



2015

South-East Asian National Societies Survey Findings Report

Introduction

Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRf)

The Red Cross Red Crescent societies in South-East Asia, consisting of Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent, Cambodian Red Cross, Palang Merah Indonesia, Lao Red Cross, Malaysia Red Crescent, Myanmar Red Cross, Philippines Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, Thai Red Cross, Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste and Viet Nam Red Cross, convene annually in the **Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRf)** to **enhance regional integration, coordination, communication and cooperation among them**. The Forum is facilitated by the IFRC South-East Asia Regional Delegation based in Bangkok, Thailand.



A long standing purpose of the RCSRf is to ensure Community Safety Resilience capacities of individual National Societies are being strengthened, and the capability of the region to improve its capacity for Community Safety and Resilience is enhanced through regional cooperation.

The Forum is tasked to translate the results of the strategic policy and direction, and decisions of the South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent leaders into **operational actions to promote the establishment of safer and resilient communities**, through the annual gathering of Heads or Managers in the Technical Working Groups of **Disaster Management, Health and Organizational Development/ Youth**.

In preparation of the South-East Asia Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRf) that will be held on 4th – 6th August 2015, the IFRC South-East Asia Regional Delegation conducted an online survey in order to **better capture and understand the interests, initiatives and capacity of the National Societies**.

Methodology of the National Society Survey 2015

The survey was rolled out to the 11 National Societies in May 2015. It consisted of 52 questions, both open-ended and close-ended questions, that was recommended to be filled in online, through a web link.¹ The survey was recommended to be filled in **collectively** by the Head of each division or unit in the National Societies.



The surveys captured the span of 3 years, from January 2012 until March 2015, in the domains of integrated approach, institutional preparedness, gender and diversity, disaster law, partnership and networking, the use of social media, knowledge and information management, project management and the management of Community Safety and Resilience Forum.

¹ This survey could be accessed from <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YBFYKVG>, generated from the SurveyMonkey® software.

The responses of the survey were collected during the month of May and June 2015. **Responses were received from 8 National Societies out of 11, as of the cut-off date of July 7th, 2015.** The survey findings are then presented in this report, as such, this report only provides an overall picture of 8 National Societies. We hope the remaining National Societies will take part in the survey, on the communicated link (in footnote 1) which will remain open, until the another survey is launched next year, and we will continue collecting the responses from all the 11 National Societies. The complete questions of the survey are available in the [annex](#).



The findings of the questionnaire highlights the priorities, interests, and capacity of National Societies in **integrated approach and regional map, response preparedness, gender and diversity, disaster law, partnership, as well as learning and sharing – social media, online library and exchange visits.**

These findings contributed to designing a better-informed and effective Community Safety and Resilience (CSR) Forum meeting taking place on 4th – 6th August 2014 in Indonesia, with the support of Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI), in which we will work collectively towards meeting National Societies’ priorities and plans. The survey findings have been shared during the abovementioned Community Safety and Resilience Forum. **This survey findings report analysis highlights the progress that the National Societies are making in the subjects covered in the survey.**



The IFRC South-East Asia Regional Delegation took this survey as a learning opportunity to improve our engagement with the National Societies prior to the forum. We would like to express our deepest appreciation for the support of all National Societies in the region to have taken the lead in integrated approach in creating safer and more resilient community.

A quick guide to read the survey findings

NUMBERS

- The graphs only **represent 8 out of 11 National Societies** in the South-East Asia. These graphs are the result of self-assessment exercise conducted by National Societies and are NOT the result of any external evaluation.
- All the numbers in this document represent the number of National Societies, unless indicated otherwise.
- Some National Societies answered more than 1 options, as such the total number of National Societies in some charts may exceed 8.

QUOTES

- All quotes, unless stated otherwise, are captured directly from National Societies, with some grammatical changes added when necessary.
- Names of National Society have been deleted so that they remain anonymous in this publication.

Integrated Approach and Regional Road Map

Definition

Resilience is defined as "the ability of individuals, communities, organizations or countries exposed to disasters, crises and underlying vulnerabilities to anticipate, prepare for, reduce the impact of, cope with and recover from the effects of shocks and stresses without compromising their long-term prospects." ([IFRC Framework for Community Resilience](#)).

Summary of Findings

- All the National Societies are **familiar with IFRC Global Framework for community resilience**.
- Most (7 out of 8) National Societies **have integrated programs**. Integrated programs include Disaster Management, Health and Organizational Development. A few National Societies **have started integrating** gender and diversity, migration, disaster Law and climate change as cross-cutting components in their programming, while the majority **have systematically included** all these components.
- On frequency of joint meetings among technical managers of Disaster Management, Health and Organizational Development/Youth, most National Societies **meet monthly**, while others **meet yearly**. However, when the need requires, they may **meet weekly or based on the needs of the projects**.

More Quotes from National Societies



Viet Nam Red Cross ©Benoit Marsha-Carpentier, IFRC 2012

On challenges and successes of integrating the components of Gender and Diversity, Youth, Migration, Disaster Law, Climate Change and People with Disability in programming:

"Multi-sectoral integration is the biggest challenges. For joint planning, mutual understanding, minimal package of the components."

"Lack of funding to implement or extend the project and program [among others]."

"We have set up CFR Framework to integrating sectoral programming. We also have been developing National Disaster Response Frame integrated with all of cross cutting components such as gender and diversity, disaster law, climate change adaptation, people with disability, etc."

"Climate change - not a relevant topic in [...] yet. [...] is a developing society and slowly ensuring these areas are included in programming as guidelines and policy are implemented."

"[...] recognizes the importance of all thematic issues and thus the NS ensure that this will also be integrated in all of its program."

Photo caption : Khuyen and her husband, Do, are both HIV positive. They are core members of a group running counselling session at the hospital in Hai Phong, Vietnam. They are supported financially and technically by the Viet Nam Red Cross and American Red Cross.

Synthesis

Cambodia, Indonesia and Myanmar Red Cross have working group where all technical departments come together and discuss to **strengthen integrated approach**.

Myanmar Red Cross has developed the integrated community assessment for community resilience initiatives, while **Indonesian Red Cross (PMI)** has a terms of reference in order to make such meeting more effective. A few more National Societies are considering to follow these modalities.

IFRC Secretariat is in the process of developing a guiding document for community resilience programming, which will help National Societies to further enhance their efforts. National Societies such as Indonesia, Timor Leste, Myanmar and Philippines have experiences to implement integrated community-based programmes which cover a range of sectors such as health, water, sanitation and hygiene, and livelihood along with DRR.

Integrated technical working group

Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) has been conducting periodical technical working group involving all the Red Cross Red Crescent partners at the country level, and using the **Community Safety and Resilience road map** as its reference. The technical working group serves to:

- Share updates on achievements and challenges,
- Collectively propose solutions to solve issues,
- Standardize methodologies and tools, thus building on lessons learned, increasing efficiency and optimizing resources,
- Have a common "programme approach" (rather than project approach) for each component that promotes and encourages a better integration between sectors.

Terms of Reference of the integrated technical working group help to institutionalize PMI's integrated approach.

Implementation of integrated approach

Timor-Leste Red Cross (CVTL) recently presented the Integrated Community-Based Risk Reduction (ICBRR) concept in the Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum 2015, highlighting that **integrated approach is implemented through:**

- **Joint initial assessment** to identify the most vulnerable communities across the country according to defined criteria.
- **Participatory approach:** Vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) and Community action plan (CAP) that cover all sectors.
- Implementation through community volunteers, as such, volunteers are trained using **integrated curriculum**, consisting of selected parts of CBHFA and selected modules from DRR.
- **Joint monitoring tools:** One logframe, one M&E plan, the same reporting formats for the whole programme.
- **Quarterly ICBRR meetings** where all ICBRR staff participate as a way to coordinate the work.



The challenges in implementing integrated community based risk reduction (ICBRR) include:

- **Flexible funding** is needed.
- Stakeholders and many donors still **work in silos**, which does not support programme integration.
- It is continuous work to **maintain good coordination and open communication** between departments.
- Integrated approach needs **strong branches**. Branch development and capacity development are needed to support the integration.

- Communities may have other coinciding activities and we need to be careful **not to overload them** with too many activities
- Target villages are remote – difficult to access especially during the rainy season.

Clear benefits of Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction:

- **One plan and we work together**, so Health sector knows what DM is doing and other way around
- Monitoring – **same assessment and monitoring tools**, so any ICBRR staff can monitor all the activities
- **Comprehensive training** for community volunteers. As such, volunteers can perform many activities.
- **Staff time and money saved** as there are no longer separate coordination meetings for DM and Health.
- **More holistic support** to the community and one face of the Red Cross, as community does not make any difference between Health and DM.
- **Advocacy is easier**, and partners recognise the National Society and its resilience approach better.

Philippine Red Cross bases its work on framework model disaster risk reduction and management which consists of 4 main components. The framework itself the best tool of integrated approach, which provides enough framework guidance for integration. The 4 components are:

- **Risk knowledge** (through profiles and secondary data, baseline and end line data, and VCA)
- **Disaster preparedness for response** (through organization of community volunteers (see **RC 143**), and training sessions on first aid, CBHFA and DRRM, disaster response equipping, contingency plan and simulation exercises.
- **Early warning early action** (through early warning system assessment, establishing early warning system communication and dissemination, and IEC materials).
- **Mitigating identified risk** (by developing climate and ecosystem-smart DRR plans, structural and non-structural mitigation projects).

Myanmar Red Cross has been investing a lot in community preparedness, especially after the devastating Cyclone Nargis. In order to have a common and integrated approach at community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) programming, the Myanmar Red Cross has consolidated and harmonized its methodologies and practices, resulting in the **CBDRR Manual**, which is supplemented by the **case studies** on CBDRR Practice:

- Addressing the needs of the most vulnerable communities through identification and selection of at-risk project sites
- Strengthening the human resource base at township level: Ensuring more effective implementation of CBDRR initiatives
- Baseline and end-line studies as means to analyze the effectiveness of CBDRR activities
- Promoting community participation through development of community level risk reduction action plans
- Consolidation of community preparedness through use of games, simulation exercises and information, education and communication (IEC) materials.

Interest mapping

The South-East Asia National Societies have outlined the road map to enhance the cooperation among themselves. In addition, they have recently conducted interest mapping in line with the road map in order to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The interest mapping, which can be an opportunity to support integrated approach, is as follows:

Interest Mapping for Regional Exchange		Brunei Red Crescent	Cambodia n Red Cross	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL)	Indonesia n Red Cross (PMI)	Lao Red Cross	Malaysian Red Crescent	Myanmar Red Cross	Philippine Red Cross	Singapore Red Cross	Thai Red Cross	Viet Nam Red Cross
Community Safety and Resilience	Integrated programming for resilience											
	CBDRR / CBDRM / ICBRR	Learn	Share	Share Learn	Share	Share	Learn	Share	Share Learn		Share	Share
	VCA	Learn	Share	Share Learn	Share	Share		Share	Share Learn	Learn	Share	Share
	Climate Change Adaptation	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn	Share Learn		Share Learn	Learn
	CBHFA	Learn	Share	Learn	Share	Share		Share	Share		Learn	Share
	WatSan/ PHAST	Learn	Share	Share Learn	Share	Share		Share	Share	Learn	Share	Share
	Livelihoods	Learn	Learn	Share Learn		Learn		Learn	Share Learn		Learn	Share Learn
	Urban Resilience	Learn	Learn		Learn	Learn		Learn	Share Learn	Share	Learn	Share Learn
	Road Safety	Share	Share	Learn	Learn	Learn	Share	Learn	Learn		Learn	Share Learn
	Integration policies, tool and minimal package							Learn			Learn	

Response Preparedness

Scope

The response preparedness of National Society is surveyed on the availability of response system, indicated by contingency plans, existing relief proposition stock, availability of Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in National Society, and the number of National Disaster Response Team members.

Summary of Findings

- On response systems, most National Societies **have contingency plans which are tested through simulation**. In general, the contingency plans exist for emergencies caused by tsunami, flood, fire, earthquakes, volcano eruption and epidemic. Epidemic preparedness include preparedness towards dengue fever, hand foot and mouth disease and diarrhea-related illness.
- The National Societies **have varying degrees of capacity to manage emergencies** following their relief proposition stock available without external support.
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is **operational in varying degrees**, with EOC operating permanently in half of the respondent National Societies (4 out of 8), and the other half with no EOC or EOC operating on ad hoc basis.
- Within South-East Asia, from 7 National Society, the total number of **National Disaster Response Team (NDRT)** members reached 339, among which 65% is males and 35% is females.



Lao Red Cross ©Bart Verweij, IFRC 2015

More quotes from National Societies

“[We] have the nomination from National Committee of Disaster Management to join the working group in the Ministry of Health [on epidemic contingency plan].”

“[We are] in the process of training more people. Identifying people in every province. Last training conducted in 2006 [on National Disaster Response Team].”

“[On National Disaster Response Team] many people have moved on since under-taking roles in 2006, plan to conduct training in November 2015.”

Photo caption: A participant using a mega phone to make announcements during a Community Based Disaster Risk simulation. The exercises and drills focus on disaster preparedness and response at village level, in order to ensure that communities are equipped with skills to activate existing emergency plans and save lives. Through the simulation project, Lao Red Cross and partner French Red Cross, with the support from the European Union, are improving safety for vulnerable communities.

Synthesis

Contingency plans, National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) are in place in some of the National societies such as Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. Functional level of NDRT system is different in these National Societies, some of which do have very comprehensive contingency plan such as Myanmar and Indonesia, while some others are making progress. Vietnam Red Cross is developing the contingency plan at provincial level as well.

Viet Nam Red Cross has developed a Standard Operating Protocol (SoP) of National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) in 2012. The protocol is designed to strengthen the capacities of Viet Nam Red Cross in emergency response and disaster prevention.

Myanmar Red Cross has an SoP to respond to small-scale and medium-scale disaster.

Philippine Red Cross initiated Red Cross 143, a program to promote a network of Red Cross volunteers in schools, workplaces, and communities, who will prepare for disasters and respond rapidly to emergencies. Red Cross 143 is composed of 1 leader and 43 members, which makes 44 volunteers on-site. The volunteers “take charge” and are the first to predict, plan, prepare, practice, report and respond.

South-East Asian National Societies are working towards coordinated emergency operation within and beyond the Movement. Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines and Indonesia do have designated Emergency Operation Center (EOC), whereas other National Societies have a concept but are still exploring to develop an EOC.

National Platform and Agency for Risk Reduction and Response: Most National Societies have been recognized by the stakeholders in country and have been playing significant role (formal or informal) at the national level platform for risk reduction and response. The table below offers brief information on national platform, national agency on DRR and DM, and the existing legal framework. The national agency is headed by government, whereas the national platform varies country to country.

Country	National Platform	National Agency	Key Legal Framework
Cambodia	Disaster Risk Reduction Forum (DRRF), Joint Action Group (JAG), and Cambodian Humanitarian Forum (CHF). Cambodia has a contingency plan and Cambodia Red Cross is recognized as a key partner.	National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). Cambodia Red Cross is a member of NCDM.	The Law on Disaster Management was adopted in July 2015. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the NCDM and the Cambodian Red Cross - establishes a working relationship between the NCDM and Cambodian Red Cross.
Indonesia	National DRR Platform - PLANAS PRB. Indonesia has a contingency plan and Indonesia Red Cross is recognized as key partner.	National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB). Indonesian Red Cross is a key implementing partner with BNPB.	Disaster Management Law 24/2007 , Government Regulation PP21/2008 , Government Regulation PP22/2008 , Government Regulation PP23/2008 , BNPB Guideline 22/2010 . These five documents are the key legal instruments for disaster management and response in Indonesia, including the facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance. Minister of Health Regulation No. 23/Birhub/1972 set out that PMI has the role to support the Government of Indonesia in health services by providing first aid and other health services.
Laos	Laos has IASC contingency plan and Lao Red Cross is recognized as a key partner. Lao Red Cross co-facilitated with Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment a national workshop in Sep 2015 to discuss the	National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC). Department for Disaster Management and Climate Change (DDMCC), under the Ministry for Natural	There are no specific disaster management acts, however roles and responsibilities of the NDMC and its members, are defined in the internal Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) Decree No. 097/MLSW . Lao Red Cross is included as a member. Laos has a Law on Environmental

	establishment of a national platform for DRR.	Resources and the Environment (MoNRE). Lao Red Cross is member of the NDMC.	Protection (2012, revised in 2013) which addresses some aspects of disaster management and DRR. A new law on disaster and climate change is currently being developed.
Myanmar	DRR Working Group. Myanmar has IASC contingency plan and Myanmar Red Cross is recognized as a key partner.	Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement's Relief and Resettlement Department, and National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee (NDPCC). Myanmar Red Cross is a key partner of NDPCC, with defined roles in a standing order on natural disaster 2009. The standing order is due to be revised in 2016. Myanmar Red Cross is also a member of the DRR working group and part of the steering committee.	Natural Disaster Management Law 2013 National Disaster Management Rules (2015) Standing Order on Disaster Management (2009)
Philippines	Disaster Risk Reduction Network Philippines (DRRNetPhils)	National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). Philippines Red Cross is member of NDRRMC.	Philippines Disaster Risk Management Act 2006 , Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 (includes the Philippine National Red Cross) (<i>currently under revision</i>).
Thailand	Thailand has IASC contingency plan and Thai Red Cross is recognized as a key partner.	Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM). Thai Red Cross has a very precise recognition at government level.	Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Act 2007
Timor Leste	Community Based Disaster Risk Management Working Group (CBDRMWG). Timor Leste has IASC contingency plan and National Red Cross and the Movement is recognized as key partners. Emergency response and Preparedness plan focusing on flood is in place.	National Disaster Management Directorate (NDMD). CVTL is a key partner of NDMD.	National Disaster Risk Management Policy (CVTL included) 2008 (currently under revision) National Disaster Operations Centre Standard Operating Manual National Flood Contingency Plan (CVTL included) A new law on disaster management is currently being developed.
Viet Nam	National Disaster Management Working Group (NDMWG). As per IASC standards, sector-wise technical group is working . Vietnam Red Cross has been recognized as a key partner in some of the sectors.	Disaster Management Center (DMC) - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development . VNRC is a member of DMC.	Regulation on the Management and Utilization of Aid from International Non-Governmental Organizations Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (2013)

Interest mapping

The South-East Asia National Societies have outlined the road map to enhance the cooperation among themselves, and recently conducted interest mapping in line with road map in order to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The interest map below could be used as an opportunity to support response preparedness:

Interest Mapping for Regional Exchange		Brunei Red Crescent	Cambodian Red Cross	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL)	Indonesian Red Cross (PMI)	Lao Red Cross	Malaysian Red Crescent	Myanmar Red Cross	Philippine Red Cross	Singapore Red Cross	Thai Red Cross	Viet Nam Red Cross
Disaster Management	Disaster Management											
	Contingency Planning	Learn	Learn	Learn	Share	Learn	Share Learn	Share	Share Learn	Share	Learn	Share Learn
	ERT / NDRT	Learn	Share Learn	Learn	Share	Learn	Share Learn	Share	Share	Share	Share	Share Learn
	Logistic preparedness	Learn	Share Learn	Learn	Share	Learn		Share	Share		Share	Learn
	Early Warning Systems	Learn	Share	Learn	Learn	Share		Learn	Learn		Share	Share
	RFL	Learn	Share		Share	Share	Share	Share	Share	Learn	Learn	Share Learn
	Safer Access	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn		Learn	Share Learn	Learn	Learn	Learn
	Security							Learn				
	Pre-disaster meeting								Learn			

Gender and Diversity

Definitions

Gender refers to the socially constructed attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female vary widely from place to place. Gender defines social and cultural expectations about what behaviour and activities are allowed, what attributes are valued, and what rights and power one has in the family, community and nation (A guide for gender-sensitive approach for Disaster Management).

Diversity means acceptance and respect for all forms of difference, which includes, but is not limited to, differences in gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, HIV status, socio-economic status, religion, nationality and ethnic origin (including minority and migrant groups) (IFRC Strategic Framework on Gender and Diversity Issues).

Summary of Findings

- The National Societies identified **Gender and Diversity as one of their priorities**, in varying degrees.
- As many as 5 out of 8 respondent National Societies **have policies or strategic frameworks for gender and/or diversity in place**, while the rest are interested to develop the policies.
- Similarly, 5 out of 8 National Societies are **addressing issues of gender-based violence**.



Myanmar Red Cross © Mandy George, IFRC 2014

More quotes from National Societies

“[We are] trying to put policies for gender and diversity in our National Society strategic plan as one of the key actions.”

“Gender policy [is] in progress.”

Photo caption: Women firefighters – women in some communities are now equipped with the knowledge on how to prevent, prepare and deal with fire emergencies. This skill helps to build safer communities in Myanmar.

Synthesis

The National Societies in South-East Asia are moving towards having more gender and diversity specific strategies and policies in place within the National Societies as well as within programs. The National Societies have identified Gender and Diversity focal persons who have been trained in Gender and Diversity Regional Training of Trainers. Below are some highlights:

Addressing gender and diversity through policy making

Laos Red Cross are working on a number of initiatives to ensure they address gender and diversity in a strategic way and that the approach is imbedded within the National Society. One way the Laos Red Cross is doing this is through their **Strategy for the Advancement of Women** that comes to an end in 2015. Over the past year, the Laos Red Cross with the support of the Australian Red Cross have developed their **new child protection policy** and have identified a Gender and Diversity Focal Person for the National Society. The next step will be to **update the strategy for 2015-2020 and this strategy will have a strong focus on violence prevention.**

Philippines Red Cross have a strong commitment to gender and diversity and are currently drafting a gender policy. The Philippine Red Cross gender and diversity focal point has also been trained as a **trainer on the IFRC's Seven Moves: Gender and Diversity in Emergency Programming.** Having this capacity and skills within PRC will allow others in the National Society to be trained and integrate gender and diversity within their work.

Inclusion of elderly in community based risk reduction programme

The **Thai Red Cross** Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction programme has been running since 2005 in collaboration with the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior. The programme has a **clear focus on the inclusion of the elderly with senior citizens in the community playing key roles in the village committee,** which is responsible for preparing for and responding to disasters. Both men and women also participated in the committees and have significant roles and responsibilities in times of disaster. This is all highlighted in the community's Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Plan 2015.

Ensuring gender and diversity commitment through training

In August 2015, **CVTL** held three one-day training sessions for HQ staff members, Branch Directors, National Governing Board Members, IFRC staff, AVID volunteers and youth leaders. Participants were introduced to the basic concepts of gender and diversity, IFRC frameworks, as well as some key risks and considerations with regards to disaster management and health programming. It was an important way to **ensure that staff at all levels and varying backgrounds were made aware of the importance of gender and diversity,** and demonstrates **commitment for making gender and diversity a fundamental part of National Societies work.**

Interest mapping

The South-East Asia National Societies have outlined the road map to enhance the cooperation among themselves. They have recently conducted interest mapping in line with road map in order to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The interest mapping, which can be an opportunity to support gender and diversity, is as follows:

Interest Mapping for Regional Exchange	Brunei Red Crescent	Cambodia Red Cross	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL)	Indonesia Red Cross (PMI)	Lao Red Cross	Malaysian Red Crescent	Myanmar Red Cross	Philippine Red Cross	Singapore Red Cross	Thai Red Cross	Viet Nam Red Cross
Gender and Diversity	Learn	Learn	Learn	Share	Learn	Share	Learn	Learn		Share Learn	Gender Learn

Disaster Law

Definition

Disaster law is defined in the scope of this survey to include disaster management, disaster risk reduction, disaster response, climate change, health regulations, National Society Red Cross/Red Crescent law, and others, but excludes International Humanitarian Law and emblem law.

Summary of Findings

- All the National Societies affirmed that it is **a priority for them to engage in the development of national disaster laws, policies and plans.**
- The majority of National Societies (7 out of 8) are **currently engaged** in the development or review of disaster laws.
- Similarly, most National Societies (7 out of 8) also described that they **need more training on capacity building in disaster law.**



Philippine Red Cross ©Stephen Ryan, Irish Red Cross 2013

More quotes from National Societies

“[We are] committed and dedicated to the development of national disaster laws, policies and plans.”

“[We work in] close collaboration with [the] National Committee on Disaster Management and other relevant ministries.”

Photo caption: A woman collects relief items provided by Philippine Red Cross. A storm surge that accompanied the typhoon left many of these families homes under water. The Red Cross Red Crescent societies are providing thousands of families with items to help them meet immediate needs.

Synthesis

Significant progress has been made by National Societies across Southeast Asia over the years, and much has been done to implement the regional disaster law pledge (from the 31st International Conference in 2011) and other key commitments. Technical assistance and legislative advocacy have been two key areas in which National Societies and IFRC have been very active. This is in line with National Societies' commitment to support their governments to review and develop the necessary legal frameworks for disaster management, risk reduction and response. **Through legislative advocacy, National Societies have continued to strengthen their relationships with governments and other key partners.** In doing so, National Societies are **promoting more active and collaborative engagement in national law and policy processes**, and serve as a bridge between communities and national and local authorities. Highlights of the latest disaster law developments include:

Summary of national disaster management legislation, rules and regulations in Southeast Asia

Country	Year	Status	Incorporates IDRL	Incorporates DRR	
Brunei Darussalam (law)	2006	●	-	-	Key: Adopted ● Drafting and / or finalising ● Revising ● * denotes that NS/IFRC is currently engaged in providing input and advice Note: Malaysia and Singapore do not have a specific disaster management law. Malaysia has a National Policy Directive on Disaster Management (1997); Singapore has other types of legislation (e.g. Civil Defence Act) which support emergency preparedness and disaster management.
Cambodia (law)	2015	●	√	√	
Indonesia (law)	2007	●	*√	*√	
Indonesia (reg.)	2008	●	√		
Indonesia (guideline)	2010	●	*√		
Lao PDR (law)	2015	●	*	*	
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	
Myanmar (law)	2013	●		√	
Myanmar (rules)	2015	●	√	√	
Philippines (law)	2010	●	*√	*√	
Philippines (bill on international assistance)	2012/14	●	*√		
Singapore	-	-	-	-	
Thailand (law)	2007	●		√	
Timor Leste (law)	2015	●	*	*	
Vietnam (law)	2013	●	√	√	

Peer to peer learning in the region: Focus on Vietnam

Vietnam is looked to by National Societies and governments across Asia as an example of best practice when it comes to developing national disaster risk management legislation. Vietnam Red Cross was actively involved in the development of Vietnam's national Natural Disaster Prevention and Control Law (2013), which adopted recommendations on international assistance and disaster risk reduction, developed by VNRC and IFRC. "The adoption of the new law on disaster prevention and control is a significant step for Vietnam, to prepare our people to reduce risks and impacts of disasters, especially in the context of climate change", explains Mr. Doan Van Thai, Vice President and Secretary General of Vietnam Red Cross Society. "It encourages the participation of citizens, civil society, community leaders and the private sector in many areas of disaster risk management".

Now that implementation of the new law has begun, other countries are looking to Vietnam to learn from their experience. In 2014 and 2015, two exchange tours were conducted which fostered great dialogue and sharing of experiences between the National Societies, national authorities and humanitarian and development organizations. In November 2014, representatives from IFRC, UNDP, Lao Red Cross, Vietnam Red Cross and a delegation of Lao PDR government officials travelled to Hanoi and Lao Cai province to learn about the disaster management law development process. In November 2015, a delegation from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), including from the National Assembly and DPRK Red Cross, also travelled to Vietnam for the same learning

experience, which included a visit to Ninh Binh province to understand how the national disaster management law was being implemented at the provincial level. One outcome of this visit will be to plan a consultation workshop in Pyongyang in 2016 to discuss DPRK's DM law, and invite representatives from VNRC and the Vietnam government to share their experience with a wider audience, and also learn from the context in DPRK.

Peer-to-peer /regional collaboration platform: Southeast Asia Regional Disaster Law Forum

On 10-11 June 2015, over 60 representatives gathered in Bangkok at the 'Regional Disaster Law Forum for Southeast Asia'. These included National Society leaders and technical staff, NDMOs, ministries of foreign affairs, parliamentarians, United Nations organizations, NGOs and the ASEAN Secretariat. This was the first time in over three years that National Societies and governments in Southeast Asia had come together with key partners to take stock and discuss disaster law developments at the national, regional and international levels. The Forum considered how states and National Societies have been working together to develop or review disaster management laws and regulations; how to enhance engagement with ASEAN and preparation for the post-2015 AADMER work programme; and discussions on key disaster law themes and pledges coming before the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent in December 2015. The outcomes of the Forum demonstrated how Southeast Asia is a leader when it comes to developing national disaster laws, and the important role National Societies have to play as the bridge between the community/ local level and national level law and policy making processes. The final Forum report and recommendations are available online at the [IFRC Southeast Asia online library](#).

Laws and regulations adopted

- **Vietnam:** in 2013, Vietnam adopted a new national Law on Disaster Prevention and Control. This contains a chapter on international cooperation based on the IDRL Guidelines and recommendations from Vietnam Red Cross and IFRC, including a research study published in 2009. Disaster risk reduction elements are also integrated into various sections of the law, as a result of advocacy and technical advice provided by Vietnam Red Cross and IFRC.
- **Myanmar** adopted a new set of Disaster Management Rules in 2015, to implement the national Natural Disaster Management Law which was adopted in 2013. As a result of the advocacy undertaken by Myanmar Red Cross Society and IFRC, including a high-level advocacy workshop in 2014, the new rules include a chapter on communication and collaboration with assisting international actors.
- **Cambodia** adopted a new national Law on Disaster Management in 2015, which includes a chapter on international cooperation and assistance based on the IDRL Guidelines, [recommendations from a study conducted by Cambodian Red Cross and IFRC](#) (published in 2009), and various inputs during the drafting process.

Laws and regulations drafted

National Societies have been contributing to the revision of national disaster management laws in **Indonesia** and the **Philippines**, as well as the following new laws which have been drafted, or are in the process of being drafted:

- Disaster Management Law in **Timor Leste** and revised Disaster Management Policy
- Disaster and Climate Change Law in **Lao PDR**
- Bill on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance in the **Philippines**.

Partnership

Summary of Findings

- The government agencies with whom the National Societies have **most meetings with is the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)**, with half of the respondent National Societies (4 out of 8) stated that they have quarterly meetings and the other half confirmed that they have monthly meetings with the NDMO.
- All the National Societies **have regular meetings with their government counterparts**, particularly with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Welfare and Ministry of Education. The purpose of such meetings is predominantly for information sharing and coordination, formulation of policies and joint planning.
- Half of the National Societies who responded (4 of 8) have **attended at least a meeting organized by ASEAN** either in representing National Society or as a wider IFRC delegation, while the other half have not. Please note that one of the respondent countries, Timor Leste, is not a member of ASEAN.
- The majority of National Societies whose government is a member of ASEAN is of the opinion that partnership with ASEAN is crucial for 3 main benefits, which are, knowledge and information sharing to enable learning from ASEAN and the member countries, potential joint programmes, and to build a collective South-East Asian identity and capacity.



The Joint Action Plan between South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) comprises of sharing information, operational response frameworks, and learning from each other – Joint Action Plan discussed in October 2014.

Photo caption: IFRC, together with Spanish Red Cross, is moving people from an area flooded by the tide, to a camp by providing new tents. In the city centre of Meulaboh, a town on the west coast of Aceh Province in Indonesia, a community of eleven families are living in tents. At night when the high tide is coming, the tents are often flooded by sea water.

©Olav Saltbones, IFRC 2005

Synthesis

South-East Asia National Societies are **advocating more strongly at the national and regional level for the needs of communities in disaster risk reduction and resilience**. At national level, the National Societies with its auxiliary role, could persuade decision makers and opinion leaders to act at all times, in the interests of vulnerable people, and with full respect for fundamental humanitarian principles. This is complemented and enhanced by regional level, the **strengthening of regional partnerships and cooperation** with the ASEAN secretariat and other partners. Furthermore, at any level, partnerships are forged with private sector, academia/think tanks, and others, to ensure that we benefit from various expertise and resources.

Partnership with ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) in capacity building

AHA Centre trains the National Disaster Management Offices from South-East Asian countries through its AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme. IFRC South-East Asia Regional Delegation collaborated with AHA Centre to involve in the ACE programme. In June 2015, colleagues from National Societies have been invited to join some modules of the ACE Programme as trainees together with the members of National Disaster Management Offices from eight South-East Asian countries. IFRC/SEARD also coordinated one module of seven days to government participants to develop their understanding about RCRC and our capacities globally for response and risk reduction. This opportunity has allowed National Societies' representatives to enhance their capacity and expertise in the related thematic fields, as well as **promote the mutual learning and strengthen the collaboration between RCRC and respective government participants**.



Photo caption:
Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, ASEAN and respective National Disaster Management Offices stand side by side, and collaborate to enhance ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE.

Technical collaboration between the Red Cross Red Crescent societies and AHA Centre comprises of:

- **Sharing information** (sharing updates about response operations)
- **Operational response** frameworks (improving coordination of RDRT and ERAT, enhancing compatibility of SASOP and RCRC field manual, discussing procedures in preparation of disasters and undertake joint efforts where possible, improve advocacy for disaster laws and implementation of ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)).
- **Learning from each other** (National Societies (NS) to participate actively in simulation exercises, IFRC and PMI to provide expertise to ACE programme, AHA Centre to allow NS participation as trainees).

The following are the **modules in ACE Programme training that were attended by National Societies in June 2015:**

- **Communication for Disaster Professionals Training** (by UNOCHA ROAP) attended by Lao Red Cross
- **Camp Coordination and Management** (by IOM Thailand and Indonesia) attended by PMI – Indonesian Red Cross and Philippine Red Cross
- **Incident Command System and EOC Training** (by USFS) attended by Thai Red Cross Society and Vietnam Red Cross
- **Rapid Assessment** (by UNOCHA ROAP) attended by Lao Red Cross
- **5th ERAT Induction Course** (by AHA Centre) attended by PMI and Thai Red Cross Society
- **Civil-Military Coordination Training** (by UNOCHA ROAP) attended by PMI and Philippine Red Cross



Lao Red Cross



Thai Red Cross



Philippine Red Cross



Vietnam Red Cross

Subsequent to this training, a **PMI** staff member has been **deployed as AHA Centre's ERAT member during the flood emergency in Myanmar in 2015**. This signifies a first step towards ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE, to which AHA CENTRE is promoting the wide participation of all sectors (government, civil societies, and private sectors) in joint response to emergencies. It enhances the overall role of civil society and organizations, including Red Cross Red Crescent societies, alongside with the government to respond to humanitarian needs across the region.

Partnership for innovation and solution across different sectors

Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) has partnered with Zurich Insurance and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to initiate the Community Flood Resilience project in partnership with 21 communities along 3 river basins in Java Island, namely Ciliwung, Citarum and Bengawan Solo. This initiative is a part of the multi-country project of Zurich flood resilience alliance, and currently four countries: Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal and Peru are implementing this initiative.

Within this initiative, **PMI is working closely with government agencies**, namely the National Disaster Management Agency (known as BNPB), 3 offices of governors and the Ministry of Information and Communications. For instance, the river based contingency plan will be developed jointly with BPBD (Provincial Disaster Management Agency) and other agencies in the province so that there is one plan for one river that is endorsed by all relevant organisations.

The project is working closely with **global partners and project countries**. There is a regular call between Mexico, Zurich, Geneva and Indonesia. Efforts are made to harmonise the process and approaches as far as possible. Learnings are shared among partners and countries. Partnership and collaborations is extended beyond the project partners. While project is working with **international partners** such as Wharton school, and **several national leading academic institutes** such as Bandung institute of Technology, Agriculture Institute of Bogor, etc., are working partners in the country.

Coordination - PMI ensures that a **regular senior management meeting** takes place where policy issues are discussed. The **technical committee** consisting of program managers from each partner meets every month to plan, review and agree on the activities and implementation strategy for the project. There is a **working group at the district level** to oversee the project implementation.

The **Thai Red Cross** initiated "Development of Geographical Information System (GIS) for Disaster Relief Operation project" after the flood disaster in 2011. Thai Red Cross has been implementing GIS project in cooperation with 12 different agencies in Thailand to form an **alliance network of government agencies in national as well as provincial level** (such as Metropolitan Electricity Authority, Provincial Electricity Authority, Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Ministry of Public Health, National Health Commission Office of Thailand, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning - Thailand, and Royal Thai Survey Department) and **universities** (National Institute for Emergency Medicine and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang).

GIS and integrated disaster databases have been designed to help the collaborate between Thai Red Cross and the government and public organizations of the Alliance Network, so that they could exchange and share disaster management and relief information.

The GIS project has several deliverables anticipated:

- A GIS as well as integrated disaster databases will be developed, which will serve to support effective and rapid disaster relief operation.

- The GIS will be able to integrate information from various sources, including information concerning disasters and other matter related in order to facilitate the collaboration among rescue teams to respond promptly to save lives and reduce damages.
- The centralized databases and the GIS will be able to connect related information to display locations for a relief operation on the disaster site.
- The developed GIS will be able to help organize relief operation in a systematic, rapid, and meaningful way, and reduce operational redundancy so as to provide good service coverage to affected communities.

The architecture and system components of the GIS is developed as a web application running on a web server, the system can be developed and connected to another system in Thai Red Cross. Users can access to the system from a web browser on a PC, a smart phone, and/or tablet, which is connected with internet. The system has the capacity to support at least 50 simultaneous users.

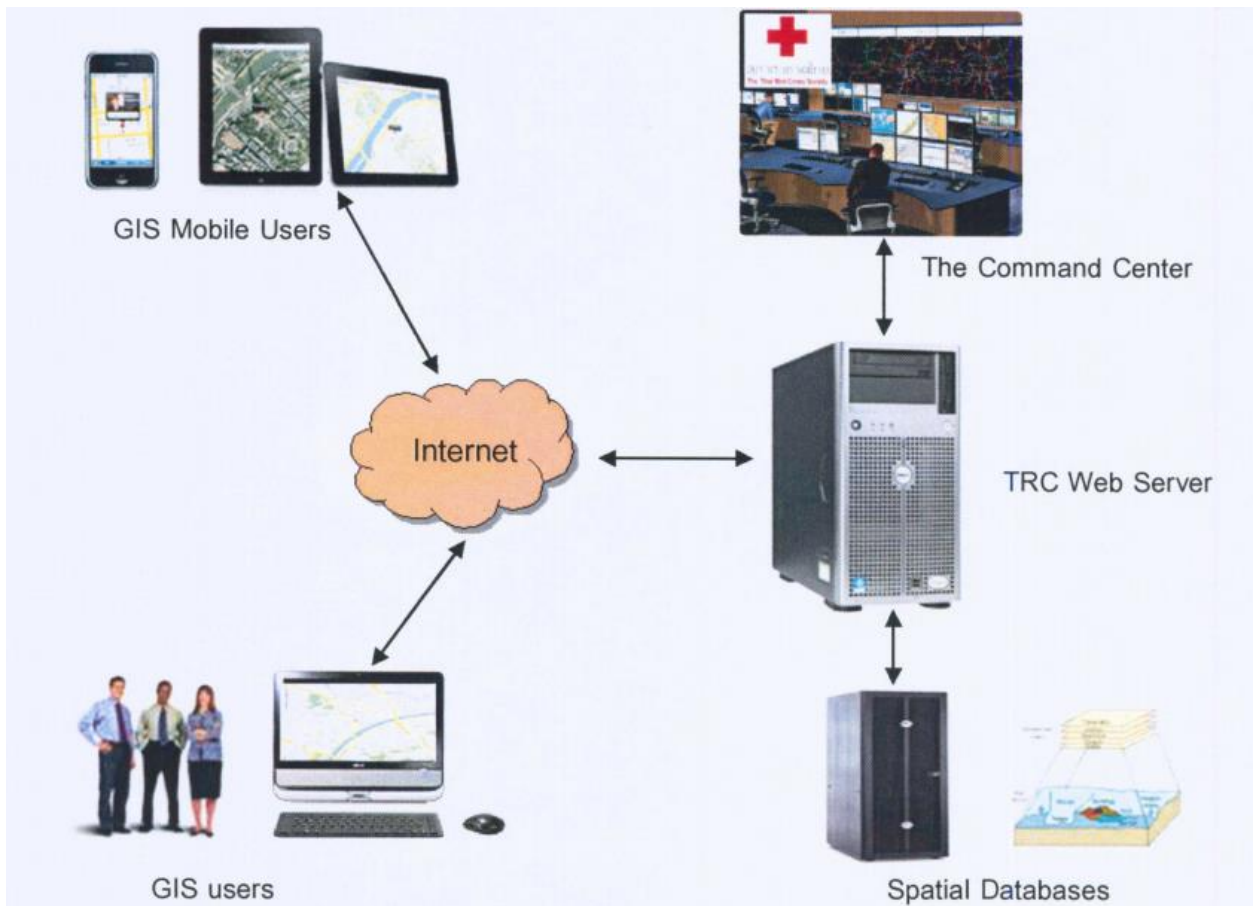


Photo caption: Communication supporting the use of GIS for disaster relief operation

Summary of Findings

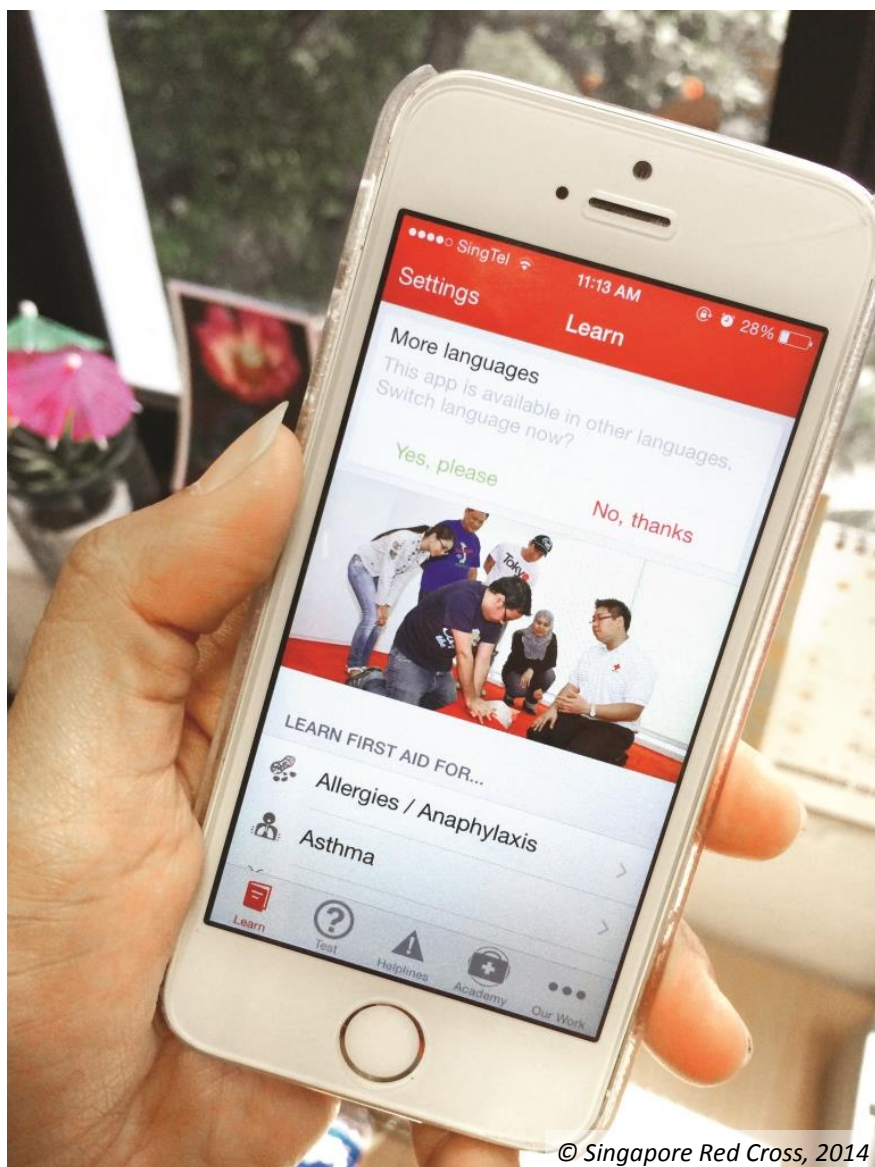
Social Media

Most of the National Societies **use the power of social media to conduct information sharing and advocacy** of their work. The most common and widely used social media platform is **Facebook**, with 5 out of 8 National Societies claimed to be very experienced in using Facebook, and the rest (3 National Societies) claiming to be experienced. As for Twitter, there is fewer experience, with only 2 National Societies being very experienced, and 5 National Societies being not experienced in using Twitter.

Online Library

While in knowledge and information management platform, the National Societies stated that the online library of South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent societies at <https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/regional-csr-forum> **needed more dissemination**, as half (4 out of 8) National Societies have benefited from it, while the other half have not visited the library. A majority of 6 (of 8) confirmed that online library is necessary for encouraging the sharing of knowledge and experience in the South-East Asia region.

The **National Societies gave suggestions on making the library more useful as a peer-to-peer learning and sharing tool**, 2 of which suggested to **include more guides or resources from each National Society** in the region, while another 2 suggested to have a chat service in the library, and 2 others suggested to disseminate more information about the library.



© Singapore Red Cross, 2014

On making the online library more participatory (that is, allowing more participation of the National Societies to contribute tools and guides), varying responses are received out of the total 8 National Societies, with 6 **agree to participate actively**, while 2 others strongly disagree to participate due to language barrier. As such, **the online library will need to have translation capacity** in order to have more meaningful participation from all the National Societies in the region.

Exchange Visits

The majority of National Societies (7 out of 8) **have hosted or participated in exchange visits** or peer-to-peer support, while 1 is considering to host one. The exchange visits have been identified to strengthen capacity building, sharing information in specific components, such as disaster law, branch development, and Emergency Operations Centre, among others. More exchange visits are expected to be seen in the future, which would facilitate more exchange of expertise and cooperation.

Photo caption : First Aid mobile phone application by Singapore Red Cross, gives rapid access to important information to handle first aid emergencies.

Synthesis

Social media

The changing communications landscape, and the rise of social media, has the potential to transform humanitarian operations. By learning and engaging with these platforms, National Societies can deliver integrated, sophisticated communications campaigns which reach more people, more quickly and more cost effectively.

Social media can be a very effective tool for building awareness around disaster preparedness and engaging with communities on a range of issues - from health, to youth mobilization to social issues.

Lessons learned on advocacy through social media:

- Integration between program and communications expertise works effectively and the integration could be applied for disaster relief and recovery operations and for wide health initiatives.
- The common key areas of concern as highlighted by the National Societies are **reputational risk**, and **2-way communication with communities**. These issues are critical to address to ensure successful engagement on social media such as Facebook.
- As the communications landscape is constantly evolving, so too should National Societies approach to social media.

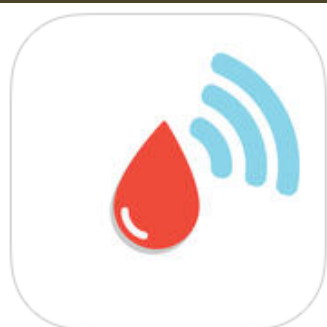
Using social media for malaria prevention advocacy

The malaria prevention advocacy was conducted using social media in the Mekong sub-region, which includes **Thailand, Laos and Cambodia**. The advocacy campaigns incorporated the technical expertise of health, disaster management and communications teams in the Red Cross. **Integration between program and communications expertise** works effectively and could benefit future trainings, as the integration could be applied for disaster relief and recovery operations and for wider health initiatives.

Thai Red Cross, Lao Red Cross, and Cambodian Red Cross each organized an in-country training to further develop the social skills of staff and volunteers' in-line with the National Societies' social media strategy. The training sessions were held in branches/provinces where malaria rates are particularly high and where the Red Cross is providing malaria prevention programmes.

The campaigns have also shown that National Societies can **use both traditional and non-traditional communications methods simultaneously** to enhance the reach and penetration of malaria prevention messages, hence reaching out to more people, and help build resilience within at-risk communities.

Examples of the usage of social media and other online communications from the region :



The **Singapore Red Cross'** mobile app 'Red Cross Connection' <http://connect.redcross.sg/> is an innovative and dynamic new app by the National Society, leveraging the power of social networks to spread the word on blood donation. By downloading the app and connecting with a personal Facebook account, users receive alerts when blood is needed to help save lives. As well as responding by donating blood themselves, a user can easily click to share the alert among friends and family. Thus users can start a chain reaction to reach potential donors, saving countless more.



The **Thai Red Cross'** initiative 'Thai Red Cross Reporters' is a unique, grassroots 'crowdsourcing' initiative to engage volunteers around the country in collecting and sharing stories about the National Society's work. A Facebook page was created for volunteers to post their photos and news. Posts are shared across to the Thai Red Cross' official account at <https://www.facebook.com/thairedcrossreporter/>

With hundreds of millions of active social media users, the Philippines is among the world's most digitally connected countries. Following this, the **Philippine Red Cross** is a leader among the world's National Societies in strategically using social media – to galvanize support and drive Filipinos to action. The National Society leverages online influencers (including bloggers, celebrities and fans) to make their messages travel further and have a bigger impact. A recent example includes a blood donation campaign which trended on Twitter on Sunday 11 October with 479,263 tweets for the hashtag #ALDUBRedCross at <http://www.redcross.org.ph/press/news/item/1040-aldub-fans-donate-blood-to-red-cross>. The blood drive collected enough blood for 195 patients.

Peer-to-peer learning opportunities

The Red Cross and Red Crescent societies have been actively involved in building regional networks such as Disaster Risk Management, Health and Care, National Society Development (including Gender and Diversity and Youth), Disaster Law during past years, and recently the Migration network. These networks have been facilitating the opportunities of peer to peer learning and ultimately contribute to regional cooperation. The Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRF) offers an overarching platform to promote a cross sectorial approach and to host thematic networks such as Disaster Risk Management, Health and Care, National Society Development (including Gender and Diversity and Youth). The forum also provides the opportunities to share the learning on migration, Disaster law as well as other thematic agenda as relevant. The ToRs for SEA Disaster Law and Migration networks are currently under development process and subject to SEA NS Leaders approval.

- **Community Safety and Resilience forum**, see [Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum - Terms of Reference](#)
The forum offers an overarching platform to promote a cross-sectorial approach and to host thematic networks such as Disaster Risk Management, Health and Care, National Society Development (including Gender and Diversity and Youth). The forum works towards enhancing regional integration, coordination, communication and cooperation among the regional Red Cross Red Crescent members, in translating the results of the policies and direction of the Leaders into operation actions to promote safer and resilient communities.
- **Gender and diversity network**, see [South-East Asia Gender and Diversity Network - Terms of Reference](#)
The network aims at strengthening regional cooperation so as to better address the challenges of gender and diversity inequality in the region, by providing a regional framework for collaboration, training, and discussion, in order to share knowledge and capacity, to mutually assist with the integration of gender and diversity in policies and programs, to advocate and promote the issue and to inform the Leaders of the progress.
- **Youth network**, see [South-East Asia Youth Network \(SEAYN\) - Terms of Reference](#)
The network works toward enhancing National Societies service delivery by mobilizing the youth in the region and by contributing to regional youth empowerment, engagement and development by means of representing the voices of volunteers, members and staff regionally.

Exchange visit is one of the approaches for peer to peer learning in South-East Asia. Every year there is a series of exchange visits planned bilaterally as well as through the secretariats within and beyond the region.



Lao Red Cross held a successful training session in December 2014, with the **peer-support of the Thai Red Cross Society** who **contributed sessions on public relations and effective writing during emergencies**. This peer-to-peer support further exemplifies the strong regional collaboration. Furthermore, in May 2015, a **Thai Red Cross photographer supported Lao Red Cross in the disaster simulation exercises** held in Kaengpae and Mahaxai villages, Laos, in order to capture the work being done in community-based disaster preparedness. The resulting photographs and stories provide compelling advocacy resources for the national society as well as for the IFRC globally.

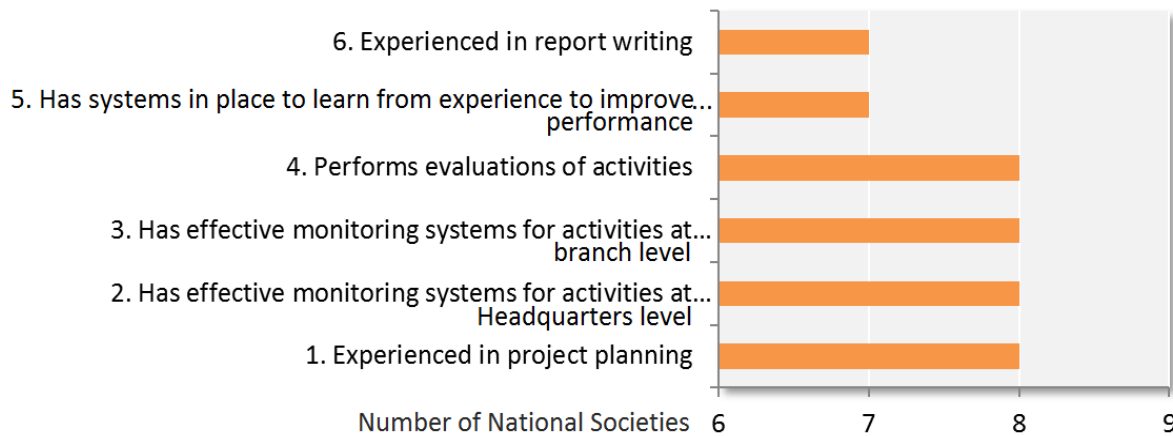
Interest mapping

The South-East Asia National Societies have outlined the road map to enhance the cooperation among themselves. They have recently conducted interest mapping in line with road map in order to strengthen their bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The interest mapping, which can be an opportunity to support communication and social media purposes, is as follows:

Interest Mapping for Regional Exchange	Brunei Red Crescent	Cambodian Red Cross	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL)	Indonesian Red Cross (PMI)	Lao Red Cross	Malaysian Red Crescent	Myanmar Red Cross	Philippine Red Cross	Singapore Red Cross	Thai Red Cross	Viet Nam Red Cross
Communication / social media	Learn	Share Learn	Learn	Share	Share	Learn	Learn	Share	Share	Share Learn	Share Learn

Project Management

National Societies Experience in Project Management



Summary of Findings

Most of the National Societies are experienced in and have systems in place for project management, which include planning, monitoring, evaluation and report writing.



© Wilda Anggraeni, American Red Cross 2010

Quotes from National Societies

"[We have] regular feedback meeting, recommendation and guidance from board members/ president in Disaster Management working group discussion. "

Photo caption: Working with a range of partners to jump-start the economic activity and to provide sustainable livelihoods opportunities to affected men and women across all the tsunami-affected districts in Aceh.

Conclusion

The survey captured the strong commitment of the National Societies towards community-based programming that take into consideration gender and diversity, youth, migration, disaster law and people with disability, to ensure that the programs contribute significantly to resilient South-East Asian communities. To this effect, the National Societies are very active in promoting peer-to-peer learning and sharing, as well as strengthening cooperation with various partners and stakeholders for the development efforts and disaster response mechanisms.

Way Forward

Considering the very good feedback received from respondent National Societies, we would like to encourage the National Societies to participate in the survey if not done yet. This will help us to consolidate further our Baseline Data and reflects on the development of our collective Resilience approach, encompassing Institutional Preparedness, integrating Gender and Diversity, empowering our Youth, strengthening Disaster Law as well as Partnership, and promoting effective and inclusive networks. It is our sincere hope that this report would contribute to the upcoming Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum, leading to a regional map that guides as well as address the priorities and initiatives of the National Societies.

How we work

Strategy 2020 voices the collective determination of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to move forward in tackling the major challenges that confront humanity in the next decade. Informed by the needs and vulnerabilities of the diverse communities with whom we work, as well as the basic rights and freedoms to which all are entitled, this strategy seeks to benefit all who look to Red Cross Red Crescent to help to build a more humane, dignified, and peaceful world.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



Over the next ten years, the collective focus of the IFRC will be on achieving the following strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises
2. Enable healthy and safe living
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace



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