

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – February 2018



Sixty-eight elderly people from five villages in Cambodia's Svay Rieng Province took part in the Healthy Aging training organized by the Cambodian Red Cross which focused on promoting healthier lifestyles including physical exercises, healthy eating, and health assessment.

Welcome to our February 2018 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

At Regional Level:

Regional Resilience Initiative Lessons Learned Workshop



The Regional Resilience Initiative (RRI) organized the Lessons Learned Workshop (LLW) during 21-23 February as a means of generating key lessons from the experience of working on selected thematic areas and to promote the knowledge and learning gained through discussion of these topics and themes to a wider stakeholder audience.

The LLW had two specific objectives: (1) to generate key lessons learned related to the most significant RRI outcomes that can be used by stakeholders in future contexts; and (2) to identify how key IFRC contributions generated through the RRI could be

broadened/up-scaled to the wider humanitarian system. A key output of the LLW was the documentation of key lessons from the RRI.

Fifty-two people attended the workshop from a range of stakeholder groups including: National Societies (18), Canadian Red Cross (4), NDMO representatives from Southeast Asia (6), representatives from Institutions responsible for Women Affairs (2), local government representative (1), and other key regional partners involved in RRI implementation.

As a result of the workshop, a set of key recommendations for further enhancement of national and regional-level disaster risk reduction was drafted. Click [here](#) for more information on the workshop.



RCRC Movement Calls For 'Humanized Recovery' From Disasters at World Urban Forum



The ninth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) on 11 February 2018 heard a call from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement for greater accountability after disasters that may leave survivors bereaved and struggling to find shelter, food, and water. RCRC Movement specialists believe disasters, climate change, and conflicts are felt most acutely in cities that are often growing rapidly without proper planning, and are calling for increased investment in disaster risk reduction (DRR).

"Building back better without accountability to the people we serve harms human dignity," Xavier Castellanos, IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Director, told a special session of WUF9 in Kuala Lumpur. Better policy-making and planning are needed to humanise recovery, he said, along with more investment in DRR, climate adaptation and greater engagement with communities affected by disaster. Click [here](#) for more information.

Highlight Updates from National Societies

Cambodia

Cambodia Red Cross Conducts Healthy Aging Training in Svay Rieng

Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) and IFRC conducted the “Healthy Aging” training for the elderly people and CRC volunteers from Svay Rieng Province during 20-24 February. Sixty-eight elderly people (32 females) from five villages took part in the activity, while 22 volunteers (12 females) also participated. The training focused on promoting healthier lifestyles which include physical exercises, healthy eating, and health assessment. Click [here](#) for more information.



Indonesia

Indonesian Red Cross Helps Evacuate Landslide Victims in Brebes

The landslide which took place in Brebes, Central Java, on 22 February has buried dozens of houses, village roads, and paddy fields, with rising number of casualties. The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) joined the Indonesian Armed Forces, the National Police, the Regional Disaster Management Agency, and the National Search and Rescue Agency in operation to evacuate the landslide victims from the affected areas. Click [here](#) for more information.



Indonesian Red Cross, IFRC Offer Online Humanitarian Diplomacy Course



Indonesian Red Cross, IFRC, and Gadjah Mada University have jointly developed the first online Humanitarian Diplomacy course to be offered from 12 March – 31 May 2018. The free course targets PMI staff, volunteers, and members of “Partners for Resilience”. The course requires at least two hours per week for material review and discussion with instructors.

Laos

Lao Red Cross Holds Lessons Learned and Closure Workshop for School Safety Project



Lao Red Cross Society (LRC) Vice President Thongphachanh Sonnasinh chaired a workshop, organized on 26 February, to review the lessons learned from the Disaster Risks Reduction (DRR) in School Project. Among the 24 attendants were representatives from provincial authorities. Between September 2017 to January 2018, LRC has built six classrooms, two bathrooms, and wash basins, as well as provided training on disaster preparedness and first aid to teachers and staff from schools in Vientiane Province. Public announcement systems were also installed in two schools for use during emergency, while medicine and first aid kits were also provided. Click [here](#) for more information.

Lao Red Cross Conducts Emergency WASH Training for Volunteers in Monlapamok District

During 27-28 February, Lao Red Cross and IFRC jointly conducted an Emergency WASH (E-WASH) training for the Red Cross volunteers in Monlapamok district, Champasak Province. The two-day training was conducted for 21 volunteers from seven villages and one WASH focal person from the Ministry of Health. The E-WASH training began with theoretical sessions and table-top exercises. The second half of both days mainly focused on practical sessions, i.e. installation of the water purification unit (Aquaplast AP 700 CL) and construction of a pour-flush toilet. Borehole and latrines were also installed in a primary school of Baan Hin Lat during 1-2 March with the help of six male teachers and 98 students (44 female). Baan Hin Lat village is located about 120 kilometers from Pakse and 60 km from Monlapamok district. Click [here](#) for more information.



Government of Lao PDR Passes Law on Red Cross Operation



After the Red Cross Law was passed by the Lao National Assembly on 31 October 2017, the draft law was reviewed and revised further by relevant ministries and the Cultural and Social Committee during November and December 2017 before being forwarded to President Bounyang Vorachith for his endorsement. The Red Cross Law is expected to come into effect at the end of March 2018. Click [here](#) for more information.

Philippines

Philippine Red Cross Responds to Measles Outbreak Upsurge



In February, the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has intensified its health education and information drive following the occurrence of measles outbreak in Maguindanao, Lanao Del Sur, Sulu, and Zamboanga City. PRC has directed its trained Red Cross 143 health volunteers and staff in the affected Chapters to monitor and validate suspected cases of measles in their respective communities.

According to the Department of Health (DOH) of Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), a total of 213 suspected measles cases were recorded in ARMM in January 2018 alone due of low vaccine coverage in the past years. Four deaths were recorded in Maguindanao, and one each in Lanao del Sur, and Sulu. In addition, the DOH also reported 166 cases from Zamboanga City with one

casualty. The Zamboanga City Chapter also assisted in providing vaccines to almost 1,110 children in Barangay Sangali, Talon-Talon, and Kasangyangan. Apart from these, the PRC also heightened health promotion and information dissemination to prevent the spread of the disease in the communities. Click [here](#) for more information.

Philippine Red Cross, Uber to Offer Free, Discounted Transport for Blood Donors, Benefactors

PRC has forged a partnership with Uber Philippines to provide free and discounted rides to individuals who seek to support the PRC through blood and in-kind donations. The partnership was officially announced during the celebration of Uber's fourth year anniversary in the Philippines on 23 February, which was attended by PRC Secretary General Atty. Oscar Palabyab.



Uber will generate promo codes in times of calamity to allow riders to easily donate and transport relief goods to the PRC National Headquarters ins Mandaluyong and to PRC Port Area in Manila. The partnership also includes year-round promo codes for Uber riders who will be donating blood. Uber will also offer logistics solutions to assist in the transportation of blood packs from various PRC blood centres to hospitals and clinics in Metro Manila. Click [here](#) for more information.

Philippine Red Cross Train New Staff, Volunteers of Emergency Medical Unit

During 4-9 February, PRC trained a new set of staff and volunteers who will lead the Emergency Medical Unit (EMU) in times of emergency and disaster. The simulation particularly highlighted the EMU type 1 and PRC's health response capacity in deployment. The participants are from the 15 key chapters in Mindanao. The training was implemented with the support from the Canadian Red Cross in El Salvador City, Misamis Oriental. Different health partners of the PRC and local counterparts also attended the said activity. Click [here](#) for more information.



Singapore

Singapore Red Cross Enhances Community Resilience Through First Aid



SRC provided first aid to Chingay Parade participant. Photo by SRC.

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) is a firm advocate of enhancing community resilience to reduce vulnerability, strengthen preparedness, early response, and recovery of individuals, communities, and countries in crisis situations. In Singapore, community resilience constitutes a part of total defense, which calls for citizens to play a role in keeping Singapore strong, secure and cohesive.

In February, SRC volunteers and staff provided first aid coverage at the Chingay Parade 2018 in the weeks running up to 23 and 24 February. Our Community Resilience and International Services teams also ran an exhibition and engaged visitors at the Singapore Airshow 2018 on 10 and 11 February.

Singapore Red Cross Celebrity Ambassador Raises Funds for Charity



Singapore Red Cross' (SRC) celebrity ambassador and MediaCorp artiste Ya Hui, who gained popularity and a loyal following as the "wanton mee princess" Hong Jin Zhi in a local drama series "118", put her noodle making skills to the test in a fundraiser for SRC, cooking and dishing up wanton noodles for real customers.

The event, held at Timbre+ on 3 February, drew an overwhelming response with some patrons waiting in the snaking queues for more than two hours. Generously sponsored by Wong Kee Wanton Noodle and venue sponsor Timbre+, the latter also donated tray deposits for trays issued at the event. Click [here](#) to watch the report.

Thailand

Thai Red Cross Provides Computers to Flood Affected Schools in Southern Provinces

On 27 February, Lt.Gen. Amnat Barlee, M.D., Director of the Relief and Community Health Bureau (RCHB) of Thai Red Cross (TRC) Society presided over the ceremony to hand over computers, printers, and power supplies to 181 schools in three provinces namely, Nakhon Si Thammarat (78), Phatthalung (78), and Surat Thani (25). The donation was part of the "Southern Flood Victims Rehabilitation" Project which is aimed at providing students access to information and knowledge to improve the quality of life through the use of modern technology. Click [here](#) for more information.



Thai Red Cross Offers First Aid Training to Grab Taxi Drivers

Thai Red Cross provided first aid training to the first batch of 12 Grab taxi drivers and staff in 2018. The six-hour training focused on both technical and practical knowledge including: basic first aid procedures, bandaging hands, feet, and head; arms sling; treatment of wound, choking, stroke, and heart diseases; cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and referral and transportation to hospitals. The training was facilitated by three first aid instructors/ specialists from the First Aid Training Center, Thai Red Cross Head Quarter. All the participants received certificates after completion of the training course. Click here for [more](#) information.



Thai Red Cross Conducts Disaster Preparedness, Prevention Training for Primary School Students



In the month of February, staff of Thai Red Cross (TRC) local branches conducted the School Safety training to promote disaster preparedness and prevention for children in a number of schools in five provinces namely, Ang Thong Province (5 schools), Nakhon Nayok Province (1 school), Nakhon Si Thammarat Province (1 school), Singhburi Province (2 schools), and Ubon Ratchathani Province (4 schools). Click [here](#) for more information.

Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste Running Club Helps Raise Fund for CVTL

Dili Hash House Harriers, an international running club based in Dili, organized an event to help raise fund for the Timor-Leste Red Cross (CVTL) on 14 February or “Red Dress Day”. Around 50 participants joined the activity to support the humanitarian work of CVTL, with over USD 1,000 raised. Corey Hill, Grand Master of the Dili Hash House Harriers said “Red Dress day is a very important day in our calendar for Dili Hash as it gives many of the members an opportunity to support the worthy cause of Red Cross in Timor-Leste. Our members are from all walks of life and this event gives them a chance to help the people of Timor-Leste, while having a very fun day.” Click [here](#) for more information.



Viet Nam

Typhoon Damrey: Post Distribution Monitoring and Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey



237 household surveys were conducted between late January to 6 February in six badly hit provinces of Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Khanh Hoa. The survey consists of 20 questions aimed to address the following: (i) impact of the typhoon on the households; (ii) types of support received; (iii) beneficiary's involvement in the beneficiary selection process; (iv) beneficiary selection process; (v) quality and quantity of support given by the Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC); and (vi) relevance of the VNRC support. Support provided by VNRC consists of shelter tool kits; household kits; water purification tablets; unconditional and conditional cash grant.

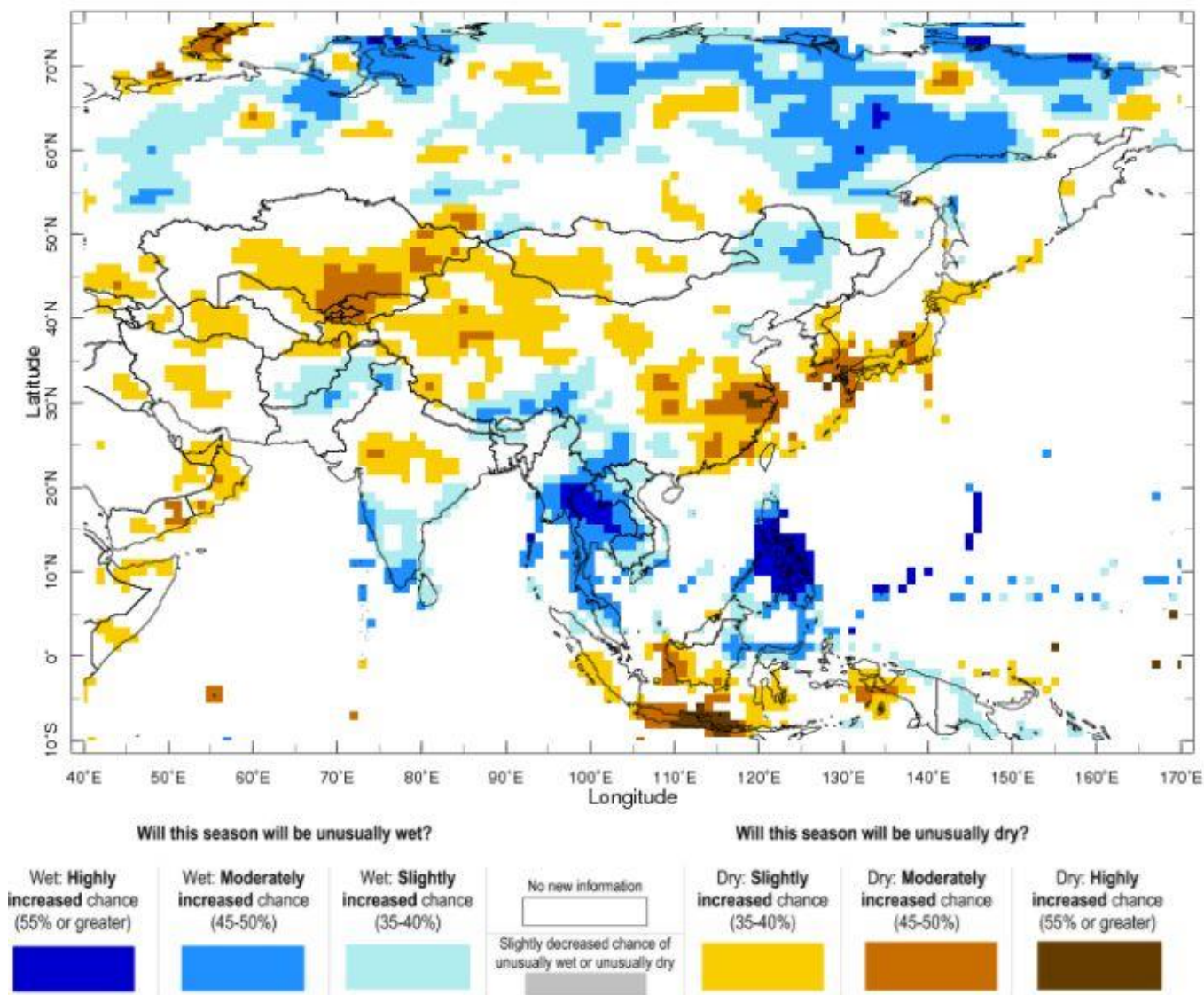
237 respondents participated in the survey, all of which found the beneficiary selection process to be transparent and the support from VNRC satisfactory. Click [here](#) for more information.

Seasonal Forecast

March - May 2018

For the interactive map from IFRC IRI, click [here](#)

Forecast for Mar-May 2018, Forecast Issued Feb 2018



Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

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

La Niña conditions are still ongoing. Between March and April 2018, we expect Neutral conditions will return. During the March-May season there is an enhanced chance of above-normal rainfall in the Philippines, parts of southeast Asia, and some countries in East Africa (see map for details). Below-normal rainfall is moderately likely in parts of southern South America, southwestern U.S., northeastern Brazil, southern Kazakhstan, and parts of East Asia. For countries that have a rainy season between March and May, please check the forecast map to see if it is likely the rainy season will be wetter or dryer than usual. If you would like further guidance on how to interpret this forecast or have questions related to La Niña, please contact the IFRC Helpdesk at ifrc@iri.columbia.edu. The seasonal forecast below reflects the best available information of likely shifts in rainfall in the coming 3 months. This seasonal forecast should be closely monitored in conjunction with short-term, local forecasts from your national meteorological agency, which can provide more detailed information on what extreme events might happen during this season.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for March to May 2018			
March	12-13 Mar	IFRC AP Coordination meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	12-16 Mar	3 rd National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) training for Thai Red Cross under OFDA project	Ayutthaya, Thailand
	14-16 Mar	IFRC Global Migration Task Force Meeting	Turkey
	15-16 Mar	FAO's Regional Conference on Resilience in Agriculture	Hanoi, Vietnam
	20-22 Mar	IFRC Real-time Evaluation Training of Trainers	Bangkok, Thailand
	20-22 Mar	Advance E-WASH Training of Trainers	Luang Prabang, Laos
	25-30 Mar	ASEAN CMC Meeting	Thailand
April	23-27 Apr	IFRC DCPRR Extended Meeting and AP NSs DRM Reference Group Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	24-25 Apr	UNISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Meeting	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
May	11-16 May	74 th Session of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Bangkok, Thailand

New Publications



Philippine Red Cross Society working towards school safety

This brochure highlights and maps Philippine Red Cross Society activities to support school safety, including the challenges and way forward. The activities are grouped following the three pillars of Comprehensive School Safety. This is part of a series of products highlighting the [School Safety Mapping Initiatives](#) in Southeast Asian countries. Click [here](#) to download.



Myanmar Red Cross Society working towards school safety

This brochure highlights and maps Myanmar Red Cross Society activities to support school safety, including the challenges and way forward. The activities are grouped following the three pillars of Comprehensive School Safety. This is part of a series of products highlighting the [School Safety Mapping Initiatives](#) in Southeast Asian countries. Click [here](#) to download.

Featured video

Thai Red Cross Launches Video To Promote Organ Donation

Thai Red Cross Organ Donation Centre, together with the Charoen Pokphand Group and True Corporation Pub. Co., Ltd., two of Thailand's largest conglomerates, launched a video to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation, not only to the recipients, but also for the donors. Click [here](#) to watch the video.

The campaign has been running for 12 years under the name of "Let Them See Love". Click [here](#) for more information about the campaign.



Featured story

Anani Wele Soares – From Island to Life as CVTL Volunteer



Read the story of Anani Wele Soares who chose to volunteer with the Timor-Leste Red Cross (CVTL) as part of her university research thesis back in 2015-2016, but has continued to work for CVTL to this day. Anani is running computer classes for students six days a week, four classes a day. Anani talks about how important the classes are to the community, and how her volunteer work helps with her own learning. Read her full story [here](#).