South-East Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

# REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Update – December 2015



School-based Risk Reduction: Road safety training which was held in 8 schools from 3 townships in Myanmar

**Regional networks** are key to strengthen regional cooperation in South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, which consist of:

- Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent:
- Cambodian Red Cross,
- Lao Red Cross,
- Malaysia Red Crescent,
- Myanmar Red Cross,
- Palang Merah Indonesia,
- Philippines Red Cross,
- Singapore Red Cross,
- Thai Red Cross,
- Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste,
- Viet Nam Red Cross

The Red Cross and Red Crescent societies have been actively involved in building these regional networks during past years.

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). Respective ToR were developed and endorsed by SEA NS Leaders:

- <u>Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum TOR</u>
- South-East Asia Gender and Diversity Network TOR
- South-East Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) TOR

The ToRs for SEA Disaster Law and Migration networks are currently under development process and subject to SEA NS Leaders approval.

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## **ECHO Humanitarian Implementation Plan 2016**

European Commission/DG ECHO launched the Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) for South East Asia and the Pacific for projects initiating in 2016 on 26 November 2015. The HIP includes specific funding allocations for Myanmar (Emergency), Thailand (Emergency), and for Disaster Risk Reduction actions at country, multi-country and regional levels (including Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Mongolia, and DPRK as target countries).

The IFRC together with PNSs in the region has decided to present a single RCRC regional proposal for South East Asia focusing on Cambodia, Philippines, Laos and Vietnam. The Finnish Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and German Red Cross committed to being part of IFRC proposal as country-based implementing partners, together with the respective National Societies such as Cambodia, Philippines and Vietnam. IFRC commits the implementation responsibility role along with Lao Red Cross in Lao PDR. The proposal has mainly two folds: First is country focus for disaster risk reduction. Whereas, second is regional component for capacity building and exchange learning.

The proposal will be developed around three guiding thematic sectors identified/proposed by the IFRC, under the general frame of Urban Disaster Risk Reduction. The working team has been set up among the members of respective Participating National Societies and IFRC to develop the proposal. The thematic areas of the proposal will be:

- 1. Enhance RCRC contribution to the ASEAN SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE (ASSI)
- 2. Pilot Innovative Urban Risk Education
- 3. Contribute to national policies and frameworks
- 4. Capacity building and knowledge sharing

The deadline for submission of applications is 14 January 2016. Note: We have submitted the proposal.

## Participation in the ASEAN meetings on Disaster Management and School Safety in Phnom Penh

The 4th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and the 3rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) were convened as a joint session in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 16 December 2015. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Nhim Vanda, Senior Minister in Charge of Special Mission and First Vice President of the National Committee for Disaster Management of the Kingdom of Cambodia. The Meeting was attended by Ministers in charge of disaster management or their representatives from all ASEAN Member States and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. IFRC was part of the opening session in presence of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. As per ASEAN's official website, key areas of discussion during the closed session included:

- The review of the implementation of the <u>AADMER 2010-2015 Work Programme</u>
- The review of the accomplishments of the AHA Centre
- The adoption of the 2025 Vision on Disaster Management for ASEAN
- The adoption of eight priority programme to be launched in April 2016 in Indonesia (next ACDM meeting)
- The endorsement of the ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN One Response

Full statement is available here.

As a priority of the AADMER, the ASEAN Safe School Initiative (ASSI) was initiated as a unique partnership that brings together the disaster management and education sectors in ASEAN as well as civil society organizations to promote a comprehensive approach to school safety in the region. In line with such a goal, the Cambodian Government, Chair of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management, hosted the first **ASEAN Regional Conference on School Safety**, held on 16-17 December in Phnom Penh. The two-day event aimed to discuss, exchange knowledge and share leaning on school safety programming by showcasing good practices, strategies as well as tools and resources on school safety. The ASEAN Common Framework for Comprehensive School Safety was launched during the workshop (*softcopy is not available yet, it will be uploaded in the online library as soon as possible*).



IFRC attended all sessions, provided a <u>technical presentation on RCRC contribution to ASSI</u> in one of the side events of the conference, as well as delivered jointly with UNICEF the joint Asia-Pacific Coalition on School Safety Statement to the conference on behalf of all APCSS members. See the <u>collective statement from APCSS members</u>.

- <u>ASEAN School Safety Good Practices</u> (highlighting the good practices in ASEAN countries), which are available by country in <u>http://www.aadmerpartnership.org/assi-case-studies/</u>
- ASSI A compilation of case studies
- World Vision Comprehensive School Safety Practices in Asia

## **Gender and Diversity**

#### Attendance at Gender 360 Summit

On December 3, IFRC representative attended the 'Gender 360 Summit: Breaking the Silos: Coordinating Approaches to Address Gender Inequality, Gender-based Violence and Rights in Asia and the Pacific'. The workshop was organized by FHI360 in partnership with U.S Embassy in Thailand, U.S Agency for International Development (USAID), Asia Regional Mission in Thailand and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The objectives of the workshop were: to explore the issues of gender-based violence in Asia and the Pacific; to examine genderbased violence services across populations; to discuss how to achieve the specific Sustainable Development Goal targets on gender-based violence in Asia and the Pacific and; to address the intersections and gaps between types of violence. A key aim of the summit was for discussions to generate recommendations to donors on how to increase awareness and improve our work on gender-based violence.

Some key points discussed during the workshop included:

- Violence is a learned behaviour and it is gendered both in the way men, women, boys and girls learn violent behaviours and how these translate into our own behaviours.
- The need to work in a cyclical manner on both prevention and response in order to be effective.
- The need to increase our focus on minority and marginalized social groups e.g. Indigenous groups, LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex), migrants, people with disabilities and the elderly.
- Community engagement is key to empower communities to better understand lessons learned from programmes and ensure we engage with both abusers and survivors.

Disaster preparedness, response and recovery were discussed as equally important in addressing gender-based violence in times of emergency, as was the need to work in an integrated way to ensure we respond and prevent GBV at each stage of the disaster management cycle.

## Lao Red Cross Strategy for the Advancement of Women 2016-2020

Lao Red Cross have begun the development of their Strategy for the Advancement of Women. The first meeting took place on Tuesday 17th November and was attended by 13 people, representing each Division of the Lao Red Cross. The key objectives of the meeting included:



- A summary of activities that took place from 2011

   2015 by Ms. Ket Keo Oupalavong from the Advancement for Women Division of the Lao Red Cross;
- A presentation of new plans, to help prepare the new Strategy for 2016 -2020 and;
- Establishing a committee for the development of the new Strategy for the Advancement of Women 2016-2020, which was led by Dr. Sing Menorath, Vice President of Lao Red Cross.

This meeting was the first of three workshops aimed at developing the Lao Red Cross' Strategy for the Advancement of Women, to ensure input from all key stakeholder, both internal and external to the National Society. This meeting also marks the first of a nine-month activity plan for gender and diversity activities in the Lao Red Cross, which will see: the development of the Strategy; the design of gender and diversity sensitive tools for disaster risk reduction; and training to ensure the sensitization of staff to gender and diversity and on the use of the tools.

The overall aim of these initiatives is to build capacity within the Lao Red Cross to ensure the increased resilience of individuals and communities through inclusive programming.

## **Climate Change Adaptation**

#### **Climate Smart Community and Resilience Project**

The **Climate Smart Community and Resilience (CSCR) project** is designed to develop a handbook for middle managers of National Societies, community leaders, local authority as well as community mobilizers, in order to appropriately and adequately mainstream climate change considerations into programming as well as identify and assessing the best entry-points to integrate climate smart components in programming. In addition, the project will also finalize the training kit for same targets groups. This project has been designed to record the impacts of our earlier contribution as well. One action research study is a part of the project. A consultant has been hired and action research study has already started. The key activities of the project are:

- Activity 1: A participatory action research which focuses on the approach to integrate different components in order to make initiatives more climate smart, existing capacity, challenges and opportunities in community based programs (e.g. of CBDRR, WatSan, and Health programs) in terms of integration of climate risks / climate change consideration into assessment, planning and action in practice (in a real program situation). This research will look at the gaps, impacts and vulnerabilities in communities and identify key recommendations for ongoing as well as upcoming initiatives. The research will be conducted in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Lao PDR.
- Activity 2: Based on the findings above, the team is to produce a smart pocket guide on climate change for the use of middle managers or community volunteers in the National Societies within the Mekong region. The development of the pocket guide and its contents will be demand driven by the National Societies and practitioners to ensure its optimal use and the National Societies forming part of the research initiative will also be involved in the different phases of the production of the pocket guide. The pocket guide will also outline the possible actions and steps to be considered in order to make community level initiatives more climate smart in key messages that are practical, hands on and easy to understand. This pocket guide will raise the awareness of local communities' leaders and local Red Cross volunteers in increasing their knowledge to prepare for and cope with the flood, drought, heat waves and farming during the hot/ dry and raining periods. Additionally, this guide will be developed based on the ideas and concepts collected from local communities with short, easy, and common local languages. The pocket guide will be shared with other National Societies in the region to serve as inspiration for future similar work.
- Activity 3: Following the existing draft version of training kit and recommendations of action research as well as draft of the pocket guide, a training tool kit is to be finalized. The training tool kit will aim to be practical and ready-to-use format with complete session plans that are adjustable to the needs of respective NS in the region.

#### Games: Learning about climate change through games

A reminder that games for enhancing understanding of climate change and its impacts are available from the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre at <u>http://www.climatecentre.org/resources-games/games</u> The Climate Centre has been working with many partners on creating a range of interactive and fun games which can be used by National Societies with staff, volunteers and community members. At present, there are at least 45 new games on a wide range of humanitarian issues such as disaster preparedness, gender, food security, climate information, health, road safety and the management of urban waste.

## **Disaster Law**

December was another busy month for disaster law activities in Southeast Asia. The findings of a DRR and Law case study conducted in **Vietnam** were presented at the '17 years review workshop on Dipecho Programming', held in Hanoi in early December. This event provided a platform to discuss progress and gaps in strengthening the legal framework for DRR in Vietnam, and how the Red Cross and other key partners can move forward to address this. Discussions are currently underway with Vietnam Red Cross to plan for a number of disseminations of Vietnam's disaster management law in 2016.

Progress was also underway in **Myanmar** for the IDRL research project being conducted by Myanmar Red Cross Society, IFRC and the Myanmar Relief and Resettlement Department. Briefings were held in Yangon to plan for the project's activities 2016, and to present the project and discuss areas for collaboration with key humanitarian partners in Myanmar, including the National DRR working group.

Significant disaster law developments also took place at the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent held in Geneva in December, with the **unanimous adoption of a new disaster law resolution** on "strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid". Several National Societies in Southeast Asia also adopted joint **disaster law pledges** with their governments, including **Lao PDR** and **Indonesia**. A regional pledge was also prepared (pending adoption), and there is still time for National Societies to submit pledges to the RCRC pledge database (deadline is March 31, 2016). For more information on how to make disaster law pledges before the March deadline, please contact Regional Disaster Law Delegate, Lucia Cipullo, at <u>lucia.cipullo@ifrc.org</u>



IFRC Regional Disaster Law Delegate presents findings of a study on Law and DRR in Vietnam, alongside Dr. Hung, Head of Disaster Management of Viet Nam Red Cross and other panelists.

Myanmar Red Cross and IFRC teams discuss and plan for the Myanmar IDRL Project and 2016 activities.

## Thailand

## Post Emergency – Flood Preparedness Programme

The Post Emergency project has reached the end of project agreement (Dec 2015). However there is a 3-month extension for bill clearance. Thai Red Cross provided such a great support on this project, and comprehensive feedback on the <u>final evaluation</u> report.

#### 1. GIS Project

GIS project phase 3 has been handed over to Relief and Community Health Bureau committee on 21 December 2015. Phase 3 concerns communication tools such as user directory, video phone, video conference, live meeting, live chat, etc.



The hand-over was approved by project committee team.

The team had solved the communication problem previously occurred with the main telecommunication providers (TRUE, DTAC, and AIS) by adding in "stamp server" to the program. As for the other functions on communication tools, the team added text feature, file attachment, phone signal, etc. The communication tool is not a stand-alone application, it is a part of GIS application (library directory).

The last phase of GIS project will tentative be handed over to Thai RC in February 2016.

*Photo caption: Handover of GIS phase 3* 

2. Building Disaster Preparedness Community through Mitigation and Capacity Building Activities -Community preparedness program – Phang Nga

#### Search and Rescue Equipment – Hand over to Disaster Preparedness Community

Thai Red Cross by Red Cross Health Station, Phang Nga province, has completed the refresher training of community-based disaster risk reduction in 5 communities. The mitigation activity was identified by community members, search and rescue equipment were to support the mitigation activities. These equipment would assist community members to respond before, during and after disaster.

TRC handed over the search and rescue equipment to Moo 3, Mai Phai Island (Koh Mai Phai) on 21 December 2015. The Head of the Health Station invited the Senior Assistant District Chief Office of Phang Nga, Chief Administrator of the Pan Yee District SAO, and Moo 4 Koh Pan Yee Village Chief in the hand-over ceremony for search and rescue equipment and hand-operated siren to Search and Rescue Division of Koh Mai Phai Disaster Preparedness Committee.



The handover of Search and Rescue Equipment and Hand-Operated Siren to Koh Mai Phai at Muang District, Phang Nga

## Vietnam

## **DIPECHO Review Conference**

On 1 December 2015, the Viet Nam Red Cross, together with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, organized the conference to review 17 years of European Commission - Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO) support in disaster preparedness (DIPECHO programme) Vietnam. Over 17 years, through 9 action plans, DIPECHO has provided 13.2 million Euros to support 41 projects in 23 cities and provinces and benefited 6.4 million people in Vietnam. The event was supported by the IFRC, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.

For more information, see <u>news</u> and <u>press release</u>. The workshop highlighted the **Final Report Participatory evaluation of the VCA** and comparative analysis with the CBDRA (Community Based Disaster Risk Assessment) 2015 [English] [Vietnamese] and the <u>video: Vulnerability and Community Assessment (VCA) in Vietnam 2015</u>.



#### **Conference of Cow Bank Programme**



Conference to review 5 year implementing the Cow Bank programme, the largest programme Viet Nam Red Cross has implemented. With it, VNRC has mobilized VND 180 billion (USD 8 million) to support nearly 20,000 cows for poor families in remote and border communes. While the programme received a great deal of support from government agencies and national and international NGOs and corporates, over 50% of the funds mobilized came from local individuals and organizations.

## **Mangrove Plantation and Disaster Risk Reduction Project**

- A working visit of the Japanese Red Cross delegate was from 30 Nov to 2<sup>nd</sup> December to discuss with VNRC HQs, IFRC and in-country PNSs about the future cooperation between VNRC and JRCS. JRCS agreed to extend the current PMN with IFRC to end of March 2016, during which the remaining balance will be used towards the project sustainability. JRCS will also cooperate billaterally with VNRC for 12 months from April 2016 to March 2017, during which VNRC will report directly to JRCS HQs.
- Two half-day workshops on the project sustainability in Thai Binh and Thanh Hoa contributed to some more initiatives such as VNRC chapters will continue to work with the provincial People Committees to guaranty the protection fee and continuation of the commune forest protection, to use the availabe trainers of VNRC chapters for CBDRM trainings to teachers and community members.



A two-day closing workshop of the Mangrove Plantation and Disaster Risk Reduction project was organized from 15 to 16 Dec 2015 with participation of the Japanese RCS vice president and staff as well as VNRC vice president and staff from relevant departments at HQs and chapters; IFRC Head South-East Asia Delegation, of and representatives from Ministry for agriculture development, Ministry and rural of environment and natural resources and provincial People Committee of Thanh Hoa. The project has benefited 193 selected communes in ten provinces of Vietnam

where approximately 9,000 hectares of forest have been protected. Selected communities become stronger, as seen in 3,126 community members, 935 teachers and 12,575 children were trained in CBDRM and CCA. 76 community disaster response teams were established and trained, 87 disaster response drills were organized to test the annual disaster management plans at commune level. VCAs were conducted in 97 selected communes. In addition, 78 disaster risk mitigation measures in shelter, EWS, WatSan, health, evacuation route and bridge were carried out with match-funding from communities. Government representatives presented two integrated coastal zone management plans including mangrove plantation of 30,000 hectares and CBDRM and are seeking external fundings for these. The <u>final evaluation report</u> was also presented by the consultants to all representatives to validate and reach consensus. On the second day, the selected representatives visited mangroves planted since 1998 in Da Loc and Nga Thuy communes in Thanh Hoa province. The planted mangroves are becoming a real green wall for community resilience.

#### Myanmar

#### School-based Risk Reduction (SBRR) project in Myanmar

Myanmar Red Cross conducted the light Search and Rescue training and road safety training for the selected number of students, teachers of 8 schools from 3 townships. The total number of participants attended in this two trainings were 210 person (including 107 students,54 teachers, 43 RCVs and 6 Parents).



School training: light search and rescue training, and road safety training at 8 schools from 3 townships in Myanmar

## **Knowledge and Information Management – Online Library**



The SEA RCRC societies online library at <u>https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia</u> is being improved with more participatory and user-friendly features, including crowdsourcing, different levels of accessibility allowing contributors, mobile device compatibility, embedding disaster alert and automatic translation tool. The new domain address will be announced at the training and launching scheduled to take place in the coming months.

For this purpose, the Bangkok office has worked closely with Geneva office web expert. An internhas been recruited to assist with this process.

New additions in the current online library:

- Latest publications / information pack
- <u>12<sup>th</sup> Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership meeting 2015</u>

As the year 2015 came to an end, we compared the usage of online library between 2015 and 2014, and here is the <u>Online</u> <u>Library Yearly Update 2015</u> (a 3-pager). Below is the summary:

- In 2015, the online library had grown with more than TWICE USERS compared to 2014 (3,452 users in 2015 compared to 1,689 in 2014)
- In 2015, the online library had grown with more than THREE TIMES PAGE VIEWS compared to 2014 (16,232 page views compared to 4,934 page views in 2014).

These figures highlight the significantly growing usage, thus relevance, of the online library from the South-East Asian countries.

#### The usage of online library by country in 2015 (top 20 countries):

The online library has been mainly accessed from the South East Asian Countries, as well as United States, United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Switzerland, Australia, Russia, Canada, Nepal and Bangladesh.

The **most accessed pages** of the online library in 2015 have been:

- <u>Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction</u>
- IEC materials
- Gender and Diversity (and its library)
- Migration
- Community Safety and Resilience Framework
- ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercise

## **Publications**



Thai Red Cross and IFRC: <u>Final evaluation of post emergency</u> preparedness operation programme 2013-2015

Cambodian Red Cross: ECV Action Tools [Cambodian language / Khmer] 2015



#### Viet Nam Red Cross : Cash Transfer Programming

- Cash Transfer Programming Booklet | download [English] [Vietnamese]
- Cash Transfer Programming Poster [English] [Vietnamese]
- Cash Transfer Programming
   Brochure [English] [Vietnamese]







#### Southeast Asia Quarterly News

Fourth edition (October - December 2015)

#### **Philippine Delegation News**

Newsletter of IFRC in the Philippines – December 2015



#### Youth Development

- Brief: <u>Youth volunteers supporting people with HIV/AIDS -</u> <u>Cambodia Red Cross Society - Siem Reap Branch</u>
- South-East Asia Youth Network Newsletter edition 3

#### Migration

- <u>Regional Initiative Migration in Southeast Asia as of</u> <u>December 2015</u> (Migration Snapshot)
- Migration and Resilience in Asia Pacific Infographic (revised)
- Female Migration in Asia Pacific

Thank you for providing us with resources which we could share in the online library from the National Societies and other partners. To reach us, please contact <u>angeline.tandiono@ifrc.org</u>

#### **Weather Forecast**

#### IFRC IRI's Forecast for January to March 2016



## **Upcoming Events for January to March 2015**

Dates	Event	Location
26-27 Jan	Social Media Workshop	Vientiane, Lao PDR
28 Jan 2016	IFRC gender and diversity training	Bangkok, Thailand
Jan/Feb	Consultative meeting with Ministry of Women Advancement	Cambodia
Jan/Feb (TBC)	Philippine Red Cross' training of facilitators in gender and diversity	Philippines
Early Feb	Second workshop for the development of the Lao RC Strategy for	Lao PDR
	the Advancement of Women 2015-2020	
3-5 February	RRI mid-term retreat	Thailand
9-10 Feb	Community Radio Program Workshop	Vientiane, Lao PDR
16 Feb	Regional SEA gender and diversity network teleconference	Online
Feb (TBC)	Training on Climate Change	Lao PDR
Feb	Lessons learnt workshop on school safety	Lao PDR
End of Feb (TBC)	Consultation workshop for DRR law project	Jakarta, Indonesia
7-11 March	TOT on Climate Change	Myanmar

14-17 March	Training on Climate Change	Cambodia
14-16 March	Asia Pacific Communications Forum (National Societies are encouraged to coordinate internally to register their participation and complete the survey (link included in invitation))	South Korea
ТВС	Training on Climate Change	Vietnam

## **Opportunity of Funding**

R

Regional Resilience Initiative - launch of the in-country planning process

As part of the Regional Resilience Initiative (RRI), the annual in-country planning process will be launched mid-January 2016. It will provide an opportunity for each NS in Southeast Asia to identify key priority actions within each technical component of the Initiative, based on the needs and priorities among countries. The requests from countries will be compiled in Bangkok early March 2016 for submission to the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian government (the RRI donors). The implementation period for the validated activities will start from April 2016 and will be completed in March 2017.

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