



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

Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRf)

RCSRf/ **Cambodia** / 25-27 February 2015

Introduction

Resilience House Model and Regional Road Map remain the key tools for the National Societies of the region during this period. The NSs are keeping focus on comprehensive assessment and integrated planning to operationalize the resilience initiatives within their context. National Societies are exploring possible components to integrate different activities into ongoing programmes in order to maximize the opportunities towards the contributions for resilience. Regional Road Map also provides additional guidance to National Societies for institutional preparedness.

Following the South-East Asia (SEA) RCRC Leadership Meeting in March 2014 held in Singapore, the **Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRf)** meeting was organized in Bangkok from **16-18 September 2014**. In the three-day RCSRf meeting, for the first time, different sectors (Organization Development (OD), Disaster Management (DM) and Health) from NSs across the region discuss within the same forum. First day and last day of meeting was planned as plenary whereas second day meeting was plan as technical working group meeting.

ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) joined the technical discussion and identified future areas of collaboration between AHA Centre and RCRC, which further opened the opportunities to strengthen technical collaboration among AHA Centre, National Societies and IFRC.

The RCSRf meeting discussed different issues including regional cooperation, cooperation with ASEAN secretariat, Pandemic and Public Health in Emergency Preparedness, Regional Road Map and Resilience House Model.

Click to view [RCSRf meeting process report](#).

Key Developments

Following the Yangon meeting in 2013, the Health and DM technical managers of NSs have come more often together for integrated planning for operationalization of resilience. They reviewed and updated Resilience house and road map- which is just an example of this practice. The Road Map has been updated by DM and Health technical working groups. The meeting has requested OD technical team to update the road map. In revised resilience house, the NS development/Red Cross youth-volunteer management has been considered as foundation of programmes and gender, climate change, People with disability and disaster laws are identified as key cross cutting agenda. Click to view [Revised Resilience house and Regional Road Map](#). Engagement of ASEAN secretariat (AHA Centre and Health and Health and Communicable Diseases Division (HCDD)) and respective government representative at regional events are growing better. Representative of ASEAN Secretariat/s attended RCSRf and Regional Pandemic and PHiE Preparedness workshop which led both parties to develop joint cooperation areas in technical level. These two joint plans

of actions can be foundation to strengthen our cooperation with ASEAN in technical level at this stage.

- 1. Regional Cooperation:** RCSR meeting identified peer-to-peer learning, staff-on-loan, lesson-learned workshop, conference and trainings/workshop including deployment of RDRT in normal and emergency time. Considering this, it has been agreed to map HR related to Health and DM as per the defined sub-theme of Resilience House. One RDRT member has been deployed from PMI to support flood operation of Malaysian Red Crescent during this reporting period. Additional colleagues have already been identified within Region to mobilize in case of need to support Malaysian Red Crescent. PMI and Thai Red Cross seconded their staff member as co-facilitators for Regional Climate Change ToT and Regional Emergency Psychosocial support Service workshop. NSs technical team met in October and identified the scenarios to maximize RDRT, criteria and process to develop elite RDRT group in the region as well as standardized the NDRT curriculum.
- 2. Coordination with ASEAN Secretariats:** The IFRC and its member National Societies in the region of Southeast Asia have been actively engaging with various ASEAN partners over the past several years. Areas of collaboration include disaster management, international disaster response law, and health in emergencies, specifically through events such as ASEAN's disaster emergency response simulation exercise (DIREx), and engagement with the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA). The Red Cross Red Crescent closely involved in the DIREx exercise in Viet Nam and Thailand in 2013; Indonesia 2014, as well as Myanmar in 2014 taking a strong role to promote disaster response law and disaster preparedness. The similar exercise is going to happen in Malaysia in 2015 where IFRC together with Malaysian Red Crescent are preparing. It has been observed that this kind of exercise profiles the NSs with authority and other stakeholders as well as refreshes the skills and knowledge of NSs volunteers and staffs in disaster response. The IFRC and National Societies are also participating in meetings held by the ASEAN Committee of Disaster Management (ACDM), and the ASEAN partnership group (APG) sessions, both of which take place on an annual basis. Representative of NSs met Executive Director of AHA Centre and discussed the areas of cooperation in October, 2014 and developed [JOINT Plan of Action](#). Similarly Representative of Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSR) attended the 25th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting in Brunei Darussalam. This opportunity was maximized to share the Joint plan of action- which was developed jointly with AHA Centre in previous week in Jakarta- with ACDM members to strengthen working collaboration between National Disaster management Agency and National Societies further in country level. Similarly representatives of Health and Communicable Diseases Division (HCDD) of ASEAN secretariat attended regional Pandemic and Public Health in Emergencies Preparedness workshop in Singapore and they have outlined the areas of expected cooperation for Pandemic and Public Health in emergencies along with government representatives. 2015 year is critical year for ASEAN since member states are discussing new health strategy beyond 2015. ASEAN secretariat invited RCRC feedback through their respective ministry of health. Click the link for [areas of expected cooperation](#).
- 3. Disaster Law:** South East Asia is the leading region for disaster law in the Asia Pacific, with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies continuing to take significant strides to promote

and contribute to the development of national legal frameworks for disaster management, risk reduction and response. Their various country-level initiatives have resulted in tangible outcomes, such as the inclusion of a chapter on international assistance and cooperation in the new disaster management law in Vietnam – based on recommendations of Vietnam Red Cross and IFRC. Through this work, National Societies have also significantly raised the profile of their organizations as key humanitarian actors at the national and regional levels. Their work in disaster law over the past year has included influencing the development and review of national disaster management laws, regulations, policies and guidelines in Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste; strengthening partnerships with regional, international and civil society organizations through training and advocacy, including workshops in Thailand and Myanmar; promoting disaster law messages and encouraging the use of disaster law tools such as the IDRL Guidelines at regional and country-level disaster response simulation exercises, including in Indonesia, Thailand and Myanmar and; engaging in new initiatives such as a ‘south to south cooperation’ study tour to examine good practice in developing disaster management legislation (Lao Red Cross and Vietnam Red Cross). By engaging in national law and policy-making processes, SEA National Societies have also been contributing to the implementation of global and regional commitments, including the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (the ‘AADMER’), key resolutions from the [International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent](#) and their collective [SEA National Society disaster law pledge](#). For more information please see the [Disaster Law update prepared for the 12th Annual Leaders Meeting](#) and the [Disaster Law SEA Snapshot](#).

4. **Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR):** The 6th Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) as a multi-stakeholder regional platform for DRR was hosted by the Royal Government of Thailand in collaboration with UNISDR. It was the final regional inter-governmental meeting in Asia before the completion of the Hyogo Framework of Action 1 (HFA 1) in March 2015 and the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan. Our Region will be presented by seven leaders, two technical managers and one youth volunteers in the 3rd WCDRR conference in Sendai Japan. The 6th AMCDRR celebrated the achievements of HFA1, consolidated inputs from the Asia Pacific region for HFA2 and prepared countries and stakeholders for the 3 WCDRR. This included soliciting their commitments and partnerships for HFA2 implementation beyond 2015. Taking “promoting investments for resilient nations and communities” as the main theme, the 6th AMCDRR focused on three sub-themes aligned with the seven key areas. The key success of IFRCs engagement in the conference proceedings was the inclusion of recommendations into the 6th AMCDRR conference declaration, “encourage the institutionalization of integrated community resilience approaches into local development planning”. This was acknowledged and supported by Ministers and Heads of Delegation of those participating Asia Pacific countries.
5. **Profiling and Partnership:** SEARD has supported Thai Red Cross and Myanmar Red Cross to map their contributions to HFA1 and AADMER Plan of action. The purpose of this mapping is to identify existing cooperation mechanisms, activities and tools in the field of DRR in the country with government as well as other stakeholders. Report from Thai Red Cross and Myanmar will be shared shortly. The mapping exercise will be continued in other countries as well. The initial

discussions for such mapping exercises have been completed with technical managers of Philippines, Viet Nam, Indonesia and Laos. Thai Red Cross facilitated a study on social capital with the support of SEARD. Three different profiles/scenarios communities were selected by the TRCS for study. The main scopes of this study were to research and analyse the role of social capital in building community resilience and recommend how best RCRC volunteers and staff could incorporate the key elements of social capital into community programming. Field study was methodology to investigate how existing community programmes use social capital (consciously or unconsciously) for building resilience by looking at: a) community-based health and behavioral change communication (BCC) activities, CBDRR, WatSan and other: b) the formal and informal linkages between local RCRC branches, service providers, traders, communities and other stakeholders including local government; c) the activities or ways of working to avoid unsustainable approaches or unrealistic expectations among stakeholders concerned (communities, local governments, ours). In addition, International Day for Disaster Reduction / ASEAN Day on Disaster Management has been supported by SEARD in Myanmar, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand and Timor Leste. Respective NSs planned their different activities along with government and other stakeholders. As part of the regional resilience initiative, a workshop was organized in February, 2015 to build skills in conducting advocacy for disaster risk reduction at a country and regional level, and also evaluate how we can continue our engagement from AMCDRR to Sendai and the International Conference in 2015. The workshop goal was to bring together disaster risk reduction, disaster law and HD / communications focal points in the 11 National Societies of our region as the primary target audience. The National Societies invited their respective counterparts in the National Disaster Management Agencies, and collectively discussed how we can better engage with ASEAN and other stakeholders.

6. **Gender and Diversity:** During 26-27 November 2014, IFRC with co-sponsorship from Philippine Red Cross, hosted the first annual general meeting of the Regional Gender and Diversity Forum. It was a 1.5 day event attended by NS Gender Focal points from 7 RCRC SEA National Societies and established gender network in the region. They have outlined the ToR of that network as well. Click here for [Draft ToR](#). Participants came from a programmatic background as well as OD/HR/Planning units. The Forum was held as a means to provide an opportunity for RCRC representatives to enhance their knowledge, capacity and coordination on Gender and Diversity integration within programming. It is clear that there is much work to be done to reduce gender and diversity inequality in the region. However, just as with any organization, there are various constraints that limit that impact that the RCRC Movement can have on addressing these issues. Therefore, the forum decided to collectively determine which issues to address at the point in time. This prioritization exercise resulted in two tiers, the first tier addresses concerns within the region and the second tier addresses organizational and institutional concerns. Scoping missions have been continued in the areas of Gender and Diversity. Such missions were carried out in Myanmar, Lao, Vietnam, Indonesia, briefly in CVTL too. This will be continued in other National Societies too in future. Based on the needs and requests, support will be provided to the National Societies to strengthen their gender and diversity related work. Click here for the [report](#)
7. The implementation of the **National Society Development Framework** initiatives has been progressing in the region. National Societies are increasingly using the National Society

Development tools. Countries that have completed OCAC self- assessment (Vietnam and Timor Leste) are using the findings/deficits in their strategic planning process. Myanmar Red Cross revisited previous OCAC results internally and carried out institutional gaps mapping exercise to plan harmonised support of the partners for OD and capacity building efforts. Lao Red Cross organised OCAC orientation in December 2015 and planning to undergo OCAC self-assessment in 2015.

8. Branch Organisational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) Training of Trainers (TOT) was held in Cambodia and the assessments were done in two Branches.
9. The Global Volunteering Forum (GVF) was organised in Thailand from 1-4 December by the IFRC 2014 and it was co-hosted by the Thai Red Cross. More than 150 participants from nearly 80 countries participated in the forum. A total of ten NSs from SEA region participated in and got engaged in the fruitful discussions. Participants got highly benefitted from the forum as it was organized with the Open Space Technology approach. All the participants from the NSs in the region made commitments and action plans were developed based on these. Some of the priorities expressed in the action plan included development of volunteer database , capacity and need assessments through BOCA tool, re-define volunteers culture and online learning promotion, YABC programme implementation in all NS programmes and mainstreaming youth empowerment and gender diversity issues into all programmes and humanitarian actions and so on.
10. National Societies are increasingly using other tools such as Learning Platform. The number of users from the National Societies is increasing. Efforts are also continuing for Dividing Digital Divide (DDI) initiatives.
11. **Youth** related interventions are moving smoothly. Southeast Asia Youth Network has been operating well and a two year plan (2015-2016) has been prepared by the network members and being implemented. Recommendation from 11th SEA Leaders meeting have been considered while preparing the plan. SEAYN members also participated in the Youth Summit prior to the Asia Pacific Conference in Beijing in October 2014 and provided significant inputs to the youth declaration. Finally the 2nd Asia Pacific Youth Summit Beijing has also re-affirmed the importance of regional RCRC Youth Network, and endorsed to include the SEAYN commitment in the final Beijing Youth Summit Commitment as a key component for the 9th Asia Pacific RCRC conference agenda.
12. The first and second SEAYN meetings were held in Cambodia and Singapore respectively. Singapore Red Cross also organised a YABC training. Youths trained on YABC organised a Peer to Peer (P2P) Youth Symposium in December. The symposium was attended by nearly 300 youths not only from Singapore Red Cross but also from other organisations in Singapore and youths from other National Societies (SEAYN members). It was an excellent opportunity for the youths to share their experiences and promote the “Red Cross Volunteering Spirit”. Please see more details in [youth report](#).

13. **YABC** components have been integrated in Cambodia's ongoing health programme. PNS like Swiss Red Cross interested to replicate the learnings.
14. **Finance Development** work is continuing and the support from SEARD was provided particularly to Myanmar, CVTL and Vietnam. Based on the needs, specific support was also provided to Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society.

Decisions

- The three day meeting went well as per defined ToR of RCSR. Endorsement of RCSR Forum ToR.
- Endorsement of proposed 4 scenarios to promote the regional cooperation as per RDRT technical meeting recommendations.
- The **Resilience House** and translation of **Road Map** into country plans require supports from leadership. It also requires different tools and training package to strengthen comprehensive assessment and integrated planning practices. RCSR recommended trainings and tools that develop the understanding of NS on comprehensive assessment and integrated planning to implement different resilience initiative in country level as needed.
- SEARD is inviting representatives of governments, ASEAN Secretariat as well as other relevant stakeholders in different regional events with the guidance and support of NSs. This practice should be continued as it will further strengthen our working relation with all partners.
- Roll out the joint plan of action of 2014 among National Societies, AHA Centre and IFRC.
- Implement the recommendation of Regional Pandemic and Public health emergency preparedness workshop recommendations. Links of process report can be accessed with Regional Health technical working group report.

Directions

- Continuous support to ensure **health participation** in Resilience discussion is required.
- Strengthen institutional preparedness for effective response in country or region by focusing on the development of **contingency plan, business continuity plan and simulation exercises**. Strengthen **NDRT** and **RDRT** for better regional cooperation, which includes training, deployment opportunities and related tools.
- **OD** and **Youth Development** needs to be promoted in all programmes /projects. Increased investment on youth is needed to further promote youth engagement
- National Society Development is the foundational work and needs to be well-addressed and incorporated into policies, plans and programmes and more holistic approaches are needed. Therefore, inclusion of **Branch Development, Volunteer Management, Youth Development and engagement, Capacity Building** (gender and diversity, finance development, resource mobilization) must always be considered and should be reflected in

the Road Map. NSD areas always need to be recognized and applied as foundation for effective delivery of our work.

- Disaster Law: 2015 presents some significant opportunities for SEA National Societies and disaster law. These include **showcasing** National Societies' **progress and leadership** in disaster law at the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent in December 2015 (e.g. by delivering a statement / intervention and signing a new South East Asia disaster law pledge); continuing to build **National Society knowledge and capacity** in disaster law (e.g. by attending the regional disaster law workshop on 3rd - 4th June 2015); establishing a **SEA National Society Disaster Law advisory group / network** with a focal point from each National Society; promoting institutional support and capacity building for their National Societies in disaster law (including youth and volunteers) and continuing to contribute to **national law and policy-making** processes.
- Build the partnership as per outlined by expected cooperation by **ASEAN and government** representatives during **regional Pandemic and Public Health in Emergency Preparedness** workshop.

Opportunities

- Exchange of ideas; peer to peer learning among the NSs of the region and IFRC.
- Exploring the possible areas of partnership.
- Mapping the human resources of the regional RCRC to strengthen regional cooperation.
- Identify the common issues and potential actions- Regional Road Map

Challenges

- Understanding of resilience is gradually developing within National Societies- however the contextualization and strengthening the existing programme into resilience could have numerous limitation including funding; staffing; regular engagement of branches; inadequate guiding documents and skills for comprehensive assessment and integrated planning.
- Transformation of regional Road map into Country one.

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