

Cooperation Between IFRC & the ASEAN Health Sector



ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda (APHDA) outlines ambition of the ASEAN Community to prepare for future health challenges into four clusters:



Promoting healthy lifestyle



Responding to all hazards and emerging threats



Strengthening health system and access to care



Ensuring food safety

ASEAN and Red Cross Red Crescent Societies Working Together to Address COVID-19

Leaders of ASEAN member states pledged “to remain united and vigilant against COVID-19 and commit to work closely with the WHO, ASEAN's external partners and the international community to suppress the spread of the pandemic, protect people's lives and livelihoods, maintain socioeconomic stability while sustaining ASEAN Community building momentum for sustainable development, inclusive growth and leaving no one behind.”

The actions taken and or planned by 11 Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in Southeast Asia in relation to COVID19 are focused on:



Epidemic Control Measures Support



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support



Community Health and WASH



Strengthening Health Systems



Risk Communication and Community Engagement



Disaster Risk

Identified Areas of Engagement



Immunization

Work collaboratively with Ministries of Health and communities to reach zero-dose children and missed communities with routine immunization despite COVID-19. In addition, strengthen advocacy efforts to ensure equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines once they are available and proven safe and effective



Epidemic Control Measures (ECM)

In communities experiencing local transmission Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers can fill critical roles by supporting public authorities to detect, test and isolate COVID-19 cases. This includes carrying out community-based surveillance and contact tracing, provide information and education to the community supporting people in quarantine facilities and home-based care



Physcial Rehabilitation Program (PRP)

Despite the pandemic, NSs across ASEAN are working collaboratively with the IFRC and ICRC to provide support towards people with disabilities. This involves the provision of mobility devices (prostheses, orthoses, walking aids and wheelchairs) and appropriate physiotherapy. While regular activities have been reduced during COVID-19 crisis, the NS with ICRC support in Myanmar enhanced IPC measures and PPE donations



Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) MHPSS is one of the key activities to support communities and individuals, including front lines as volunteers and health staff to reduce the social and psychological impacts of the pandemic, and the impact of containment measures consequences both in the medium and long term. The IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support (PSC) is supporting the wider membership to develop new methodologies and tools to mitigate the psychosocial and protection impacts of COVID-19

Other Key Initiatives with ASEAN



Key Contributor to the 2021-2025 AADMER plan



Strategic Advocacy & Operational Role in Health



Key Partners in the Knowledge & Innovation Working Group



Increased Coordination & Operational Collaboration with the AHA Centre



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Initiate the ASEAN Protection, Gender, and Inclusion Working Group with UNWomen



Collaborated in the Development of the 2021-2015 Strategic Plans for Sport & Youth



Youth Involvement

Promoting Psychosocial Wellbeing through Sport & Physical Activity

Training Curriculum developed by the RCRC Psychosocial Support Centre, focusing on providing for PSS through sports and physical activity



Prevention of NCDs for Youth Healthy Lifestyle for YOU(th)

Community-Based Health and First Aid training curriculum piloted in the Philippines with PRC



Linkage between Blood Donation & Sport

Several National Societies organise campaigns to raise awareness on the importance of blood donation through the medium of sports. An example from SEA is Singapore Red Cross, which organises the 'Relay to Save Lives', with youth torchbearers running in an effort to encourage all pre-tertiary and tertiary institutions in the country to organise blood donation drives

