

Global trends that affect our work

Global trends affecting our work

- The fragility of our planet, its limitation and vulnerability, natural, technological disaster or the many ongoing armed conflicts and internal strife push people to be on the move. Movement will also motivate South to North migration.
- We live in a period of uncertainty and doubt, while some believe that economic liberalism is our future, others think that globalisation is an illusion and moreover a threat. While a new economical world order has generated substantial increases in wealth and well being, hundreds of millions remain untouched by its benefits.

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- Failure of past ideologies have encouraged the rise of immoral behaviour and cynicism. Extremisms of all kinds is on the rise.
- While there is a greater awareness of human rights in general, struggle against racism, exclusion, xenophobia, as well as support to child protection has still a long way to go.
- Governments, especially in certain regions, will have less and less control over flows of information, technology, diseases, migrants, arms and financial transactions, whether legal or illegal across their border.

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- Technological developments and growing economic imbalances will further widen the gap between haves and have-nots, not only materially but also in terms of Education and Human Rights.
- Poverty will continue to be a major challenge and many lives will be lost due to re-emerging epidemics.
- Unequal access to social welfare services reflect uneven distribution of and uneven access to resources.
- In some countries urban centres will continue to grow with great strain on their infrastructure including social services.

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- Trends towards polarization and radicalisation are emerging everywhere, putting pressure on bi-cultural marriages and families.
- The number of internally displaced people and refugees will continue to grow and child protection in those populations is far from being secured.
- Power will continue to shift from governments to other elements of the society such as the private sector and NGOs. This has created in the past and will continue to create more demand and opportunities for an increasingly competitive voluntary sector.

Conclusion

- In view of those trends and many others, it is more crucial than ever for the network and for each constituent to be closer to those who we service, aware of their particular needs and ready to assist them.
- It is crucial as well that we constantly assess social needs that are not covered by public authorities and other organisations and adjust/adapt our priorities accordingly.
- Reaching out to and building relations with new partners will be essential to ensure financing and positioning.
- Conciliating our strive to be local champions, our drive for regional cooperation and our need for international coordination is yet another major challenge.
- Introducing modern governance attitude and consistency between outcomes of statutory meetings as well as a comprehensive follow up and implementation of decisions is essential

Are we on the same wave length?
If so do you agree we adopt the 3
strategic objectives to develop an
overarching strategy (2008-2013)
with an accompanying budget)