



CB Annual report 2007

So far 2007 has been a very productive year for Crossing Borders. The year has seen a great deal of workshop/seminar activities as well as a transition to an altogether new phase in CB's work.

Below follows a detailed calendar overview of the main activities of 2007. The projects CB is so far envisioning and planning for 2008 have also been included.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP, HAIFA, JANUARY

Crossing Borders activities in 2007 started out in Haifa, Israel with a workshop on conflict management for 25 youth leaders from Israel, Palestine, Denmark and Germany.

CAPACITY BUILDING COURSE, ELSINORE, FEBRUARY

In February, Crossing Borders organized a capacity building course at IPC in Elsinore for by a group of 20 Roma youth leaders from Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia. During their two-week stay at IPC, the participants received training, inspiration and support to develop ideas and strategies on networking, mobilization, communication and advocacy toward the inclusion of their communities in the enlargement of European Union.

MEDIA AND EDUCATION WORKSHOP, JERUSALEM, MARCH

In early March, Crossing Borders organized a workshop on media and education in Jerusalem for a group of 30 teachers from Denmark, Finland, Israel and Palestine.

CAPACITY BUILDING COURSE, ELSINORE, MARCH

From 16 to 28 March, Crossing Borders conducted a two-week capacity building course for 25 youth from Germany, Denmark,

Palestine and Israel. The participants were trained in conflict management and communication and media skills. The training included placement at various Danish media outlets.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT COURSE, ELSINORE, JUNE-JULY

The next Crossing Borders main activity was an international conflict management course that took place at IPC on 22 June – 2 July for a group of 25 youth from Denmark, Germany, Palestine and Israel. The course was held jointly with an IPC course for 16 youth from the US. The training included study tours to the Raul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights at the University of Lund in Sweden; the Danish Parliament; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Institute for Human Rights. One of the days was a happening day where the participants crossed cultural borders by dressing up according to the stereotype of the "other" and made a huge banner with "Coexist" as headline. The group then proceeded to marching, singing and dancing through the main street of Copenhagen to the Danish Parliament.

DANIEL PEARL MEDIA INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME SEMINAR, JERUSALEM, JULY

On July, Crossing Borders organized an introduction seminar in Jerusalem for Crossing borders youth attending the Daniel Pearl media Internship Programme at various Israeli and Palestinian media outlets. The stay in Jerusalem of and CB director and intern included visiting Ramallah, different radio stations and print media where the CB youth did their internship.

TEACHERS WORKSHOP, JERUSALEM, JULY

After the internship seminar, a teachers' workshop for Danish, Finnish, and Israeli and Palestinian teachers was held on 19-22 July, also in Jerusalem.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT SKILLS COURSE, BONN, AUGUST

The special media development skills course for young journalists marks the beginning of the new phase of Crossing Borders' activities. Gathering young journalists from Germany, Denmark, Israel and Palestine, the course took place on 18-28 August in

the facilities of the former German Federal Parliament in Bonn. The participants received training and discussed how to detect and tackle media biases and implement culture, conflict and gender sensitive terms in their media work. The outcomes of the course were a special edition of the Crossing Borders magazine that can be read and downloaded from crossingborder.org as well as a documentary film that can be ordered from Crossing Borders.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP, NAZARETH, AUGUST

For the first time, CB organized a workshop in Nazareth on youth leadership for was for a group of 25 by youth from Germany, Israel, Palestine and Denmark. CB Advisory Board member and trainer attended the workshop together CB trainer Maya Nagakawa from Japan.

TEACHERS WORKSHOP, JERUSALEM, OCTOBER

The Crossing Borders teachers' workshop was held in Jerusalem on 25-29 October at Tantur center between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. It was attended by 30 teachers and head of schools from Denmark, Israel, Palestine and Finland.

DANIEL PEAR MEDIA INTERNSHIP CONCLUSION WORKSHOP, JERUSALEM, OCTOBER

This Crossing Borders conclusion workshop took place on 30 October, and attended by CB interns and representatives of host for the Crossing Borders Daniel Pearl Media Internship Programme. The workshop was held at YMCA, Jerusalem.

MEDIA SKILLS FOLLOW-UP WORKSHOP, JERUSALEM, NOVEMBER

This was a follow-up workshop to the Bonn course, and was thus be attended by the same 25 participants who were in Bonn and few new participants. The Crossing Borders Media Skills follow-up workshop was held on 1-4 November at YMCA, Jerusalem.

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR...

MEDIA SKILLS PROJECT, 2008

This project is for countries in the MENA-region, and it builds

further upon the experiences from the Bonn course, thus focusing on young media workers. As a new addition to the course, Crossing Borders is planning to include a new learning computer game targeted for journalists in the learning process. The game "Global Conflicts: Palestine" is designed to enhance the player's awareness of the different angles and perspectives that may be employed in the media work covering the conflict. The game requires much individual reflection as well as the production of several articles, thus complementing the over-all objectives of the Crossing Borders course perfectly. Crossing Borders is still, however, in the midst of seeking funds for the entire project.

UP TO YOU: THE MEDIA IN OUR LIVES.08

Another project, which is still very much at the drawing board, is the project Up to You: the Media in our Lives. The project focuses on women in the media and will mainly concern gender sensitive aspects of media production, how to detect and correct gender biases in the Middle East and Europe. The planned course is targeted exclusively at young female media workers. The project's realization is however still dependent on acquiring the needed funds.

With regards

Garba Diallo/ 6 November 2007