

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

# REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – **July 2018**



*Member of the Regional Disaster Response Team from the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) provided training on health and hygiene promotion to the Lao Red Cross Volunteers who were residents of the affected areas in Attapeu Province, Lao PDR (Photo by Lao Red Cross).*

Welcome to our July 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>.

### At Regional Level:

An [Emergency Appeal](#) was launched on 26 July seeking CHF 2.9 million to enable IFRC to support the Lao Red Cross (LRC) to deliver assistance and support 7,500 people for 18 months. The Appeal came following the flash flood that took place on 23 July caused by the collapse of Xe-Pian Xe-Namnoy hydropower dam. According to the 6 August UN [Situation Report](#), the flood water has affected more than 13,000 people and resulted in 34 deaths and 97 missing. More than 6,000 people have evacuated to emergency shelters, some of them have no homes to return to. As of 16 August, CHF 2.1 million worth of soft and hard pledges have been received.



## (New!) Highlight Updates from Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network

Welcome to the new section of the newsletter! From this month onward, updates will be provided on the work of the 11 Southeast Asian National Societies in mainstreaming the concept of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) in all their activities and programmes.

The Gender and Diversity (G&D) Network was established in 2015 in light of the [Resolution](#) adopted in the same year at the 32nd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent pertaining to the joint action on prevention and response to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) (click [here](#) to read the background report on SGBV presented at the International Conference). Members of the G&D Network are focal persons appointed in 2015 by the leaders of each National Societies in Southeast Asia by way of translating the commitment to the Resolution into actions.

The G&D Network members meet yearly to discuss and share experiences and progress related to PGI work in their National Society. In the recent meeting in July 2018, the Network discussed strategies to increase awareness of SGBV in emergencies and identified long term strategies to address structural inequality that leads to SGBV. The Network also discussed the need to have a standard reporting mechanism for sexual and gender-based harassment and abuse that may occur during periods of armed conflict, disasters, and other emergencies.



Photo credit: IFRC CCST Bangkok

During 10-12 July, the Gender and Diversity focal persons from nine Southeast Asian National Societies met in Bangkok to: follow up on SGBV prevention and response plan the Network has worked on after its 2017 training; to review changes in the revised Minimum Standard Commitments on Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies; and to share experiences, update knowledge, discuss issues/problems and identify solutions. A training was also given to the network participants and other external partners on SGBV to review key concepts to equip National Societies with the tools to advocate for the importance of SGBV in emergencies both within their National Societies and externally. Read a full meeting [report](#) here and click [here](#) to access meeting and training presentations.

## Highlight Updates from National Societies

### Brunei Darussalam

#### Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Offers Emergency Aid Training at 'Bandarku Ceria'



Photo credit: Brunei Red Crescent Society

On 22 July, Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society participated in the Car-Free Sunday activities (locally called *Bandarku Ceria*), which is held every Sunday to the public, and showcased its Emergency Aid operation including stretcher carrying techniques, wound dressing, and injury treatments. The training also captured the interest of Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah who took part in the *Bandarku Ceria* as he led the *Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation* activity. Source: Borneo Bulletin

## Cambodia

### Cambodian Red Cross Conducts Disaster Response To Assist Flood-Affected People in Steung Treng



Photo credit: Cambodian Red Cross

As a result of the dam collapse in Laos' Attapeu Province, over 25,000 people of Steung Treng Province in Cambodia were forced to evacuate from their homes due to flash floods. The Cambodian Red Cross has deployed its disaster response team from Red Cross branch level as well as from the Headquarters to the affected area and begun the disaster response operation since 24 July 2018. The relief distributions included 2,000 relief kits (rice, canned fish, instant noodles and non-food items) and 500 units of plastic tank (plastic sheet). Prior to the dam collapse, Cambodia was already experiencing severe flooding across the country due to the heavy rainfall caused by the Son Tinh Typhoon that has hit Mekong region countries in mid-July. Click [here](#) for more information about the flood in Steung Treng.

## Indonesia

### Indonesian Red Cross Conducts Relief Operation for Earthquake Victims in Lombok



Photo credit: Indonesian Red Cross

Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia-PMI) provided relief assistance to victims of the 6.4-magnitude earthquake in Lombok that took place on 29 July and whose aftershock continues to be felt into the beginning of August. PMI and other agencies have since provided humanitarian aid in the form of tarpaulins, mats, blankets, clothing, food, beverages, pharmaceuticals, as well as cash transfer and health services. IFRC has launched an [Emergency Appeal](#) to raise fund that will be used to support PMI's in delivering assistance and helping an estimated 80,000 people for 18 months. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Indonesian Red Cross Conducts Logistics Capacity Development Program



Photo credit: Indonesian Red Cross

In July, Indonesian Red Cross conducted a capacity building program attended by representatives from six National Societies from Denmark, Myanmar, New Zealand, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, and the United States. The goal of this program was to enhance PMI's management knowledge, ability, technical skills, coordination, and communication, especially in the field of logistics during emergency responses. Through the activities under the program, PMI also hoped to strengthen cooperation among the National Societies on logistic supports. One of the activities included logistics simulation to test the readiness of activation of the command posts in the face of disaster emergency response. Click [here](#) for more information.



## Lao PDR

### Lao Red Cross Provides Relief Assistance to Flash Flood Victims in Attapeu Province



Photo credit: Lao Red Cross

Following the collapse of the Xe-Pian Xe-Namnoy hydropower dam on 23 July, Lao Red Cross Headquarters and provincial chapters have since provided assistance in search and rescue, as well as distributing tarpaulins to help shield tents and shelters from water. Relief kits including food, clothing, blankets, hygiene supplies, household effects and mosquito repellent have also been distributed. Lao Red Cross teams have been providing health and sanitation training to people of all ages, including training community representatives to pass this knowledge onto others in their village groups. Follow Lao Red Cross [Facebook page](#) (in Lao language) for more updated information on the relief operation in Attapeu.

## Philippines

### Philippine Red Cross Assists People Affected by Tropical Depression Josie



Photo credit: [Philippine Red Cross](#)

During the third week of July, the Philippines experienced a series of heavy storms as a result of the Tropical Storm Inday and Tropical Depression Josie. The monsoon rains have displaced around 5,000 families or over 20,000 individuals. The Philippine Red Cross provided rescue and relief supported to the affected areas of Metro Manila, Zambales, Pampanga, Tarlac, Batangas, Bataan, and Cavite. With its fleet of rescue vehicles composed of four 6x6 trucks, two mobile kitchens, seven rescue boats, two ambulances, two fire trucks, and two amphibians, PRC has assisted in the evacuation of 290 individuals in Pangasinan and Olongapo. Click [here](#) to read the full story by the Philippine Red Cross.

## Singapore

### Singapore Red Cross Raises Fund, Sends Humanitarian Aids To Help Victims of Lao Dam Collapse



Photo credit: IFRC

In response to the floods caused by the sudden hydropower dam collapse in Laos' Attapeu Province, Singapore Red Cross (SRC) launched a public fundraising appeal on 25 July and pledged about CHF 36,000 in humanitarian aid to the affected communities. SRC collaborated with Lao Red Cross to mobilise a three-person advance team to deliver relief supplies to some 1,000 families from 26 July to 31 July. The team also conducted ground assessments to determine urgent and mid-term needs. Click [here](#) to read the full story and view relief operation videos by SRC.

## Singapore Red Cross Hosts Young Humanitarian Summit



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

The annual Singapore Humanitarian Youth Summit 2018 was held during 7-8 July, bringing over 100 local and regional participants together to share experiences and best practices, to develop a better understanding of current humanitarian issues. This year's organising team launched a nation-wide humanitarian challenge 'Humanithon', a 36-hour Prototyping and Design competition, to inspire humanitarian actions through multi-disciplinary collaboration and innovation. Youth were motivated to think out of the box to advocate blood donation, care for the disabled, promote social inclusion and address issues such as the burgeoning elderly population and increasing migrant population. Click [here](#) for more information about the summit.

## Singapore Red Cross Launches Mobile Community Health To strengthen Eldercare



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

Singapore Red Cross has unveiled Community Health on Wheels (CHoW), a community-based mobile healthcare programme that brings free ancillary services and basic medical care directly to the heartlands. It was the latest of SRC's ongoing efforts to strengthen community resilience and improve the lives of local vulnerable. CHoW was developed with the aim of supporting the health needs of the community, in particular, the elderly population. The mobile unit is equipped with basic medical diagnostic and therapy equipment. CHoW will visit different parts of Singapore on designated weekends to provide health checks, physiotherapy services, psychosocial support and health counselling. Click [here](#) for the full story by SRC.

## Thailand

### Thai Red Cross Society Sends Relief Items, Deploys RDRT Staff To Assist Flood Operation in Lao PDR



Photo credit: Lao Red Cross

To assist the flood operation in Attapeu Province, Lao PDR, the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) has delivered support including relief item and tents to the Lao Red Cross to assist with the relief operation. Two members of the Regional Disaster Response Team from TRCS have been deployed to help train volunteers on health and hygiene promotion for the displaced people who are residing in the evacuation centres. TRCS team also assisted Lao Red Cross in setting up temporary warehouses and providing training on logistic management. Click [here](#) for more information.



## Thai Red Cross Society Helps Nakhon Sawan Province Set Up Water Tanks in Preparation for Drought



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

During 23-27 July, the Thai Red Cross Society Relief and Community Health Bureau together with the Provincial Red Cross Chapter in Nakhon Sawan Province explored areas suitable for setting up water tanks to ensure access to clean water during drought season. The tanks are expected to help store clean water during the rainy season. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Viet Nam

### Viet Nam Red Cross Carries Out Relief Operation in Areas Hit by Typhoon Son Tinh



Photo credit: Viet Nam Red Cross

Typhoon Son Tinh made landfall on 19 July, damaging infrastructure and crops in Thanh Hoa and Nghe An Provinces. Heavy rains have continued in the wake of the typhoon, causing floods and landslides across vast areas of the country, including in the capital Hanoi. On 23 July 2018, the Viet Nam Red Cross Society Headquarters decided to launch national appeal to mobilize resources for the continuous relief efforts in the affected provinces. VND 248 million (CHF 10,600) was distributed to support families whose members lost their lives and injured, as well as those whose houses were collapsed.

### Viet Nam Red Cross Society Delegates Visit Laos' Attapeu Province To Deliver Relief Assistance



Photo credit: Viet Nam Red Cross

During 30-31 July, Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) delegation visited led by VNRC President visited Sanamxay district, Attapeu Province in Lao PDR where evacuation centres for people affected by flash flood are located. The delegation delivered to the Lao Red Cross relief items including household kits and a Lifestraw water filter unit to help produce clean water. Click [here](#) for more information of VNRC team in Attapeu (in Vietnamese language).

## Featured Story

### Stories of Survivors

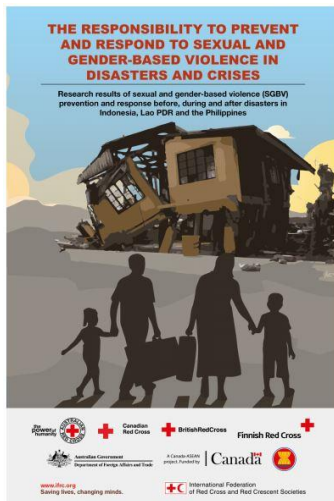


Photo credit: IFRC

The month of July has seen many devastations and natural disasters in Southeast Asia including the collapse of Xe-Pian Xe-Namnoy dam in Lao PDR and the earthquake in Lombok, Indonesia. From devastation and loss, here are stories of survivors and humanitarian spirits of those supporting the relief operations:

- [In pictures: The faces of the Lao dam collapse](#)
- [Stories of survival: Escaping the floodwaters in Laos](#)
- [In pictures: Lao PDR faces heavy flooding after dam collapses](#)
- [A dream come true: Why Phuongern Volunteers at Lao Red Cross to Help People of Attapeu](#)
- [Indonesia Lombok earthquakes: Tears of relief as first help reaches remote villages](#)
- [In pictures: Survivors of Lombok earthquakes tell their stories](#)
- [Lombok earthquakes: First aid family gets back up from Indonesian Red Cross](#)

## New Publications



### The Responsibility To Prevent and Respond to Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Disasters and Crises

The report is the result of a collaboration between IFRC and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Committee for Disaster Management (ACDM) Prevention and Mitigation Working Group. It contains compelling recommendations for change, which IFRC has already started implementing. The report draws on household surveys and focus group discussions involving 1,800 people affected by disasters in Indonesia, Lao PDR and the Philippines. It shows a rise in risks including sexual harassment, child marriage, child sexual abuse, domestic violence and trafficking in Indonesia, Laos and the Philippines. Click [here](#) to download.



### National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies Working Towards School Safety

This overview of the school safety activities is part of a mapping exercise of the National Societies' contribution to the ASEAN Safe School Initiative (ASSI) carried out by the Southeast Asian Youth Network (SEAYN). The mapping highlights the relevant activities under the three pillars of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework, as well as some of the challenges and opportunities. Click [here](#) to download.



## Upcoming Events

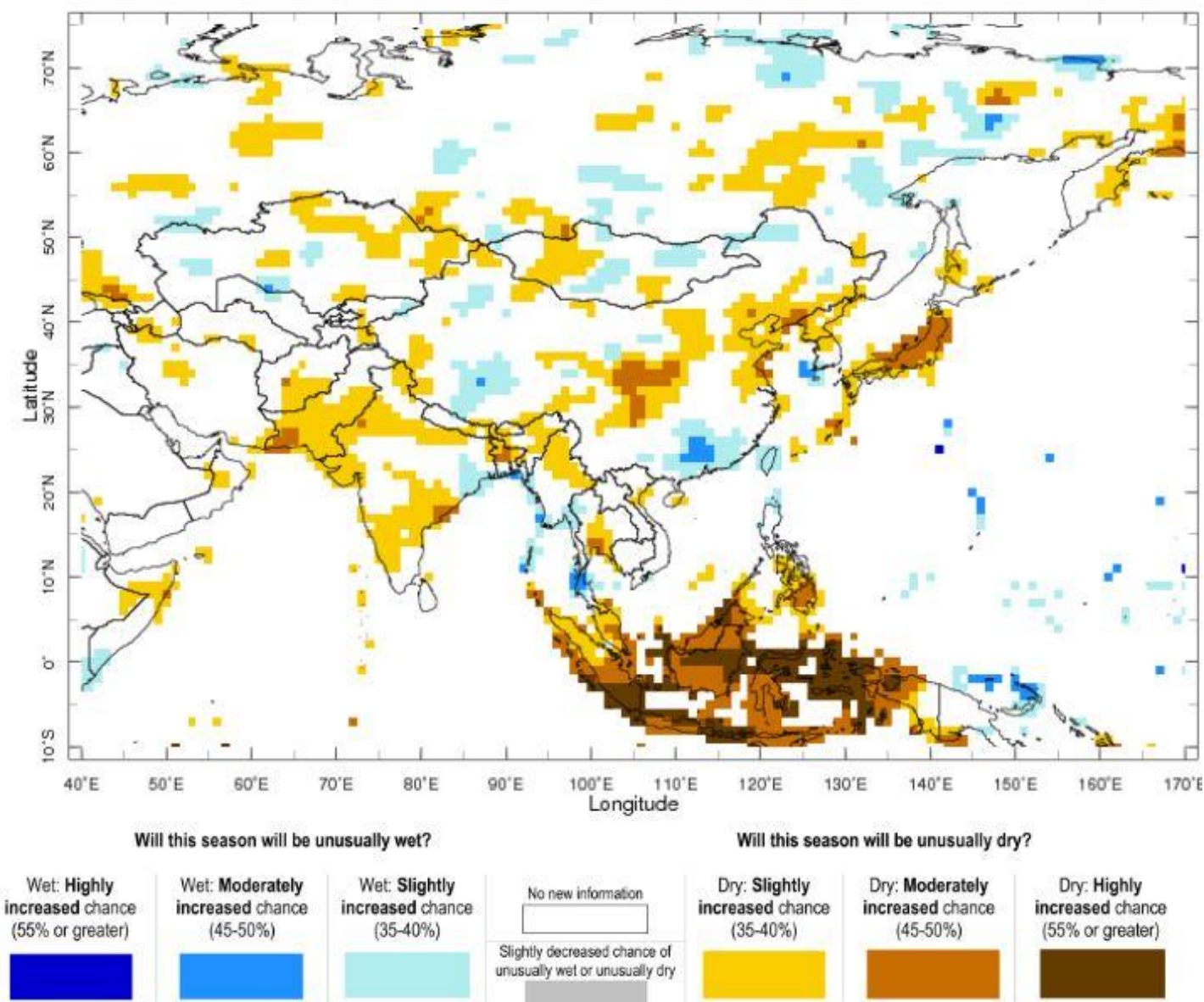
Upcoming events for August to October 2018			
August	4 Aug	2 <sup>nd</sup> Housing Land and Property Meeting (TWG with partners)	Philippines
	5-12 Aug	Practical Emergency Cash Transfer Training	Mongolia
	6-10 Aug	SGBV Data Collector Training	Kampong Thom, Cambodia
	17 Aug	ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management	Singapore
	20-24 Aug	ACE Programme 2018 – Red Cross Red Crescent Induction Training	Jakarta, Indonesia
	25-31 Aug	SGBV Data Collector Training	Vietnam
September	5-6 Sep	Workshop on Legislative Advocacy Toolkit	Philippines
	13 Sep	Consultative Meeting on the SGBV Research	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
	24-26 Sep	Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Governance Academic Seminar	Bangkok, Thailand
October	(TBC)	Radio Programming Workshop	Dili, Timor-Leste
	(TBC)	CBDRR Assessment	Singburi, Thailand

## Seasonal Forecast

**June – August 2018**

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

Forecast for Jul-Sep 2018, Forecast Issued Jun 2018



Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

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

For the upcoming July – September season, odds are strongly tipped in favor of below-normal rainfall across much of Indonesia, Central America and the Caribbean. Southern and eastern Australia, Japan and parts of western Canada and Alaska show moderate odds for below-normal rainfall. Areas with some chance of above normal precipitation include South Africa and parts of the western and central Sahel.



All forecast maps, including temperature in addition to precipitation, and including a description of the methodologies, are available on our [seasonal forecast page](#).