

IFRC Contribution towards

Resilient Communities for a Resilient ASEAN

2018 AADMER Partnership Conference / Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia / 28 June 2018

1. The IFRC is the largest humanitarian organization with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as its members (including one National Society in each ASEAN Member States) and over 169,000 local branches. With 5 regional offices, 60 Offices throughout the globe along with 14 specialized centres, IFRC is a global network with leadership in humanitarian response, community focus, policy development and standards setting, sharing best practices and learning with cross-cutting innovation and practice in the humanitarian domain. It partners worldwide with Governments, regional and international organisations, and has a widely recognized expertise and capacity in Disaster Management. IFRC's presence in Southeast Asia is guaranteed through offices based in Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Thailand. The Regional Office for the whole of Asia Pacific (APRO) is situated in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
2. The IFRC supports the strengthening of capacities of the Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies in respective ASEAN Member States and worldwide, each recognized by the respective national laws or decrees as auxiliary to the government and supporting the government effort in managing disasters and crisis and following up International Conference Resolutions adopted by the States. Sharing a common global IFRC Strategy (strategy 2020), the focus of National Societies is to enhance the resilience of the communities who face disaster and health emergencies, economic disparities and migration. At the same time, our National Societies are well-grounded in communities; their staff and volunteers come from the communities where they serve, and their presence allows them to accompany communities' needs before, during and after a disaster strikes.

IFRC Strategic Engagement with ASEAN

3. First and foremost, IFRC would like to thank the ASEAN Leaders for the endorsement of the work of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement contained in the final statement of the Chair of the 32 ASEAN summit held in Manila last November. Let me also thank the Secretary General of ASEAN for the ASEAN STATEMENT ON THE ENGAGEMENT WITH RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES, with a clear reference to the IFRC and the ICRC. We commit to live up to our mandate and do our utmost to continue saving lives and changing minds in ASEAN region and worldwide.
4. We would also like to convey our appreciation to the ACDM as well as the ASEAN Secretariat for the progress made in the past year towards the signing of a MoU between our organizations. This MoU signing will be a testimony to all accomplishments made in the past years in jointly implementing the AADMER vision. It will also lay the foundations for a deepened engagement in the coming years.
5. In parallel to the MoU negotiations, we would like to recall the progress made together in preparing for the launch of the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience, as a platform to mobilize a wide range of stakeholders (civil

society, private sector, academia, NGOs, governments and regional organisations) to contribute, significantly to the building of a resilient ASEAN.

6. This planned Coalition is a contribution to the 1 Billion Coalition for Resilience, it is based on common commitments to effective collaboration and innovation, and it echoes the ASEAN commitment to expand a Culture of Prevention. It is expected to demonstrate the power of partnerships and shared engagement to generate practical, collective and scalable impact in key major areas: disaster and climate change, health as well as youth engagement, also taking into consideration protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) as a critical cross-cutting theme.
7. Finally, we would like to mention our initial discussions with the AHA Centre a few months ago to plan our collaborations in a more strategic manner. We are committed to finalize a joint IFRC-AHA Centre plan of action as agreed and initiate a process to sign a Memorandum of Intent in support of its implementation.

IFRC contributions to support AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020

8. On the technical collaborations in support of the AADMER Work Programme implementation, IFRC would like to report on a few areas where there was significant cooperation in the past year, aligning with the following priority programmes.
9. **BUILD SAFELY:** IFRC completed in 2017 a [mapping of school safety initiatives](#) conducted in each of the 10 countries. The mapping was conducted by the SEA Youth network as an effort to enhance the youth involvement in this important area of work. It is fully available online and it is our hope that it can be useful to showcase the Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to ASSI, one of the flagship initiatives of the ACDM.
10. We would like to report as well the very positive engagement with the Senior Official Meeting on Youth (SOMY) in May 2018 in which our proposal for increased youth engagement in community resilience programming (and school safety in particular) was endorsed by ASEAN Member States. This includes the scaling of our Youth as Agents of Behaviour Change flagship initiative.
11. **ADVANCE:** Following the endorsement of the concept note on the ASEAN peer to peer learning Disaster Law and Policy Platform in 2017, the IFRC is pleased to recall the launch of the Disaster Law mapping last May in Jakarta. The mapping compiles profiles on regional and domestic preparedness and response provisions as provided in AADMER. These come with an updateable [online resource platform](#) hosted by IFRC Resilience Library. The regional report also contains recommendations for peer learning while the online resource platform contains country profiles, thematic analysis, regional snapshot, & legal resources.
12. Following this initial mapping, we look forward to the Disaster Risk Governance Academic Seminar in Thailand next September, which will be an opportune time for experts and policy makers to come together and learn from each other's perspective. In this regard, IFRC is partnering with Thammasat University from Thailand to host the seminar, while we are calling for more academic to join the event as partners (interest already received from a few). Finally, a [call for papers](#) was launched last week and we would like to seek the contributions from all partners to disseminate this opportunity in our respective networks.

13. **PROTECT:** We have also made considerable progress under the approved research on the attention to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response before, during and after disasters. Following the initial data collection in Indonesia, Lao PDR and the Philippines, an ASEAN consultation was held in May 2018 in Jakarta, Indonesia, which reviewed key recommendations for ASEAN. The consultation saw active participation of ACDM, ACW and ACWC as well as key partners. Feedback from the discussions is being compiled in a final report which should be available very soon.
14. Recognizing that Risks to SGBV do increase during/after disasters, IFRC would like to urge the ACDM Members and Partners to follow-up of the research recommendations, including through (1) enhancing the inclusion of gender and SGBV needs into current standing operating procedures and tools (2) strengthening coordination among different sectors (health, psycho-social, legal and security), (3) creating stronger linkages between SGBV and DRM legislation in ASEAN countries as well as (4) implementing the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) as an integral part of the OAOR with emphasis on zero tolerance. IFRC stands ready to support the follow-up of the recommendations, both at regional and national levels. Meanwhile, preparations are ongoing in Cambodia and Viet Nam to roll out the research process.
15. **RESPOND AS ONE:** IFRC continued to provide its technical expertise to several processes related to the OAOR this year, including the multi-sector workshop on OAOR organized last March in Jakarta, Indonesia. The technical cooperation with AHA Centre was discussed in great details during a strategic meeting held last August and we look forward to further cement this relationship. IFRC also contributed to the several civil-military engagement agenda and is a recognized actor of the ASEAN Joint Disaster Response Plan, for which it stands ready to provide any support as per the need.
16. **EQUIP.** IFRC also participated in the two recent ERAT trainings held in Thailand and Myanmar, both supporting the enrolment of National Society staff as trainees and providing technical support to the facilitation team in organization the simulation exercise as part of the course. As per AHA Centre data, there are now 11 trained ERAT members from the Red Cross Red Crescent, with 1 deployment in Myanmar floods operations as well as 2 deployments during simulation exercises.
17. **LEAD:** IFRC is proud to be a contributor to the **ACE programme** and is now actively preparing for the next batch RCRC induction course in collaboration with PMI (Indonesian RC) and the ICRC. Technical support is also provided to the **ASCEND** on the **Shelter** component, as part of IFRC's global commitment to convene the Global Shelter Cluster and co-lead the Indonesian National Shelter Sub-Cluster. Finally, our [Resilience Library](#) serves as a **knowledge hub** among Red Cross Red Crescent and key partners (including ASEAN) in the region

Next steps for 2018-2019

18. Based on the preceding update, we would like to highlight what we see as the next steps for our collaboration in the coming weeks and months:
19. At the strategic level, we look forward to the signing of the ASEAN-IFRC MoU and formal launch of the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience, our joint vision for a safe and resilience ASEAN. In parallel, we will continue our technical dialogue with the AHA Centre to finalize our joint plan of action and Memorandum of Intent.

20. We would also like to state our readiness and interest to provide technical support to both the AADMER review and the AADMER work programme 2016-2020 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework implementation. We commend the ACDM for taking these very important steps and we stand on your side to support as required.
21. On the technical level, we will be happy to partner with ASEAN counterparts in the following joint activities in the coming weeks:
- Induction course under ACE programme (August)
 - Disaster Risk Governance Academic Seminar (September Thailand)
 - SGBV research in Cambodia and Viet Nam (July – September)
 - Joint activities with AHA Centre on PGI mainstreaming
 - Participation in ARDEX Indonesia (November)
 - Contribution to the ERAT Advanced Course
22. Finally, the IFRC wishes to acknowledge, amongst others, its gratitude to the Governments of Australia and Canada, through their National Societies, for their generous contributions to its increasing engagement in cooperation with ASEAN.

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As a coordinating body for 190 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) promotes and fosters relationships between National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies and external stakeholders at the global and regional level, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).



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