### Regional Community Safety and Resilience Unit

### Overview of activities for the month of September 2013

**Regional**

***Publication of multi- hazard Comics:***

 SEARD has published comics on seven common hazards targeting specifically to children in and out of school from the financial support from ECHO/DIPECHO. The Comic Brochures- ***Preparing for disasters: Fire/Earthquake/Drought/Flood/Typhoon/Tsunami/Hygiene -*** are available in English, Khmer, Lao, Myanmar, Tetum- Timor Leste, Thai and Vietnamese. For further details of all hazards, please click the link <https://storify.com/SM4Resilience/south-east-asia-common-hazards-comic-brochures>

***Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioner Workshop, Bangkok 13- 14 November 2013:*** The IFRC South East Asia Regional Delegation is gearing up to organize a “Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioners Workshop” to further engage relevant ECHO/DIPECHO partners and relevant stakeholders in the region to explore what are key learning points for the future intervention and what can be collectively achieved in the region as well.

The workshop aims to achieve two expected specific objectives as below:

* Understand and identify the good practices, lessons learned, gaps, skills, challenges, tools and methods and share experiences in community based risk reduction initiatives to enhance integrated community based programming
* Identify inclusive areas and approaches toward community resilience linking the grass root level with national, regional and global level initiatives.

It is expected to bring 60 participants together from East Asia, South East Asia and South Asia.

***Pilot initiatives at community level on integrated planning process:***

Integrated planning initiatives are being undertaken by four national societies of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Timor Leste as a follow up action after the thematic seminar on integration under the regional project supported by ECHO/DIPECHO. Following progress has been achieved thus far:

**In Cambodia**, a joint assessment between DM and Health was completed in August and a community plan of action was developed as a result of the assessment in which major priorities of the plan of action is water and sanitation. Cambodian Red Cross and Svay Rieng branch are gearing up to further mobilise resources to support the community in its implementation.

**In Laos**, a 5 day integrated training course which includes Health, DM and OD modules was executed in Vang Vieng in August followed by a multi- sector assessment in two selected communities of Vang Vieng district, Vientiane province. Two community plans of actions were developed afterward in which major issues identified by community people are: food security; animal diseases (HFM); hygiene and water sanitation and response preparedness capacities.

**In Myanmar,** ward 21 of Southern Dagon of Yangon city was selected to implement the pilot initiative. A plan of action was developed in which major focus will be: repair and improvement of drainage system and canal cleaning which require a lot of community mobilisation and participation.

**In Timor Leste,** youth empowerment via various activities in schools in Aileu district are on –going and an internal review to draw lessons learned is to be done before December 2013 for future learning and replication.

***Strategic review of RDMU and CSRU:***

A consultant is hired from 22, September 2013 for 14 days. The purpose of consultancy is: to reflect back on achievements during the last decade under both: RDMU and CSRU, impacts, provide conclusions and recommendations for the future interventions/support. Following areas will be mainly covered through this consultancy:

1. Review the impacts of the Regional Disaster Management Unit’s support from its inception and its relevance to current and future programming with reflection on the transition into Resilience Unit.
2. Consider the added value provided by the Resilience Unit at a regional and country level in its present form: structures and strategies
3. Make recommendations as to future directions for the Regional Resilience Unit, in particular, how its structures, mechanisms of delivery, strategies can be shaped with a focus on building national society capacity that would inevitably contribute to strengthening of safety and resilience at community level.
4. Identify opportunities for the Regional Resilience Unit and national societies to increase volume of programming and deepen impact and comment on how these can be exploited.
5. Consider the different models of operationalization of Resilience approach within the region and make recommendations regarding these

Consultant has been in touch with several RCRC and non-RCRC colleagues and will continue to hold interviews for the next two weeks. First draft will be shared with SEARD on 14th October, 2013.

***DREF for Lao Red Cross Society:***

A DREF has been requested for the period of six months to support 10,000 beneficiaries affected by recent floods through Lao Red Cross Society in two Soithern provinces of Champasak and Salavat in Lao PDR. The operation will mainly concentrate for distribution of food **(rice**), **hygiene items (soap, detergent)** and **hygiene promotion and distribution of mosquito nets**. IEC materials will also be re-reprinted and disseminated on prevention of Mosquito and Water borne diseases – using materials developed by MoH and WHO. A lesson learnt workshop has been planned at the end of operation in order to improve the future operation of Lao Red Cross.

***Multilateral Exercise (MTX)-2014:***

The Directorate of joint Operations, Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters will hold the Multilateral Exercise 2014: MTX 14 on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief: HA/DR with ASEAN member countries, allies nations, International Organizations and Civil Society organization between 24 April-2 May, 2014. The event will be co-hosted by the Royal Thai Armed Forces and Malaysian Armed Forces. A first planning meeting was organized on 25 September to conceptualize the joint exercise. SEARD and Thai Red Cross was invitee of this meeting and jointly attended. Thai Red Cross has shown their commitment to get involved with both human and material resources.

The exercise will focus on earthquake scenario in the region, causing great casualties and severe damage to one of the country of ASEAN. The scenario mainly concentrates into chemical leakage and building collapse.

The exercise will demonstrate the practical cooperation among International Organizations and Civil Society organization, ASEAN member countries and allies nations under AADMER framework. The exercise will further strengthen the linking between Thai Government SoP and SASOP (The SoP of AHA Centre).

***Disasters situation in Mekong Sub-region:***

Typhoon WUTIP increased in strength and made landfall as a category 2 typhoon. The Vietnamese authorities have predicted that WUTIP might be the strongest storm to hit **Viet Nam** since Xangsane in 2006. Roofs have been blown off at least a thousand houses, trees have been uprooted, blocking transportation, and electricity is intermittent in many parts of central Viet Nam. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development, early indications are that the storm has caused devastation in the whole of Quang Binh province and in parts of Ha Tinh and Quang Tri. A small DREF allocation was approved to cover the costs of pre-positioning and deployments of Provincial and National Disaster Response Teams. The Viet Nam Red Cross is likely to request for additional assistance in the form of an additional DREF and/or an Emergency Appeal, depending on the level of damaged cause by the typhoon.

**Laos** has seen heavy monsoon rains since June, enhanced at times by typhoons (Jebi and Monghut) passing in the region. Up until the middle of September the northern parts of the country was most affected, but a week ago a tropical depression brought heavy rains to the southern parts of the country as well. Those areas are now experiencing the worst flooding in 35 years. In total in the past months, it’s estimated that around 350,000 people have been affected by floods across the country.  Lao RC has been responding since the beginning of the floods in close coordination with national, provincial and local authorities, distributing food and non-food items using their existing stocks and resources. A DREF has been requested for the period of six months to support 10,000 beneficiaries affected by recent floods through Lao Red Cross Society in Lao PDR.

**Thailand** is not an exception. Large parts of northern and eastern region of Thailand have been affected by floods since mid-September. According to government reports, close to 7000 houses, 175,000 hectare of farmland, thousands of roads and more than a hundred bridges have been damaged by the floodwaters. A total of 2.1 million people live in the affected areas. Thai Red Cross has been responding to flooding in 15 provinces and has already distributed 27,000 family kits so far reaching over 100,000 beneficiaries. Family kits of Thai Red Cross comprises of Rice 5 (kg.); 6 cans steam rice(150gm/can); 30 packs Instant Noodle  (55gm/pack.); 6 cans Tomato Sauce (155gm/can.); 6 cans vegetable pickle(140gm/can); 6 cans Fried Mackerels in Chili Sauce (155 gm/can.); 2 bottles Thai Chili Paste(50gm/bottle); 2 pcs Egg Stew with Spices and Chicken (125gm/egg); 2 packs Instant Chocolate Beverage (35 gm/pack.); 1 set Torch with Batteries;  1 pack Candle (2 pcs/pack); 1 pc Lighter; 1 bottle Mosquitos & Insects Repellent (40gm.); 1 bag Household Medicine (Antacid tab -10 tabs, 20 tabs Chlorpheniramine-4 mg, 20 tabs Para cetamol-500 mg, 3 sacs Electrolyte powder and Band aid-3 pcs); 1 tube Anti-Athlete’s Foot Cream;  Iodine Salt (450 gm.); 6 pcs of large garbage bag; 12 bottles drinking water(600CC); 6pcs of small garbage bag.

Similarly, heavy rains have led to floods in at least seven provinces in the north, and along the Mekong River and in central Cambodia. 28 people have lost their lives and more than 200,000 are affected. Cambodia Red Cross continues to respond in five provinces with distributions of food and non-food items.

**Alert:** typhoon WUTPI will likely bring heavy rains to areas in Laos, Cambodia and Thailand in the coming days

***Regional Health Technical Working Group (RTHWG) meeting***

SEA RHTWG meeting invitation has been send to all the NSs and chairperson of the different Health networks. Tentative agenda and concept note is also shared with the National Society. The meeting will be held from 28 – 29 October, 2013. The objectives of this meeting are

* To develop better understanding of the importance of integrated programming and plan how best to contribute in operationalization of Resilience approach
* Share updates, lesson learnt from several health programmes regionally and globally.
* Discuss how to tackle the emerging health problem like Non-communicable disease and Influenza Pandemic.

***International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) 2013:***

SEARD is working closely with Thai RC for ICCAP. ICAAP is the largest forum on HIV/AIDS in the AP region. This year Bangkok is hosting ICAAP from 18 - 22 November, 2013. ICAAP participant list has been finalized - 7 participants will be supported by SEARD to attend the ICAAP. In the ICAAP we will be holding satellite symposium on **‘From science to community - Asia Pacific Red Cross Red Crescent HIV/AIDS response’**, abstract presentation and booth to display IEC materials. In addition, there will be a booth where NSs can demonstrate IEC materials, case studies, strategic documents, etc.

***Sixth Asia Pacific Population Conference:***

Sixth Asia Pacific Population Conference from 16 – 20 September, which was held in Bangkok, was attended by member of CSRU.  The conference set the regional population and development agenda for the region over the next decade and review of the region’s successes and remaining challenges in population and development. The outcome of the conference will be presented in General Assembly in a special session on the [International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) beyond 2014](http://icpdbeyond2014.org/).

Ministers, senior policy makers, parliamentarians, civil society, and United Nations members have attended the five-day conference to discuss population issues. The conference covered broad agenda including successes, challenges and future priorities on areas such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, youth, ageing, migration, and urbanization. [Negotiated draft outcome document](http://www.unescapsdd.org/files/documents/APPC6_WP1ER3.pdf) of the meeting is available -<http://www.unescapsdd.org/files/documents/APPC6_WP1ER3.pdf>

***AP Zone CBHFA workshop preparation:***

AP Zone is organizing a CBHFA workshop from 1 – 5 October in Sri Lanka. Technical support was provided to NSs to prepare for the workshop. SEA is having a Panel discussion on integration. In addition Cambodia and Myanmar is presenting evaluation report. Timor Leste is presenting video on CBHFA.

***Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction-Thai Red Cross:***

Surin health station, TRC together with community’s members in 2 communities – Baan nong praya and Ban lumchi in Surin province organized the 2nd desk top exercise on flood situation. There was a same event with 3 communities in Burirum Provinces – Baan kok kamin, Baan chamlae and Baan mara.

The 2nd week of September there was a heavy flood in Surin province, 16 districts, 127 sub-districts and 1,350 villages were flooded (information from <http://www.thaiflood.com>) including 5 communities of CBDRR project. Communities members demonstrated their skills and knowledge that they have gained during the CBDRR programme to save their lives and livelihood. Trained people were engaged in early warning and evacuation of the people to safe place.

Chiang Mai health station, TRC together with 5 communities: Baan Pao, Mae Kanil Tai, Baan Pang Maklauy, Baan Soblerm, Baan Sobguy conducted the table top exercise on flood situation.

TRC together with 5 communities – Baan yangsao, Baan sub kraso, Baan nam aom, and Baan non sanga and Baan saunyayai have surveyed the location for mitigation activities. The mitigation activities are under consideration.

***Post Emergency Preparedness Operation:***

Relief and Community Health Bureau (RCHB) organized meeting for Post Emergency/Preparedness Operation on Friday, 20 September 2013. Around 20 people took part in the meeting. SEARD/CSRU attended the meeting and reviewed the achievements as well as discussed the next quarter Plan for the RCHB as the main recepient of the funds in TRC. Meeting mainly covered the following agenda: Quarterly working advance request, time line for working advance, progress report, financial and narrative report, POA for next quarter and working advance. The project team quarterly meeting is scheduled on 17 October, 2013.

**Facilitation on Red Cross Action in Emergencies:** TRC invited IFRC to facilitate one session on DRR Prediction Game during five days’ workshop that was held from 23-27 September 2013 in Nakon Ratchasima Province. A total l10 Participants attended the workshop. The objective of this workshop is to strengthen the facilitation skill of TRC’s trainer in order to train TRC’s staff in dealing with Emergencies. The game is related to climate change and disaster risk reduction. The game objective were illustrate the potential value and limitation of seasonal forecast for red cross work, bring the idea that it takes time investment and resources to understand forecast, and to see the important of forecast and DRR for dealing with disasters. Participants liked the game.

***Tsunami Residual Funding Programme-Thai Red Cross:***

**First Aid Training for Red Cross Youth Volunteers:** 6 First Aid Youth Clubs in different regions arranged First aid trainings in September. Each Club received 15,000 budget supports for organizing First Aid training from TRCS Youth Bureau. Altogether, 19 First Aid Youth trainings have been arranged from July – September 2013.

 **Development of first aid publication materials:** First Aid publication materials; USB flash drive, cloth bag, umbrella, sms package and VDO clip; are being produced with the estimated budget of 300,000 Baht. The materials will be distributed to first aid youths, supervisors of First Aid Clubs, trainers and for the public.

**Strengthening First Aid Trainer Teams and building nationwide network:** Seminar for first aid trainer was arranged in 4 batches with total of 271 participants from Non-Fomal Education Centers (NFE), schools and relevant agencies across Thailand. Contents of the seminar consist of First Aid modules, Test on First Aid skill, strengthening relationship and network activity, and planning for First Aid Youth Trainings.

 **Workshop on better response preparedness for complexity disaster in Songkhla province:** The workshop on better response preparedness for complex disasters in Songkhla province was organized during 6-7 June 2013 at Viva Hotel in Songkhla Province with total of 123 participants.

Simulation exercise in Trang province: Simulation exercise in Trang province was arranged during 17-18 July2013 with total budget 226,071 Baht. There were 110 persons from Trang Red Cross Chapter and relevant agencies participating in the training on the first day, and simulation exercise on the second day.

**Development of criteria/guideline for project proposal writing:** Workshop on Development of criteria/guideline for project proposal writing was organized and the handbook was produced to be distributed to TRCS bureaus.

**Strengthening capacity of Planning and Policy and Strategic Analysis staff of TRCS:** 4 workshops for strengthening capacity of Planning and Policy and Strategic Analysis for staff of TRCS were organized during August-September 2013. Representatives from every bureaus and divisions of TRCS attended the courses. However, the last course “Strategic Thinking” has to be postponed to Quarter 4 as the instructor is not available.

***Linking Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation: Building Community Resilience through Early Warning Systems in Indonesia and Thailand:***

**In PMI:**

* Workshop on developing the framework of Life skill educational guideline has been completed in PMI. The guideline of life skill education approach has been initiated by DRR Sub Division to be applied for youth group. In 2012, PMI has developed the first life skill educational guideline which focused on 5 modules (disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and ecosystem, health and food security. This workshop was done with the support of IFRC Country Delegation, held on July 18-22, 2013. Participated by 19 participants from NHQ Office, DKI Jakarta Province, West Java Province, NTT Province, Aceh Province, West Sumatera Province, Jambi Province, Central Java Province, DI. Yogyakarta Province, South Kalimantan Province and Bali Province
* The framework of guideline has been drafted, focusing on the life skills need to be strengthened for the youth group particularly for 6 common hazards in Indonesia: Earthquake, Tsunami, Volcano Eruption, Flood, Landslide, tidal wave.
* Workshop on Finalization of the Life skill education guideline: The workshop was held on September 18-20, 2013, attended by 12 participants from PMI NHQ, Central Java, Bali, West Java, South Kalimantan, Jambi, and NTT Provinces. During the workshop, it has been agreed some improvements as follows :
	+ cognitive is directed at the introduction of hazards
	+ affective is directed at the introduction of the environmental conditions associated with particular hazards
	+ Psychomotor is focused on life skills that can support or contribute to the community
	+ Desired Behavior is focused on life skills that support disaster preparedness at individual level
	+ The topic of flood, landslides and tidal waves should be linked with climate change adaptation
	+ The topic of tsunami, earthquake and volcanic eruptions should be added with the sub topic of disaster risk reduction Incorporate public health issue at all topics
* Advocacy and community mobilization: Advocacy meeting with related stakeholder has been conducted on September 9, 2013. This meeting was intended to socialize about the simulation of early warning and early action. Awareness meeting with community members was conducted on September 11, 2013 to socialize about early warning system mechanism, the need to strengthen community approaches, the utilization of technology and local wisdom for disaster risk reduction and the role of PMI Disaster Command for disaster risk reduction. The Focus Group Discussion with community members was conducted several times in September 16, 18, 20, and 2013 to discuss about evacuation route, meeting point and contingency plan at community level.

**In TRCS:**

* TRCS has identified the community for this project. The kits for EWEA have been identified. Hazards focused IEC materials for EWEA and Risk reduction have been identified, designed and printing is in progress. National level training on DRR, CCA and EWEA has been completed.

***Knowledge Sharing:***

This online site (<https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/health-and-care/health-bulletins>.) is regularly update for knowledge sharing this above site is regularly being updated with DRR, health and other reference documents by SEARD/CSRU Team.

***Upcoming Events for October/November 2013:***

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|  **Date** | **Events** | **Venue** |
| 1 October | International Day of Older Persons |  |
| 1 – 5 October | AP Zone CBHFA workshop  | Sri Lanka |
| 2-3 October | Resilience Workshop: “Review of FCSR” | Malaysia |
| 9-10 | AADMER Consultation Workshop | Thailand |
| 13 October | International Risk Reduction Day (UNISDR-IDRR) with the theme of “people with disabilities” | Thailand |
| 19-24 | ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX) | Viet Nam |
| 25 October | Qyarterly Review Meeting with TRC on the Post-emergency Operation | Thailand |
| 28-29 October | Regional Health working group Meeting | Bangkok |
| 13- 14 November 2013 | Disaster Risk Reduction Practitioner Workshop,  | Bangkok |