

# CONCEPT NOTE

RCRC Participation in the 2016 ACE Programme / **Bangkok** / March 2016

## 1. Introduction

The AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme aims to provide capacity building for professionals from National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) of ASEAN Member States who wish to pursue a career in disaster management (*see programme brochure attached in Annex 1*). It gives select group of NMDO staff the opportunity to further develop their professional knowledge, skills and experience in regional cooperation on disaster management by exposing them to various settings in which they work with and learn from key partners including the United Nations and other international organizations such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC). The programme also serves as a platform to develop strong inter-governmental network in order to strengthen regional cooperation. Funded by the Japanese Government, the programme seeks to generate a pool of disaster management champions across ASEAN. ACE Programme was carried out successfully in 2014 and 2015, with different sessions held in Indonesia, New Zealand and Japan including a substantial period based within the AHA Centre in Jakarta. A total of 29 officers have been intensively trained from around the region. The third cohort is due to start its training in March 2016.

IFRC has been identified by the AHA Centre as one of the key resource organizations for some modules of the course, given its expertise in disaster management, emergency shelter, disaster law and logistics. This recognition came up with a fruitful collaboration in 2015 in which IFRC co-facilitated a Red Cross Red Crescent [Induction course](#) held in Semarang and followed by a field visit to PMI programming in Solo and Yogyakarta. IFRC's engagement in the ACE programme is also a key component of a Joint Action Plan for cooperation that was developed in 2015 by the AHA Centre, IFRC and Red Cross Red Crescent Societies in South East Asia. In order to continue such a positive initiative and enhance the partnership, the AHA Centre is keen to have IFRC supports as well as RCRC participation in the upcoming batches.

Hence, the purpose of this concept note is to outline RCRC engagement in the 2016 ACE Programme, to be held between March and September 2016.

## 2. Scope and expected outcomes

The activities presented hereunder are designed in a spirit of mutual learning, offering opportunities to both ACE participants and NSs to increase their skills and share their experience. They shall contribute to the following expected outcome:

**1/ Enhance RCRC engagement with ASEAN in the field of Disaster Management**, through concrete collaboration with ASEAN's flagship technical entity (AHA Centre), thus demonstrating the added value of RCRC as part of the "One ASEAN One Response". This is a key strategic objective of Southeast Asia NS Leaders as well as the regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum.

**2/ Increase understanding of RCRC among ACE Programme participants: the "future DM Leaders" in the region**, thus contributing to the strategic positioning of RCRC in their auxiliary status, and in particular for the National Society at the country level. Indirectly, this should also increase the positioning of RCRC with donors and ASEAN partners.

**3/ Reinforce the linkage between NSs and their NDMO counterparts through joint capacity-building**, which – beyond providing skills to individuals – is hoped to contribute to institutional relation-building. It is envisioned that ACE Programme participants and RCRC representatives will see the value of learning from each other, which can be further developed when back in their respective countries.

## 3. Four opportunities for RCRC to share our experience and expertise with ACE Programme participants

Based on the schedule for ACE Programme 2016, there are four opportunities for IFRC and RCRC NS to provide training to the ACE Programme Participants:

### **1. Red Cross Red Crescent Induction Course in Semarang and Field Visit to Urban Area : 23-28 May 2016**

Introductory sessions on the following topics will be presented as part of an 'induction' to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. The detailed sessions plan will be developed along with identified facilitator. Trainers for these sessions will be identified primarily by and among IFRC Bangkok office and AP Regional Office, as well as PMI (Indonesian Red Cross) and other NSs from ASEAN. Topics to be included in the induction course include:

- Basic introduction on Red Cross Red Crescent Movement / fundamental principles / NS auxiliary status
- The resilience approach – integrated community based and community owned initiatives (not only DRR but the whole spectrum of community based programs....)
- Emergency Preparedness
  - o National tools
  - o Global and Regional Tools (DREF, Appeals, RDRT, ERU, FACT, RMS, BENCOMS)
- Our Approach to Emergency Response
- Early Recovery (livelihoods/cash/Shelter/WatSan.....)
- Disaster Law (in particular IDRL)
- HD/ Communications (Advocacy of humanitarian issues; use of new technologies and social media in emergency response)
- Cross-cutting issues (capacity-building, gender and diversity, Inclusiveness, migration, youths and volunteers, etc.)

A one-day field exercise will also be organized for participants to put the knowledge gained during the induction into practice. The team will also coordinate a related field visit in an urban area such as Jakarta or Bogor, with the objective to have participants interact with community members and understand how PMI builds community resilience together with local authorities.

### **2. Involvement of PMI Chapter during the field Visit to Aceh : 13-16 July 2016**

This visit aims to present concretely the projects related to Tsunami response and recovery in Aceh which were or are being implemented by partner agencies such as Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center (TDMRC) University of Syah Kuala, as well as the DRR initiatives that are now in place in the region. It will be coordinated by BNPB and the relevant local DM agencies, but AHA Centre welcomes the participation of PMI relevant Chapter (NAD) to highlight the existing response capacities (visit of warehouse, etc.), the ongoing community-based programming and – more importantly – the existing cooperation between PMI Chapter and the government counterparts at both district and province levels.

### **3. Involvement of Philippine Red Cross during the field Visit to the Philippines : 15-19 August 2016**

With the involvement of NDRRMC, UNOCHA, WFP and IOM, this visit aims to show the collaboration among NDMO, UN Agencies and IFRC during the response in Philippines and to demonstrate how to bring the lesson learned shared in the classroom into a tangible experience. The AHA Centre also expects IFRC/PRC to introduce the community in Tacloban and in Bohol and also to present the Philippine Red Cross representatives in Manila. Besides, it will also be interesting to organize a Leader Talk session with a prominent leader representing IFRC in Manila.

### **4. Contribution to the humanitarian logistics training planned in Subang (Malaysia), under the leadership of WFP : 01-05 and 08-12 August 2016**

This part is to be negotiated with WFP and AHA Centre based on time available. There could be a chance to take the participants to the IFRC warehouse in KL and hold additional logistics sessions at time, based on the 2014 experience (led by AP Regional office Logistics Unit).

#### **4. RCRC National Societies sending trainees to selected modules of the ACE Programme**

Similar to 2015, the AHA Centre is also welcoming trainees from RCRC National Societies from SEA for selected modules. The exact number of participants and selected modules need to be further discussed, based on number of places available and interest of the National Societies. In 2015, 10 colleagues from 5 NSs benefitted from such modules.

#### **5. Budget**

Budget for the activities mentioned above has been allocated under the Regional Resilience Initiative (20 000 CHF under the cooperation with AHA Centre, including 10 000 CHF under peer-to-peer learning opportunities for NSs), of which a key outcome is to *increase cooperation and build partnerships between the Red Cross Red Crescent, ASEAN and other regional bodies*.

It is to be noted that AHA Centre has also provisioned some funding for some of the costs. More detailed discussions will be held in the coming weeks.

#### **6. Contact information**

For further information, please contact:

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