



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

***Getting the wheels rolling - co-operation is a
necessity.***

4th Quality Conference for public administrations in
the EU

Tampere 27 Sept 2006.



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Multi-dimensional problems require multi-actor solutions and approaches



Among global challenges

- § More affected by natural disasters –the poorest and most vulnerable
- § More than 40 mill living with HIV/AIDS –and increasing – among women and the poorest
- § Preventable diseases continue to take their toll –among the poorest and most vulnerable



Goals and strategy

§ Reduce impact of disasters, disease, public health emergencies

Ø through scaling up

Ø through clarity on comparative advantage and *actively seeking global and operational alliances and partnerships*



Identity and characteristics

§ World's largest humanitarian network – 185 members

§ Auxiliary – but independent - role vis-à-vis public authorities

§ 'The last mile' – millions of volunteers – local presence



Action

- ü *Aids prevention –reaching out to risk groups with lifestyles outside the law*
- ü *Measles and malaria campaigns –reaching to where there is no health structure –educating, mobilizing*
- ü *Early warning against disasters –reaching the most exposed –community awareness and education*



Private/public partnership - The deal

§ Government gets:

Outreach and access in providing services, preventing disease, reducing risk, achieving subsidiarity

§ Civil society organisation gets:

Resources and support to realize its mission, vision and values



Private/public partnerships

∅ Win-win but with tension, for example

∅ CSO - Autonomous actor or contracted service provider?

∅ Govt - Promoting preventive health or law enforcement?



Civil society and development

§ *“An arena, separate from the state, the market and the individual household, in which people organise themselves and act together to promote their common interests.”*

§ Sida's Policy for Civil Society, 2004



Social capital and development

§ *“By meeting in networks and groups, people in civil society can develop a so-called “social capital”. Social capital is defined as networks of trust, norms and informal rules and can promote entrepreneurship, reduce transaction costs and promote business development”.*