

## MONTHLY UPDATES



**The Thai Red Cross Society administered vaccines to 1,295 displaced persons from Myanmar living in Ban Tham Hin temporary shelter, Ratchaburi province. Since October 2021, the Thai Red Cross has been providing vaccines for migrant workers and other displaced persons living in Thailand.**

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Welcome to our final newsletter providing updates of Southeast Asia for November 2021.

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](#).



## Promoting road safety in Cambodia

Cambodian Red Cross youth and volunteers have been at the forefront of promoting behavior change in their communities regarding road safety. As part of a campaign to save lives and prevent injuries, the youth and volunteers have held public forums, awareness sessions among drivers on arterial roads and peer to peer education in schools and communities. The issues covered in these sessions include: driving safely, upholding traffic law, using helmets, respecting road traffic signs, dangers of drunk driving and offering right-of-way to pedestrians and other drivers.



**Above:** CRC youth volunteers conducting road safety awareness. Pictures : CRC

## Indonesia: COVID-19 vaccinations

The Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) vaccinated more than 700 individuals in late October 2021 in support of the government's efforts to accelerate the rate of COVID-19 vaccinations in the country. More than 20 staff and volunteers assisted in mobilizing and registering people as well as to monitor for adverse events following immunization.

Meanwhile the Red Cross continues its effort to ensure that no one is left behind in getting COVID-19 vaccination by raising awareness through online and offline mechanisms on the importance of following all health and hygiene protocols and avoid falling prey to misinformation regarding the vaccine.



**Above:** PMI volunteers providing COVID-19 vaccinations. Picture: PMI

## Philippines: Breaking the silence and stigma

In 2019, the Philippine Red Cross, together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and British Red Cross, embarked on a new project on preventing sexual and gender-based violence in the province of Aklan, in the west of the Philippines.

The initiative came after a study, The Responsibility to Prevent and Respond to Sexual and Gender-based Violence during Disaster and Crisis, which highlighted the risks of violence in the Philippines during and after Typhoon Haiyan in 2014.

The evidence pointed to the importance of programs to prevent violence that is exacerbated due to disasters. Now, the Philippine Red Cross is supporting women with gender training and opportunities to establish livelihoods to gain economic independence, in turn helping to prevent violence.

Implementing the project while observing the COVID-19 health protocols was not easy, but the Red Cross carried on because the pandemic further increased the vulnerability of people as their livelihoods were adversely affected by the lock-downs. [Read more about their initiative here.](#)



**Above:** Volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross discussing about SGBV in the community .Picture : France Noguera/IFRC

## Singapore: Awarding services to humanity

The eighth edition of the Singapore Red Cross (SRC) Awards were held via three ceremonies on 6 and 23 November 2021.

More than 100 volunteers, youth leaders, fundraisers, and partner organizations were honored for their steadfast contributions in humanitarian service through these ceremonies.

The prestigious awards recognize and honor the contributions of volunteers and partners who have given selflessly of their time, each contributing expertise and resources in their own ways to further SRC's mission; and whose support over the past two years gave help and hope to communities-in-need.



**Above:** A glimpse of the award ceremony in Singapore. Picture : SRC



## Timor Leste: Restoring homes and hopes



**Above:** Domingas Da Costa with her family (left) and at her vegetable garden with a CVTL team member (right). Picture: CVTL

Seven months ago, the floods that hit Timor-Leste changed the lives of thousands of people throughout the country. Since then, many families have been able to return to their homes.

However, Domingas da Costa and her family were still living in a tent until a few weeks ago. The tent was provided by the Timor-Leste Red Cross (CVTL) at Dom Bosco Comoro camp for internally displaced people in Dili. "The situation we were facing was very difficult and very sad - we lost everything. We used to live by the river and everything was destroyed. So we came to Dom Bosco with nothing. Luckily we are still alive and we can slowly replace the things we lost."

"Despite the hardship, we have also been lucky that we received support from the CVTL and some other local organisations. We never felt shy to ask CVTL because they were always ready to help us. In the beginning, CVTL distributed rice, oil, soap, shampoo, etc. Later, they supported us with materials to earn an income.

"While staying at Dom Bosco, we were given a roof over our head and access to land so we could cultivate vegetables. We asked CVTL to provide us with seeds of lettuce, mustard leaf and other kinds of green vegetables." she explained.

Domingas added, "planting vegetables has given us many advantages. At first we thought we would do it so we could have some food to eat. But we grew far too much for just ourselves, so we could sell at the market and even to some of our neighbors. This income is enough for our basic needs and for the educational needs of our children."

"We are thankful to CVTL for not abandoning us and supporting us always. Without CVTL we would have been defeated." she concludes.

## Viet Nam: Dealing with floods amidst the pandemic

The Viet Nam Red Cross's disaster response teams are helping with search and rescue operations and evacuations after prolonged heavy rain led to rapid flooding and landslides in parts of central Vietnam.

The central region of Viet Nam experienced heavy rains and floods during October and November, 2021. At some locations in Binh Dinh and Phu Yen provinces, the flood levels were nearly equivalent to previous historical highs, causing extensive damage to people, property and infrastructure. 19 people reportedly lost their lives, while more than 97,000 houses were flooded and nearly 2,000 hectares of rice crops were damaged.

The Vietnam Red Cross immediately swung into action providing relief to people in the provinces of Phu Yen and Binh Dinh with cash assistance and distribution of relief kits with food, water, cooking utensils, blankets and water containers. 200 kits were distributed in each province.



**Above:** The Viet Nam Red Cross distributing relief kits to flood affected people. Picture: VNRC

## Youth: Celebrating achievements and absorbing lessons

The Red Cross Red Crescent Southeast Asia Youth Network (SEAYN) held an online "Expo" from 10 to 12 November showcasing the accomplishments, challenges and lessons learnt from a micro financing initiative launched eight months ago.

Earlier this year, SEAYN launched a call for proposals for "Promoting Ownership and Empowering Youth in Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies". This initiative aimed at empowering the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) youth of Southeast Asia by providing them with a concrete opportunity to conceptualise and implement projects for the benefit of vulnerable communities in their countries and / or in the Southeast Asia region. Fifteen youth-led projects (13 national, 2 regional) received a grant to be implemented under this initiative with the technical support of IFRC/SEAYN Secretariat and with Italian Red Cross as the main donor.

**RCRC SEAYN EXPO**  
Promoting Ownership, Empowering Youth in Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies

**Health promotion including MHPSS**  
10 November 2021  
Youth in action! Learn about the activities by young people that benefit the physical and mental wellbeing of the RCRC staff, volunteers and/or the vulnerable population.

**Innovation, digitalisation, blood donation**  
11 November 2021  
Find out how the teams use technology to improve or create a process, system, workflow, or service (also training) of their National Societies, to support the most vulnerable and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of RCRC work.

**Climate action**  
12 November 2021  
Wondering how youth are engaged in climate action? Learn more about the activities that build the knowledge and capacity of RCRC staff, volunteers and of communities and that mobilise positive action to address the climate and environmental crises during this session!

Let's join and get inspired by the teams!

[f](#) [LIVE](#) @RCRCSEAYN

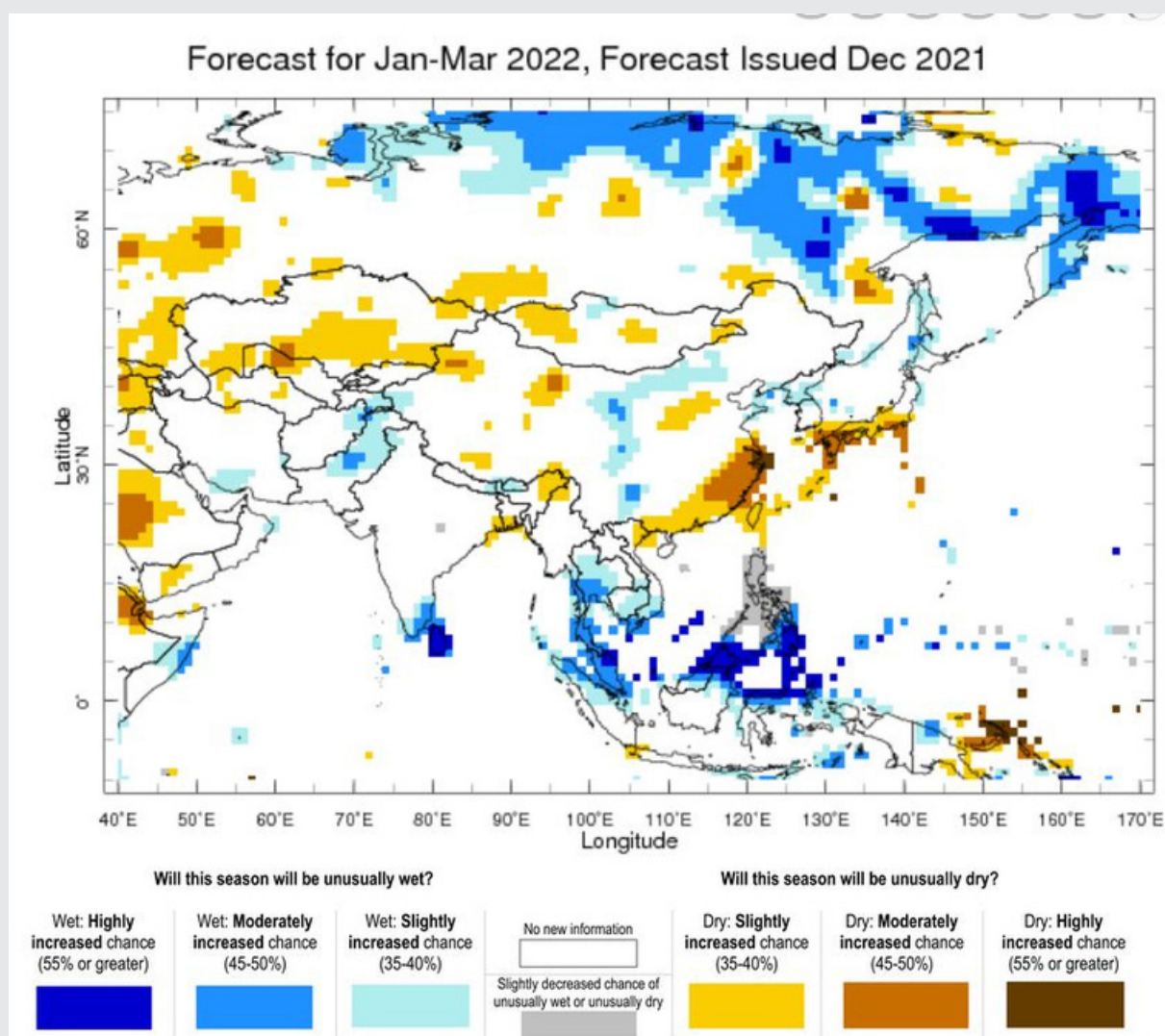


## Myanmar: Reaching remote communities

The Myanmar Red Cross Society's staff and volunteers are supporting communities affected by Civil Unrest in Mindat in Chin State. The Red Cross teams worked hard to build trust among local people by providing much needed medical services to affected communities. The people in this area had not previously received support from any other humanitarian organizations. Below is a glimpse of their challenging initiative. Read more about it [here](#).



## Seasonal Forecast : January to March 2022



*For the interactive map from IFRC IRI, go to: <https://bit.ly/2W8Ycfp>*



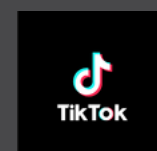
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