

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – **May 2019**



Thai Red Cross Society's Ubon Ratchathani Health Station gave a tour of its warehouse and explained about warehouse management and mobilization during emergencies to a delegation from the Lao Red Cross during their mission to discuss cooperation on disaster management.

Welcome to our May 2019 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:

Lao, Thai Red Cross Conduct Lesson Learned Workshop To Identify Ways Forward for Disaster Management Cooperation



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

During 22-23 May 2019, Lao Red Cross (LRC) and Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) conducted a lessons-learned workshop on the disaster response and recovery operation following the collapse of a hydropower dam in Attapeu Province, Lao PDR. Close to 100 representatives from IFRC, LRC, and TRCS Headquarters as well as their staff from two health stations and five chapters in Ubon Ratchathani and other nearby provinces in Thailand attended the meeting. The discussion focused on disaster management preparedness, logistics arrangement in relief operation, and movement collaboration in disaster management activities. The meeting also discussed ways forward for TRCs to support the operation in Attapeu in year 2020 onwards.

Viet Nam Red Cross Receives Delegation From Lao PDR on Mission To Learn About Emergency Fund



Photo credit: Viet Nam Red Cross Society

From 27-30 May, Lao delegation from the National Committee for Disaster Prevention and the Lao Red Cross made an official visit to Viet Nam to learn about sub-legislation and establishment of a dedicated disaster management fund decree, as well as best practices and challenges in disaster management. The delegation had the opportunity to discuss the above topics with Viet Nam Red Cross Society and Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority who shared their experience in establishment and management of emergency funds. The delegation also visited Hai Phong City to learn from their experiences in managing the funds. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Highlight Updates from National Societies

Indonesia

Indonesian Red Cross Provides Water, Sanitation, Healthcare Services To Support Recovery Operation in Central Sulawesi



Photo credit: Indonesian Red Cross

During 30 April - 13 May 2019, Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) in North Borneo sent four volunteers to assist in the transition and recovery operation in Central Sulawesi which was affected by earthquake, tsunami and liquefaction in September 2018. The team provided special assistance in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) with the focus on increasing resilience and empowering the affected people. The team worked with the community, to raise public awareness of the importance of clean and healthy habits and behaviors, in order to achieve changes in behavior. In addition, PMI North Borneo also supported the transition and recovery operation by sending an Emergency Primary Healthcare team to be stationed in the affected areas for two weeks (19-30 May). Click [here](#) to read the full story by PMI.

Indonesian Red Cross Sets Up First Aid Posts Ahead of Eid Celebration



Photo credit: Indonesian Red Cross

Ahead of the Eid celebration in early June 2019, the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) has prepared a First Aid Service Post (PP) which is equipped with the ambulance and medical crews along the roadside to assist many Indonesians who will be on homebound during the long holiday. PMI has set up 124 posts with 75 ambulances on standby. A total of 2,859 personnel, consisting of 81 doctors, nurses and volunteers 432 people 2,346 people are on duty 24 hours a day. The posts are set in several strategic locations, such as centers, markets, airports, ports, terminals and tourist attractions. Click [here](#) to read the full story by PMI.

Lao PDR

Lao Red Cross Trains Volunteers, Staff on Child Protection, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention



Photo credit: Lao Red Cross

During 2-4 May 2019, Lao Red Cross Headquarters and Attapeu Red Cross Branch conducted a training course on child protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention to 16 staff and volunteers from Attapeu Red Cross Branch. The participants came from 13 villages in the province. They will support the ongoing intervention by Lao Red Cross and IFRC to ensure the needs of vulnerable people, including women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities, are met following the principles of dignity, access, participation, and safety.

Myanmar

Myanmar Red Cross Society Discusses Findings on Migration, Displacement



Photo credit: Myanmar Red Cross Society

From 16-17 May 2019, the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) held a workshop in Yangon to discuss the findings of a new MRCS Assessment on Migration and Displacement. The workshop was an opportunity for the new MRCS Task Force on Migration and Displacement to discuss and input into the draft assessment findings. The workshop also included the first ever meeting of the Red Cross Movement Task Force on Migration and Displacement. The findings include: 1) Trends and dynamics related to migration and displacement in and from Myanmar; 2) Humanitarian needs at different stages of migration and displacement; 3) Role and activities of key stakeholders; and 4) Existing programmes and activities of MRCS related to migration and displacement. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Philippines

Philippine Red Cross Sets Up First Aid Stations, Welfare Desks To Provide Aid During Election



Photo credit: Philippine Red Cross

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) brought aid to a total of 12,766 individuals during the National and Local Elections on 13 May 2019, including those who needed to be transported due to fainting and suspected stroke. PRC set up 310 first aid stations and 158 welfare desks, which helped ensure the safety and well-being of thousands of Filipino voters. A total of 2,000 staff and volunteers were deployed, while 150 ambulances were mobilized and put on standby. Throughout the day, PRC provided blood pressure monitoring to 12,535 persons to ensure their well-being following the long queues at voting precincts. Staff and volunteers provided first aid to 132 patients who experienced minor illnesses. Click [here](#) to read the full story by PRC.

Singapore

Singapore Red Cross Signs Agreement With Singapore Civil Defence Force To Engage in Humanitarian Relief Work



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) signed a Memorandum of Intent with the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) to provide Civil Defence Lionhearters with opportunities to engage in humanitarian relief work. As part of the partnership, SRC will arrange for overseas humanitarian rebuilding trips for the CD Lionhearters. On the other hand, SCDF will facilitate the training of SRC volunteers in emergency preparedness knowledge and lifesaving skills through its Community Emergency Preparedness Programme. SCDF will also teach civil defence related module(s) for the Singapore Red Cross' range of humanitarian courses. Click [here](#) to read the story in the news.

Singapore Red Cross Appointed as Provider of CPR, AED Training



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

The Singapore Red Cross Academy (SRCA) has been appointed by a non-profit charity organization, Temasek Foundation Cares, as the training provider for the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) & Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Workshop for 5,000 citizens in 2019. As part of this initiative, a free CPR and AED Workshop was conducted for 30 people on 23 May. The workshop enabled members of the public to practise CPR and AED on the mannequins thereby familiarising themselves with the CPR techniques and usage of the AED machines.

Thailand

Thai Red Cross Helps Students in Nakhon Sawan Province Learn About Health, Hygiene, Access to Clean Water



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) visited four primary schools in Nakhon Sawan Province during 29-31 May 2019 to teach school children about basic healthcare, first aid, hygiene promotion, and clean water production. The students learn handwashing techniques and how to make homemade water filtration tools. TRCS, in collaboration with Dow Chemical, also provided drinking water distributor as well as hygiene and first aid kits in all the schools. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to see more images from the activity. Source: TRCS Facebook pages.

Viet Nam

Viet Nam Red Cross Conducts Pre-Disaster Meeting



Photo credit: Viet Nam Red Cross Society

Viet Nam Red Cross Society (VNRC) conducted a pre-disaster meeting on 22 May 2019, a routine exercise where VNRC Headquarters discussed with its branches from disaster-prone areas, partner National Societies, implementing partners, and relevant government agencies to review the achievements and lessons learned from the previous disaster season, and discuss, mobilize and prepare for what are to be projected in coming months. The event gives an opportunity for VNRC Headquarters and disaster-prone chapters to have dialogues and better understanding between each other on what needs to be done to ensure an effective disaster response. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

New Publications



Preparedness Effective Response Summary

This infographic provides an overview of the Preparedness Effective Response (PER) approach to disaster management including its principles, phases and components. Click [here](#) to download.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for June – August 2019

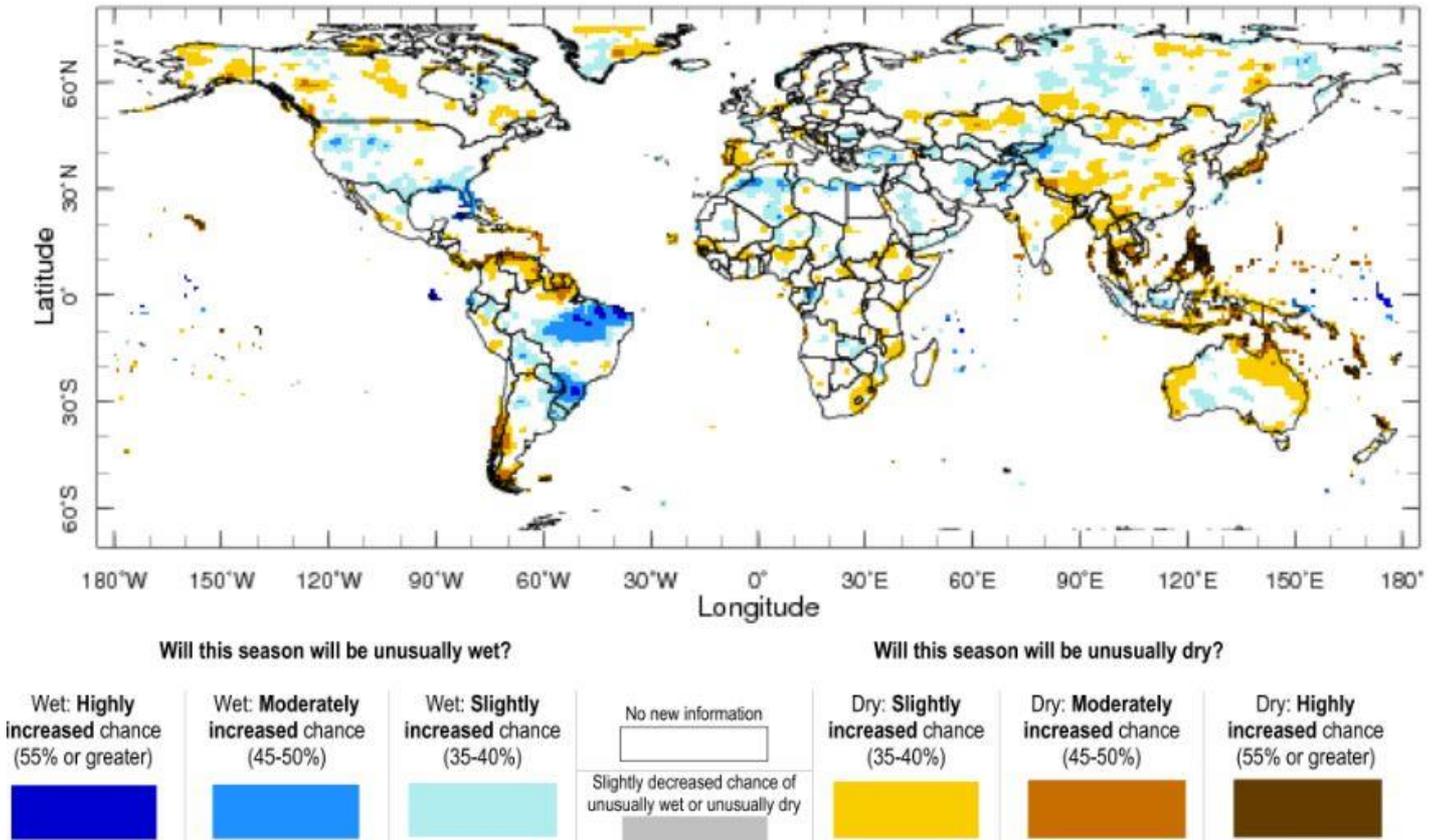
June	10-11	CBDRR & SBDRR Refresher Training for Thai Red Cross Society	Bangkok, Thailand
	15	Asia Pacific RCRC Regional EMS meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
	14&18	SGBV Simulation Exercise	Aklan & Tacloban, Philippines
	24-26	Proposal Writing Training (Red Ready Programme)	Lao PDR
	24-28	Asia Pacific Region Emergency WASH Training	Bandung, Indonesia
	24-28	Emergency Needs Assessment Coordination (ENAC)	Kelantan, Malaysia
	TBC	Warehouse Management Training (Red Ready Programme)	Lao PDR
July	2-3	Academic Seminar on Disaster Management (Thai Red Cross)	Bangkok, Thailand
	20	5th Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Conference "Partnerships and Volunteerism for Humanity"	Singapore
	23-25	Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on Migration & Displacement	Bangkok, Thailand
Aug	5-9	National Disaster Response Team Induction Training Course (Thai Red Cross)	Thailand
	13-19	WASH Training of Trainers (Thai Red Cross)	Thailand

Seasonal Forecast

April-June 2019

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

Forecast for Apr-Jun 2019, Forecast Issued Mar 2019



In March, the El Niño conditions which were declared by the US weather agency, NOAA, last month continue and are forecast to stay in place through the northern hemisphere Spring. We are approaching a time that is known as the "spring predictability barrier" during which our ability to predict whether an El Niño event will continue is low. Because of this, there is high uncertainty on whether this event will continue past the northern Hemisphere spring or if it will end in the next three months. It is important to note that we don't suddenly start to see impacts once an El Niño declaration is made, and that the impacts are seasonal, so El Niño does not affect every region during every season. In addition, every El Niño event is different so impacts may not be the same as in previous years. It is important to look at the seasonal forecast for areas where there is a highly confident forecast for potential changes to rainfall (the dark blue and dark brown areas of the map) for the best information on potential impacts. The seasonal forecast for the April - June season points to unusually dry conditions in parts of Australia, the Philippines, Indonesia and nearby countries, as well as unusually dry conditions in central America and parts of South America. Please see the map for details and reach out to the IFRC Helpdesk at ifrc@iri.columbia.edu if you would like further guidance on how to interpret this forecast.

Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

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