

MONTHLY UPDATES



In October 2020, Quang Binh province, along with many other provinces, was severely affected by storms and floods. The Viet Nam Red Cross (VNRC) is now training residents on basic skills of search and rescue and first aid so that they are better prepared to deal with emergencies. (Picture courtesy: VNRC).

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Welcome to our newsletter providing updates of Southeast Asia for June2021.

All photos used in this publication are from the respective Red Cross Red Crescent National Society or IFRC unless mentioned otherwise.

In addition to these monthly updates, you can find Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent's resources, tools, events and updates at the [Resilience Library](#).

Timor Leste: Community kitchens for COVID -19 and floods

In April, Timor-Leste was hit by devastating floods. 50 people died; many houses were destroyed and camps were set up for internally displaced people. As with many Red Cross Societies across the world, Timor Leste Red Cross (CVTL) was juggling a natural disaster with a pandemic. One of CVTL's response was to set up emergency kitchens for the displaced people.

Although they started with just six volunteers, soon there were 20 people supporting the kitchen. Nelon Viana- a volunteer said they have been busy for months- "Every day, me and my volunteer friends spent our time disinfecting and fogging; putting up tents, installing washing tanks, cooking, and sharing educational information on Covid-19 prevention. It keeps us very busy, but our work is important, and we are so happy that we can help." Although most displaced people have now left the camps, the kitchen continues for volunteers who carry on with COVID-19 prevention work.



Above: A volunteer at the emergency kitchen prepares food for the day. Picture Courtesy : CVTL

Singapore: New platforms for blood donation



Above: Champion blood donors who regularly donate to SRC. Clockwise from top-left: Joyce Sng, Mariam Binte Hamid, Yahya Bin Abd Rahman and Monish Peswani. Picture Courtesy: SRC

The Singapore Red Cross (SRC) and the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) partnered with Facebook to launch the Facebook Blood Donation feature in Singapore on 14 June- World Blood Donor Day. This feature connects people who want to donate blood with opportunities to do so by providing real-time information on opportunities to donate blood. Read more here.

SRC also honoured blood donors virtually this year to mitigate the risks of COVID-19. As part of the observations for World Blood Donor Day, SRC unveiled a digital-first outreach campaign, comprising a series of digital and social activations, to celebrate and recognise blood donors in Singapore. The campaign aims to reach and engage the next generation of donors through interactive online activations, alongside engagements through social media channels such as Facebook and Instagram.

Philippines: Mobile vaccination clinics

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) is deploying five mobile vaccination clinics beginning July 1, 2021 in the cities of Manila and Cebu. This is in line with the program to support the National COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment, targeting people living below the poverty line as well as serving senior citizens and persons with disabilities who do not have access to different vaccination centers.

PRC has pioneered mobile vaccination clinics in the country. The buses are equipped with a cold chain system, mobile refrigerator, and vaccine cabinet. These buses were previously used for vaccinating more than one million children against polio and measles-rubella.

For PRC Chairman and CEO Richard Gordon, these buses are vital to protect people from COVID-19. He says- "The need to vaccinate as many as we can is crucial to help the Department of Health to reach its goal of herd immunity by the end of the year."



Above: PRC teams with the mobile vaccination clinics. Picture Courtesy : PRC

Indonesia: Blood donations needed during the pandemic



Above: Young volunteers of PMI hold up signs urging people to donate blood, in Cilegon, West Java. Picture Courtesy : PMI

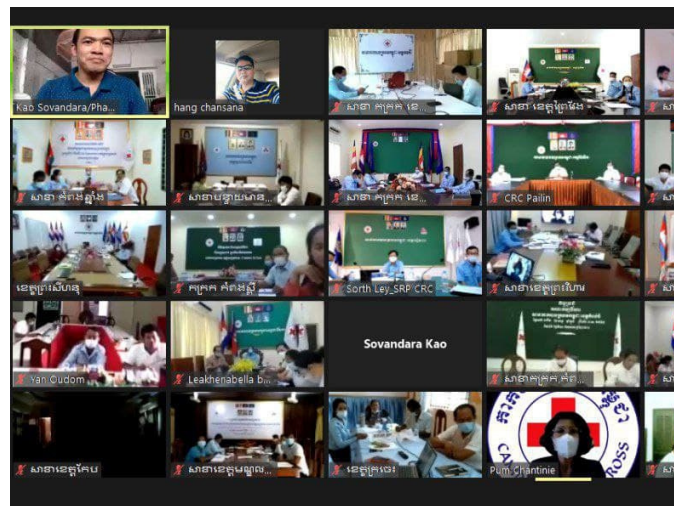
As record numbers of COVID-19 infections surge across Indonesia, the Red Cross is urging more blood donors to step up and help. In Cilegon, west Java, Dr. Ariadne- from the Blood Donation Unit of the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) says: "Since the beginning of the pandemic, the blood stocks in our Blood Donation Unit decreases over time. We hope that by educating the public about the importance of blood donation to the community, we can help not only hospital patients but those with dengue fever, mothers in labour, or thalassemia. We really urge everyone to visit us and donate their blood,"

Before the pandemic, the Indonesian Red Cross would regularly visit at least 20 institutions and organise public events for blood collection. Unfortunately, this has not been possible due to COVID-19 restrictions, thus reducing the availability of blood donors.

Cambodia: Mental health and psycho social support

This pandemic has brought home the importance of mental health and psycho social support. The Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) is rolling out training its staff on this important issue for staff in 25 branches across the country. These staff will in turn train local volunteers at their branches to be able to provide mental health support in their communities.

All the trainings are conducted virtually to comply with COVID-19 restrictions. With trainers drawn from WHO, the Royal University of Phnom Penh and IFRC's technical experts, CRC has so far conducted two rounds of these trainings. The third round of training for volunteers is expected to be held in July.



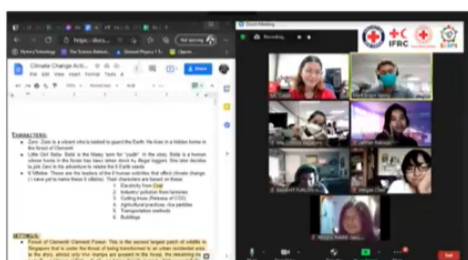
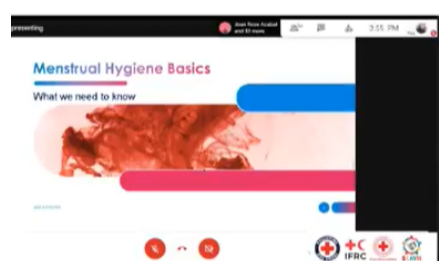
Above: Screen grab from one of the virtual training sessions on Mental Health and Psycho social support organized by CRC. Picture Courtesy : CRC

Youth: All in for Climate Action

SEAYN Online Workshop on
Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Green the Red
0 June 2021



The SEAYN Youth Projects on Climate Action



Above: A screenshot from a virtual session on Climate Change held by SEAYN in collaboration with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Center. Picture Courtesy : SEAYN

The Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) is supporting several different initiatives by the youth to address climate change through micro projects issued under the #SEAYNCallforProposal.

SEAYN is collaborating with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Center to help the youth understand the impact of climate change such as intense floods, droughts, heatwaves, melting glaciers, and rising sea-levels. They are also exploring ways to adapt to climate change and the role of the youth in helping their communities adapt.

This collaboration is being done through virtual sessions of the Climate Center with youth from different countries of South east Asia. For SEAYN, reducing the negative impact of climate change is a key priority to ensure a safe, just and equitable world for the future.

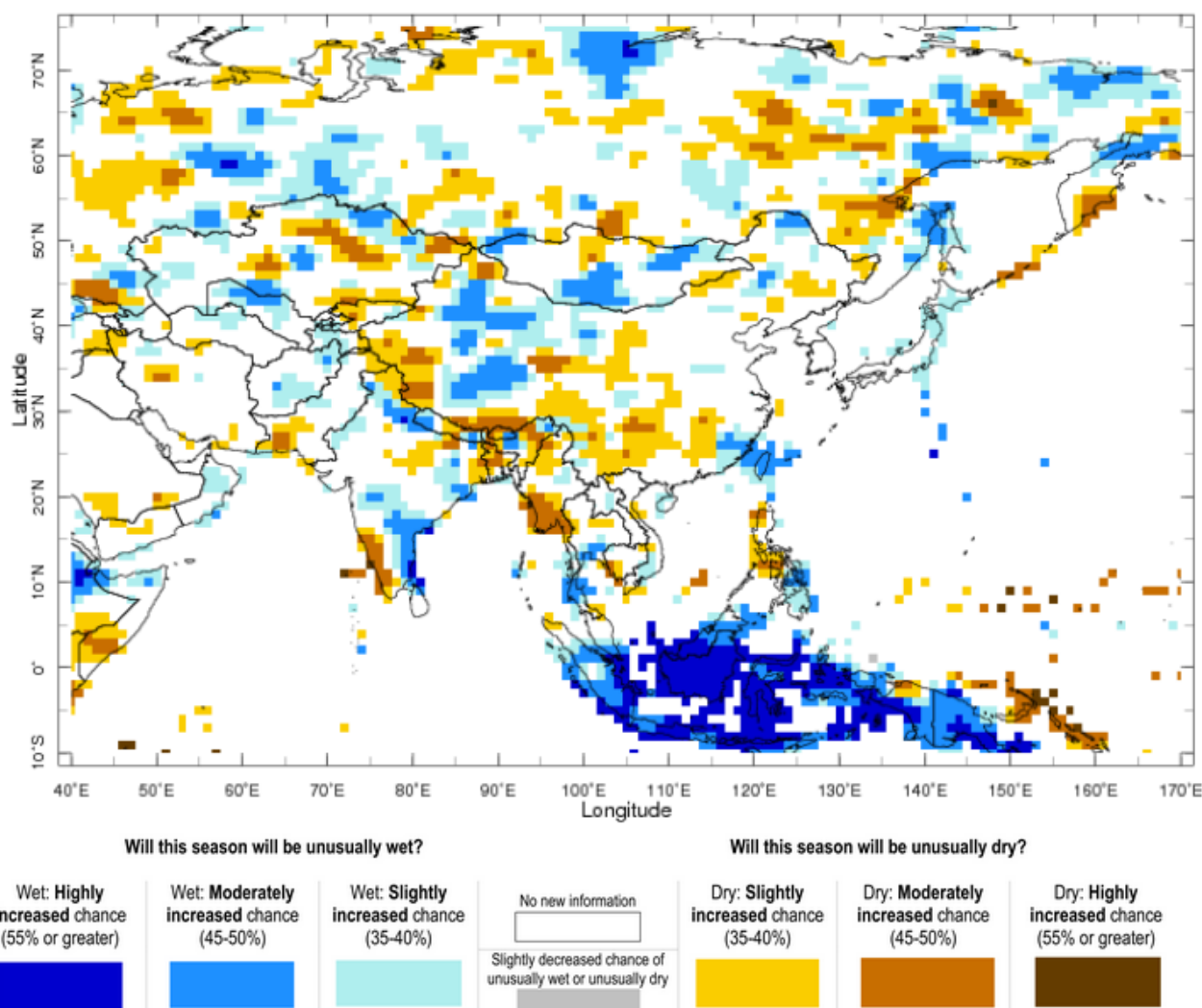
In Pictures: Youth volunteers preparing 'Relief Kits'

During 16-26 June 2021, Youth Volunteers of the Thai Red Cross helped to pack Relief Kits for vulnerable and elderly people across the country to cope with COVID-19. The relief kits contain essential items of food like rice, noodles etc and hygiene items like face masks, soap etc. For more information, see: <https://bit.ly/3wcU2ig>



Seasonal Forecast : June to August 2021

Forecast for Jul-Sep 2021, Forecast Issued Jun 2021



For the interactive map from IFRC IRI, click [here](#)



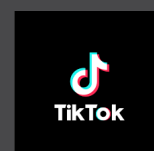
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