

Concept Note: Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network Meeting and Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) Training

[Gender and Diversity / Manila, Philippines](#) /31st July to 4th August 2017

Background

Gender and diversity sensitive humanitarian action is crucial for impact, accountability and effectiveness within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In practice, it means transparently identifying and meeting the needs of the most vulnerable in our communities (whether men, women, girls, boys, persons with disabilities and no matter a person's age, socio-economic status, gender identity or sexual orientation); and consistently ensuring that our work is underpinned by human dignity, equitable access to services, community participation and beneficiary safety (including from Sexual and Gender-based Violence). The approach taken by the Movement is outlined in the *IFRC Strategic Framework on Gender and Diversity Issues 2013–2020*; the *IFRC Minimum Standards for Gender and Diversity in Emergencies* (which provide clear standards for each sector (i.e. health, shelter, disaster risk reduction)) and the 32nd International Conference Resolution “*Sexual and gender-based violence: Joint action for prevention and response*” which is binding on all National Societies and calls for greater attention to prevention, response and mitigation of sexual and gender-based violence using National Society programming and services as an entry point.

Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network

In 2015, the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network, which consists of assigned Gender and Diversity Focal Points from all 11 National Societies in the region was formed and endorsed by the Leadership of each National Society. As per the endorsed Terms of Reference of the Southeast Asia Regional Gender and Diversity Network, the members should convene once a year for a face-to-face meeting. This face to face meeting has taken place in October 2015 and August 2016. The face to face meetings have been accompanied by trainings based on the IFRC ‘7 moves gender and diversity training’, to build capacity of focal points and their technical counterparts and increase peer to peer learning among members. Following each of the trainings, members have developed a regional action plan as well as national level plans to further gender and diversity in their National Societies. A key focus for the 2017 annual meeting will be to develop a sustainability plan for the network.

Themes and aims of the network meeting and training

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is a life-threatening, global health and human rights issue. In December 2015, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement adopted the joint *Resolution on Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Joint Action on Prevention and Response*. The Resolution outlines specific responsibilities for States, National Societies, IFRC and the ICRC in prevention and response to SGBV. One of the key elements of the resolution is to strengthen the capacity of Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers to prevent, mitigate and respond to SGBV in emergencies. Subsequently, the IFRC has developed a global training module on SGBV that will be rolled-out in the Asia-Pacific region during 2017. Before the training in Southeast Asia, this training has been pilot tested with the South Asia network in May 2017 and with the Pacific network in July 2017 and feedback incorporated to enhance the training modules. This training builds on important ongoing work in Southeast Asia on this issue, including the IFRC Sexual and Gender Based Violence research in disasters, in collaboration with ASEAN. This research is being conducted in the Philippines, Indonesia and Laos PDR in 2017 and continues the work undertaken through the “[Unseen Unheard](#)” case study in Myanmar, Samoa and Bangladesh.

The aim of the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity Network meeting and Training is two-fold:

1. To provide professional development training for all network members, (and for additional Southeast Asia National Society staff) on IFRC's Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Emergencies training module to build staff capacities and to allow participants to facilitate training in their respective NS for management, staff and volunteers
2. To bring together members of the Southeast Asia Gender and Diversity network to share experiences, update knowledge, discuss issues/problems and identify solutions. A key outcome of this network meeting will be to prepare annual Gender and Diversity action plans for promoting and institutionalizing gender and diversity work in their respective National Societies as well as a sustainability plan for the network itself.

Participant profile:

The target group for the workshop and training will be Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Gender and Diversity Focal points and Red Cross staff working with protection, gender, inclusion and diversity and psycho-social support issues, or Health and DM staff. ICRC and IFRC colleagues will also be invited.

To be selected for the training, nominees must:

- a) Have a good understanding and experience working on gender and diversity and protection issues
- b) Be trained in the IFRC “**7 Moves gender and diversity training**” or similar gender and diversity training from within or external to the Movement¹, and have conducted training or gender and diversity initiatives in their National Society
- c) Have completed the online United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) “**Managing Gender Based Violence Programmes in Emergencies**” course. The course can be found via this link: <https://extranet.unfpa.org/Apps/GBVinEmergencies/index.html>
- d) Be fluent in English
- e) Be in a position to disseminate the SGBV training messages within their NS following the training
- f) Participants are encouraged to contact the GBV Cluster Coordinator in their country and have a meeting with them before attending.

We would like to kindly note that some of the content and topics addressed during this training may be distressing to participants. Facilitators will ensure that support is provided to participants during and following the training as required.

Facilitators profile

The 4-day training will be facilitated by IFRC Gender and Diversity Senior Officer (Southeast Asia) and the IFRC Gender and Diversity Coordinator (Asia Pacific). External facilitators may be explored to support on key topics during the training and share their experiences. The 1 day network meeting will be led by the Philippines Red Cross Gender and Diversity Focal Point with support from IFRC.

Dates and Venue

The events will be co-hosted by Philippines Red Cross and the IFRC from 31st July to 4th August 2017 in Manila, Philippines. A full agenda is being prepared by the facilitators and will be shared in due course.

Contact information:

Ms. Christina Haneef, IFRC Gender and Diversity Senior Officer, IFRC Country Cluster Support Team, Bangkok, **E-mail:** christina.haneef@ifrc.org, **Phone:** +66 2661 8201 (ext. 104), **Skype:** chrissy_haneef

¹ The online IFRC course ‘Gender Equality in Programme Planning: Different needs equal opportunities’ can be considered in place of a face to face training.