

ENDOV Message for 2011

celebrating the European Year of Volunteering
and the 10th anniversary of the International Year of Volunteering

Values Voluntary Service is one of the 7 Fundamental Principles and a cornerstone of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. It makes a difference in the lives of those who volunteer, those who benefit from voluntary activities and the community as a whole. Volunteering is an opportunity to make a real and valuable contribution to community life and to express solidarity with vulnerable people.

Quality Red Cross National Societies are encouraged to make the Red Cross *the* choice for volunteering in their country in 2011 and beyond. Volunteers should be welcomed, informed, trained and supported in order to guarantee the best possible experience for both volunteers and beneficiaries. Volunteering with the Red Cross should be an experience of quality.

Volunteering and the Red Cross

an ENDOV message
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Skilled volunteers Red Cross volunteers contribute vital services to the care of people in need, and those experiencing poverty and social exclusion. In emergencies, trained volunteers respond to crises within their communities. Regular training and support is essential to ensure volunteers are safe, knowledgeable and engaged while providing the highest quality service to their communities.

Diversity is a valuable asset in achieving the goal of helping vulnerable people. Humanitarian principles are a fundamental part of our worldwide network and a diverse base of volunteers mirrors local communities while fostering tolerance, understanding and a spirit of working together.

ENDOV, European Network on the Development of Volunteering, is a Red Cross network of practitioners sharing policies and methods to improve the quality of volunteering within the Movement.

For comments and contributions, please send your message to: marc.bouteiller@redcross-fr.be