



## Press Release

### **Regional Conference on Inuusitta Makitjuumigiagarninga Prevention and Empowerment**

**Kuujuuaq, Québec, October 22, 2012** – Last week, representatives from every Nunavik community and regional organizations wrapped up extensive discussions on health and social services, youth protection services, policing, justice and correctional services, as well as education and employment. In all these sectors, stakeholders have for years been struggling to implement adequate responses to complex social problems, exacerbated in particular by alcohol and drug abuse.

“Far from focusing on our problems, this conference gave us an unprecedented opportunity to explore alternative solutions –like the Social Regulation Project,” concluded Maggie Emudluk, Chairperson of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG). “Participants were able to share grass-root ideas. They are returning to their communities with the knowledge that we are all part of the solution, although a lot of hard work remains ahead of us.”

Led by Minnie Grey, chairperson of the Regional Partnership Committee, and Lizzie Aloupa, a prevention counsellor with the Kativik Regional Police Force, the conference comprised two days of workshops on the current state of affairs and a third day of group discussions on alternative approaches to the region’s social problems. A declaration adopted by the participants at the close of the conference called on Nunavimmiut to take responsibility and address the social problems facing their communities through local initiatives. A proposed pilot project on Reconstructing Social Regulations was also presented and received support from the conference participants, as being an initiative that deserves to be looked at as an alternative to a justice system that is not addressing the causes of crime.

The Regional Conference on Prevention and Empowerment was organized by the KRG Legal, Socio-Judicial and Municipal Management Department in close cooperation with the Regional Partnership Committee, the Kativik Regional Police Force, the Makivik Corporation, the Kativik School Board, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, as well as the Ungava Tulattavik and Inuulitsivik health centres. Conference participants included three representatives from each community, individuals recognized for their involvement in important social issues. On return to their communities, these participants are being encouraged to organize formal and informal follow-up in order to share with their fellow residents the documentation and ideas brought forward at the conference. To obtain a copy of the pilot project, Reconstructing Social Regulation document contact:

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## **INUUSITTA MAKITJUMIGIAQARNINGA STRENGTHENING OUR LIVES**

### **DECLARATION**

Over the past three days, we, the participants at the Inuusitta Makitjuumigiaqarninga – Strengthening our Lives - Regional Conference on Prevention and Empowerment have:

- Increased our understanding of the realities of health and social services, youth protection, alcohol and drug abuse, injuries, justice and policing services, as well as education and employment services;
- Strengthened our ties with one another to be better able to respond to the social problems being experienced by our communities;
- Shared ideas about how we can do more with the resources we have in-hand;
- Reinforced our belief that Nunavimmiut have the power and a responsibility to improve well-being in our communities.

### **Re-Empowering Our Communities**

All participants agree that it is now time to act and address the problems affecting our communities. Social harmony needs to be restored and healing is required.

All participants agree that the solutions to the problems affecting our communities must come from the communities themselves. Although each community is unique and will have to choose its own path, it is clear that Inuit culture and values will be our guide, at the heart of every initiative. Local and regional leaders must step forward and become the catalysts for community mobilization.

### **Using the Resources We Have**

All participants recognize that certain resources and organizations must serve as the pillars of community re-empowerment, providing the foundation on which communities will create their own projects and best practices, and achieve tangible results.

The Regional Partnership Committee and the prevention resources of the Kativik Regional Police Force will need to work hand in hand with the communities. Elders and cultural committees will need to renew themselves in line with the initiatives of each community.

All participants agree that the project Social Regulation Reconstruction must be implemented and will support this work with a view to making the project a core community tool.

All participants agree to remain involved and contribute in their own capacity to mobilization in their communities and throughout the region. They have already initiated the reflection as to what the next step(s) should be for their community and will share their ideas with their fellow community members.

### **Approved unanimously**

By the participants of the Inuusitta Makitjuumigiaqarninga – Strengthening our Lives - Regional Conference on Prevention and Empowerment

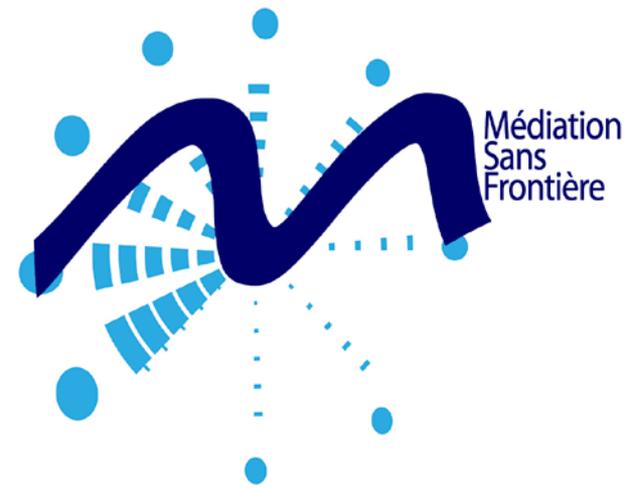
# Reconstructing Social Regulation Project

October 2012

*Lizzie Aloupa*

*Minnie Grey*

*Mylène Jaccoud*



# Plan of the presentation

- 1) Origin of the project
- 2) Social regulation : a definition
- 3) Reconstructing social regulation
  - why ?
  - for who and by whom ?
  - Inuit based values and spirit
  - functioning of the project
- 4) First steps of concrete actions + activities in one community (year 1)

# ***1) Origin of the project***

- 2009 :

***Working Group on Justice in Nunavik***

mandated ***Médiation sans frontière (MSF)*** to conduct an exploratory study on the strengths and limitations of the permanent judicial services in Kuujjuaq



# Main results of this research

- More judicial files are managed
- Access to law is improved (for Victims and Offenders)
- BUT there is no impact on crime and violence reduction in the community



From these results, MSF suggested to work on an alternative plan of intervention for Inuit communities in Nunavik based on the principle of

## ***Reconstructing Social Regulation***

(Report submitted to the Working Group on Justice in Nunavik in July 2012)

## ***2) Social regulation***

- ***DEFINITION :***

- Creation and application of collective rules
- Intervention if rules are not respected
- Social harmony is the finality
- Social harmony comes from the ***collective participation*** of ***formal*** and ***informal resources*** (meaning it does not come only from specialized institutions)

# ***3) Reconstructing Social regulation***

- ***WHY:***

- The justice system is mainly oriented towards the management of offenders and does little to support and heal victims, families and the larger community;
- The way the justice system is working tends to reinforce disempowerment of local resources and the system is not adapted to Inuit identity and culture;

- **Local resources are fragile and not always efficient because sometimes people involved feel isolated and hopeless in particular because of the magnitude of the social problems, the lack of information, communication, coordination as well as support and financial and human resources.**



**Informal + formal resources  
have to be :**

- reinforced**
- modified**
- created**

- 
- 1. Create/apply collective rules**
  - 2. Intervene if rules are not respected**

# ***3) Reconstructing Social regulation***

- ***FOR WHO ?:***

- **Offenders/abusers;**

- **Victims;**

- **Families;**

- **People who have not been criminalized, but are facing problems (behavior, alcohol and drugs over consumption, mental health, and may be at risk to have conflict with the law);**

- **The community;**

# ***3) Reconstructing Social regulation***

- ***BY WHOM ?:***

- Formal and informal leaders;
- The community;
- Community based services;
- Agencies and services from each level of administration or government (local, regional, provincial and federal)

# 3) *Reconstructing Social regulation*

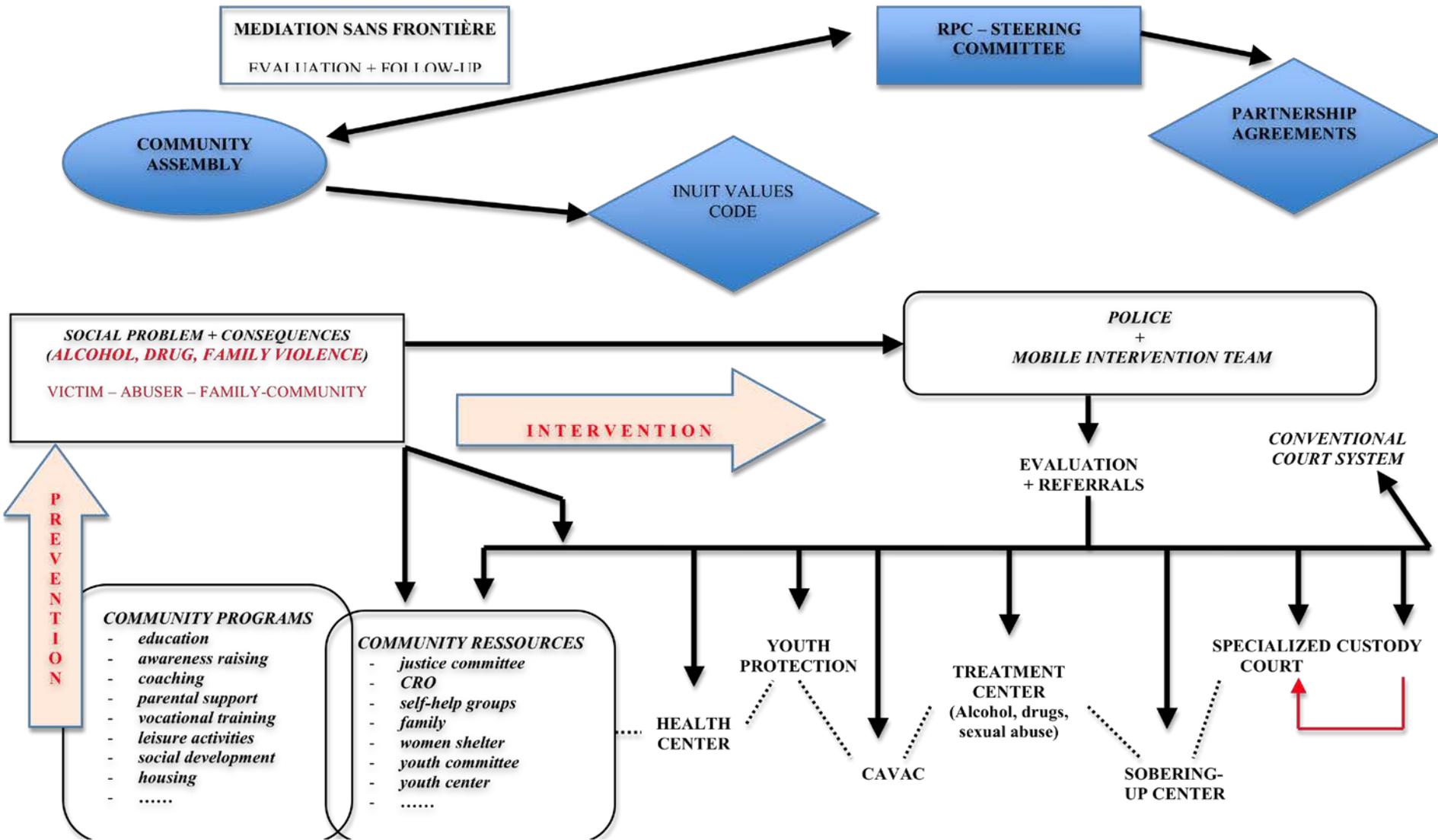
- ***INUIT BASED VALUES/SPIRIT:***

- ***Empowerment*** of inuit communities;
- ***Causes*** and ***consequences*** of crime and problematic (target psychosocial problems);
- ***Support*** of all individuals affected by the social problems (victims, offenders, family members, community members);

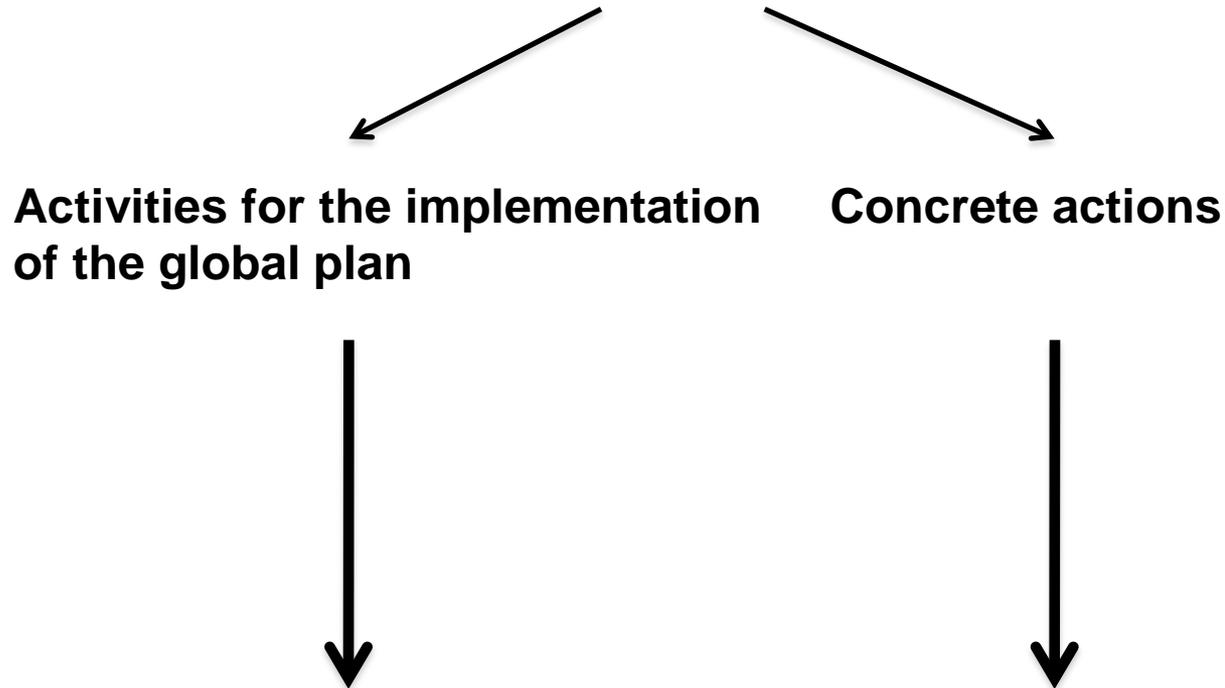
- **Networking** and **mobilization** of all formal and informal stakeholders;
- **Transformation** of the justice system:
  - ❑ Strong partnership with community resources
  - ❑ Training on values of the project for the KRPF and court staff (judge, lawyer, crown attorney etc.)
  - ❑ Cultural sensitization and training of non Inuit;
- **Strengthen** what already exists, **modify** others (to make them coherent with the values of the project) and when necessary, **create** new services.

# ***3) Reconstructing Social regulation***

- ***FUNCTIONING OF THE PROJECT:***



## 4) First steps of concrete actions and activities in one community:



| IMPLEMENTATION   | ACTIONS  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>INVENTORY OF RESSOURCES in the community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Analysis of the efficiency of these ressources (needs + support)</b></li> </ul> | <p><b>ESTABLISHMENT OR STRENGTHENING OF INFORMAL RESOURCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Support circles</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Pairing process (families + individuals)</b></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>AWARENESS RAISING ACTIVITIES AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT INITIATION</b></p>  |  |
| <p><b>SOBERING UP CENTER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Documentation, analysis + proposal</b></li> </ul>   | <p><b>INUIT CODE OF VALUES</b></p>   |
| <p><b>SPECIALIZED COURTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Documentation, analysis + proposal</b></li> </ul>   | <p><b>MOBILE INTERVENTION TEAM</b></p>   |
| <p><b>TREATMENT CENTERS (alcohol/drugs+ sexual abuse)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Documentation, analysis + proposal</b></li> </ul>                        | <p><b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY</b></p>   |
| <p><b>INVENTORY OF LOCAL POLICIES (HOUSING, LEISURE, EDUCATION, ETC.)</b></p>  | <p><b>RAISING THE AWARENESS OF THE CHILDREN IN SCHOOL CONCERNING THE PROBLEMS LINKED WITH THE VIOLENCE AND THE ABUSE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>POPULATION CENSUS + POLICE + JUDICIAL + CORRECTIONAL + YOUTH PROTECTION STATS</b></p>  | <p><b>PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS ELABORATION</b></p>   |

# Protocol of collaboration : a proposal

