## Armenian Red Cross Youth and Volunteer Development Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal &amp; objectives</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Sources of verification</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Programme goal**<br>The Armenian Red Cross has strengthened its organisational capacity and become a better functioning national society helping prevent and alleviate suffering. | • The Armenian Red Cross meets the characteristics of a well-functioning national society. | • Armenian Red Cross self-assessment reports.  
• Federation monitoring results.  
• Feedback from partners, beneficiaries and media. |
| **Programme objective**<br>The Armenian Red Cross has increased accountability to its beneficiaries and partners, strengthened links with local communities and increased the network of active young volunteers who are valued members of the organisation. | • The national society has stronger branches delivering sustainable, focused and responsive assistance to vulnerable communities.  
• It has an effective financial management system enabling it to produce accurate reports to partners.  
• It has 2,200 active, trained volunteers across the country involved in various Red Cross activities and participating in the management of the organisation through youth volunteer boards. | • Self-assessment reports.  
• Participatory evaluation reports.  
• Vulnerability and capacity assessment documents.  
• Programme progress, monitoring and evaluation reports.  
• Policy and strategy documents.  
• Financial monitoring results.  
• Feedback from beneficiaries, partners and media. |
| **Project objective**<br>The Armenian Red Cross has improved its youth and volunteer management system to encourage active participation of existing and new volunteers in alleviating suffering of marginalised groups including orphans, disabled young people, lone elderly refugees and children. | • The Red Cross has 13 regional youth and volunteer boards representing youth volunteers in the governance and management of the national society.  
• Red Cross volunteers have assisted 1,250 vulnerable people. | • Armenian Red Cross project progress and annual reports.  
• Red Cross volunteer management documents.  
• Youth boards reports & meeting records. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project expected results</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Sources of verification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project expected result 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Red Cross youth volunteers have been organised in formal structures and tools have been developed to better coordinate volunteer development work.</td>
<td>By the end of 2005:&lt;br&gt;• 13 regional youth boards have been established to coordinate the work with youth volunteers and represent them in the management of the national society.&lt;br&gt;• Volunteer registration system has been developed and used as a tool to coordinate volunteer development work.&lt;br&gt;• Youth activity regulations have been adopted to outline how to become a volunteer, youth leader and a youth board member.&lt;br&gt;• 13 youth leaders have received training on leadership, fundraising and volunteer management.&lt;br&gt;• 400 new volunteers have been recruited.</td>
<td>• Red Cross training package.&lt;br&gt;• Youth volunteer database.&lt;br&gt;• Project progress and annual report of the Red Cross.&lt;br&gt;• Federation monitoring reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project expected result 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;490 lone elderly refugees have received psycho-social assistance and 650 disabled young people have improved wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer skills with help of Red Cross volunteers.</td>
<td>• 70 Red Cross volunteers have paid 1,120 visits to 490 refugees.&lt;br&gt;• 650 young people have attended Red Cross organised courses on wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer.&lt;br&gt;• 650 young people received materials to prepare envelopes and assemble boxes with training materials.&lt;br&gt;• Three exhibition-sales of envelopes and boxes with training materials produced by vulnerable youth have been held.</td>
<td>• Language and computer training curriculum.&lt;br&gt;• Training/registration records.&lt;br&gt;• Red Cross financial reports recording income from the sales.&lt;br&gt;• Media coverage.&lt;br&gt;• Project progress report and annual reports.&lt;br&gt;• Federation monitoring reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project expected result 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Red Cross has expanded a network of peer educators to conduct discussions with young people throughout the country on how to develop and maintain good interpersonal relationships, how to adopt environmentally safe behaviour, including safe sex, and abandon harmful habits, such as smoking, alcohol and drug addiction in 13 regions.</td>
<td>• 65 youth volunteers have been trained as peer educators through two training sessions.&lt;br&gt;• Youth educators have held group and individual discussions with 650 disabled young people, 70 volunteers and schoolchildren.</td>
<td>• Training curriculum and records.&lt;br&gt;• Project progress and annual reports.&lt;br&gt;• Federation monitoring reports.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities to achieve expected result 1</td>
<td>Resources</td>
<td>Sources</td>
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</table>
| 1.1. Develop, publish and distribute to Red Cross volunteers 70 training manuals on leadership skills, youth management and fund-raising. | The resources apply to all activities:  
- Red Cross staff and volunteers;  
- Training materials;  
- Stationary;  
- Other administration costs; | Federation appeal 2005.  
National Society contribution. |
| 1.2. Conduct three leadership training sessions for 13 new youth leaders in 13 branches based on the above manuals. | (see budget attached) | |
| 1.3. Hold three training sessions on fund-raising in 13 regions based on the manual. | | |
| 1.4. Organise youth conferences to elect youth board members for 13 regional youth boards. | | |
| 1.5. Organise a public campaign through mass media on voluntary work and Red Cross youth activities in all regions to recruit at least 400 volunteers. | | |
| 1.6. Publish and distribute among youth booklets and leaflets on Red Cross youth history and activities. | | |
| 1.7. Hold introductory training workshops on the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, its history, mandate, work, and the Fundamental Principles for new volunteers. | | |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities to achieve expected result 2.</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Sources</th>
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</table>
| 2.1. Organise training on wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer for 650 disabled children of 6 to 16 years through weekly sessions. | (see budget attached) | Federation appeal 2005.  
National Society contribution. |
| 2.2. Provide materials to 650 disabled young people to produce envelopes and assemble boxes with training materials. | | |
| 2.3. Organise exhibition-sells of envelopes and boxes produced by young vulnerable people during various youth events. The funds generated will be spent on the follow-up visits and needs of the programme beneficiaries. | | |
| 2.4. 70 youth volunteers provide psycho-social support to 490 lone elderly refugees by visiting them regularly to talk, read books and newspapers, clean houses and do shopping. | | |
| 2.5. Organise concerts, outings and excursions together with vulnerable children and lone elderly on the days important to the Red Cross, such as World Red Cross Red Crescent day, Armenian Red Cross day, and International Volunteer day to socialise with beneficiaries. | | |
### Activities to achieve expected result 3.

- **3.1** Train 65 youth volunteers as peer educators.
- **3.2** Hold weekly educational sessions during 12 months for 650 disabled youth on the harm of dangerous habits such as smoking and drug addiction, benefits of the healthy lifestyle, how to prevent infectious diseases, the importance of safe behaviour and keep the environment clean.
- **3.3** Organise a traditional educational youth camp ‘Clean Sevan’ for 60 volunteers and school children to enable them interact and discuss issues related to interpersonal relationships, harm of smoking, alcohol and drug addiction, ecological issues and environmentally safe behaviour.

(see budget attached)

- Federation appeal 2005.
- National Society contribution.

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### 1. Background

#### 1.1. Context

Developing an organisation is a continuous process demanding enormous efforts, hard work and constant engagement to improve in an environment of rapid changes. The Armenian Red Cross organisational development aims to improve its services to vulnerable communities and reduce the organisation’s dependency on international funding by designing and implementing better, more focused, relevant and sustainable programmes and ensuring it has qualified people, as well as appropriate systems and structures in place to deliver services to poor and distressed people.

Volunteers play an important role in strengthening the national society. Presently the Armenian Red Cross has 2,200 volunteers who help in HI/AIDS prevention campaigns, disseminate the Movement’s Fundamental Principles, and distribute food and clothing to the social centres’ beneficiaries. These activities provide volunteers with an opportunity to experience the realities of the country, contribute to the society they live in, broaden their horizon, meet other people and gain professional, as well as interpersonal skills.

Most Red Cross volunteers are young, enthusiastic and committed. They are the backbone of Red Cross. They help the national society expand its community presence. Volunteer development, such as technical training, will improve their support to communities.

Since 1992, with the assistance of partner national societies from Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Norway and Austria, the Armenian Red Cross has organised a number programmes to motivate and train its young volunteers. However, in a country with a widespread poverty, collapsed economy, poor social and health care, and thousands of people on the edge of survival, it is difficult to retain volunteers as well as encourage new people to join.

The current project will assist the Red Cross to find ways to tackle these issues. The focus will be on reorganising the youth structure of the national society to make volunteers more valued members of the organisation actively participating in governance and management. 13 regional youth and volunteer boards will be established in 2005. Each board will have an elected chairperson and up to five members. Each will act as a coordinating body on youth and volunteers related issues. One of the main tasks of the boards will be to help the national society attract, manage and retain volunteers.
Training is also planned for 13 youth leaders to strengthen their leadership, management and fundraising skills.

The project will also motivate volunteers to be more involved with vulnerable people. A number of mini-projects will be initiated to help disabled youth and lone elderly people as the Red Cross believes they are the most marginalised groups in Armenia. These are people who have lost their families, friends and personal belongings and feel isolated from the rest of the society. Volunteers will visit elderly people twice a week to talk to them, help clean houses, carry out minor repair works and do shopping for them – buy hygiene items, medicine, clothes and food including oil, sweets, sugar, rise, tea, canned milk and meat. Volunteers will organise concerts for elderly and visits to historical sites.

Additionally, 65 youth volunteers will be trained as peer educators to hold weekly sessions with 650 disabled youth on the harm of smoking and drug addiction, the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and how to prevent communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS. These are the issues not normally covered by the school curriculum, or discussed at home because of cultural barriers and taboos.

1.2. Problems and needs
Young Armenians are among those who have suffered the most from the dramatic changes in Armenia that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union. Harsh socio-economic situation in the country has driven away many young people in search of employment opportunities and better life. The level of education has sharply decreased because many of the young people have to work hard to support their families and stay alive, instead of pursuing their education and enjoying happy childhood or adolescence. The level of criminality, prostitution and drug addiction among young people has increased in absence of opportunities to spend leisure time, engage, study and develop combined with the apathy of the community and government structures. Displaced children, disabled youth and orphans are particularly marginalised. In addition to other hardships, they have to experience isolation, discrimination and humiliation from the rest of the society. These children, who are the future of the country, have little hope for the future.

Within the Red Cross, the problems include lack of volunteer and youth service programmes, lack of volunteer structures, as well as volunteer motivation and mobilisation tools and mechanisms resulting in difficulties in retaining volunteers, limited involvement of volunteers in Red Cross regular activities and dependency of the organisation on external support to sustain its services.
1.3. Stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
<th>Norwegian Red Cross</th>
<th>Ministry of Education</th>
<th>Committee for support to Armenian Red Cross in France</th>
<th>The Federation</th>
<th>IRD (International Relief and Development)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Problems</td>
<td>• Poverty.</td>
<td>• High vulnerability in the country, particularly among youth.</td>
<td>• Decreased level of education.</td>
<td>• Vulnerability of children and adolescents in Armenia, especially in earthquake-prone zones.</td>
<td>• National society dependency on the Federation support.</td>
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<td>• Degrading living conditions.</td>
<td>• Increased vulnerability of youth to socio-economic difficulties, violence, discrimination and apathy.</td>
<td>• Increased vulnerability in the country, particularly among youth.</td>
<td>• Vulnerability of children and adolescents in Armenia, especially in earthquake-prone zones.</td>
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<td>• Social isolation.</td>
<td>• Illiteracy and ignorance.</td>
<td>• Decreased level of education.</td>
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<td>• High vulnerability of the local communities and the youth to social and health challenges.</td>
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<td>• High vulnerability of the local communities and the youth to social and health challenges.</td>
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<td>Interests</td>
<td>• Improve living conditions.</td>
<td>• Reduce vulnerability in Armenia.</td>
<td>• Implement educational programmes for young people.</td>
<td>• Solve children’s financial and educational problems</td>
<td>• Strengthen capacity of the national society to assist people in need.</td>
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<td>• Receive higher pensions.</td>
<td>• Improve capacities of the Armenian Red Cross to assist people in need.</td>
<td>• Decrease the vulnerability of youth.</td>
<td>• Strengthen capacity of the national society to assist people in need.</td>
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<td>• Access to education.</td>
<td>• Improve capacities of the Armenian Red Cross to assist people in need.</td>
<td>• Decrease the vulnerability of youth.</td>
<td>• Strengthen capacity of the national society to assist people in need.</td>
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<td>• Better employment opportunities and life.</td>
<td>• Implement educational programmes for young people.</td>
<td>• Decrease the vulnerability of youth.</td>
<td>• Strengthen capacity of the national society to assist people in need.</td>
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<td>• Improve living conditions of the local communities.</td>
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<td>Potential</td>
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| • Open to changes.  
• Commitment to make the world a better place to live.  
• Dynamism.  
• Financial and material resources.  
• The history of long-term engagement in the country and the region.  
• Human resources.  
• Authority to develop and implement educational programmes in the country.  
• Financial resources;  
• Experience in working with NGOs.  
• Expertise;  
• International network.  
• Presence in the country & the region through its country and regional delegations in Yerevan and Ankara.  
• Material and financial resources  
• Experience. |
| Direct beneficiaries of the project and active partners of the Red Cross.  
The **Norwegian Red Cross** is a traditional partner of the Armenian Red Cross that provided financial, material and technical support, to achieve project objective and expected results.  
The **ministry** will provide methodological support to help the Red Cross implement educational activities planned within the current project.  
The **committee** will provide financial support to carry out activities planned within the current project for vulnerable children and youth in Armenia.  
The **Federation** will represent the Armenian Red Cross and promote its work in the international arena and mobilise international resources. Through its delegations, the Federation will provide technical support and monitoring of the project implementation to help national society meet the set objectives.  
The **IRD** will be approached to provide material resources (food, medication and hygiene supplies) to the Red Cross to distribute to project beneficiaries through the current project. |
1.4. Internal analysis of the Armenian Red Cross

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Internal</th>
<th>External</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strengths</strong></td>
<td><strong>Opportunities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Well-organised 13 Red Cross branches in the regions.</td>
<td>• Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement support.</td>
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<td>• A well-equipped training centre in Yerevan.</td>
<td>• High credibility and respect among partners and the population.</td>
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<td>• 2,200 youth volunteers.</td>
<td>• Large presence of international agencies.</td>
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<td>• Professional staff.</td>
<td>• Cooperation with the Government and non-governmental organisations.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Weaknesses</strong></td>
<td><strong>Threats</strong></td>
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<td>• Dependency on international funding.</td>
<td>• Political instability.</td>
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<td>• Lack of volunteer registration system.</td>
<td>• Increased migration.</td>
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<td>• Lack of volunteer structures, as well as volunteer motivation and mobilisation tools and mechanisms resulting in difficulties in retaining volunteers, limited involvement of volunteers in Red Cross regular activities and dependency of the organisation on external support to sustain its services.</td>
<td>• Unfavourable legislative environment: absence of the Red Cross law.</td>
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<td>• Poor socio-economic situation in the country.</td>
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<td>• Reducing interest/support from the international community.</td>
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2. Programme goal
The Armenian Red Cross has strengthened its organisational capacity and become a better functioning national society helping prevent and alleviate suffering.

**Indicators:**
The Armenian Red Cross meets the characteristics of a well-functioning national society.

**Verification sources:**
- Armenian Red Cross self-assessment reports.
- Federation monitoring results.
- Feedback from partners, beneficiaries and media.

3. Programme objective
The Armenian Red Cross has increased accountability to its beneficiaries and partners, strengthened links with local communities and increased the network of active young volunteers who are valued members of the organisation.

**Indicators:**
- The national society has stronger branches delivering sustainable, focused and responsive assistance to vulnerable communities.
- It has an effective financial management system enabling it to produce accurate reports to partners.
- It has 2,200 active, trained volunteers across the country involved in various Red Cross activities and participating in the management of the organisation through youth volunteer boards.

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1 A set of indicators established by the Federation to help National Societies plan and measure their progress in capacity building. These ‘customised assessment and performance indicators’ list 120 checkpoints towards achieving the defined characteristics of a well-functioning National Society.
Verification sources:
- Self-assessment reports.
- Participatory evaluation reports.
- Vulnerability and capacity assessment documents.
- Programme progress, monitoring and evaluation reports.
- Policy and strategy documents.
- Financial monitoring results.
- Feedback from beneficiaries, partners and media.

4. Project objective
The Armenian Red Cross has improved its youth and volunteer management system to encourage active participation of existing and new volunteers in alleviating suffering of marginalised groups including orphans, disabled young people, lone elderly refugees and children.

Indicator for project objective:
- The Red Cross has 13 regional youth and volunteer boards representing youth volunteers in the governance and management of the national society.
- Red Cross volunteers have assisted 1,250 vulnerable people.

Sources of verification:
- Armenian Red Cross project progress and annual reports.
- Red Cross volunteer management documents.
- Youth boards reports & meeting records.

5. Project Expected results and indicators

5.1. Project expected result 1. Red Cross youth volunteers have been organised in formal structures and tools have been developed to better coordinate volunteer development work.

Indicators: By the end of 2005:
- 13 regional youth boards have been established to coordinate the work with youth volunteers and represent them in the management of the national society.
- Volunteer registration system has been developed and used as a tool to coordinate volunteer development work.
- Youth activity regulations have been adopted to outline how to become a volunteer, youth leader and a youth board member.
- 13 youth leaders have received training on leadership, fundraising and volunteer management.
- 400 new volunteers have been recruited.

Source of verification:
- Red Cross training package.
- Youth volunteer database.
- Project progress and annual report of the Red Cross.
- Federation monitoring reports.

5.2. Project expected result 2. 490 lone elderly refugees have received psycho-social assistance and 650 disabled young people have improved wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer skills with help of Red Cross volunteers.
Indicators:
- 70 Red Cross volunteers have paid 1,120 visits to 490 refugees.
- 650 young people have attended Red Cross organised courses on wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer.
- 650 young people received materials to prepare envelopes and assemble boxes with training materials.
- Three exhibition-sales of envelopes and boxes with training materials produced by vulnerable youth have been held.

Source of verification:
- Language and computer training curriculum.
- Training/registration records.
- Red Cross financial reports recording income from the sales.
- Media coverage.
- Project progress report and annual reports.
- Federation monitoring reports.

5.3. Project expected result 3. The Red Cross has expanded a network of peer educators to conduct discussions with young people throughout the country on how to develop and maintain good interpersonal relationships, how to adopt environmentally safe behaviour, including safe sex, and abandon harmful habits, such as smoking, alcohol and drug addiction in 13 regions.

Indicators:
- 65 youth volunteers have been trained as peer educators through two training sessions.
- Youth educators have held group and individual discussions with 650 disabled young people, 70 volunteers and schoolchildren.

Source of verification:
- Training curriculum and records.
- Project progress and annual reports.
- Federation monitoring reports.

6. Project activities related to expected results

6.1. Project expected result 1.
1. Develop, publish and distribute to Red Cross volunteers 70 training manuals on leadership skills, youth management and fund-raising.
2. Conduct three leadership training sessions for 13 new youth leaders in 13 branches based on the above manuals.
3. Hold three training sessions on fund-raising in 13 regions based on the manual.
4. Organise youth conferences to elect youth board members for 13 regional youth boards.
5. Organise a public campaign through mass media on voluntary work and Red Cross youth activities in all regions to recruit at least 400 volunteers.
6. Publish and distribute among youth booklets and leaflets on Red Cross youth history and activities.
7. Hold introductory training workshops on the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, its history, mandate, work, and the Fundamental Principles for new volunteers.

6.2. Project expected Result 2.
2.1. Organise training on wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer for 650 disabled children of 6 to 16 years through weekly sessions.
2.2. Provide materials to 650 disabled young people to produce envelopes and assemble boxes with training materials.

2.3. Organise exhibition-sells of envelopes and boxes produced by young vulnerable people during various youth events. The funds generated will be spent on the follow-up visits and needs of the programme beneficiaries.

2.4. 70 youth volunteers provide psycho-social support to 490 lone elderly refugees by visiting them regularly to talk, read books and newspapers, clean houses and do shopping.

2.5. Organise concerts, outings and excursions together with vulnerable children and lone elderly on the days important to the Red Cross, such as World Red Cross Red Crescent day, Armenian Red Cross day, and International Volunteer day to socialise with beneficiaries.

6.3. Project expected Result 3.

3.1 Train 65 youth volunteers as peer educators.

3.2 Hold weekly educational sessions during 12 months for 650 disabled youth on the harm of dangerous habits such as smoking and drug addiction, benefits of the healthy lifestyle, how to prevent infectious diseases, the importance of a safe behaviour and keep the environment clean.

3.3 Organise a traditional educational youth camp ‘Clean Sevan’ for 60 volunteers and school children to enable them interact and discuss issues related to interpersonal relationships, harm of smoking, alcohol and drug addiction, ecological issues and environmentally safe behaviour.

7. Timetable : 2005

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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<th>November</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expected result 1.</td>
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<td>1.1. Develop, publish and distribute to Red Cross volunteers 70 training manuals on leadership skills, youth management and fund-raising.</td>
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<td>1.2. Conduct three leadership training sessions for 13 new youth leaders in 13 branches based on the above manuals.</td>
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<td>1.3. Hold three training sessions on fund-raising in 13 regions based on the manual.</td>
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<td>1.4. Organise youth conferences to elect youth board members for 13 regional youth boards.</td>
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<td>1.5. Organise a public campaign through mass media on voluntary work and Red Cross youth activities in all regions to recruit at least 400 volunteers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.6. Publish and distribute among youth booklets and leaflets on Red Cross youth history and activities.</td>
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<td>1.7. Hold introductory training workshops on the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, its history, mandate, work, and the Fundamental Principles for new volunteers.</td>
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<td><strong>Expected result 2.</strong></td>
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<td>2.1. Organise training on wood-carving, drawing, English language and computer for 650 disabled children of 6 to 16 years through weekly sessions.</td>
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<td>2.2. Provide materials to 650 disabled young people to produce envelopes and assemble boxes with training materials.</td>
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<td>2.3. Organise exhibition-sells of envelopes and boxes produced by young vulnerable people during various youth events. The funds generated will be spent on the follow-up visits and needs of the programme beneficiaries.</td>
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<td>2.4. 70 youth volunteers provide psycho-social support to 490 lone elderly refugees by visiting them regularly to talk, read books and newspapers, clean houses and do shopping.</td>
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<td>2.5. Organise concerts, outings and excursions together with vulnerable children and lone elderly on the days important to the Red Cross, such as World Red Cross Red Crescent day, Armenian Red Cross day, and International Volunteer day to socialise with beneficiaries.</td>
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<td><strong>Expected result 3.</strong></td>
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<td>3.1 Train 65 youth volunteers as peer educators.</td>
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<td>3.2 Hold weekly educational sessions during 12 months for 650 disabled youth on the harm of dangerous habits such as smoking and drug addiction, benefits of the healthy lifestyle, how to prevent infectious diseases, the importance of a safe behaviour and keep the environment clean.</td>
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<td>3.3 Organise a traditional educational youth camp ‘Clean Sevan’ for 60 volunteers and school children to enable them interact and discuss issues related to interpersonal relationships, harm of smoking, alcohol and drug addiction, ecological issues and environmentally safe behaviour.</td>
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**8. Monitoring and evaluation**
A team of the Armenian Red Cross and the Federation delegation in Yerevan will jointly monitor the implementation of this project by regular visits to the project sites, including local Red Cross branches, schools and institutions where training sessions will be held as well as analysis of monthly management reports from the regional branches.
9. **Preconditions:**

- National Society leadership remains committed to the change process.
- The project receives adequate support through the Federation’s network.

10. **Assumptions / risks**

Government of Armenia supports the Armenian Red Cross youth development initiatives.

11. **Sustainability**

To ensure sustainability of its work, it is important the Red Cross has effective systems and structures in place to encourage active volunteer participation. This is exactly what the current project will be addressing.

Youth has enormous potential to evolve into a sustainable and effective community programme as long as the overall situation in Armenia continues to improve. The project is based on fun and togetherness. Young people are the best ambassadors for any community initiative and their involvement will, hopefully, inspire commitment in others.

The leadership training materials and the peer education system, supported by the current project, will be used to continue training for new volunteers on different issues including personal hygiene, HIV/AIDS, first aid and interpersonal relationship.

The summer camp is 80 per cent self-funded. Youth volunteers raise funds locally for the camp from shops, factories, local authorities and NGOs.

Funds raised through the exhibition-sales of the works produced by the disabled youth will enable the Red Cross to continue weekly educational sessions for another 12 months. The income will also be used to procure additional materials so that children can continue producing their art-works after the external support has ended.

At the of the year 2005, a project evaluation will be conducted to measure the progress of the Red Cross in its volunteer and youth development efforts and identify remaining challenges. Findings of the evaluation will form the basis for future planning.