



SOUTHEAST ASIA RCRC YOUTH TRENDS

Issue 4, 2016

YOUTH SPEAKS



Cambodia - Youth



Last month (22 March 2016), Cambodian Red Cross Communications Officer and Youth as Agents of Behavioral Change Peer Educator, Mr Sorn Sotheapanha, 24, joined the South Asia Youth Network online webinar to present on youth integration into Red Cross programmes through YABC. Taking part in the webinar were APYN/SAYN members, NS Youth Officials, NS Youth Leaders, IFRC youth focal points, programme staff from NS and IFRC for peer to peer support.

In his presentation, Mr Sotheapanha shared his National Society's success in integrating youth into HIV/AIDS programming, sharing the example of YABC initiation from their Siem Reap branch. "Siem Reap youths changed their mindset, attitude and behavior through a YABC training. They developed their own action plan according to a situation analysis of Siem Riep, an area highly prone to HIV/AIDS, and engaged with HIV/AIDS positive people with heart and with empathy.

"The YABC tool is an approach to address social issues in a constructive way but also to engage youths in a programme in a meaningful way."

Want to know more, please contact Mr. Sorn Sotheapanha (s.panha770@yahoo.com).



ASEAN Cooperation

Over two days, March 14-15, in Phnom Penh, the ASEAN Secretariat hosted a workshop finalizing the ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2016-2020 & the proposed ASEAN Youth Development Index (YDI). Attending, with invitation from the ASEAN Education Youth and Sports Division (EYSD) were Red Cross youth and IFRC youth representatives Mr. Lai Wai Keat, Chair of the Southeast Asia Youth Network, Malaysia Red Crescent Society and Ms. Naomi Akamatsu, IFRC Asia-Pacific Youth and Organizational Development Delegate.

One of the main outcomes of the event was the **IFRC YABC Toolkit and Training** becoming part of the action plan for the ASEAN Youth Action 3.3 ("Promotion of better understanding and appreciation of different cultures, customs, and faiths in the region among ASEAN Member States to establish a strong foundation to actualize a region of lasting peace".)

At the meeting, ASEAN members showed an interest in how **RCRC Volunteering Opportunities and Youth Leadership Development** increases youth employability through skills training and life-long education, and how RCRC Programmes connect with the **National Youth Development Index (YDI)**. YABC will be included in the future youth development programme and there's a plan to conduct the training in ASEAN countries with help from the respective National Societies. More meetings will be conducted in the near future to determine the way and execution mechanism for YABC.



YOUTH ACTS

Laos - Youth Saving Accident Victims

The Lao Red Cross launched a campaign to provide first aid to road traffic accident (RTA) victims during the Lao New Year festival. The team was deployed for a week (11th – 18th April 2016) in the capital city of Vientiane, working in tandem with rescue teams.

The team - comprising of 88 volunteers, of which 24 are females - provided first aid to 74 RTA victims. Prior to their deployment, the volunteers were given additional first aid training by trainers to prepare them.



Myanmar-New Youth Committees

In August 2015, Myanmar Red Cross Society amended its law to reflect the need to recruit members and community volunteers from diverse groups of the country.

According to the Law Section 17 (g), the National Society is forming new Youth Committees at branch level, and encouraging youth representatives from various States and Regions to participate in the General Assembly (of which 15 out of 188 are Youth Members).



SEAYN youth member from Myanmar is encouraging youth participation in General Assembly in the “General Assembly Advocacy Workshop” in Chin State.

Malaysia - Kuantan Chapter Youth for Disability

During 23-24 April, 88 students took part in a first aid training organized by SMK Sg. Isap Murni (part of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society Kuantan Chapter). Three of the participants were students with special needs (deaf & mute), a teacher volunteering to be their interpreter using sign language. “It’s amazing to see how our special needs students manage to communicate and keep pace with the rest of the participants. Their dedication and commitment was highly appreciated by the MRCS facilitator, and we’re looking forward to conduct more courses to cater for our youths!”





Thailand - Youth Ambassadors

On the occasion of H.M. the Queen's birthday anniversary, the Red Cross Youth Bureau of the Thai Red Cross Society organized "2016 Red Cross Youth Ambassador" (17– 22 March) in Chachoengsao province.



Red Cross Youth Ambassadors are selected based on their knowledge and health, as well as proven records of consistent voluntary services in their communities. Coming from various provinces, they gathered at the camp to learn about the history, roles and responsibilities of the Thai Red Cross and the Movement. Through diverse activities, they played, practiced and completed tasks designed to enhance their competencies, leadership/fellowship skills, personality and intelligence. As youth representatives of the country, the winners and runners-up will contribute their services for the Thai Red Cross Society by promoting Red Cross activities, encouraging people in voluntary services and being role-models for youth: demonstrating good health, knowledge, service and spirit for societies.



Indonesia – National Youth Gathering Preparation

Every five years, a national youth gathering brings together youth from across National Societies to exchange ideas and opinions, share life experiences, and discuss cultural perspectives, education, strategic planning and services in the community.

This coming July the Indonesian Red Cross will host the 8th National Youth Gathering, bringing together Red Cross Youth from local and national levels, including all provinces across Indonesia, as well as from sister societies.

The 2016 camp will be held in Pangkajene dan Kepulauan (Pangkep) – South Sulawesi in Sulawesi Island, in the middle of the Indonesian archipelago, from 25-31 July. The theme? "Smart, Humane and Responsive".

On the agenda for the 7-day camp will be: 'Youth as Journalists', 'Youth Action', a 'Youth Conference' with talks relating to youth issues among teenagers/youth (including narcotics and addictive substances/drugs), 'Safe Riding', 'Reproductive Health & HIV/AIDS', 'Gender and Diversity', 'Disability Inclusion', 'Violence Prevention', 'Disaster Risk Reduction and Diseases', 'Community Service', edutainment, friendship, sports, and excursions to explore the culture and tourist areas of South Sulawesi.



Selection Process through art performance contest in West Java Province



Application of participants in Jakarta Province

YOUTH UPDATES

Singapore



Meanwhile in Singapore on March 12, 1,250 Red Cross Youth members from the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) joined the First Aid Championships (FAC). This year saw a new awards system applied, ranking youth teams as bronze, silver and gold.

In an effort to empower schools, FAC 2016 introduced two new initiatives:

- 1) A one week First Aid training before the competition
- 2) A comprehensive Competitors' Guidebook including details of rubrics and the new grading system, guidelines on various first aid treatments, and even a suggested team structure.



With these refinements, Red Cross Youth members can tap into their youthful power and energy to create a culture in which they are first aid advocates, inspiring family members and friends to learn first aid as well.

Philippines



From April 8-12 a YABC Peer Educators training was held in the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) with the funding support of Danish Red Cross. Attending were 15 youths, with facilitation by the Youth and Volunteering Officer from the IFRC Bangkok Cluster Country Support Team, a staff member from the Singapore Red Cross Society and a volunteer from the Sri Lankan Red Cross Society.

This training developed a Youth in Non-Communicable Disease tool integrating YABC sessions with the Non-Communicable Disease module. Participants developed action plans to implement the module in their Healthy Lifestyle programmes in communities and schools with the PRC youth department.

Vietnam

Vietnam Red Cross Society is working to strengthen youth and to enhance the service of the National Society, by changing mindsets and attitudes. In January 2016, the society held a discussion with the IFRC, deciding to host the YABC Peer Educators training in July in close collaboration with the Youth Union of Vietnam.

The training seeks to empower youths to lead community action and school action by their own design to change mindsets, attitudes and behaviours in a positive way. Participants subsequently joined the international Youth Camp organised by the Philippine Red Cross 25– 30 April.

Timor Leste

In news from Timor-Leste, Cruz Vermelha Timor-Leste is revising its current Youth Policy. Its draft has been shared with the IFRC.

Brunei

To commemorate World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, Brunei Darussalam RC Youth developed a poster on April 19 with the theme of “Everywhere for Everyone“. They carried a Henry Dunant Badge Camp from March 21-24 after a climate change awareness event on March 19.



Thailand

From 26-27 January, at the National Stadium in Bangkok, hundreds of participants from Red Cross Youth Volunteer Clubs, as well as teachers and youth instructors from Thai Red Cross Youth Bureau and schools throughout Thailand, gathered to commemorate the 94th Anniversary of Red Cross Youth. First Aid and marching competitions, a marching parade and a grand performance of nearly 1,000 Red Cross Youth marked the event.

As part of the First Aid competition on the 26th, more than 200 youth from Red Cross Youth clubs and schools passed the First Aid training course. At the same time, a marching competition in the stadium with 400 youth offered awards and the opportunity to take part in the opening of the celebration the following day.

On 27th January, HRH Princess Soamsawali presided over the Opening Ceremony, presenting awards to outstanding Red Cross Youth volunteers and instructors who have demonstrated continuous service to Red Cross Youth activities.

To honour Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, President of the Thai Red Cross Society, on her devotions to the Thai people, the ceremony ended with a display of CPR steps executed by 750 volunteers. The event marked the significance of empowering youth members, and celebrating their unity, friendship, dignity and voluntary spirit. Outstanding, impressive and well recognised were the youths themselves who witnessed the day's events.



Myanmar

During a week in late February (20-27th) 50 Korean Red Cross Youth from Daegu chapter visited Myanmar Red Cross Society to volunteer in the Mandalay Region.

Together with youth from Myanmar Red Cross Society, the Korean Red Cross Youth took part in planting, painting water storage tanks, fencing school compounds, establishing libraries, delivering friendship gift boxes and cultural exchange activities in the community. YABC Peer Educators took two sessions in the "Outstanding Red Cross Youth Camp, 2015" held on 25th March -1st April 2016 to address issues on gender, diversity, non-discrimination and peace.

