

INTERNATIONAL BUREAU
FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

“A WORLD IN WHICH EVERY CHILD - GIRL OR BOY - ENJOYS RIGHTS EQUALLY AND IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES”

OUR VISION

OUR MISSION

The International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR) has been defending the rights of the child since 1994 in 45 countries across Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East. Using an approach that is both participative and sustainable, we work with our partners in the field to promote and protect the rights of children, including those who are in contact with the legal system or those affected by a humanitarian crisis caused by armed conflicts or natural disasters. We also aim to prevent child exploitation, violence, abuse and neglect in all forms, particularly where sexual mistreatment is concerned.

In all our initiatives, we ensure that children are protected and given the chance to participate and have their voices heard.

OUR FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- Take the child's best interest into account at every step
- Non-discrimination
- The right to life, survival and development
- Ensuring respect for the views of the child and the child's right to participate



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CHILDREN TAKING CHARGE OF THEIR OWN PROTECTION



While child participation may be at the heart of the revolution that began when *the Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) was adopted, it has yet to take root in the traditions of all countries. Too often, children continue to be seen as vulnerable and fragile beings that can only later contribute to the development of ideas and to progress.

Yet, children are key players today, not just tomorrow. The Convention is based on the status of the child as a *subject* of law, capable of expressing opinions on issues affecting her or him. And adults have the obligation and the responsibility to seek and take into account these opinions.

Following yet another shooting this year at a school in the United States, it is clear that children have the immense potential to participate. While adults have yet to agree on gun control in the U.S., thousands of children rose up to move the debate forward, something adults have been unable to do for decades. First, we heard of Malala Yousafzai, the young Pakistani girl who survived an assassination attempt and who today is an activist for female education. Then there was Grace Akallo, a young Ugandan girl recruited into a military group, who today fights for the rights of girls in armed conflicts. Now, it's Emma González's turn to have her voice heard: the Florida high school student rallied young men and women to reignite the discussion on armed violence.

Every day, the IBCR is inspired by these youths who, despite the status quo and ignorance of children's rights, dare to oppose, denounce, convince and engage.

In Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Iraq, Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Peru, and Tunisia, child participation has been a guiding principle for all of the IBCR's actions. We ensure that children's voices, especially invisible children, be heard, respected and taken into consideration. We are aware that there is still much work to be done in this respect. The rights of children must be engrained into the culture, including the right to be heard and informed, to speak, participate, and have opinions taken into account. Children's rights must not only be assured, they must become a social and cultural standard within society as a whole.

Let's stop saying that children are the future. First and foremost, they are the *present*, and it is the present that shapes the future as well as society in an increasingly globalised, connected world.

As persons who work with children, we must provide a healthy environment where all children, without discrimination, feel respected and safe and are considered subjects of law who can freely express themselves and whose opinions matter.

Najat Maalla M'Jid
President of the
International Bureau for
Children's Rights

Guillaume Landry
Director General



FOR AN INCREASED RESPECT OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

2017-2018 IN NUMBERS

We were active in **17 countries** in Africa, the Americas and Europe.



More than **325 children and youth** came together to defend their rights in Burkina Faso, Canada, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Honduras.



We supported **12 legislative proposals** and measures taken by government authorities and civil society aimed at protecting children's rights.



40 awareness workshops were organised on children's rights, gender equality, child protection mechanisms, voluntary cooperation, and protection of children against cybercriminals.



Over **2 500 000 children**

targeted by our projects in Africa and Latin America.



This year, **4,703 persons** working with children, members of the community and other key players of civil society took part in awareness, capacity building and professionalisation programmes.



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INFLUENCING PUBLIC POSITIONS, DECISIONS AND POLICIES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

We believe that important changes to issues affecting children require individual, collective and institutional awareness efforts. This is why the IBCR has this year increased its opportunities to improve practices and to contribute to positive decision-making with respect to children's rights.

PUTTING AN END TO THE DETENTION OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

As part of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' **workshop on the best interests of children** that took place in Toronto, the IBCR actively participated in discussions and knowledge sharing on **alternatives to detaining immigrant children and their families in Canada and the rest of the world**. During the workshop, a tool was developed to assess the best interests of children in immigration-related detentions. This tool should support the implementation of regulations surrounding detention conditions, even if Canadian law stipulates that children should only be detained as a last resort. The IBCR ensures that the situation faced by immigrant children remains an important issue in Canadian politics.

In 2017, the **5th anniversary of the global campaign to “End immigration detention of children”** took place. This campaign was started by the International Detention Coalition following the 19th session of the UN's Human Rights Council in Geneva. As one of the signatories, the IBCR is proud to have participated, along with 130 organisations from around the world, in the digital platform media strategy launched by End Child Detention, which aimed to raise awareness and inform the general public of situations faced by children who are deprived of their freedom. Also in 2017, Global NextGen Index, a new project, was established to assess the progress made by 22 countries, including Canada, in the development of alternatives to immigrant detention. François Crépeau, an IBCR board member, now sits on the Canadian committee in charge of classifying countries and providing recommendations for the development of a national strategy.



Campaign poster - End Child Detention

COMBATting CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

Fighting child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism has been one of the IBCR's top priorities for nearly 10 years. We hold activities to raise awareness in the formal and informal sectors of the tourism industry in an effort to end social tolerance of child sexual exploitation and to prosecute individuals who facilitate or are involved in child sex tourism.

With this in mind, and through the IBCR's chairperson Najat Maalla M'jid, we took part last summer in a conference to **end the sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism industry** organised in Madrid by

the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). During this conference, international experts and government representatives came together to discuss this issue. As stated by Ms. Maalla M'jid: **“The face of sexual exploitation in the travel and tourism industry is that of a child. No country is free of this problem, and no child is safe from it.”** With 2017 being the international year of tourism and development, the IBCR supports this statement by insisting that a child's right to live free from violence and exploitation must be at the forefront of consolidation and development efforts in the tourism and travel industry.

Conference to end the sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism industry, Madrid



PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Since 2010, the UN has deemed that protecting children in emergency situations is a life-saving intervention, just like distributing supplies or providing emergency health care.

The **13th Annual International Humanitarian Law Conference in Halifax** focused on the protection of children in armed conflicts. Represented by its director general, the IBCR reminded participants of the importance of training peacekeepers in child protection, and of the impact of neglecting the rights of children who come in contact with the law in situations of armed conflicts or natural disasters. Among the other speakers at this major event was the Red Cross' legal advisor, the director of Global Coalition to Prevent Education from Attack, and the research advisor for the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative.

The IBCR was also invited to participate in the **4th preparatory meeting for the UN Peacekeeping conference that took place in Vancouver** last November. Defence ministers from over 70 countries were in attendance. The issues discussed included the responsibility held by countries deploying military and police forces in preventing and eradicating exploitation and sexual abuse by the UN's civilian, military and police personnel, as well as the actions to undertake in order to protect children during peacekeeping operations. During the meeting, the IBCR helped develop recommendations as to **capacity building, prevention, coordination, information sharing, and fighting against impunity.**



This year, the IBCR also pursued its collaboration with the **Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action** by taking part in a working group dedicated to justice for children in emergency situations. Since 2014, the IBCR has deepened its understanding of how emergency situations affect the link between children and justice systems, thus becoming a global leader in this field. It is a specific area of humanitarian action that is not yet well-known, although it is the subject of the 14th standard in the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. These standards deal with the prepara-

tion of humanitarian aid workers and their interventions for the protection of children. Equipped with the latest knowledge, members of the Alliance—including the IBCR—undertook to revise this international standard. The IBCR was tasked with leading a workgroup along with Terre des hommes, in order to gather input from some 15 agencies. The revised version of the 14th standard needed to clearly address gender equality, migration, traditional justice systems and children living with a handicap or mental illness.

CHILD TRAFFICKING: TAKING ACTION AGAINST INDIFFERENCE

It is estimated that human trafficking generates billions of dollars a year worldwide, making it one of the most lucrative international criminal activities. As part of its partnership with the Peruvian organisation CHS Alternativo, the IBCR participated in the **5th Latin American conference on human trafficking** held in Lima. Three members of the IBCR's board, including the president of CHS Alternativo and our volunteer legal advisor, worked with government, university and civil society partners to develop **strategies and public policies to combat human trafficking.** The event was an invaluable opportunity to increase and share knowledge about human trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to improve state, civil and personal initiatives in the fight against this serious violation of human rights.



5th Latin American conference on human trafficking, Lima

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY

All children have equal rights and our programmes aim to encourage participation and equality between girls and boys. Thus, we have developed and implemented specific strategies within our projects and interventions. After having taken part last year in a strategic consultation session with the Government of Canada to identify the best way to refocus Canada's international assistance, the IBCR was very pleased to attend the launching of Canada's **new Feminist International Assistance Policy.** Over the next five years, 15% of Canada's bilateral international development aid will be allocated to projects aimed at gender equality and at empowering women and girls. The IBCR is dedicated to supporting girls for the full respect of children's rights and we are overjoyed by the feminist consideration being given to Canada's international assistance policy.



Luncheon for Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy – Canada's Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, Marie-Claude Bibeau

ENSURING QUEBEC CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



Communication material for the Doctors of the World/ Amnesty International joint petition

“A child’s right to healthcare is part of the UN’s International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which both Canada and Quebec are bound. Yet, thousands of Canadian children are victims of discrimination because their right to healthcare in Quebec depends on their parents’ immigration status. For a child born in Canada to immigrant parents, his or her eligibility for Quebec’s health plan, the Régime d’assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ), should not depend on the precarious immigration status of his or her parents. But the RAMQ requests proof of immigration status, otherwise these children are ineligible until they reach the age of 18. This deprives young Canadians of the healthcare they need and increases their family’s vulnerability by making them responsible for defraying inordinate costs.”

— Excerpt from the Amnesty International (Québec) and Doctors of the World joint petition to request health coverage for all Canadian children.

As a signatory of this petition, the International Bureau for Children’s Rights also committed to better defending and promoting the right of all Quebec children to access healthcare services. Several members of the IBCR’s team and board of directors developed an approach focused on children’s rights that was later presented to public au-

thorities in order to change this situation. Through several work sessions with Doctors of the World Canada, the IBCR emphasised the right of children to access healthcare, regardless of their or their parents’ administrative status.

ENCOURAGING CHILD PARTICIPATION

The principle of child participation is at the heart of the IBCR’s initiatives. We wish to defend and promote the right of girls and boys to express their views freely, and to strengthen their ability to act individually and collectively, while taking into account their developmental capabilities, well-being and best interests. Children have the right to participate, in various phases and in different ways, in implemented programmes in order to achieve **greater independence, responsibility and self-esteem.**

This is why the IBCR developed this year its own *Guidelines for the Participation of Children*, for our staff but also for our partner organisations structures. It is the IBCR’s responsibility to ensure that its partners understand and know how to enforce a child’s right to participate, its values and guiding principles. The dissemination of these guidelines, and the constant dialogue on issues relating to child participation, are part of the IBCR’s actions to encourage child participation in various programmes.



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Children's involvement in the justice process

As part of the study entitled “*Words of Young People and Participation in the Justice Process: Judicial Trajectories of Victims and Witnesses of Crime in Quebec*”, which was financed by the Quebec Justice Department’s Crime Victims Assistance Office (BAVAC), the IBCR organised and facilitated a **forum bringing together various Canadian specialists** (judges, lawyers, social workers, criminologists, academia, civil society members, etc.) in order to

discuss the challenges and promising practices revolving around child participation in the justice system. As child participation in various legal situations (family law, criminal law and immigration law) was discussed all day long, one of the main threads was **the need for children to be adequately prepared and informed** at all steps of the judicial process. Other practices were also discussed, although they are not always applied, such as the training

of justice personnel on children’s rights or accessing various forms of help for witnesses. A detailed report on the main challenges and promising practices identified during the forum will be published in the summer of 2018.

28 mars 2018
9h30 - 15h30

FORUM

JUSTICE

Maison du développement durable - Salle Clark
50, Sainte-Catherine Ouest
Montréal, QC, H2X 3V4

Participation de l'enfant au processus de justice : où en sommes-nous ?

Défis et pratiques prometteuses

Entrée gratuite
Inscription obligatoire: www.ibcr.org



“ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU. MANY SMALL ACTIONS, TAKEN BY MANY SMALL GROUPS AND IN MANY SMALL PLACES, CAN TRULY CHANGE A COMMUNITY.”

LÉONARD SAVADOGO, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK TRAINING INSTITUTE - BURKINA FASO



STRENGTHENING CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Each child develops within an environment or system that includes many players tasked with protecting her or him: other children, family, community, state and national institutions, and international stakeholders. For effective child protection, several factors must be in place, particularly the determination and ability of individuals and institutions to become agents of change. The IBCR equips and trains these players so that they may promote and protect children’s rights in the best way possible. By building their skills, the IBCR also sustainably strengthens child protection systems in the countries where it operates.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR PROJECTS

Strengthening protection systems

BURKINA FASO - OUR ACTIONS

Judges, security forces personnel and social workers trained on children's rights

Much like other sectors in Burkina Faso, the justice, security and social work sectors have some functional problems that affect children's access to services they are entitled to. Justice, security forces and social workers have no professional training or the proper tools and skills to listen to children and help manage the issues affecting them. Through a multi-annual project (2015-2020) financed by Global Affairs Canada, the IBCR un-

dertook capacity building initiatives with these professionals using a participatory, multi-sector approach.

For social, judicial and security services that are more respectful of the rights of Burkinabe girls and boys, three main actions were targeted:

- Integrate compulsory, evaluated training modules on the rights and protection of children into the programmes of security, social work and justice training institutions
- Provide key professionals with the necessary tools and skills to meet the challenges of protecting the rights of children
- Strengthen coordination mechanisms between various stakeholders

Validation workshop for a basic training kit, National Social Work Training Institute - Ouagadougou



This year, several activities were implemented: production and dissemination of a report on the situation of the child protection system in Burkina Faso, professional exchange trips between Togo, Benin, Tunisia and Senegal,

validation by the various departments involved of training kits, development of advocacy and gender equality strategies. Some of our preliminary results include:

1

Social and justice sector personnel who participated in workshops to develop training kits or operating procedures mention they have begun changing some of their professional practices, **offering services that respect the principles of child protection and participation to both girls and boys.**

2

The commitment of authorities toward reaching project objectives increased during the third year of the project's implementation, paving the way for the **sustainable strengthening of the security, judicial and social environment for children in Burkina Faso.**

3

According to project partners, the teaching methods proposed in the training kits (adult education, audiovisual tools) have unanimously been appreciated and constitute **major progress** in basic training in Burkina Faso. Changes in the professional teaching system have been brought to the social sector, using these new techniques and contents.

4

The work carried out at the National Social Work Training Institute (INFTS) and at the National School of Administration and Magistracy (ENAM) has generated **enthusiasm from local partners,** who would like to **also offer these activities to other sectors** and students.

5

A study is underway at the Department of Justice, Human Rights and Civic Promotion to change the organisational chart, operations and name of the Social Affairs and Reinsertion Directorate in order to **include the principles of child protection.**

Focus on key competencies

A fundamental component of overhauling programmes and operating procedures is to base the approach and the contents of training sessions on a series of key competencies that all participants need when interacting with children. With help from local partners, the key competencies needed for justice, social work and security personnel were defined over the years.

Overview of key competencies for justice personnel

Judges:

- Make decisions and take action that are in the best interests of children
- Actively ensure that children's rights are respected
- Effectively cooperate with other players of the child protection system

Chief court clerks, court clerks, court secretary and public prosecutor's department

- Effectively interact and communicate with children and the people who support them

- Make effective use of work tools
- Use legal writing techniques and terms that comply with children's rights

Overview of key competencies for social workers

- Interact with children and their families and guide them in an effective, personalised manner
- Develop network-based inter-sector and partner collaborations
- See to the monitoring, assessment and capitalisation of interventions

Overview of key competencies for judicial police personnel

- Recognise, promote and implement children's rights
- Interact and communicate with children, their families and the community
- Make effective use of working tools adapted to children



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“ [...] Study trips enabled us to compare our legislation and how it deals with children to that of other countries. Thanks to this comparative analysis, we were able to assess the gaps and the strong points of our legislation, which could lead to a short- or long-term review aimed at the best interests of the child [...]. ”

Djénéba Sawadogo, Judge, Juvenile court in Ouagadougou

“ [...] The assessment we're conducting is very positive. The training kit and teaching techniques are invaluable for capacity building with respect to children's rights [...]. It is our kit—not the IBCR's. It's very important for students to believe in us [...]. ”

Flavie Kabre, Director - Studies and Internships, National Social Work Training Institute

HONDURAS - STRENGTHENING THE CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM

In Honduras, 70% of the population's 4 million children live in chronic or extreme poverty. This affects their family, school and community environment. Aware of the complex challenges that Honduran children face, the country has carried out several initiatives over the past years aimed at transforming these institutions and adopting legislative framework that meets international standards.

“Building a poverty-free, educated and healthy country that has consolidated social prevention systems, and that is democratic, safe and free of violence.”

— Honduras national vision and plan

To support the government's reform objectives, the IBCR has joined forces with the Directorate for Children, Adolescents and Family (DINAF), Plan International Honduras and UNICEF since 2016 for a project to strengthen institutions and implement a comprehensive protection strategy. The comprehensive national child protection system includes various public and private organisations, entities and institutions whose coordinated plans and programmes aim at ensuring the full respect of children's rights.

Spanning five years, the PRONIÑEZ project includes:

- A local and a community component
- A focus on institutional capacity building
- A political awareness component

Thanks to the various data collected last year from key personnel within the justice and social work sectors, security forces, civil society, as well as from children from different provinces, the IBCR produced a **report on the child protection system in Honduras**. This report helped clarify the progress and challenges of the system, **technical assistance and service coordination needs, and the institutional actions to be carried out**.

With a view to create training materials and for inter-institutional coordination, the IBCR also facilitated several discussion and development workshops with DINAF personnel and other State representatives. Beyond the enriching discussions held, the workshops helped **raise awareness about children's rights and actions subject to international law**, which have since been adopted through national legislation.



“Improving conditions, helping children out of risky situations, all based on the pillars of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. May they be adopted by everyone at DINAF so that their decisions can take into account the best interests of the child, child participation and non-discrimination [...]”

Senia Andino, Legal Advisor – DINAF's Atlántida Regional Office

Focus on awareness days

To better manage detention centres in Honduras (“centros pedagógicos”), the State created a government institution called the National Institute for Juvenile Offenders (INAMI). In cooperation with DINAF, the IBCR organised and facilitated four days of awareness training on incarcerated children's rights for personnel from the country's central region's detention centres. Thanks to these workshops, **more than 200 participants were trained on children's rights**. Those in attendance included:

- Security personnel
- Support and administration staff
- Psychologists, social sector personnel, legal advisors and medical staff



Certification of personnel – National Institute for Juvenile Offenders (INAMI)

“ I’m here today on behalf of the children in solitary confinement, despite what the law states.

I speak for the children who are beaten, and who are victims of humiliating, cruel and degrading acts.

I’m here to advocate for abandoned children, children deprived of love, food, education, protection and everything else. Children who are born and live in the streets, who are picked up during raids as if they were criminals, as if it was their choice to be born and to live on the streets. [...]

I’m here to lend a small voice to all the children who have no voice, whose rights are the subject of many documents, books, newspapers, national and international conferences—and yet, for the most part, remain unknown.

This is the right forum to speak about children’s rights, because the police force works in the field. They are often the first recourse and first saviours of a child. [...]

Excerpt from a speech by Kinshasa youth, represented by Shekinah Lonji, Vice President, Kinshasa Provincial Committee for Children, during the launching of the operational guide for squadrons tasked with protecting children and preventing sexual violence

« BATELA MWANA » - PROTECTING CHILDREN IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

These words (text on the opposite page) were spoken by Shekinah Lonji, Vice President – Kinshasa Provincial Committee for Children, to police, social and judicial personnel in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), during the launching ceremony for an operational guide for squadrons tasked with protecting children and preventing sexual violence. The guide is an example of an operating procedure developed as part of the IBCR’s project to support the Congolese government. Over the past few years, the DRC has initiated a number of reforms with respect to the country’s growth strategy and the strategy to reduce poverty, within the security, justice and social work sectors. In partnership with Global Affairs Canada, the IBCR supports the Congolese State in this process by leading the development and implementation of child protection training tools and the implementation of new professional procedures and coordination methods. The five-year project (2015-2020) aims at building the capacities of police forces, as well as justice and social sector

personnel, to better deal with children in danger or in contact with the justice system.



Shekinah Lonji, Vice President, Kinshasa Provincial Committee for Children – Workshop to launch the operational guide for squadrons tasked with protecting children and preventing sexual violence

Social, security and legal services that support children’s rights

“ The police, justice personnel and other services involved in this project should have one common goal: to contribute to an effective service that will enable our children to live in peace and to enjoy their rights without constraints or obstacles. That is true development.”

Professor John Mugabushaka, Chief of Staff, Department of Social Affairs

Numerous members of these sectors tasked with child protection took part in various development and professionalisation activities with much conviction and commitment. In the project's third year, data was gathered, training kits and operating procedures were developed,

practice exchange trips to Morocco and Côte d'Ivoire took place, awareness and dissemination activities were organised, gender equality and advocacy strategies were developed and many consultations took place. Some of the results observed to date include:

The tools proposed in the operational guide for squadrons tasked with protecting children have started bearing fruit: **the quality of interactions between children** and police officers has improved and there is a **greater respect of standards, specifically those for listening to children**. In Bukavu and Goma, **intake rooms** and **different rest areas for girls and boys** have been built. A **social worker** will soon be part of Lubumbashi's child protection squadron.

1

Courses on children's rights given during the basic training for justice and police personnel **have officially been integrated** into the teaching programme. This year, **300 future professionals in both of these sectors were trained**.

2

Engagement from Congolese partners expanded to various provinces throughout the country, including Haut-Katanga where action plans to address gaps in the child protection system were developed by their own initiative.

3

This year, more than **450 women took part** in various workshops and other project-related activities. In addition, **52 policewomen were trained** on the new children's rights course.

4

Promoting equality between boys and girls

To ensure that gender equality is taken into account at all phases of the project, and for results obtained to benefit girls and boys, actions were focused on three components:

- Building the internal capacities of field staff with respect to gender equality
- Promoting equality between women and men and between girls and boys with local partners
- Promoting equality through project activities

COSTA RICA - THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a serious problem that affects millions of people all over the world, including children. Currently, human trafficking is considered a form of modern slavery and one of the worst violations of human rights, and Costa Rica is not immune to it. In the past decade, the country has ratified its main instruments in this matter, promoted laws, regulations and protocols, and implemented institutional reforms aimed at fighting criminality and protecting victims. But, the complexity of human trafficking and its associated crimes creates significant challenges the country must face with respect to prevention, protection, criminal prosecution and victim compensation.

OBJECTIVES OF OUR INTERVENTION:

- Better application of laws, policies and procedures
- Improved and coordinated institutional action

- Improved prevention and reporting mechanisms for authorities, members of the community and the tourism sector

To reach these objectives, it is essential to build the capacities of professionals tasked with **supervising, preventing, investigating and prosecuting crimes related to human trafficking, especially with regard to children**. Specific training workshops that took place throughout the year focused on international regulations, the definition of a minor, and legal proceedings for human trafficking cases. The project, financed by Global Affairs Canada, directly involves various public agencies that are members of the National Coalition Against Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling (CONATT), as well as training units for law enforcement officials (highway police, border control officers and air surveillance officers) and legal practitioners.

Sharing practices and experiences on a regional level

Because human trafficking is a national and transnational crime, discussing good practices and challenges as well as sharing knowledge between neighbouring countries can be very beneficial. The IBCR took advantage of its increased regional presence to share professional experiences with bordering countries through exchange trips (Colombia and Panama), human trafficking seminars and participation in the establishment of the Latin American Knowledge Management Centre.



Trip to exchange practices between police authorities in Costa Rica and Panama

Focus on implementing child communication techniques



As part of a training for instructors on children's rights and human trafficking, the IBCR worked with police officers participating in the project in the Casa de Pan group home, which fosters some 40 children. Police officers were made aware of the various issues affecting children, before discussing with them through different playful workshops. For the younger children, police officers chose to talk about safety in the community and at school through illustrated stories and a puppet. For children aged 6 to 12, a sports station was set up to foster positive discussions. Finally, project participants led a youth workshop to increase their awareness of social media safety.

Police-led awareness workshops for safety in the community and at school, for children at Casa de Pan

“The course changed me. It has helped me on a professional level for my street interventions [...] and at the National Police Training School. It taught me many basic things, because all I knew about human trafficking, I'd heard on the streets or read about. Now, I have more knowledge and I've done a complete about-face.”

Luis Mendez, Instructor, National Police Training School. Luis is one of this year's 137 participants in the project's activities.



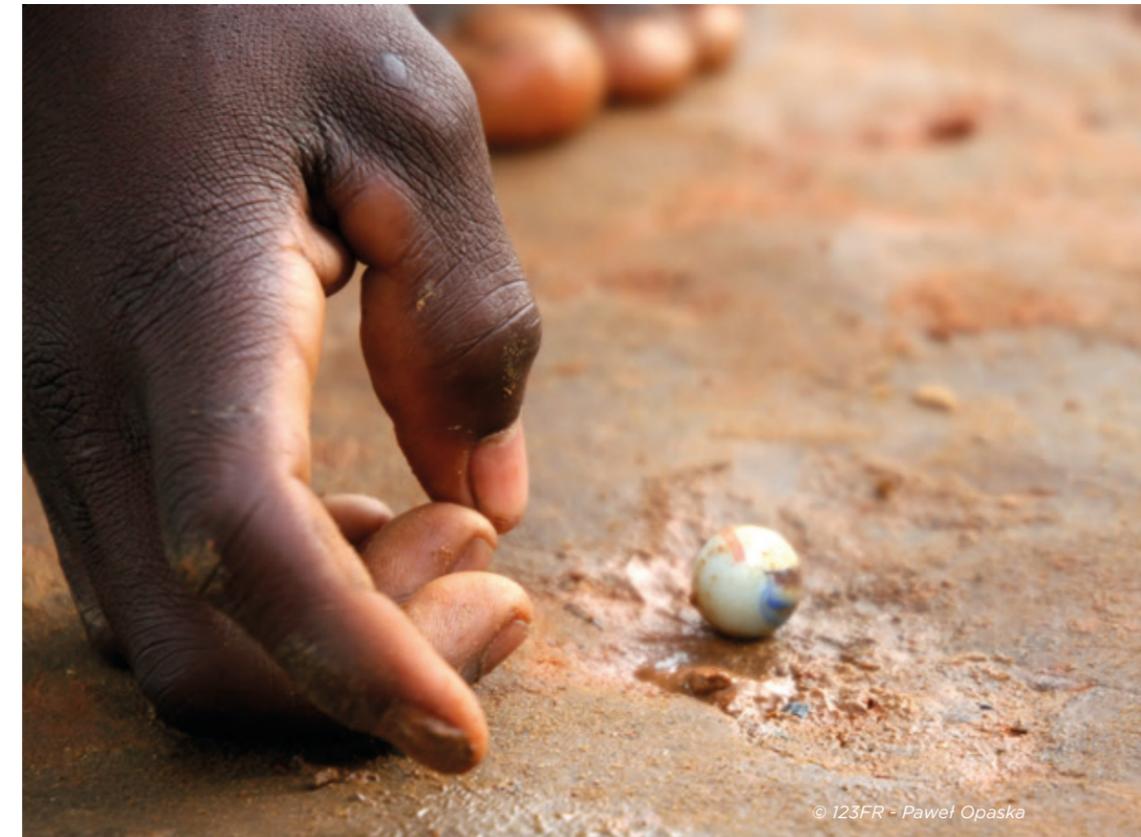
Police-led social media awareness workshop - Casa de Pan

MAURITANIA - PROTECTING MIGRANT CHILDREN

The IBCR's presence in Mauritania announces the return of a valuable collaboration with Save the Children. A few years ago, both organisations took part in a project for civil societies in nine Middle-Eastern and North-African countries, an extensive protection programme for children in contact with peacekeeping forces in the African Union. Today, through a new mandate by Save the Children, the IBCR brings its technical expertise to Mauritanian authorities for a European Union-backed capacity building project aimed at improving immigration management in order to protect migrant children from exploitation and trafficking. Through adapted training tools and a pool of certified instructors, national, regional and local authorities will soon be able to train their staff that comes in contact with migrant children on a daily basis.

A continuing professional training programme for the protection of migrant children and for the identification and management of trafficking exploitation cases based on:

- Mauritanian and international legal, political and institutional frameworks
- Information gathering and management
- Mobilisation of community resources
- Communication with children
- Monitoring and evaluating initiatives



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BURUNDI ET NIGER - LESSONS LEARNED

The IBCR's follow-up, assessment and learning strategy enables the organisation to measure and assess the performance of its projects. Our goal is to learn lessons from projects currently underway and to take stock of past interventions. Information and lessons learned inform decision-making with respect to current projects and positively influence the development of new programmes.

A first retrospective assessment phase took place in September 2016. Focusing on the assessment of completed children's rights capacity building programmes for de-

fence, security and justice personnel, this phase examined our initiatives in Côte d'Ivoire, Burundi and Niger.

For about 20 days, our teams travelled to Burundi and Niger, assessing police and judicial authority capacity building projects in Burundi, and police, armed forces, National Guard and gendarmerie capacity building projects in Niger.

Led by our partner, Universalia, and coordinated by UNICEF and professional training schools in Burundi and

Niger, the assessments examined a number of results, some conclusive and others mixed, which were then further analysed to best leverage these experiences.

From the results analysed, we found that:

- **The IBCR's interventions generated much interest and a commitment to protecting children's rights in Burundi and Niger.** The instructors interviewed during the assessment spoke of changes in how they perceived children in general and in their attitude toward them. Current students from police and gendarmerie schools said the courses had a positive influence on their practice. All those interviewed were capable of communicating the appropriate messages, both at work and at home, and of taking on the role of influencer within their entourage and institution.

- **The IBCR's actions also helped identify resource persons for child rights and protection.** In both countries, these resource persons serve as advisors for cases involving children who are victims or involved with the law, when these cases are brought to their attention.

- **Despite the positive commitment of stakeholders, and the integration of training into professional programmes, the durability of these projects cannot be ensured due to the lack of local resources.** It was therefore important for the IBCR's programme teams to focus on the best ways to increase the durability of post-project actions. Discussions have since been had, based on transfer strategies with local partners and organisations.



Training of municipal police officers - Maradi, Niger



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INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The IBCR also helps governments meet their commitments to children's rights. Our priorities include promoting the adoption and application of appropriate legislations, supporting legal reforms and the implementation of national action plans, assessing the child justice system, and providing access to child protection mechanisms during humanitarian interventions.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR INTERVENTIONS

DJIBOUTI - A MORE RESPECTFUL CHILD JUSTICE SYSTEM

The Republic of Djibouti was one of the first countries in the world to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child, demonstrating its government's genuine and profound commitment to children. For the sake of better guaranteeing the protection, well-being and development of girls and boys, the Djibouti government requested the IBCR's technical expertise in 2014 to conduct an analysis of its juvenile justice system. Among other things, the re-

sults of the analysis revealed a lack of specialised services within the police and gendarmerie forces, and a lack of alternatives to incarceration. **Several recommendations were issued to support the government in its legal reform process.** In 2015, the first Child Protection Code for Legal Matters was adopted to take into account children who have been accused or declared guilty of a crime, as well as those in difficult or dangerous situations.

Implementation of recommendations

Following discussions held over the past years with Djibouti authorities and UNICEF Djibouti, **the IBCR's recommendations for improved protection of the rights of children** in the justice system were included in the action plan signed by UNICEF and the Department of Justice.

- The IBCR produced a mapping of the capacities of civil society partners who play a role in the child justice system to **encourage alternatives to incarceration.**
- The IBCR also contributed to the development of procedures between the various justice system stakeholders so that the rights of **children who are victims, witnesses to a criminal act, or in conflict with the law, be respected.** These rights include the right to privacy, the right to



Workshop - Djibouti

remain silent, the right to legal representation, the right to stay in contact with their family, the right to freedom (except for extenuating circumstances) and the right to educational rather than repressive measures.

- The Bureau completed the operational mapping of judicial, police and gendarmerie schools in order to develop and propose adequate training for justice, security and social sector personnel.

MADAGASCAR - REDUCING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

The 2015-2019 Child Protection Programme signed by the Government of Madagascar and UNICEF Madagascar has many objectives, such as strengthening the child protection system through the adoption of a legal framework that is respectful of children's rights and reducing violence against children. As part of this programme, the IBCR, in partnership with UNICEF and Madagascar's Department of Public Affairs, Social Protection and Advancement of Women, conducted a study on the cycles of violence against children at home, at school and in workplaces. The results of the study and the ensuing recommendations for prevention or institutional capacity building will inform future discussions in view of **adopting a national action plan to fight violence against children.**

Some numbers

- 6 provinces, bringing together 12 sites, were covered by the study
- 701 young people shared their experiences and perceptions of violence in their daily lives
- 2,523 adults were consulted during the research, including community leaders, administrative authority representatives, and institutional staff from the justice, security, health, education and social work sectors

Data gathering workshop
- Antshohihy



“Hitting children isn't right, choosing your words carefully when speaking to children is important, and showing kindness is fundamental.”

Awareness message proposed by a discussion group composed of girls

BENIN - BETTER ACCESS TO PROTECTION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Today, Benin has a strengthened legal and institutional arsenal to better protect vulnerable children, those who are victims of abuse, violence or exploitation, and those who are in conflict with the law. However, despite the establishment of this framework, very few children have real access to social and judicial protection and rehabilitation services. To offer more effective and adapted child protection services, the Beninese Government wished to strengthen and expand the services of its Juvenile Protection Central Office to several regions in the country. Capacity building of its social workers with respect to child protection procedures and mechanisms was also part of the many actions to be undertaken. Thanks to financial support from UNICEF Benin, the IBCR has been supporting and guiding the Government of Benin to achieve its commitments since 2014.



*Training of key staff,
Security services - Kandy*

Results after our three-year intervention

- **A strategy to expand** the services of the Juvenile Protection Central Office and a **2017-2025 operational plan** were finalised and validated.
- **40 key staff** of the Juvenile Protection Central Office were **trained on children's rights and deployed throughout the country.**
- **Training kits and operating procedures** were integrated into security and social sector training.
- In early 2018, the Government of Benin renewed its funding of the Juvenile Protection Central Office **to ensure its durability and operations.**
- A pool of 51 instructors qualified to teach the course on the rights and protection of children was established.

“ [...] This training filled a void in my country's protection system. [...] I now have updated tools to precisely measure the effectiveness of my interventions with children and make any necessary adjustments. This way, I can perform my duties as a supervisor in a more professional manner, while ensuring the quality of services provided by my colleagues to children, their families and the community.”

Schadrac Agbato,
Programme Director,
SOS Villages d'enfants -
Dassa-Zoumé.

The activities carried out served to lay the foundation for increased knowledge about the **importance of respecting children's rights by the professional sectors involved.**

The decentralised presence of key staff, combined with specialised professional training, marks **significant progress** within the country with respect to children's rights and **better child protection services.**

COLLABORATION WITH THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Every day, thousands of children are faced with armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergency situations that perturb their protection system. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has been tasked with training police officers deployed abroad to support na-

tional security forces in their peace consolidation efforts. From Colombia, to Iraq, Ukraine, occupied Palestinian territories and Haiti, hundreds of Canadian police officers are deployed on a one-year capacity building mission to help police services at all levels, from community police to tactical and strategic operations.

Canadian police officers trained on children's rights and deployed for UN peacekeeping operations.

Since 2011, the International Bureau for Children's Rights has been overseeing the capacity building of security, military and civil forces involved in peacekeeping operations. In December 2016, the RCMP took part in leading the new child protection course developed by the IBCR, in collaboration with the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations. Following the launch of the new course aimed at training UN police officers before their field deployment, the RCMP decided to integrate a permanent, compulsory module on child protection for Canadian of-

icers. The change was initiated in May 2017 and is now part of the regular pre-deployment training programme, with five of the nine course modules having been developed by the UN. Since then, the IBCR has been mandated to facilitate the courses in Ottawa.

From May 2017 to March 2018, 56 police officers took a course on children's rights before working on the field.



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“ [The course] helped me to better understand the United Nations model. ”

“ Information on protecting children that can be used in the field—not just in theory. ”

“ I have a better understanding of the laws and organisations governing child interventions. ”

“ The information was very relevant prior to my deployment. ”

“ I understand my role better. ”

Statements from some of the participants

GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA: WORKING TOGETHER FOR SIX YEARS

In 2011, the International Bureau for Children's Rights signed a master services agreement with Global Affairs Canada for the development and facilitation of child protection training sessions for departmental staff. One year later, the IBCR began teaching the first courses. Since then, training on children's rights has been provided to more than 140 international development experts and agents in charge of consular, political and economic affairs. The courses, which include workshops and practical exercises, are aimed at teaching participants about children's rights that can be included in Canadian cooperation projects through results-driven management tools.

Implementing child-focused approaches for the development of Canada's foreign policy.

In total, 18 training modules were developed to support Global Affairs Canada in its decision to include children's rights issues and approaches in continuous training courses for its staff.

Some key issues reflected in the practice:

- Child participation
- The child protection system
- International laws and standards
- Canada's commitments and policies affecting children
- Logic models and performance measurement frameworks





**PROGRAMME
DE COOPÉRATION
VOLONTAIRE
PRODEF**

*Children's rights awareness
workshop - Côte d'Ivoire*

VOLUNTEER COOPERATION PROGRAMME

IMPROVING THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, WOMEN AND POVERTY-STRICKEN OR MARGINALISED PEOPLE

In a joint venture with Lawyers Without Borders Canada (ASFC), the PRODEF project, financed by Global Affairs Canada, aims at meeting important development challenges surrounding:

- Insufficient protection of children's rights
- Impunity
- Inequality of rights
- Discriminatory practices
- Limited access to justice
- Weaknesses in judicial institutions and corrupt practices
- Post-conflict democratic transitions
- Pressure and intimidation faced by civil society organisations

- Lack of technical competencies needed for the prevention, promotion, protection and defence of human rights, specifically those of children

Until 2020, the programme hopes to deploy about a hundred Canadian volunteers to help partner organisations working for human rights—especially children's and women's rights—strengthen their capacities and meet the needs of partners and vulnerable community beneficiaries. In exchange, it allows Canadians to gain from one-of-a-kind experiences in international development, helps raise public awareness and mobilises citizens.

Increasing awareness and improving equipping and guiding efforts

Through communication, legal support and organisational management mandates ranging from 15 days to eight months, volunteers worked in nine countries (Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Morocco, Peru and Tunisia) with 22 local partners, most

of them civil society organisations but also government institutions. Thanks to some 40 volunteers from the IBCR and ASFC, much progress was made in the defence, awareness, organisational strengthening and protection of human rights, especially in the IBCR's target countries:

MOROCCO



OUR PARTNER: *Bayti Association* - Two volunteers deployed

1. Participation in the defence process for foster families aimed at adopting legislation that takes into account children's rights and international standards
2. Improvement of our partner organisation's planning and writing capacities to obtain new financing and develop partnerships
3. Raising gender equality awareness for **22 of the association's employees**
4. Capacity building for the strategic development of the Bayti Association to increase autonomy of young girls and for professional insertion of youth

“Volunteers perform important, meticulous work in close collaboration with their advisors. They greatly support and help our association.”

Yamna Taltit, Partnership, Training and Expertise Manager, Bayti Association



Child and mural at the Bayti Association

CÔTE D'IVOIRE



OUR PARTNER: *Association of Women Lawyers of Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI)* - Three volunteers deployed

1. First volunteer legal advisor deployed to the Association of Women Lawyers of Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI) legal clinic in Bondoukou
2. Teaching **381 children** in schools about their rights and the principles of gender equality, specifically with respect to task division and non-traditional professional activities
3. Capacity building with **133 persons** tasked with protection on children's and women's rights, **72 members of the police force** on marriage and child custody in case of divorce, **10 dozo chiefs** (traditional hunters) on compulsory education of children and juvenile delinquency, and **427 persons from rural communities** on the identity, education, rights and work of children
4. Strengthening of child protection through the analysis of **21 cases** of children who are victims or in conflict with the law, to inform them of judicial protection and to fill some gaps in the files
5. Exchanging good practices regarding Canadian children in conflict with the law with **30 AFJCI members** to achieve progress with respect to juvenile delinquency and protection of incarcerated minors
6. Identification of management and governance tools for a better representation of vulnerable persons



Volunteers - Côte d'Ivoire

COSTA RICA



OUR PARTNER: *Paniamor Foundation* - One volunteer deployed

1. Research on human trafficking in Costa Rica to obtain updated statistics
2. Development of new work and intervention tools for children's rights (action procedures in the event of online sexual exploitation)

PERU



OUR PARTNER: *Capital Humano y Social Alternativo (CHS Alternativo)* - One volunteer deployed

1. Contribution to **two legislative proposals** regarding the sexual exploitation of children and violence against women
2. Development of **seven legal tools for improved representation of children victims** of human trafficking or sexual exploitation
3. Collaboration with the partner organisation during the universal periodic review (UPR) of Peru to denounce human trafficking. The UPR is an important opportunity for civil society organisations to denounce a member state's breaches to the Human Rights Council.
4. Support to the partner organisation for the **4th Macro-Regional Meeting of the South**, where more than 100 participants represented the government and civil society. The event focused on human trafficking in the south of Peru.



4th Macro-Regional Meeting of the South - Lima

TUNISIE



OUR PARTNER: *Amal Association for Families and Children* - One volunteer deployed

1. Production of a child protection guide following an analysis of institutional and legal teachings in Tunisia
2. Contribution to the **fight against the economic exploitation of children** through awareness training of **four professors and a group of 30 children**
3. Development of management and communication tools

“ [...] One person cannot change the world. But some people dare to dream, wish and project a fairer society. This battle is far from being accomplished, but it is noble because it comes from people speaking for other people, from organisations dedicated to having the rights of people respected, coming together for one objective: living better as individuals and as a community.”

Dorra Bannouri, former volunteer, Amal Association for Families and Children





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MOBILISING CHILDREN AND YOUTH THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

From Canada to Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Morocco and Tunisia, over 325 girls and boys have actively played a role in ensuring their rights.

INVOLVING CHILDREN IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Some 30 children, most of them living on the street or in centres, played an active role in the development of audiovisual training kits for justice, security and social work personnel. The children took part in theatre workshops prepared by Burkinabe and Congolese actors; during the first workshop, which included about 10 children from Kinshasa, scenes were acted out in Lingala. The children

then acted out the same scenes, changing them to better reflect their situation. In Burkina Faso, the same principles were used and over 25 girls and boys commented on scenes acted out in Moré, as well as on drawings from image boxes. The comments and changes made by children during these workshops were integrated into the audiovisual tools that were being developed.



Theatre workshop - Kinshasa (left) and Ouagadougou (right)

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN PEACE CONSOLIDATION INITIATIVES

As part of a case study by the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations, we met with 60 youths aged 15 to 24 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to get their opinion on the projects and initiatives led by the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DR Congo (MONUSCO) and ascertain their level of involvement. Originally established in 1999 under the name of United Nations Organization Mission in the DR Congo

(MONUC), MONUSCO established as its main goals in 2017 the protection of civilians and support of the electoral process. In general, the mission does not directly involve children. However, the involvement of youths in maintaining and consolidating peace remains crucial. This is why MONUSCO regularly supports and promotes initiatives involving children. The study revealed that several youths are willing to defend their rights themselves



and to take ownership of their future. They also hope that their participation in peace and security processes will be recognised and valued by allowing them to take part in MONUSCO-backed projects from their onset, and not just during their implementation. All of these opinions, aspirations, desires and fears were relayed to the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations, who will analyse and take them into account when defining the mission's future actions.

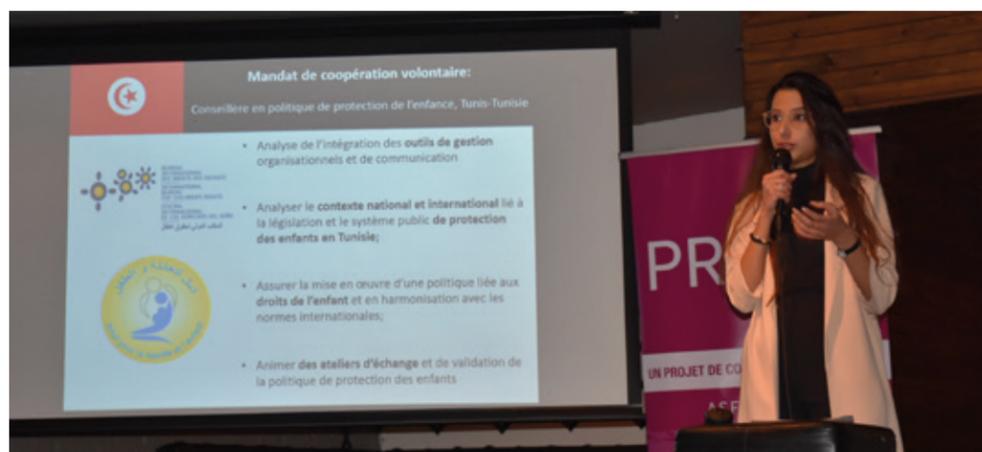
Discussions with youth - DRC

VOLUNTEER COOPERATION ATTRACTS YOUTH

Sharing information about voluntary cooperation

Many events took place this year to increase students and young workers' awareness of the Volunteer Cooperation Programme. Through conferences, networking activities, cocktails and a new "human library"—where volunteers share their experiences like open books—these events helped us reach larger audiences who wanted to know more about Canadian volunteers and their contribution

to international cooperation efforts. Each event featured presentations from former volunteers to inform participants of the challenges, onsite realities and learnings of a foreign mission. The presentations, which included personal accounts and anecdotes, were very well received by the public.



Reception on voluntary cooperation - Montreal



During an event with students from grades 9 to 11, a team from the IBCR answered questions about international relations and voluntary cooperation. The perceptions held by the students on these subjects

Career day at Collège Stanislas

were interesting and many of them asked about the educational path needed to work in these fields. They were also interested in knowing if our work had real repercussions on people's lives. For the IBCR, these discussions were an excellent opportunity to present our work and remind youth of their rights.

THE REALITY OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE WORLD, PRESENTED TO STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL (UQAM)

The IBCR organised a summer school where students could learn more about the various issues surrounding children's rights and the reality of working in this field, from the development of a project to the establishment of training workshops.

The students were very committed, interacting with our professionals and working on case studies that focused on the judicial, security and social sectors tasked with protecting children.



IBCR summer school on the international and comparative protection of children's rights - UQAM

GETTING ELEMENTARY CHILDREN INVOLVED

The Convention on the Rights of the Child explained to mini UN ambassadors

Montreal's La Vérendrye International School is one of the city's educational institutions that has chosen to integrate the concept of mini UN schools into their programme. All elementary classes have a fictional country name, forming a microplanet where ambassadors and representatives are elected to various councils such as the environment, humanitarian action, culture, sports and physical activity. The councils' mandate is to discuss issues faced by the different "countries," seek out solutions, encourage discussions, promote human rights and raise awareness about citizen responsibility. The citizens of the mini UN thus have the chance to learn about cooperation, mutual aid, developing friendly relationships and resolving conflicts¹.

The IBCR was invited for a discussion on children's rights, during which we presented our mission, voluntary cooperation programme and the Convention on the Rights of the Child to two elementary classes. The children then

put their newly-acquired knowledge into practice by participating in an activity during which teams had to identify which rights had not been respected in short stories that were shown to them. This event helped students learn more about their rights and gave them an opportunity to ask questions.



IBCR presentation in an elementary class, La Vérendrye School

Children welcome the IBCR to their radio show

This year, the IBCR was honoured to take part in Montreal's Saint-Fabien School's radio show. Under the guidance of their teacher, Ludovic Tourné, 4th grade students host a radio show where they talk about issues that interest them.

For the show that focused on child labourers, many issues were discussed including: the definition of child labour, its

forms, working conditions, the Convention on the Rights of the Child—more specifically, Article 12—, organisations that help children here and abroad, etc. During the show, there was also a round table discussion to talk about the roles of the International Bureau for Children's Rights and the Dr. Julien Foundation, their initiatives and children's freedom of expression.

The IBCR was very impressed by the involvement and professionalism of these 10-year-olds, who prepared reports, hosted live radio, interviewed guests and set up the show.

Their dynamic enthusiasm was a real source of inspiration for the IBCR, as we strive to make child participation a guiding principle of our programmes.



Saint-Fabien School radio show

¹Excerpt from activities held at La Vérendrye School: <http://la-verendrye.csdm.ca/activites/>.



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES: CHILDREN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

RUNNING FOR MY RIGHTS!

Young champions, IBCR team members and other supporters showcased their motivation and energy at Jean-Drapeau Park last April. Despite the rain and cold weather, children aged 8 to 12 ran 5- and 10-k marathons during the 2017 ScotiaBank Charity Challenge, raising over \$3,000. The IBCR was very proud and touched by everyone's commitment to the cause. CONGRATULATIONS to these athletes!

ScotiaBank Charity Challenge marathon



YOUNG SCOUTS RAISE FUNDS FOR THE IBCR

During a week of Fort Boyard activities, young scouts from Montreal's 229th NDN Scout Group selected various organisations whose causes they really cared about. Teams competed fiercely to gain points in order to donate funds to the organisation of their choice. The IBCR was very happy and moved when the winning team of-

ferred us the first prize. Representatives from the scout group visited the IBCR offices to personally give us a \$500 cheque. It was a great opportunity to talk about both the IBCR and the Scouts' mission, activities and values. THANK YOU to these youngsters for their donation and commitment to children's rights!



Young scouts visiting IBCR offices



Scouts fundraising activity

SOME 60 CHILDREN TAKE PART IN THE IBCR'S FIRST FUNDRAISING GALA

On November 20, approximately 60 children took over the Theatre Plaza during the IBCR's fundraising gala. About a hundred guests took part in the gala, which was held on Children's Day, the IBCR's 24th anniversary and the 29th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Hosted by Pamela Beaudry and DJ Choco, the gala highlighted the importance of giving children a voice and a place in our society. The "Petits Chanteurs de Laval" choir kicked off the evening by sin-

ging about freedom, their rights, the future and family—it was a moving, touching moment that really charmed the audience. Then, Beninese singer Carine au Micro took us on a trip around the world with her enchanting voice and extensive repertoire. Soon after, dancers Staicy and Pipo Alcala got the audience fired up with their salsa, bachata, merengue and cha-cha-cha choreographies. Finally, a photo exhibit showcasing the works of world-class Canadian photographers Normand Blouin, Roger Lemoyne,

Jean-François Leblanc, Martin Beaulieu and Laurent Guérin rounded off the evening. The IBCR would like to thank everyone who attended the gala, especially the children, artists and sponsors, as well as photographer Peter Graham who immortalised the evening through photos.



Merci aux généreux commanditaires

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From top to bottom:
The "Les Petits Chanteurs de Laval" choir;
beautiful and emotional
Singer Carine au Micro
Dancers Staicy and Pipo Alcala





© 123FR - Riccardo Lennart Niels Mayer

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FINANCIAL STANDING AS AT MARCH 31, 2018

TREASURER: Marianne Limoges

The organisation's complete financial statements as at March 31, 2018 were audited by Deloitte S.E.N.C.R.L./s.r.l., a member of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited.

REVENUE	2018	2017
Government contributions	3 972 019	2 588 171
Contributions from international organisations	729 583	1 112 907
Contributed services	609 948	635 741
Private-sector contributions and other sources	181 408	216 460
TOTAL	5 492 958	4 553 279

EXPENSES	2018	2017
Children and justice	3 101 074	2 248 630
Exploitation and violence against children	1 416 993	1 308 401
Children and emergency situations	360 479	380 897
Programme development	267 732	173 316
Administration	285 708	400 758
Other expenses	54 501	34 807
TOTAL	5 486 487	4 546 809

EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	6 471	6 470
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TRUST, SUPPORT
AND GENEROSITY**”

OUR PUBLIC PARTNERS

Global Affairs Canada
United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Quebec Ministry of Justice
Montréal International
Université du Québec à Montréal

OUR PRIVATE PARTNERS

Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
Amal Association for Families and Children - Tunisia
Association of Women Lawyers of Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI)
Lawyers Without Borders Canada
Bayti Association - Morocco
CHS Alternativo - Peru
COALICO - Colombia
Paniamor Foundation - Costa Rica
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Jean-Baptiste Zoungrana, board member (until Sept. 2017)

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Rajae Sbihi, board member

Shirin Aumeeruddy-Cziffra, board member

Théophane Nikyèma, board member (since Sept. 2017)

The IBCR would like to pay tribute to Maria Eugenia Villareal and Jean-Baptiste Zoungrana for their many years of support and contributions, and for their remarkable involvement in promoting and protecting children's rights. We wish them both all the best in the future endeavours.

MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Guillaume Landry, Director General

Karine Ruel, Director of AMENA Programmes and Development

Danielle Valiquette, Director of Programmes and Development, Sub-Saharan Africa

Vincent Dehon, Director of Administration and Human Resources

Benoît Bouvier, Director of Finance

In addition, the International Bureau for Children's Rights is grateful to its collaborators, interns and volunteers who graciously offer their time and skills to ensure the success of our programmes.

THANK YOU to each and every one of you!

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ISBN : 978-1-928031-66-6