



**Climate Change Training**

***Concept Note***

INTRODUCTION

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) recognizes in its Strategic Plan 2010-2015 that *climate change could have major consequences for the people of Myanmar and that the MRCS will by necessity need to be flexible in responding to potentially unknown challenges.* Climate Change is considered as a cross-cutting issue that should be taken into consideration while implementing community-based activities in the field of Health, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), including the various thematic areas, phases and cross-cutting themes under DRR.

As for DRR, there is acknowledgement in the MRCS Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) Manual that *climate change adaptation (CCA) and community-based disaster risk reduction should be integrated to enhance aid effectiveness and reduce confusion for communities*. In the context of increasing risks associated with the hydro-meteorological hazards and conditions related to climate variability and change, the rationale for integration of climate change into community programming is therefore to prepare the communities for any adverse effects climate change may have for their lives, health and livelihoods. In addition, it is very important to identify areas in on-going community-based DRR or health programs where efforts to address both climate change and environmental degradation can be combined to increase the overall resilience of communities, as they are often closely inter-linked drivers of risk and should not be addressed in isolation.

As for health, there is ample evidence of the impact of climate change in various health issues, such as vector-borne diseases, water borne diseases, temperature related illnesses as well as effects of food and water shortages. For example, variation in climatic conditions, such as temperature, rainfall patterns and humidity, has a profound effect on the longevity of mosquitoes, on the development of malaria and dengue parasites in the mosquito and, subsequently, on their transmission. Indirectly, climate change could also have an effect by influencing environmental factors such as vegetation and availability of breeding sites. MRCS health programming will need to take into account such emerging trends.

PAST AND ON-GOING INITIATIVES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Through the years, MRCS has been taking some initial steps to mainstream Climate Change Adaptation in its past and ongoing DRR programmes. Activities like setting up a nursery for shade trees and distributing the saplings to the communities, or planting mangrove trees in areas affected by river shore erosion have been designed and implemented in the DRR programmes over the last two years. In the current CBDRR programme in Munaugn (Rakhine State), the MRCS’DM team is exploring options to incorporate three new components addressing some of the climate change challenges faced in the island[[1]](#footnote-1), and those are: support existing initiatives on tree and mangrove plantation by bringing technical experts from other regions (Ayeyarwaddy Technical Center), promoting the introduction of Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS) to reduce fuel wood consumption, and bring technical support for the introduction of alternative crops for saline lands.

Health adaptation to climate change is also important for MRCS. Climate change impacts the determinants of health (social, economic and environmental). Adaptation in community health will enable the public to prevent or reduce the incidence of climate-sensitive diseases including dengue fever, malaria typhoid fever, leptospirosis and diarrheal illnesses. Some health adaptation activities include: improving quality, accessibility and affordability of water supplies, hygiene and sanitation in communities and promote community awareness on raising on Climate Sensitive Disease (CSD) and measures to reduce CSDs. Climate sensitive disease early warning systems should be put in place to allow proactive response to potential disease outbreaks.

MRCS through its health programming guided by the CBHFA approach, it’s currently doing activities related to health awareness, malaria and dengue control and prevention, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion and small-scale infrastructure such as rehabilitation of wells, latrines and water sources.

Since 2015, building on the experience gained from its CSR programme, and in an effort to promote coordination and standardization of their community-based resilience approach, MRCS is developing guidelines for assessment-planning-monitoring/evaluation and reporting. Two guidelines are already developed (1) The Integrated Community Assessment for Building Resilience Process, A Guidance Document; and (2) The Project Programme Planning Guidelines. The planning guideline builds on and take the output from the assessment guidelines forward to the integrated project programme planning design phase.

Likewise, awareness sessions on Climate Change for MRCS staffs and volunteers were conducted in 2011, followed by the participation of key MRCS staffs in workshops and trainings abroad, including the 2014 Master Training on Climate Change held in Thailand. However, no systematic training was held in the country yet, which would allow MRCS to develop its own way to integrate Climate Change within its programming.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TOT

The overall objective of the TOT is to ***build additional capacities of already qualified and experienced facilitators and/or programme officers and/or Red Cross volunteers from the MRCS HQ and branches to help them integrate climate change into regular MRCS programmes within a resilience-building context (and not as stand-alone CC initiatives).***

Although there will be no separate session on basic facilitation skills, the TOT will focus on ***enhancing existing facilitation capacities of the participants to help them effectively deliver key climate change-related messages using participatory and innovative approaches.***

DATE AND VENUE

Date: ***March 7-11, 2016***, excluding travel time

Venue: Yangon

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Maximum of 30 participants composed of around 20 staff from the DM and Health departments, and 10 volunteers

* MRCS staff working for DM, Health, CSR or CC related programmes;
* RCVs who can facilitate in connection with CC to community and RCVs;
* Staff or RCVs who can work for MRCS at least 3 years continuously and are committed to MRCS;
* Basic knowledge on CC and interested to study and disseminate to other; and
* Appropriate Education level (at least Matriculation or Graduate)

Additional selection criteria from MRCS will include the following:

* Experience in facilitating trainings; and
* Representation of the States/Regions/ townships more affected by CC

Overall, the participants will be a mix of DRR and Health staff and volunteers. However, there might be a larger representation from DM/DRR department

METHODOLOGY AND CONTENT

The methodology of the training will be based on the South-East Asia Climate Change [Master Training](https://storify.com/SM4Resilience/climate-change-master-training-2014) held in Thailand in September 2014. Following this Master Training, a training package was drafted and is available for customized adoption to national contexts and needs.

Sessions will be conducted using technical presentations as well as games and interactive activities.

Aside from in-class sessions, the TOT will take into account the ***Guidance Document for the Integrated Community Assessment for Building Resilience*** or any recently completed VCA and see how climate change can be integrated and ensure that the assessment results are climate-smart. Through a table top exercise, the TOT will use a recently completed VCA (like the Hintada) and allow the participants to review it to make it climate-smart

Finally, external speakers will be invited from Myanmar government (RRD, Health and DMH) as well as potentially other organizations active in the field of Climate Change, in order to share about existing policies, mechanisms and programmes.

In terms of ***content***, the training will cover the following topics:

1. Basic Terminologies
2. Basics of Climate Science and its Humanitarian Consequences
3. Building Resilient Communities in a Changing Climate through the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement
4. Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development: Synergies and Overlaps
5. Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Change Mitigation
6. Use of Forecast Information
7. Early Warning Early Action
8. Health and Climate
9. Gender, Diversity and Climate
10. Youth and Climate
11. Communicating Climate Change: Public Awareness, Education, and the Use of Various Information Platforms
12. Climate Finance
13. Climate Policy Engagements and Advocacy
14. National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
15. Climate Risk Assessment
16. Mainstreaming Climate Change into Programmes

TECHNICAL LEADS, CO-LEADS AND RESOURCE PERSONS

Following the SEA CC Master Training approach, the TOT will have a ***technical team*** composed of representatives from the RCRC Climate Centre, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office and SEARD. This group will be the overall responsible for the technical content, design and approach used in the TOT.

A ***counterpart team*** from MRCS and IFRC will likewise be formed which will work in close coordination with the technical team to ensure that the (a) TOT is customized based on the needs on the ground and complements existing programmes, among others; (b) participants were selected based on the agreed criteria; and (c) ensure that the needed workshop materials and logistical arrangements are taken cared of.

For each topic to be discussed, ***a lead and co-lead facilitator*** will be identified. With guidance from the technical and counterpart teams, these pairs will work together to update, customize and/or develop the materials and session guides that they will use. Relatedly, if allowed, some of the ***lead/s will come from other SEA NSs who were part of the CC Master Training.*** This is in line with the vision in SEA to build a core group of well-trained CC facilitators in the region. He/she will have a rare opportunity to widen their CC facilitation experience; understand more the different contexts to which climate information is applied; and further encourage peer-to-peer learning with the other participants. Hopefully, this will serve as an inspiration to the MRCS team who will eventually be part of this CC pool of facilitators in the region.

At this stage, the following list of persons have been identified as potential resource persons / facilitators.

1. Ms Moe Thida Win, DM Department, MRCS
2. Ms Pone Nyet, DM Department, MRCS
3. Ms Araceli Lloret Rodriguez, DRR/DM Delegate, IFRC
4. Jessie Nzenza Kanhutu, Health Delegate, IFRC
5. Ms Amanda Jackson George, Beneficiary Communications Advisor, IFRC
6. TBC, another trainer from SEA National Society (from the 2014 pool of trainers)
7. Ms Donna Lagdameo, Technical Adviser, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre
8. Ms Sanna Salmela-Eckstein, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office

In the coming weeks, the technical and counterpart teams, together with the lead and co-lead facilitators will conduct various on-line discussions to agree on the specific topics and develop the necessary session guides, power points and other related materials. The materials will be uploaded in a shared drop box so the members of this core group have access and ensure complementation of topics. Regular Skype sessions will also be conducted to further refine the materials up until the actual TOT days.

One day before the event, all leads and co-leads will come together to work through the entire agenda and ensure that everything is ready for the TOT.

LANGUAGE

Main facilitation will be in English with direct/simultaneous translations to be provided during the sessions. However, power point presentations will be in English.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

*(To be fully developed in February 2016)*

| Time | Topic | Possible Leads  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Day One, Monday, March 7** |
| 9.00-10.30 | Welcome and opening |  |
| 10.30-11.00 | Break |  |
| 11.00-11.15 | Introductions (on the TOT, participants, facilitators) |  |
| 11.15-12.00 | Session 1. Basic Terminologies |  |
| 12.00-1.00 | Lunch |  |
| 1.00-1.30 | Session 2. Basics of Climate Science and its Humanitarian Consequences  |  |
| 1.30-2.00 | Game play: READY!  |  |
| 2.00-3.00 | Session 3. Building Resilient Communities in a Changing Climate through the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement  |  |
| 3.00-3.30 | Break |  |
| 3.30-4.30 | Session 4. Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development: Synergies and Overlaps  | Moe Thida Win, DM Dept MRCS  |
| 4.30-5.00 | Synthesis and Evaluation  |  |
| **Day Two, Tuesday, March 8** |
| 8.30-9.30 | Mock Session  |  |
| 9.30-10.00 | Session 5. Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Change Mitigation  |  |
| 10.00-10.30 | Break |  |
| 10.30-11.00 | Session 6. Use of Forecast Information Across Different Timescales  |  |
| 11.00-12.00 | Session 7. Early Warning Early Action  | Pone Nyet, DM Dept, MRCS |
| 12.00-1.00 | Lunch |  |
| 1.00-2.30 | Game Play: Paying For Predictions  |  |
| 2.30-3.0 | Session 8. Health and Climate | Jessie Nzenza Kanhutu, Health Delegate, IFRC |
| 3.00-3.30 | Break |  |
| 3.30-4.00 | Session 9. Gender, Diversity and Climate |  |
| 4.00-4.30 | Session 10. Youth and Climate (Game Play: Act to Adapt) |  |
| 4.30-5.00 | Synthesis & Evaluation  |  |
| **Day Three, Wednesday, March 9** |
| 8.30-9.30 | Mock Session  |  |
| 9.30-10.30 | Session 11. Communicating Climate Change: Public Awareness, Education, and the Use of Various Information Platforms  | Amanda Jackson George, Beneficiary Comms Advisor, IFRC |
| 10.30-11.00 | Break |  |
| 11.00-12.00 | Session 12. Climate Finance |  |
| 12.00-1.00 | Lunch |  |
| 1.00-2.00 | Game Play:  |  |
| 2.00-3.00 | Session 13. Climate Policy Engagement and Advocacy  |  |
| 3.00-3.30 | Break |  |
| 3.30-4.30 | Session 14. National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) |  |
| 4.30-5.00 | Synthesis & Evaluation  |  |
| **Day Four, Thursday, March 10** |
| 8.30-9.30 | Mock Session  |  |
| 9.30-10.30 | Session 15. Climate Risk Assessment  |  |
| 10.30-11.00 | Break |  |
| 11.00-12.00 | Session 16. Mainstreaming Climate Change into Programmes |  |
| 12.00-1.00 | Lunch |  |
| 1.00-4.30 | Session 17. Table-top Exercise |  |
| 4.30-5.00 | Synthesis & Evaluation  |  |
| **Day Five, Friday, March 11** |
| 8.30-9.30 | Mock Session  |  |
| 9.30-10.30 | Session 18. Action Planning |  |
| 10.30-11.30 | Session 19. Way Forward |  |
| 11.30-12.00 | Closing |  |
| 12.00-1.00 | Lunch |  |

TIMELINE

To ensure smooth planning and preparation leading to the actual TOT workshop, the following schedule is proposed.

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| Dates | Activities |
| Week of Feb 1 | Agree on the final Concept NoteIdentify members of the1. Technical Team
2. Counterpart Team
3. Leads
4. Co-Leads

Assign topicsCreate a drop box folder/link for the workshop materials |
| Week of Feb 8 | Prepare session guides, power points and other materials and upload in the drop boxProvide peer-to-peer suggestions on the materials Decide between a field visit or a table top exercise Send official invitations to participants and resource persons  |
| Week of Feb 15 | Revise and finalize session guides, power points and other materials and upload in the drop box |
| Week of Feb 22 | Share preparation updates re logistics, participants, resource persons |
| Week of Feb 29 | Final week of preparations to ensure that all materials are ready and confirmation of participants and speakers are completed |

1. Some of the identified CC related risks sea level rise, loss of land (invaded by sand and salt), change of weather patterns, increase of frequency and intensity of cyclones [↑](#footnote-ref-1)