

# Indonesian Red Cross Society

## Working towards School Safety

Indonesian Red Cross Society (Palang Merah Indonesia – PMI) has been providing humanitarian services since 1945 through a network of 34 provincial chapters and 483 district branches. PMI relies on the active involvement of 482,533 volunteers, of whom 219,584 are youth volunteers. PMI also supports Red Cross Youth clubs in 8,230 schools throughout the country.

PMI enjoys a strong partnership with the Indonesian Government in implementing school safety initiatives. The Red Cross Youth Clubs are mandated under a Ministerial Decree of the Ministry of Education, which was issued in 2013, followed by a Memorandum of Understanding between PMI and the Ministry of Education in 2016.

PMI is currently in discussion with the Ministry to formulate an implementation guideline for the Red Cross Youth Clubs to describe their functions and focus areas. This would include five themes:

- First aid
- Blood donor recruitment
- Disaster risk reduction / school safety
- Peer-to-peer support or coaching among youth
- Community engagement activities.

To support the areas of focus above, PMI is very active in partnership engagement. PMI is part of the national working group on blood donation chaired by the Ministry of Health. PMI also holds regular meetings with relevant government ministries (education, health, religion and social welfare), with similar processes taking place at provincial and district levels.



In school, activities are implemented through the Red Cross Youth Club and by school safety facilitators trained by PMI, with technical support from the district branches. PMI contributes to the three pillars of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework and has developed guidelines to support the implementation of activities together with both Disaster Management and Education authorities.



**Palang  
Merah  
Indonesia**



# Outreach



Schools

**8,230**

Number of schools reached



Children

Playground : 1,291  
Elementary Schools : 1,972  
Junior High Schools : 2,923  
Senior High Schools : 1,888  
Special needs Schools : 150



Red Cross Youth

**17,956**

clubs were established in elementary, junior high school, senior high school and university



**School building**  
"Widya Kasih" orphanage school building as part of school safety programme.



**Water and sanitation interventions**  
Sanitation infrastructure building program in schools.



**School safety plan**  
School evacuation routes drafted by school teachers, students and PMI youth members.



**Simulation exercise**  
School children preparing for evacuation simulation conducted by PMI.



**First Aid training**  
First Aid training conducted by peer educators.



**Organization of campaigns**  
Youth volunteer gatherings are organized periodically to empower youth and enable exchange of experiences.



**Dissemination of awareness raising materials**  
School safety is promoted by distributing disaster preparedness awareness raising materials to primary and secondary school students.

**1**

## Safe Learning Facilities

School building  
Water and sanitation interventions

**2**

## School Disaster Management

School safety plan  
Simulation exercises  
First Aid training

**3**

## Risk Reduction and Resilience Education

Awareness sessions after school  
Dissemination of awareness raising materials  
Organizations of campaigns



**Awareness sessions after school**  
Peer educators conducting awareness raising session for youth risk reduction.



“I first received materials on disaster preparedness at school from a promotion activity conducted by PMI when I was escorting my students to a PMI jamboree. After our flag-raising ceremony at the start of the semester, and sometimes during class meetings, we practice evacuation simulations. We also give the students some theory on disaster preparedness both in the school auditorium and in the class. We also invite PMI to update us with awareness raising materials.”

Bu Ismiyati, a Red Cross Youth coach at SMP Muhammadiyah 2.



## Challenges

- Given the very tight academic schedule, school safety is only included in extracurricular activities.
- Meaningful change in schools requires an intensive engagement / process which is not always easy given limited resources and time.
- Different organizations involved in school safety mean different approaches and methods in school safety implementation.



## Ways forward

- ➔ Continue working closely and having a working model with the Ministry of Education
- ➔ Implement the national guidelines through the Red Cross Youth Clubs and district branches
- ➔ Continue supporting the standardization of school safety processes in close coordination with national authorities

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