

# Asia Pacific Migration Network

Progress report | **South East Asia Leaders' Meeting** | September 2023

## Introduction

The Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN) is a regional network of Asia Pacific Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, established by 17 Asia Pacific National Societies in 2012. The current co-Chairs are the Philippine Red Cross and the Maldivian Red Crescent, and the Secretariat is hosted by the Australian Red Cross. The Network is supported by the IFRC and the ICRC. For the 2023-2024 period, 25 Asia Pacific National Societies, including 7 South East Asian National Societies, have formally nominated a Migration focal point to participate in the APMN.<sup>1</sup>

Activities of the APMN are aligned with the IFRC Strategy 2030, the 2023 IFRC Global Plan and Budget, the [IFRC Global Strategy on Migration 2018-2024](#), and the [IFRC Asia Pacific Framework for Action on Migration and Displacement](#).

The APMN aims to:

- Provide a platform for National Societies to collaborate, coordinate and share knowledge and experiences through various engagements, including quarterly focal point meetings.
- Strengthen the capacity of the National Societies to protect, assist and advocate with and for migrants and host populations.
- Promote the role of Asia Pacific National Societies on Migration in regional policy and advocacy fora.

Since its establishment, and through the efforts of all members, the APMN strengthens cooperation within the Movement, and increases the profile of National Societies in responding to the humanitarian needs of migrants in the Asia Pacific region, in collaboration with ICRC and IFRC.

## Key progress in 2023

### Nomination of APMN Focal Points

In January 2023, Asia Pacific National Society Leaders were invited to nominate / renominate a representative to participate in the APMN for the period 2023-2024. 25 nominations were received. The APMN hosted its first meeting of new members in March 2023 to discuss the Network's Terms of Reference and workplan for the year, and a second meeting in May 2023 to support newer members to understand how they can benefit from and contribute to the Network.

### Knowledge and Experience exchange, and Capacity Strengthening Initiatives

APMN Members exchanged knowledge and experience on labour migration in an online forum in August 2023. This included:

- Examples of National Society initiatives to reduce the risks associated with labour migration (in countries of origin and destination, as well as supporting reintegration upon return), with featured case studies shared by the Focal Points representing the Maldives, Myanmar and Philippine National Societies.

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1

- Revisiting the 2018 [IFRC Guidance Note on Addressing the Humanitarian Consequences of Labour Migration and Trafficking: The Role of Asia Pacific National Societies](#)

Further topics identified by members to discuss in Focal Point meetings in 2023-2024 include:

- Supporting the development of the forthcoming Movement Strategy on Migration
- Climate-related migration and displacement
- Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) and cross-border migration (including migration by land and sea)
- Conflict related displacement.

### **Guide and support the development and implementation of Movement policy, commitments and resolutions**

- APMN members participated in two regional consultations on the development of the forthcoming Movement Strategy on Migration with participants highlighting the importance of ensuring the Strategy reflects regional and local priorities and considerations.
- APMN members recognise the opportunity to highlight the humanitarian needs of migrants and the work of National Societies at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference in November 2023, the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, and to support the development of Resolutions that address the needs of migrants in anticipation of the 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference in 2024.

### **Key recommendations for SEA Leaders**

Aligned with the IFRC Asia Pacific Migration and Displacement priority areas, the APMN calls on leaders of South East Asian National Societies to:

- Be involved in the development of the Movement Strategy on Migration
- Ensure access to essential services by all migrants, irrespective of their legal status, including through provision of humanitarian assistance to save lives.
- Uphold and advocate for the protection of the fundamental rights of migrants.
- Inspire urgent action on climate-related migration and displacement.
- Ensure inclusion of migrants within National Societies, particularly at decision-making levels.

The APMN also welcomes continued support for the Network from South East Asian National Society leaders including through:

- Expressing interest to co-chair the APMN and/or provide the APMN Secretariat function. Nominations for the co-chair positions will be discussed at the APMN Annual Meeting which will be held virtually in November 2023.
- Supporting NS migration focal points to participate in activities and represent their National Society within the APMN.
- Supporting NS migration focal points to engage in regional and sub-regional cross-border engagement at the local level with sister National Societies.

### **Summary plans for 2023**

- Continue to develop and build the strength of the Network, and support the implementation of activities through knowledge exchange and regular meetings.

- Continue to support cross-border engagement between sister National Societies on migration and displacement, and leverage the RCRC network in countries of origin, transit, destination and return to respond to humanitarian needs at key points of vulnerability.
- Through the APMN Steering Group (comprised of the APMN co-Chairs, APMN Secretariat, IFRC and ICRC), explore opportunities to support National Societies' engagement in national, regional and global policy fora.
- Mobilise resources to organise the APMN Peer-to-Peer learning programme for National Society Migration focal points in person if possible in 2024.
- Support development of the Movement Migration Strategy through regional input and consultations.
- Support implementation of recommendations included in the report on [Migrants' Perspectives: Building Trust in Humanitarian Action](#), published by the [RCRC Global Migration Lab](#) in 2022.
- Explore options to transition the APMN Secretariat function from the Australian Red Cross to an alternative modality including possible another Asia Pacific National Society through peer-to-peer support and capacity strengthening, as required.

#### Contact information

##### **APMN co-Chairs**

**Philippine Red Cross:** Michalle Angielo Mabugnon, Executive Assistant, Office of the Secretary General ([mmabugnon@phredcross.org](mailto:mmabugnon@phredcross.org))

**Maldivian Red Crescent:** Fathimath Himya, Secretary General ([fathimath.himya@redcrescent.org.mv](mailto:fathimath.himya@redcrescent.org.mv))

**APMN Secretariat:** Australian Red Cross ([apmn@redcross.org.au](mailto:apmn@redcross.org.au))

#### **Annex 1: Asia Pacific Migration Network Formally Nominated Focal Points 2023 (SEA National Societies in yellow)**

	National Society	Name	Position	Email
1	Afghanistan Red Crescent Society	Rahmanullah Shahab	Advisor to the Secretary General	<a href="mailto:rahman.shahab@arcs.af">rahman.shahab@arcs.af</a>
2	Australian Red Cross	Nicole Batch	Head - Migration Support Programs	<a href="mailto:NBatch@redcross.org.au">NBatch@redcross.org.au</a>
3	Bangladesh Red Crescent Society			<i>Pending appoint of a new focal point due to NS staff changes in August 2023</i>
4	Cook Islands Red Cross Society	Clark Toka	Red Cross Officer	<a href="mailto:finance@redcross.org.ck">finance@redcross.org.ck</a>

5	Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste	Emidia Licina Costancia Belo	Disaster Management Coordinator	<a href="mailto:emidiabelo_cvtl@redcross.tl">emidiabelo_cvtl@redcross.tl</a>
6	Cambodian Red Cross	Mam Daro	RFL Coordinator	<a href="mailto:mamdaro.rfl@redcross.org.kh">mamdaro.rfl@redcross.org.kh</a> ; <a href="mailto:mam_daro@yahoo.com">mam_daro@yahoo.com</a>
7	Fiji Red Cross Society	Qaayenaat Taniza Ali	GESI Officer	<a href="mailto:qaayenaat.ali@redcross.com.fj">qaayenaat.ali@redcross.com.fj</a>
8	Hong Kong Red Cross	Stella Tsang	Senior Programme Coordinator	<a href="mailto:stella.tsang@redcross.org.hk">stella.tsang@redcross.org.hk</a>
9	Indonesian Red Cross	Andreane Tampubolon	Indonesian Red Cross DM Staff	<a href="mailto:andreane_tampubolon@pmi.or.id">andreane_tampubolon@pmi.or.id</a>
10	Japanese Red Cross Society	Hiroto Oyama	Director, Planning and Coordination Division, International Relations Department	<a href="mailto:h-oyama@jrc.or.jp">h-oyama@jrc.or.jp</a>
11	Kiribati Red Cross Society	Beiateiti Taira	Climate Action Senior Officer	<a href="mailto:btaira04@gmail.com">btaira04@gmail.com</a>
12	Malaysian Red Crescent	Donnie Leong	Senior Migration & Displacement Officer	<a href="mailto:donnie@redcrescent.org.my">donnie@redcrescent.org.my</a>
13	Mongolian Red Cross Society	Undram Chinges	Monitoring and Evaluation Team Leader	<a href="mailto:undram.ch@redcross.mn">undram.ch@redcross.mn</a>
14	Myanmar Red Cross Society	Moe Thida Win	Deputy Director of Disaster Management / Head of Migration & Displacement	<a href="mailto:moethidawin@redcross.org.mm">moethidawin@redcross.org.mm</a>
15	Maldivian Red Crescent	Mariyam Yaasa Shareef	Senior Programme Officer - Migrant Support	<a href="mailto:Yaasa.shareef@redcrescent.org.mv">Yaasa.shareef@redcrescent.org.mv</a>
16	New Zealand Red Cross	Sue Price	General Manager Migration	<a href="mailto:sue.price@redcross.org.nz">sue.price@redcross.org.nz</a>

17	Nepal Red Cross Society	Rudra Adhikari	Deputy Director	<a href="mailto:rudra.adhikari@nrccs.org">rudra.adhikari@nrccs.org</a>
18	Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society	Delilah Mand	Disaster Management Coordinator	<a href="mailto:dmand@redcross.org.pg">dmand@redcross.org.pg</a>
19	Philippine Red Cross	Michalle (Mike) Angielo Mabugnon	Executive Assistant, Office of the SG	<a href="mailto:michalle.mabugnon@redcross.org.ph">michalle.mabugnon@redcross.org.ph</a>
		Sahabudin (Sab) Giduwan	Interim Migration focal point, Welfare Services Department	<a href="mailto:sahabudin.giduwan@redcross.org.ph">sahabudin.giduwan@redcross.org.ph</a>
20	Pakistan Red Crescent Society	Raza Hyder	Deputy Director Migration	<a href="mailto:dd.migration@prcs.org.pk">dd.migration@prcs.org.pk</a>
21	Samoa Red Cross Society	Rodney Su	Project Coordinator	<a href="mailto:maasina.tuua@gmail.com">maasina.tuua@gmail.com</a>
22	Solomon Islands Red Cross Society	Colin Albert	Climate Action Coordinator	<a href="mailto:climateaction@redcross.org.sb">climateaction@redcross.org.sb</a>
23	Sri Lanka Red Cross	Kamal Yatawarage	RFL / Migration Focal Point	<a href="mailto:kamal.yatawara@redcross.lk">kamal.yatawara@redcross.lk</a>
24	Tuvalu Red Cross Society	Tamala Juliana Pita	Climate Action Officer	<a href="mailto:tamalafele@gmail.com">tamalafele@gmail.com</a>
25	Vanuatu Red Cross Society	Augustine Garae	Disaster Management Coordinator	<a href="mailto:disaster.coordinator@redcrossvanuatu.com">disaster.coordinator@redcrossvanuatu.com</a>
26	Vietnam Red Cross Society	Pham My Trang	Vice Director of Social Work and Disaster Management Department	<a href="mailto:trang.pm@vnredcross.org.vn">trang.pm@vnredcross.org.vn</a>