

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – July 2017



One million mangrove trees shield Indonesia's coastline from disasters. Photo by Indonesian Red Cross - PMI

Welcome to our July 2017 Southeast Asia news updates. In addition to these monthly updates we send to you every month, you could also find Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent's resources, tools, events and updates at Resilience Library at <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org>.

Thematic Updates from Southeast Asia

Disaster Law

Indonesia: A Regional Leader on Disaster Law

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/disaster-law/indonesia-a-regional-leader-on-disaster-law/>

It was the experiences of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami that helped give shape to the IFRC Disaster Law Programme and was one of the main triggers for recognizing the importance of having clear rules in place for coordinating and managing foreign disaster assistance globally. This also gave rise to Indonesia's own Disaster

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Management Law of 2007, which is considered one of the better examples of disaster risk management legislation in the region. Furthermore, Indonesia is one of the few countries that have formally created a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the 'Planas-PRB'. *Palang Merah Indonesia* (PMI), the Red Cross Society of Indonesia and IFRC are active members of this platform and have recently been discussing how to work together and contribute to potential revisions of the Disaster Management Law as well as their ongoing contribution to Indonesia's National Disaster Response Framework which is currently under development.

In preparation for this, Red Cross will be conducting research on integrating disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and spatial policy in Indonesia. The research forms part of the recommendations of the recent report [Strengthening Law and DRR in Indonesia: Checklist Assessment Report](#) launched by PMI and IFRC last year. The report used the "Checklist on Law and DRR" to evaluate the strengths and opportunities of the Indonesian legal framework on the subject. The new research will be taken forward under the *Partners for Resilience*, a coalition advocating for integrated risk management as an approach towards building resilience of which PMI is an active member.



Representatives of IFRC and PMI

Whilst in Jakarta, IFRC took the opportunity to meet with the ASEAN Secretariat to discuss the current partnership on a disaster law mapping initiative in South East Asian. This mapping is exploring the institutionalization of preparedness and response provisions in the *ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)* in domestic law and policy in ASEAN Countries. As part of this research, a consultation is proposed next month with government and National Society representatives from across the region.

The disaster law mapping research forms part of the cross-cutting strategy of institutionalizing the AADMER, considered as one of the six buildings blocks of the AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020. It seeks to contribute to Priority Programme 3 on Advance by "strengthening institutional capacity and policy frameworks for effective implementation of DRR and CCA actions."

IFRC looks forward to its continued engagement with ASEAN and Indonesia on disaster law initiatives. The positive momentum and leadership demonstrated by the Government for Indonesia and its National Society, PMI, continues to inspire the disaster law team and serve as a model of good practice globally.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Building Urban Resilience in Southeast Asia (ECHO funded)

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/disaster-risk-reduction/urban-disaster-risk-reduction/building-urban-resilience-in-southeast-asia-project/#1502082976993-080f4e9a-651b>

At Regional Level: The **3rd Regional Coordination Meeting** hosted by Lao Red Cross in Vientiane, Laos from 11-12 July. The meeting brought all partners of Lao RC, Finnish RC, Spanish RC, German RC and IFRC together to review the project progress and future planning as well as challenges faced vs. solutions. In addition, the meeting has agreed to work on three case studies which are in line with the following themes (i) School Safety; (ii) Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE); (iii) Behavior Change Communication for DRR; and (iv) Innovative GIS-DPR mapping method. At the end of the meeting, a first draft of case study on PAPE was sketched and additional information as well as its impacts need to be captured during and after PAPE campaigns in all targeted communities. The meeting suggested that a request for extension of two months is needed to

enable national societies as well as IFRC to complete all activities. As a result, the IFRC has submitted the request to ECHO and it has been approved for ONE month extension till the end of December 2017.

Regional Forum on “**Demystifying of the Global Agenda Frameworks into Practice**” will take place from 29-30 August 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand. The 2-day Forum aims to identify the challenges, linkages, and potential key entry points for integrating the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement on Climate Change Adaptation, and the World Humanitarian Summit towards achieving a common goal of making communities resilient to disaster and climate risks in the Asia-Pacific region. For further details, refer to the link <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/demystifying-the-global-agenda-frameworks-into-practice/>

In Laos: Lao RC has conducted a 3-day Youth in School Safety (YSS) training of facilitators from 25-27 July to further enhance the student’s facilitation skills and VCA assessment to come up with needs based mitigation measures. The training attended by 20 participants attended the training. They had a two-day practice and conducted one-day programme in five targeted schools. For more information see the [Lao Red Cross Youth in School Safety Facilitators Training](#) section below.

In the Philippines:



Emergency First Aid Training for BERT “Batang Emergency Reponse Team”, a refresher course in Carlos L. Albert High School last July 12, 2017. Photo by Philippine Red Cross.



Students from Bagong Silangan ES demonstrating the proper handwashing techniques held last July 7, 2017 at the school. Photo by Philippine Red Cross.

Result 1: Children and youth are more resilient to disasters and have a safe and secure learning environment in 8 urban public schools in The Philippines, through improved Red Cross contributions to the ASEAN Safe School Initiative (ASSI).

- A Leadership Development Program was conducted in Pres. Corazon C. Aquino Elementary School (Batasan Hills) in coordination with the chapter Red Cross Youth, with 26 male and 30 female for total attendees of 56 attendees.
- Newly recruited School Batang Emergency Response team in Carlos L. Albert High School (Brgy Doña Imelda) conducted refresher course on Junior First Aid held last July 11-14 with 25 male and 47 female for a total of 72 attendees.
- During the month of July, 4 sessions of hygiene promotion and proper hand washing were conducted, and 1 session of hygiene Promotion and HIV Aids prevention education, and 1 session of hygiene promotion and DRR. The sessions were conducted in Brgy Bagong Silangan and Brgy Batasan Hills.
- VCA process was completed for Bagong Silangan Elementary School (Brgy. Bagong Silangan) and Pres. Corazon C. Aquino Elementary School (Brgy. Batasan Hills). Bagong Silangan ES presented the VCA result to their school teaching personnel. Bagong Silangan HS, Batasan Hills National High School, Betty-go Belmonte Elementary School, Carlos L. Albert HS, Dr. Josefa Jara HS and Diosdado P. Macapagal Elementary School completed the fifth step (reporting).
- An orientation on School DRRM Manual was conducted in coordination with the School Divisions Office of Quezon City at the Interactive Center, Quezon City Science HS. Two representatives from each target schools were invited as well as one representative from all elementary and high schools in Quezon City.

- In identifying and setting up school early warning system, discussions were held in each school and proposals were submitted to PRC. While for the provision of first aid kits and minor equipment for training, drills, and simulation exercises, the purchase order is ongoing, the distribution of which is expected by August 2017.
- Distribution of workbooks and poster was held in Betty-go Belmonte Elementary School, Carlos L. Albert High School, Dr. Josefa Jara High School and Diosdado Macapagal Elementary School.

Result 2 – Innovative PAPE for disaster risk reduction, targeting specific vulnerable group brings about positive, safer behavior, improved preparedness and social change in 15 at – risk urban and pre – urban areas in four countries. A consultation session regarding the PAPE workshop outcome was conducted in all Brgys to validate the results and come up with an action plan on the implementation of PAPE in each community. Participants were Brgy officials and representative from different sector such as Persons with Disability, elderly and youth.

Result 3 - Increased capacity of local government authorities and Red Cross for disaster preparedness and response in 4 Brgys in Quezon City, The Philippines. After the City Level QGIS Training last April, a re-echo workshop was conducted in Brgy. Batasan Hills and in Brgy. Bagong Silangan



Distribution of workbook and posters in Carlos L. Albert High School as teaching IEC materials last July 13, 2017. Photo by Philippine Red Cross.



QGIS Re-Echo Workshop held last July 7, 2017. Brgy staff and volunteer are working on the identification of the critical infrastructures in their Brgy prior plotting it in the application. Photo by Philippine Red Cross.

Health

Cambodian Red Cross volunteers equipped in Healthy Ageing support

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/health/community-based-health-and-first-aid/healthy-ageing-programme/>



A total of 87 Red Cross volunteers were recruited and received the community based healthy ageing trainings with nine important topics including "Life-course Approach, Assessment, Behaviour Change, Preventing NCDs, Preventing Falls, Preventing Social Exclusion, Healthy Eating, Physical Activity, Lifelong Learning & Community Outreach Action Plan".

Afterwards, 2-day training courses were organized by Cambodian Red Cross headquarters and provincial branches in three targeted provinces: Prey Veng, Svay Rieng and Kampot provinces during 3-4, 5-6, and 11-12 July 2017 respectively. See the [training events](#).

Following the training, the community outreach sessions were conducted by trained red cross volunteers in 9 villages and 18 health education sessions in providing and implementing the "Healthy Ageing" intervention and health promotion including health screening, physical exercise, healthy eating and lifelong learning and meditation sessions for elderly people living in communities. The said community outreaches were implemented during 19-25 July 2017 in three targeted provinces as scheduled. See the [outreach report](#).

In total, there were about 685 elderly people or beneficiaries participating in the community based healthy ageing interventions provided. We are exploring the opportunities to implement the "Healthy Ageing Program" in Thailand and Laos and scale up in Cambodia for the next fiscal year 2018.

See the resources:

- [Healthy ageing toolkit for facilitators, volunteers and community](#)
- [Healthy ageing facilitator guide for teaching community volunteers](#)
- [Healthy ageing volunteer guide for empowering communities](#)

Gender and Diversity

Revision of the minimum standard commitments

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/document/minimum-standard-commitments-to-gender-and-diversity-in-emergency-programming-pilot-version/>



Minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming

Pilot Version

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The [IFRC Minimum Standard Commitments to Gender and Diversity in Emergency Practice \(pilot - 2015\)](#) is the key operational document for IFRC and Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies for gender and diversity. Over the past two years and through the leadership of Gender and Diversity Focal Points in Southeast Asia, the Minimum Standard Commitments have been tested at national and regional level, through mainstreaming the in VCA processes, integration in NDRT & RDRT capacity building and deployments, emergency response, gender-based violence research, sensitisation on internal protection systems such as the Code of Conduct and Child Protection policy, and linking with Community Engagement and Accountability work in the region.

From these experiences, and experiences globally, it is time to revisit the standards and see where we can improve the guidance to ensure they continue to be practical and relevant! We very much encourage and welcome your comments to this guidance note through this [google doc link](#). The guidance is split into key sectors: Health, Food Security, WASH, Emergency Shelter, Livelihoods, Non-food items and DRR, so please feel free to feedback on the sector you are most familiar with. **The deadline for comments is 15th August 2017.**

Communication and Advocacy

Audio-visual storytelling workshop to showcase community voices

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/audio-visual-storytelling-workshop-10-13-july-2017-metro-manila-the-philippines/>



Between 10 and 13 July in Metro Manila, staff and volunteers from different departments and chapters of the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) joined a participatory video workshop facilitated by IFRC's audio-visual experts. This workshop aimed at enhancing the audio-visual storytelling skills and capacities of the participants, allowing them to better advocate on behalf of the communities the Red Cross supports.

Over the course of four intensive days, participants familiarised themselves with theories and practices of audio-visual storytelling and participatory video techniques as useful tools in addressing key vulnerability issues. Through several hands-on assignments and group work, participants explored different ways of telling powerful stories, showcasing the impact of the Red Cross support and making community voices heard by the decision makers. During a field visit to one of the vulnerable communities the PRC supports, participants engaged and made videos with the community members, bringing people together and enabling them to “show and tell” their own situation, challenges and achievements.

Following the workshop, participants will be able to create films to showcase community voices, share this knowledge with their peers and inspire others on humanitarian work.

Youth and Volunteering

IFRC Youth Commission Meeting

The IFRC Youth Commission (YC) Meeting, governing body of IFRC, was held in Bangkok from June 29 to July 1, co-hosted by Thai Red Cross Society and IFRC Bangkok CCST for the first time in the Southeast Asia Region. The Thai RC hosted one-day programme for the YC members to engage with the TRC leadership, youth leaders and youth programme as a showcase of youth development in TRC. The meeting addressed the global youth agenda such as the revision of Youth Policy and Youth engagement strategy, key action plan 2017-2018 for YC members.

Youth engagement with different stakeholders

On June 22-23, IFRC attended the South-South Exchange for youth volunteering Forum hosted by UN Volunteer (UNV) and Thai International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and provided/contributed about volunteering practices from Red Cross Red Crescent societies and built a relationship and dialogue with different stakeholders including ASEAN secretariat.

As one of the outcomes, the ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP) sent the invitation to IFRC to present the volunteerism in their AYVP programme to be held in Bandung Indonesia, August 2, and one of SEAYN members, Singapore Red Cross will attend it on behalf of IFRC.

Lao Red Cross Youth in School Safety Facilitators Training

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/lao-red-cross-youth-in-school-safety-facilitators-training-25-28-july-2017-vientiane-lao-pdr/>



With the collaboration of Thai Red Cross Society Youth Bureau and IFRC Bangkok CCST, the first ever Youth in School Safety Facilitators Training was held in July 25-28 in Vientiane, Lao PDR to support the Lao Red Cross Youth in School Safety programme, under the Building Urban Resilience in Southeast Asia project.

A total of 20 participants attended the training. They had a two-day practice and conducted one-day programme in five schools targeted within Building Urban Resilience in Southeast project.

The main outcome of the programme was the action plans from each school youth and each individual facilitator's commitment for the expansion of Youth for School Safety programme. The training used [Youth in School Safety \(YSS\) Facilitator's Guide](#).

Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) Activities

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/youth-and-volunteering/southeast-asia-youth-network-seayn/>

The 18th SEAYN online meeting was held in July 21 with the attendance of 12 members from 9NSs and discussed following agenda 1) introduction of Translator Gator from UNV, 2) APYN Action plan 2017-2018, 3) SEAYN annual meeting framework, 4) NS updates such as Singapore Model International General Assembly (SMIGA) Forum, Solferino Global Forum. The SEAYN invited one guest speaker, Ms. Yulistina Riyadi, Research Associate at Pulse Lab Jakarta, a data innovation lab jointly established by the Government of Indonesia and UN, and she introduced the Translator Gator, an online web-based crowdsourcing game that launched in 11 countries including ASEAN. The minutes will follow soon.

The invitation for the 5th SEAYN annual meeting to be held in Philippines in September 4-8 was sent to Philippines Red Cross for the co-signing of the letters and will be sent to all 11 countries.

The school safety mapping exercise continued and made all analysis and completed full draft for 11 countries and sent to each respective focal people for validation.

Asia Pacific Youth Network (APYN) Meeting

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/asia-pacific-youth-network-apyn-meeting-3-6-july-2017-kuala-lumpur-malaysia/>



The APYN Meeting was held in IFRC AP office from July 3-6 aiming to review the APYN Plan of Action for 2015-2016 and to develop the Plan of Action for 2017-2018, taking into account the existing policy, strategy, and commitments such as Youth Policy (2011), Youth Engagement Strategy (2013), Beijing Call for Innovation and Beijing Youth Commitment (the regional declarations adopted during the 9th Asia Pacific Regional Conference in 2014) with the attendance of youth members from sub regional network.

Outcomes of meeting

- Identify sub regional network strength and weakness, challenges and issues, and hold an open discussion on collaboration and cooperation between four regions such as South Asia, Pacific,

Southeast Asia and East Asia.

- Consolidate the APYN plan of action 2017-2018 in aligned with the sub regional plan of action.
- Identify key youth regional agenda through the discussion, presentation and attendance of briefing from each unit of APRO and consolidate key thematic agenda which Youth can play a leading role such as migration, innovation and social inclusion with non-violence and peace.

Highlight Updates from National Societies

Brunei Darussalam

Proud moment of Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Youth



Demonstrating love and loyalty to their beloved ruler, the people of Brunei Darussalam celebrated His Majesty Sultan of Brunei Darussalam's 71st Birthday on July 15. The highlight of the celebrations was the traditional ceremonial parade to mark the birthday of the monarch. Brunei Darussalam Red Cross Youth was proudly taking part in His Majesty's ceremonial parade, where more than 1,200 other participants were also participating. While two days later Brunei Red Crescent Society personnel and volunteers were invited to the ceremony of His Majesty's birthday. For more information, contact Faizal Gurie of Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society at faizal@bruneiredcrescent.com

Cambodia

Cambodia Red Cross equips communities with a law to empower and protect them during disasters

From <http://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/2017/08/07/red-cross-equips-communities-law-empower-protect-disasters/>



Every year, millions of people in the South-East Asian region face the risk of losing their properties, belongings and even their lives to natural disasters. Having a solid plan and a law requiring the implementation of programmes and activities that reduces the impacts of disasters could help prepare communities and allow them to recover more quickly.

Recognizing this, this, and following a successful [National Workshop on Disaster Management Law](#) in

Cambodia, the Cambodia Red Cross, in partnership with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) have undertaken two sub-national workshops to strengthen the public's awareness on the 2015 Law on Disaster Management. This law, implemented by the government in Cambodia, has three key goals. The first is prevention or mitigation activities before disasters, like building safer, stronger homes that can withstand flooding. The second touches on emergency response during the disaster, while the third focuses on recovery in the post-disaster period. Encouraging the community to familiarise themselves with this law ensures greater understanding of the rights, roles and responsibilities of various actors during disasters, including the community members themselves.

On 26 July 2017, the second sub-national dissemination workshop took place at Kampot with 50 participants from nine eastern provinces ((Koh Kong, Preah Sihanouk, Takeo, Kep, Kampong Speu, Kandal, Prey Veng, Kampot and Svay Rieng). The workshop familiarized participants with the components of the law that are most relevant to them, namely their rights and their responsibilities during disasters.

“Although Cambodia is a small country, we have disaster law as a mechanism to support disaster risk management,” said Madame Pum Chantinie, Secretary General of Cambodian Red Cross during her opening remark. “As auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian sector, Cambodia Red Cross has a key role to play in disaster risk management. Outlined in Chapter Six in the law are the rights and obligations of the people of Cambodia. It is very important that each stakeholder (including the Red Cross) know their roles, rights and responsibilities and undertake their work in coordination, to avoid duplication and gaps.”

The dissemination also serves to highlight the role of Cambodia Red Cross as a key community-based actor and partner of the NCDM and Provincial Committee for Disaster Management representatives (PCDM). “Disaster law is a tool to implement more effective disaster management in Cambodia. Disasters can happen anytime, anywhere, it is crucial to have the preparedness plan in place. This is because when disaster strikes, Red Cross is there to provide relief and support,” said H.E Khun Sokha, Consultant and Director of Preparedness and Training Department of NCDM.

During the workshop, Red Cross staff from each province also practised the application of the law during a walk-through scenario on flooding across 8 provinces. This helped them to understand and identify what the next steps were in order to bring the law forward and implement it within their communities.

“Even though this law was endorsed in 2015, I just learnt about it today. So, the people in the community may not aware of it,” said Poth Sokhany, the Deputy of the Red Cross sub-branch in Lovea Em district and the gender and diversity focal point. “After the workshop, I will report the outcome to the district office and will develop a plan to disseminate the law. I will mainstream what I have learnt with the community during the monthly meeting with them.” The third and last sub-national dissemination workshop is set to be held on 10 August in Kratie province.

Increased Access of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/health/water-sanitation-and-hygiene-promotion/cambodia-wash-programme/#1502102768369-a5b62112-7faf>

The following is the update of June and July 2017 of Increased Access of WASH infrastructure in Svay Rieng, Kratie and Bantey Mean Chey provinces of Cambodia supported by IFRC and Cartier Charitable Foundation.

Kratie Province

Water scheme- shallow tube well facility:

Construction of 6 shallow tubewell (hand pump) facility at Por and Lovea villages was started in May and completed in July month. It benefitted 242 households (1280 people).

Photo: Shallow Tube well- Hand pump construction at different locations in Por and Lovea villages. Photo credit: Sana, Dareth – Cambodian Red Cross



Construction of household sanitation

Construction and completion of 89 household sanitation (462 people) through direct support. Registration of 414 supported direct households in WORLD view application by Cambodian Red Cross.

Photo: Household sanitation. Photo credit: Dareth – Cambodian Red Cross in Kratie



Red Cross Volunteers meeting on program issues and achievement: the meeting was organised to understand the issues regarding the programme and various achievement and quarterly progress of the programme.

- Accessibility of villages during the rainy season: the road is inaccessible.
- The progress of water sources construction was delayed due to rainy season.

Quarterly progress was discussed with volunteers and staff of sub provincial branch.

Joint Monitoring visit: Joint monitoring visit by Cambodian Red Cross and IFRC was conducted for programme activities and achievement on 3-5 July.

Svay Rieng province

Construction of household sanitation

Construction and completion of 132 household sanitation (658 people) through direct support. The household sanitation construction started in May and was completed in July, 2017.

The households contributed man-days for:

- Pit Construction
- Super-structure construction
- Roof construction

Photo: Household sanitation. Photo credit: Saren - Cambodian Red Cross in Svay Rieng



Operation and Maintenance training for Red Cross volunteers, staff and WASH committee members on following modules:

1. Deep Tube mechanics- How water uplift from aquifer.
2. Solar mechanics- How array charge and works for uplifting the water.
3. Component of solar pump and solar converter.
4. Maintenance requirement- Standard
5. Role of village WASH committee and nearby market availability of spare parts

Indonesia

One million mangrove trees shield Indonesia's coastline from disasters

From <https://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/2017/08/01/one-million-mangroves-shield-indonesias-coastline-disasters/>



This year, the International Mangrove Day marks an important achievement by the Indonesian Red Cross Society (Palang Merah Indonesia – PMI). Thanks to the efforts of Red Cross staff and volunteers working closely with local communities, more than one million seedlings have been planted across three counties in Indonesia including Aceh, central Java and West Nusa Tenggara, where there is a high risk of disasters such as tsunamis, floods and landslides.

“After the Indian Ocean tsunami struck our shores in 2004, it wiped away all the plants and trees. They were all gone,” said Sulaiman, a community member from Crakmong village in Aceh. “With no vegetation around our village to help reduce the temperature, we experience unusual heatwaves.

Mangrove trees provide an effective natural barrier against destructive storms and flooding, and reduces the momentum and impact of powerful waves. In Aceh, the impact of the mega disaster in 2004 cut a wide swath of destruction across the province, wrecking coastal ecosystems as well as entire villages. As a result, the region became even more exposed and vulnerable to natural and climactic disasters.

Recognising this risk, and with the aim to help build a community that is more resilient in the face of disasters, the Indonesian Red Cross, with financial support from American Red Cross and USAID, initiated a coastal risk reduction programme in 2012. With the target of planting one million mangrove seedlings, the programme aimed at protecting and rehabilitating the coastal environment and introduced alternative livelihoods for affected communities to help them cope with the impacts of climate change.

“Since 2012, we have held a series of workshops for local communities and villagers in the three provinces on how to manage mangrove seedling nurseries so that they can grow and maintain their own plantations respectively,” said Al Akbar Abubakar, the Programme Manager at the American Red Cross in Indonesia.

The Red Cross worked with experts from the Centre for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies from the Bogor Agricultural Institute to train the communities on how to plant and grow mangrove trees.

“This programme is very important to restore coastal ecosystems across Indonesia. We want to leave a green legacy and a healthy environment for our future generation,” said Sumarsono, a Disaster Management Board

Member at the Indonesian Red Cross. “I am proud to say that this achievement was the result of all the hard work of the local communities and volunteers.”

Akbar added that the alternative livelihoods have led some community members to selling local foods such as traditional sweet cakes and other food items such as syrup, jam, and honey from the mangrove plants.

Philippines

Gender and Diversity toward Red Cross quality programming

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/gender-and-diversity-organizational-assessment-workshop-17-18-july-2017-manila-philippines/>



Following its mandate of reaching and providing humanitarian service to the most vulnerable, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC), with the support of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Australian Red Cross, held a Gender and Diversity (GAD) Organizational Assessment Workshop on 17-18 July 2017 at the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) Multipurpose Hall. The two-day activity seeks to come up with valuable strategies to integrate GAD in the operations and services of the PRC.

Gender and Diversity is one of the cross cutting thematic issues that the IFRC has identified to affect the implementation of a project especially in a humanitarian organization such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The IFRC developed a GAD Strategic Framework to guarantee that Red Cross programs are not gender biased i.e. having equal allocation of resources, opportunities and services to everyone, as well as, encouraging equity in decision making across diverse groups.

GAD Mainstreaming in the Philippine Red Cross - Currently, Ms. Norwina Eclarinal—Officer in Charge Manager of International Relations and Strategic Partnerships Office (IRSPO)—is the lead advocate and the designated GAD focal person in various PRC projects. Since last year, Eclarinal spearheaded activities toward GAD integration such as facilitating awareness session on GAD, involving and consulting PRC staff in GAD mainstreaming initiative, and just recently conducted an assessment on the perception of the PRC staff and volunteers to determine the presence and extent of GAD in the organization. The said assessment was conducted to selected PRC Chapters implementing various programs and was assisted IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office.

Some of the highlights of the recommendations made by the committee were involving the PRC Board of Governors in this initiative, strengthening awareness campaigns about GAD, working with the human resource department in implementing GAD sensitive policies for the staff, and linking with Community Engagement and Accountability to establish multiple avenues of feedback from our beneficiaries.

Through the current efforts for GAD, the technical working group envisions PRC as an organization which respects and response to the GAD needs of the staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.

Migration Lessons Learnt Workshop for Mindanao Returnees operation

From <http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/event/migration-lessons-learnt-workshop-for-mindanao-returnees-operation-19-20-july-2017-manila-philippines/>



The Philippine Red Cross organized Migration Lessons Learnt Workshop for Mindanao Returnees operation from 19-20 July 2017 in Manila, the Philippines with the support of IFRC. It was attended by 31 participants (15 females, 16 males), consisting of Philippine Red Cross National Headquarters and chapter staff and volunteers, Partner National Societies and the IFRC. The agenda and proceedings are available in the [report](#).

Specific objectives of the workshop:

- To present the progress of the Returnee Operation in Zamboanga City, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.
- To share good practices or strategies undertaken by different chapters in resolving context specific challenges.
- To understand migration in Asia and the Pacific and changing face of migration in the Philippines.
- To acknowledge achievements and discuss key challenges faced during response coordination in the affected areas (Zamboanga etc.)
- To generate recommendations to improve current systems and response mechanisms per the context.
- To learn from other similar operations (e.g. from Myanmar), strengthen existing partnerships and develop new partnerships.
- To have better preparedness in relation to address specific needs of migrants in relation to Health, Gender, Protection etc.

Singapore

Nurturing socially responsible youth regionally

From <https://www.redcross.sg/media-centre/press-releases/570-singapore-red-cross-holds-inaugural-singapore-humanitarian-youth-summit-to-nurture-socially-responsible-youth-across-region.html>



Singapore Red Cross (SRC) held its inaugural Singapore Humanitarian Youth Summit on 1 and 2 July. The summit featured a series of lectures on pressing humanitarian issues, a youth symposium on humanitarian trends, and a 'model' International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) General Assembly.

Seventy youth leaders aged 17 to 35 attended lectures on Elderly Inclusion, Voluntary Blood Donation and Migration, and proposed ideas in support of these humanitarian trends. Their proposals were discussed at the 'model' IFRC General Assembly, which identified tangible ways for the proposals to be implemented by SRC or

IFRC.

Mr Benjamin William, Secretary General/CEO of SRC said, “Youth play a very important, if not critical, role in meeting today’s humanitarian challenges. When you combine their exuberance and zest for life, with the passion for humanitarian causes, you are able to release immense energy, dynamism and creativity. Working with youth at SRC, we have seen how their vigour and openness has the ability to challenge norms, break down barriers and turn sceptics into friends. The youth summit aims to increase their exposure and understanding of the humanitarian challenges we face today, in the hope that they will set off ripples of positive change in their social circles and the community at large.”

In the spirit of engaging more young persons in humanitarian action, SRC also signed a two-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Republic Polytechnic (RP), a first of its kind between SRC and a local institute of higher learning. The collaboration covers overseas humanitarian projects, curriculum development, student internships, blood donation programmes, social enterprise initiatives and humanitarian outreach.

re Y_u the Missing Type?

From <https://www.redcross.sg/media-centre/press-releases/571-missing-type-campaign-returns-to-singapore.html>



Are you the missing type?

SNAP & POST

Spread the message by dropping the As, Bs, and Os from your names or brands, and post it on your social media page.

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Health Sciences Authority of Singapore (HSA) ran the ‘Missing Type’ campaign for the second round. The 2017 Missing Type Campaign elicited stronger support from a broad range of organisations, including government agencies, hospitals, schools, media, local brands and retailers participating to raise awareness on the importance of blood donation this year, compared to last year.

79 organisations supported the campaign by removing the blood type letters ‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘O’ from their signage and branding from 4 July to 9 July. This

marked an increase from last year’s inaugural campaign, which started with support from 33 organisations.

The Missing Type campaign was part of the efforts by SRC and HSA to expand the blood donor pool in tandem with the blood usage, which is growing at a rate of three to five per cent annually. The blood donor pool stands at 1.87 percent of Singapore’s residential population. Singapore’s ageing population adds to the urgency of the situation, as some 600 regular donors stop donating due to age-related illnesses every year.

“The Missing Type campaign generated significant interest and buzz last year, leading to a 16 per cent increase in blood donations in the launch month, when compared to the same period the year before.

“In addition to getting more people to come forward to donate blood, we hope that current donors can donate more regularly. Last year, 60 per cent of our blood donors only gave blood once. By bringing the Missing Type campaign back, we hope that it not only serves as a reminder for donors to make a second trip to the blood bank, but also acts as a catalyst to start the conversation about blood donation and motivate new donors to action,” said Mr Benjamin William, Secretary General / CEO of SRC.

Community volunteers lauded at Singapore Red Cross Awards 2017

From <https://www.redcross.sg/media-centre/press-releases/579-president-lauds-community-volunteers-at-singapore-red-cross-annual-awards.html>

Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) patron President Tony Tan Keng Yam and SRC Chairman Tee Tua Ba presented awards to 28 individuals and eight organisations at the 5th Singapore Red Cross Awards on 25 July, for their dedicated humanitarian service.

The award recipients are actively involved in the full spectrum of community causes championed by the homegrown humanitarian organisation in and outside of Singapore – these include the national blood programme, community first aid, food aid, transport aid, elder aid, home and day activity for persons with disability, and disaster response. The involvement of the recipients span between 3 to 35 years. Their commitment range from weekly to yearly, from in-kind contributions to strategic partnerships, and from programme-involvement to mentorship, advocacy and skills-based volunteerism.



SRC Chairman Tee Tua Ba explained, “The diversity of our volunteer corps and corporate partners attests to our inclusive culture, and is reflection of the multi-faceted services we deliver to people-in-need every minute, every day and every month. I am proud to serve alongside 11,000 Singapore Red Cross volunteers to uplift lives and strengthen resilience in Singapore and abroad.”

Skills-based volunteering has become more prevalent in Singapore over the last five years. About 40 percent of SRC's volunteer base contribute specialised skills, up from 19 percent two years ago. The trend is in line with corporate organisations partnering the SRC in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts that are aligned with their business interests. This year, a record eight organisations will receive the 'Friend of SRC' award.

“We are seeing more people volunteer their professional skills or personal passions such as IT consultancy, editing, photography or even event emceeing. Channeling their skills and talents into volunteer work gives them an additional sense of purpose, and the impact on the lives of the people they serve is immense and manifold. This creative volunteering form can translate to cost-savings for specific projects, or through mentorships, and even inspiring the youth to do likewise,” shared SRC Secretary General / CEO Benjamin William.

In addition, six youth leaders aged 15 to 35 will receive the SRC President's Youth Award. They were selected from over 800 Red Cross Youth cadets and mentors based on wide-ranging criteria that included leadership qualities, global perspectives, excellence in academics and service to Red Cross Youth.

Vietnam

Peer-to-peer support on resource mobilization



On 10-11 July, representatives from the Asia Pacific Fundraising Network (APFN) visited the Viet Nam Red Cross Society (VNRC) and IFRC to provide peer-to-peer support on resource mobilization, following the request by VNRC at the APFN meeting in Seoul, Korea in April 2017.

The meeting was to follow up on recommendations from the market assessment supported by the Swiss Red Cross in 2014. Following the meeting, APFN has provided

recommendations on strengthening VNRC's corporate fundraising capacity, developing online donation mechanism and donor database, among others. This is in line with VNRC's plan to develop the staff capacity in corporate resource mobilization this year.

Global News

"For the first time in 72 years, we have genuine hope"



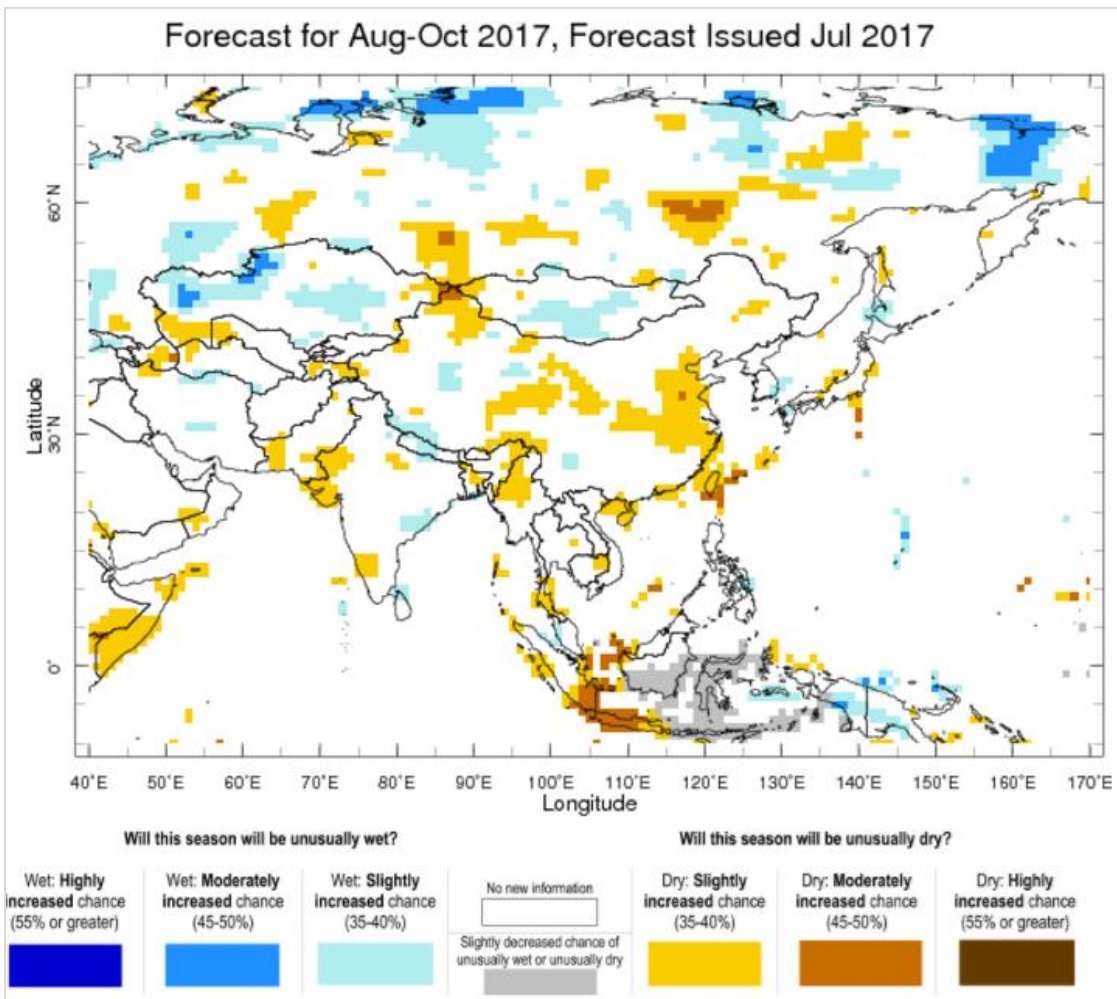
Joint Statement marking the anniversary of atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Seventy-two years ago this week the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were obliterated and tens of thousands of their inhabitants incinerated by two small nuclear warheads. In the face of such devastation, humanitarian assistance was nearly impossible, and entirely inadequate. It would be the same if nuclear weapons were to be used today. There is no international capacity to respond adequately to such events.

On 6 and 9 August 2017, people in Japan and elsewhere around the world, will stand in silent remembrance of the horror of nuclear weapons. [Click to read more](#)

Weather Forecast

August - October 2017 For the interactive map from IFRC IRI, click [here](#)



Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

- [Brunei](#)
- [Darussalam](#) |
- [Cambodia](#) |
- [Indonesia](#) | [Laos](#)
- | [Malaysia](#) |
- [Myanmar](#) |
- [Philippines](#) |
- [Singapore](#) |
- [Thailand](#) | [Timor-Leste](#) | [Vietnam](#)

Featured Videos



Bangladesh: giving people a voice makes for safer and happier communities

'When a woman has health concerns, she may not always feel comfortable discussing them with a male doctor. Based on our suggestion, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society arranged for a female doctor to be recruited. We consulted with her, and received prescriptions and

medicines.' This is how Sefali Begum from the Sheikhpura village explained why the Complaints Response Mechanism matters to her community. [Click here to watch](#)

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for August to October 2017			
August	31 July – 4 August	Regional South-East Asia network meeting and SGBV training	Manila
	15-17	Lao-Thai Cross-border workshop	Nongkhai, Thailand
	17-18	ECHO Partners Coordination Meeting	Bangkok
	29-30	Regional Forum on Demystifying the Global Agenda Frameworks into Practice	Bangkok
	31	First aid training for Grab Taxi drivers	Phuket, Thailand
September	5-8	SEAYN Meeting	TBC
	11-15	Emergency WASH training in Laos by LRC	Lao PDR
	18-20	Global Communications Forum	Bangkok
	21-22	Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Societies Leadership Meeting	Vietnam
	TBC	'Rights of Migrants in Action' Global Consultative Meeting	Brussels, Belgium
Coming Up	TBC	Provincial Disaster Law dissemination workshop	Cambodia
	TBC	Provincial and national consultations on Disaster Law	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	TBC	UNDP/ IFRC Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Law Subsidiary Legislation Report Launch in Cambodia	Cambodia
	TBC	International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) research report launch and phase II roadmap in Myanmar	Myanmar
	TBC	Global Gender and Diversity SGBV training and network meeting	TBC

New Publications



Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) Newsletter – issue 7

Southeast Asia Youth Network Newsletter issue 7 covers key highlights from 11 Southeast Asia Youth Development from February to June 2017.

See also the previous issues of the newsletter - [Issue 1](#) | [Issue 2](#) | [Issue 3](#) | [Issue 4](#) | [Issue 5](#) | [Issue 6](#)
[Click here to download issue 7](#)



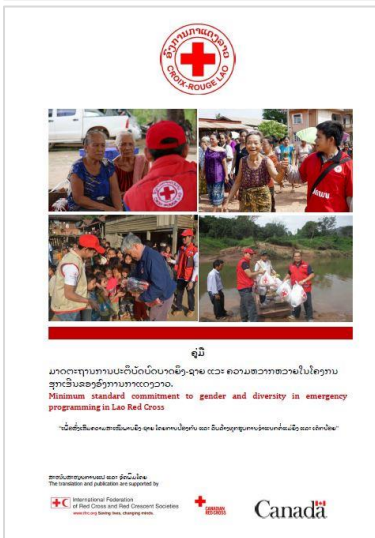
Healthy Ageing toolkit series translated in Cambodian/Khmer version

The healthy ageing module and toolkit includes the facilitator and volunteer guide, gives an overview of the process and tools for facilitators teaching volunteers and for volunteers working with community members on healthy ageing. The guide provides the intended learning objectives and outlines of session timing for ease of planning healthy ageing sessions. [Click here to download the series in English and in Cambodian](#)



PMI Builds Resilience in Indonesia – 20 stories of significant change

This book is a compilation of stories on the initiatives and innovation of programs and services of PMI (Indonesian Red Cross), and the significant change that its services have brought about to the empowered beneficiaries. [Click here to download](#)



Minimum standard commitment to gender and diversity in emergency programming in Lao Red Cross

This checklist is translated from the [English version \(pilot version\)](#), and it provides a quick tool for assessing compliance with the Minimum Standard Commitments in Emergency Programming for Lao Red Cross staff and volunteers in: emergency health; food security; water, sanitation and hygiene; emergency shelter; livelihoods; non-food items and disaster risk reduction. It serves as a tool for organisations to mark progress and identify their next steps. [Click here to download](#)