chaired by:

 Marta Corachan, Vice-president of the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean

Participants:

- City Council of Barcelona, Sònia Frias, Director of Communication and Environmental Education, Environment Department
- Blue Plan, RACCP (UNEP), Vanessa Rodríguez, International Cooperation Specialist
- Government of Catalonia, Irene Corbella, Head of the Environmental Health Unit, Health Protection Agency
- IFRC, *Dr. Kasbar Tashjian*, Coordinator of Health and Social Services of the MENA Zone

<u>City Council of Barcelona: "Urban environment and the Local</u> <u>Agenda 21"</u>

Agenda 21 is a programme run by the United Nations. It is a comprehensive blueprint of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the UN, governments, and major groups in every area in which citizens directly affect the environment.

The Barcelona City Council signed the Agenda 21, committing itself to support sustainable development. The Agenda 21 is a community agreement: every citizen is involved in supporting sustainable development. The undersigning organizations are committed to voluntary action plans that contribute to the shared objectives: protect the open spaces and biodiversity, build quality public spaces, improve the mobility, become a healthy city, promote the use of renewable energies, promote the culture of reuse and recycling, improving social cohesion, activities increase economic oriented to sustainable development, promote environmental education and communication, reduce the impact of the city on the planet and promote international cooperation.

The Barcelona Agenda 21 supports civic organizations in implementing their action plan, it encourages their action, giving



visibility to the collective improvement and strengthening networks.

For further information: http://www.bcn.cat/agenda21/A21_AGENDA_CAST.htm

<u>RACCP (UNEP): "State of the environment and development in</u> <u>the Mediterranean"</u>

The objective of the Blue Plan is to raise awareness on public authorities about the environment.

It is a pilot exercise which mobilized all MAP (Mediterranean Plan of Action of the United Nations Environment Programme) components to build, on the basis of existing knowledge and information, a picture of the major issues in the Mediterranean in terms of environment and sustainable development.

Formulated around a hundred simple questions, this report first of all delivers a comprehensive picture of the Mediterranean with a share of visible progress in the field of marine pollution, conservation of biodiversity, and secondly, it reaffirms the need to deploy additional efforts to better manage scarce natural resources, like water and energy, considering all along the effects of climate change.

For further information: http://www.planbleu.org/indexUK.html

Government of Catalonia- Environmental Health Unit: <u>"Environment and health"</u>

Environment has a huge role in our welfare and our health. The European Commission adopted in 2003 the European Strategy for Environment and Health (SCALE) which aims at reducing the burden of diseases caused by environmental factors in the EU, preventing new threats to health resulting from environmental factors and facilitating the establishment of policies in this framework.

To achieve a healthy environment it is necessary to promote an active participation of individuals and community as well as an inter-sector collaboration and coordination. We also need to develop information and communication tools aimed at the



general population, the experts, the business sector and the social sector.

For further information: http://www10.gencat.cat/sac/AppJava/organisme_fitxa.jsp?codi=13566

<u>MENA Zone, IFRC: "Water and sanitation in the MENA Zone, a</u> <u>comprehensive approach"</u>

The RC/RC Movement has to advocate for a zone-wide common WatSan strategy guided by regional and national disaster trends and based on an integrated approach. We need to improve awareness and preparedness for disaster at all levels (earthquake, floods, droughts, climate changes and emerging diseases) as well as facilitate access to safe and clean water at all times.

We have to create space for strong National Societies to provide inputs and help others implement them, explore and expand partnership and leadership support, pursue technical excellence and identify training gaps and resources.

For further information: http://www.ifrc.org/sp/where/mena.asp?navid=05_06



Theme III. Global Change and Climate Change

Chaired by:

 Daniel Fernández, Environment Specialist of the Spanish Red Cross

Participants:

- RC/RC Climate Centre, *Madeleen Helmer*, Director
- UICN-Med, Andrés Alcántara, Head of Relations with Spanish Institutions
- WWF-Mediterranean Programme, Anna Ludlow, Capacity Building Officer
- Spanish Red Cross, Noemi Muñoz, International Cooperation Specialist
- Government of Catalonia, Department of Environment and Housing, Susanna Rivero, Responsible for International Relations and Cooperation for Development

<u>RC/RC Climate Centre: "Climate change and risk management"</u>

Through the present challenges related to climate change, it is clear that the more certain the phenomenon becomes, the less certain are its manifestations and its impact on population.

In order to provide a good climate change risk- management, six components should be taken into account:

- 1. Climate risk assessment: assessing priorities, and planning follow-up
- 2. Addressing the consequences: integrating climate change in

programmes to make them more comprehensive

- 3. Raising awareness
- 4. Establishing and enhancing partnerships
- 5. International advocacy: shaping the global response to climate change
- 6. Documenting and sharing experiences and information

As far as climate information is concerned, we should not expect it to be perfect to manage risk rising. The slogan is: early warning, early action: the earlier we have the information, the earlier we can act to reduce risks. Such information shall affect regular forecast of impending hazards, seasonal forecast referring to the level of risk in the coming months, as well as climate change rising risks and trends as a whole.



The actions to be taken towards the phenomenon are essentially **mitigation**, that is reducing the causes of climate change (as for i.e. fossil fuels) and **adaptation**, reducing the impacts of climate change so as to have a win-win dynamic concerning benefits both at local and global level. On the local level there are many options to be taken to adapt to climate change while mitigation is implemented: early warning systems; water harvesting systems; malaria reduction campaigns; choice of crops, building dykes; cyclone/ flood shelters...

The most vulnerable people, the people most affected by climate change, are the real expert on this topic: we have to involve them in local projects in order to work together and share skills.

For further information: <u>http://www.climatecentre.org</u>

UICN-Med: "Environmental Sustainability"

The global change that is affecting our planet is unique in our history because of the following reasons: the speediness of this global change and the cause of this global change - human beings.

To face global and climate change we have to preserve biodiversity, implement the sustainable energy systems, manage ecosystems for human well-being, integrate the value of the preservation of ecosystems in the economic, financial and commercial policy.

For further information: <u>www.iucn.org/mediterranean</u>

<u>WWF-Mediterranean programme: "Climate change: erosion,</u> <u>desertification and drought in the Mediterranean"</u>

The importance of prevention is crucial, as well as the need to carefully consider where to apply rehabilitation and restoration. Prevention includes soft and cheap measures based on management practices, while restoration calls for massive and expensive interventions on soil or vegetation. Policies will have to support the adaptation of European agriculture to climate



change by encouraging the flexibility of land use, crop production, farming system, etc.

It is necessary to consider the multifunctional role of agriculture and to strike a variable balance between economic, environmental and social function in different European regions.

For further information: http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/mediterranean

<u>Spanish Red Cross – International Cooperation Department:</u> <u>"Environmental sustainability in agricultural projects in southern</u> <u>areas of Mauritania"</u>

The Spanish Red Cross presented a project carried out in Mauritania. The most obvious effect of climate change in the region proved to be the increasing desertification.

Climate change significantly affects watercourses producing a decrease of water production, increased costs in animal husbandry, the restriction of living spaces and the creation of urban agglomerates, the reduction of grazing land and the disappearance of natural sources.

To promote a sustainable environment we need to facilitate processes that increase diversity, preserve and improve natural resources, develop alternative technologies and hold traditional knowledge.

For further information:

http://www.cruzroja.es/portal/page?_pageid=174,12253117&_dad=portal30 &_schema=PORTAL30

Government of Catalonia, Department of Environment and Housing: "TACC-UNDP Project (Territorial approach on climate change)"

The TACC (Territorial approach on climate change) initiative originates as a global action, recognized by regional governments, to appropriately respond to climate change. TACC is a partnership between the United Nations and regional governments and associations.

This project aims at increasing the resilience to the impacts of climate change. Another aim is reducing carbon emissions in



developing regions and countries with economy in transition through awareness campaigns, trainings and integrated territorial climate plans.

It also aims at understanding climate change risks and associated opportunities, at reinforcing local governments in order to identify and prioritize risks and opportunities of mitigation, at encouraging the regional governments to promote mitigation and adaptation actions at local and regional level, at developing integrated territorial climate plans through a participatory process involving all the stakeholders.

For further information: <u>http://www20.gencat.cat/portal/site/dmah?newLang=es_ES</u>



Theme IV. Environmental education and sustainable consumption

Chaired by:

 Aitor Murciano, National Director of Spanish Red Cross Youth

Participants:

- Unescocat, Sara Batet, Head of Sustainability Programme
- City Council of Barcelona, *Lluis Coromines*, Director of the Youth Programme
- Spanish Red Cross, *Sara Casas*, Environment Specialist
- RACCP (UNEP), Enric Villamore, Sustainable Consumption Specialist
- Red Cross Youth Catalonia, *Mariona Bigas*, Environment Specialist
- National Centre of Environment Education, Julio Rodríguez Vivanco, Cooperation and Education Department
- Morocco Red Crescent, Ali Amziane, Youth representative
- Italian Red Cross, *Simone Pelissetti*, Red Cross Youth

<u>Unescocat: "Water, climate change and consumption models: an</u> <u>educational approach"</u>

The Department of Sustainability of the UNESCO Centre in Catalonia has the mission of promoting a culture of sustainability starting from the education on different social and ecological global challenges and from alternative ways to make a cultural, social and economic change possible.

To accomplish this mission it is necessary to understand education as a lifelong process and not just as a formal action. Within this scope, the department translates the United Nations documents into Catalan and develops educational materials and activities based on such reports.

For further information: http://www.unescocat.org/ca

"Seminar on WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN"



City Council of Barcelona: "Tomorrow sharing water"

"Tomorrow, sharing water" is a youth exchange programme about water issues.

Ten young people coming from ten youth associations were selected to take part in this international exchange between Barcelona and Lyon. They worked as a team to organize a seminar in Burkina Faso about water: they exchanged experiences and shared knowledge, improving their capacity of teamworking.

They disseminated information to other young people through web communities and social networks, enhancing the peer education.

For further information:

http://w3.bcn.es/XMLServeis/XMLHomeLinkPl/0,4022,121995261_122000210 _1,00.html

<u>Spanish Red Cross – Environment Department: "SRC Strategy on</u> <u>Environmental Education"</u>

Environmental education is a cross-cutting element in all Spanish Red Cross programmes: International Cooperation; Social Intervention; Red Cross Youth; Health; Relief; Social Responsibility; Volunteering.

The Spanish Red Cross environmental strategy aims at protecting people from the negative impacts of environmental degradation through education and awareness activities. Such activities are addressed to both Red Cross members and the general public in order to promote a behavioural change starting from their immediate environment.

Among the most recent projects we encounter "Moving for Water", a project developed in various stages: a first stage of dissemination about global and local issues regarding water; a second stage dedicated to awareness rising - through a rapprochement towards global issues in the immediate environment; and a last stage of environmental education, meant to develop awareness and individual responsibility.

The SRC implemented several tools, all dynamic: exhibitions; didactic kits and the *Terra* game (a role play, conceived as an



effective and entertaining tool used to sensitize groups and communities about the causes, consequences and possible solutions to climate change).

For further information: http://www.cruzroja.es/portal/page?_pageid=718,1&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30

<u>RACCP (UNEP): "Innovation and cultural changes to sustainable</u> <u>consumption"</u>

The main goal of the RACCP is the promotion and dissemination of prevention and the reduction of pollution at source in industrial, agriculture and tourism sectors. The objectives of RACCP are accomplished by giving technical support to the Contracting Parties (which are the 21 countries of the Mediterranean and the European Community) and to the institutional organisations. Through those last ones, the RACCP gives support to the businesses wishing to promote less polluting and more eco-efficient techniques and practices in their activities.

The most important goals of the RACCP are: advising about cleaner technology, facilitating and promoting a cleaner technology transfer and the exchange of experts, promoting demonstration projects and training activities, carrying out studies about pollution prevention alternatives.

For further information: http://www.cprac.org

Red Cross Youth in Catalonia: "Environmental volunteering"

The Red Cross Youth in Catalonia promotes environmental awareness and education, fostering positive attitudes and commitment to global sustainable development.

It achieves this mission through three actions: environmental quality (greening of some services), environmental education (addressed to the Volunteer and general population) and environmental volunteering (which facilitates participation in the preservation of the environment).

For further information: http://www.creurojajoventut.org/index.asp



National Centre of Environment Education: "Green households: taking action"

'Green households' is a programme to remove barriers that make it difficult to move from environmental awareness to an active and responsible behaviour.

The first step of this programme is to address people with a certain sensitivity and willingness to change in order to commit them to having a wide spread effect on the least convinced.

The second step is to facilitate a social learning, encouraging contacts between participants. The third one is to open roads which connect knowledge to action by promoting effective and feasible proposals and providing resources for change ("teams" or "kits" of savings and consumption). The fourth step is the understanding of participation as a compromise between benefits and duties. The fifth step aims at developing a collective challenge in which the participants could take part. The sixth one aims at keeping the programme in mind, by periodically taking it back it to the foreground. The following four steps aim at building a group by using elements that identify the programme, by creating relationships based on the personal contact, by promoting a culture of evaluation and by working in network.

For further information: http://www.hogares-verdes.blogspot.com

Morocco Red Crescent Youth: "Youth: Environmental education"

The Morocco Red Crescent Youth approached the environmental education after having collaborated in some activities in partnership with the CCM: the seminar on sustainable environment, climate change and population movement (Mehdia, March 2008) and the Atlantis V Youth Camp (August 2009).

The Morocco Red Crescent Youth actions are:

- The celebration of the world days linked to environment and environmental education
- Awareness campaigns in schools based on the YABC approach
- Awareness campaigns and activities in collaboration with civil society.



For further information: http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=119

Italian Red Cross Youth: "Climate in action"

The Italian Red Cross Youth project "Climate in Action" was addressed to RC volunteers, vulnerable people, students and civil society.

The first step of this project aimed at increasing knowledge about climate change, through training courses and workshops directed to the Red Cross volunteers. The second step aimed at developing new communication strategies about climate change promoting a behavioural change. The third step aimed at training students on environmental issues according to several modules as: environmental education and the Human-Environment relationship, sustainable consumption and humanitarian consequences of climate change.

For further information: <u>http://cri.it/giovani</u>



Theme V. Water and Vulnerability

Chaired by:

 Ramon Jane, Director of International Cooperation, Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia

Participants:

- CEDIH, Javier Guisandez, Professor at CEDIH
- Ludevid Business and Environment, Manuel Ludevid, Economist
- Spanish Red Cross in Valencia, Luis Gorriz, Volunteer
- Mobadara Association, Morocco, Mohamed Moumni, President
- Agència Catalana para la Cooperació al Desenvolupament, Andreu Felip I Ventura, Director

CEDIH: "Water as a human right and polemological factor":

Water is a fragile and scarce good and needs to be protected. The access to water is a human right even if it isn't included in the Human Rights Universal Declaration.

In 1950, the European Convention of Human Rights recognized the right to livelihood, in which we can include the access to water; in 1966 the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) proclaimed the right to an adequate standard of living and in 1986 the United Nations, with the Declaration on the right to Development, confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and individuals who make up nations.

For further information: <u>http://www.cedih.sld.cu</u>



Ludevid Business and Environment "Water management and social vulnerability"

Climate change highly aggravates water-related vulnerability. Water, apart from being a human right, is also an economic good. The effects of climate change, which are already visible, aggravate both the vulnerability of this natural resource (that is more pollution) and social vulnerability (the increase in shortage).

To face water scarcity we need to manage water demand: water is a human right but, nowadays, it is not for free. In the economy of water as such, there is a market where an offer and a demand exist.

The management of the demand is a key factor and it has to be carried out through measures of saving and reuse, as well as innovative means (both technological and social).

Water management by governments, business and social sectors can only be deployed through cooperation. That's why it is necessary to carry out education and capacity building programmes, starting from individual needs (in the case of families), and reaching the needs of service and energy companies. We are all water managers.

Spanish Red Cross in Valencia "Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment"

Human development is a process and cooperation has an important role in implementing policies and strategies to achieve a more equitable world.

The campaign "Protect their livelihood. Don't mistreat the environment" informs and raises awareness about the importance of environmental sustainability in order to reduce poverty. It wants to strengthen the commitment to contribute to social, cultural and economic change, starting from the acquisition of values, attitudes and skills that will enable every person to create their own alternatives to build a more equitable world.

This campaign is addressed to the associations working in the field of cooperation, to young people and to the general public.



It includes the following activities: creating an itinerant campaign addressed to the Valencia community, disseminating informative material, displaying the water treatment plan, scheduling visits of children, and social entities (companies, associations, foundations ...) in the Valencia Community facilities.

For further information: <u>www.cruzroja.es</u>

Mobadara Association "Water and Vulnerability in Eastern Morocco"

Morocco has a huge water demand. The problems to face in Morocco are: increasing ongoing needs, drought and desertification, an overexploitation of groundwater, degradation of quality, pollution, and low-valuation of water resources mobilized.

Ecoplatform is a group of associations aimed at protecting the environment. Its objective is to fight against the negatives impacts of tourism on the Mediterranean shores.

For further information: <u>http://mobadara.voila.net</u>

Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament "Water and vulnerability"

The access to safe water is very important and it is a human right. Human development is a process and cooperation has an important role in implementing policies and strategies to achieve a more equitable world.

Through the ACCD, the Government and the citizens of Catalonia join the international community in combating poverty and inequality, promoting the access to health, education and water and the extension of human rights and democratic governance.

The achievement of a sustainable human development requires education, knowledge and awareness to improve the quality of aid.

For further information:

http://www20.gencat.cat/portal/site/cooperaciocatalana

Barcelona, August 2010

ANNEX IV

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX V

PRESS COVERING

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Red Cross / Red Crescent **Climate Centre**

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News

Summary of seminar on Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development, Barcelona June 2010 July 15 2010

by Spanish Red Cross

On 29 and 30 June 2010, Madeleen Helmer contributed to the international seminar "Water, Environment and Sustainable Human Development in the Mediterranean", organised by the CCM and the Spanish Red Cross in Catalonia in collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Environment, the City Council of Barcelona, the MENA Zone of the IFRC, the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production, the Department of Environment of the Spanish Red Cross and the "la Caixa" Foundation. The seminar took place in Barcelona in the conference hall of the Caixa Forum. The objective was to create spaces for reflection and debate about the water crisis and possible alternatives based on different visions and areas of responsibility. The expected outcome was to offer a detailed analysis on the humanitarian impact of climate change, water shortage and environmental degradation in the Mediterranean region on topics such as health or food safety and provide at the same time good practices on local level.

Around 140 people participated, from 15 National Societies of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent in the Mediterranean and other organisations. Different experts from MENA and Europe Zones of the International Federation, the RC/RC Climate Centre, the European Commission, the Government of Catalonia -Department of Environment and Health-, the City Council of Barcelona, UNEP, UICN-Med, WWF Mediterranean Programme, Unescocat, Spanish Red Cross, National Centre for Environmental Education, CEDIH, Spanish Red Cross Youth, Moroccan Red Crescent, Italian Red Cross and the private sector, have intervened in the five sessions of the seminar: Strategies and policies; Water, Habitat and health, Global change and climate change; Environmental education and sustainable consumption, and Water and vulnerability.

The sessions and debates highlighted that water scarcity, environmental degradation and climate change are interconnected and that they depend on the model of development carried out by human beings. This reality is especially relevant in the Mediterranean area, where high environmental risks exist, evident economic and social inequalities persist, and where the projections of climate change show a region dramatically suffering from an environmental, social and economic point of view. There are two main work areas in which actions can be developed based on the Spanish RC network of volunteers in the community.

1. Awareness raising of the population in general, not only of the most vulnerable groups, but of the collectivity, as we are all vulnerable from the effects of climate change, in order to raise a better preparation in the situation of natural catastrophes.

2. Environmental education, above all of the youngest, in order to promote changes in the behaviour which help for a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle. Moreover, it was shown Water is a fundamental right and a basic tool for a sustainable development in the Mediterranean. And it was highlighted that we need a Mediterranean strategy for water and sustainable development which frames the action that can be carried out as much by the Red Cross as by other public and private institutions.



Main topics:



Disaster management

Health and care

Early warning early action

Advogov

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Preparedness for climate change programme (PfCC) Programme information. 2010 Web guidance.

Search

What the Climate Centre can do for you Read more.

IRI helpdesk

- More information on
- partnership
- IRI website P IRI Series: Managing Risk
- in a Changing Climate
- Contact the IRI helpdesk
- IFRC forecast map room IFRC

Climate Guide



contains the experiences of over thirty national Red

Cross and Red Crescent societies. Read more.

Tool kit for young humanitarians Download the Climate Centre's Youth Climate Kit.

Early Warning, Early Action News & background information

UNFCCC climate change

negotiations News & background information.

Our World Your Move Climate change: What can you do? Make your move 🖉

Show all news

If you are organising an event to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity, we encourage you to share your activities with us and everyone in your country. If you wish to see the information below in your official language, please send us a translation (.doc or .pdf) at iyb2010@cbd.int.

If you have videos and photos of your celebrations of the International Year of Biodiversity, please send them to us!

Spain

National Celebrations

Official Spanish website for the International Year of Biodiversity



Biodiversidad española En Youtube o download wmv (15MB)

spot destrucción de habitat / spot especies invasoras / spot radio / poster



Biodiversity Foundation - *Fundación Biodiversidad* Talk about Biodiversity. *Habla de Biodiversidad.* Watch it on Youtube

Dates and Venue	Event
25 - 27 January 2010 Madrid <i>Confirmed</i>	Delivering Biodiversity Targets : 2010 and Beyond / Protected Areas and Ecological Networks in Europe <i>Organized by:</i> Council of Europe
2 - 4 March 2010 Galicia Island <i>Confirmed</i>	Perspectivas desde Galicia en el Año Internacional de la Divesidad Biológica
24 - 25 March 2010 Barcelona <i>Confirmed</i>	VIII Congreso Internacional de Barcelona sobre la Dieta Mediterránea / Presentation by Dr. B. Burlingame entitled : Biodiversity and Sustainable Diets <i>Organized by:</i> Food and Agriculture Organization
10 May - 2 June 2010 Huelva <i>Confirmed</i>	III Jornadas Ambientales: "Delibes y la Biodiversidad"
20 May 2010 Malaga <i>Confirmed</i>	"Post 2010 Strategies: the route from Cibeles to Nagoya"
21 May 2010 Viladecans <i>Confirmed</i>	OLA VERDE
22 May 2010 Viladecans	Exploradores de la Biodiversidad Del Delta Del Llobregat

30 May - 6 June 2010 Madrid <i>Confirmed</i>	La Semana Félix
2 - 6 June 2010 Valencia <i>Confirmed</i>	XVI Congreso Annual de Europarc
5 - 6 June 2010 Arzua <i>Confirmed</i>	Apicultura Multifuncional / Organized by Asociació Galega de Apicultura
26 June 2010 Guadalajara <i>Confirmed</i>	VII Jornada divulgativa sobre los Olmos // Los Olmos y la Biodiversidad
29 - 30 June 2010 Barcelona <i>Confirmed</i>	Seminar on "Water, Environment, and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean"
7 - 8 July 2010 Madrid <i>Confirmed</i>	Curso Intensivo de Inglés Científico Julio 2010 - Talk about Biodiversity!
20 - 25 September 2010 Albacete <i>Confirmed</i>	Eleventh Congress of the International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE) and First Meeting Hispano-Portuguese Ethnobiology (EHPE)
24 October 2010 Sigüenza <i>Tentative</i>	Media Maraton Ruta del Románico Rural y Carrera Popular

- This will be the first big European-wide event for the International Year of Biodiversity.
- "Delivering biodiversity targets: 2010 and beyond -Protected Areas and Ecological Networks in Europe"
- MK & Communication company located in Madrid is developing an ambitious programme for the International Year of Biodiversity consisting of a travelling road show for children that demonstrates and teaches young children about the value of biodiversity.

Obra Social y Cultural de Caja de Burgos (Burgos - Valladolid - Palencia)

Actividades 2010 y sitio web

Sagrado Corazón School

At the Sagrado Corazón School in Ferrol, Spain, we have an ambitious educational environmental project: the Nature Voice Project, on the care of the aquatic ecosystems that we realize in our school, and which was recognized as last year's best environmental project of our autonomous region, Galicia. We would like you to collaborate with us by supporting the Project. The objective is that our students discover the marine biodiversity through a variety of activities, designed specifically for each age group, the history, the wealth of the landscape, the flora and fauna of our estuary in Ferrol and the coastal ecosystem of our Atlantic coasts, and to work towards its recovery and development.



PERMITIRNOS

FORIC A Control Carson

Awareness campaign for the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity in Zaragoza devoloped by El Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas – Spain. More information in Spanish can be found by visiting the following site: http://www.2010biodiversidad.es. Amelia Marzal (CRE)

De: 08000-Comunicació Creu Roja [comunicacio@creuroja.org]

Enviado el: lunes, 28 de junio de 2010 15:23

Asunto: COMUNICAT INTERN: La Creu Roja celebra un seminari internacional sobre canvi climàtic i crisi de l'aigua a Barcelona

La Creu Roja celebra un seminari internacional sobre canvi climàtic i crisi de l'aigua a Barcelona

■ Al seminari, organitzat pel Centre per a la Cooperació a la Mediterrània (CCM) amb la Creu Roja, hi participen diverses Societats Nacionals de la Creu Roja i la Mitja Lluna Roja de la zona mediterrània.

Hi participen el president de la Creu Roja a Catalunya, Josep Marquès, i la vicepresidenta del CCM, Marta Corachán.

Barcelona acull entre el 29 i el 30 de juny un seminari sobre la crisi de l'aigua, la sostenibilitat ambiental i el canvi climàtic, en què participen membres de diferents Societats Nacionals de la Creu Roja i de la Mitja Lluna Roja de la zona mediterrània. El seminari està organitzat pel Centre per a la Cooperació a la Mediterrània (CCM) per a les Societats de la Creu Roja i la Mitja Lluna Roja i compta amb la participació d'experts en canvi climàtic d'àmbit estatal i internacional. La Creu Roja a Catalunya col·labora en l'organització d'aquestes jornades, que tenen lloc a la seu del CaixaForum de l'Obra Social "La Caixa".

Sota el títol Aigua, Medi Ambient i Desenvolupament humà sostenible a la Mediterrània, el principal objectiu d'aquest seminari és analitzar amb profunditat l'impacte humanitari del canvi climàtic, l'escassetat d'aigua i la degradació del medi ambient sobre aspectes com la salut, les migracions, la seguretat alimentària o l'economia. Així mateix, es volen promoure les bones pràctiques mediambientals a nivell local, sensibilitzar la ciutadania i buscar respostes innovadores i creatives al canvi climàtic, així com millorar la coordinació dels diferents organismes implicats en aquesta matèria.

La conferència inaugural del seminari corre a càrrec de Miquel Salgot de Marçay, secretari de la Reial Acadèmia de Farmàcia de Catalunya i professor d'Edafologia i Química Agrícola a la Universitat de Barcelona. La seva intervenció serà presentada pel president de la Creu Roja a Catalunya, Josep Marquès. Posteriorment, els continguts del seminari es divideixen en cinc eixos temàtics: les estratègies i polítiques per prevenir el canvi climàtic; aigua, hàbitat i salut; canvi global i canvi climàtic; educació ambiental i consum responsable; i aigua i vulnerabilitat.

En els debats i conferències sobre aquests temes, intervindran diversos experts de la Federació Internacional de la Creu Roja i la Mitja Lluna Roja (FICRMLR) i del Red Cross/ Red Crescent Climate Centre, l'òrgan de referència en canvi climàtic de la institució humanitària. També hi participen com a ponents i moderadors de diverses conferències la vicepresidenta del CCM, Marta Corachán, i el director de Cooperació Internacional de la Creu Roja a Catalunya, Ramon Jané. El seminari compta amb la participació d'experts de diverses entitats i organismes internacionals, com ara la Comissió Europea, Nacions Unides, la Unió Mundial per a la Natura (UICN) i el Fons Mundial per a la Natura (WWF). També hi participen representants del Ministeri de Medi Ambient, Medi Rural i Marí, la Generalitat de Catalunya i l'Ajuntament de Barcelona, a més del Centre Nacional d'Educació Ambiental i l'Associació Mobadara del Marroc.

Abans de l'inici del seminari, aquest dilluns, 28 de juny, la tinent d'alcalde Imma Mayol rebrà una delegació dels participants a l'Ajuntament de Barcelona. Durant els dos dies de seminari, Barcelona també acollirà diverses exposicions i activitats paral·leles.

2010, Any Internacional de la Biodiversitat

El seminari se celebra coincidint amb l'Any Internacional de la Biodiversitat de Nacions Unides i en la campanya global "El nostre món, la teva acció". A més del CCM i la Creu Roja a Catalunya, l'organització del seminari ha comptat amb el suport de la Creu Roja Espanyola i Creu Roja Joventut. Les jornades també compten amb la col·laboració del Ministeri de Medi Ambient, Medi Rural i Marí, el Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production, l'Obra Social La Caixa, l'Ajuntament de Barcelona i la FICRMLR.

Per a inscriure's al seminari, cal adreçar un correu electrònic amb les dades personals a <u>aprotrafki@cruzroja.es</u>. També podeu trobar més informació sobre el seminari als arxius adjunts.

(Comunicació) 28/06/2010

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Agua, Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Humano Sostenible en el Mediterráneo

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29 - 30 de junio de 2010, Barcelona, España

Mantener una buena calidad del medio que nos rodea, es indispensable para el desarrollo sostenible. Las comunidades más pobres se ven afectadas en forma desproporcionada por el deterioro del medio ambiente y la falta de acceso a agua potable y saneamiento. Estos problemas requieren enfoques internacionales, puesto que los cambios climáticos, la disminución de la diversidad biológica y el agotamiento de la capa de ozono no pueden ser resueltos por las naciones individualmente. De mantener la tendencia actual de un crecimiento económico y de población continuado sin nuevas tecnologías y sin cambios drásticos sobre cómo se utilizan los recursos, nuestro planeta no podrá sustentar la economía mundial. Algunos expertos alertan sobre un posible colapso de los niveles actuales de producción y de consumo a medida que el cambio climático conduzca a tener menos comida y agua limpia y a aumentar las enfermedades en condiciones climatéricas extremas.

A su vez, el agua es un recurso natural limitado esencial para la vida. Todos los asentamientos se han originado alrededor de la existencia del agua; ésta determina la posibilidad de continuidad de la comunidad. La desaparición de las fuentes de agua ha llevado en muchos casos a la desaparición de pueblos o al éxodo. Su grado de importancia radica en que el acceso o no al agua potable determina el nivel de pobreza de muchas personas, ya que ésta permite el desarrollo de la economía.

El coste humano directo e indirecto de la falta de acceso al agua potable es enorme. Esto, unido a la falta de saneamiento básico, implica graves problemas tanto para la salud (dado por ejemplo, la dispersión de enfermedades transmitidas por aguas contaminadas o estancadas), como problemas económicos, sobre todo en relación al empleo de las mujeres que dedican varias horas diarias a ir en busca de agua potable, o problemas sociales, al generar limitaciones en el desarrollo de los países.

Esta realidad es especialmente remarcable en el Mediterráneo, una región con equilibrios medioambientales y socio-económicos precarios; marcada por la escasez de agua, la contaminación de los mares, el desarrollo urbanístico descontrolado en las zonas costeras y una emigración de las regiones rurales hacia las urbanas muy acusada, así como creciente deforestación de sus pulmones verdes y desertificación.

En este contexto, siguiendo las líneas de trabajo desarrolladas en los últimos años, así como los compromisos de la estrategia 2020 del Movimiento Internacional de la Cruz Roja y Media Luna Roja el Centro para la Cooperación en el Mediterráneo y la Cruz Roja Española, organizan un seminario internacional sobre Agua y Desarrollo Humano Sostenible en el Mediterráneo, cuyo objetivo es crear espacios de reflexión y debate que permitan abordar la crisis del agua y las posibles alternativas partiendo de diferentes enfoques y esferas de actuación.

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Photo: Mediterranean Red Cross



Seminario Agua, Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Humano Sostenible

Los días 29 y 30 de Junio en Barcelona, el CCM y la Cruz Roja Española en Cataluña han

organizado el seminario internacional "Agua, medio ambiente y desarrollo humano sostenible en el Mediterráneo". El objetivo ha sido crear espacios para la reflexión y el debate sobre la crisis de agua y posibles alternativas basadas en diferentes visiones y áreas de responsabilidad. Alrededor de 140 personas han participado, de 15 *Sociedades Nacionales de Cruz Roja y Media Luna Roja en el Mediterráneo* y otras organizaciones, han intervenido en las cinco sesiones del seminario: Estrategias y Políticas; Agua, Hábitat y Salud; Cambio global y cambio climático; Educación Ambiental y Consumo Sostenible, y Agua y vulnerabilidad.

Las sesiones y debates han puesto de manifiesto que la escasez de agua, la degradación medio ambiental y el cambio climático están interrelacionados y dependen del modelo de desarrollo que la humanidad llevemos a cabo. Esta realidad es especialmente relevante en el entorno mediterráneo, donde existen grandes riesgos medioambientales, subsisten evidentes desigualdades económicas y sociales, y donde las proyecciones de cambio climático nos muestran una región muy castigada desde el punto de vista ambiental, social y económico.

Durante estos días de seminario hemos visto que aun estamos a tiempo de frenar la magnitud de los impactos negativos de las proyecciones. Y para ello necesitamos lograr un desarrollo sostenible, que conlleve un cambio de comportamiento, un cambio de nuestra cultura de consumo y de relación con los recursos naturales.

El mundo está cambiando. Y desde el Movimiento de Cruz Roja y Media Luna Roja trabajamos para mitigar el efecto negativo de estos cambios. Necesitamos cambiar mentalidades y comportamientos y concentrarnos en el impacto social y económico de los retos medioambientales. Por otra parte se ha evidenciado que el agua es un derecho fundamental y una herramienta básica del desarrollo sostenible del Mediterráneo. Y se ha puesto de manifiesto que necesitamos una estrategia mediterránea de agua y de desarrollo sostenible que enmarque la acción que tanto desde Cruz Roja como desde otras instituciones públicas y privadas se puedan llevar a cabo.

Aviso a Navegantes

(Envía tu info a saesmu@cruzroja.es)

Las Casas del Parque abulenses de la Red de Espacios Naturales de Castilla y León, programando diferentes actividades de información y educación ambiental, entre las que destaca el concierto de Músicos en la Naturaleza a cargo de Mark Knopfler.

- La Reserva Natural Valle de Iruelas acogerá la exposición 'Fotografía de Naturaleza' de José Ramón Prieto del 3 al 31 de julio;
- El Parque Regional del sur de la Sierra de Gredos, situado en Guisando, tendrá lugar la muestra 'La trashumancia', propiedad de la Fundación Oxígeno, hasta el 31 de julio;
- Por último, el Parque Regional del Norte de la Sierra de Gredos, situado en Hoyos del Espino, acogerá hasta el 21 de julio la exposición itinerante 'Trashumancia viva' organizada por la Asociación de Criadores de Raza Avileña-Negra Ibérica;

Y se pondrá el fin de fiesta de las actividades durante este mes de julio con el concierto de <u>Músicos en la Naturaleza</u> a cargo de **Mark Knopfler el día 31en Hoyos del Espino.** La programación puede ser consultada mensualmente en la página web de la Fundación del Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y León, así como en cada una de las web de las distintas Casas del Parque de la provincia y la región.





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ANNEX VI

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