



Disaster Law Southeast Asia Snapshot

What have National Societies and IFRC been doing in disaster law?

Technical assistance

- Influenced the adoption of laws and regulations drawing from the 'Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance' (also known as the 'IDRL Guidelines') in Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Myanmar and Cambodia.
- Contributing to the development and / or review of disaster management laws and regulations in Indonesia, the Philippines, Lao PDR and Timor Leste.
- Completed International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) and / or Law and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) projects in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam and Indonesia. An IDRL project is currently underway in Myanmar.



Representatives from the DPRK government and Red Cross Society talk with Vietnam Red Cross about implementation of the national disaster management law at the provincial level in Ninh Binh province, Vietnam (November 2015).



Lao Red Cross, IFRC, UNDP and the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MoNRE) held a workshop in Vientiane on the new Disaster and Climate Change Law, currently being developed in Lao PDR (July 2015).

New initiatives

- Vietnam Red Cross hosted two study exchange tours with groups from Lao PDR and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to examine good practice in development and implementation of disaster management legislation.
- A DRR and Law research project is underway in Indonesia, using the 'Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction' developed by IFRC and UNDP.
- The Philippines disaster law project is due to commence in 2016, including training on disaster law and legislative advocacy for Philippine Red Cross.

Capacity building and operational support

- Regional Disaster Law Forum for Southeast Asia held in Bangkok in June 2015, bringing together over 60 participants from National Societies, governments, parliamentarians, NGOs, donors, international and regional organizations to discuss key disaster law issues and developments in the region.
- Held sensitization, advocacy and training workshops with National Society staff, volunteers, governments, NGOs and the UN in Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand and Timor Leste during 2013 - 2015.
- IFRC Regional Disaster Law Delegate deployed to provide IDRL support to the Myanmar flood operation, at the request of the government (August 2015).

Advocacy and partnerships

- Strengthening international and regional partnerships through legislative advocacy, including sessions at the ASEAN Day for Disaster Management and International Day for Disaster Reduction celebrations in Cambodia and Indonesia in October 2015.
- IFRC presented on disaster law experience from Southeast Asia at the Canadian Risk and Hazards Network Symposium in Calgary in November 2015.

December 2015

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

Country	Year	Status	Incorporates IDRL	Incorporates DRR
Brunei Darussalam (law)	2006	●	-	-
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	●	√	√

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.

Impact of disaster law in Southeast Asia



Key

- Laws adopted incorporating IDRL and / or DRR
- Law and DRR projects
- IDRL projects
- NS and / or IFRC active in disaster law processes



IFRC hosted the Regional Disaster Law Forum for Southeast Asia in Bangkok, with over 60 participants from government, Red Cross, ASEAN, NGOs, donors and the UN (June 2015).



IFRC is presented with a copy of the new disaster management law by His Excellency Mr. Nhim Vanda from Cambodia's National Committee for Disaster Management. The new law was adopted in July 2015, and contains recommendations from Cambodian Red Cross and IFRC.



For more information, please contact:

Lucia Cipullo - Regional Disaster Law Delegate, Southeast Asia
 Email: lucia.cipullo@ifrc.org www.ifrc.org/dl

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