

Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

REGIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY AND RESILIENCE FORUM

Monthly Updates – November 2019



During 29-30 November 2019, Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) sent its Rapid Action Team (RAT) to support its Red Cross Chapter in Kanchanaburi Province in assisting over 450 Mon ethnic minorities who have taken refuge in Thailand following a clash that took place in Myanmar about two kilometres from its border with Thailand.

Welcome to our November 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:

IFRC in Bangkok Holds Forum on ‘*The Cost of Doing Nothing*’



Photo credit: IFRC

On 27 November, IFRC held a panel of discussion on the need for more investment in climate change adaptation as echoed in its latest report [The Cost of Doing Nothing](#), which presents an analysis showing that if no urgent action is taken now, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance annually due to the climate crisis could double by 2050. The panel was joined by regional humanitarian partners such as the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) to discuss how NGOs and their partners in Asia and the Pacific can work together to avoid a future marked by escalating suffering and ballooning response costs.

IFRC, AHA Centre Co-host Workshop on Management of International Assistance



Photo credit: IFRC

During 20-21 November 2019, the IFRC and AHA Centre organized a two-day workshop on the “Management of International Assistance” for Southeast Asia governments and Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies (NSs). The workshop reviewed the challenges and lessons learned from three major disasters in 2017-2018. Among those discussed is the importance of clearly identifying the government office responsible for declaring the request for or acceptance of international assistance, the latter of which is practiced more in comparison. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Highlight Updates from National Societies

Indonesia

Students Join Indonesian Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Training at School



Photo credit: Indonesian Red Cross

In October 2019, a total of 25 students of MTS Khaulul Ulum Penajung Aliau attended a 2-day disaster preparedness training offered by the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI). The school are among three schools target for this programme as they are from areas often affected by floods, landslides and earthquake. The purpose of the training was to help students respond better to disasters, understand how to act when the floods hit, and save others. Click [here](#) to read the full story by PMI.

Lao PDR

Lao Red Cross Conducts Training To Empower Huaphan Youth on Disaster Risk Reduction, Domestic Violence Prevention



Photo credit: IFRC

Lao Red Cross, under the USAID-funded Red Ready Programme, conducted Youth Empowerment in Community (YEC) and Youth in School Safety (YSS) in Huaphan Province during 24 Nov – 1 Dec 2019. The YEC training focused on educating youth about domestic violence and how they can help raise awareness on the topic within the community through roleplays. The YSS training focused on how to conduct risk assessment in school and measures that can be taken by students and teachers to reduce disaster risks. The activities were participated by 22 youths (11 females) from three schools.

Local Stakeholders in Flood-Affected Attapeu Trained in Disaster Risk Reduction, School Safety



Photo credit: IFRC

During 18-22 December 2019, the Lao Red Cross (LRC) carried out a Training of Trainer on Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) and School Safety for 25 participants representing five communities, local government agencies and LRC headquarter and branches working in the flood-affected areas in Attapeu Province. The five-day training aimed to equip them with knowledge and skills on disaster risk reduction, school safety and emergency warning system. By the end of the training, the participants were able to conduct vulnerability and capacity assessment as well as risk assessment in schools during 25-26 November.

Philippines

Philippine Red Cross deploys Goods, Equipment, Vehicles Ahead of Typhoon Tisoy



Photo credit: Philippine Red Cross

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) deployed a fleet of assets together with trained volunteers and staff to areas in Bicol forecast to be affected by Typhoon Tisoy on 2 December. A water tanker, ambulances, a food truck, a rescue truck and two rescue boats, a 10-wheeler truck and service vehicles were part of the convoy containing teams who are training-equipped and ready to assist the Red Cross chapters in the event of a disaster. Since Typhoon Yolanda, PRC has prepositioned goods, equipment and rescue vehicles in advance through its regional warehouses to avoid roadblocks and debris which may obstruct its assistance from

accessing affected areas. Apart from these vehicles and equipment, PRC has also made sure that it has volunteers on the ground who can relay information from the barangays, give updates about the situation in their areas and provide assistance as needed. Click [here](#) to read the full story by PRC.

Singapore

Singapore Red Cross Provides First Aid Coverage at National Bikers Weekend



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) volunteers provided first aid coverage at Singapore's National Bikers Weekend from 22 November to 24 November. The volunteers also took the opportunity to encourage members of the public to join SRC as Biker Community Responders. With this new initiative, SRC aims to expand its existing pool of community first aiders to better serve the community.

Singapore Red Cross Provides Free Health Screening in Community



Photo credit: Singapore Red Cross

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) Community Health on Wheels (CHoW) volunteers provided health screenings for beneficiaries of Bizlink Centre Singapore Ltd on 15 November, thereby enhancing their resilience. CHoW is a community-based mobile healthcare programme by SRC that brings free ancillary services and basic medical care directly to the heartlands. CHoW visits different parts of Singapore on designated weekends to provide health checks, physiotherapy services, psychosocial support and health counselling to the elderly and migrant workers. These services complement the nation's healthcare network, by making medical support more accessible and ensuring better continuity of care for patients.

Thailand

Thai Red Cross Conducts Workshop on Emergency Medical Services During Disasters



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

During 29-30 November 2019, Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) sent its Rapid Action Team (RAT) to support its Red Cross Chapter in Kanchanaburi Province in assisting over 450 Mon ethnic minorities who have taken refuge in Thailand following a clash that took place in Myanmar about two kilometers from its border with Thailand. TRCS including its RAT team conducted need assessment, provided health services, food and personal care items to the affected as well as assisted the Thai border authority in setting up temporary shelters.

Thai Red Cross Reviews Podul, Kajiki Response Operations



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

During 6-7 November 2019, the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) conducts a lesson-learned workshop to review its response to the Tropical Storms Podul and Kajiki that hit north and northeastern provinces of Thailand in August and September 2019. The workshop was attended by representatives from Red Cross Health Stations that took part in the operation, as well as the logistic company that supports TRCS in delivering relief items. The workshop was led by TRCS Relief and Community Health Bureau with the aim to review what worked well, challenges and what needs to be improved for future operations.

Thai Red Cross Helps Students in Singburi Prepares for Disaster



Photo credit: Thai Red Cross Society

Singburi Province, Students from Wat Pla Lai and Wat Suea Kham schools participated in School-Based Disaster Risk Reduction activities by the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) during 11-13 November. The students learned about basic first aid skills as well as how to operate an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to save lives. Virtual reality equipment was used to help students visualize and learn how to escape from fires. Source: TRCS [Facebook Page](#).

Viet Nam

Vietnam Red Cross Surveys Beneficiary Satisfaction of August Flood Operation



Photo credit: IFRC

From 11-15 November 2019, Vietnam Red Cross (VNRC) conducted post-distribution monitoring (PDM) visits to three provinces of Dak Lak, Lam Dong and Kien Giang to assess the beneficiary satisfaction against the services provided to the beneficiaries as a result of floods during the first half of August 2019 which triggered the launch of DREF Operation of CHF 299,608 to enable the VNRC to provide immediate needs to the most affected people. All in all, 313 out of 5,424 beneficial households were surveyed in 14 communes of three provinces which accounts for almost six per cent of the total households supported under this DREF Operation. From the PDM, 100% respondents satisfied with what they have received from VNRC after the floods such as water purification sachets, household items, unconditional cash grant as well as hygiene promotion and disease prevention and control. The PDM was followed by a Lessons Learned Workshop where it was recommended that the amount of cash grant be revised according to minimum expenditure basket (MEB) as well as the revision of its relief guideline (both cash and NFIs).

Featured Story

Helping children overcome their fears after the Maluku earthquake



Photo credit: IFRC

It's drizzling in Maluku, Indonesia, where communities have recently been affected by an earthquake, but that doesn't affect the cheerful mood of children participating in games about disaster preparedness at a temporary evacuation camp set up by the Indonesian Red Cross Society or Palang Merah Indonesia in the village of Waai.

The Indonesian Red Cross branch in the Maluku province has been conducting psychosocial support activities since early October. Sessions are conducted by 12 volunteers – all of them women – in the most affected areas of Maluku, mainly in the villages of Waai and Liang. Click [here](#) to read the story.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for December 2019

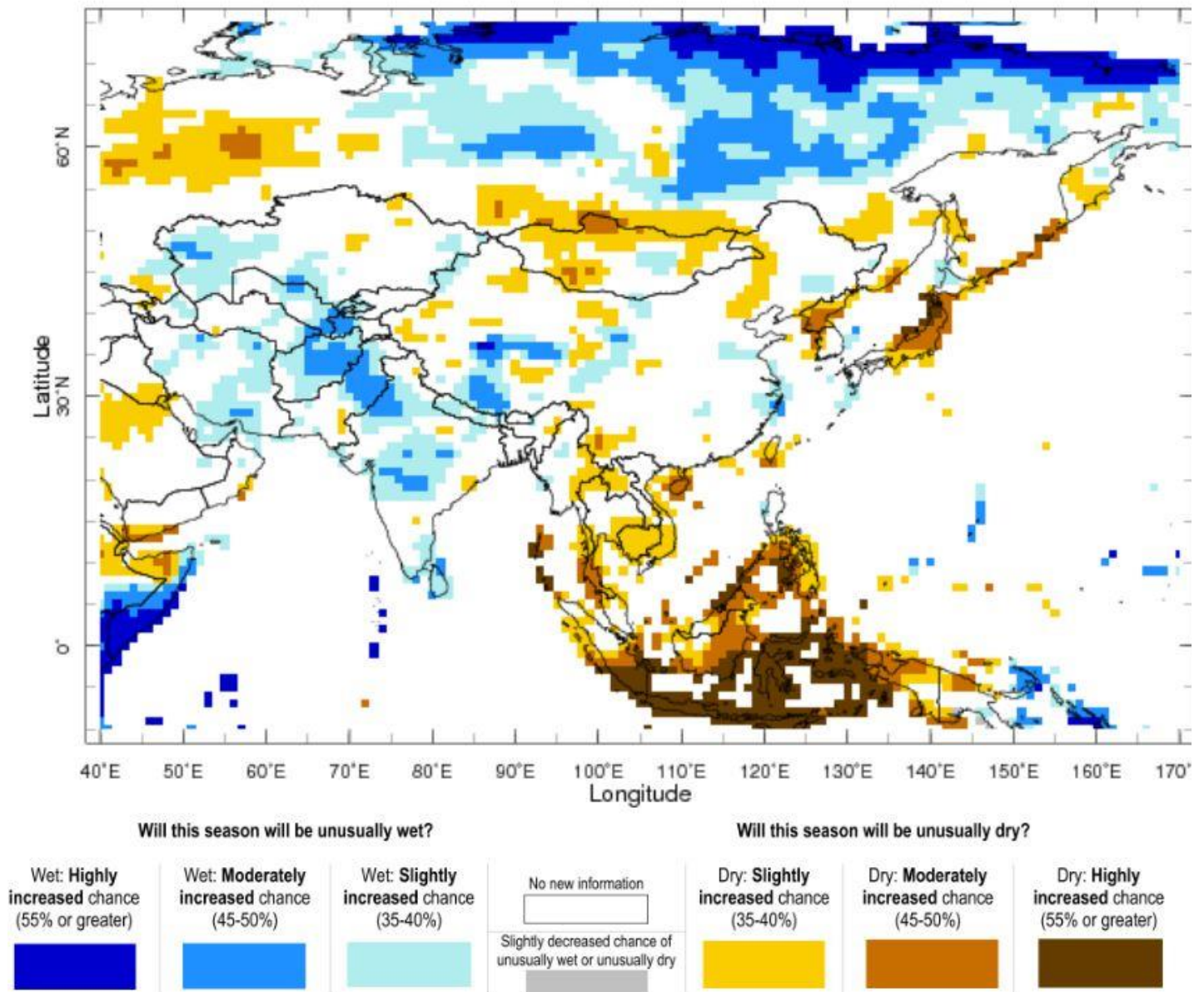
Dec	12-13	Regional Cash Preparedness Lessons Learned and Best Practices Workshop	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	17-22	Youth as Agent of Behavioral Change Training	Seam Reap, Cambodia
	16-27	Beneficiary Validation for Shelter, Livelihoods and Latrine construction in Attapeu, Laos	Attapeu, Laos
	13	Migration and HIV/AIDS Sensitization Meeting	Vientiane, Laos

Seasonal Forecast

October-December 2019

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

Forecast for Oct-Dec 2019, Forecast Issued Sep 2019



Meteorological agency in the respective Southeast Asian countries:

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

