



snapshot

Regional Resilience Initiative

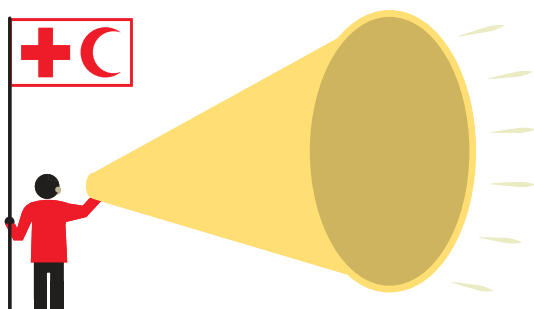
Introduction

The Regional Resilience Initiative seeks to reduce the impact of natural disasters on vulnerable communities in South-east Asia. The focus of this three-year initiative covering the 11 countries of the region is to enhance the skills and capacities of National Societies, so they can advocate more strongly at a national and regional level for the needs of communities in disaster risk reduction. This is complemented by strengthening of regional partnerships and cooperation with the ASEAN secretariat and other bodies on the same issues. The initiative is funded by the Canadian Government and Canadian Red Cross.

Bringing together various expertise to achieve the outcomes

This **first strategic aim** focuses on promoting community issues for advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy in the areas of disaster risk reduction and disaster law.

National Societies are being supported to enhance their visibility and also maximize opportunities to strengthen partnership with external stakeholders at the national level, specifically the national disaster management authorities. The RRI supports the use of communication and events such as the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to highlight the valuable work of National Societies, while also strengthening mechanisms to ensure that the concerns of communities remain at the centre of advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy efforts.



1 Increase capacity of National Societies to promote community disaster risk reduction issues at a national level

The **second strategic area** brings together DRR and NSD departments to support the inclusion of gender equality within DRR policies, programmes and tools.

This area is being tailored to NS needs and include support to both policy work and capacity-building. Key achievements so far include the organization of the first regional Gender and Diversity meeting hosting by Philippines Red Cross which was an opportunity for NSs to share about challenges and successes for gender and diversity mainstreaming as well as sensitization sessions in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam. Gender and Diversity was also discussed at the 2014 CSR Forum meeting and at the Climate Change Master Training.



2 Increase integration of gender equality into national and regional disaster risk reduction policies and programmes

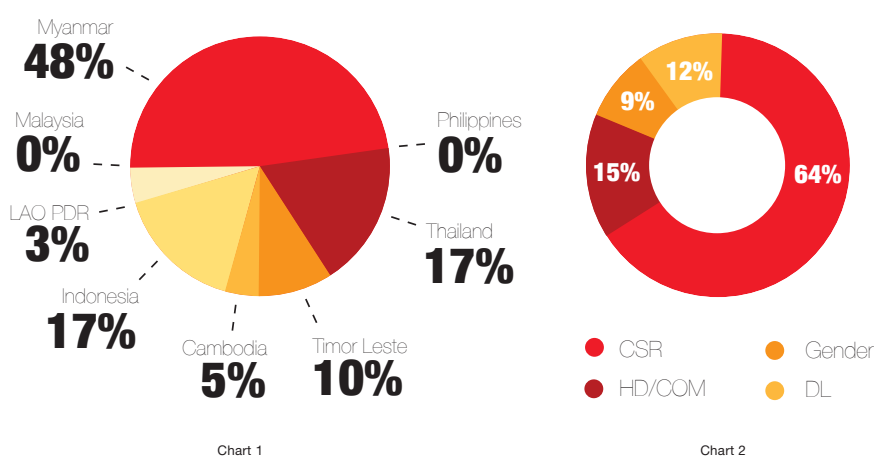
The **third strategic area** combines DRR, Emergency Health and Humanitarian Diplomacy in fostering an increased DRR cooperation between the RCRC Movement, ASEAN Secretariat and other regional partners.

Key achievements so far include the mapping of MRCS and TRCS contribution to HFA (PMI under progress) to showcase how NSs contribute to government commitments and existing areas of cooperation, high profile of PMI and Myanmar RC is ASEAN simulation exercises, peer-to-peer support between CVTL and PMI on national response preparedness, review of RDRT mechanisms based on Hayian lessons as well as a successful pandemic preparedness workshop (co-funded by Singapore Red Cross) with government and regional partners. Relationship with ASEAN is also being accelerated with a action plan with AHA Centre, active participation into ACDM and other joint meetings with ASEAN. Finally, an HD analysis is also being conducted to provide strategic guidance on ways to further enhance the cooperation with ASEAN.



3 Increase cooperation and build partnerships between the Red Cross Red Crescent, ASEAN and other regional bodies

More details on the achievements are available, see quarterly reports dated June, September and December 2014.



A combination of regional and in-country support

As of end January 2015, RRI has supported in-country activities amounting to 154 500 CHF with the split as per the chart (see Chart 1). Support is provided based on requests (through country delegations where existing) and after review of the alignment to the RRI strategic objectives.

Chart 2 shows the split per area of expertise, including regional components, accounting to a total of 309 000 CHF.

Directions/ Decisions

At **country level**, a planning process is ongoing since November 2014 in which most National Societies have identified their preferred area of support. Discussions will be held with Canadian Red Cross and Canadian Government to validate the 2015 plan in March 2015.

At **regional level**, the initiative will support the implementation of the following regional commitments:

- The CSRF Roadmap (Sept 2014)
- The joint action plan with AHA Centre Oct 2014)
- The Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Health Roadmap (Singapore – Nov 2014)
- The activities of the Gender and Diversity Network (pending endorsement)

A regional platform

The Regional Resilience Initiative is designed as a platform bringing actors together to promote the voices of the most vulnerable.

Throughout 2014, scoping missions have identified a series of opportunities to link the regional and national capacity-building provided with ongoing interventions of the National Societies. A mapping of existing and potential linkages is annexed to this report.



Contact information

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