

## International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Mission Report

<b>Name and Position</b>	Pauline Agatha Caspellan - Arce
<b>Destination</b>	Vientiane, Lao PDR
<b>Mission period</b>	17 - 20 June 2018
<b>Purpose</b>	Technical support to Lao DM Law Drafting Committee meeting

<b>Summary of Activities/ People Met</b>	<b>Key discussion points, observations, outcomes</b>	<b>Recommendations/ follow up</b>
<p>People met:</p> <p><b>Mr. Vilayphong Sisomvang</b> Deputy Director General Lao PDR MLSW</p> <p><b>Ms. Vimala Khuonthalangsy</b> Deputy Director of Social Welfare Lao PDR MLSW</p> <p><b>Dr. Kaviphone Southy</b> Director for Disaster Management, LRC</p> <p><b>Mr. Bounyong Phommachak</b> Deputy Head for Disaster Preparedness Division-DM, LRC</p> <p><b>Members of the Lao PDR DM Law Drafting Committee</b></p>	<p>A. Meeting with Mr. Vilayphong (June 18)</p> <p>I briefed Mr. Vilayphong and Ms. Vimala on the IFRC DL presentation for the next day. ADB (Takako and Mary Picard) also joined the meeting via Skype.</p> <p>We also discussed MLSW'S request from partners for funding of 4 more activities in the DM law drafting roadmap. They particularly asked IFRC to see if we can fund the 3-day <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting</u> outside of Vientiane (July 3-5), where core members of the committee will be drafting the contents of the DM Law. Total cost is USD 6,000. Gabby has agreed to commit CHF 5,000 from AP DLP funds to Lao PDR for its assistance to the DM law drafting. MLSW may have some savings from previous activities which will fill in any funding gap for this activity.</p> <p>There are three more unfunded activities that will be requested for ADB's funding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination between Gabby and Ying re use of AP DLP budget codes for Lao DM law 2<sup>nd</sup> technical meeting</li> <li>• LRC Comments to DM Law: Except for the last one (which may be too sensitive), we should inform Mary and Mr. Vilayphong of the LRC comments so that these can be taken into account during the revision of the DM Law zero draft.</li> <li>• Follow up with Mr. Vilayphong re minutes of DM Law committee meeting</li> <li>• Mission to Lao PDR (if needed) for the open partner's meeting and consultation of INGOs on July 23</li> </ul>

	<p>Mr. Vilayphong has request Mary to submit a workplan for her technical support to the law drafting.</p> <p>B. Presentation at DM Law Committee Meeting (June 19)</p> <p>The DM Law Committee Meeting was attended by all members, including Lao Red Cross (Mr. Bounyong), and chaired by Mr. Vilayphong.</p> <p>IFRC was the main resource person. UNDP sent an observer participant.</p> <p>I presented for 2 hours on 4 sessions (Basic DRM concepts, Global/regional/domestic context of DL, DL tools, ASEAN country DL examples particularly PH and Viet Nam). Participants were very engaged and asked questions mostly on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good examples of DRM funding in legislation, and how to reflect the priority for DRR in funding</li> <li>- Operationalizing funding – how will the different Ministries access the DRM fund that will be lodged with MLSW as Chair of NDPCC</li> <li>- Accountability and reporting requirements; how to avoid overlap of reports from different ministries</li> <li>- How to use legislation to ensure that communities and vulnerable groups are engaged in DRM</li> </ul> <p>ADB also requested me to present their slides for them since they cannot attend the meeting.</p>	
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	<p>I have requested Mr. Vilayphong to provide minutes of the meeting (in English).</p> <p>C. Meeting with Dr. Kaviphone (July 19)</p> <p>I had a brief meeting with Dr. Kaviphone and his team to update him on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- summary of my presentation</li> <li>- important meeting dates for the law drafting activities (encouraging him to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> technical meeting)</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Kaviphone updated me on the intervention/comments made by LRC President regarding the DM law, which are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Disaster report process : too many reports are required from members of NDPCC</li> <li>- Fund-raising : overlapping fund-raising activities in Lao PDR for disasters; proposes to set up a mechanism where humanitarian/development partners will be assigned certain areas for funding and support</li> <li>- Financial support to LRC from government : requests more funding from LRC on DRR (not just salary of staff), and if there is any way to expedite fund</li> <li>- Some concern about how decision-making will be affected with MLSWS's authority as Chair of NDPCC (previously chaired by Lao PDR Vice President)</li> </ul>	
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