

The 6th ASIAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

22-26 June, 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

Side Event: Children and Youth's Participation in Safe Schools

Time: 12h30-14h00PM on 23 June 2014

Venue: World Ballroom A

Background

Regionally, over the last decade Asia has suffered the greatest number of disasters with 80% of the global death toll. Natural hazards have a major impact on children and youth and education systems. Studies of disaster trends and the likely consequences of climate change suggest that each year 175 million children are likely to be affected by natural hazard related disasters alone.¹

Worldwide, approximately 1.2 billion students are enrolled in primary and secondary school; of these, 875 million school children live in high seismic risk zones and hundreds of millions more face regular flood, landslide, extreme wind and fire hazards. Although these children spend 25 to 50 percent of their waking hours in school facilities, all too often schools are not constructed or maintained to be disaster resilient. The death of children and adults in these schools causes irreplaceable loss to families, communities and countries and lifelong injury to millions of children around the world.²

Asian Coalition for School Safety (ACSS) and Children in a Changing Climate Coalition (CCCC) are promoting the Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSS) to reduce risks from all hazards to the education sector.

The goals of comprehensive school safety³ are:

- To protect learners and education workers from death, injury, and harm in schools.
- To plan for educational continuity in the face of all expected hazards and threats.
- To safeguard education sector investments.
- To strengthen risk reduction and resilience through education.



Students in China, World Vision

Key messages to promote Safe Schools:

As of 2016: At least 10 Lead countries will commit to:

- Every new school facility will be safe from known hazards. [P1]*
- National education authority will have a national level committee and full time focal point leading comprehensive school safety: safe school facilities, school disaster management and disaster risk reduction and resilience education. [P1,2,3]*

AS OF 2030: All signatory countries agree that:

- Every school facility (both new and existing) will be safe from known hazards. [P1]*
- National education authorities will lead implementation of common approach to school disaster management (policies, mechanisms and guidance) for ongoing participatory risk assessment, risk reduction, response preparedness, and educational continuity planning at all levels of the education sector. [P2] *
- School management will incorporate risk reduction and resiliency knowledge skills and competencies. [P2] *
- Set of Key action-oriented messages for DRR/CCA, and skills and competencies for risk reduction and resilience are adopted at national level and integrated into formal school curriculum at all levels of the education sector, with leadership capacity in teacher training institutes, and supported with quality learning materials. [P3]*
- Quality basic education will include knowledge and skills for risk reduction and resiliency. [P3]*

Safe schools are a shared responsibility where it can only be done through the support from the national and local governments, private sectors, NGOs, media, and community.



Swimming class of children in Thailand, Plan International

¹ This is a considered estimated based on data from the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies World Disasters Report 2006. "Legacy of disasters - The impact of climate change on children" Save the Children.

² UNISDR, INEE, GFDRR, the Guidance Notes on Safer School Construction

³ Comprehensive School Safety Framework

⁴ * P1 = Safe school facilities P2 = School disaster management P3 = Risk reduction and resilience education

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Objectives of the Safe Schools Side Event:

- To promote the roles and responsibilities of government in promoting Safe Schools initiative in the country.
- To show case children and youth's roles and meaningful engagement in Safe Schools.
- To advocate children participation in any decision making process for Safe Schools.
- To demonstrate good practices in promoting Safe Schools.



Student leader demonstrating school evacuation map in Nepal, IFRC

Time	Session	Who
12h30-12h40	ACSS Safe Schools Video	Asian Coalition for School Safety
12h40-12h50	<p><u>Key note speakers</u> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education from Thailand • ACSS secretariat 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Saipan Sripongpankul, Education Specialist from Education Commission (OBEC), Ministry of Education from Thailand. 2. Mr. Mark Pierce, Regional Director of Plan Asia
12h50 - 13h20	<p><u>Resource Persons:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia • Japan • Nepal 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Gogot Suharwoto, (Head of Planning & Budgeting, at Planning & overseas cooperation) Ministry of education & culture of Indonesia republic. 2. Mr. Kunio Senga, CEO, Save the Children Japan. 3. Mr. Tirtha Raj Joshi – Senior DM Program Coordinator, Nepal Red Cross Society, (NRCS)
13h20-13h50	<p><u>Ambassador of Safe Schools</u> (Children and Youth)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thai Red Cross • Nepal Red Cross 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thai Red Cross Youth, Ms Sasinat Chindapol. 2. Nepal Red Cross Youth, Ms. Salina Nagarkoti. 3. Nepal Red Cross Youth, Mr. Aadarsha Kandel.
13h50-14h00	<u>Q&A and wrap up</u>	Mr. Iwan Gunawan, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank- GFDRR



Global Alliance for
Disaster Risk Reduction & Resilience
in the Education Sector

Asian Coalition
for School Safety

