



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

Regional Office for Europe | Concept Note | Volunteering and Youth workshop for practitioners

23 March – 26 March 2020

VOLUNTEERING AND YOUTH WORKSHOP FOR PRACTITIONERS

Europe Region

BACKGROUND

The IFRC Regional Office for Europe (ROE) is planning to conduct a Volunteering and Youth (V&Y) Workshop for National Society staff members, with a specific focus on regional volunteering development and youth engagement trends and challenges.

Its aim is to strengthen the volunteering development and youth engagement competencies of National Societies' V&Y practitioners, especially those in their early career stage, enabling them to carry out their mission more efficiently; participants will develop their management skills and volunteering development capacities to respond to humanitarian needs locally, in cooperation with the networks of volunteering practitioners from the Movement.

The V&Y Workshop for practitioners will be organized by the IFRC ROE from 23 March to 26 March 2020, in Budapest.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the V&Y workshop for practitioners are:

- 1) To widen participants' knowledge about the Movement, its fundamental principles and mission;
- 2) To improve participants' capacities in management and volunteering development;
- 3) To provide participants with information about regional trends and challenges;
- 4) To create a platform for V&Y practitioners to support each other and discuss issues of common concern (share good practices) and challenges, and to form an informal peer-to-peer support network;
- 5) To promote networking at the regional and sub-regional levels among National Societies, fostering the sharing of knowledge, competencies and resources.

METHODOLOGY

V&Y workshop will consist of three elements:

- Online A (selected and relevant online courses from the IFRC Learning Platform to be taken as a pre-requisite to the regional V&Y workshop)
- Three-and-a-half-day regional face-to-face course (Regional V&Y Workshop) in Budapest



- Online B (selected and relevant online courses from the IFRC Online Platform to be offered after the V&Y workshop)

Online A & B

By the means of Online A, participants are prepared for the Regional V&Y workshop for practitioners and have roughly the same level of understanding of the Movement.

By means of Online B, participants are deepening and strengthening their basic understanding and skills.

Online courses will be recommended based on the priorities and needs of the V&Y practitioner and where possible, support and guidance will be provided by the relevant IFRC staff.

Regional V&Y Workshop

The workshop will take a participatory approach, actively involve practitioners from National Societies as facilitators and put the emphasis on teamwork and learning by exchanging experience.

The diversity of the region, with National Societies working internationally and domestically, as well as National Societies working with and without the involvement of external Movement partners, creates an opportunity to explore the complementarity of the Movement components, partnership models and cooperation.

Topics of the Regional V&Y Workshop in Budapest:

The course will offer participants the opportunity to increase their understanding on the following topics:

- Psychological Support Services, Safety and Security;
- Regional issues/trends/challenges in Europe and Central Asia;
- The role of Volunteering Development and Youth Engagement in National Society Development;
- Innovation and new forms of Volunteering;
- Volunteering Data Management;
- Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion;
- Volunteering and Strategy 2030.

For each topic, a dedicated session will be organized and divided in three parts: There will be one longer presentation by the IFRC staff member (50/55' presentation + 10'/5' Q&A), 4 shorter oral presentations by National Society staff members (12' presentation + 3' question and answers); lastly there will be a poster session by participating National Society staff members (1 hour, with up to 10 posters). An experienced V&Y practitioner from a participating National Society will be selected for each session to tailor it during the organization phase and to moderate it during the workshop days.



OPEN CALL FOR CHAIRPERSONS

The organizing committee will tailor the workshop based on the participants' needs. The committee will consist of 7 people, each responsible for one session. The V&Y Coordinator at the IFRC ROE, will be responsible for the Introductory session (Regional issues/trends/challenges in Europe and Central Asia). For the other 6 sessions **there is an open call to identify the chairpersons, with deadline February 6th, 2PM.** The following table lists topics and provides hints to develop the abstract.

Topics	Some possible contents of the session that may be included in the abstract submission
Psychological Support Services, Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The importance of Psychological Support Services, Safety and Security of the (young and adult) volunteers;• From policy to regulation• Insurance
The role of Volunteering Development and Youth Engagement in National Society Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteering/Youth strategies• Policies• Assessment/self-assessment techniques
Innovation and new forms of Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• From traditional management to innovation• Spontaneous volunteering• New forms of Youth Engagement• Online volunteering
Volunteering Data Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balancing between Data Driven decisions and Data Protection policies/regulations• Data for effective volunteer management• Develop data gathering strategies to bank on volunteer professional skill & for creating customized development• Standards
Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capacity building tools to motivate and retain (young and adult) volunteers
Volunteering and Strategy 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impact of the IFRC Strategy 2030 on Volunteering Development/ Youth Engagement?• Is there room for interaction between the IFRC Strategy 2030 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals?



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To apply to the chair position, the candidate has to include a *curriculum vitae* and an abstract of no more than 500 words describing his/her view for the session he/she is applying for. The aim of the abstract is to shape the session; it has to be inspirational for the participants who will provide oral or poster presentations during the session. **The abstracts of each session will be published and sent to the participants by February 17th.**

SHARING KNOWLEDGE

The aim of the workshop is to share knowledge and competencies in the field of Volunteering Development and Youth Engagement. For this reason, after the appointment of the chairpersons and the publishing of the abstracts, **it will be mandatory for the participants to submit at least 2 contributions** (oral or poster presentations) in the sessions where they feel that their National Society can provide a strong contribution. After the contribution will be accepted by the chairpersons, both presentation and poster templates will be shared with the participants. Further information will be sent to the participants after their registration.

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

The course targets volunteering development and youth engagement practitioners, especially early career ones, of the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in Europe and Central Asia.

TIMING AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the course: 3.5 days

Timing: 23 March - 26 March 2020 (*arrival on 22 March*)

Location: Budapest, Hungary

Number of participants: 20-25

The group of 20-25 participants should represent the diversity of National Societies in the Region. National Societies working internationally, regionally and all sub regionally should be equally represented.

The course will be gender balanced with 50/50% men/women participants.

The language of the course will be English.

BUDGET

The meeting participation **fee is 660 CHF** in case you require 4 - nights accommodation or **CHF 770** if you require 5 – nights accommodation and we would encourage all of you who are able, to cover the fee . The fee covers hotel accommodation, lunch and coffee break for the duration of the meeting, airport transfers, and one social dinner event. **It does not include flights, per diems nor visa costs.**



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If you request financial assistance in relation to this event, please let us know and we will be in touch with you separately. Due to a limited budget we have for this event and due to the fact that we want ensure participation of as many NSs as possible, we are unfortunately not able to cover full costs of travel and participation fee for all attendees. Therefore, we are kindly asking you to consider covering as a minimum your visa, per diem and if possible your travel to and from Budapest.

CONTACT PERSON

Federico Conticello, V&Y Coordinator at the IFRC ROE, will be responsible to organize this workshop. He can be reached by email at: federico.conticello@ifrc.org