

# Disaster Law

## South East Asia Snapshot

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

#### Technical assistance

- Contributing to the development and / or review of disaster management laws and regulations in Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Lao PDR and Timor Leste.
- 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 and the Philippines.
- Completed International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) and / or Law and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) projects in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam and Indonesia.

#### New initiatives

- Lao Red Cross and Vietnam Red Cross participated in a 'south to south cooperation' study tour with government partners to examine good practice in developing disaster management legislation.
- Planning for a DRR and Law project in Indonesia, which will use the recently launched 'Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction', developed by IFRC and UNDP.
- PMI and IFRC are working together with national disaster management authorities in Indonesia to develop a 'disaster law road map' and disseminate information on IDRL to universities across the country.



Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) and IFRC delivered a training on disaster law for national disaster management organizations across South East Asia in April 2015, as part of the AHA Centre's Executive Programme.



Cruz-Vermelha de Timor Leste in action at the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) disaster response simulation exercise in February 2015. CVTL and IFRC will be playing an active role in the development of Timor Leste's new disaster management law and policy.

#### Capacity building

- 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.
- Contributed to disaster law sessions at external events, including a side event at the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in 2014 and disaster response simulation exercises in Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Timor Leste and Malaysia.

#### Advocacy and partnerships

- Strengthening partnerships with regional and international organizations through training and legislative advocacy. This has included facilitating disaster law sessions at the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) Executive Programme, and United Nations Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination Course.

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## Summary of national disaster management legislation, rules and regulations in South East 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)	2013/14	●	*√	*√
Philippines (DM 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 South East Asia



Thai Red Cross held a national IDRL workshop in November 2014, together with IFRC, the Department for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), and UN OCHA.



Myanmar Red Cross have been actively involved in the development of the national disaster management rules, promoting IDRL and building their capacity in disaster law. MRCS and IFRC are due to commence an IDRL research project together with Myanmar's Relief and Resettlement Department in 2015.



### For more information, please contact:

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