

## Annual South-East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leadership Meeting 2015

# Regional Disaster Management Technical Working Group (RDMTWG)

Disaster Management/ Cambodia / 25-27 February 2015

#### Introduction

The Regional DM Technical Working Group was organized in line with approved ToR and it discussed about RDRT/NDRT, Disaster Law, School based Risk Reduction as well as the regional road map.

The Regional DM Technical Working Group meeting was attended by a representative of AHA Centre to enhance working collaboration among NSs, AHA Centre and IFRC.

#### **Key Developments**

Regional DM Technical Working group is reviewing and updating the regional road map constantly. The cooperation with NDMA and other stakeholders is building stronger in national level. Involvement of government representatives with NS in different panels during 6<sup>th</sup> AMCDRR further support to enhance the cooperation between NSs and respective ministry. Join plan of action with AHA Centre will bring NSs and AHA more close. This will ensure mutual support among RCRC and AHA Centre basically in information sharing; Coordination during emergency and capacity building. Recent dialogue with AHA Centre has ended to ensure RCRC module in their AHA Centre Excellency Programme (ACE) and they also offer few seats for National Societies. ACE programme has been designed to develop future Asean DM leader.

**National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT):** The learnings of previous deployments as well as the recent real time evaluation (RTE) of the Haiyan Operation highlighted the importance to strengthen RDRT. A long discussion was held during the technical meeting in Bangkok and colleagues from National Societies came out with the idea of RDRT- Keeping it alive. In the meeting, it was agreed that selected representatives of National Societies along with colleagues from IFRC/AP Zone and SEARD would come together with some concrete recommendations on NDRT and RDRT in order to standardize the national and regional response mechanisms. Subsequently, a two-day RDRT technical meeting was held in October 2014 following the decisions of RDMTWG. The technical meeting standardized training curriculum for NDRT and agreed to update RDRT roster as per identified criteria as well as recommended four different scenarios to deploy the RDRT within the region. RDRT roaster is currently being updated. *Click to view minutes of the RDRT technical meeting and status of updated RDRT roster.* 

**Cooperation with ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management** (AHA Centre): IFRC and NSs of the region along with representatives of AHA Centre collectively identified the possible areas of cooperation as information sharing, coordination during emergency and capacity building during the RDMTWG. Following the meeting, representatives of RCRC visited AHA Centre in Jakarta and agreed on the Joint Plan of Action to strengthen working cooperation among NSs, AHA Centre and IFRC. AHA Centre is sharing the information to all NSs and we are working to join AHA Centre Executive (ACE) programme to build the partnership in the area of capacity building. *Click to view* the Joint Plan of Action.

School-Based Risk Reduction programming: A survey has been carried out in the second half of 2014 to

map the experiences and existing capacities in terms of manual and tools to implement school-based risk reduction of the NSs in the region. As per the findings of the survey, a consultant was hired to develop a manual and tools which are in line with global and ASEAN School Safety framework. A series of consultations have been planned to finalize the manual and tools aside of test in Myanmar and one more NS of the region in 2015. It is expected that the module and tools will provide an opportunity for the NS to be in center of School-Based Risk Reduction Initiative in their specific country.

**Urban Risk Reduction:** Pilot Urban Risk Reduction project has been accomplished in Indonesia. Disaster Risk Reduction in urban locations is often complicated with limited access to basic urban services such (water, sanitation, drainage, transport systems) and land tenure insecurity, contributing to heightened vulnerability for local residents. Following are the key learnings of one year long project:

- A basic urban service such as water is one of the biggest urban service deficiencies faced by Jakarta's poor residents. Poorer households spend significant portions of their budgets on water purchased from local vendors.
- High rates of urban population growth have resulted in increasing prevalence of informal settlements, often located in riverbanks subject to flooding, further increasing vulnerability.

A global lesson learnt workshop has been planned by Iranian Red Crescent in second quarter of 2015 and global learning as well as PMI learning will be shared to the rest of NSs of the region after that event. Myanmar and Philippines Red Cross has been implementing Urban risk reduction Initiative as well.

## **Decisions/Directions**

- Strengthen NDRT and RDRT for better national and regional cooperation, which includes training, deployment opportunities and related tools.
- Implement joint plan of action of 2014 among National Societies, AHA Centre and IFRC.
- Engage with National Disaster management Agency (NDMA) further to maximize the RCRC tools and offer the opportunities of capacity building along with RCRC.
- Transfer regional road map to country specific plan.

## Leaders' support is required in the following areas:

- Table-Top simulation exercise should be planned during different regional forums to test and strengthen the regional cooperation.
- As vulnerability and risks are changing in regular basis, it is recommended to review the Resilience House and update the Road Map periodically.
- Strengthen School based Risk Reduction Initiative in line with global, Asian Coalition for School Safety (ACSS) and ASEAN School Safety framework.
- Strengthen institutional preparedness for effective response in country or region by focusing on the development of contingency plan, business continuity plan and simulation exercises.
- Explore the opportunities to enhance response preparedness along with NDMA and AHA Centre.
- Explore innovation to improve RCRC services.

## **Contact information**

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