

Concept Note: Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network Meeting and Training

[Gender and Diversity / Bangkok, Thailand](#) / 10-12 July 2018

Background

Gender and diversity sensitive humanitarian action is crucial for impact, accountability and effectiveness within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In practice, it means transparently identifying and meeting the needs of the most vulnerable in our communities (whether men, women, girls, boys, persons with disabilities and no matter a person's age, socio-economic status, gender identity or sexual orientation); and consistently ensuring that our work is underpinned by human dignity, equitable access to services, community participation and beneficiary safety (including from Sexual and Gender-based Violence). The approach taken by the Movement is outlined in the *IFRC Strategic Framework on Gender and Diversity Issues 2013–2020; the revised IFRC Minimum Standards on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies* (which provide clear standards for each sector (i.e. health, shelter, disaster risk reduction) and the 32nd International Conference Resolution “*Sexual and gender-based violence: Joint action for prevention and response*” which is binding on all National Societies and calls for greater attention to prevention, response and mitigation of sexual and gender-based violence using National Society programming and services as an entry point.

Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network

In 2015, the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network, which consists of assigned Gender and Diversity Focal Points from all 11 National Societies in the region was formed and endorsed by the Leadership of each National Society. As per the endorsed Terms of Reference of the Southeast Asia Regional Gender and Diversity Network, the members should convene once a year for a face-to-face meeting. This face to face meeting has taken place in October 2015, August 2016 and August 2017. Each year, the face to face meetings have been accompanied by trainings based on existing IFRC training resources to build capacity of focal points and their technical counterparts and increase peer to peer learning among members. Following each of the trainings, members have developed / updated a regional action plan as well as national level plans to further gender and diversity in their National Societies. Following the 2017 discussions, a key focus for the 2018 annual meeting will be to develop a sustainability plan for the network.

Themes and aims of the network meeting and training

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is a life-threatening, global health and human rights issue. In December 2015, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement adopted the joint *Resolution on Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Joint Action on Prevention and Response*. The Resolution outlines specific responsibilities for States, National Societies, IFRC and the ICRC in prevention and response to SGBV. One of the key elements of the resolution is to strengthen the capacity of Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers to prevent, mitigate and respond to SGBV in emergencies. Subsequently, the IFRC developed a global training module on SGBV that was rolled-out in the Asia-Pacific region during 2017. This training builds on important ongoing work in Southeast Asia, including the IFRC Sexual and Gender Based Violence research in disasters, in collaboration with ASEAN. This research was completed at the end of 2017 in the Philippines, Indonesia and Lao PDR and is an important continuation of the [“Unseen Unheard”](#) case studies in Myanmar, Samoa and Bangladesh (completed in 2016).

It was piloted with the South Asia network in May 2017, with the Pacific network in July 2017 and with the Southeast Asia network in August 2017. Feedback was incorporated from each network to enhance the training modules. In addition, each network also developed an action plan on how to work both within their National Society and through their community based programmes on SGBV prevention and response.

Consequently, members of the Southeast Asia Network have requested for:

- further capacity building on internal and external advocacy strategies around SGBV prevention and response
- further guidance required on how to implement the 2017 workplan and how to address prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) within all National Societies.
- stronger linkages with the Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) and the Community-based Health and First Aid (eCBHFA) network, focusing on behaviour change communication and violence prevention

The aim of the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network meeting and Training for 2018 is as follows:

1. To follow-up on the SGBV prevention and response plan the Network worked on after its 2017 training on IFRC's Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Emergencies training module. Specifically, network members will build their capacity further on how to implement key parts of the action plan and how to strengthen their advocacy and sensitization on SGBV prevention and response with senior leadership and varying operational departments within their National Society (e.g. health, WASH, DM) etc. The training will be structured around the following three areas:

- implementing behavior change communication with communities on violence prevention
- building sustainable partnerships with external actors on SGBV prevention and response during disasters and other crisis
- strengthening internal National Society efforts towards prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse

2. To review changes in the revised Minimum Standard Commitments on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies, how to implement these Minimum Standard Commitments and better link them to the existing Network Work Plan on SGBV Prevention and Response.

3. To bring together members of the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity network to share experiences, update knowledge, discuss issues/problems and identify solutions. A key outcome of this network meeting will also be to discuss key achievements, the future of the Network, hold elections for a new Chair and review its terms of reference for strengthened relevance. To strengthen the linkages between the Gender and Diversity Network, the Southeast Asia Youth Network and the Community-based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) Network

4. To provide follow-up to some outcomes from the 2018 Southeast Asia Youth Network Meeting with a focus on a youth-led violence prevention campaign.

Participant profile:

The target group for the workshop and training will be Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Gender and Diversity Focal points and Red Cross staff working either with youth on protection, gender, inclusion and diversity and psycho-social support issues, or Health and DM staff familiar with the eCBHFA. ICRC and IFRC colleagues will also be invited.

To be selected for the training, nominees must:

- Has a good understanding and experience working on gender and diversity and protection issues (such as SGBV, child protection or migration)
- Is a member either of the Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) **or** a member of the Community Based Health and First Aid (eCBHFA) network (preferably familiar with the modules on behaviour change communication and on violence prevention)
- Is trained in the IFRC “**7 Moves gender and diversity training**” or similar gender and diversity training from within or external to the Movement¹, and has conducted training or gender and diversity initiatives in their National Society
- Has completed the online United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) “Managing Gender Based Violence Programmes in Emergencies” course. The course can be found via this link: <https://extranet.unfpa.org/Apps/GBVinEmergencies/index.html>
- Is fluent in English
- Is in a position to disseminate the SGBV prevention messages within their National Society following the training
- Have experience working on the CBHFA Violence Prevention Module (preferable but not required)
- Have experience working with adolescent boys and girls on gender and diversity related issues (preferable but not required)

We would like to kindly note that some of the content and topics addressed during this training may be distressing to participants. Facilitators will ensure that support is provided to participants during and following the training as required.

Facilitators profile

The two-day training will be facilitated by IFRC Protection, Gender and Inclusion Officer (Southeast Asia) and the IFRC Sexual and Gender Based Advisor (Asia Pacific). External facilitators may be explored to support on key topics during the training and share their experiences. The one-day network meeting will be led by the Philippine Red Cross Gender and Diversity Focal Point with support from IFRC.

Dates and Venue

The events will be hosted by the IFRC from 10 to 12 July 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. A full agenda is being prepared by the Network Chair and training facilitators, it will be shared in due course.

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¹ The online IFRC course ‘Gender Equality in Programme Planning: Different needs equal opportunities’ can be considered in place of a face to face training.