

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE UNIT (CSRU)

Overview of activities for the month of April 2014

11th Meeting of the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) on Disaster Management

A meeting co-hosted by Relief and Resettlement Department, Ministry of Social Welfare - Republic of the Union of Myanmar; and ADPC with support from the German Government through GIZ was held from 1-3 April 2014 in Nai Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The RCC serves as regional dialogue platform promoting consultation and cooperation on reducing disaster risk, peer advocacy and the exchange of experiences in risk reduction.

The overarching theme of the 11th RCC was: *"Reducing Disaster Risk and Transforming Development"*. The theme was to generate concrete directions for future mainstreaming based on the experience of RCC member countries and its partners organizations.

RCRC was represented by the CSRU coordinator and Deputy Heads of Disaster Management Departments from Myanmar Red Cross and Thai Red Cross.

IFRC was given an opportunity to present outlines of our support and mechanisms, objectives and investment strategies in regards to mainstreaming DRR in Asia. The key message given to government representatives was to consider more formal and long term engagements and partnerships with RCRC in Disaster Risk Reduction as the most natural way forward considering RCRC's auxiliary role, experience, expertise and capacities of its staff and volunteers and its network on the ground.

More info at: <http://www.adpc.net/igo/contents/Media/media-news.asp?pid=511#sthash.0pw9J6wY.dpbs>



World Urban Forum 7 (WUF7)

The Seventh session of the WUF took place in April 5-11 in the city of Medellin, in Colombia. The conference's theme was focusing on "Urban Equity in Development - Cities for Life"

The Government of Colombia, Medellin hosted the WUF for over 22,000 participants from 142 countries. Alongside participation from IFRC Geneva and other RCRC representatives from other zones, the Red Cross Red Crescent from Asia Pacific was represented by the Head of DM Department from PMI-Indonesia as the focal point for the global Urban Pilot Study that is being conducted in Jakarta – one of 5 cities worldwide.

For more information on forum proceedings and outcomes please visit: <http://wuf7.unhabitat.org/>



6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), 22-26 June 2014, Bangkok, Thailand (Preparation)

1st ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting of the year was co-organized by the UN ISDR and Royal Thai Government Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation from 22-24 April 2014 in Bangkok.

The main focus of this IAP was to consult the IAP members towards the final preparation of the 6th AMCDRR, including discussion on the draft outcome and background documents; finalization of the HFA2 Asia Input document; stakeholder group engagement and preparation of the commitment statement; and engagement of Asian countries in the WCDRR.

The main objectives of this meeting were:

1. Final update and discussion on 6th AMCDRR that including consultation on the conference declaration, background documents and finalization of events and sessions.
2. Final consultation on the 'Asia HFA2 Input document'
3. Stakeholder group engagement towards development of the commitment statements.
4. Consultation on the new set of Indicators and targets for HFA2
5. HFA monitoring and review for the biennium 2013-15
6. Share updates and experiences on key efforts in the region

The IAP was attended by over 100 participants; mainly the IAP members including representatives of national governments, sub-regional inter governmental organizations, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), bilateral donors, UN & Intl. organizations, Red Cross Red Crescent, civil society organizations and media. RCRC was represented by IFRC AP Zone, SEARD and the Thai Red Cross.

As one of the conferences' key stakeholders the IFRC/RCRC has been engaged in several sessions/discussions focusing on:

- Technical Session1: "Building Community Resilience" co-led with ADRRN – design of the session and finalization of the background document,
- Special Sessions on School Safety and Youth Forum – in close collaboration with the Asian Coalition on School Safety – including discussions about side events (among other planned side events i.e. GDPC, Disaster Law etc)
- Special Session on Multistakeholders national Platforms on DRR co-led by UN ISDR and IFRC and further discussion about possible RCRC participation in high level round table discussions

As this was the last meeting before the conference, participants were provided key updates on the conference preparation by the Royal Thai Government and UN ISDR on all aspects of conference organization.

The online registration of participants has been extended until 31 may 2014. Please follow this link to register: <http://6thamcdrr-thailand.net/6thamcdrr/Online-Registration>



First Red Cross Red Crescent International Nursing Conference

The First Red Cross Red Crescent International Nursing conference was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 23-25 April 2014.

The conference theme was: “Disaster Nursing, Humanitarian Emergency Response, and Nursing Trends” and it was dedicated to the centennial anniversary of the Thai Red Cross College of Nursing. The international nursing conference aimed to empower nurses by providing an opportunity to learn and share evidence-based, first-hand experience from around the globe.

The event was organized by the Thai Red Cross College of Nursing. The Japanese Red Cross Society of Nursing Science, Red Cross College of Nursing Chung-Ang University (Korea), Red Cross University College (Sweden), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (IFRC) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) co-hosted the event. The event saw the participation of 214 participants: 164 participants from Thailand (of which 93 were from the Thai Red Cross College of Nursing) and 50 international participants.

For more information please visit: <http://www.rcinc2014.com/Welcome.html>

Thailand's Flood Disaster Conference 2014

From 28-29 April in Bangkok, a conference brought together policy makers, industry experts, flood control and protection systems providers, to discuss, assess the situation and draw up new flood prevention and mitigation plan as well as immediate installation and deployment of flood barriers and delivery of flood protection systems to beef up existing flood prevention structures that have been put in place temporarily as an initial responses to flood on buildings and critical infrastructure from flood waters since July 2014.

CSRU was requested to deliver a presentation on Community Resilience recognizing that investments made only in infrastructure are not enough but in parallel it is necessary to increase the resilience at community level to ensure better preparedness for response.

Participants came from various Thai Government Ministries/Departments, private companies, international organizations and NGOs alongside IFRC.

Asia Pacific Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) master training

AP Zone health Unit organized master training on non-communicable disease in Kuala Lumpur from 13 -16 April, 2014. The aim of the training was to develop a pool of experts across the Asia Pacific Zone to roll out the non-communicable diseases module in the zone. The training saw participation of 32 participants from the Asia Pacific Zone.

Asia Pacific Zone Health – WatSan Technical Coordination meeting

SEA Regional Health Officer participated in the Asia Pacific Zone Health – WatSan Technical Coordination meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, from 15 to 18 April, 2014. Health had a day and half while WatSan had two and a half separate days for technical discussions and a half joint day for discussions on resource mobilization.

The objectives of the event were:

- To enable country, regional and zonal colleagues in Health and WatSan to update themselves on technical issues, approaches, plans and lessons learned in their respective sectors.
- To have a half day joint meeting with health and WatSan to look at resource mobilization in health and WatSan and plan for future approaches.

Building Regional Capacity and Collaboration for Community Resilience in Southeast Asia

Following a planning workshop last December in Bangkok with representatives from all NSs of the region, a detailed work plan was finalized with the Canadian Red Cross in order to enhance regional capacity and collaboration for community resilience. DRR Manager of this project has joined the CSRU team from April and he is familiarizing himself with the project and team around the delegation and country level.

This regional initiative is in line with the Long-Term Planning Framework of the regional office and will further strengthen ongoing efforts focusing at enhancing the skills of National Societies, building on their existing achievements in disaster risk reduction. It is expected that NS will be empowered to advocate more strongly at the national and regional levels and thus better represent the needs of the most vulnerable people. This will include activities related to communication and advocacy, humanitarian diplomacy, gender and disaster law.



In April, the team worked on two Terms of Reference (ToR) to be shared soon with interested countries as follows:

- A review of VCA data and recommendations in order to assist selective NS in identifying key advocacy messages for Disaster Risk Reduction and community resilience.
- A documentation of the Red Cross /Red Crescent contribution to the HFA and ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) since 2010

These two activities represent a first step to strengthen the visibility and recognition of NS work in the region as well as enhance their ability to advocate based on evidence from the field.

The team is also liaising with other SEARD / AP Zone Units for activities related to Gender in DRR and Disaster Law. A meeting was held in Bangkok to update each other on key priorities and identify potential joint activities in the coming weeks.

Linking DRR & CCA: Building Community Resilience through EWS in Southeast Asia

The SEARD has been implementing a regional initiative "Linking DRR & CCA: Building Community Resilience through EWS" in Southeast Asia region with major focus on two national societies of Indonesia and Thailand. The project has been implemented by engaging in activities that aimed to reduce the impacts of natural hazards; particularly climate related coastal hazards, on selected communities in Thailand and Indonesia. The ultimate outcomes were:

- 1) Increasing the National Societies' DRR/CCA policies and advocacy actions that consider community needs; and
- 2) Increasing community ability to manage disasters including preparedness and response.

The project has come to an end in March 2014 and the final report is on its way to document its impact, practices and recommendations for the future.

In October 2012, several organizations who are champion in promoting DRR education in school, UNICEF, ADPC, Plan International, World Vision, UNESCO, Save the Children and the IFRC, came together and developed a comprehensive school safety framework with the following aim to:

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- Education Sector Policies and Plans**
- Pillar 1. Safe Learning Facilities**
- Safe site selection
 - Building codes
 - Performance standards
 - Disaster resilient design
 - Quality training
 - Qualified teachers and personnel
 - Quality control
 - Accreditation
 - Gender
 - Strategic policy education
 - Governance of education system
 - Gender equality
- Pillar 2. School Disaster Management**
- Assessment & planning
 - Preparedness & awareness for the national, regional & GB & P level
 - Organizational and regulatory framework
 - School exercises
 - Educational sector policy plan
 - School disaster preparedness
 - Emergency policy plan
 - National disaster plan
 - Early mobilization plan
 - School drill
- Pillar 3. Risk Reduction and Resilience Education**
- In-school curriculum
 - In-school extra-curricular
 - Non-formal learning & small scale development
 - Education for disaster recovery based on formal education
 - Multi-level & top-down
 - Education sector analysis
 - Risk-relevant assessment & planning
- Aligned to national, subnational and local disaster management plans

This Model, based on the Comprehensive School Safety Framework and its pillars, will include necessary tools and guidelines that would contribute to training and building capacities of the RCRC to implement integrated and multi-sectoral approach to school safety. It will also explore ways of engagement and partnerships with Ministries of Education and key child focused agencies.

Discussions are also being held with members of the Asian Coalition on School Safety (ACSS) who are interested to be involved in this initiative. RCRC would be happy to explore partnerships with ACSS members as they could provide more technical support to the project implementation, in particular related to trainings of RCRC staff, youth and volunteers.

Post Emergency Preparedness Operation

The main objective is to:

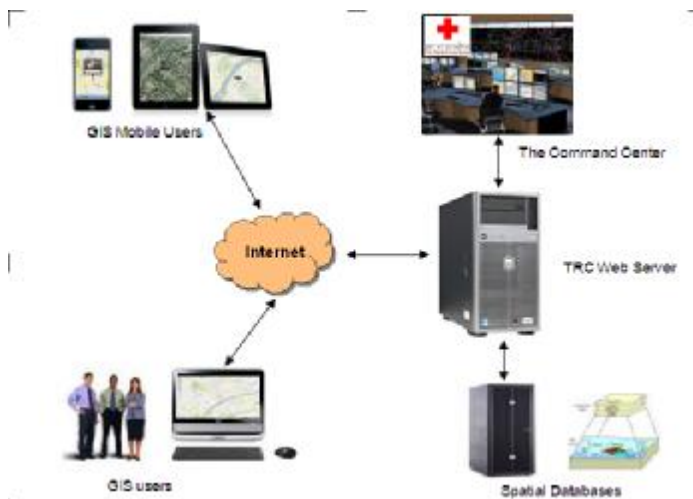
- develop a GIS (Geographical Information System) and integrated disaster databases including potential locations and/or areas of disasters, disaster risk areas, disaster situation, help requests, and disaster relief responses mechanism. This Information will be shown on the GIS map with information of the numbers of household member in the affected areas.

- develop a GIS and integrated disaster database which makes use of a base map and a satellite image map of Thailand, so that the users can track disaster situation using the maps in real time.

- develop a GIS and integrated disaster databases will improve collaboration between TRC, the government and public organizations of the Alliance Network, so that they can exchange, share and management disaster and relief information using the GIS jointly

- reduce dissemination of unclear information, lack of information, work redundancies, and ineffectiveness of the relief operations.

- develop and integrate an information system and disaster databases for disaster management, test the system in a pilot area.



The Alliance Network members are: The Thai Red Cross Society, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Ministry of Public Health, National Health Commission Office of Thailand, National Institute for Emergency Medicine, Royal Thai Survey Department, Metropolitan Electricity Authority, Provincial Electricity Authority, Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (Public Organization), Land Development Department, The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang.

Once developed the GIS for disaster relief operation will serve as web based application running on a web server – hosted by the Thai Red cross. There will be an option for upgrades in the future and/or connection to another system in TRC. The users will be able to access the system through a web browser on a PC, a smart phone, and/or a tablet, (with internet connection). It will support at least 50 users using the system at the same time.

CBDRR-Thailand

Considering that we have entered the last phase of implementation of this 3 year-long initiative, the project management of TRC has hired the consultant to carry out the evaluation of CBDRR project from external evaluator. Following are the major objectives of the evaluation:

- To improve the methodology and process of project implementation, in order for communities to be sustainable.
- To identify the strengths and weakness of the project and opportunities of integration into provincial level.
- To expand the 8 working processes and to finalize the CBDRR manual.

The recommendations of this evaluation will guide TRCS to implement pilot Community Safety and Resilience Initiative that they are in process to implement under the Post Emergency preparedness project.

Tsunami Residual Funding Programme

Strengthening capacity of First Aid Trainers: Increased one degree changes the community: Six first Aid trainings were conducted in Satun, Phuket and Krabi Province in April. The trainings were conducted by First Aid Trainers of 6 tsunami affected provinces, trained earlier by First Aid and Health Care Training Centre. Each training was

attended by 30 communities' members. The objective of this training was to equip community members with first aid knowledge and skills.

Well-prepared community for floods response: Training on Flood preparedness and risks of flood was organized in Bangkok from 8-10 April 2014. Total 55 people from 10 flood prone communities and 10 flood affected communities around Bangkok Metropolitan areas were part of this training. The main focus of the training was on general knowledge about floods and flood risk management.

Seminar on PMER: was organized on 24 April 2014 with participation of 145 executive officers from TRCS. The core content of the seminar was the TRCS strategic plan 2017-2021 and the report of evaluation on in-depth operations of TRCS bureaus in fiscal year 2013.

LAOS

On 16-19 September, a tropical depression crossed over Lao PDR bringing prolonged heavy rainfall to four districts in the south which suffered the worst impact of the floods. It is recorded as the worst flooding in the south of the country in the last 35 years.

With support from the IFRC's DREF, Lao Red Cross (LRC) assisted 12,458 people (2,293 families) with relief items including food and non-food items in 13 villages in the two provinces of Salavan and Champasak. All activities have involved close collaboration with district authorities and community leaders.

The DREF was a key factor that enabled LRC to provide immediate assistance to two most affected provinces of Salavan and Champasak.

The operation has been successfully completed and the final report is on its way capturing key lessons learned from the operation with some crucial recommendations for further enhancement of LRC's response preparedness capacities for the future.

INDONESIA

Pilot City Study on Urban Risk Reduction

To respond to the growing concerns over urban disaster risk and support building the capacities of Red Cross and Red Crescent for effective urban risk reduction and management, the IFRC and ICRC Partnership on Urban DRR & DM with its piloting initiative in Jakarta – Indonesia (out of 5 global) has started with implementation.

The main objective is to strengthen National Societies' capacity to support resilience building and enhancing disaster preparedness and response in urban areas through:

1. Scaling up RCRC activities to reduce urban disaster risks and vulnerability, including through advocacy to local government
2. Strengthening RCRC capacities to effectively respond to urban disasters

The Project agreement between PMI and SEARD has been signed and the implementation is on its way.

Some of activities included under this initiative are:

Workshop on Developing Public Awareness Public Education Strategy for Urban Context

With support from the American Red Cross, PMI is working on the Mobile Application focusing on flood and earthquakes. Based on the key messages from Public Awareness and Public Education Guideline, on February 11-12,

2014, a small group of PMI Staff and Volunteers adapted the key messages on flood and earthquake for urban context. The adapted key messages will be utilized for the Mobile Application content and consulted with the credible Indonesia government agencies to ensure its consistency.

Update Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment which consider urban context

PMI conducted VCA exercise along the Bank of Ciliwung River Flowing through Bogor, Depok, and North Jakarta in collaboration with Bandung Technology Institute (ITB) and American Red Cross in 2013. This study examined the banks of the Ciliwung River, especially in Bogor District, Depok Municipality, North Jakarta Municipality and surrounding areas, the potential risks of catastrophic climate impacts from the short term to the long term (up to 2035), to provide the best adaptation options to reduce the risk.

Stakeholder analysis in targeted area

The stakeholder meeting was held in February 20, 2014, to disseminate the results of the study of the Vulnerability Assessment of Climate Change Impact along the Ciliwung River and identify inputs and opinions for adaptation options to reduce climate vulnerability. The meeting was attended by 70 people from Academic institution, NGO, related government institution from North Jakarta Municipality, Depok Municipality and Bogor District.

The study has also utilized the Centre of Regional System Analysis Planning and Development-Bogor Agricultural Institute and House Representative to review the development Integrated Management of Greater Jakarta (Jakarta, Bogor, Depok, Tangerang, Bekasi and Cianjur) Act Pan. The outcomes were presented during the review meeting on February 28, 2014 to give overview about the impact of climate change on the development in greater Jakarta as well as the role and responsibilities of related government agencies in greater Jakarta. Based on the meeting result, it is considered to conduct a stakeholder and policy mapping along the Ciliwung River.

A consultant will be hired for this initiative to support following activities:

- Interview/meeting with related stakeholders at National, Provincial and targeted area in Greater Jakarta, particularly along the ciliwung riverbank
- Conduct study on existing Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation policies and frameworks including their related stakeholder from National level up to Community Level in Greater Jakarta, particularly along the ciliwung riverbank
- Translate findings to develop a doable advocacy strategy and related messages for the promotion of Urban Risk Reduction.
- Facilitate stakeholder meeting to disseminate advocacy strategies and related messages for the promotion of Urban Risk Reduction

Translate research findings into advocacy strategy and messages

PMI and American Red Cross initiated collaboration with BBC Media Action (based in Jakarta) to translate the Vulnerability Assessment of Climate Change Impact along the Ciliwung River into communication strategy. This strategy will be addressed to community members, government and related stakeholder along the Ciliwung river. A MoU will be developed between PMI-AmCross and BBC to formalize this collaboration and expected to be finished by May 2014. The communication product is expected to be launched on September 2014. The project will also explore to maximize the product for this project.

Flood Resilience Initiative

A team from IFRC GVA and SEARD visited Indonesia to discuss the way forward of the project with PMI and Zurich Indonesia. Two days technical sessions were carried out by the team along with Zurich/Indonesia and respective different departments' colleagues of PMI. PMI led the technical sessions. The plan of action has been outlined during the technical sessions for the period of six months.

CSRU will continue to provide technical support to the project implementation.

Knowledge Information Management (KIM)

The fortnightly Health bulletin continues to be shared with respective colleagues of NS as well as AP Zone and country delegations in order to update knowledge and enhance communication. The bulletin includes the latest health related events in the region and around the globe, funding opportunities, on-going activities of the CSRU and upcoming events in the region. Online library (<https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/health-and-care/health-bulletins>) continues to be regularly updated to promote the knowledge sharing within and beyond the Movement. The previous health bulletins are available in same above mentioned online library.

In addition, the aforementioned site is regularly being updated with DRR, Health and other reference documents by the SEARD/CSRU team. The site has been integrated into IFRC standard web-link as well.

Upcoming Events for May 2014

Date	Events	Venue
4-9 May, 2014	Civil-Military Relations Forum for Asia Pacific Zone	KL
21-23 May 2014.	PMER Training	Bangkok
26-30 May, 2014	Disability Awareness - training of trainers,	Phnom Penh
TBC	Workshop on Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC) –	Bangkok
TBC	Climate Change National Workshop	Kuala Lumpur

For Further information please contact our CSRU team:

Indira Kulenovic, Head/Coordinator - Email: indira.kulenovic@ifrc.org

Sanjeev Kafley, DRR Advisor - Email: sanjeev.kafley@ifrc.org

Rommanee Klaeotanong, DRR Officer - Email: rommanee.klaeotanong@ifrc.org

Abhishek Rimal, Sn. Health Officer - Email: abhishek.rimal@ifrc.org

Zara Sejberg, PSS Delegate - Email: zara.sejberg@ifrc.org

Hung Ha Nguyen, DP Delegate - Email: hungha.nguyen@ifrc.org

Hervé Gazeau, DRR Manager - E-mail: herve.gazeau@ifrc.org

Juthamane Khotchasarnmanee (Fiat), Sn. Program Assistant, Tsunami Program -
Email: juthamane.khotchasarnmanee@ifrc.org

Nutchapang Khowinij (Tum), CSRU Assistant - Email: nutchapang.khowinij@ifrc.org