

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – **October 2018**



Philippine Red Cross Action Team conducted an assessment at Centro 10, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan Province. The province was hit by Typhoon Mangkhut in September and Typhoon Rosita in October. Photo by [Philippine Red Cross](#).

Welcome to our October 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 2 (RRI2) Consultation Workshop



Photo credit: IFRC

The Regional Resilience Initiative (RRI), which has completed its implementation in September 2018, held discussions with the Canadian Red Cross to start the early design process of a follow-up initiative beyond 2018 or “RRI2” during 8-10 October. With support from an external consultant, IFRC has conducted several rounds of stakeholder consultations since June 2018 to gather input for the design of the RRI2 proposal. The consultative workshop in October was held in Kuala Lumpur and attended by key stakeholders including six National Societies from ASEAN countries, IFRC and Canadian Red Cross representatives, as well as one representative from the Cambodian Government. The [summary of the workshop](#) provides an overall framing of the proposed initiative to allow for strategic discussions and feedback, including in Canada with Canadian Government as well as in Manila as [side discussions](#) to the AP Regional Conference.

Highlight Updates from National Societies

Indonesia

PMI Sets Up Shelter, WASH Facilities for Sulawesi Disaster Victims



Photo credit: Palang Merah Indonesia

A 7.4-magnitude earthquake hit Palu Donggala, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia on 28 September, followed by a devastating tsunami, leaving over 60 thousand homes damaged, more than 70 thousand people displaced, and close to 2,000 people dead. The Palang Merah Indonesia (Indonesian Red Cross or PMI) has recently begun the post-disaster recovery operation. Temporary shelters are being planned to house as many as 2,341 families. Toilet facilities have also been set up in the evacuation shelters. PMI continues to distribute clean water, water containers, hygiene kits, family kits, school kits, mosquito nets, blankets, tarpaulins, and baby kits, in addition to providing health care, psychosocial support, and the restoration of family relationships.

PMI Conducts Awareness Raising Activity for 2,500 Students on Earthquake Preparation, Response



Photo credit: Palang Merah Indonesia

PMI conducted an awareness raising session on earthquakes for a total of 2,500 students from disaster affected area in Palu Donggala, Central Sulawesi. Through songs and games, students also learned about water saving as well as how to contact PMI during emergencies. PMI volunteers also took part in the activity which not only educates the children about the disaster risks, but also provides psychosocial support to those who experienced traumatic events and loss. Click [here](#) to read the full story by PMI.

Lao PDR

Lao Red Cross Disseminate Red Cross Law to Southern Branches



Photo credit: Lao Red Cross

During 23-27 October, Lao Red Cross (LRC) President Khamhoung Heuangvongsy led the meeting with five Red Cross branches in southern provinces to disseminate information about the Red Cross Law which came into effect in March 2018. Mr. Khamhoung shared with the meeting that the new law will help to enhance effectiveness of LRC operation and to allow for a more systematic coordination with relevant agencies. The new law will also facilitate the development of LRC's capacity and its readiness in the areas of health services, first aid, rescue, blood donation, etc which will enable LRC to engage in regional level disaster response with other ASEAN nations. Click [here](#) for more information (Lao language). Source: Lao Red Cross Facebook page.

Lao Red Cross Conducts Need Assessment in Attapeu To Determine Protection, Gender and Inclusion Interventions



Photo credit: IFRC

In November, the Lao Red Cross (LRC) team conducted an assessment to better understand the needs of women and girls in the most disaster-affected and difficult to access areas in Attapeu Province, which was hit by flash floods in July. Using this information, LRC Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) focal point and LRC team will identify key PGI activities, with a focus on increasing safety in the camps and providing gender-responsive health interventions and dignity kits. These findings will be incorporated into the revised Emergency Plan of Action for Laos, with a 12-month plan to address the most critical needs of women and girls.

Philippines

Philippine Red Cross Conducts Search, Rescue Operations After Typhoon Yutu



Photo credit: Philippine Red Cross

Typhoon Yutu made landfall on 29 October in the northern provinces of the Philippines, bringing with it flooding and as many as 40 landslides. The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) team has conducted search and rescue in provinces in the northern part of Luzon island. On October 31, PRC deployed a humanitarian caravan with payloaders, Humvee, six-wheeler trucks, tower light, three portable generators, ambulance, hot meals on wheels vehicle, and rescue gears to Mt. Natonin Province to help the affected. Click [here](#) to read more about PRC response operation.

Thailand

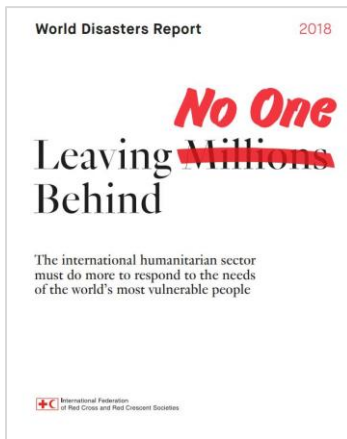
Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building in Three Thai Provinces



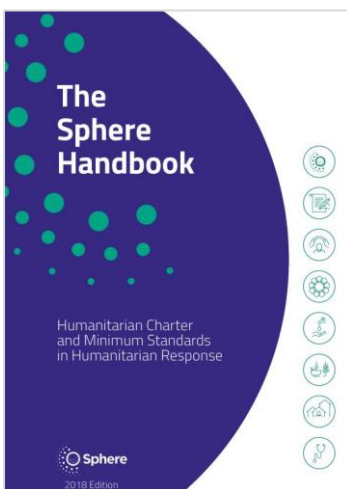
Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

Throughout October, Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) has conducted an assessment on the effectiveness of the Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) capacity building activities which began in 2017 and completed in mid-2018. Eleven disaster-prone communities and 10 schools in three provinces of Singburi (two communities), Nakornayok (one community) and Angthong (seven communities) have been selected by TRCS as of January 2017. To guide the CBDRR process at the community level, the TRCS has introduced and applied the “Eight Step of CBDRR Process” which include, but not limited to, setting up community disaster management committee and developing DRR plan. Source: TRCS [Facebook page](#).

New Publications



IFRC launched the 2018 World Disaster Report on 31 October 2018 titled “*Leaving ~~millions~~ NO-ONE behind: The international humanitarian sector must do more to respond to the needs of the world’s most vulnerable people.*” The report shows that a lack of money is not the only issue limiting how many people in need are identified, reached, and supported. It argues that even if all humanitarian appeals were fully funded, many people would still be left behind because of the choices made by donors, humanitarian actors, and the governments of affected States. Click [here](#) to download the full report, and [here](#) to visit an interactive page for the report.



The Sphere Handbook has been updated to ensure it remains fit for purpose in a changing world. The aim of the Handbook is to improve the quality of humanitarian response in situations of disaster and conflict, and to enhance the accountability of humanitarian action to crisis-affected people. The fourth edition of the book can be downloaded [here](#).

Featured Video

Singapore Red Cross Holds Exhibition To Mark Five Years After Typhoon Haiyan in Philippines



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

Typhoon Haiyan damaged many homes when it made landfall in the Philippines on 8 November 2013, and left thousands displaced and homeless. In this short film, produced by the Institute of Technical Education, Singapore (ITE), a young family shares their experience surviving the aftermath of the typhoon. The Singapore Red Cross held a photo exhibition at The Cathay, from 2 - 4 Nov 2018 where more information about the survivors and the response operations were told. Click [here](#) to watch the video.

Featured Stories

Three Months After Lombok Earthquake



Photo credit: Palang Merah Indonesia

It's been three months since a destructive and shallow earthquake measuring 6.4 magnitude and multiple aftershocks struck the island of Lombok, Indonesia. An estimated 47,000 people have been reached with Red Cross interventions including health care, relief supplies, clean water and food, psychosocial support, community engagement and reuniting families. Click [here](#) to read about the current status of the response and recovery operation.

Villagers Share Their Struggles Three Months After Lao Dam Collapse



Photo credit: IFRC

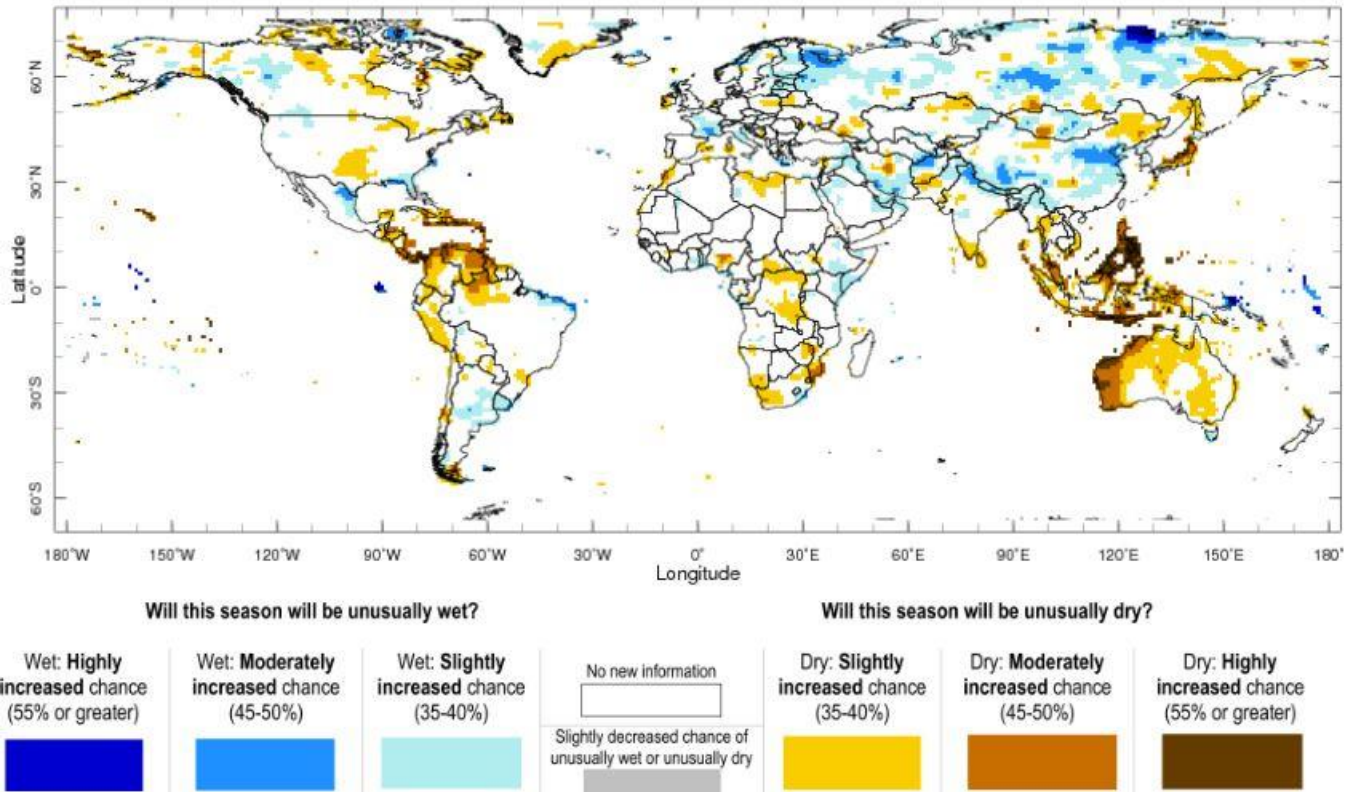
Three months since the collapse of Laos' Xe-Pian Xe-Namnoy hydro-power dam cut a path of destruction through 13 villages in the province of Attapeu, many communities are finally able to move into government-built temporary housing after spending weeks in emergency shelters. The housing provides more privacy for the families in the village, comes with toilets and bathrooms installed for the men and women, and is fitted with electricity. However, life in the new housing area is a far cry from what the villagers are used to before the flood. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Seasonal Forecast

December 2018 – February 2019

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

Forecast for Dec 2018 - Feb 2019, Forecast Issued Nov 2018



In November, conditions in the Pacific Ocean are nearing those of El Niño. If ocean temperatures continue to stay above the level set by scientists to define an El Niño event, an El Niño will be officially declared in the coming months. Regardless of whether an El Niño is officially declared, the seasonal forecast for the December - February season already points to some of the typical El Niño-like climate impacts. These include unusually dry conditions in southeast Asia, the Philippines, Indonesia and nearby countries, as well as unusually dry conditions in central America and northern parts of South America. Please note the areas on the map that are dark blue, and dark brown, as those represent the areas where we have the highest confidence in the forecast prediction for wetter or drier than usual conditions. In these areas, it may be useful to review contingency plans related to El Niño conditions, and begin regularly monitoring rainfall predictions. If you would like further guidance on how to interpret this forecast, 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.

Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

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

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for November to December 2018			
November	6-7 Nov	SGBV data collection and data analysis workshop	Binh Dinh, Viet Nam
	11-14 Nov	10th Asia Pacific Regional Conference	Manila, Philippines
	26-30 Nov	Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies ToT	Istanbul, Turkey
December	3-5 Dec	14 th Regional Consultation Committee on Disaster Management	Kathmandu, Nepal
	7 Dec	Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Lecture: From Banker to Humanitarian, for China's "Blood Orphans"	Singapore
	8 Dec	Humanitarian Education Xperience (HEX) 2018 "In Exile for a While" by Singapore Red Cross	Singapore
	11-12 Dec	2018 ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Forum	Bangkok, Thailand
	12-14 Dec	2 nd Asia Pacific Interactive Innovation Workshop on Disaster Resilience	Seoul, South Korea
	13-14 Dec	Forum on Sendai Framework Target on National and Local DRR Strategies	Bangkok, Thailand
	26-28 Dec	Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) Self-Assessment Workplan Phase	Hanoi, Viet Nam