
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

EVENT EVALUATION

National Dissemination Workshop on Disaster Management Law

On 02/02/2017 at CRC/NHQ

National Society

In 2015, a major milestone took place with the signing of a new national disaster management law in Cambodia. The adoption of the new law emphasized the country's commitment toward strengthening and regulating disaster risk management across its territory. The new law contains a chapter on international assistance and cooperation, based on recommendations contained in the 'Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance' (also known as the 'IDRL Guidelines'), as recommended by Cambodia Red Cross and IFRC. This includes a commitment that the state will bear all taxes and duties imposed on humanitarian assistance in an emergency, and provides for the granting of special visas for the entry of relief personnel. In addition to a strong focus on response, the law calls for the integration of disaster risk reduction measures into development planning, and mandates Cambodia's National Committee for Disaster Management to issue guidelines on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Cambodia now joins the ranks of fellow countries in the region that have developed national disaster management laws.

Cambodia Red Cross is partnering with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) to support the implementation and dissemination of the new law, in their role as auxiliary to the national authorities in the humanitarian field. CRC and NCDM held a joint national level dissemination, and are planning a series of joint sub-national dissemination workshops to familiarise key stakeholders with the main components of the new law, and what this means for disaster management in Cambodia.

Objectives

The National Dissemination Workshop, and subsequent sub-national dissemination workshops is seeking to strengthen public awareness on the new disaster management law and increase understanding and cooperation in the implementation of the law and its relevant components. This includes implementation and cooperation in relation to risk reduction (also in accordance with Cambodia's National Strategic Plan for DRR), preparedness for response and recovery as well as the awareness on climate change adaptation at national and sub-national levels. The dissemination workshops will familiarize participants with the most relevant components of the 2015 Disaster Management Law, especially with regard to roles, rights and responsibilities. The dissemination will also serve to reinforce and highlight the role of Cambodia Red Cross as a key community-based actor and partner of NCDM and the PCDMs. Furthermore, there is a strong interest from INGOs working in the country for a systematic training package which they could utilize in their own dissemination. CRC has consented to share materials with JAG/HRF for their use, which further solidifies CRC's key value add in Disaster Law and dissemination. The dissemination process has included one event at the national level and will contain three at the sub-national level.

Expected result and measurements for success

The National Workshop and subsequent sub-national workshops are expected to:

- Promote how the importance of the Disaster Management Law and how it can support the emergency services, the Cambodian Red Cross, humanitarian agencies and the communities that they serve.
- Strengthen relations between government institutions, UN agencies, Cambodian Red Cross and other humanitarian agencies.

- Promote and raise awareness of the Disaster Management Law to key focal persons at national, provincial and Red Cross branches to carry out relief operations on time, and to improve accountability and effectiveness.
- To highlight links between the disaster management law and the national strategy for disaster risk reduction

Activities and Achievements of the National Dissemination Workshop on Disaster Management Law

** All materials, including powerpoint presentations, handouts and feedback forms, prepared by CRC and IFRC, can be accessed via this link on IFRC's online library website: <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/national-disaster-law-dissemination-2-february-2017-cambodia/>

Opening Remarks

Ms. Pum Chantinie, Secretary General of the Cambodian Red Cross, welcomed the NCDM, UNDP, IFRC, ICRC, JAG/HRF representatives and all participants who were attending in the workshop. Ms. Pum Chantinie's initial remarks highlighted the vital role of the Cambodian Red Cross as auxiliary to the public authorities (government) within the humanitarian field, which includes disaster management, health care promotion, promotion of humanitarian values and organizational development.

Secondly, Ms. Pum Chantinie highlighted the natural hazards and disaster risks that Southeast Asian countries face today, including seasonal floods, flash-floods, thunder-storms and drought. Ms. Pum Chantinie emphasized that it is those most vulnerable in the communities that are most significantly affected by these disasters, particularly women and children. Cambodia is considered one of the world's most vulnerable to natural disasters and ranks 9th in the 2016 UN University World Risk Index. Ms. Pum Chantinie's also provided some insight into the development of the Disaster Management law, and its alignment to global and regional commitments. The technical and funding support provided by IFRC enabled several consultative meetings and workshops with stakeholders from Cambodian Red Cross, NCDM, UNDP to inform the development of the draft of Disaster Management Law, which then underwent through several rounds of reviews and inputs from relevant Ministries and Institutions. Finally, Disaster Management Law was passed by the King of Cambodia on 10 July 2015.

Ms. Pum Chantinie lastly encouraged all participants to continue to disseminate Disaster Management Law to Red Cross staff, volunteers, youth networks as well as community members and local public authorities. In addition, Ms. Pum Chantinie acknowledged the technical support provided by NCDM in the facilitation of the workshop, and thanked the IFRC for providing the technical and financial supports to enabled the National Dissemination Workshop and other three sub-national workshops.

Presentations

1. NCDM: ASEAN on Disaster Management

Prak Kim Hong, Director of Emergency Coordinating Center and ASEAN Affairs (Director General) at NCDM presented an overview of ASEAN on Disaster Management, the presentation included an overview of the most significant disasters to have impacted ASEAN member states, the modalities of the disaster response, and lessons learned.

- Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004)
- Cyclone Nargis (2008)

- Typhoon Haiyan (2013)

It went on to explore the various aspects of the ASEAN cooperation framework including:

- AADMER, signed in July 2005 by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, ratified by all ten Member States of ASEAN and entered into force on 24 December 2009, includes commitments to:
 - Risk Identification, Assessment & Monitoring
 - Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
 - Disaster Preparedness
 - Emergency Response
 - Rehabilitation
 - Technical Cooperation & Scientific Research
 - Establishing the AHA Centre
- The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM), the main body under the AADMER, reporting to the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM)
- The ADMER Work Programme 2016-2020 includes:
 1. Risk Assessment and Awareness
 2. Prevention and Mitigation
 3. Preparedness and Response
 4. Recovery
 5. Knowledge and Innovation Management
 6. Building Blocks Integrate
- The AHA center: which has responded to a total of 15 disasters in 6 countries across the region, and provided preparedness and assessment on another four (4) occasions.

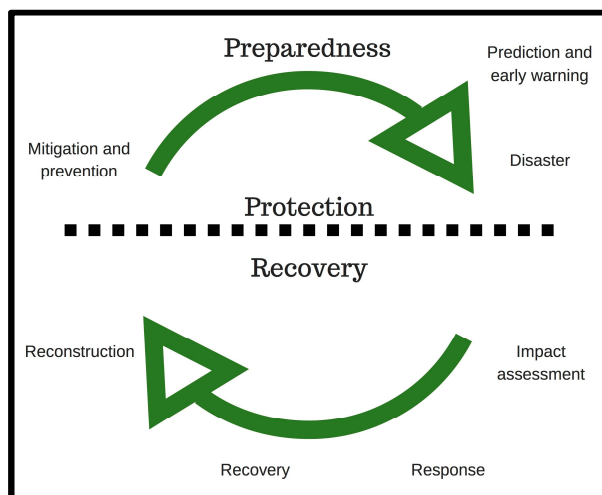
2. NCDM: The passage of the Law on Disaster Management 2015

His Excellency Mr. Ma Norith, Senior Minister National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) gave a presentation outlining the rigorous consultative process that the Law on Disaster Management underwent in various stages of drafting. It was highlighted that this law has been 7 years in the making due to its continuous review and improvement.

3. CRC: Disaster Management Law

Dr. Sam Onn, Deputy Director of the Disaster Management Department at Cambodian Red Cross gave a presentation on the 2015 Disaster Management Law, including general provisions, roles and responsibilities of government, CRC, IFRC, UN agencies and I/NGOs from national to sub-national levels, facilitation of international assistance etc.

Chapters	Articles
1. General Provision	5 articles
2. Disaster Management Mechanism	4 articles
3. Disaster Management Framework	4 articles
4. Governance	14 articles
5. International Cooperation and Assistance	7 articles
6. Right and Obligation	3 articles
7. Resource and Fund	2 articles
8. Legal Penalties	6 articles
9. Transitional Provision	1 article
10. Final Provision	2 articles



Article 2

This law has the following goals:

- Prevention, adaptation and mitigation in the pre-disaster period, due to natural or human-made causes
- Emergency response during the disaster.
- Recovery in the post-disaster period.

The Disaster Management Law outlines provisions which align with the various stages of the disaster risk management cycle, including prevention and mitigation to be carried out before disaster, preparedness before disaster, response during and recovery following a disaster.

4. JAG: Joint Action Group

Joint Action Group (JAG) presented on the nature of their role in Disaster Management as a consortium of humanitarian organizations working especially with disaster risk reduction. JAG has a permanent membership of 17 different NGOs and agencies, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, IFRC and CRC are observer members.

Key activities:

1. Early warning
2. Collecting and sharing information
3. Implement School Safety
4. Coordination meeting with NCDM
5. Conduct DM training at sub-national levels
6. Assist to develop the contingency plan at provincial level and simulation exercise
7. Drought Monitoring

5. HRF: Humanitarian Response Forum

HRF provided an overview of their role in Cambodian disaster risk management. The objective of the HRF is to ensure sound coordination and communication on emergency preparedness, and humanitarian response in Cambodia between the UN and I/NGOs, and Government.

HRF further outlined the HRF's plans for 2017 and beyond, including:

- **CamREx 2017** is planned to include Provincial and National Simulation Exercises.
- **PCDM Contingency Plans:** HRF intends to assist PCDMs to develop the Contingency Plans they are required to make under DM Law - Article 17
- **Rapid Assessment ToT:** Continue the Training of Trainers programme in collaboration with CHF and Sub-National NCDM in the use of the Rapid Assessment tools (Key Informant and Focus Group Discussion questionnaires)
- **3Ws:** Ongoing mapping of the current activities of organizations, and the planned Emergency Response activities, in order to avoid gaps and duplication

- **Evacuation Site / Safe Area Survey:** HRF will continue to support and consolidate the mapping of Safe Areas to improve emergency response.

6. Know your Rights, Roles and Responsibilities in Disaster Management

Julia Hartelius, Regional Disaster Law and Advocacy Officer from the IFRC Disaster Law Programme, presented an overview of the key provisions in the 2015 Law on Disaster Management outlining rights, roles and responsibilities for individuals. These provisions make up an importance component of the community-level dissemination, as a law must be made relevant to those people it affects. In order to have a resilient Cambodia, community members should be made aware of their rights, roles and responsibilities in community-level disaster management, and most importantly be made aware *how* to exercise these rights and *how* to engage in local disaster risk management. These rights roles and responsibilities are captures in Chapter 6, articles 35-37, as well as article 44, and aligns with Cambodia's constitutional rights ensured in articles 31-32 and 41.

7. Walk through Scenario

In this section, Mr Sam Ang of the Disaster Management Department at Cambodia Red Cross, walked through a hypothetical scenario that relates to common natural hazards and disaster risks that often impact Cambodia. In this instance the example of flooding occurring across several provinces was used. The scenario looks at an ideal scenario and the application of the 2015 law.

The participants were then divided into groups and allocated one of the following questions to consider:

1. In your experience, is this what happens during a disaster? What is your experience? Discuss each stage of the disaster management cycle.
2. What do you think are the biggest challenges in a disaster response? Where in the disaster management circle?
3. What can be improved in practice through the provisions of the law?
4. What do you think is needed for the scenario to happen as is described?
5. What can you do in your work to apply the law and improve disaster management?

The reflections of the participants were then discussed in plenary.

Closing Remarks

By Secretary General of the CRC

Firstly, Ms. Pum Chantinie acknowledged the engagement and support of the IFRC, ICRC representatives, facilitators and participants. Secondly, Ms. Pum Chantinie further highlighted the importance of CRC/NHQ and 25 Red Cross Branches to be part of the Disaster Management Law dissemination and engage the CRC network (Red Cross Volunteers and Red Youth) as well as stakeholders in the communities. Ms. Pum Chantinie stated that she strongly believes that after this workshop, all participants will continue to disseminate this DM law to local authority as well as to CRC's networks. Finally, she thanked IFRC for providing technical and financial support to organize this workshop and other three regional workshops.

Handouts

Materials developed for the National Workshop, which will be translated and adapted as required for the three (3) subsequent sub-national workshops includes:

- Pamphlet: Cambodia Disaster Management Framework
- Pamphlet: Know your rights, roles and responsibilities in disaster management

- Walkthrough scenario visual
- Feedback form

All materials have been translated and are annexed to this report.

Media Coverage

The workshop activities were broadcasted through the two different channels namely CNC (TVK) and Cable TV Red Cross channels.

Government Involvement

The facilitators were invited from the National Committee for Disaster Management, to present overview of ASEAN on Disaster Management and talking the development process of the Disaster Management Law. 15 Provincial Committee for Disaster Management representatives (PCDM) participated in the workshop.

Partner Involvement

UNDP representative, IFRC, ICR.C representative, Danish Red Cross Representative, JAG and HRF representatives

ASEAN Involvement:

N/A

Social Media

Broadly public dissemination of this workshop activity through the two different of TV channels namely CNC TV and Cable TV Red Cross channels. The facilitators and participants posted the pictures of this workshop in their respective Facebook accounts and web-site of Cambodian Red Cross, www.redcross.org.kh, as well.

Gender of Participants

The total participants were 65 persons (15 females) which include from 25 Red Cross Branches Directors and 15 Provincial Committee for Disaster Management representatives (PCDM) and CRC-NHQ (Department Directors, Head of Sub-Department and Program Managers).


Other Information

For coming year 2017, the Cambodian Red Cross is expecting to get addition fund from RRI to continue to develop the Gender & Diversity mainstreaming frame work into CRC's core area.

Photographs & Stories



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Feedback from participants

At closing, the participants were presented with feedback forms, seeking reflections on the workshop and whether it was meeting its objectives. Participants were satisfied with the workshop preparation and they stated that they had learnt new topics on the global and regional framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, especially on the ASEAN commitment to work on Disaster Response such AADMER, ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE and Disaster Management Cycles (R4). Most participants noted that all PowerPoint presentations should be translated to Khmer, and requested facilitators elaborate on the abbreviations for the global and regional framework on Disaster Management.

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