



**Asia Pacific Coalition  
for School Safety**

# **Asia Pacific Coalition for School Safety (APCSS)**

## **Strategic Paper**

**2016-2018**

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Disasters threaten the lives, the rights and the needs of millions of children around the world. Worldwide, 70% of pupils are enrolled in schools that are in high seismic risk zones and hundreds of millions more face regular flood, landslide, and extreme wind and fire hazards. These children are spending up to 50 percent of their waking hours in school facilities that are often neither constructed nor maintained to be disaster resilient.<sup>1</sup> Regionally, over the last decade Asia has suffered the greatest number of disasters caused by natural hazards with 80% of the global death toll.

The **Asia Pacific Coalition for School Safety (APCSS)** was established on 19<sup>th</sup> Sep 2012. The shared framework for understanding and acting to bring about Comprehensive School Safety, including the “3 pillars”; 1. Safe Learning Facilities, 2. School Disaster Management and 3. Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Education) founded on multi-hazard and child-centered risk assessment, education sector analysis, and alignment of education and disaster management sector policies and plans. The members of APCSS are Plan International, Save the Children, World Vision, UNICEF, UNESCO, IFRC, ADPC and UNISDR.

At the global level, there is **Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES)** The *Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector* is a multi-stakeholder mechanism composed of UN agencies, international non-governmental organizations as well as global and regional networks actively engaged and committed to school safety and disaster risk reduction education. GADRRRES promotes a coordinated and comprehensive approach to school safety globally and a global culture of safety and resilience through education and knowledge. *For more information, please visit <http://gadrrres.net>.* APCSS is a regional affiliate of GADRRRES.

### II. STRATEGIC GOALS AND INDICATORS

#### Goals of Comprehensive School Safety

- To protect students and education workers from death, injury, and harm in schools
- To plan for educational continuity in the face of all expected hazards and threats
- To safeguard education sector investments
- To strengthen risk reduction and resilience through education

**Goal of APCSS:** By 2018, learners and education workers in the Asia Pacific Region are more protected from death, injury and harm in schools, and their right to educational continuity

<sup>1</sup> Guidance Notes on Safer School Construction: Global Facility for DRR

better-protected, education sector investments better protected, and to strengthen risk reduction and resilience through increased number of countries that adopt and implement approaches consistent with the Comprehensive School Safety Framework and the Worldwide Initiative for School Safety.

**Goal Indicators:** (aligned with GADRRRES and WISS)

1. In at least 6 countries, enabling policies are in-place, and in 6 countries are under discussion to address the key elements of comprehensive school safety.
2. In at least 10 countries, organizational arrangements, leadership and coordination for risk reduction and resilience as established by senior management (Education and Disaster Management authorities) and includes designated focal points responsible at all levels
3. In at least 5 countries guidance and regulations are in place from appropriate authorities for safe school construction and monitoring and compliance mechanisms are being developed (UNESCO, ADPC and Save the children) [P1]\*
4. In at least 5 countries, A systematic plan for assessment and prioritization for retrofit and replacement of unsafe schools has been developed, and is being implemented. (UNESCO, ADPC and Save the children)
5. In at least 10 countries national education authorities are leading implementation of common approach to school disaster management (policies, mechanisms and guidance) for ongoing participatory risk assessment, risk reduction, response preparedness, and educational continuity planning at all levels of the education sector.
6. In at least 10 countries, a set of Key action-oriented messages for risk reduction and resilience for households and schools, have been adopted at national level and are being integrated into both informal education and formal school curriculum.
7. In at least 10 countries, plans are underway to develop leadership capacity in teacher training institutes, and supported with quality learning materials. [P3]\*

### III. STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

**APCSS** seeks to work with all partner organizations and other interested stakeholders, and regional and national government counterparts, to support achievements of goals indicators through their own existing program on school safety as well as through the following collaborative and coordinated joint strategic focuses:

**Strategic focus 1:** Strengthen advocacy efforts at the region, sub-regions (Southeast Asia, South Asia and Pacific) and country level to promote the adoption and implementation of CSS which contribute to implement the SFDRR.

#### **Key indicators for strategic focus 1**

- # of common advocacy tools, materials and key messages to promote CSS at region, sub-region and national levels developed and endorsed collaboratively
- # of joint advocacy efforts by APCSS to facilitate the resource mobilization for school safety
- # of sub-regions with designated focal points on school safety, participating in APCSS advocacy efforts.

#### **1.1. Key strategic advocacy activities of APCSS partners at regional and sub-regions (Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific)**

- 1.1.1. Develop common advocacy tools, materials and key messages to promote CSS at region, sub-region and national levels.
- 1.1.2. Engage in joint advocacy efforts to facilitate the resource mobilization for school safety.

- 1.1.3. Strengthen engagement with regional bodies (SEAMEO, ASEAN/ASSI, SAARC, and Pacific SSI) and encourage sub-regional body to self-organize to designate a focal point on School Safety.
- 1.1.4. Launch the Asia-Pacific Safe Schools Awards in the country as a way to engage schools, local governments and communities in cooperation with UNISDR.
- 1.1.5. Contribute to the development of **Education Sector Brief** that will be part of the Policy Guidance for the implementation of SFDRR in Asia in cooperation with UNISDR.
- 1.1.6. Contribute to the development of the **Regional Implementation Plan of SFDRR**, ensuring that CSS will be prioritized;
- 1.1.7. Develop mechanisms for **regional monitoring and reporting on safe schools**, feeding into regional monitoring of the SFDRR and also the SDGs in cooperation with UNISDR

## **1.2. Key strategic advocacy activities of APCSS partners at the country level**

- 1.2.1. To support setting of national baseline and targets for safe schools and use them to develop and/or improve national plans or roadmaps for implementing the SFDRR in the education sector. The baseline is critical to understand the current status, gaps and needs.
- 1.2.2. To promote the integration CSS priorities into national SFDRR implementation plans, monitoring, reporting and resource allocations.
- 1.2.3. National and sub-national level multi-stakeholders (MoE, NDMA, APCSS and others) coalitions/platforms to support sensitization and implementation of WISS and Comprehensive Framework on SS.
- 1.2.4. Use existing regional and national structures and platforms to coordinate, enhance and promote advocacy efforts of APCSS members and other key stakeholders for school safety.
- 1.2.5. Priority countries are those championing school safety, including those having signed on to WISS<sup>2</sup> as well as the members of regional organizations that have passed declarations in support of a common framework for comprehensive school safety.
- 1.2.6. Engage more youth for the advocacy of school safety as well as implementation of school safety measures.
- 1.2.7. Integrate School safety activities into other community based activities such as water and sanitation; health as well as disaster risk reduction.

## **Strategic focus 2: Establish Knowledge management system for APCSS**

### **Key indicators for strategic focus 2:**

- # of individuals on roster of CSS technical advisors and trainers
- # of joint capacity-building activities developed for APCSS members
- # of APCSS calendar updates
- APCSS Web portal developed for knowledge management
- # of APCSS newsletters circulated
- # of plans/tools/policies/ research reports shared by APCSS for peer review and inputs.

### **2.1. Key strategic knowledge management activities**

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<sup>2</sup> Countries committed for Worldwide Initiative on School Safety (WISS): China, Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines, Lao PDR, Nepal and Indonesia

- 2.1.1. Share our reports and outcomes amongst APCSS members and with relevant stakeholders as well as at key regional forums/events (such as ASEAN/ASSI, SAARC, and SEAMEO).
- 2.1.2. Share information about upcoming plans/tools/policies/ research etc. on school safety, for peer review and inputs.
- 2.1.3. Promote inter-agency collaboration and share the capacity-building resources through developing roster of technical advisors and trainers on various aspects of CSS.
- 2.1.4. Include APCSS member organizations in regional capacity-building activities on school safety.
- 2.1.5. Update bi-annually calendar of APCSS of key events including training, workshops, etc.
- 2.1.6. Encourage adaptation / alignment of existing resources/tools, as well as regional and national frameworks, among APCSS members
- 2.1.7. Compile good practices for sharing nationally, regionally and globally, and promote peer-to-peer learning
- 2.1.8. Establish a strong web presence and forum for exchange of information and ideas (linking to existing/or upcoming resources)
- 2.1.9. Strengthen mapping efforts or initiatives on school safety in Asia Pacific in collaboration with the GFDRR global initiative.
- 2.1.10. Develop a common resources center for APCSS

#### **IV. RESOURCES MOBILIZATION**

There are two steps to raise funds to implement the APCSS key strategic activities:

- **First step:** Mobilize the funding resources amongst APCSS members
- **Second step:** Seek funding from potential donors to implement key activities from the strategic key focuses. The proposal needs to develop for this stage.

#### **V. COORDINATION**

- APCSS secretariat will coordinate with all APCSS members to implement the key strategic activities. The members of APCSS will share tasks with the secretariat, to implement the key strategic activities.
- APCSS Secretariat will monitor the progress towards the strategic goals and targets specified in this document. The report needs to produce annually to show the progress of the strategy.
- APCSS members agree that engagement of a consultant or intern will likely be needed for knowledge management.
- APCSS will work closely with ASEAN Safe Schools Initiative (ASSI) for promoting the implementation of Comprehensive School Safety Framework in ASEAN member states.

## VI. ACTION PLANS

| Key activities   | CY 2016 |    |    |    | CY2017 |    |    |    | CY2018 |    |    |    | Who will be responsible                                     | Budget | Notes |
|--|---------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|---|--------|-------|
|  | Q1      | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |   |        |       |
| <b>Strategic focus 1: Strengthen advocacy efforts at the region, sub-regions (Southeast Asia, South Asia and Pacific) and country level to promote the adoption and implementation of CSS which contribute to implement the SFDRR.</b> |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |   |        |       |
| <b>1.1. Key strategic advocacy activities of APCSS partners at regional and sub-regions (Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific)</b>  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |   |        |       |
| 1.1.1. Develop common advocacy tools, materials and key messages to promote CSS at region, sub-region and national levels.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |   |        |       |
| 1.1.2. Engage in joint advocacy efforts to facilitate the resource mobilization for school safety.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |   |        |       |
| 1.1.3. Strengthen engagement with regional bodies (SEAMEO, ASEAN/ASSI, SAARC, and Pacific SSI) and encourage sub-regional body to self-organize to designate a focal point on School Safety.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | ASSI-Plan International Pacific- Save the children SAARC??? |        |       |
| 1.1.4. Launch the Asia-Pacific Safe Schools Awards in the country as a way to engage schools, local governments and communities in cooperation with UNISDR.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | Lead by UNISDR  |        |       |
| 1.1.5. Contribute to the development of <b>Education Sector Brief</b> that will be part of the Policy Guidance for the implementation of SFDRR in Asia in cooperation with UNISDR.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | APCSS members especially UNISDR                             |        |       |
| 1.1.6. Contribute to the development of the <b>Regional Implementation Plan of SFDRR</b> , ensuring that CSS will be prioritized.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | APCSS members especially UNISDR                             |        |       |

| Key activities   | CY 2016 |    |    |    | CY2017 |    |    |    | CY2018 |    |    |    | Who will be responsible         | Budget | Notes |
|--|---------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|---------------------------------|--------|-------|
|  | Q1      | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |                                 |        |       |
| 1.1.7. Develop mechanisms for <b>regional monitoring and reporting on safe schools</b> , feeding into regional monitoring of the SFDRR and also the SDGs in cooperation with UNISDR.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | APCSS members especially UNISDR |        |       |
| <b>1.2. Key strategic advocacy activities of APCSS partners at the country level</b>   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                                 |        |       |
| 1.2.1. To support setting of national baseline and targets for safe schools and use them to develop and/or improve national plans or roadmaps for implementing the SFDRR in the education sector. The baseline is critical to understand the <u>current status, gaps and needs</u> . |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | APCSS members especially UNISDR |        |       |
| 1.2.2. To promote the integration CSS priorities into national SFDRR implementation plans, monitoring, reporting and resource allocations.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                                 |        |       |
| 1.2.3. National and sub-national level multi-stakeholders (MoE, NDMA, APCSS and others) coalitions/platforms to support sensitization and implementation of WISS and Comprehensive Framework on SS.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                                 |        |       |
| 1.2.4. Use existing regional and national structures and platforms to coordinate, enhance and promote advocacy efforts of APCSS members and other key stakeholders for school safety.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                                 |        |       |
| 1.2.5. Priority countries are those championing school safety, including those having signed on to WISS <sup>3</sup> as well as the members of regional organizations that have passed declarations in support of a  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                                 |        |       |

<sup>3</sup> Countries committed for Worldwide Initiative on School Safety (WISS): China, Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines, Lao PDR, Nepal and Indonesia

| Key activities   | CY 2016 |    |    |    | CY2017 |    |    |    | CY2018 |    |    |    | Who will be responsible | Budget | Notes |
|--|---------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|-------------------------|--------|-------|
|  | Q1      | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |                         |        |       |
| common framework for comprehensive school safety.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 1.2.6. Engage more youth for the advocacy of school safety as well as implementation of school safety measures.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | IFRC                    |        |       |
| 1.2.7. Integrate School safety activities into other community based activities such as water and sanitation; health as well as disaster risk reduction.                     |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | IFRC                    |        |       |
| <b>Strategic focus 2: Establish Knowledge management system for APCSS</b>  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.1. Share our reports and outcomes amongst APCSS members and with relevant stakeholders as well as at key regional forums/events (such as ASEAN/ASSI, SAARC, and SEAMEO). |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.2. Share information about upcoming plans/tools/policies/ research etc. on school safety, for peer review and inputs.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.3. Promote inter-agency collaboration and share the capacity-building resources through developing roster of technical advisors and trainers on various aspects of CSS.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.4. Include APCSS member organizations in regional capacity-building activities on school safety.   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.5. Update bi-annually calendar of APCSS of key events including training, workshops, etc.  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.6. Encourage adaptation / alignment of existing resources/tools, as well as regional and national frameworks, among APCSS members  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |



| Key activities   | CY 2016 |    |    |    | CY2017 |    |    |    | CY2018 |    |    |    | Who will be responsible | Budget | Notes |
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|  | Q1      | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.7. Compile good practices for sharing nationally, regionally and globally, and promote peer-to-peer learning                     |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.8. Establish a strong web presence and forum for exchange of information and ideas (linking to existing/or upcoming resources)   |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.9. Strengthen mapping efforts or initiatives on school safety in Asia Pacific in collaboration with the GFDRR global initiative. |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |                         |        |       |
| 2.1.10. Develop a common resources center for APCSS  |         |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    | IFRC                    |        |       |