

Mar
2015

Regional Community Safety and Resilience Unit (CSRU)

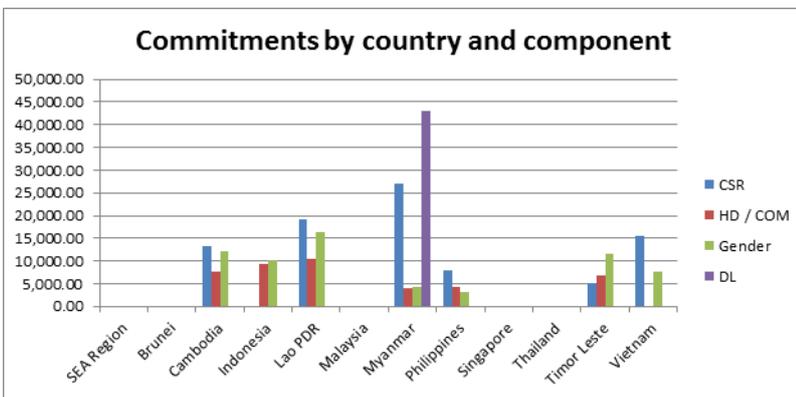
Overview of Activities

Planning Process of Regional Resilience Initiative 2015

As of end February, eight National Societies submitted their plans of action with priority activities to be supported for each of the four components of the initiative (CSR, Humanitarian Diplomacy / Communications, Gender and Diversity as well as Disaster law). The team held a series of internal meetings in February to review all proposed activities against the overall plan of the RRI and assess its overall feasibility. A draft Annual Work Plan was formulated and validated in principle by the Steering Committee Meeting participants held in Bangkok on 2 March 2015. Such meeting was held with the participation of Thai Red Cross (Dr. Barlee as the Chair of the CSR Forum), Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Government. PMI and Myanmar RC as well as AHA Centre also joined a session through conference call to share their experience and provide technical recommendations to the Steering Committee Members.

Following the validation of the draft plan, feedback was provided to National Societies through their respective country delegations in March and the final version of the plan was submitted to the Canadian Red Cross on 23 March. CRC is now reviewing the plan for submission to the Canadian Government.

The chart below shows the support committee to National Societies for in-country activities, based on the latest data available as of 31 March 2015. The team remains available throughout the year to discuss any new proposed activity.



Following the Steering Committee Meeting, the representatives from CRC Headquarters paid a courtesy visit to the Thai Red Cross Society on 3 March 2015.



Visiting Thai Red Cross Society National Blood Centre and Warehouse

Cooperation with AHA Centre within ACE Programme

[More information](#)

Preparations continued in March for RCRC upcoming contribution to the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme, taking place from February to August 2015. 16 participants from 8 NDMOs across South-East Asia are participating in this capacity-building programme. AHA Centre is providing two opportunities for RCRC to be involved:

- IFRC and PMI will jointly host an RCRC induction training for the ACE Programme trainees on 27-29 April 2015 in Semarang (in the PMI training centre). This will be an opportunity to train the government representatives on RCRC, our activities and the way we operate, both in emergencies and in promoting community safety and resilience. Disaster Law and Humanitarian Diplomacy will also be part of the programme. In addition, the trainees will have a chance to learn from PMI programming through field visits in Yogyakarta, Padang and Aceh, to be held after the training in Semarang.
- AHA Centre is welcoming participants from National Societies from ASEAN Member States to join their government representatives in selected modules of the ACE Programme curriculum. A selection process for such NS participants was launched mid-March and the final list will be announced early April 2015.

Disaster Law



CVTL members at the HCT disaster response simulation exercise



Introductory session to disaster law at CVTL Headquarters

February and March have been busy months for disaster law in South East Asia, with some key developments taking place across the region. In **Timor Leste**, IFRC and Cruz Vermelha de Timor Leste (CVTL - Timor Leste Red Cross) participated in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) disaster response simulation exercise at the end of February. The outcomes of this exercise included recommendations to strengthen the national legal and policy framework for DM and response.

An OCHA civil-military coordination workshop took place in Dili that same week, which included a session on IDRL presented by the IFRC Regional Disaster Law Delegate, who was also on the facilitation team for the simulation exercise. CVTL also hosted a disaster law introductory session at their new headquarters, and discussions were held between CVTL, IFRC, UNDP and the NDMD (Ministry of Social Solidarity) about the ongoing role of IFRC and CVTL in revising the national DM policy and developing the new DM law, and the possibility of holding an IDRL workshop in Dili later in 2015. For more information about the simulation exercise [click here](#).

In **Cambodia**, the new disaster management law was submitted to the National Assembly for final comments and approval in February 2015. The Regional Disaster Law Delegate joined the Head of Regional Delegation on mission to Cambodia that same month, to undertake discussions on disaster law activities with the Secretary General and Head of Disaster Management of Cambodia Red Cross. Follow-up activities may include preparing dissemination and information materials about the new law once it is adopted, and also working with Cambodia Red Cross, the National Committee for Disaster Management and external partners such as UNDP on developing the implementing sub-decrees for the law. It is anticipated that the law will be approved later in 2015.



In early March, meetings on **disaster law developments in the Philippines** were held in Manila with key stakeholders including Philippine Red Cross, the Department of Foreign Affairs, UN OCHA and the Philippines Congress. An IDRL report is currently being finalized, which will feed into a review of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act from 2010. The idea of establishing a Philippines International Disaster Law Association was also discussed, as well as plans to implement a long-term proposal which will incorporate ongoing work on IDRL and also new initiatives in Law and DRR.

A session on ‘Disaster Law in the Asia Pacific: A Humanitarian Imperative’ was held at the **International Humanitarian Law Conference in Kuala Lumpur**, where the Assistant Secretary General for the United Nations and International Organizations from the Philippines Department of Foreign Affairs spoke about IDRL developments in the Philippines and experiences after Typhoon Haiyan. The conference included legal advisors and representatives from National Societies and governments in South East and East Asia, including from the Philippines, Myanmar, Malaysia and Vietnam.



Meeting with Cambodian RC Secretary General



Meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs in the Philippines



Disaster Law session in International Humanitarian Law Conference in KL

Tsunami Residual Fund (TRF)

Preparation meeting for Command Post Exercise (CPX)

TRC Relief and Community Health Bureau invited representative from Provincial Red Cross Chapter, Red Cross Health Station and Provincial Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) in tsunami affected provinces to the preparation meeting for Command Post Exercise (CPX), which is the core activity of Integrated Mock Exercise activity, to clarify the arrangement and process of CPX. The meeting was held during 23-24 March 2015 at Boat Lagoon Hotel and Resort in Phuket Province. CPX activity is scheduled on 8 April 2015.



Preparation Meeting of Thai Red Cross and Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation in Phuket

Post Emergency – Flood Preparedness Programme

Activity 1.6 Build Warehouse/Storage Location for Water Purification Units and Flat-bottomed boats (activity completed in Q1/2015)

The construction of the final phase according to the contract is completed. Relief and Community Health Bureau by The Thai Red Cross Society (RCHB) is processing the payment process. The financial document should reach the project team by the beginning of April.

During the final phase hand-over, the team tested the operation functions, equipment functions, safety issue, etc. The committee team found that some installed functions eg. boat racks which designed to shelf flat-bottomed boats (2-story) have operation and safety problems. The hoist equipment also has problem as it sway while pulling up boats.

Within the same week, the committee had a meeting with the Architect who design the warehouse and committee team to discuss how to solve these problems and what are some additional function that needed to be installed. The team went to Anghong warehouse with the Architect on 20 March to re-test functions, equipment and make the conclusion on what are additional adjustments, equipment, signage installation needed. This will incur additional expenses which RCHB needs to discuss and locate the budget internally.

Activity 1.20 Disaster Relief Operation Response Team Seminar – a collaboration session with Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)

The session was conducted with about 22 participants joining the round-table discussion from Erawan center, Central DDPM, Bangkok Fire and Rescue Department, Head of 6-BKK district representing 50 BKK districts, National Institute of Emergency Medicine (NIEMS), Health Department and Relief Community and Health Bureau(RCHB) team.

The summary of agreed collaboration for Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) is the following:

- Medical and Public Health Services : Erawan Center will be the center for incident report, coordination and communication center during normal situation and emergency situation. During large scale of emergency situation, the center will set up emergency operation center for medical and public health. There are 3 levels of operational plan: Erawan 1 – private and public hospital plus 57 network hospital, Erawan 2 - private and public hospital and network outside BKK and perimeter area, Erawan 3 – there are specialist which may also work in level 2 or 3.
- Other Types of Emergency Service (all except medical and public health) : All emergency assistants under BKK area are services through Bangkok Fire and Rescue Department, other type of relief assistance to vulnerable group – children, elderly, disabled people are through Social Development and Human Security Office. The relief assistance will be based on the level of disaster.
- Relief assistance to immigrants: TRC with the equality principle, helping all without discrimination provides consumer goods eg. Fire relief kit, family kit, mosquito net, rice, clothing, and donated items. For example in case of fire, TRC provides 1 fire relief kit per 2 persons, 1 set of family kit per a family depending on the basic evaluation.

Supports needed from BKK districts to immigrants: District to confirm the status of immigrant group as disaster/emergency victims by asking questions to find out information eg. number of household, family member, special group, etc. In the case that district office has not/cannot get the information for relief assistance, the district office will help TRC to coordinate with the contact person for TRC to be able to survey and evaluate the needs from this group.

Activity 1.37 Disaster Preparedness for Senior Citizen



Activity during the workshop of disaster preparedness targeted at senior citizen

The workshop of disaster preparedness for senior citizen was conducted in Ayutthaya Province on 6 March. Total participant was 62 people (male 26/female 36). Participants are senior citizen group, age 60 and over with good health and able to take care of themselves. However, a few of them are illiterate but they receive the help from group member and staffs. Each session, participants are divided into a group of 10 people with one RCHB staff per group. Overall, the unit sees the improvement from participants after the training as reflected from the knowledge / understanding score. All participants said they could apply the learning in real life.

Activity 1.15 Improve and upgrade Disaster Database and IT system (GIS)

RCHB with GIS allied network organized a meeting with Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL) and 24 local government units and relevant organizations to discuss about the GIS pilot testing cooperation for Ayutthaya province. The meeting took place on 31 March 2015 in Ayutthaya Town Hall, and chaired by the Governor of Ayutthaya province.



During the meeting, it was decided that the Provincial Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) will be the main coordinator from Ayutthaya province and will set up the project committee to help develop the system. The province has statistic and useful information that can provide to GIS team. The suggestion from the provincial side is to pilot at the lowest area at Sena district.

Suggestions from Ayutthaya on the requirements:

1. Effective Warning system
2. Geographic information: mainstream and tributary, canals, contour information to help forecast and planning
3. Relief assistance eg. relief kit distribution.
4. Prevention system with details and accurate information.
5. Relief assistance resources eg. Human resources, boats, generator, food.
6. Relief assistance in tracking system and recovery system.

School Based Disaster Risk Reduction Pilot Project in Myanmar

School based Risk Reduction Initiative has been rolled out in Myanmar at 10 schools. The developed module and tools will be tested at those selected 10 schools for almost one year.

In this connection; MRCS organized one day consultative meeting on 23 March to collect the feedback on developed module and tools from national level partners; government official. Total 30 people were at room and out of them 16 represented teachers; Township Education Authority and Education development office.

These representatives were outlined their expectations from MRCS as:



- Field Level Trainings for Schools, Township staff and other local organisations
- Conducting drills and evacuation plans. Ensuring each school in the coverage area has a DM Plan.
- Production and dissemination of IEC material
- Providing Emergency Response equipment and support.
- Resource support for emergency preparedness to other agencies
- As active member of local committees, it is expected that MRCS will facilitate formation of local committees for DRR

Those feedbacks will also support to finalize the module and tools. The learning of this implementation along with other National Societies like Thai RC, Philippines RC, Timor Leste Red Cross, Lao Red Cross; Indonesia Red Cross and Cambodia Red Cross will help to finalize the module and tools in the first quarter of 2016. This is belief that this module and tools will put our National Societies in the Centre of School based initiative in their specific country context.

One of the school will integrate YABC (Youth as Agent for Behavior communication) to establish linkages between students of school and youth of the host community. The process of YABC integration into ongoing School based Risk reduction will be documented at the end of the project for the future reference.

Training/workshop/meeting

Malaysian Red Crescent Climate Change Training 14 – 16 March 2015

SEARD sent one team member to lead the three day training from 14-16 March 2015 on climate change as per the request of Malaysian Red Crescent(Sarawak Branch). SEARD facilitated this training programme along with Malaysian Red Crescent staff member from Headquarter who were trained by SEARD in 2013. The participants were 20. Total 8 Male and 12 female. Participants show their interest in learning about how to adjust climate smart components into their current activities. They understood the causes and impact of climate change in generally. Participants also got a clear understanding of early warning early action in term of Disaster risk reduction and health.



Role play: RC building relationship with government agencies and donors.



Exercise on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and DRR



Participation of South-East Asian National Societies in World Conference on DRR, Sendai

Below is the participant list from South-East Asian National Societies:

National Society	Name	Designation
Indonesia RC	Mr. Arifin Muhammad Hadi	Chair of Regional DM Working Group and Head of DM
	Mr. Sumarsono	Board member in charge of DM
Lao RC	Mr.Thongphachanh Sonnasinh	Vice President
Myanmar RC	Prof. Dr. Tha Hla Shwe	President
Philippines RC	Mr. Richard Gordon	Chairman
	Ms. Gwendolyn Pang	Secretary General
	Mr. Roderic Salve	Manager, DM Service
Viet Nam RC	Mr. Chau Minh Dang	Deputy Secretary General and Director of International Department
CVTL	Mr. Jose Pereira da Conceicao	President
Thai RC	Dr. Amnat Barlee	Chair of Regional CSR Forum and Director of Relief and Community Health Bureau
	Mr. Withtawat Suntawan	Youth representative (volunteer during flood 2011)
Cambodian RC	Ms. Hang Pisey	Youth representative (Youth programme officer in DM)



Representatives from Thai RC, Myanmar RC, Lao RC and Timor Leste RC (CVTL), together with IFRC colleagues at a side event of WCDRR.



Clockwise starting from middle: Dr. Barlee (Thai RC), Indira Kulenovic, Thongphachanh Sonnasinh Vice-President of Lao RC, Chairman Gordon of Philippines RC, Chau Minh Dang Deputy Sec Gen/Head of Int. Depart of Vietnam RC, Prof. Tha Hla-shwe - President of Myanmar RC, and Jose Pereira da Conceicao - President of Timor Leste RC



Advocacy: World Conference on DRR Updates

[Link to Stories: dropbox and Sendai Website](#)



Tweet-a-thon on *#resiliencenotsilence*



#StepUpDRR

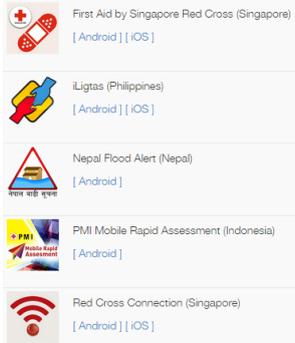
For the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) March 14-18 in Sendai, SE Asia’s online contribution was supplemented with a complete social media content package, with suggested tweets and images – promoting the work of regional NS in DRR – and tips for getting involved during the conference (e.g. taking part in a “tweet chat” *#StepUpDRR* hosted by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre). The package, produced by SEARD’s CSRU, was largely used by the Indonesian Red

Cross and Philippine Red Cross, the latter of which organized their own “tweet-a-thon” during the conference, focusing on the topic of resilience and using the hashtag *#resiliencenotsilence*.

As well as the social media package, CSRU submitted 24 success stories to the UNISDR-led “Road to Sendai” campaign, published at <http://www.roadtosendai.net/successes>

No	Success Stories
1	When First Aid Training Becomes Personal - Singapore Red Cross
2	Befriending Mr. De Silva - Singapore Red Cross
3	Community Ownership in the Flow of Water - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
4	Planting Mitigation, Harvesting Coffee - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
5	Debunking Myths, Preventing Malaria - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
6	Building A Fortress of Mutual Assistance against Disaster - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
7	Avian Influenza Awareness Campaign - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
8	"Begins with Me"- Integrating DRR into School Education - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
9	Transitional Shelter - Bamboo Houses - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
10	Integrating Women into Community-Based Risk Reduction Projects in Indonesia - Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia)
11	Mangrove Plantation in Viet Nam - Measuring Impact and Cost Benefit by Viet Nam Red Cross
12	Viet Nam Red Cross - Cash Transfer Programming in Emergencies
13	Viet Nam Red Cross Preparing for Climate Change in Viet Nam
14	The Impact of Disaster Risk Reduction Field Sessions by Myanmar Red Cross Society
15	Myanmar Red Cross Society Reaching Out to the New Generation
16	Myanmar Red Cross - Reducing Risks and Mobilising Government Support
17	Myanmar Red Cross - Women Firefighters Help Build Safer Communities
18	Myanmar Red Cross - Classroom Learning Empowers Students and Community
19	Youth Volunteers Champion Road Safety - Cambodian Red Cross
20	Lao Red Cross: Working in Partnership with People Living with HIV
21	Philippines Red Cross - How Communication can Save Lives in the Aftermath of Typhoon Bopha
22	Malaysian Red Crescent Society - Practice Makes Perfect

23	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste - Recovery and Risk Reduction through Livelihood Support
24	Thai Red Cross Society - Resilience and Solidarity in Thailand's 2011 Floods



CSRU also nominated PMI and Singapore RC mobile applications for DRR to be promoted at WCDRR. These were accepted and promoted on the official website at <http://wcdrrbag.info/FeaturedApps.php>

Advocacy: Usage of Social Media



Tweeting for World Water Day

SEARD staff were mobilized to take part in tweeting for World Water Day on March 22 and International Women Day on March 8. A set of suggested tweets and accompanying images – in line with global IFRC messaging – were prepared and shared, promoting the work of the regional National Societies.



Participation in the global IFRC Ebola campaign. Photos of members of the SEARD office were taken and tweeted, using the hashtags #WordsforEbola

Following one on February 26, a second Asia Pacific-wide Twitter webinar was co-facilitated by Kate Jean Smith and Geneva/Zone offices on April 2. The first webinar introduced the platform of Twitter and why and how National Societies and staff can use it to promote their work, connect with communities, raise awareness of DRR and respond to disasters. This second installment focused on the practicalities of the platform – including how to set up an account, how to use hashtags effectively, top tips for tweeting and how to grow your number of followers. Both webinars were recorded – the links to access online will be available shortly on FedNet. In the meantime, please contact CSRU for more info.

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Knowledge and Information Management

[Audience Overview March 2015](#)

South-East Asia's Road to Resilience

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The Community Safety and Resilience Unit (CSRU)



 International Federation
Of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
South-East Asia Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand

[Red Cross Red Crescent Societies](#) save thousands of lives with exceptional results every year. This is because of the network of volunteers who prepare for and respond to disasters. However, preparing for and responding to disasters is essential but not enough. Every year, droughts, floods, cyclones, earthquakes, landslides and other hazards affect over 267 million people around the world. Climate variability is expected to increase the frequency and severity of natural hazards, and will heighten the vulnerability of communities to cope with the devastating impact of disasters. So, there is a need to invest in strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people and communities in order to remove underlying causes of vulnerability. And resilience is the ability of individuals and communities to; reduce, cope with, and recover from catastrophes without compromising long term prospects.

On these pages, you will find a collection of resilience items on: disaster risk reduction, and health and care response tools, climate change references, and so on for sharing. Some of these items have been in the IFRC's Southeast Asia Regional Office's archives, and others have recently been collected from all the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the Southeast Asia Region, from: [Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society](#), [Cambodia Red Cross](#), [Palang Merah Indonesia](#), [Lao Red Cross](#), [Malaysian Red Crescent](#), [Myanmar Red Cross](#), [Philippine Red Cross](#), [Singapore Red Cross](#), [Thai Red Cross](#), [Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste](#) and [Viet Nam Red Cross](#). These are not complete as yet but we are moving toward that direction.

We are currently overhauling and updating this online library and we apologize for any resulting inconvenience. However, the pages and documents will remain readable and upload-able. We hope to see you soon in our newly updated online library!

Pertinent Documents

Resilience Unit Concept Note

The online library at <https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/home> is work in progress with constant updating. There is an increase of number of users visiting the library, now reaching 482 users during the month of March. Latest addition to the library includes:

- [Resilience in global context](#) and [in South-East Asia](#)
- [Migration](#)
- [Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum 2014](#)

Additionally, the office hard copy/CD library (including books/guides/manuals/overview booklets) **inventory list** is now available to help users to search through our office library [here](#).

Documentation

The documentation process on the contribution of NSs to the HFA and AADMER is also ongoing:

- In Myanmar, the HFA report in English is now finalized and the translation in Myanmar language is being finalized.
- In Thailand, both English and Thai versions are ready and final validation by TRCS is under process.
- In Indonesia, a first draft report was produced mid-March and feedback is being compiled for the consultant to produce an updated version.
- Philippine RC should be starting the process soon as well.

Any other country interested in the process can contact the team.

Publication

[Social Capital Study](#)

- Following the completion of translation process, Thai RC and IFRC have sent the draft of **Sphere in Thai** language to a designer who liaised with the printing company for layout artwork before final proofread and approval for printing.



Building safer and more resilient communities
in Southeast Asia

- **Case studies on epidemic control of volunteers** in Myanmar and Indonesia are to be published and shared in April/May
- **An overview of Gender and Diversity** including example projects from the region expected to be published and shared in April/May
- **Series of infographics explaining social capital** and why it is important to the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent expected to be published and shared in May. For the report of social capital study already conducted, please refer to this [link](#).
- **Articles published in 'AP Voices'** quarterly zone newsletter (including stories on a Myanmar RC volunteer; the Singapore Red Cross celebrating their 65th Anniversary; the Resilience Workshops in Bangkok and Malaysia; and a story on health facilities rise from the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan). Visit the AP Voices (AP Zone Newsletter) updated regularly on <http://www.ifrc.org/asia-pacific> at the right hand corner.
- **Southeast Asia RCRC Regional E-Newsletter New!**
First edition will be issued in first week of April, and the quarterly newsletter will be promoting the work of NS in the region, news from around the network and spotlighting colleagues and partners.
To add your name to the email list – or to nominate story ideas or give feedback – please contact Kate Roux and Kate Smith in the email below.

Upcoming Events for April and May 2015

27-29 April 2015	RCRC induction for AHA Centre capacity-building programme	Semarang, Indonesia
2 nd week of June 2015	DL workshop postponed the second week of June	Tbc
Tbc	Asia Pacific Coalition for School Safety strategic workshop	Bangkok

For further information please contact:

Sanjeev Kafley, Email: sanjeev.kafley@ifrc.org

Hervé Gazeau, Email: herve.gazeau@ifrc.org

Rommanee Klaeotanong, Email: rommanee.klaeotanong@ifrc.org

Juthamane Khotchasarnmanee (Fiat), Email: juthamane.khotchasarnmanee@ifrc.org

Nutchapang Khowinij (Tum), Email: nutchapang.khowinij@ifrc.org

Kate Jean Smith, Email: katejean.smith@ifrc.org

Warongrong Tatrakom (Ying), Email: warongrong.tatrakom@ifrc.org

Angeline Tandiono, Email: angeline.tandiono@ifrc.org

Katherine Roux, Email: katherine.roux@ifrc.org

Lucia Cipullo, Email: lucia.cipullo@ifrc.org