Regional Community Safety and Resilience Unit (CSRU)

Overview of activities for the month of July 2014

Building Regional Capacity and Collaboration for Community Resilience in Southeast Asia

The main highlight in July was the initiation of a documentation process in Myanmar in support of future advocacy work in the country. The Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) was contracted by the IFRC regional delegation to work jointly with MRCS in order to document its contribution towards the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work plan 2010-2015. The product can be used to positioning National Societies among government, partners and donors. In addition, ADPC will map existing current DRR projects implemented by MRCS and create maps to be shared with partners. Finally, a research on past Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCAs) will allow MRCS to identify key advocacy messages based on beneficiary voices. The entire process for this is expected to be completed by end September 2014. Similar activities are in preparation in Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. Discussions with PMI and CVTL are also ongoing.

The team also participated in a workshop organized by Microsoft and the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance (AHA) Centre in Jakarta titled “Harnessing technology for disaster preparedness and response”. Although the workshop was cut short after two days because of the incoming typhoon Rammasun in Philippines and Vietnam, it did provide insights from the AHA Centre way of working and potential areas of collaboration with RCRC in the region. More discussions will be held in August with AHA Centre colleagues in preparation of the CSR Forum to be held in Bangkok in September.

It is also worth noting that the Microsoft team took the opportunity to pay a very interesting visit to the PMI Command Post in Jakarta to get a better understanding about the way emergencies are handled by PMI throughout the Indonesian archipelago.

Finally, the team welcomed a new member this month: Ms Kate Jean Smith. Kate will be providing support to the organization of events and the preparation of publications within the IFRC regional delegation as well as in support of the NSSs of the region. This month, Kate flew to Dili to support CVTL on the occasion of the inauguration of its new national head-quarter, which is a great opportunity to profile the work of the NS, the unique relationship with its host government as well as the action for the most vulnerable populations of the country.

Lower Mekong Initiative Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange (LMI DREE)

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange (DREE) as an annual civil-military disaster preparedness and response initiative between the governments of Cambodia, Lao PDR,
Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States was held in Bangkok from 27-29 June 2014. The event was hosted by the Royal Thai Government.

The overall objectives of the event were to:

- Operationalise and enhance regional disaster management practices in the Lower Mekong region through the use and promotion of United Nations, ASEAN and national disaster response procedures and guidelines.
- Promote the LMI Environment and Water Pillar through civil-military disaster preparedness integration and cooperation.
- Increase understanding of risk mitigation associated with water-related extreme events.
- Strengthen regional emergency response procedures to reduce loss of life and property.
- Integrate civilian and military stakeholders into regional disaster management decision process.

More than 60 participants representing countries from the Lower Mekong Region including USA, both civilian and military as well as other key stakeholders including IFRC, UN agencies, INGOs and others took part in the event.

SEARD CSRU delivered a presentation on IDRL Rules and Principles, reiterating importance of having such regulations in place before the disasters happen in order to ensure efficient and effective assistance is provided to the most affected and expressing willingness of IFRC to provide technical support in case of interests by respective governments. Updates were also provided on currently ongoing work in IDRL in the region and most importantly about key lessons learnt during the last few years during major emergencies. Presentation was well appreciated by all present.

Following the academic presentations, a series of problem-solving sessions took place, where common disaster response challenges, such as the reception of foreign humanitarian assistance, climate change adaptation or civil-military interoperability, had been reviewed and analyzed in work groups. A site visit was also organized to provide additional Thailand perspective to the LMI PR DREE.

**Regional Climate Change Master Training**

SEARD is preparing to conduct Regional Climate Change Master training, from 1 - 6 September, 2014 with an objective to develop a core group of climate change experts amongst SEA National Societies who can provide technical support to plan and implement climate smart project activities at national, sub national and community level. The workshop will see the participation of around 25 participants from Southeast Asia and few participants from South Asia.

CSRU team along with reference group (facilitators’ for climate change training) is preparing a climate change training package in line with climate centre training kit, for Southeast Asia National Societies. In
addition, it is also expected that after the training, National societies of this region will have pool of facilitator for Climate Change Training along with tool kit that help them to roll out similar training in their national context. This training has been designed in line with AP Zone training which was organized last year.

**Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum meeting**

SEA National Societies has agreed to organize meeting of Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum from 16 – 18 September, 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The main purpose of the Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum is to enhance integration approach for community resilience and strengthen the regional cooperation among and between SEA RCRC members. It is tasked to translate the results of the strategic policy and direction decisions of the Leaders into the operational action to promote the establishment of safer and more resilient communities. This Forum is responsible for escorting the global Community Safety and Resilience agenda as per IFRC strategy 2020, IFRC CSR framework and other agendas including Hyogo Framework for action and Millennium Development Goals.

The CSR forum meeting has been designed for three days. Health, OD and DM will be integral part of three days meeting. The meeting structure is illustrated as diagram firm for your reference. Head of Health, Head of Disaster Management and members of SEA OD Steering committee have been invited for this forum meeting. The meeting is a continuation of the last year joint meeting in Yangon. It will mainly focus on:

- Last leadership meeting briefings/recommendations
- National Societies’ updates on progress and future plan
- Update on disaster law activities in the region
- Global and Zonal updates on health, DM and OD
- Thematic discussions for future plan and regional cooperation
- School based risk reduction
- Sharing innovative initiatives of NS
- Gender and Diversity
- Advocacy and Humanitarian Diplomacy
- Community Resilience Integrated Planning and Priorities: Technical Working Groups (DM and Health) – development of an integrated Road Map

Detailed agenda for the meeting is under finalization by the colleagues of the National Societies.
Thailand

Post Emergency preparedness operation

Total 51 projects were planned from Post Emergency and Preparedness Operation of Thai Red Cross. Thai Red Cross accomplished more than 29 activities during the first year of implementation, as of July, 2014. TRCS cancelled five projects because these planned projects were no more rational as it was defined earlier. Remaining activities under the post-emergency preparedness operation of Thai Red Cross will be continued as per agreed Plan of Action and will focus on enhancing response capacity of Thai Red Cross and community resilience.

Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Programme

The evaluation team revisited CBDRR communities of Chiang Mai and Ubonratchathani Province to share the preliminary findings and collect the feedback from the community as well as a part of their end of evaluation mission. During the session, Evaluation team also highlighted the missing opportunities to strengthen components of CBDRR during the project period. The session helped to raise the knowledge of the community members as well as helped consultant as well to make their recommendations more practical for Thai Red Cross to implement similar kind of the project in future. They shared the findings of the evaluation and collected feedback from the community as well as community based organizations including local authority. Total 42 people attended the feedback sessions in Chiang Mai and 37 people attended in Ubonratchathani.

Social Capital Study in Thailand

IFRC and Thai Red Cross have agreed to carry out Social Capital study in Thailand. An independent consultant has started working for study. This study aims to contribute to this discussion by analyzing the role of a particular aspect of social capital in Thailand. The study should analyze literature and review case studies from selected communities, most frequently exposed to natural disasters. The study will be carried at:

- One community from 2011 flood affected area.
- One community from urban area.
- One community from current CBDRR area.

This study aims to contribute to this discussion by analyzing the role of a particular aspect of social capital in Thailand. The study should analyze literature and review case studies from selected communities, most frequently exposed to natural disasters. Consultant will consider Social Capital Assessment Tool (SOCAT), a mixed methods tool comprised of five broad indicators, including groups/networks, trust, collective action, social inclusion and information and communication for this study. It is expected that report will be available before end of November.

Cambodia

Livelihoods, Climate Change and Resilience- National Findings in Cambodia
WFP did one study recently and shared their preliminary information in 29 July, 2014 at Phone Penh. Team member of SEARD attended the session. The study focused on resilience in terms of livelihood and climate sensitivity. The study indicated following as the majors opportunities of livelihood across the country: Farming, Fishing, Work in factory, Trade, Dry low land Paddy, Handy Craft, subsidiary crops, tourism, Low land Paddy, salaried, industrial crops. The study indicates that the climate shifts mainly impacts below livelihood options:
  - Cropping based livelihood
  - Livestock
  - Non-timber forest products

Among the lower Mekong Basin countries, Cambodia is expected to experiences some of the great climate shifts by 2100 along with other countries of this sub-region. Wet seasons will be longer and intensified and dry season will be shorter. Flooding, Coastal flooding, Drought and Cyclones will develop as main risks to the countries along with storms and sea level rise. Drought will be common risks of the Cambodia.

**Indonesia**

**Pilot Urban Risk Reduction project**

The objective of this initiative is to strengthen urban communities' resilience to potential risks posed by Disasters and climate change through capacity building of PMI as well as in the targeted communities. This is global project. Following activities has been accomplished only in July:

**Hiring Consultant**

The consultant for advocacy in urban risk reduction has been hired, and the work plan for this initiative has been revised in coordination with American Red Cross supported project in greater Jakarta. Consultant has started working as per the defined ToR and agreed plan of action. The following activities have been completed during July month:

**Orientation on Risk Mapping**

This orientation is a follow up action after PMI volunteers conducting risk mapping in 2 villages/kelurahan. Fifteen participants from PMI of West Jakarta and East Jakarta Branches were involved on the orientation on July 5-7, 2014. Based on the data result by utilizing walking paper, the facilitator guided the participants to digitize data by utilizing JOSM, upload the data into OSM system in coordination with HOT (Humanitarian Openstreetmap Team), then analyse the result by using QGIS in order to support the development of disaster scenario by Using INAsafe.

**Workshop on Community Based Early Warning System for Urban Context**

The orientation about contingency plan and SOP development is conducted on July 17-18, 2014, attended by 28 staff and volunteers from PMI NHQ, PMI Chapter of DKI Jakarta and PMI of West Jakarta and East Jakarta Branches. During the orientation, the early warning early action approach was introduced to lead the development of SOP. This orientation has also tried to endorse the utilization of PMI-Community Based Early Warning System manual which has been developed in 2013 to be applied in urban setting

Considering the urban setting into the development of Contingency Plan and SOP therefore this pilot project will seek the engagement from the existing system at village/kelurahan level by involving all relevant community groups. At the end of orientation, it is also being agreed to develop flood contingency plan which consider health component.
Workshop on Developing Public Awareness Public Education Strategy for Urban Context

The orientation about Public Awareness Public Education is conducted on July 15-16, 2014, attended by 25 staff and volunteers from PMI NHQ, PMI Chapter of DKI Jakarta and PMI of West Jakarta and East Jakarta Branches. The participants are focussed to adapt the key messages for flood, climate change and Dengue which have been identified during the VCA Process.

Based on the result of contingency plan orientation, it is agreed that the key messages will focus on the flood preparedness action at family level. Aside to this, based on VCA result, it is also identified the need to explore key messages for health related issues such as Dengue and Leptospirosis. During orientation, the participants have also identified several methods to convey the key messages with different community groups such as women group, youth group, etc. In addition to this, the participants have also identified the possibility to mobilize key person in the community to convey the key messages.

Update Risk mapping which consider urban context

After having in-depth orientation, PMI volunteers continued the risk mapping process for Kedoya Utara and Bidara Cina villages/kelurahan with digitizing the data by utilizing JOSM, then analysing the result by using QGIS in order to support the development of disaster scenario by Using INAsafe.

Knowledge Information Management (KIM)

Online library ([https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/health-and-care/health-bulletins.](https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/health-and-care/health-bulletins.)) continues to be regularly updated to promote the knowledge sharing within and beyond the Movement. Number of uploaded documents related of DRR and Health is growing from day to day and it is only valuable if used by targeted audience. The fortnightly Health bulletin continues to be shared with respective colleagues of NS as well as AP Zone and country delegations in order to update knowledge and enhance communication. The site has been integrated into IFRC standard web-link as well.

Upcoming Events for August to November, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th August, 2014</td>
<td>ACSS meeting</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-28th August, 2014</td>
<td>ACSS &amp; Regional Capacity Building Workshop</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-28 August 2014</td>
<td>SIMEX of HRF network</td>
<td>Phone Penh</td>
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<tr>
<td>01 – 06 September, 2014</td>
<td>Regional Climate Change – Master Training</td>
<td>Phuket, Thailand</td>
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<td>16 -18 September, 2014</td>
<td>Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 September 2014</td>
<td>IFRC regional technical meeting</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
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<tr>
<td>October (Date-TBC)</td>
<td>Regional Emergency PSS Workshop</td>
<td>Phone Penh</td>
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<tr>
<td>November (Date-TBC)</td>
<td>Regional Pandemic Preparedness workshop</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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For Further information please contact our CSRU team:

Indira KULENOVIC, Head/Coordinator- Email: indira.kulenovic@ifrc.org
Sanjeev Kafley, DRR Advisor- Email: sanjeev.kafley@ifrc.org
Hervé Gazeau, DRR Manager - E-mail: herve.gazeau@ifrc.org
Rommanee Klaeotanong, DRR Officer- Email: rommanee.klaeotanong@ifrc.org
Abhishek Rimal, Sn. Health Officer- Email: abhishek.rimal@ifrc.org
Ms Kate Jean Smith, Events and Publication Officer- Email: KateJean.Smith@ifrc.org
Juthamanee Khotchasarnmanee (Fiat), Sn.Program Assistant, Tsunami Program
Email: juthamanee.khotchasarnmanee@ifrc.org
Nutchapang Khowinij (Tum), CSRU Assistant- Email: nutchapang.khowinij@ifrc.org