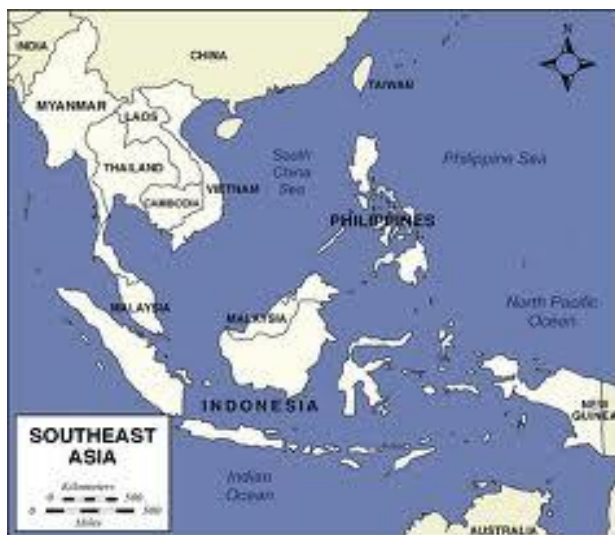


## ***Regional Community Safety and Resilience Unit (CSRU), Overview of activities for the month of February 2014***



### ***6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction – Preparation***

Despite political unrest in Bangkok, the preparation for the conference continued uninterrupted. Draft Report on Key Area 1 “Building community resilience – turning vulnerability into resilience”, for which the IFRC is the coordinator, has been submitted to UN ISDR for the Peer Review in mid February.

The process of preparation of the background document for the Technical Session 1 “Enhancing Resilience at Local Levels” has also commenced. IFRC is working closely with ADRRN<sup>1</sup>. Aside the background document, IFRC and ADRRN are expected to design the technical session itself and also come up with the List of outcomes and recommendations to be addressed by the Ministers at the High-Level Round during the conference.

Meeting is planned among Technical Session leads for 10 March in Bangkok.

Simultaneously discussions are being held with the Asian Coalition on School Safety regarding the preparation of *Special Sessions* on School Safety and Youth Forum. IFRC is coordinating RCRC contribution for the both sessions. Currently discussions are being held with AmCross and SEARD Youth focal point about possible participation of Nepal RC and Thai RC youth – for both sessions.

In addition, opportunities are being explored for possible RCRC engagement in Side Events, in particular regarding the Disaster Law in Emergencies and possible Global Disaster Preparedness Centre – innovative technologies and DRR.

SEARD will continue to support Asia Pacific DMU in coordination of events among RCRC and external stakeholders leading towards conference.

It is important to remind everybody that the deadlines for:

- a) registration of events is 15<sup>th</sup> March and
- b) registration of participants is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

For further information please visit:  
<http://203.124.98.37/6thamcdrr/>

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<sup>1</sup> ANDDM Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network

## The Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP)



On 28 February, the 4th Regional Cash Working Group (RCWG) was organized in Oxfam GB Regional Centre.

The meeting brought together several organizations to share their updates and experiences on Cash Transfer Programme (CTP) initiatives in the region. Among present were representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, Save the Children and IFRC.

The meeting objective was to share experiences, practices and challenges in CTP from Haiyan Operations. It was also mentioned that 20% of UN Flash Appeal is focusing on Cash and UN OCHA is leading and coordinating agency in the country. Corporate Sector such as Citibank is one of good partners in the Philippines.

The second part of the meeting was focusing on sharing updates by CaLP Asia - such as new publications on CTP – encouraging all present to consider in their planning and programming. Publications: (i) Coordination and CTP, (2) Financing of CTP, (iii) e-transfer guidelines, (iv) Protecting beneficiary privacy. These publications can be downloaded from these below links:

E-transfers Guidelines:

<http://www.cashlearning.org/resources/library/390-e-transfers-in-emergencies-implementation-support-guidelines>

- Beneficiary Privacy and Data Protection:

<http://www.cashlearning.org/resources/library/389-protecting-beneficiary-privacy-principles-and-operational-standards-for-the-secure-use-of-personal-data-in-cash-and-e-transfer-programmes>

- Research Gaps in CTP:

<http://www.cashlearning.org/resources/library/399-research-gaps-in-cash-transfer-programming>

Next CaLP meeting is scheduled in March, date and venue to be confirmed later on.

Separate follow up meeting will take place between representative of CaLP Asia and CSRU to explore possibilities for more cooperation in the Southeast Asia region.

## Regional IASC Transformative Agenda (ITA) Task Team Meeting - Bangkok, Thailand

### IASC

On 26 February 2014, in Bangkok, an IAT Task Team meeting took place in order to consult with partners in advance of the upcoming IASC Regional Directors' meeting scheduled for next month.

The agenda included preparatory discussions on the proposed internal After Action Review (AAR) on the IASC Regional Network's role in supporting the Typhoon Haiyan response in the Philippines, as well as consultation on the draft action plan in follow-up to the 2013 Regional Humanitarian Partnerships Forum and a briefing on the World Humanitarian Summit Regional Consultation for North and Southeast Asia to be convened in Japan in July 2014. All IASC members took part in this meeting including the IFRC/SEARD on behalf of the Asia Pacific Zone. The meeting of the IASC Regional Network is scheduled for 31 March in Bangkok.

## Regional Early Warning Early Action Lessons Learned Workshop

The IFRC Southeast Asia Regional Delegation is undertaking preparation for a "Regional Workshop on Early Warning- Early Action Lessons Learned" to further engage RCRC national societies, its governmental

counterparts and relevant partners (ADPC, AIT, UN-ISDR, Mekong River Commission) at the regional level 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 bring together 25 participants with hands-on experience with implementation of community based risk reduction activities and community based early warning initiatives on the ground in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Timor Leste, Thailand and Viet Nam and review and identify the best practices and lessons learned for future references when implementing community based early warning initiatives. Workshop has been scheduled from 26- 27 March in Bangkok, Thailand.

### *Peer-to-Peer exchange visit of Thai Red Cross to Viet Name Red Cross*



The Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) has been implementing the “community based disaster risk reduction” (CBDRR) program since 2008. TRCS developed and applied CBDRR manual as per their experiences. The manual is the guiding document for TRCS to implement CBDRR program in Thailand. Currently the TRCS is in process to revise and update that manual.

With support of Canadian Red Cross TRCS has been implementing CBDRR program at 20 communities of Petchaboon, Ubonratchathani, Surin, Burirum and Chiang Mai. Most of the activities under this program have been completed and handed over to local communities and local authorities. This project will end in September 2014.

During the implementation and following up on last years' VNRCs field staff visit to Thailand, TRCS requested if possible to visit VNRC Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction interventions in the country. VNRC was happy to welcome this initiative of TRC.

The visit is scheduled from 9-14 March, 2014. The overall purpose of exchange visit is to learn about experiences of VNRC in implementing similar program, the process applied, relevant guidelines of CBDRR (DRR) program, training and teaching materials and the standard activities.

It is expected that this exchange visit will help to finalize TRCS CBDRR manual which is currently under revision. TRCS is gradually looking at expanding their CBDRR activities thus this exchange visit will support that process. The visit will continues to promote the learning environments between two NSs, sharing of experiences, approach, tools, training and teaching materials. Around 15 people from Thai Red Cross and community members all together will be part of this exchange visit.

### *Regional School Safety, School Based Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative*

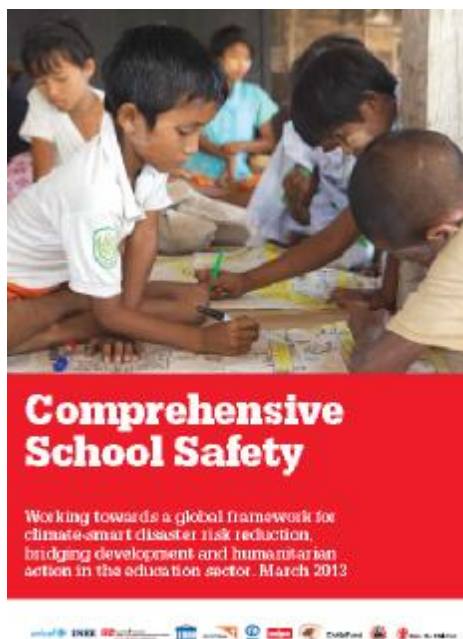
Hong Kong Red Cross approved the SEARD proposal on School safety/ School Based Disaster

Risk Reduction Initiative. The project will be implemented for the period of two years starting from March, 2014. The scopes of this initiative are focusing on:

- Mapping/documentation/inventory list of existing Schools Safety Models used by different NSs (and other stallholders) in the region (i.e. School Contingency plan, , teacher and student training manuals, assessment lists, IEC materials, games etc).
- Once above scope is over, the project will move to contracting a consultant, with proven expertise in School Safety-(SS)-School Based DRR (SBDRR) to assist in developing a common and comprehensive model for RCRC for engagement in SS/SBDRR – way to engage more strategically with schools.



- That comprehensive model is to be aligned with Comprehensive School Safety Manual as developed by Asian Coalition on School Safety (*IFRC/RCRC is*



*one of founders of the coalition)and it should include: school contingency plan, teachers manual, student manuals, various (multi-sectoral IEC materials including DP, health, Road safety etc), assessment lists and protocol for school simulation exercises.*

Once above mentioned tools/modules developed, the project would have opportunities to pilot test these tools in Myanmar and Thailand with respective Red Cross Societies. Once the piloting is completed, the learning of pilot project will be shared with other NSs of this region and possibly beyond as, at present there is no formal way of engagement of RCRC in school safety – globally.

The project will provide the opportunities to the representatives of SEA NS during the final simulation exercises in selected countries/school to observe in practice what has been achieved involving all key stakeholders such as: school authorities, teachers, children/students, parents, communities and other key stakeholders.

SEARD/CSRU is really hoping that this initiative can contribute to our global effort for increased engagement of RCRC in school safety.

## Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) of the Thai Red Cross Society and Early Warning Early Action training

The Thai Red Cross, through their Community Based DRR programme has been working in 20 communities since 2011 in partnership with 9 different partners including: *Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation; Department of Provincial Administration; Department of Local Administration; Department of Local Administration; The Community Development Department; The ministry of Public Health; The ministry of Education; The public relation Department; The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of Thailand and community members.*

Although the majority of activities under this 3 year long initiative have been completed, some components of the handover process continue in some provinces.

For those who have finalized all steps of implementation communities have been handed over their Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Plan (CBDRR) from the Thai Red Cross. During the hand over ceremony of the CBDRR plan, the TRCS invited local authority representatives and other partners to continue building the relationship between community and other key stakeholders looking at longer term sustainability.

The Thai Red Cross CBDRR Community committees are divided into five different sub-groups to focus on five components of the programme: I) administration team, ii) monitoring and warning team, iii) First Aid team, IV) search and rescue team and v) evacuation team. Mr. Warner (*name given by communities*) is one of the five sub-groups and mainly responsible for early warning and early action. TRCS has been supporting partially early

warning and early actions activities under CBDRR as well as other interventions. During the project quarterly review meeting to measures the progress, identify the challenges and improve the plan of action the project review meeting identified a need to improve further the skills and knowledge of Mr. Warner on early warning and early action. In this connection, TRCS and IFRC organized training on EWEA during this reporting period. The objectives of Training:

The focus of EWEA training was on all focal points / “Mr Warners” from 5 provinces: Ubonratchathani (5 people), Petchaboon (5 people), Chiang Mai (5 people), Burirum (3 people) and Surin (2 people) provinces.



EWEA Training: Panel discussion among representatives of the Thai Red Cross (HQ & Branch), local community, local government and IFRC, Chiang Mai, February 2014.

*Photo credit: Thai Red Cross*

The main objectives of the EWEA training were to:

- Learn about the early warning and early action protocol in Thailand context.
- Be familiar with key element of early warning system and what does it mean in the local context.
- Identify the appropriate action points to improve early warning early at community level.

Total 25 participants attended the workshop. In addition to participants from communities (Mr. Warners), Thai Red Cross CBDRR

staff/volunteers, representative of Meteorological Department of Chiang Mai province and IFRC also participated and facilitators of the sessions. The workshop methodology and materials were adjusted to be in line with the local context.

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

Slight delay in implementation of activities has taken place due to political unrest in Thailand. The quarterly meeting have continued to be organized by TRC in order to address arising needs and to improve the overall management of the operation. The meeting is chaired by an Assistant Secretary General of the Thai Red Cross and representative of IFRC along with extended technical teams of the Thai Red Cross and IFRC. An ad-hoc meeting was organized on 25th February to review the budget and other financial and administrative procedures in order to ensure smooth implementation.

TRCS along with IFRC met the representative of Thai government and selected communities to initiate a pilot project that would strengthen community resilience at selected 15 communities.

Looking at strengthening institutional preparedness, reflections were made on donations received in 2011 during the floods when TRCS received 42 boats and 8 water purification units. However, till date, TRCS does not have enough space to store these assets. The Administrative Division developed a plan of action as part of post-emergency preparedness operation to construct the storage place for boats and water purification units on one of land properties of the TRC. Currently tendering process for construction is underway.

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

As in case of flood post-emergency - Quarterly meeting are also being organized for the Tsunami Residual Programme. Last meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2014 in order to follow up

on the progress of the project and seek solutions for potential challenges faced during the implementation. Outputs of the meeting are:

- Clarification on the project's financial regulations such as transportation allowance of the volunteers, procurement, etc.
- Agreement on deadline of finance clearance and working advance request submission.
- Revision of plan of action because of current Bangkok security situation.
- Quarterly and annual reporting.



Thai Red Cross Youth and Volunteers attending a seminar on sustainable First Aid, 22-23 February 2014.  
*Photo credit: Thai Red Cross*

Website for Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) is finalized and manual has already been prepared. The website will be used as a centre for sharing and exchanging information's for the command in case of natural disasters and other emergency situation. Orientation training on EoC website was organized for related staff members during 6-7 February 2014.

All preparations are in place for First Aid training for additional 10 First Aid Clubs.

Training on flood preparedness has been postponed due to current security situation in Bangkok by the Thai Red Cross Nursing College. Training was initially scheduled in February. The new date of the training will be decided after reassessing the security situation.

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

Around CHF 292,000 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Lao Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance for 10,000 (2,000 families) flood affected beneficiaries. Originally targeted quantities for relief distributions, health and hygiene promotion and component of Capacity Building/ Disaster Risk Reduction, the main scopes of the DREF operation, have been completed successfully.

However, the needs and numbers of affected population were much higher than anticipated. In particular regarding the fact that the rice crops were destroyed and affected farming families were unable to secure basic food items on their own thus they requested support from Lao RC to provide rice for them during the planning season -between crops - until they are able to collect their own rice.

After the completion of initially planned operation and due to very successful procurement process and savings obtained on transportation and logistics cost, the Lao Red Cross has been able to address additional needs of 893 families or 4,465 beneficiaries. The procurement and distribution of additional relief items is underway.

A DREF operation lesson learnt workshop was organized from 18-20 February with participation of 46 LRC staff/volunteers from Headquarter and Branch attended as well as communities, local government, Thai Red Cross representatives (2), French Red Cross, IFRC and other key stallholders involved in the flood operation. The workshop was opened by the president of Lao Red Cross.

The main objective of the workshop was to capture key lessons from the 2013 flood response, identify key action points in order to improve future response capacities. The workshop has recommended number of action points that will be followed up the LRC HQ and senior leadership.





Lao Red Cross conducting post-distribution assessment with beneficiaries in Salavan Province, Laos  
*Photo Credit: IFRC*

With facilitation by IFRC, the Thai Red Cross offered the staff on loan (SoL) to support implementation of DREF operation, two Thai Red Cross Representatives were part of the workshop in order to understand the effectiveness of SoL role as well as to share their experiences in order to strengthen peer learning and explore opportunities to continued cooperation between two national societies.

TRC SoL completed her four month mission on 28<sup>th</sup> February with debriefing in SEARD/CSRU and returned to her responsibilities in the Thai Red Cross Relief - Community Health Bureau. The provision and support of TRC SoL has been well appreciated by the Lao Red Cross leadership and staff members.

### ***Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) Training – Myanmar***

ECV training for Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) was held from 18 - 23, February, 2014. The training saw the participation of 27 Red Cross Volunteers and staff from field / village, township and Headquarter level. The aim of the training was to enhance the emergency health preparedness and response capacity of MRCS Township Red Cross and the community by providing developing a number

of master facilitators in Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) toolkit.

An overview of each module in the IFRC Epidemic Control for volunteer toolkit was presented with group work/role play to enhance reflection and discussion on each module. Stimulation was done on the last day of the training, to see how best participants can plan and respond with their current capacity in case of an epidemic. Translation and adaptation of the ECV toolkit and training manual is completed. Field testing of the translated version was done during the ECV training.

The Regional Health officer, SEARD facilitated the training with the support of MRCS colleagues. The Ministry of Health (MoH) was invited to provide an overview of the Myanmar disease surveillance system.

MoH also highlighted important diseases that can cause epidemics in Myanmar and how MRCS can play a vital role in all phases of the epidemic response cycle and assist the government to decrease epidemic related morbidity and mortality.



Debriefing after simulation exercise with MRCS staff and volunteers *Photo credit: Myanmar Red Cross*

### ***Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPSS) training in Lao PDR***

In February from 3-7, in Vientiane a Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPSS) training was conducted. LRC was presented with an overview of each module in the IFRC Community Based Psychosocial Support manual was provided.

The training was very well received by the participants (23). Participants came from LRC Disaster Management and Health Division; Participating National Societies (French and Danish RC); the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare; Mahosot Hospital, Mental Health Unit; Centre for HIV/AIDS and STI (CHAS), Basic Needs Organization (Working on Community Based Mental Health); Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS and Lao Positive Health Association.

It was very interesting to have such a diverse group of professionals in the training and both trainers and participants benefited from the experience. PSS was a new field for most of the participants and therefore it was at times difficult to grasp some of the concepts, but with the support of a highly skilled interpreter (who was a Mental Health expert) and role plays, the key messages of the training were clearly conveyed. Lao RC has requested further technical support in order to integrate PSS with their various programmes in Health and Disaster Management and also requested a ToT on CBPSS. The IFRC CBPSS manual (both trainer and participant versions) has been translated to Lao and is currently being adapted to Lao culture.

The CSRU will continue to support Lao RC to strengthen its capacity in PSS throughout 2014. The training was conducted with support from the Norwegian RC.

### *Technical support in Psychosocial (PSS) programming – Cambodia*

Technical support visit was organized during the month of February to Cambodia.

SEARD PSS delegate conducted refresher training for 9 Cambodian RC staff working on

the Community Based Health Development (CBHD) programme and supported the final revision and editing of the PSS trainers manual and a PSS booklet for Cambodian RC volunteers.

Trainings on Basic PSS have now started in both provinces (Kampot and Preah Vihear) and the aim is for Cambodia RC volunteers to be able to use their PSS skills in their daily work e.g. while conducting sessions on hygiene promotion for the community or providing First Aid.

With the support of a local consultant, a PSS module addressing the subject of Child Care and Violence Prevention was developed and it will be integrated into the CBHD Health club manual once illustrations for the module are completed.

### *Knowledge Sharing:*

SEARD/CSRU online library 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.

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 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.

The Emergency Health Team of the IFRC Geneva Secretariat is in the middle of production of an e-learning course in public health in emergencies. The staged release will start with 4 modules in February-March 2014 with additional modules to be released in Q3 of 2014. One of the modules for the later release is Psychosocial Support and Mental Health in Emergencies. The IFRC PS Centre and the Secretariat

EH team is working on the storyboard of this module and the PSS delegate along with other PSS colleagues around the world has been asked



to provide feedback on the module. PSS delegate met with the Danish RC Advisor on Humanitarian Diplomacy & Law to discuss IFRC perspectives on protection and violence prevention.

#### Upcoming Events for March and April 2014:

Date	Events	Venue
March 8-9,	Basic PSS training	Penang , Malaysia
March 9-14,	Exchange visit- Thai Red Cross	Viet Name
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> AMCDRR Technical Session lead meeting	Bangkok
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	ADRRN/SEARD CSRU technical meeting re CSSF	Bangkok
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Lecture at AIT and discussion on Social Capital Study Thailand	Bangkok
March 10-11,	Orientation on EOC Website for Provincial Red Cross Chapter of Tsunami affected areas	Phuket, Thailand
March 16-21	DIREx simulation exercise	Indonesia
March 17-18	Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange (DREE) Final Planning Conference (FPC)	Bangkok
March 17-21,	NDRT Training for Thai Red Cross	Bangkok, Thailand
March 24	Floods post-emergency preparedness technical review meeting with RCHB	Bangkok
March 26-27	Regional Lesson Learnt workshop on EWEA	Bangkok, Thailand
March 31	IASC Regional Network – Directors Meeting	Bangkok
March 27	SEARD/TRC – PoA revision, technical meeting	Bangkok
April 1-3	11 <sup>th</sup> Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) Meeting	Myanmar
April 13-18	Master Trainer workshop – Healthy lifestyle and AP Zone health meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
April 22-23	IAP Meeting – 6 <sup>th</sup> AMCDRR planning	Bangkok
April 24-29	AHEX 14 – simulation exercise (CivMil)	Thailand
April 23-15,	1st Red Cross/ Red Crescent International Nursing Conference	Bangkok, Thailand

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Note: if you wish to see some of our earlier updates you can find them at following link:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsouthasia/home/csru-monthly-updates>