

## **Summary**

### **Croatian Red Cross – “Enable healthy and safe living”**

*Vijorka Roseg*

The Croatian Red Cross (CRC) as an independent auxiliary to the public authorities enjoys a unique partner relationship as the largest volunteer humanitarian network in the country. Guided by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - Strategy 2020, the CRC plan of action, committed to "saving lives and changing minds", tackles the major humanitarian and development challenges. In line with its mission, the CRC has a vital role in increasing the quality of health services that reduce vulnerability, and develops programs to achieve Millennium Development Goals. The CRC addresses priority health needs to reduce risks and cope with crises. Different activities ensure disease prevention and health promotion to "enable healthy and safe living". The CRC has a long history in first aid education, psychosocial support, promotes voluntary non-remunerated blood donation and prevention on HIV/TB infection. Adapting to new ways of living in a changing world, the CRC acts to meet the needs through community-based health programs as a long-term approach which addresses non-communicable diseases and fosters healthy life styles. The CRC works to increase awareness aimed to protect health, especially for adolescents (substance abuse including harm reduction) - people-centred programs.