

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – February 2017



Volunteers from 14 of the worst quake-affected districts in Nepal were trained how to carry out interviews with community members. Photo Credit: Lao Red Cross Society

Peer-to-peer learning is one of the key approaches for regional cooperation in South East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, which is consisted of:

- Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society
- Cambodian Red Cross Society
- Lao Red Cross
- Malaysia Red Crescent Society
- Myanmar Red Cross Society
- Indonesian Red Cross Society
- Philippine Red Cross
- Singapore Red Cross Society
- The Thai Red Cross Society
- Timor-Leste Red Cross Society
- Viet Nam Red Cross Society

The regional Red Cross and Red Crescent societies have been taking part in networks for regional cooperation.

The Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum (RCSRF), Gender and Diversity network, South East Asia Youth Network as well as Disaster Law network are key for this regional cooperation. IFRC is also providing inputs for sharing information with Asia Pacific Migration Network. Terms of Reference (TOR) of some of these networks are:

- [Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum – TOR](#)
- [South-East Asia Gender and Diversity Network - TOR](#)
- [South East Asia Youth Network \(SEAYN\) - TOR](#)

Updates from South East Asia

Disaster Risk Reduction

2nd ASEAN Safe School Conference | 14-15 February 2017 | Bangkok

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/2nd-asean-safe-school-conference-14-15-february-2017-bangkok/>

On 14 and 15 February 2017, key government officials from the Ministries of Education and National Disaster Management Offices of the 10 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States and other active stakeholders came together at the 2nd ASEAN Regional Conference on School Safety in Bangkok. The Conference was co-organized by ASEAN, [ASEAN Safe Schools Initiative \(ASSI\)](#) Consortium and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

The meeting has reaffirmed the ASEAN governments' commitments to prioritise school safety through the implementation of relevant regional and global frameworks in Disaster Risk Reduction as well as to strengthen the collaboration among the working groups to continue in advancing Safe Schools in the region.

"As we enter the 3rd phase of ASSI implementation, it is timely that we mark it with a regional event such as this Conference, to provide a venue for all school safety stakeholders in ASEAN for knowledge exchanges and sharing of lessons learned on comprehensive school safety programming," said Mr. Kobchai Boonyaorana, Thai Director Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Policy Bureau.



Key government officials from ASEAN Member States made statement to reaffirm their commitment to school safety initiative.

Several key issues have been addressed to highlight the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction in the education sector such as the regional approach to comprehensive school safety and education in emergencies, safe school network movement as well as the resources and tools to enabling the riskless environment. The regional implementation progress, including the achievements and the strategies were also widely discussed.

As part of the founding member of Asia Pacific Coalition for School Safety (APCSS), the IFRC has been involved in key steps of the ASSI in the past years. In this Conference, IFRC facilitated the thematic session on "Enhancing the ASEAN Youth engagement in school safety initiatives"

engaging representatives from ASEAN National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, schools, youth, UN agencies and other partners.

Lessons learned and experience were shared among the participants. The new IFRC tool, [Youth engagement toolkit in School Safety](#), was introduced in the thematic session and the potential opportunities and key recommendations were proposed back to the plenary meeting.



Lai Wai Keat, a youth volunteer from Malaysian Red Crescent and a member of South East Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) presented the key recommendation on youth engagement.

“I would like to say this Conference is very inspiring, because for me, I managed to see what others have been doing in this field,” said Mr. Lai Wai Keat, a youth volunteer from Malaysian Red Crescent Society. “After this Conference, I will fly back to Malaysia to find more volunteers to join in, and we can start doing something from there with the Malaysian Red Crescent,” he added.

South East Asia is one of the regions with high incidence of natural hazards such as earthquake, floods, typhoons and fire. More than 100 million children are at risk living or studying in these disaster-prone areas.[1] They are also among the most vulnerable groups when disaster strikes due to limited resources and capacity[2]. Empowering the children and young people to identify the risks they face at home, at school and in their

community as well as enable them to become more resilient to disasters, is therefore crucial to achieve ASEAN goal on Disaster Management.

“Building safe and resilient schools is a corner stone of building resilient communities,” emphasized Mr. Marwan Jilani, the Head of the IFRC Bangkok Country Cluster Support Team in his closing statement.

The organization made two commitments at this conference; by first, to strengthen and broaden the engagement the youth and volunteers and scale up our school safety activities to more schools and more children at risk, and second to institutionalize the partnership around ASSI Consortium as an inclusive and long-term program approach.

“We look forward to taking this important initiative to new levels and to reach together to more schools and more children,” he concluded.

[1] ASEAN and Civil Society Launch Safe Schools Initiative

[2] Social Vulnerability to Disasters

Outcome Document

» Summary Report

Supporting Documents

» Agenda

» Thematic Session detail

» IFRC’s statement at 2nd ASEAN Conference on School Safety

Powerpoint Presentations

» Youth engagement in School Safety

» Youth in School Safety Facilitators’ Toolkit

» Red Cross youth

» UNESCO

Peer-to-Peer Exchange Visit of Lao Red Cross to Nepal Red Cross Society on Radio Programming and Community Engagement | 13-17 February 2017 | Kathmandu, Nepal

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/peer-to-peer-exchange-visit-of-lrc-to-nrcs-on-radio-programming-and-community-engagement-february-2017/>

Lao Red Cross, with support from IFRC, visited Nepal and met with Nepal Red Cross Society, Association of Community Radios Nepal (APORAB) and BBC Media Action on 13-17 February 2017 in Kathmandu, Nepal to do the radio peer-to-peer (P2P) exchange with NRCS for the Lao Red Cross' Communications and Fundraising Department (CFD).

Outcomes

On day 1 they had a meeting about the overview of NRCS' CFD and community engagement and accountability (CEA) initiatives – NRCS presented about Hotline 1130, the newspapers' Q&A columns, Facebook communication, NRCS' radio programme and street dramas by NRCS.

On day 2 they had a field travel to Kavre to have a meeting with Kavre chapter to gain understanding of the community engagement aspects of Kavre chapter which included Kavre chapter shared CEA in earthquake operations, Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMC) were formed to gather feedbacks and they are shared with RC monthly, local radio stations were selected based on coverage, radio volunteers for RC were identified, and RC radio volunteers are informed about the activities and are free to choose contents to cover. Then they had a field visit to the community where Kavre chapter was carrying out second installation of cash for livelihoods recovery, to observe the radio volunteers carrying out interviews with community members.



The programme has trained volunteers from 14 of the worst quake-affected districts to carryout interviews with community members.



Meeting among Lao Red Cross, Nepal Red Cross Society and BBC Media Action

On day 3 they had a meeting with BBC Media Action's earthquake recovery production team and Country Director – They shared the production process and success stories of their community radio programme following the earthquake and discussed their partnership and collaboration/coordination with the humanitarian partners. Then there was a meeting with ACORAB, which is an umbrella of 300 community radios in Nepal, to discuss ACORAB's community engagement initiatives (broadcasted in over 70 languages, engaging children as reporters, radio dramas, lifeline programme, using community voice as evidence-based advocacy, etc.). They also had discussions with LRC about the progress of their radio programme, social media progress, radio training, social media training, production of 10-12 radio spots, completion of on-the-job training for two CFD's radio staff, peer-to-peer with NRCS, International Women's Day, May 8's concept note and 2017 activities.

Follow-Up Actions

For Lao Red Cross, the concept note and budget for the radio training and social media training will be shared. And following the P2P with NRCS, the LRC has come up with the next concrete steps which are to propose a professional radio speaker from LNR while the two CFD staff of the radio will continue to receive trainings from LNR, to reach out to other departments, provinces and external agencies to gather voices from the community, to share monthly updates with the IFRC's communications staff to keep track of the progress and share important feedback, to set up a studio at the headquarter for which CFD will follow up and include in 2017 plan, to develop an annual plan and share it with IFRC, and following the radio training at HQ level, to organize a training for 4-5 priority provinces (2017 plan).

For IFRC, the IFRC's communications staff will support LRC in the upcoming radio training, and regarding social media training, they will identify a communications team member to support LRC in the training.

» **See also:** [Web Story: Giving quake-affected communities a voice through radio](#)

PMI's Evaluation-Based Assistance Cash (BBT) in Boyolali Regency

From: <http://www.pmi.or.id/index.php/berita-dan-media/peristiwa/item/979-pmi-kab-boyolali-evaluasi-komponen-bantuan-berbasis-tunai-bbt.html>

The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) with the support of the American Red Cross (AmCross) bersama PMI Kab, has implemented Disaster Management and Preparedness Project Logistics in Boyolali since mid-2016, and will hold it until October 2018. The project has two components, namely, Water Supply and Capacity Building for Regional Logistics. With a total funding of about USD 1.7 million, the project is targeting regional warehouses and sub-regional PMI, as well as five provinces for Water Supply components, namely West Java, Central Java, East Java, Nusa Tenggara Barat, and Nusa Tenggara East.



In the Water Supply component, there is a sub-component of the trial of the provision of clean water through the mechanism of Cash Based Aid (BBT), in collaboration with Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI) and the mechanism BRIZZI card. Special executed in Boyolali, Central Java, this component distributes funds in the form BRIZZI card, to help the residents buy water from merchants who have worked together with PMI.

At the end of the period of BBT components of three months required an evaluation to review the achievements and the implementation of activities that have been carried out. It also required the learning of the test mechanism that was done, considering that PMI is currently finalizing its guidelines of BBT. Therefore, the BBT components will be evaluated for special learning, which will be held on 27 February to 4 March 2017 in Boyolali and Semarang.

Mulyatno Plt. Head of PMI Kab in Boyolali explains that these activities are done as many as four times with them later on. The first one was done with Madiatri Silalahi from AmCross in which one FGD Staff and Volunteers from PMI in Boyolali district was involved in this activity (maximum 12 people). The second with Deasy of PMI. One Focal Group Discussion (FGD) shop owner and BBT partners (received 1 vote per store). FGD maximum number of participants was 10 people. The third one there were two FGD community members, including community representatives from eight villages / sub-targets which were divided by gender, with 4 people who frequently used the card BRIZZI to redeem drinking water and four people who rarely used the card BRIZZI to redeem it.

Rina Utami and the team representatives from PMI Central Java province said, "This evaluation aims to see the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and coordination of the activities that have been carried out in the area in the Boyolali programme. and there were 8 stores designated to be the suppliers of clean water".

Besides functioning as documentation of programme activities, the activities discussed will be assisted by Lindos Team Focus Group Discussion (FGD) from the PMI. DIY evaluation results will be the basis for the enrichment process of finalizing the PMI BBT guidelines, he added.

Innovators take to the stage with ideas for building community resilience towards flooding and other disasters | 23-24 February 2017 | Jakarta, Indonesia

From: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/asia-pacific/indonesia/innovators-take-to-the-stage-with-ideas-for-building-community-resilience-towards-flooding-and-other-disasters-73875/>



Photo credit: www.ifrc-indonesia.com

From floating structures to sustainable health insurance for flood-affected communities, the First Innovation in Flood Resilience Conference, held recently in Jakarta, saw the presentation of innovative ideas and projects to improve disaster management and build community resilience towards flooding.

The two-day conference was a collaboration between the Indonesian Red Cross Society, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Zurich Insurance, to match local grassroots innovators to potential funders and other partners to scale up ideas and solutions in flood management. Other key partners to the conference included Pulse Lab Jakarta, the Humanitarian Leadership Academy and Hamburg University of Technology.

The Indonesian Civil Society has already been developing their own innovative solutions to improve flood response within the country. However, most innovators struggle to gain the recognition and support needed to take their ideas forward.

Giorgio Ferrario, Head of Delegation for the IFRC Country Cluster Support Team in Indonesia and Timor-Leste, said that a joint effort between private sectors, academic institutions and humanitarian organisations is key to addressing community priorities in a sustainable and effective way.

"We are consciously working in new and innovative ways with non-traditional partners, as the challenges we face with recurring disasters continue to grow in unprecedented ways," said Ferrario.

The highlight of the conference was when the innovators took to the stage during An Ideas Pitch session to narrate their ideas and what motivated them to seek a change in their own communities before a panel of judges.

Nine promising local inventive and original solutions from different organisations including Risk Frontiers, Starside, Mallsampah.com and Garbage Clinical Insurance took part in the competition. The winners of the session, Mallsampah.com, and two other innovative ideas from Risk Frontiers and Telaga, will receive grants to keep developing their innovations.

“Since waste management is a major issue in our village, we decided to create a recycling system where people can exchange their waste for medical services,” explained the creators from Garbage Clinical Insurance. “Everyone should have access to health insurance.”

Wirahadi Suryana, the Director of Corporate and Commercial in Zurich Insurance Indonesia said that the company has been working together with the Red Cross since 2013, focusing on building community resilience before, during and after disasters.

In line with the conference, Zurich Insurance also highlighted their mobile application for flood response. “Our team has developed a mobile app called Z-Alert, which can be downloaded for free in the AppStore and Google Play. Users will be able to locate disasters around them, ranging from floods, traffic accidents and even power outages,” said Suryana.

Find more information on [Flood Resilience Innovation Conference \(FRIC\) Indonesia website](#)

National Workshop on KAP Survey Result Sharing | 21 February 2017 | Vientiane, Lao PDR

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/national-workshop-kap-survey-baseline-results-sharing-february-2017-laos/>



This Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) Baseline Survey Result Sharing workshop had an opening remark by Dr. Kaviphone, Head of Disaster Management Department of Lao Red Cross, followed by the explanation of the workshop's objectives by Dr. Kanokporn, BUR Project Manager from IFRC. Then there was a session of sharing experiences of youth-led data collection process of KAP Survey by LRC and youth representatives, followed by the presentation on the results of KAP baseline survey in Vientiane. After that that was a session of feedback on key preliminary results and sharing project implementation plan for year 2017 by LRC and IFRC. The workshop also attended by 10 youth representatives who joined and shared their lessons learned and experiences on data collection.

KAP Survey Objectives

The KAP survey has been conducted using Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) Survey of the Building Urban Resilience (BUR) Project. The aim of the survey is to determine baseline data to develop project activities and is used to be comparative with the end- line survey at the end of the project to measure an improvement of the knowledge/awareness and behavior of people in the communities.

The specific objectives on better understanding of the community knowledge/awareness are:

- The target people have the basic knowledge/awareness and are prepared for reducing the risks of disasters (flood, storm and fire)
- To assess basic knowledge in information on road safety
- To identify the difference knowledge between men and women to define an appropriate activity and to have participation of both gender

Promoting School Youth's Engagement in Building Urban Resilience Programme

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/building-urban-resilience-in-southeast-asia-project/knowledge-attitude-and-practice-kap/promoting-school-youth-engagement-in-building-urban-resilience-programme/>

School youth are the key actors to implement and strengthen knowledge, attitudes and practices on building resilience capacity of their families, friends, relatives and community members in terms of disaster risks mitigation and other hazards in urban settings i.e. road accidents, pandemic diseases, health and hygiene problems. The 18-month Building Urban Resilience project which is funded by the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) supports Lao Red Cross to build capacity of government officials, school teachers, children, including Red Cross Youth and volunteers through a regional strategy building on good practices and using innovative methods i.e. social media, Facebook, Radio programme, cartoon animation, short films, etc.

The programme has started with KAP survey research in order to study the basic knowledge (K), attitude (A), and practices (P) of community members by using Youth-Led data collection method in 5 targeted communities. The KAP survey has been conducted since January 2017 and 85 youths were trained on how to collect the data via interviewing the correspondents in 400 households. The training was aimed at gaining understanding about basic knowledge about risks, hazards and disasters, and understanding and practicing on how to collect the quantitative data from the questionnaires interviews. After the completion of the training, 85 youths in 5 schools completed their interview process in the communities within 2 weeks.



During the [National Workshop on KAP Survey Results Sharing](#), 10 youth representatives joined and shared their lesson learned and experiences on data collection.

"This was a great chance for me and my friends to support Lao Red Cross since this practice helped me to increase my communication skill and problem-solving skill; I learned how to build a good relationship with someone that I never knew before. But sometimes, I faced the difficulties with some people because they thought this interview was useless and wasted their time", said a 16-year-old female youth,

"I would like to say thank you to LRC team for giving me this opportunity to participate in the KAP orientation workshop and join the data collection process. I got many experiences from this learning process and could share knowledge and information on DRR and road safety to community members while I have interviewed. However, it has limitations in terms of timing of interview and the venue was not convenience", said a 17-year-old male youth.

Disaster Law

National Dissemination Workshop on Disaster Management Law | 2 February 2017 | Cambodia

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/national-disaster-law-dissemination-2-february-2017-cambodia/>

In cooperation with the National Committee on Disaster Management and other key Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) stakeholders, this national dissemination workshop on disaster management law was held on 2nd February 2017 at Cambodian Red Cross Headquarter chaired by Ms. Pum Chantinie, Cambodian Red Cross Secretary General and facilitated by H.E Ma Norith, Deputy Secretary General of National committee of Disaster Management, with 65 participants from 25 provinces.

The purpose of the dissemination is to strengthen public awareness on the new disaster management law and to foster a greater understanding and cooperation in the implementation of the law and its relevant components in order to join in disaster risk reduction, preparedness, recovery and awareness of climate change. It will be followed by 3 provincial level dissemination workshops in February and March gathering representatives from all provinces of the country.



Outcome Document

» Workshop Summary Report

Supporting Documents

- » Pamphlet - Cambodia Disaster Management Framework
- » Pamphlet - Know your Rights, Roles and Responsibility in Disaster Management
- » Powerpoint Presentation - Cambodia National Dissemination Workshop on Disaster Management Law
- » Walk Through Scenario - Flooding in 8 Provinces in Mekong Region

Health

e-WASH Trainings | 27 February 2017 | Kammuan, Lao PDR

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/e-wash-trainings-feb-2017-laos/>

Training #1: Training of Trainers on Emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (e-WASH) response and preparedness for Red Cross WASH focal staff

Training #2: Training on Emergency WASH response and preparedness for Red Cross Volunteers



These two trainings were the first start/first phase of Emergency WASH activities conducted by the Health Promotion Department of Lao Red Cross Society. The two trainings focused on key practical sessions. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion were highlighted to all participants. The results of the pre/post-tests of True&False Quiz showed that the participants (Training of Trainers e-WASH focal persons)'s knowledge significantly improved from 70% to 95%. The results pre/post-tests of True&False Quiz showed that the participants (RC volunteers)'s knowledge significantly improved from 55% to 67%. In

conclusion, the expectations of the participants were met and satisfied. It was such a great team work of Lao Red Cross and Volunteers; They contributed greatly and put a lot of efforts to the success of these two trainings. The participants were working so hard until almost 10-11 PM every night to dig the pit/deep hole of 1.5 metres for two latrines with constructed roof top and wall and the water drainage area/water system for the selected primary

school. The community participation and engagement by the community leaders and school principal was the key achievement of these two training in Khammuane Province.

The WASH Coordinator from IFRC in Cambodia mentioned that additional two more AP 700 Manpacks will be provided to Laos this year and they are planning to develop the WASH training projects for Laos again this year in one to two provinces depending on the budget availability and the donor decision. The head of Health Promotion Department of Lao Red Cross Society will follow up with the provincial-level entity about the use of AP 700 and latrines constructed in the local primary school. He will also send to IFRC in Bangkok the activity report and financial report within March 2017.

e-WASH Trainings | 5-12 February 2017 | Cambodia

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/e-wash-training-feb-2017-cambodia/>

Three Emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) specialised trainings were conducted on 5-12 February 2017 in Prey Veng province, Cambodia with an aim to enhance the capacity of the National Society for emergency WASH response in future. There was a total of 88 participants including staff and volunteers from the National Headquarter and the chapters in three provinces (Svay Rieng, Banteay Mean Chey and Prey Veng) and also three staff from the Swiss Red Cross and provincial staff such as fire brigade personnel.

Two trainings on the use of emergency hygiene promotion (HP) box were also conducted, participated by 18 Red Cross volunteers and staff from NHQ and Prey Veng province. The participants were trained on proper usage of the items in the HP box during emergencies. These HP boxes are now pre-positioned at the provincial level and NHQ, together with the two units of Man Packs procured under the pledge.



We are Total Defence by Singapore Red Cross | 15 February 2017 | Singapore



On the occasion of Total Defence Day on 15 February 2017, Singapore Red Cross shared about the importance of first aid and blood donation through fun and educational skits with more than 10,000 primary and secondary school students.

Launched in September 2015, 'The Bandage Brothers' first aid skit has had its run with 28 sessions reaching a total of 30,000 primary school students. Produced by the Singapore Red Cross in collaboration with 3M Nexcare Singapore, the skit shared basic first aid knowledge and debunks treatment myths with the young. Following the session, the children brought home a first aid activity booklet which is fun, educational and enhances learning.

It's never too late to share life, Philippines Red Cross ensures safe blood this season of love

From: <http://www.redcross.org.ph/press/news/it-s-never-too-late-to-share-life-red-cross-ensures-safe-blood-this-season-of-love>



To celebrate a special season, milestone, or event, the best gifts are always those of the truly personal kind, those that come from the heart. And what's more personal than donating your blood to those who need it?

At the Philippine Red Cross (PRC), only volunteers are allowed to donate blood, increasing the chance of safe blood for the public. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), voluntary donors have lesser risk for transfusion-transmitted infections, such as HIV, hepatitis B and C, syphilis, and malaria.

Voluntary donors also have higher chances to be a regular donor, and are most likely to stay committed to a healthy lifestyle.

Non-Remunerated Blood Donors

Another safeguard used by the PRC is non-remuneration, that is, voluntary donors are not paid. The elimination of remuneration increases the chance that only those who truly want to help people in need of blood transfusion would donate.

In a 2010 paper entitled "Towards 100% Voluntary Blood Donation: A Global Framework for Action," the WHO, together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, advocated for "100% voluntary non-remunerated blood donation in every country of the world... based on the recognition that voluntary non-remunerated blood donors are the foundation of a safe, sustainable blood supply."

When Ayisha Fabian, together with her relatives Robert Reyes, Pida Reyes, and Salve Salvacion, went to the PRC Bulacan Chapter to donate blood, they knew they wouldn't get any monetary reward in return. For them, what mattered was the opportunity to help others by paying it forward. "A blood donor saved our uncle's life. *Kaya gusto namin na kami naman ang magbigay sa mga nangangailangan ng dugo,*" says Ayisha. "It was our simple way to pay it forward, to hopefully help even more people like our uncle."

Ayisha's uncle, who was undergoing dialysis, needed Type B blood when his hemoglobin dropped to dangerously low levels. Thanks to the voluntary non-remunerated donors of the PRC, her uncle is now in recovery.

Proper Screening

Besides accepting only voluntary non-remunerated donors, the PRC requires all volunteers to undergo the blood screening and testing standards set by the Department of Health.

Arianne Nillo, a regular blood donor since 2011, says that "before anyone can make a donation, *pinapadaan muna ng mga medical officers ng Red Cross sa tamang process. Nagkakaron muna ng briefing and screening,* and they inform us of the benefits and importance of blood donation."

Arianne is living proof that donating blood saves lives. In 2009, she was diagnosed with dengue fever. In need of a blood transfusion, she went to the PRC. Moved by the compassion and selflessness of the people who helped save her life, Arianne signed up to be a blood donor to the PRC.

A few years later, Arianne urged her boyfriend, Carlo Goli, to donate blood as well. The couple, who have been together for almost two years, donate blood to the PRC regularly together. They even see it as a special kind of dating experience and a unique way of strengthening their relationship. "*Mas nagiging strong 'yung bond namin habang nagiging strong din 'yung urge namin to help others,*" says Arianne. "Also, *kapag nag-do-donate kami ng dugo,* we go through a screening process, *at nasisiguro namin* that we're both healthy."

Information Dissemination

Edward Chua, 35, a regular donor since 2009 and one of the Apheresis Blood Donor awardees of the PRC, says that the PRC is always diligent in providing all the information he needs to know in terms of blood donation. For him, this is a very important step because the lack of knowledge about the process and benefits of blood donation discourages some people to get involved.

So what made Edward commit to this advocacy? In 2008, his wife was diagnosed with dengue fever. Her platelets dropped to below 10 and, to live, she needed seven to eight units of platelets. Her blood type being the rare AB, Edward couldn't find suitable blood donors in a short amount time.

One of his friends advised him to go to the PRC, which renders apheresis services. Apheresis is a special type of blood donation through which a specific part of the blood is collected from the donor. At the PRC, Edward found a donor that complied with the blood requirement to save his wife's life.

One year later, Edward and five of his friends heard about the Philippine Red Cross bloodletting drive in partnership with the Bombo Radyo Philippines. Without hesitation, they joined the bloodletting activity. For Edward, it was the perfect opportunity for him to "pay back" the PRC for helping save his wife.

To this day, Edward, a gym owner, and his friends continue to donate blood to the PRC every after three months. "Aside from hanging out in the gym, *naging bonding na rin namin ito ng mga friends ko*. And donating blood is a two-way process. Beneficial *para sa tatanggap ng dugo at siyempre para din sa nag-donate*. *Masarap ang feeling after mo mag-donate*. Beneficial *din siya physically*. *Nalilinis 'yung dugo namin at malaki ang chance na makaiwas sa sakit sa puso*," says Edward.

Red Cross, GMA Network hold Bloodletting Drive | 10 February 2017 | Philippines

From: <http://www.redcross.org.ph/press/news/red-cross-gma-network-hold-sagip-dugtong-buhay-bloodletting-drive>



Employees of GMA Network once again joined the 9th Kapuso Bloodletting Day in partnership with the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) last February 10 at the GMA Network Center in Quezon City.

The bloodletting drive by GMA nationwide yielded over 1600 blood bags. In GMA QC alone, a total of 300 blood bags with an equivalent of 135,000 cc units of blood, were collected.

The said activity is an annual project of GMA Network's Corporate Affairs Division, in support of its socio-civic arm, GMA Kapuso Foundation, meant to encourage employees to take part in public service undertakings through blood donation.

Other GMA TV stations in the provinces – Ilocos, Dagupan, Bicol, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao and General Santos also held simultaneous bloodletting drives in their respective areas. GMA's provincial stations collected more than 1, 300 units of blood.

In line with this, to continuously promote volunteerism through blood donation, GMA Kapuso Foundation (GMAKF) and PRC will also conduct the "Sagip Dugtong Buhay Blood Letting Project" today, February 18, this time open to the public, at Ever Gotesco Mall in Commonwealth, Quezon City. PRC and GMAKF have been partners for 21 years since 1996 and conducts blood donation drives twice a year. Last years' drives yielded a total of 4,841 units of blood.

GMA Kapuso Foundation is one of the recipients of the Philippine Red Cross' "Outstanding Blood Services Partner of the Year for 2016" award given during PRC's Blood Donors Recognition Ceremony held last year.

"We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to GMA Network and to GMA Kapuso Foundation for supporting our advocacy for voluntary blood donation through their long time annual blood donation drives nationwide. Through these activities, we are able to promote the importance of blood donation as an act of volunteerism," said PRC Chairman Richard Gordon.

Philippines Red Cross steps up humanitarian efforts for quake victim in Surigao City

From: <http://www.redcross.org.ph/press/news/philippine-red-cross-steps-up-humanitarian-efforts-for-quake-victims-in-surigao-city>

#SURIGAOQUAKE

PHILIPPINE RED CROSS ACTIONS TAKEN

- 25 UNITS OF BLOOD SHIPPED
- AMBULANCES DEPLOYED (AGUSAN DEL SUR AND AGUSAN DEL NORTE)
- ASSESSMENT TEAM
- WATER TREATMENT & BLADDER
- SET UP OF FAMILY TENTS (PRIORITIZING CHILDREN, PWD, PREGNANT WOMEN, INFANT)
- SET UP OF WELFARE DESKS (CARAGA REGIONAL HOSPITAL)
- PROVIDED PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
- BLOOD PRESSURE CONSULTATION

PHILIPPINE RED CROSS

phredcross @philredcross www.redcross.org.ph

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) emergency responders and medical teams are stepping up efforts to help the people of Surigao City after a magnitude 6.7 earthquake shook the province.

PRC Chairman and CEO Richard Gordon said the Red Cross has already sent assistance to the families and communities affected by the earthquake.

“Our sympathy goes out to Surigao City. During these tough times, we assure that aid and proper responses are delivered immediately. We have dispatched two ambulances, water tanker, 6 water bladders, 4 generator sets, 2 onion tanks and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) equipment to augment the lack of water supply and electricity. Additional PRC Assessment and Operation Teams from nearest Chapters have been deployed, along with immediate relief supplies. Our teams in the nearby provinces are all on standby in case more manpower is needed,” said Gordon.

Based on initial reports, more than 300 houses were damaged and some 100 people were injured after the full impact of the earthquake Friday evening. Most of the patients attended to by PRC volunteers suffered high blood pressure, difficulty of breathing, abrasion and other minor injuries.

According to the PRC Operations Center, health, first aid and welfare staff and volunteers from nearby provinces were immediately deployed to assess the area and help the affected families. In response, PRC Surigao del Norte chapter has provided First Aid to injured patients, has set up five family tents for children, lactating mothers, senior citizens and persons with disability. The local chapter also assisted in the transport of patients from Caraga hospital to other nearby DOH health facilities, set up two welfare desks and conducted psychosocial support to 15 persons in Caraga Regional Hospital.

Some 70 pcs of family tents and more than 2,000 blankets from Mandaluyong warehouse will be distributed to the families.

PRC Surigao del Norte assured that the chapter blood bank has adequate supply of blood and will readily provide blood to those in need.

To date, power supply has been restored to some barangays in Taft, Washinton, San Juan, Saluna and some portions of Surigao City. Water supply has been cut off due to damaged pipelines. Also, the collapsed Anao-aon Bridge is now passable to light vehicles only. Surigao airport's runway suffered cracks and authorities have suspended airport operations due to the damaged runway.

Surigao City is now under a state of calamity as recommended by the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC).

“This earthquake reminds us to be always on guard and prepared for any eventuality. People should have knowledge on how to survive during an earthquake to help lessen the risk of casualty,” said Gordon.

The Philippine Red Cross will continue to monitor the situation in Surigao City in order to extend further assistance and much needed help.

Youth and Volunteering

Study tour of Red Cross Youth to understand environment, agriculture and tree planting | 6 February 2017 | Cambodia

From: http://www.redcross.org.kh/news_detail.php?aid=651&lang=en

The Cambodian Red Cross youth and Red Cross Advisors, approximately 160 people, organized a trip to learn and promote knowledge about the environment and agriculture and plant trees under the theme "Youth love the environment and agriculture" in the farm land of Rithy Kiri Senmonorom located in Samrong Choeng, Sen Dei Commune, Samrong Tong District, Kampong Spue Province.

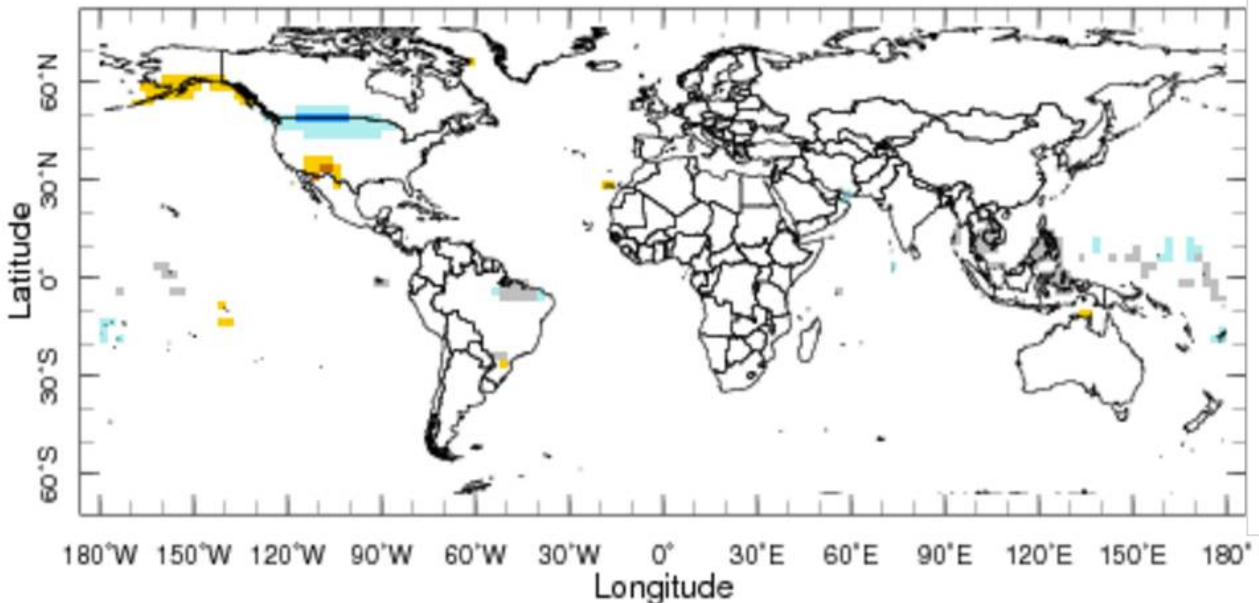
The study tour was led by His Excellency Sam Kosal, Director of CRC Human Resources, joined by staff from CRC headquarters and branches, youth advisors and youth. The aim of the study tour is to provide opportunities for Red Cross Youth to learn and promote the awareness of agriculture, irrigation and the environment in the local

communities to link youth with the communities.



Weather Forecast

Forecast for Mar-May 2017, Forecast Issued Feb 2017



Meteorological agency in the respective South-East Asian countries:
[Brunei](#) | [Darussalam](#) | [Cambodia](#) | [Indonesia](#) | [Laos](#) | [Malaysia](#) | [Myanmar](#) | [Philippines](#) | [Singapore](#) | [Thailand](#) | [Timor-Leste](#) | [Vietnam](#)

Source:
[IFRC IRI's weather forecast March to May 2017](#)

Weather Forecast

See [weather forecast for Brunei](#)

See [weather forecast for Cambodia](#)

See [weather forecast for Indonesia](#)

See [weather forecast for Lao PDR](#)

See [weather forecast for Malaysia](#)

See [weather forecast for Myanmar](#)

See [weather forecast for the Philippines](#)

See [weather forecast for Singapore](#)

See [3-month weather forecast \(March-May 2017\) for Thailand](#)

See [weather forecast for Timor-Leste](#)

See [weather forecast for Vietnam](#)

Featured Videos

IFRC and MTV launch



IFRC and MTV launch “Sharif’s Story” about the protection of children on the move.

» [Click here to watch](#)

“We are International Federation”



The world’s largest humanitarian network has 190 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 17 million volunteers. Together, we are the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

IFRC works to strengthen and accompany National Societies, so that they may better address current and future challenges. We support coordination of the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network before, during and after disasters and crises. Together, we reach more than 160 million people with life-saving and life-changing support annually.

» [Click here to watch](#)

Upcoming Events

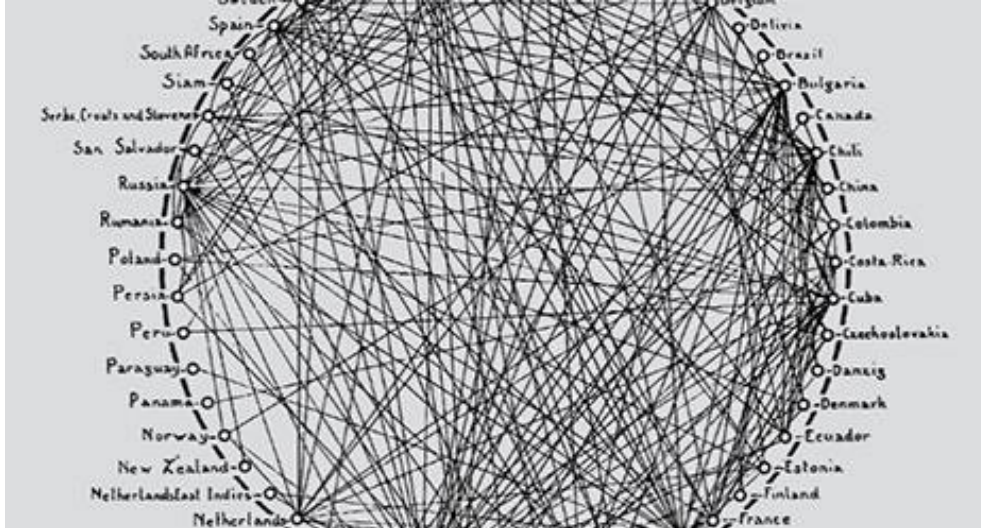
» See the details of some upcoming events below at <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/events/>

Upcoming events for March to May 2017

March	13-17	Workshop on communications and campaign strategies for National Blood Transfusion Centre	Bangkok
	13-18	Indonesian Red Cross training of data collectors on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)	Jakarta, Indonesia
	14-16	International Training in Hanoi on the whole methodology (participatory data gathering and QGIS mapping)	Viet Nam
	13-17	National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) Training for Thai Red Cross	Thailand
	21-23	International Workshop on QGIS for mapping tool and data collection	Vietnam
	22-24	Youth Empowerment Programme in social inclusion	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	27-31	National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) Trainings with a focus on gender and diversity	Lao PDR
	March-May	Disaster Law/Climate Change Adaptation law regional consultation (North, Central and South)	Lao PDR
	TBC	Training on Project Evaluation	Bangkok, Thailand
	TBC	Provincial Disaster Law dissemination workshops	Cambodia
	TBC	Radio training	Vientiane, Lao PDR
April	3-7	ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) meeting	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	3-7	ASEAN Humanitarian Civil - Military Coordination Workshop 2017	Thailand
	3-9	Lao Red Cross training of data collectors on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	4	Regional Resilience Initiative (RRI) Steering Committee meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
	18-20	Community Safety and Resilience Forum	Malaysia
	17-21	National Training on Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE) toolkit and key messages	
	TBC	Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) training of data collectors on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)	Jakarta, Indonesia
May	TBC	Wider Stakeholder Consultation on Disaster and Climate Change Law	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	TBC	Regional learning vent / training on Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)	TBC
	TBC	Lao-Thai cross-border cooperation meeting	TBC
	TBC	Viet Nam Red Cross Society's 5-year WASH framework	Viet Nam
	TBC	Regional field session on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) with a Gender & Diversity lens	Thailand

Global News

IFRC databank offers comprehensive look at Red Cross Red Crescent reach worldwide



From: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/international/ifrc-databank-offers-comprehensive-look-at-red-cross-red-crescent-reach-worldwide-73834/>

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has launched [a new digital platform](#) that shares information and data on the humanitarian work of its 190 member National Societies around the world.

This redesigned databank includes information from 2012 through 2015, based on reporting from each National Society.

“The databank represents a formidable effort to compile and quantify the collective and individual contributions of our membership to national, regional and global work to tackle humanitarian crises, build capacity, strengthen preparedness and further human development,” says Elhadj As Sy, IFRC Secretary General. “Improved information-sharing is at the core of our mission to enhance our membership’s accountability and promote transparency.”

Data from 2015 indicates that Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers and staff reached more than 309 million people with varied assistance, a significant increase from 2014, during which 240 million people benefited from Red Cross and Red Crescent services. The largest jump was in people reached through long-term and development programmes, which may reflect the IFRC’s increasing focus on risk reduction, emergency preparedness and community resilience.

The Tanzanian Red Cross saw in 2015 the largest increase of people reached through non-emergency assistance as a result of a major nation-wide distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention. The Central African Red Cross also reported a steep increase in people reached that year due to an extensive malaria, tuberculosis and HIV-prevention programme that was successfully rolled out by community volunteers, even in the midst of violent conflict.

The Nepal Red Cross reported a significant increase in beneficiaries due to its large-scale emergency response to the devastating earthquake in 2015, while the Nigerian Red Cross saw a significant expansion of its emergency work aiding uprooted people in the country’s turbulent north.

Red Cross and Red Crescent programmes and services in 2015 were carried out by more than 14 million active volunteers and nearly 450,000 staff. In recent years, there were around 17 million Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers globally—a number that fluctuates annually depending on the scale and number of disasters and crises.

“Collecting, tallying, verifying, harmonizing, analysing and presenting data from 190 independent organizations with varied monitoring and reporting systems is a complex process, with data quality improving every year,” says Rania Alerksoussi, an IFRC specialist who coordinates the initiative. “Nevertheless, this databank is the most comprehensive accounting of the network’s resources and reach to date and provides a tangible illustration of our work with vulnerable communities around the world.”

» See IFRC’s federation-wide databank [here](#)

Red Cross respond as Mongolian herders struggle to survive winter Dzud amidst rising livestock deaths

From: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/asia-pacific/mongolia/red-cross-respond-as-mongolian-herders-struggle-to-survive-winter-dzud-amidst-rising-livestock-deaths-73857/>



Mongolian herder Munkhbat Bazarragchaa dragging two recently perished sheeps to a pile of dead animals behind his Ger in northern Mongolia. Mr. Bazarragchaa has already lost ten of his animals due to starvation and cold.

Severe winter conditions in Mongolia, known as *Dzud*, are threatening the livelihoods of thousands of Mongolian herders in eastern and northern parts of the country. *Dzud* is caused by the twin impacts of drought in the summer, resulting in insufficient grass in pastures and low production of hay, and harsh conditions in the winter, including heavy snowfall and extremely low temperatures.

More than 157,000 people are affected across 17 of Mongolia’s 21 provinces. Livestock deaths have risen in recent weeks and according to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), by 7 February over 46,000 animals had perished from

starvation and cold.

Today the IFRC launched an [International Emergency Appeal](#) to support the Mongolian Red Cross who are responding to the crisis in four of the worst-affected provinces - Uvs, Zavkhan, Khuvsgul and Selenge. The IFRC appeal aims to raise 655,500 Swiss francs (Euros 614,000 Euros, USD 654,000) to target assistance at more than 11,000 people considered to be most at risk.

Herder Uranchimeg Terbish, from Khuvsgul province has already lost dozens of her animals due to starvation and cold.

“*Dzud* is impacting almost all the herders in this region. Winter started early and we had heavy snowfall already in November. Since January, I’ve lost 22 cattle and around 30 goats and sheep”, she says.

Uranchimeg Terbish is afraid she will lose even more animals if the cold weather persists in the coming months.

“Most of my livestock are already weak and exhausted. In the spring, when the animals start to give birth, they become even more vulnerable. I don’t have enough hay and fodder to feed them and keep them alive”, she explains.

Under the IFRC appeal, each family will receive an unconditional cash grant of 245,000 Mongolian Tugrik (100 Swiss francs) to be used to purchase food, clothing, fodder for their livestock, or for any other priority they see fit. The appeal will also support a range of health interventions and initiatives designed to prepare herder communities against future *Dzuds*.

“Livestock is the only source of food, transport and income for almost half of the Mongolian population and we have to act now to help herders survive over the coming months”, explains Madame Nordov Bolormaa, Secretary General of the Mongolian Red Cross.

This is the second successive year in a row that Mongolia is experiencing *Dzud*. Last year's disaster caused the death of over one million animals.

"We are concerned that we will see a repeat of last year when many herders sold their animals while they were still alive and oversupply of livestock resulted in very low market prices", explains Gwendolyn Pang, Head of the IFRC's Country Cluster Support Team in Beijing.

"Families with fewer animals to sell are particularly vulnerable. Many will lose their livelihoods and will have no choice but to migrate to slum areas on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar and other urban centres where they will face great social and economic hardship".

For more information, follow IFRC Asia-Pacific on Twitter @IFRCAsiaPacific

» **Donate online at** <https://www.ammado.com/community/192786/donate>

Global Gender and Diversity Network Meeting | 21-22 February 2017 | Oslo, Norway

From: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/global-gender-and-diversity-network-meeting-21-22-march-2017-oslo-norway/>

This workshop was aimed at presenting the results and recommendations of the Gender and Diversity (G&D) scoping study conducted during the period September–December 2016. It also provided a forum for us as members to set a clear direction and agenda for, and to determine the optimal way to providing technical support on gender and diversity and addressing sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement for 2017 and beyond.

IFRC joins Global Partnership to End Violence against Children

Every five minutes, a child dies as a result of violence. An estimated 120 million girls and 73 million boys have been victims of sexual violence, and almost one billion children are subjected to physical punishment on a regular basis. IFRC joins [**Global Partnership to End Violence against Children**](#)

Publications

Infographic: Resilient Communities in Myanmar



This infographic, entitled Resilient Communities in Myanmar, features the results and photographs of the community-based health and resilience projects, including livelihoods support, disaster mitigation and trainings. One project were conducted in the Dry Zone and the other in Kayin State in Myanmar.

You can follow the projects' ongoing works on Facebook at the [Building Resilient Communities Facebook page](#).

» [Click here to download](#)

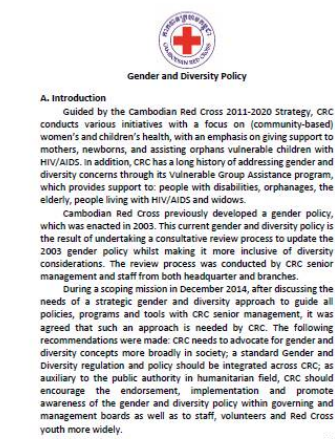
South East Asian Youth Network Newsletter, Issue 6, February 2017



This newsletter features updates in December 2016 to February 2017 of the activities of South East Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) conducted in the South East Asian countries.

» [Click here to download](#)

Cambodian Red Cross Gender and Diversity Policy



Cambodian Red Cross Society previously developed a gender policy, which was enacted in 2003. This current gender and diversity policy is the result of undertaking a consultative review process to update the 2003 gender policy whilst making it more inclusive of diversity considerations. The review process was conducted by CRC senior management and staff from both headquarter and branches.

This policy (in Khmer and English) establishes the basis for the Cambodian Red Cross to ensure that the gender and diversity differences are taken into account and systematically addressed in relation to core areas as defined in CRC Strategy 2011 – 2020, such as disaster management, health and health care in the community, promotion of the movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values, and organizational development and resource development.

» [Click here to download](#)