

- Greetings, Intro, housekeeping
- Today, we'll talk about Safer Access. What is SA? Safer = (....in thai), and Access = (...in thai).
- So, Safer access is a session to talk about how to access our work safely.
- SA includes working means for RC people to go and work in insecure or conflict situations.
- My name is Aekarad, Coop Program Officer, ICRC BKK.
- 1.5 hrs: PPT 20 mins and the rest of time will be for discussion and group work.
- ประมวลข้อปฏิบัติเพื่อเตรียมความพร้อมของสภากาชาดฯในสถานการณ์ที่สุ่มเสี่ยงและไม่ ปลอดภัย
- เพื่อให้ มั่นใจว่า จนท ที่เข้าไปทำงานช่วยคน หรือพื้นที่ ที่เดือดร้อน จะได้ รับความ ปลอดภัยิ
- Increasing acceptance, security and access to people and communities in need
- Intro of self, topic, given time and approach (20 mins presentation and group work approaches) for the day.
- This presentation gives an overview of the Safer Access core guide and highlights the benefits for all NS of incorporating the Safer Access approach into their overall assessment and planning processes. We will also explain

some of the new resources available to help implement the Safer Access approach.

(NS are encouraged to adapt this presentation to suit their specific audience and needs.)



- Good understanding and good preparation for work in conflict or insecure situations will ensure that RC works will not be blocked or in danger.
- Just some statistics:
 - In BC 2545, 12 Nepal RC staff were killed
 - BC 2546, 4 Ivory RC were killed
 - Same year BC 2546, 6 Uganda RC were attacked
 - BC 2549, 2Lebannese RC were attacked and injured
 - In 2510, TRC ambulance were stopped, and Chula hospital was blocked
- SA may not be new for many people. It's just a practice as of our common sense. But sometimes, we tend to forget about it.
- Safer Access Framework = SAF is therefore a tool for NS to understand and access to victims and conflict areas in a safety manner.
 - SAF includes problem, and risk.
 - Consequences which affect reputation, acceptance, towards the organization.
 - How to handle it.
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- The Safer Access Framework and approach is not new, you may have heard of it before, this is a revised version which involved 50 NS in developing the practical guide and resource tools
- The Safer Access Framework, or SAF for short, contains a set of actions and measures that can be taken by a National Society to reduce risks to its staff, volunteers and property when working in sensitive and insecure contexts.
- Taking these actions and measures will help to earn the trust and acceptance of people and communities in need and of those who control or influence access to them (gatekeepers).
- Before engaging in the SAF application process, it is crucial to consider the specific nature of the needs, challenges and risks generated by the context in which the National Society is working and its existing and desired capacities.



- In general, it can be used in all situations, conflict, disturbances and peace time.
- NS can refer to this SAF and include it in their risk assessment, planning and services provided to community.
- Note: It will help reduce risk and increase safety.
- The SAF is particularly relevant in situations involving violence or the risk of violence, which pose particular challenges to the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance to all those in need.
- It has also proved useful to many National Societies when applied in peacetime as part of their day-to-day activities or in preparation for anticipated sensitive or insecure situations.
- It is an operational approach, adapted specificall to your context by you with a focus on being pragmaticl
- National Societies are therefore encouraged to include the SAF approach in their ongoing organizational development and capacity-building processes.
- Sensitive and insecure contexts have their **own distinct characteristics** and challenges.
- Understanding those characteristics and challenges and incorporating actions and measures to address them is essential when planning and undertaking humanitarian action and devising an operational security risk management

strategy.

- The term *sensitive and insecure contexts* covers a broad range of situations, from those involving no violence but which nonetheless present National Societies with perception or acceptance issues to violent demonstrations, riots or spontaneous acts of revolt and to outright "armed conflict," as well as those combining characteristics of several different contexts.
- Security and access issues can also arise following a natural disaster or in situations where banditry, gang violence or other forms of criminality are present.

O ICRC	Who it is for
	WHY THE SAFER ACCESS FRAMEWORK IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL NATIONAL SOCIETIES 1 Increase your ability to 2 Prevent, reduce and avoid 3 Better meet the challenges
	Increase your ability to address the humanitarian needs of more people 2 Prevent, reduce and avoid security incidents which cause harm to your staff and volunteers 3 Better meet the trianenges of today's complicated and evolving humanitarian environments
Produced in cooperation with	 Fulfil your mandate and roles in sensitive and insecure contexts Adopt a more structured approach to increasing your security and access
nd Rad Crasent Societies	

- 1. Taking the actions and measures specified in the SAF, including rigorously applying the Fundamental Principles and adopting a more robust approach to operational security risk management, will enable you to assist more people more safely and effectively.
- 2. National Societies have a moral and legal obligation to protect the health, security and well-being of their staff and volunteers as well as their assets (including their reputation).
- 3. The SAF complements existing organizational development tools and approaches used by National Societies. The proposed actions and measures are intended to be incorporated into a National Society's overall development efforts and should not to be treated as a "stand alone" activity.
- 4. The SAF supports National Societies in carrying out their legal and statutory duties and responsibilities to organize, in liaison with the public authorities, emergency relief operations and other services to assist people and communities affected by armed conflict, as provided for in the Geneva Conventions, and those affected by natural disasters and other emergencies for whom help is needed. The materials provide clarity on the mandate and roles of a National Society in armed conflict and internal disturbances and tensions and support it in balancing its auxiliary role to the public authorities with its need to operate independently and neutrally in accordance with the Fundamental Principles.
- 5. Taking a more structured and systematic approach to address gaps, barriers, risks and challenges to security and access in sensitive and insecure contexts

has proved to be much more effective than an ad hoc, reactive, learn-as-yougo method. Slide 4

NJG1 Replace with newest version with different title. NICHOLAS GRISEWOOD, 04/01/2014



- Safer access can be seen as a perpetual cycle, which starts and ends with access.
- When National Society staff and volunteers are already working or in some cases living within communities during relatively peaceful times, they will most likely have already built relationships of trust and acceptance and a positive perception of their humanitarian mandate and roles. Despite this, if violence affects the community, specific actions by the National Society to maintain, reinforce and build its acceptance will be needed.
- If staff and volunteers are not present within the community identified as needing assistance and protection, an intensive acceptance-building strategy will need to be developed and implemented.
- Acceptance-building measures by a National Society should be part of its ongoing priorities, no matter what the context.
- The acceptance-building measures will in turn increase the National Society's acceptance by the community, gatekeepers and other stakeholders and ultimately its security and further access, especially in contexts where insecurity is heightened and access may be restricted.
- However, because of the particular characteristics of sensitive and insecure contexts, additional actions and measures may need to be taken to strengthen perception, acceptance and security if the National Society is to increase its access to affected people and communities in those contexts.

- The way in which an organization and its personnel are perceived by key stakeholders, particularly those controlling or influencing security and access to affected people and communities (gatekeepers), has a direct impact on its acceptance by those same stakeholders and therefore on its ability to deliver humanitarian assistance safely.
- The more active and attentive a National Society is in its efforts to gain acceptance and the greater its capacity to contact, communicate and negotiate with all gatekeepers, including armed actors, the better its security and access will be.
- Positive perceptions and a high degree of acceptance by stakeholders normally contribute to greater security. In addition, however, a thorough and professional operational security risk management system, which includes the identification, mitigation, prevention and management of operational risk, is required in today's world.



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- In fact, the RC Principles are not just "ideology" on posters and to be hung on the wall.
- RC Principles are more than that.
- To adhere or not to adhere to these principles, means a lot for the Movement and it can have a positive or negative impact towards to the RC in all levels, field, regional and international.
- •
- The Fundamental Principles humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality – are integral to National Societies' efforts to increase their acceptance and therefore to the SAF.
- The Fundamental Principles and the SAF support and reinforce each other.
- The Fundamental Principles are more than an ideology on a poster hanging in your office together they provide an effective operational tool to guide thought processes, communication, decision-making and practice in a way that will increase acceptance and security.
- Consistent adherence to the Fundamental Principles is a primary factor governing National Societies' and other Movement components' ability to gain wider acceptance and thus greater access to affected people and

communities in sensitive and insecure contexts.

• Adherence to or failure to adhere to the Fundamental Principles may have a direct impact, either positive or negative, on the security and access of your personnel and may affect the **Movement as a whole, including at the regional or global level**.



(This is just one slide to summarize quickly each element. A National Society may find it needs to go more deeply into these areas in order to ensure a solid understanding of each one. Using the SAF chart on page 50 of the guide, as well as the tools found at www.icrc.org/saferaccess, may be helpful in this regard.)

The SAF comprises eight elements, each focusing on a key area, as shown above. Each area brings together the preparedness actions and positioning or active acceptance measures that have been shown to

help increase a National Society's acceptance, security and access to people and communities with humanitarian needs in sensitive and insecure contexts.

Refer to Table 1 on page 16 of the guide for a concise summary of each element and to the SAF chart itself on page 50 for a more in-depth explanation.



- We can't argue is a well respected in this country. It has a good reputation.
- For instance, in big scale of national disasters like Tsunami, the Thai RC has been regarded as a humanitarian organization.
- However in conflict situation we have to accept that it is not easy for TRC to access all groups.
- Especially in conflict, we should analyse and realize who we are, what we mean for them. Without this, it's going to be difficult to profile ourselves in such situations.
- It should note that staff and volunteers are representatives of our RC Movement.
- Each of the eight elements of the SAF are like parts of a chain: interlinked and interdependent.
- Actions taken or not taken in connection with one element may therefore often have an impact on the others.
- A chain is only as strong as each link in it; should one link be weak or break, it would have a negative effect on the chain as a whole.
- The Fundamental Principles are woven into the SAF elements, illustrating the crucial role they play in application of each SAF element.
- The purpose of the SAF is spelled out in the Aim statement... (read the statement aloud)



Preferably a National Society should begin to prepare and position itself for acceptance by specifically identified key stakeholders well in advance of needing to respond in a crisis.

The SAF and its application tools support a structured assessment and planning process that is designed to:

- identify experienced, existing or anticipated gaps, barriers, risks and challenges to the National Society's acceptance, security and access
- determine the necessary short, mid and long-term actions required to address the gaps, barriers, risks and challenges
- promote and support the professionalization of the National Society's operational security risk management approach
- reinforce the application of the Fundamental Principles

The various stages of the application process are:

Manage: It is best to start by establishing a Safer Access focal point and steering group to support the application process. If a similar group already exists, it can take on this additional task.

Assess: The process itself begins with identifying the current/likely gaps, barriers, risks and challenges to the National Society's acceptance, security and access.

Do this by reflecting on the existing context, recent experience and possible

future scenarios.

Explore the root causes in order to increase the likelihood that the actions decided upon will resolve the issues identified.

Record the gaps, barriers, risks and challenges in the SAF assessment and planning tool.

Plan: Create an action plan using the SAF assessment and planning tool to capture initiatives that will address the gaps, barriers, risks and challenges as identified in the assessment process.

Use the SAF benchmarking and monitoring tool for reference to assist in highlighting the your National Society's current status and provide guidance on future steps to be considered.

Monitor: Benchmark your National Society's current status in relation to the actions and measures proposed in the SAF.

Determine the next steps required in order to raise that benchmark and to track progress made.

The SAF benchmarking and monitoring tool is intended to serve that purpose.

This process will also help the National Society keep abreast of the evolving context and risks, enabling actions to be adjusted as required.

A full review is recommended once a year.

Take action: Specific actions are required if security and humanitarian access are to be increased.

Integrate: The actions and their outcomes then need to be integrated into the National Society's policies, structures, systems, programmes and practice and staff and volunteers given appropriate guidance and training.

The SAF chart and assessment and planning tool can be used as a quick reference during operations when time may not be readily available for a lengthier process.

	SAF Tools	SAFER ACCESS SAVING
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As mentioned, a number of tools are available to support and facilitate application of the SAF:

- SAF chart: An essential tool describing the actions and measures relating to each of the eight SAF "elements." Also exists in the form of a quick reference chart
- Assessment and planning tool: A simple, comprehensive tool to support the assessment and planning process; it is useful as a template for recording the outcomes of the SAF application process
- **Benchmarking and monitoring tool:** A tool enabling National Societies to monitor their status and progress in relation to each of the SAF's proposed actions and measures; it provides an indication of the next steps to take to achieve further progress
- Facilitator's Guide: Additional support and guidance on the SAF application process, including flexible methodology options
- PowerPoint presentation
- Graphics package
- Sections on each of the SAF elements containing practical tools, templates and sample National Society materials



- We belong to a global Movement present in every country and community. Its power to reach people in need rapidly in challenging situations rests in a shared commitment to the Fundamental Principles and acknowledgement of and respect for each component's specific value and capacity.
- Whatever the situation, the benefits to coordinating closely within the Movement are clear.
- In a recent (late 2013) external evaluation of operational partnerships between ICRC and NS, an important finding was 'successful partnerships enable services to reach more beneficiaries, facilitate access and strengthen the reputations of both the ICRC and National Societies'. It noted the key to successful operational partnerships contain positive mechanisms of communication, joint planning and the existence of complementary capacities.
- It also stated that in all cases studied, Movement coordination left much room for improvement, which had adverse affects on performance.
- The respective mandates of the National Society, the International Federation and the ICRC must at all times be distinguishable and mutually respected and supported.
- By recognizing the value of combining skills and assets and taking full advantage of the components' unique and complementary mandates in meeting the needs of those affected in sensitive and insecure contexts, more people can be reached and more needs met.
- In accordance with the availability of its own resources, the ICRC will support

National Societies in the implementation of the SAF by providing advice and, where requested, by co-facilitating the application (assessment and planning) process and helping to arrange further technical support as needed.