



Brief report on
participation of Red
Cross Red Crescent
Societies in 8th
Practitioners' Workshop
| 23-25 November 2015
| Bangkok, Thailand

[website](#) | [brochure](#) | [concept note](#) |
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Since 1999, disaster risk management practitioners in Asia have gathered every two years to share lessons learned in disaster risk reduction (DRR), stocktake and consolidate good practices, and create professional networks in Practitioners' Workshop. The IFRC South-East Asia Regional Delegation organized the previous workshop in 2013 in Bangkok.

Following the momentum of the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction taking place in Sendai, Japan, March 2015, participants of the 8th Practitioners' Workshop will identify ways to translate the Sendai commitments into practice and implement the framework on the ground – putting policy debates aside. The outcomes of the workshop will be harnessed to support regional and global disaster risk reduction efforts in support of the motto "DRR is everyone's business".

Objectives of the workshop

Expected results under each thematic area for participants:

1. Enhancing Community Resilience

- Identify best practices and approaches for local level resilience
- Discuss possibilities to support the implementation of SFDRR in order to increase local level resilience

2. Expanding Preparedness for Response

- Identify key local level stakeholders responsible for preparing for disaster response and recovery
- Identify how local level stakeholders can be engaged in disaster response and recovery planning

3. Innovation and Risk-Informed Development

- Be aware of the importance of risk information and its dissemination in order to achieve sustainable development

The workshop was organized by and for practitioners with relevant technical expertise and knowledge of risk reduction in Asia. The preparations of this workshop started from February 2015 among the 5 collaborating co-organizers: ADPC, FAO, ECHO, UNDP and IFRC, which culminated in a collaborative and participatory event.

The workshop program revolved around the following four themes:

- Enhancing Community Resilience
- Expanding Preparedness for Response
- Innovation and Risk-Informed Development
- Mainstreaming DRR Within and Across Sectors - Focusing on Agriculture and Resilient Livelihoods

- Identify and commit to identify innovative ways to ensure that risk reduction is included in all aspects of development

4. Mainstreaming DRR within and across Sectors - focusing on Agriculture and Resilient Livelihoods

- Be aware of the importance of mainstreaming DRR in sectors including agriculture, health, gender, education, also with regard to sustainable development
- Share experiences and identify success stories of DRR mainstreaming within and across different sectors, including on upscaling of local good practices
- Formulate recommendations on how to mainstream/ implement SFDRR across various sectoral contexts

8th Practitioners' Workshop participants

A total of **144 participants** took part in the workshop, coming from, among others:

UN agencies: FAO, UNDP, UNESCAP, WFP, WHO.

National governments: Ministry of Agriculture - DPRK, Department of Agriculture Extension and Cooperative – Lao PDR, Department of Basic Education - Myanmar, Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management - Cambodia, Ministry of Education and Culture - Indonesia, Cabinet of Education and Sport-Lao PDR, NDMA - Pakistan, National Science and Technology Centre for Disaster Reduction – Taiwan.

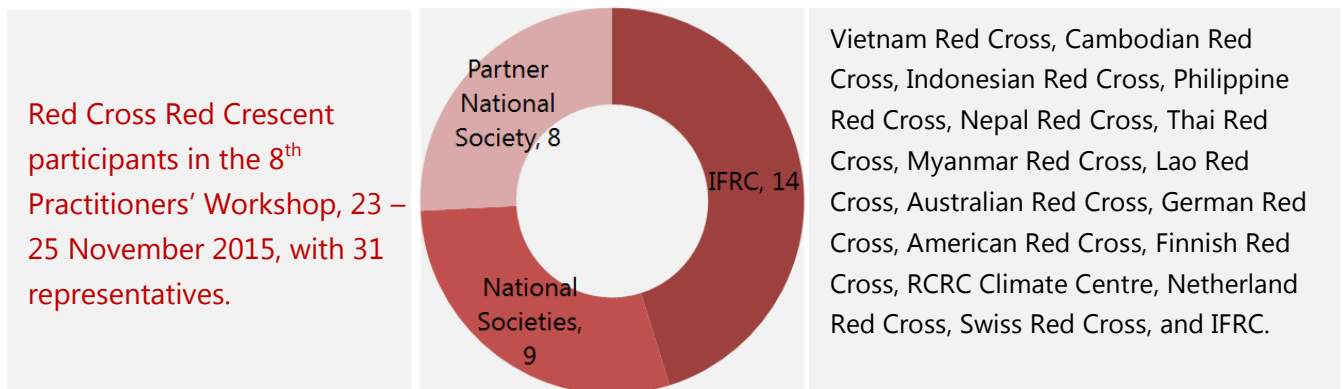
Development agencies: ECHO, JICA, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, GIZ, USAID.

Civil society organizations: ADPC, ASEAN Safe School Initiative (ASSI), Myanmar Consortium for Community Resilience, Save the Children Indonesia, World Vision Indonesia, Plan International, Oxfam, Action Aid Myanmar, Action Aid Bangladesh, Care Bangladesh, HelpAge International, Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management, GeoHazard International, Change Fusion, Global Network of Civil Society Organization for Disaster Reduction.

Private sector: Prudence Foundation, UAViators, Glorious Labs, GlaxoSmithKline.

Academia/think tank: Tohoku University, University of Pembangunan Nasional – Indonesia, Kyoto University, Asian Institute of Technology, Humanitarian Policy Group.

Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (see below)



Red Cross Red Crescent participants' feedback on the workshop

The IFRC Secretariat prepared a **feedback form** and conducted a **feedback meeting** right after the conclusion of the workshop, which was attended by most of the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) participants (**20 members out of 31**), and their responses were captured in this brief report. The following is the tabulation of the 10 feedback forms we received:

Questions to Red Cross Red Crescent participants (to rank their responses from 1 to 5)	Responses 1-strongly disagree 5-strongly agree
1 That the workshop contributed positively to the strategy of NSs in the region, particularly in enhancing the relationship they have with their respective governments and partners.	4.1
2 That the workshop contributed positively to the strategy of NS (their particular NS / the NS they are working with).	4.3
3 That the information they received before the workshop useful and sufficient.	4
4 (For those who were a part of the pre-workshop session for the RCRC group on Sunday 22 at Arcadia hotel) that the Sunday session was helpful in agreeing on key messages and preparing presentations in the workshop	4.4

5	That they were able to meet with relevant external partners during this workshop and to discuss topics relevant to their NS as expected	4.3
6	That the RCRC was sufficiently represented and engaged in the workshop	4.4
7	That IFRC and NSs should continue investing great efforts and resources in Regional and Global conferences and events such as this workshop	4.5
8	That IFRC secretariat provided good support on logistics and preparations of this meeting to their National Society	4.2
Conclusion: the Red Cross Red Crescent participants agree (4.3 out of 5) that the workshop has been useful (in the terms described in the questions)		Average 4.3

Considering the discussions during RCRC feedback sessions and feedback forms received, the following **word cloud signifies the main ideas of the key inputs** of the RCRC participants attending the feedback meeting. The more often any word/phrase is mentioned, the bigger it appears in the word cloud.



Main key inputs from Red Cross Red Crescent feedback meeting and forms

- There is a strong and expressed need to **document and share good practices**.
- The workshop was deemed **not practical** enough in that it did not offer "practical" understanding and usage for practitioners, and many discussions stay at policy and strategy level.
- There is a strong interest from the National Societies to **engage private sector** in DRR. Partnership with the private sector is recognized as an opportunity.
- There is a strong interest to conduct **partnership** with a wide range of stakeholders (including private sector).
- The workshop provides a good opportunity for **networking**, and allowing many members to meet and discuss with relevant stakeholders.
- The workshop also profiles **Red Cross representation and engagement** in the various thematic areas (community resilience, response preparedness, innovation and mainstreaming DRR in agriculture).

Red Cross Red Crescent contribution

As Red Cross Red Crescent societies, we contributed to the 8th Practitioners' Workshop as **panellists, moderators and presenters of best practices** in various thematic areas, with the following impact:

- We contributed to guide the panel discussion in *shaping DRR practitioners' action plans towards 2030 agenda*.
- We contributed to guide the panel discussion in *shaping DRR practitioners' actions to go from risk to resilience*.
- We shared our challenges and best practices on:
 - *Community resilience in urban context and rural context*
 - *Partnership with national and local government*
 - *Early warning and cash preparedness and resilient livelihoods*.
- We discussed collectively as participants on the *challenges, solutions and opportunities in enhancing community resilience*.

In short, we facilitated and participated in the discussions towards enhancing community resilience, ensuring that we profile our work and expertise, and being benefited from the insights, perspectives, challenges and best practices from the rest of the participants, in our collective efforts towards community resilience.