

Regional Resilience Initiative (RRI) Steering Committee Meeting

26 April 2016 - Bangkok, Thailand

Minute of Meeting



With funding from the Government of Canada

Introduction

Mr Marwan Jilani as chair of the meeting introduced the participants and the meeting agenda. In his remarks, he reminded about the function of the Annual Project Steering Committee meeting, which aims to review the implementation of the previous years and to discuss and approve the plan for the coming year.

He also thanked the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) and the Canadian government for their support, acknowledging two particular strengths of the partnership: the fact that it is a long-term project and its flexibility which enables the team to support National Societies (NSs) according to their different context.

Note: a dedicated page for the meeting was created on the online library [here](#). All presentations and validated plans were uploaded after the meeting.

I. Regional context

Overview of IFRC in Southeast Asia (Mr Marwan Jilani)

- Various engagement of 11 National Societies in Southeast Asia. Some great success stories can be seen such as the enhanced collaboration with ASEAN, integration of gender and diversity in DRR, disaster law integrating with environment, etc.
- Changes within IFRC – Bangkok Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) supports primarily the Mekong countries but maintains the collaboration with other IFRC offices and Southeast Asia networks. Considering the location, Bangkok CCST office represents Red Cross Red Crescent Movement when liaising with the UN whereas Jakarta CCST with ASEAN.
- *One Billion Coalition for Resilience* (1BC) will be launched by the end of 2016. RRI has the potential to play an important part of the coalition.

Canadian Red Cross presence in the region and interest in the project (Ms. Deborah Cote)

CRC Strategy 2020 - Key Areas of Excellence:

- Disasters and emergencies
- Community health and wellness
- Prevention and Safety

CRC's long-term programs in Asia focus on:

- Capacity Building & Organizational Development
- Health (particular focus on mother, newborn, and child health)
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Violence Prevention

CRC's development programs in Asia fiscal year 2016-2017:

- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, DPRK, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand-RRI (11 SEAsian countries)
- Budget of CAD \$11,877,328; 4 delegates; 8 national office staff

Alignment of RRI to CRC Strategy and priorities:



- improved representation of community Disaster Risk Reduction issues in national policies, plans and programs
- increased effectiveness of SEA regional DRR cooperation mechanisms that address the needs of vulnerable communities

(see the presentation “CRC Asia” for more details)

Global Affairs Canada strategy in the region and interest in the project (Ms. Sharon Armstrong)

-The Government of Canada is undergoing an International Assistance Review to:

- revise GAC’s international assistance policy and funding framework
- focus on helping the poorest and most vulnerable people and supporting fragile states
- support the advancing of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

A special emphasis will be placed on women and girls and applying a feminist lens to all of Canada’s international assistance activities.

-The Government of Canada currently has 5 priorities for the international assistance:

- Increasing food security
- Securing the future of children and youth
- Stimulating sustainable economic growth
- Advancing democracy
- Promoting stability and security

- The new government has publicly signaled its interest in re-directing it’s assistance towards:

- Health and rights of women and children
- Clean economic growth and climate change
- Governance, pluralism and human rights
- Peace and security
- Responding to humanitarian crises and the needs of displaced populations

- Canada’s approach has shifted from a multi-country program for the Southeast Asia region to program that works with ASEAN as the main partner for its programming, recognizing the key role of ASEAN in the region

- The Canadian government has an Ambassador to ASEAN in Jakarta and has diplomatic missions in all ASEAN countries

How RRI supports gender and diversity and links with ASEAN are key interests for the Government of Canada

II. Overview of project achievements to date (Mr Herve Gazeau)

Herve provided an overview of the main achievements of the project during AWP2 and the IFRC colleagues leading specific components provided more details when required. (See the presentation “AWP2 Achievements” for more details).



The in-countries planning process started with the Annual Workplan 2 (AWP2). NSs acknowledged what RRI was and identified their needs according to the four components. AWP2 was discussed and approved in principle in the Project Steering Committee Meeting in 2015.

In terms of **Humanitarian Diplomacy / DRR advocacy**, highlights included the digital communication engagement and promotion around the Road to Sendai as well as social media trainings in Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and Indonesia. At the end of the second year of the project, trainings have been provided to 177 NS participants (77 female, including 54 (18 female) in managerial positions). Key publications were also supported to highlight the role of NSs in DRR with their government counterparts and other key partners. Finally, more and more peer-to-peer learning among NSs took place such as Social Media training exchange between PMI and CVTL and Photography learning trip of TRCS and LRC.

Disaster Law continues to be a priority focus for all concerned stakeholders (ASEAN, UN agencies, governments, NSs and other technical partners). Myanmar adopted new DM rules in April 2015 and Cambodia endorsed its new DM Law in July 2015, both of which include recommendations made by IFRC and the NSs. In addition, IFRC and the NSs were engaged in law development/review processes in Lao PDR, Timor-Leste, Indonesia and the Philippines. The operational relevance of DL was also demonstrated when the Government of Myanmar requested the support of an IFRC IDRL expert during the August 2015 flood response. This was an unprecedented request, which highlights the recognition by governments on the need for such support during preparedness and response. This was largely the result of the advocacy, profiling and partnership-building done by IFRC and Myanmar Red Cross Society (Myanmar RC) over the past two years.

Gender and Diversity is increasingly being integrated into disaster resilience programming and organizational change of NSs. Following the endorsement of the regional network on G&D in March 2015, a first network meeting was held in October 2015 followed by a ToT in order to enhance the capacities of NS focal points to champion G&D in their specific context. Following the ToT, in-country activities started, including awareness-raising / trainings (Timor Leste, Philippines, Thai RC) as well as policy and tools development (Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Malaysia, Timor Leste and the Philippines). Such activities are also supported by the availability of the online resource library since October 2015.

Some highlights of the **regional DRR cooperation** include:

- Joint emergency response (e.g. deployment of RDRT to Nepal) – capacity-building through RRI in 2014 enhanced such RDRT as a regional response tool)
- Online Library considered as a success story to be expanded beyond SEA
- Cooperation with ASEAN (e.g. DiREx, ACE Programme, ASEAN Safe Schools Initiative(ASSI), ASEAN Regional Workshop on ASEAN Joint Disaster Response Plan (AJDRP), etc.)
- Roll out of the Climate Change Master Training held in 2014 in Cambodia, Myanmar, Lao PDR and Viet Nam, for an enhanced mainstreaming of CC issues within community-based initiatives of the NSs.

The implementation percentage as of the end of March (considering only IFRC expenditure) is **78.6%**

Remark: Whenever there is a national or regional event funded by RRI, the Canadian government should be informed in order to profile it to wider public. This would also invite more partners and potential donors.

III. Experience from partners

Mr. Saiful Izan Bin Nordin (Manager for International Humanitarian Law, Legal and International Relations, Chair of the SEA regional Gender and Diversity Network, *Malaysian Red Crescent*)
Gender and Diversity focal points meeting was organized in 2015. Action plan was drafted including the regular meetings. There needs to be some adjustment and adaptation due to the cultural differences of each country. Regarding the Malaysian Red Crescent in particular, as gender and diversity is a new topic, two trainings for all branches have been scheduled for 2016 under AWP3.

Ms. Ririn Haryani (Officer for *AHA Centre Executive Programme*)

AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme is a training course on disaster management for NDMO of ASEAN Member States. AHA Centre needs more connection among DM focal points. The contribution of IFRC and National Societies in this programme allows to create partnership, enhance NDMO capacities and make them understand the auxiliary role of the NS in their respective countries. ACE Programme contributes to achieve “1 ASEAN 1 Response”. The participation of Red Cross Red Crescent in the training is like adding new members in the family, expanding the network. Originally, ACE Programme was designed to be a logistics course but afterwards it has shifted the focus to DM with additional modules such as response and recovery. ACE Programme has a supporting role of AHA Centre. Thanks to IFRC, AHA Centre learns from the good practices and success stories. There are opportunities to expand the engagement through ACE and also other areas.

Mr. Lai Wai Keat (Youth Volunteer Leader, Chair of the Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN), *Malaysian Red Crescent*)

SEAYN is a peer-to-peer Southeast Asia Youth Network which was endorsed by Southeast Asia leaders in 2014. There are 22 members from 11 Southeast Asia countries. SEAYN is closely linked to Asia Pacific Youth Network and CSR Forum. It has an action plan and annual meeting. There are 5 activities in the action plan 2016 such as youth involvement in school safety and Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC). A youth representative will be invited to attend the next PSC meeting.

Mr. Sanny Ramos Jegillos (Practice Coordinator/Regional Disaster Reduction Adviser, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, *UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre*)

The collaboration between IFRC and UNDP, since the 5th AMCDRR in Yogyakarta 2012 until Sendai 2016, at the national and regional level promotes good governance in DRR in Southeast Asia. It assures the accountability of stakeholders in implementing DRR activities. Under this collaboration, the *Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction* and the *Handbook on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction* were developed in order to ensure DRR prioritization with clear mandates and accountability frameworks.

IV. Discussions on challenges and variances during the second year of implementation

One of the main challenges of RRI is the ‘methodology’ to systematically analyse the data for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the outcomes. This was identified during the RRI mid-term retreat in February

2016 as a key priority for 2016, and was again raised by Sharon Armstrong, Government of Canada, at the PSC meeting.

Decision Points:

- 1. The Steering Committee members agreed to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of the plans.**
- 2. Next year's reporting should capture the outcome results.**

V. RCRC regional cooperation (Dr Barlee)

- *CSR Forum* is a platform for DM, Health and OD to work together following the same roadmap.
- Some highlights from the past year :
 - CSRF organized in Jakarta in 2015
 - Online survey on achievements completed
 - Peer-to-peer learning in emergency, preparedness and response is promoted such as the deployment of RDRT team to NepalQuestion: how to improve the deployment to be faster and more efficient?
Some other success stories on peer-to-peer learning : the exchange study tour between VNRC and PMI on EOC and cash transfer, VNRC and North Korean RC on disaster law, PMI and CVTL on social media as well as Lao and Thai RC on communications. Such approach is being expanded as per the guidance of the NS Leaders as a key instrument for regional cooperation and mutual learning.
- Enhanced collaboration with different partners such as UN on DRR day

The presentation from Dr Barlee was followed by a discussion on the regional networks and the request from GAC to ensure that ASEAN is seen as a main partner of the project, in a more holistic way and not as a sub-project. The participants recognized that IFRC – with support of RRI - is strengthening the regional cooperation trying to link and leverage the national level to the regional platform. Still, Steering Committee members agreed to deepen the engagement with ASEAN, in particular its Secretariat as well as the AHA Centre.

VI. Presentation of Annual Work Plan 3 – (Mr Herve Gazeau)

(see presentation “*AWP3 Overview*” for more details)

The draft AWP3 was shared with all members of the Steering Committee ahead of the annual meeting.

VII. Discussion of Annual Work Plan 3

AWP3 was reviewed and approved by the Committee. The 4 workplans covering the period of April 2016 – March 2017 can be found [here](#).

Decision Points:

- 3. A final version of AWP3 with more details of M&E of the project outcomes and a note of the ASEAN engagement at the strategic level.**

VIII. Other updates and plans

- Mid-project evaluation

This is a routine project oversight. Terms of Reference are being developed and will be shared as soon as possible. A pre-qualified person will be contracted by GAC/Ottawa to review the documentation since the beginning of the project. This would take around 1 week in CRC HQ and then the evaluator will go to the field to Bangkok, Jakarta and maybe to another country in the region in order to capture the information required by GAC. The field trip should take place around September and October and at the same time of a regional meeting/event. Meeting with other ASEAN partners (UN, OCHA, etc.) would also be interesting. The result of the evaluation will give recommendations for the future.

Decision Points:

4. GAC will prepare TORs and circulate to CRC and IFRC for review and comments.

-GAC participation in project-funded activities

The meeting welcomed the new practice (since September 2015) of having a quarterly calendar of events shared with Pattama (GAC / Bangkok) and then distributed to all diplomatic missions in ASEAN countries. The project team should also ensure an update of such calendars is sent if major changes happen in the course of the quarter. Sharon noted that GAC is primarily interested to participate in regional events but her country colleagues might also be interested to attend other national-level activities. Below are some upcoming activities *that GAC might join*:

- Asia-Pacific Conference on Gender and DRR (Hanoi, May 2016, let by UN-Women)
- Red Cross Red Crescent Induction as part of the ACE Programme (Bogor and Semarang, May 2016)
- Launch of the Online Library in the leadership meeting (Jakarta, September 2016)
- Disaster Law boot camp (Australia October 2016 tbc)

-Linking IFRC and GAC communication colleagues for the promotion of RRI activities on social media

The team agreed to enhance the cooperation between the two teams in Bangkok (IFRC) and Jakarta (GAC) to be more active on social media in relation with activities and themes supported by RRI. A Skype call will be organized in the coming weeks.

-Considerations for post-RRI initiative

IFRC and Canadian RC enquired about the opportunity to start designing a post-RRI initiative to build on the results achieved while expanding to new areas of work. Representatives from GAC stated that such design was too early and that it was important first to finalize the planned mid-term evaluation of the project (see above), as well as hear the results of the GAC International Assistance Review.

-Updates on HR (GAC)

Matt Straub is leaving the post at the end of May 2016 and his replacement will be Jon Silva. A new Deputy-Director will arrive in Jakarta around August/September 2016.

Decision Points:

5. CRC/IFRC to notify which activities are regional and national activities.

6. CRC/IFRC to inform GAC by e-mail of high level events for Canadian participation in key events.
7. The Steering Committee members agreed to enhance the cooperation between the CRC social media team and GAC ASEAN social media team in Jakarta

IX. Signing of the project no-cost extension between GAC and the Canadian RC

The meeting was concluded by the signing of an amendment to the contribution agreement in order to extend the duration of RRI until March 2018 (implementation of activities until December 2017). Such signing was welcomed by all as a key milestone in ensuring quality outcomes of the project.



X. ANNEXES

- List of participants
- Agenda of the meeting
- All presentations are available [here](#).

ANNEX 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Venue: **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**
Bangkok Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) | 5th floor Ocean Tower I |
170/11-12 Sukhumvit Soi 16, Klong Toey | Bangkok 10110 | Thailand

Chair : Mr. Marwan Jilani, Head of Bangkok Country Cluster Support Team, IFRC

Participants to all sessions	
Ms. Sharon Armstrong	Director & Counsellor (Development) for Indonesia & ASEAN at the Embassy of Canada Jakarta
Ms. Pattama Vongratanavichit	Program Officer / GAC representative (Canadian Embassy in Bangkok)
Dr. Amnat Barlee	Director of Relief and Community Health Bureau, Thai Red Cross Society, Chair of the Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum
Mr. Marwan Jilani	Head of Bangkok Country Cluster Support Team (CCST), IFRC
Ms. Deborah Cote	Program Manager Asia, International Operations, Canadian Red Cross
Mr. Hervé Gazeau	DRR Manager, IFRC Bangkok
Partners joining on the phone to share experiences	
On the establishment of the regional gender and diversity network (outcome 2)	Mr. Saiful Izan Bin Nordin Manager for International Humanitarian Law, Legal and International Relations Chair of the SEA regional Gender and Diversity Network Malaysian Red Crescent
On ACE Programme + One ASEAN One Response (outcome 3)	Ms. Ririn Haryani Officer for AHA Centre Executive Programme AHA Centre
On regional cooperation among youths and the involvement in school safety (contributing to the ASEAN School Safety Initiative - outcome 3)	Mr. Lai Wai Keat Youth Volunteer Leader Chair of the SEA Youth Network (SEAYN) Malaysian Red Crescent
On Disaster Law and regional cooperation (outcomes 1 and 3)	Mr. Sanny Jegillos Regional Disaster Reduction Adviser UNDP / Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Asia-Pacific Regional Centre, Bangkok
Other IFRC Participants joining for the specific sessions	
Mr. Sanjeev Kafley	DRR Advisor
Ms. Lucia Cipullo	Regional Disaster Law Programme Delegate
Ms. Katherine Roux	Communications Delegate
Ms. Christina Haneef	Gender and Diversity Officer

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International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ms. Intira Boonsith	Senior Programme Support Officer
Ms. Warongrong Tatrakom	DRR Project Officer
Ms. Kate Jean Smith	Senior Communications Officer
Ms. Angeline Tandiono	Knowledge and Information Management Officer
Ms. Kum Ju Ho	Youth and Volunteering Officer
Ms. Suchada Meteeekunaporn	Senior Programme Support Officer

Note taker: Ms. Warongrong Tatrakom (Ying)



CROIX-ROUGE CANADIAN
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Canada



ANNEX 2 - AGENDA

- 09.00 **Introductions and presentation of the agenda** (Chair)
- 09.10 **Regional context**
- Overview of IFRC in Southeast Asia – Mr. Marwan Jilani
 - Canadian Red Cross presence in the region and interest in the project – Ms. Deborah Cote
 - Global Affairs Canada strategy in the region and interest in the project – Ms. Sharon Armstrong
- 10.00 **Overview of project achievements to date** (by Mr. Hervé Gazeau)
- 10.30 *Coffee break*
- 10.45 **Experience from partners** (3 or 4 partners by phone, 10mn each)
- 11.30 **Discussions on challenges and variances during the second year of implementation** (Chair)
- 12.30 *Lunch / to be provided*
- 13.30 **RCRC regional cooperation, by Dr. Amnat Barlee**
- 14.00 **Presentation of Annual Work Plan 3** (by Mr. Hervé Gazeau)
- Key milestones and expected outputs
 - Communications and Humanitarian Diplomacy
 - Disaster Law
 - Gender and Diversity
 - Community Safety and Resilience / Regional cooperation (including with ASEAN)
 - Annual Budget
 - Updated PMF
 - Updated Risk Register
- 14.30 **Discussion of Annual Work Plan 3** (Chair)
- 15.30 *Coffee break*
- 15.45 **Other updates and plans**
- Updates from Global Affairs Canada
 - Mid-project evaluation (indicated by Mr. Matt Straub)
 - Participation in RRI events
 - ASEAN collaboration
 - Considerations for post RRI initiative
- 16.30 **Final remarks and considerations/approval** (Chair)
- 17.00 *End of meeting*