



#3. June/05

Sections:

1. [Updates to the Reference Centre on Volunteering.](#)
2. [Recommended documents from the Library.](#)
3. [Forthcoming events.](#)
4. [Lack of time is the main obstacle to volunteering.](#)
5. [Bulgarian Red Cross training session on volunteering.](#)
6. [International Volunteer Manager Appreciation Day.](#)
7. [The Millennium Project.](#)
8. [Website of the month: the European Volunteer Centre.](#)
9. [We need you!](#)

1. Updates to the Reference Centre on Volunteering website

The Reference Centre on Volunteering continues to develop content for volunteer managers. The Library has been reorganised, with sections on individual countries and links to resources outside the Red Cross.

Our site can be found on FedNet, at <https://fednet.ifrc.org/>. If you are not yet signed up for FedNet, click on "Sign Me Up". Otherwise, click on *Activities>Organizational Development>Reference Centre on Volunteering*" to view our site. The site can be read in Spanish, French and English.

More info:

FedNet: <http://fednet.ifrc.org>

2. Recommended documents from the Library

The following is a selection of recommended documents, recently uploaded to the Library:

Volunteering in South Asia and South East Asia

by Stefan Agerhem, 2004, IFRC, 45 pp. in English.

1.2 MB (PDF file).

A snap shot of volunteering practice in seven Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies: Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and a review of the implementation of the plan Volunteer 2005.

Volunteerism and Legislation: A Guidance Note

2004, Inter-Parliamentary Union/IFRC/UN Volunteers, 32 pp. in English.

290k (PDF document)

By playing an active role, parliaments can positively affect levels of voluntary participation in society. This paper looks at areas of law that can have an impact on volunteerism, and how to establish a legal framework for volunteerism.

Volunteering Programme Design Toolkit

1999, IFRC, 95 pp. In English.

432kb (PDF file).

The toolkit tries to do two things: to provide a series of practical tools which can help at different stages of a volunteer programme design or development process; and to provide a framework in which additional tools, techniques, ideas and resources can be inserted into the toolkit and shared with other toolkit users.

You can find all these documents in the *Library* section of the Reference Centre.

More info:

FedNet: <http://fednet.ifrc.org>

3. Forthcoming events

World meeting of Red Cross and Red Crescent Volunteers

National Societies Volunteers – including managers, youth, Disaster Response and Community Development volunteers, will meet to discuss important volunteering issues as part of the next General Assembly (11-15 November 2005 in Seoul) to discuss issues related to volunteers. The meeting will be organized jointly by the Ad-Hoc working group on Volunteering and the Youth commission.

More info: Organisational Development Department. Secretariat of the IFRC.
[Jean-François Goulay](#)

Federation award for “innovative volunteers’ project”

Also at Seoul, the Federation will organize a Federation Award to celebrate an *innovative volunteers’ project*. One candidate from each of the five regions will be nominated, according to specific criteria: projects should have been developed, organized and managed by volunteers at community level; projects should focus on practicing the Fundamental Principles; and projects should have significant impact on improving lives of vulnerable people.

More info: Organisational Development Department. Secretariat of the IFRC.
[Jean-François Goulay](#)

500 portraits of volunteers displayed

In Seoul, the Federation will promote its main asset, its millions of volunteers from around the world. In order to promote and recognize the fantastic contribution of each individual to the Red Cross and Red Crescent mission, 500 portraits of National Societies volunteers will be displayed with a short testimony.

More info: Organisational Development Department. Secretariat of the IFRC.
[Jean-François Goulay](#)

4. Lack of time is the main obstacle to volunteering

Research carried out by KPMG/YouGov in the UK has found that 45 per cent of those who do not volunteer blame lack of time, not apathy, for preventing them getting involved in volunteering activities.

The findings did highlight a desire among many to become more involved in socially responsible activities with 22 per cent of employed people stating that they would like their employers to offer volunteering schemes, recycling programmes and payroll donations. Fifteen per cent of employed people are already actively involved in these activities.

Mike Kelly, director of corporate social responsibility, KPMG LLP (UK) said: “KPMG is one of many organizations that support volunteering. The decision to volunteer is of course entirely up to the individual, but from our experience providing employees with time in their working week for volunteering has wider benefits. In addition to helping others, we have found that the opportunity to volunteer is attractive to prospective employees, broadens people’s skills and helps motivate them. It benefits all parties.”

Those who do volunteer are most likely to work with children and young people (25%) followed by animals (13%), the sick or ill (11%), the elderly (8%), and disadvantaged (8%).

The survey was carried out between 17 and 19 May 2005 in celebration of the UK’s National Volunteering Week, 1-7 June.

More info:

www.kpmg.co.uk/news

5. Bulgarian Red Cross training session on volunteering.

Under the title “*Basic principles of contemporary volunteer management: Models of implementation at national and regional level*”, the Bulgarian Red Cross organised a training session in Ribaritsa (22-24 June 2005) for the directors of the different territories of the National Society. The President of the Bulgarian Red Cross, Hristo Grigorov, and Sofia Stoimenova, Secretary General of the National Society, both took part in the session organized by the Department of Organizational Development, led by Slavita Dzhambazova.

Subjects included:

- the diversity of voluntary service in the Bulgarian Red Cross;
- how to increase participation;
- the volunteer management cycle;
- promotion, motivation and recognition of volunteers.

In addition, a working group was developed to elaborate volunteer roles, and to identify the organizational, financial and image challenges concerning volunteer activity in the Bulgarian Red Cross. Another interesting outcome was the creation of an expert team in volunteer management.

More info:

Organizational Development Department of the Bulgarian Red Cross. [Dimitur Zafirov](#)

6. International Volunteer Manager Appreciation Day (IVMP)

IVMA will be celebrated this year on 1 November. Established in 1999 by CyberCPM.com, , IVMA is now celebrated worldwide and brings recognition not only to the skilled professionals who lead effective volunteer programs but also spotlights the importance of community involvement to the success of any visionary ideal.

More info: www.charitychannel.com

7. The Millennium Project

The Millennium Development Goals are the world's targets for addressing extreme poverty in its many forms (income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter, and exclusion) while promoting gender equality, education, and environmental sustainability. They are also basic human rights.

- **Goal 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- **Goal 2:** Achieve universal primary education
- **Goal 3:** Promote gender equality and empower women
- **Goal 4:** Reduce child mortality
- **Goal 5:** Improve maternal health
- **Goal 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- **Goal 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability
- **Goal 8:** Develop a Global Partnership for Development

The world has made significant progress in achieving many of the goals but progress has been far from uniform across the world or across the Goals. There are huge disparities across and within countries. The Millennium Project is an independent organism commissioned by the Secretary General of the United Nations to give advice on the strategies to reach the Millennium Goals.

More info: www.unmillenniumproject.org

www.un.org/millenniumgoals

8. Website of the month: the European Volunteer Centre www.cev.be

The European Volunteer Centre (CEV) is a European umbrella association of 35 National and Regional Volunteer Centres across Europe that work together to support and promote voluntary activity.

CEV channels the collective priorities and concerns of its member organisations to the institutions of the European Union. It also acts as a central forum for the exchange of policy, practice and information on volunteerism. It supports networking among its members and organises conferences, seminars, workshops and other activities such as research.

The website of the European Volunteer Centre incorporates interesting information in its publications and documents sections, like the document "*Active ageing in active communities: Volunteering and the transition to retirement*" and a large collection of documents from the European Union. In addition it offers a links section where information about volunteer opportunities in the EU and worldwide can be found.

More info:

www.cev.be

9. We need you!

We want the E-news on volunteering to have the greater possible reach. Please forward this newsletter to anyone who might be interested.

If you want to include an interesting initiative from your National Society, please contact us (fch@cruzroja.es).

E-news on volunteering has been produced by the Spanish Red Cross in collaboration with the British Red Cross as part of our agreement with the Vodafone Spain Foundation
Contact: Ferran Cobertera - fch@cruzroja.es

