

Annual report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Discrimination, gender, youth as agents of behavioural change (YABC) and violence

MAA00005

28 April 2010

This report covers the period 1 January to 31
December 2009.



Global Strategy on violence prevention, mitigation and response. IFRC

In brief

Programme purpose: The Principles and values (P & V) programme is aligned with Global Agenda Goal 4. It aims to provide global support to further put our principles and values into action and to foster a culture of behavioural change towards respect for diversity, gender equality and non-violence in the communities where the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) works.

Programme summary: The programme encompasses the promotion of non-discrimination and respect for diversity, behavioural change and gender equality, as well as the prevention of violence. Principles and values activities contribute to mainstreaming qualitative and ethical standards, which find their basis in the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Financial situation: The total 2009 budget is CHF 688,711 (USD 663,504 or EUR 462,937), of which CHF 875,887 (over 100 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 461,901 (67 per cent) of the budget.

There has been an increase of 29 per cent in the 2009 budget, from CHF 532,873 to CHF 688,711, due to the inclusion of the principles and values integration project under the programme. Overall expenditure was at 67 per cent due to certain delays in programme

implementation.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

No. of people we have reached: The e-newsletters reached over 3,000 Federation and National Society staff, governance and volunteers. Over 400 youth were reached by the YABC programme in 2009.

Our partners: The principles and values department works with two networks of National Societies, in the areas of violence and YABC. Focal points in National Societies were nominated for the creation of a gender network. Partnerships with external organizations include: UNHCR, UNOCHA, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEXA).

Context

The 2009 context for this principles and values programme was shaped by the 2007 statutory meetings, in particular the declaration *Together for Humanity* adopted by the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The following paragraph of the declaration highlights the prominent role to be played in humanitarian education and community mobilization by youth and volunteers:

"We will intensify efforts to mobilise community respect for diversity and action against racism, discrimination, xenophobia, marginalization and other forms of exclusion, faced by all vulnerable groups, also empowering volunteers and youth in humanitarian activities to prevent, defuse or mitigate violence..."

The Youth Declaration adopted at the 3rd World Youth Meeting in Solferino, Italy, in June 2009, enshrines the commitment of youth to:

"Inner change and the development of skills to promote harmony and positive attitudes within communities, and to live our seven Fundamental Principles as agents of behavioural change in their communities" and officially recognises the YABC initiative.

The P&V work on violence, including the drafting of the global strategy, non-discrimination and gender and YABC was welcomed during the 2009 Nairobi statutory meetings.

Progress towards outcomes

Programme component 1 - Promotion of humanitarian values, fundamental principles and gender equality

Outcomes and Achievements

1.1. Enhanced understanding and sharing of best practices

- Principles and values e-newsletters (discrimination, gender and violence) – Four e-newsletters with updates on the principles and values department's and National Societies' activities, as well as on external developments, reached over 3,000 Federation readers. Go to: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw11422.asp>
- Continuous updating of FedNet on violence, YABC, gender, including the gender library containing external materials.



Self-reflection and self-training tool on discrimination and respect for diversity was made available on the IFRC e-learning platform in French, and translated into Spanish, English, Russian and Arabic. The tool focuses on discrimination on the grounds of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, political opinions, religious beliefs, nationality and social class. Twenty National Societies provided a substantive input: *Austria, Canada, Croix-Rouge Française, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and the U.S.A.* For a short introduction to it, see the powerpoint presentation shared at the workshop: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw11422.asp>. To access this self-learning tool: www.ifrc.org/learning

- Release of a new video on *Non-Discrimination in Disaster Response* (Tabasco floods, Mexico, 2007). <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d-Yu8Dh1LY>;

1.2. Capacity-building and youth peer education with a view to becoming agents of behavioural change

The principles and values' YABC initiative successfully reached its objectives in 2009. Total number of youth reached: 370, total number of National Societies reached: 124, and the total number of trained YABC "peer educators": 50. Over a dozen National Societies have conducted YABC initiation and activities for their youth staff and volunteers in their country.

International recognition and strong official support came from: the Solferino Youth Meeting (and declaration), Human Rights Council (September) and General Assembly (and Decision 5).

Detailed information on the activities conducted and progress achieved by YABC, under the leadership of the principles and values department, are reflected in the e-newsletter special edition YABC, as well as the e-newsletter 8 recapitulating YABC events, presentations, reports and decisions in the statutory meeting. Go to: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw151784.asp>

As a summary, these were the YABC capacity-building activities / technical support and guidance provided in several international youth gatherings throughout the year:

- 23 to 31 March, Habkern (Switzerland), nine National Societies (nine participants): Technical meeting to develop the draft YABC toolkit (further analysis of the P&V non-cognitive materials received by National Societies and development of new contents).
- 22 to 30 May, Viladecans (Spain), 24 NSs (34 participants): Training of Solferino YABC peer educators
- 24 to 27 June, Solferino (Italy), 15 National Societies (18 peer educators): Pilot-test of the draft YABC toolkit during the 3rd World Youth Meeting (212 participants from 117 National Societies attended the YABC workshops).
- 28 June to 2 July: A journey of an idea organized by the Swiss Red Cross: YABC active participation.
- 1 to 8 August, Mehdia (Morocco), 14 National Societies (25 participants): Field-test of the draft YABC toolkit during the international youth camp of the CCM "Atlantis V."
- 17 to 23 August, Mukono (Uganda), nine National Societies (52 participants): Field-test of the draft YABC toolkit during The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) international youth camp.
- 14 to 18 November, Mégrine (Tunisia), six National Societies (17 participants): Initiatory training "YABC and Migrations," and a field test on the new materials of the draft YABC toolkit.
- 20 November, Nairobi (Kenya): General Assembly side event "Violence & YABC" to present the initiative to National Society leaders worldwide.

National Societies that conducted YABC initiation and activities, underlining its potential for mainstreaming into other Red Cross Red Crescent areas of work, such as HIV/AIDS work, youth leadership, first aid included: Algeria, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ghana, Lebanon, Libya, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tunis and Uganda.

1.3. Advocacy and international representation

- Participated and sent a guest speaker to the 3rd International Women's Conference entitled "The light of leadership: integrating global perspectives" held in Bangalore, India (6 to 8 February 2009).
- Celebration of International Women's Day: On 9th March 2009, the P&V department organized an event to commemorate International Women's Day (IWD) at the secretariat. The day was marked with a number of activities, all focusing on this year's IWD theme "Unite to End Violence Against Women".
- Durban Review Conference - World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, (April) Speech available at: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/speech09/kb230409.asp>;
- PSEXA - Active collaboration with UNHCR, UNOCHA and participation in the IASC working group.
- The senior gender officer delivered a statement on gender at ECOSOC in June 2009. Go to: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/speech09/vk280709.asp>
- UN Human Rights Council, Statement on the success of the Solferino gathering, the Youth Declaration and YABC. Go to: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/speech09/kb220909.asp> (video).
- WHO-4th Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Meeting - The secretariat and The Canadian Red Cross Society delegation, highlighted the role of National Societies in bringing a great deal of strength to work inside communities against violence. Speech available at: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/speech09/cl180909.asp>
- Participation in the IASC Sub-Working Group (SWG) on Gender and Humanitarian Action held in New York from 8 to 9 October 2009. This SWG was created in November 2006, and feeds into the overall work of the IASC.
- Participation in the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Gender Equality with a Special Focus on Violence against Women, held in Vienna from 5 to 6 November 2009.
- Participation in the working-level meeting held in Brussels on 19 November 2009 regarding the *Review on Gender Issues including strategies against gender-based and sexual violence in humanitarian interventions (Transtec)* commissioned by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid department (DG ECHO).

Constraints

- Financial resources:
 - E-newsletter and the self-learning tool on non-discrimination: To minimize costs, the translation was decentralized.
 - YABC activities were co-organized and co-funded with the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) zone, the North Africa regional delegation. National Societies and the Center for Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CCM) provided a space for a solid YABC initiation and training in their international or regional youth camps. The P&V department contributed with technical expertise and the extension of a youth peer educator.
- YABC: As interest and enthusiasm for the initiative has been spreading rapidly with youth worldwide, one of the challenges has become to maintain the global coherence and identity of the initiative, as well as to ensure appropriate quality control. To address this, in early 2010, a global framework for implementation and an educational itinerary to become a "YABC peer educator" will be developed.

Programme component 2 - Integration of humanitarian values and gender into operational disaster management and health programming

Outcomes and Achievements

2.1. Further development of tools and mechanisms to enhance principles and values-based programming

- Mainstreaming Principles and values into operations focused in 2009 on the drafting of a principles and values baseline survey. In addition to an overall mapping of principles and values thematic activities, its aim was to assess the existing principles and values programmes, capacities and existing trainings of National Societies, as well as regional and zonal offices, which integrate Principles and values into operational disaster management and health activities. The baseline will be aligned with the recently approved Strategy 2020, and conducted by the zones in 2010.
- The principles and values department drafted concept notes and shared these with the disaster management department in order to identify existing gaps in emergencies and response operations.
- The principles and values department took a leading role, under the guidance of the planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting department, in conducting the first round of interviews for the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) review on accountability towards beneficiaries in operations.

2.2. Further development of gender into programming

- The Asia Pacific zonal office, together with the principles and values department, organized and funded a gender and disaster management (DM) workshop in Kathmandu Nepal from 2 to 5 June 2009. The workshop drew on past experiences of National Societies to incorporate a gender approach in their disaster management activities, and shed light on the strengths and challenges to incorporate a gender perspective in response to a disaster. The workshop was attended by 31 DM practitioners, as well as gender and programme officers from 10 National Societies in the Asia Pacific region. The agenda focused on reviewing gender within the DM programme cycle, training tools, and modules for promoting gender-sensitive approaches to DM operations. It also looked at the conceptual framework to better integrate gender into DM approaches, and to create more gender-sensitive institutions. The four-day workshop was a great opportunity to share good practices within the region. Notwithstanding, it pointed to the need to do more towards integrating gender into disaster management. Concrete first steps to further strengthen gender in disaster management operations were identified in the workshop, and have been taken up as future work objectives between key stakeholders and the IFRC.
- PSEXA - Implementation of pledge 101 on the prevention of sexual abuse in field work within the IFRC. The Irish Red Cross Society signed pledge 101 in May 2009 upon support and lobbying by the senior gender officer. In April 2009, the IFRC set up an internal PSEXA task force upon recommendation of the senior gender officer. It consists of the principles and values, disaster management, human resources and international relations departments and is headed by the under secretary general for development. This cross-sectoral task force will work towards a Federation-wide implementation of international standards on PSEXA and ensure that the beneficiaries are safe from physical and emotional harassment by aid workers. The chair of the taskforce has already successfully participated in the international PSEXA forum, and the IFRC has commented and provided substantive input into several working papers of the IASC taskforce on PSEXA.
- The development of gender-based violence (GBV) guidelines and training commenced in September 2009. The first draft of the GBV guidelines is available, and the training material is under development. Both are expected to be finalized after more information and field testing in South America during 2010.

- Provision of technical assistance to health, DM and shelter departments, zonal offices, as well as National Societies upon demand (e.g. Red Cross Societies of Sweden, Norway, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe; zonal offices of South Africa, Asia Pacific, the Americas, and MENA). This includes also the review and provision of input into technical guidelines, policies, and programme documents to further mainstream gender and counter GBV in different settings (e.g. shelter department, health, response and recovery, and emergency appeals).
- DM managers and the senior gender officer met in mid-September to exchange technical information, and to identify concrete opportunities to better integrate gender into DM programmes. This was a follow-up activity to a) present the recommendations issued from the zonal DM and gender workshop held Nepal in June; and b) to identify concrete action points for cooperation between the departments in 2010-2011.
- Extensive input into the development of Strategy 2020 on gender issues; as a result, the new Federation strategy will be much stronger on gender in general, with focus on GBV and reproductive health. The overall aim and emphasis will be to work towards achieving gender equality, which differs from the former approach (gender equity).

2.3. Reducing stigma and discrimination, and tackling gender inequalities and sexual gender-based violence related to HIV/AIDS

- The senior gender officer supported the zonal office in South Africa in the development of a regional GBV strategy to be applied within the Global Alliance on HIV/AIDS framework. A literature review was conducted in January, followed by field visits in January and February to assess the current level of GBV prevention and response implementation through National Societies in the Southern African region. The National Societies of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa participated in the review. Based on the findings of the mission and the literature review, a concrete GBV/HIV strategy was developed and finalized after a consultation workshop held with HIV practitioners attending the Global Alliance network meeting in Johannesburg from 8 to 9 April. The strategy was appreciated by representatives of National Societies that are preparing more concrete action plans to put the strategy into practice within their national HIV programme framework.

Constraints

Implementation of the GBV pilot project was funded by IrishAid via the Irish Red Cross Society. The current deadline (November 2010) may need to be reviewed in light of late entry of incoming funds, institutional and restructuring processes delays in decision making, and actions in some instances. Extending the deadline would also be in the interest of the quality of the project which will depend on creating ownership among all stakeholders, adaptability to specific requests from National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, zonal offices, and other departments within the IFRC.

While the IFRC adopted pledge 101 on abuse of power in its fieldwork in November 2007, the following gaps still exist:

- *Reporting Framework*: There is no clear structured reporting framework within the IFRC.
- *Capacity*: The majority of Federation managers have not yet received training on handling complaints, secure filing, and other key issues pertaining to PSEA.
- Few National Societies belonging to the IFRC have signed the pledge and/or are ready to implement its content.

Programme component 3 - Anti-discrimination and violence prevention

Outcomes and Achievements

3.1. Close collaboration with ICRC in the context of the 2009 Council of Delegates workshop on non-discrimination and respect for diversity

Building on previous resolutions adopted during the Council of Delegates of 2003 and 2005, the 2009 Council of Delegates workshop focused on the promotion of non-discrimination and diversity both internally, within our National Societies and the Movement; as well as externally, in the community and global society where we work.

In preparation for this workshop, 44 National Societies from all regions were invited by the IFRC and ICRC to share their concrete experience, steps taken to overcome challenges, and key factors for success. A total of 24 cases studies were received from 17 National Societies. A substantive comparative analysis was conducted by the P&V department and the ICRC focal point.

In each workshop, three National Societies joined the panel to present their case studies: the British, The Canadian, the Ecuadorian, The Netherlands, the Mongolia, the Rwandan, The South African, the Spanish, and the Swedish Red Cross Societies. Throughout the day, over 60 National Societies, together with the IFRC and the ICRC took the floor. Many grounds of discrimination were raised during the course of the day: youth, gender, migrants, HIV/AIDS status, religion, physical and mental disability, elderly, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, street children, sex workers, drug users and prisoners.

It was strongly recommended to put the topic of “*non-discrimination and respect for diversity*” on the 31st International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and to lobby with governments to value the contribution of the Movement towards shaping a more humane, equal and non-violent society.”

Other recommendations pertained to: the need for a firm willingness to critically look at oneself, and challenge our own attitudes, perceptions and behaviour to be the entry point for all work on non-discrimination; and the need for non-discrimination to be strategically mainstreamed across Red Cross Red Crescent areas of work, rather than through a piecemeal project approach. Formal, non-formal and informal education was highlighted key to start with. As such, it was underscored that the important role for National Societies is to ensure that these relevant topics are integrated into the school curricula. For the presentations, recommendations and report of the workshop, go to: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw186279.asp>

3.2. Setting up a membership driven network to elaborate the framework for programming on violence

As a direct follow up activity of the declaration *Together for Humanity* adopted at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, a high-level meeting on violence, was organized by the P&V department in Geneva in December 2008. At this occasion, a network of 24 National Societies working in the area of violence prevention/mitigation was set up.

In a collaborative online process, the global Federation strategy on violence prevention, mitigation and response was drafted. In 2009, the following steps were undertaken:

- February – A questionnaire was sent to the 24 National Societies of the network in order to identify the types of violence (self-directed, inter-personal, community), and approaches addressed and used by the network.
- March – Consultation with the Youth Commission on the development of the strategy.
- March to April – An analysis of IFRC’s recent statutory documents with the aim of identifying how violence prevention has been integrated, as well as gaps and strengths.

- April to May – A comparative analysis of strategic documents of external organizations (WHO, UN-HABITAT and UNICEF, among others), in order to identify the strengths and added value of the IFRC in the area of violence prevention, mitigation and response.
- February to May - Drafting of thematic papers by the National Societies in order to shape the initial skeleton of the strategy.
- August: A first draft of the strategy was circulated among the network and Federation field structures for feedback.
- August: Consultation with the Federation Advisory Body on health and community services, and production of a fact sheet on violence and health, together with The Canadian Red Cross Society- respectED programme.
- September: With the aim of gathering information, opinions and advice about the need and interest within the IFRC to set up a Red Cross Red Crescent Reference Centre on Violence Prevention, Mitigation and Response, P&V accompanied The Canadian Red Cross Society's consultant to meetings of this scoping exercise with key people and departments at the Geneva secretariat.
- November: P&V met with other departments at the Geneva secretariat to present the second draft of the strategy, and to gather feedback.
- November: A fact sheet on violence and the 20th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- November: The second draft of the strategy was presented and well received in a side event on violence prevention, mitigation and response and YABC, at the General Assembly, in Nairobi. For the brochure, fact sheets, presentations and report, go to: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw186279.asp>. For the draft strategy, now submitted for feedback to the entire membership, go to: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/sw185921.asp>



Constraints

- Financial resources. The online development of the global strategy allowed the P&V department to develop a bottom up, widely-owned tool of extremely low cost, as no physical meetings took place. In addition, high-level substantive input from The Canadian Red Cross Society, and direct drafting by seven National Societies of thematic papers, annexed to the global strategy allowed the department not to engage in consultancy fees.

Working in Partnership

- Violence strategy: Twenty-four National Societies - six from Europe, five from Africa, seven from the Americas and six from Asia Pacific. The P&V department strongly benefited from the extensive ongoing substantive collaboration of The Canadian Red Cross Society's RespectED programme, as well as of the highly appreciated financial support from the Spanish Red Cross extending a staff on loan to the department from September 2008. Seven National Societies authored one or more of the thematic papers annexed to the strategy: Australia, Canada, Guyana, Serbia, Spain, Ireland and Colombia.
- Gender: Focal points from the zones and 17 National Societies were nominated to create a gender network that will contribute to the development of the forthcoming gender strategy. The gender work has been made possible thanks to the funding of the Danish Government and Irish Aid via the Irish Red Cross Society on GBV. Substantive collaboration with the Irish Red Cross Society has been highly appreciated.
- PSEXA: UNHCR, UNOCHA and IASC. Actively involved in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of the Executive Committees on Humanitarian Affairs and on Peace and Security (ECHA/ECPS).
- Zones: Asia Pacific zone for mainstreaming of gender into operations, Southern Africa for the GBV strategy within the HIV programme, MENA (including the North Africa delegation) and West and Central Africa for YABC.
- ICRC: Closer engagement initiated on fundamental principles and non-discrimination.

- YABC: The active National Societies network strongly contributed to co-shape the draft YABC toolkit, train youth as peer educators, and pilot/field test the draft YABC toolkit within the National Society/region/zone. The bottom-up approach taken to develop this tool created a common sense of belonging and ownership of the initiative. Partners included: IFRC's organizational development department, youth and volunteering sections, youth commission, the MENA zone, the North Africa regional delegation, the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean, and over 40 National Societies worldwide:

 <p>Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire Ghana - Liberia Mali - Namibia Sierra Leone South Africa Togo – Uganda</p>	 <p>Canada Colombia Panama - Peru Uruguay Honduras U.S.A</p>	 <p>Australia India Nepal Philippines South Korea Thailand</p>	 <p>Belgium - Croatia Finland -France Ireland - Macedonia Netherlands - Serbia Spain - Sweden Switzerland - U.K</p>	 <p>Egypt - Israel Lebanon- Libya Palestine Syria Tunisia Iraq - Yemen</p>
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Contributing to longer-term impact

As set by Strategy 2010, one of the overall objectives of the principles and values department is to influence behavioural change in communities. All principles and values activities seek to further the IFRC's Global Agenda Goal 4, and encompass the promotion of gender equality. Principles and values activities with National Societies are aimed at empowering communities. They contribute to mainstreaming qualitative and ethical standards, which find their basis in the Movement's fundamental principles and underpin humanitarian values.

Looking ahead

The principles and values department provided ongoing feedback and input into the development of the IFRC's Strategy 2020. Its main areas of focus, bottom-up and skills-based approach and themes (e.g. social inclusion, intercultural dialogue within YABC) are aligned with Strategy 2020, and are already being put effectively into practice.

As reflected in the 2010-2011 plan, priorities for 2010 include:

- Conduct a P & V baseline aligned with Strategy 2020; and analyse findings with a view to support zones in the development of thematics, and in mainstreaming strategies and plans of action.
- Develop in close collaboration with the recently established gender network, a new gender strategy (replacing the outdated 1999 policy) aligned with Strategy 2020's focus on gender equality.
- Finalization of the global strategy on violence prevention, mitigation and response; development of implementation guidelines, with a special focus on youth violence, violence against children, gender-based violence and urban violence; and initiation of the implementation with zones and field structures.
- Field-testing and finalization of the draft YABC skills-based toolkit; enhancing the network of involved National Societies; and close collaboration with regional youth networks (Europe youth summit, Asia Pacific/MENA youth summit), with a view to constituting a solid pool of YABC peer educators which can be relied upon by zones and National Societies.

How we work

The IFRC's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the IFRC's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

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