

## *Regional Community Safety and Resilience Unit*

### *Overview of activities for the month of January 2014*

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#### Regional



#### The 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR)

IFRC team (CSRU/APZ DMU) continued to participate and contribute to various consultations that are being organized in Bangkok between all Key Area Coordinators (7) and also to hold bilateral discussions with UNISDR on more specific RCRC contribution to the conference.

With regards to the Key Area 1 (KA1) research paper coordinated by IFRC, the first outline of the report was submitted to UN ISDR in January. First draft report is due to be submitted by 14<sup>th</sup> February for the peer review. More than 12 governments and 17 international organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, including RCRC have provided their contributions to this report on Building Community Resilience. More information on contribution available at: <http://www.unisdr-apps.net/confluence/display/AMCDRR/6+AMCDRR+TS+Leads+and+HFA2+Area+Coordinators%27+workspace>

The Royal Thai Government made an official announcement for the registration for the conference (ends 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014). More details are available on the website: [http:// 6thamcdrr-thailand.net](http://6thamcdrr-thailand.net) including all other deadlines for various events. In addition to the registration of participants, there is a call for expression of interest (templates are also provided) for Market Place, film competition, side events etc.

More detailed updates on all aspects of the RCRC involvement are being finalized and will be shared with everybody early next month.

#### The Global Partnership for Resilience (GPR)

On 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014, in Bangkok, a consultation meeting was held between the regional IFRC/CSRU and AmCross representatives and the Rockefeller Foundation & USAID, who brought along representatives from Dalberg Group ([www.dalberg.com](http://www.dalberg.com)) to assist them with the consultation and design phase of new effort/initiative, called the Global Partnership for Resilience (GPR).

This initiative is expected to be launched by USAID and the Rockefeller Foundation in the coming months. GPR, in their own words, will be a major effort designed to invest in innovative efforts to leverage the combined investments of the development and humanitarian sectors so that more resilience outcomes can be realized. This is based on an underlying belief that resilience can serve as a valuable bridge to explore development-humanitarian synergies, and that investments in a number of high potential areas (e.g. data, innovative finance, capacity, metrics) can help catalyze breakthroughs.

Our meeting was more of an information exchange, exploring potential partnerships. An update was provided on our approach to resilience, we shared few relevant documents such as The Long Road to Resilience – published in Bangladesh in 2012, IFRC Position Paper on Resilience, *“Understanding Community Resilience and Programme Factors that Strengthen Them”* publication, case studies from SEA etc.

GPR is also looking at private/corporate sector and their support to resilience building and innovations. (TERA brochure was shared after the meeting). RCRC will continue discussions and

### *Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) deployment to Philippines*

In support to major relief efforts to the Philippine Red Cross' response to Haiyan/Yolanda Typhoon, over the last 3-4 months, the CSRU facilitated deployment of total of 5 RDRTs from Southeast Asia. (2 from Malaysia - MYRC and 3 from Indonesia – PMI).

Three relief RDRTs and one logistics RDRTs were jointly deployed in November 2013. By mid January 2014 all four have successfully completed their mission and returned back home after passing through Bangkok for a debriefing with SEARD. Full consolidated report will be provided soon.

In addition, there was a further request for a logistics RDRT (PMI) for two months deployment in Tacloban, starting from late January. Considering that the conditions have slightly improved in the field, there was no need for the Logistics RDRT member to pass through Bangkok for briefing and collection of field equipment as the most necessary items would be provided by IFRC on the ground.

CSRU would also like to acknowledge excellent support by the senior management, in particular from the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) in the speedy process of deployment providing approvals with a day or even less – which is so important during the times of emergencies.

### *Exploring opportunity for partnership with UN ESCAP*

In January the SEARD-CSRU developed a proposal with the title: “Enhancing Red Cross Red Crescent Capacities on Early Warning - Early Action and Climate Change Adaptation to build Community Safety and Resilience in South East Asia.”.

This proposal's goal is to promote and facilitate the development of strong Southeast Asian national societies with quality disaster response/recovery and development programs in place addressing priority humanitarian needs in their countries in line with Strategy 2020.

The proposal has taken into consideration: A Practical Guide to Advocacy for Disaster Risk Reduction, a guide to mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, Public Awareness and Public Education for Disaster Risk Reduction: key messages, Community Early Warning System: Guiding Principles of IFRC to finalize this proposal. The expected outcome of the project is *“Strengthening institutional and technical capacity of NS on early warning- early action and climate change adaptation to successfully deliver relevant services”*.

### *Building Resilience for Malaria and Climate change in Mekong Region*

This project has been implementing in selected province of Lao-PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam since, July, 2013. Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs), local authority, and people in the community are the key stakeholders to

implement the activities under this project. All three Mekong countries have almost completed all activities as per plan of action. The final evaluation and report of eight months implementation is in progress.

In order to continue strengthening this initiative, the SEARD-CSRU developed and shared the follow-up proposal with the Norcross seeking support to continue program for the next two years on Building Resilience for Malaria and Climate change in Mekong Region for 2014 to 2015. The key outcomes of the proposals are:

**Outcome 1:** Reduced risk of malaria in intervention area through community based approach and access to disease surveillance information

**Outcome 2:** Strengthened regional approaches to tackle malaria in Southeast Asia

The project is expected to continue to focus on six areas which include:

- Capacity Building of staff and volunteers of Southeast Asia National Societies in malaria prevention and address climate change adaptation
- Community based malaria prevention activities focusing on behavior change campaign, environment cleaning, distribution and use of bed nets- scaling universal coverage, etc.
- Coordinate with ministry of health and other stakeholders in malaria prevention and control.
- Ensure monitoring and evaluation of all interventions and activities, lessons learned and the value-added of RC/RC volunteers
- Facilitate knowledge sharing and management through joint coordination meeting with stakeholders, updating Southeast Asia online library, case study, social media and lesson learned workshop
- Develop a cross border collaboration model

In addition, SEARD has also been implementing the HIV project in the region. Operational plan for next two years was updated and shared with Norcross as it is important to continue the support to the regional HIV program for next two years starting from 2014 to 2015 – working towards an exit strategy, full handover to the national societies and their respective governments. The key outcomes of the proposals are:

**Outcome 1:** Improved of quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS and their families through care and support including gender sensitization

**Outcome 2:** Strengthened institutional and technical capacity of National Societies and ART network on HIV/AIDS interventions to successfully deliver quality HIV interventions

**Outcome 3:** Strengthened regional approaches in the response to HIV/AIDS in Southeast Asia

- The project will focus on seven areas which include:
- Capacity Building of staff and volunteers of Southeast Asia National Societies on PSS support to PLHIVs. Support ART network to mobilize the workforce
- Community level implementation in selected provinces of Lao PDR and Timor Leste focusing on PLHIV support and care activities and peer education
- Coordinate with ministry of health and other stakeholders in HIV/AIDS prevention and control. In addition, ensure proper representation in country coordination mechanism
- Facilitate knowledge sharing and management through joint coordination meeting with stakeholders, updating Southeast Asia online library, case study, social media and lesson learned workshop
- Advocacy against discrimination – World AIDS day

- Gender mainstreaming in HIV initiative
- Strategic planning for post 2015 HIV programming

## *Southeast Asia Regional HIV Programme*

This program has been implementing in selected province of Lao-PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam since, July, 2013. The project has completed almost all activities designed for its 8 month implementation period as per plan of action except CBPSS capacity building for Lao Red Cross.

The key highlights of the project were:

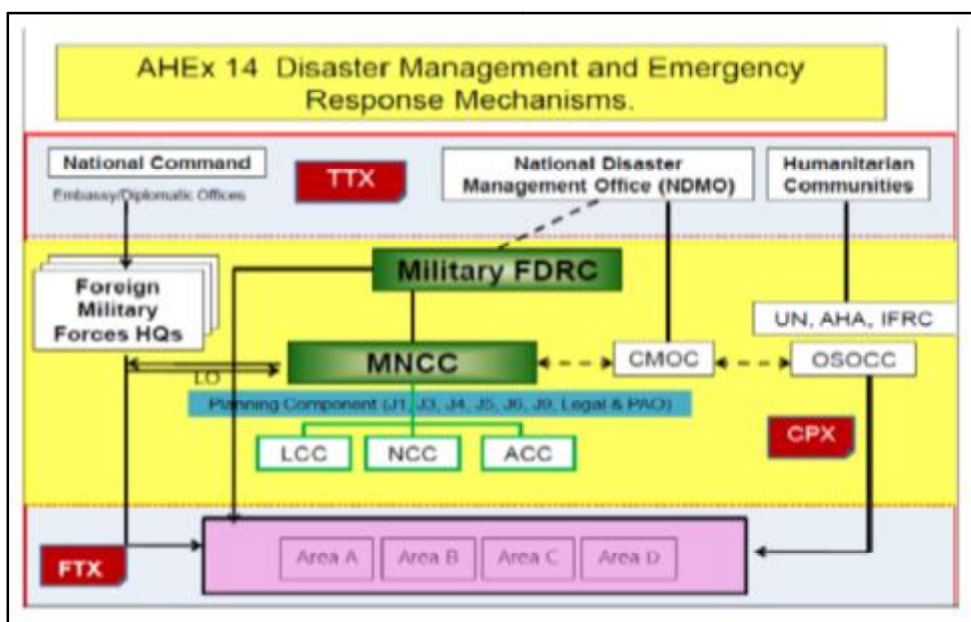
- 11th International Congress on HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) participation,
- Development of two case studies (Malaria and HIV),
- World AIDS day campaign with theme of 'Zero AIDS related death',
- Support and technical guidance to ART network,
- People living with HIV (PLHIV) project in Lao Red Cross.

The final evaluation and report of eight months implementation is in progress.

## *ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise-2014 (AHEx 14)*

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 is being co-hosted by the Royal Thai Armed Forces and Malaysian Armed Forces.



The final planning conference was organized on 27 – 31 January 2014. AP Zone, SEARD and Thai Red Cross representatives participated in the event as per invitation by the Royal Thai Army.

The Thai Red Cross was exploring what would be the best and feasible option for their participation in the event. IFRC offered IDRL sessions facilitation for

the table top exercise (TTX). IFRC also used the opportunity to sensitize all present, many of them military, about the IFRC global response tools/capacities and the role played during major emergencies, which were well

acknowledged by all present. This particular exercise will focus on earthquake scenario in the region, causing great casualties and severe damage to one of country of ASEAN region. The scenario mainly concentrates on response to 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).

## *Social Capital Study in Thailand*

IFRC and Thai Red Cross are planning to carry out Social Capital study in Thailand. The discussion is ongoing about possible involvement/contribution of the Asian Institute of Technology- Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management Department (DPMM) and Global Disaster Preparedness Centre (GDPC) for this study.

Social capital, being understood as “features of social organisation, such as networks, norms, and social trust that facilitate coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit (Putnam 1995:67) feeds into discussion about the elements of community resilience - the question as to what characteristics a community needs to have. This study aims to contribute to this discussion by analysing the role of a particular aspect of social capital in Thailand. The study should analyse literature and review case studies from selected communities, most frequently exposed to natural disasters. A household survey will have to be conducted as well as workshops with communities and Red Cross branches.

The field study will take place in selected areas in Thailand. The three different profile/scenarios communities have been taken into consideration:

- One community from 2011 flood affected area.
- One community from urban area.
- One community from current CBDRR area (north Thailand).

TRCS will be responsible for identification of communities for the purpose of this study. The study will research and analyze the role of social capital in building resilience and come up with set of recommendations how best RC volunteers and staff could incorporate the key elements of social capital into community programming to strengthen community resilience to face any future shock/adversity.

## Country focused support

### THAILAND

#### *Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction-Thai Red Cross Society*

Quarterly report for the period of October to December 2013 has been prepared and submitted. The Thai RC is moving to handover of CBDRR program back to communities as per plan.

One ceremony was organized during this reporting period at Surin province to handover the CBDRR program back to the communities in presence of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Education service office (The ministry of Education) Chief of District Office (Department of Provincial Administration), Public Health



office (The ministry of Public Health), Related official of respective Municipality, Red Cross Chapter, Directors of schools of community. CBDRR plan was handed over back to community which they have developed throughout the CBDRR program. That plan might help communities to engage other partners along with government officials. Community also received the CBDRR kits and IEC materials during the ceremony.

### *Post Emergency Preparedness Operation-Thai Red Cross Society*

Thai Red Cross organized meeting for Post Emergency/Preparedness Operation on 23, January, 2014. Around 20 people took part in the meeting. SEARD-CSRU attended the meeting and reviewed the achievements for the period from Oct-Dec, 2013 as well as discussed the next quarter Plan (January-March, 2014). Meeting mainly covered the following agenda: Quarterly working advance request, progress report, financial and narrative report, POA for next quarter and working advance. Current political unrest in the country is causing slight delays in implementation of some of the activities.

### *National Disaster Response Training (NDRT) (under Floods post-emergency operation)*

A preparatory meeting was organized to finalize the agendas for the planned NDRT training. TRCS is planning to organize two NDRT training within first half of 2014.

Efforts are being made to ensure participation of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) – Thai National Disaster Management Authority department; not only for facilitation but also to offer few places for DDPM staff to be trained jointly with the TRC. Trainees would be representing both NHQ and Branches.

Trained RDRT members will be mobilized as future facilitators for NDRT training. Five days training is planned. Tentative date for the first training is set for 17-21 March 2014 – providing that the security situation does not affect the planning.

### *Tsunami Residual Programme-Thai Red Cross Society*

Although the entire program faced some challenges in the initial stages of implementation with Project Agreement being signed in February 2013, recruitment of Project Officer, seasonal flooding, and most recently Bangkok Shutdown – the pace of the implementation has significantly picked up resulting in some improvements.

A total of 5 First Aid Trainings were organized at various schools in January. Students were eager to learn how to help others with their first aid knowledge during different situation. After completing the course, every first aid trainee received armband and certificate as a proof that they now become Red Cross Youth volunteer who are equipped with first aid skills and knowledge.

The level of institutional disaster response preparedness of TRCS has also been satisfactorily increased.



First aid demonstration and Q & A session run by The Thai Red Cross trainers from Youth Bureau

Refresher field simulation exercise was arranged by Trang Provincial Red Cross Chapter (affected by Tsunami 2004) with 110 participants.

The simulation exercise showed that Trang Provincial Red Cross Chapter understands the standard operating procedures for disaster response and could perform their mission accordingly. However, they have learned that there are areas that they need to improve for better response operation. IFRC will look into possibility to support newly identify challenges and provide adequate response/support.



Simulation Exercises run by Trang Provincial Red Cross Chapter – Thai Red Cross

Workshop on Better Response Preparedness for Complexity Disaster in Songkhla province was also successfully carried out. Through this activity, Songkhla Provincial Red Cross Chapter and its partners such as government sectors and local administration learnt and understood what are their roles and responsibilities, benefits and channels of assistance in disaster response process. Continuation and improvement of this activity is suggested by the participants because they see the benefit and the importance of disaster response and disaster preparedness.



## SINGAPORE

### *Support to Singapore Red Cross on Psycho-social support (PSS)*

Singapore RC (SRC) has requested support from SEARD to develop a PSS training curriculum. The SRC's training academy is keen to develop its capacity to provide trainings on PSS in order to have the capacity to respond to PSS needs both domestically and internationally. The SRC academy also aims to provide basic and advanced trainings on PSS for regional and local humanitarian organizations. The director of the SRC academy and Regional PSS delegate of SEARD will work from March, 2014 onward on clearly defining areas of support that IFRC could provide and associated time-frame for implementation.

## LAOS

### *DREF Operation- Lao Red Cross Society*

Implementation of DREF Operation, distribution of relief materials has been finalized in January. Second operation update, as agreed earlier, has been submitted to Kuala Lumpur for consideration and further processing.

Procurement of planned items and distribution was very successful resulting in some savings. Currently the senior management staff of the LRC is considering two options to utilize the savings: replenishment of emergency stock for prepositioning or a possibility for procurement of additional rice for affected families considering the needs identified during the relief distribution in December/January.

Staff on loan from Thai Red Cross has been working since November, 2013, supporting the implementation of DREF at field level and will end her mission at the end of February, 2014.

A lesson learnt workshop has been planned during for the third week of February with key objective being: “to capture key lessons from the 2013 flood response that contributes towards greater preparedness and more effective response for future emergency with an aim to improve its overall performance”.

Lao Red Cross expectation from this workshop is to come up with:

- Collective compilation of lessons-learned on Flood response
- Recommendation on action points to improve LRC’s performance - preparedness for response - for future disasters focusing on specific objectives

It is expected that around 46 Participants: the president of LRC, directors and senior staff members involved in decisions making, guiding and implementation of the relief operation (relief, health, reporting, logistics, finances, warehousing, communications as well as staff members and volunteers directly involved with beneficiaries, authorities and other stakeholders while implementing relief operation.

In addition and in order to promote cross-border cooperation/peer-to-peer, two representatives of the Thai Red Cross (also the chair of the regional SEA CSR forum) will also join the event along with IFRC representative and share experiences from the Thailand 2011 mega floods.

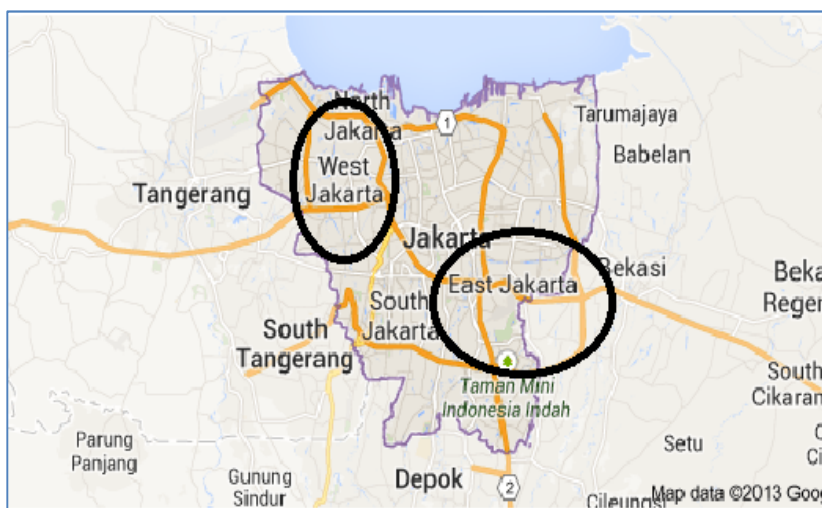
## INDONESIA

### *Global Pilot City Study on Urban Risk Reduction in Jakarta, Indonesia - PMI*

The operational plan, Plan of Action and budget for the pilot City Study on Urban Disaster Risk Reduction has been developed by Indonesian Red Cross – PMI, with support of CSRU and approved by GVA as this is part of global initiative.

The objective of this initiative is to strengthen urban communities’ resilience to potential risks posed by disasters and climate change through capacity building of PMI as well as in the targeted communities.

Further discussions are ongoing with the American Red Cross seeking opportunities for the engagement of this pilot study project with the ongoing PMI Greater Jakarta Project supported by American Red Cross for the development of DRR Advocacy. The Advocacy Manual that is being developed is expected to guide PMI to design the training on advocacy for DRR – which is closely aligned with the objective of the pilot study.



The pilot study implementation period is from January 2014-August 2014, but due to major floods in Jakarta and other places in early January and most recent volcano eruptions, PMI had no other choice but to postpone the



start-up to mid/late February as the priority lies with domestic emergencies. All involved are hopeful that PMI would be able to start the implementation during the month of February.

### *Knowledge Sharing*

SEARD-CSRU online library: <https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/> is regularly updated for knowledge sharing on DRR, health and other reference documents developed within and outside of RCRC. Our monthly updates are also regularly uploaded in case you wish to re-visit any of them.

Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre has requested technical support from SEARD to develop a PSS module. Regional PSS delegate will follow up on this.

### *Upcoming Events for February – March 2014*

*\*Due to political situation in Thailand several events planned in January/February have been either postponed until further notice or cancelled.*

Date	Events	Venue
04, February, 2014	Quarterly meeting of Tsunami Residual funding with Thai Red Cross	Bangkok
3-7, February, 2014	CBPSS training for Lao red Cross	Lao
18-19, February	Early warning early action training for Thai Red Cross	Thailand
19-20, February, 2014	Lesson learnt workshop - Flood DREF operation of Lao Red Cross	Lao
18 -22, February, 2014	ECV training for Myanmar Red Cross	Myanmar
26 February 2014	IASC - Regional ITA Task Team Meeting (preparatory to the Directors' meeting)	Bangkok
3-7 March 2014	Planning Meeting – preparation of the Technical Session for the 6 <sup>th</sup> AMCDRR with ADRRN	New Delhi, India
14 March 2014	Asian Institute of Technology Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management (DPMM) Program – Lecture on Community Based Disaster Risk Management/Community Resilience Building	Pathumthani, Thailand
17-21 March 2014	NDRT training for the Thai Red Cross	Thailand
27-28 March 2014	Annual SEA Resilience/DRR/Health technical coordination meeting (IFRC & PNSs)	Bangkok

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