Sexual And Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

Annual Meeting of National Society Legal Advisers
2nd – 4th July 2018
Geneva
2012
- The recommendation to create a regional G&D network was identified in 2012

11 NATIONAL SOCIETY
- Since 2015, 11 National Society leaders have endorsed both the network and have elected a G&D focal point within each NS

ENDORSEMENT
- A ToR was drafted at the Southeast Asia G&D Forum in November 2014 and endorsed at the 12th Annual Southeast Asia RCRC leadership meeting in February 2015

COMMUNICATION
- Communication within the network has taken place through an ‘e’-mailing list, teleconferences and face to face annual meetings
Southeast Asia G&D Network

Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent
Cambodian Red Cross
Cruz Vermelha de Timor Leste
Indonesian Red Cross (PMI)
Laos Red Cross
Malaysian Red Crescent
Myanmar Red Cross
Philippine Red Cross (PRC)
Singapore Red Cross
Thai Red Cross
Vietnam Red Cross (VRC)

**Observers: ICRC, IFRC & Partner National Societies**
Collective achievements
2015 – 2017

➢ 9 National Societies
  awareness raising/training for their NS technical and management teams

➢ 7 National Societies
  revised, contextualized or translated tools for inclusive
  programming (Inclusive Vulnerability & Capacity Assessment
  (VCA) and Minimum Standard Commitments)

➢ 6 National Societies
  developed G&D institutional policies / strategies and 5 of it were
  endorsed by their NS

➢ 6 National Societies
  elected secondary focal points, branch focal points or formed
  working groups in NS to further G&D initiatives

➢ 3 National Societies
  conducted institutional G&D self assessments
Collective achievements 2015 - 2017

Mainstreaming
Mainstreaming of G&D into various programmes and projects

Research
Research on SGBV (Laos, Indonesia and Philippines)

Collaboration
with government departments, UN agencies on G&D issues

Information Education Communication (IEC)
- posters on Dignity, Access, Participation, Safety (DAPS)
- translation of Minimum Standard of Commitments into local language

SGBV in Emergency Training
SGBV in Emergency Training for G&D Focal Points in 2017
What went well......

➢ Commitment of the decision-makers (Leadership) from among the national societies within the region.

➢ Finding entry points to mainstream. Taking opportunity to integrate G&D into programmes and projects rather than stand alone initiatives e.g. through trainings on first aid or social care programmes, disaster risk reduction, IHL etc.

➢ Increased human resource - train other focal point to expand the work of mainstreaming G&D within the activities of each NS.

➢ Support from senior management for focal point to participate in network meeting and to share information within the NS.

➢ Committed, positive and active group of focal points, ensures network meetings are rich and peer to peer support is strong. E.g. Philippine RC & Malaysia RC and Brunei RC.
“The Malaysian Red Crescent Society as an auxiliary to the Malaysian government pledge to raise awareness and take action to prevent sexual and gender based violence in times of disasters, emergencies and armed conflicts”

Malaysian Red Crescent’s pledge on SGBV for the 32nd IC of 2015

The aim is to sensitise G&D issues at all level within the NS and integrate the IFRC’s Minimum Standard Commitments (MSC) across all MRC’s programme so as to reach the most vulnerable

Introduction of G&D Policy within Malaysian Red Crescent
- Members and volunteers from branches and chapters of Malaysian Red Crescent.

- Focal person and technical expert on G&D within the Southeast Asia RCRC G&D network.

- Royal Malaysian Armed Forces.

- Members of humanitarian actors and public authority involved in humanitarian assistance during period of major disasters

- Positive response.

- Demand for more dissemination to be done not only within the RCRC movement but also among other humanitarian actors.
Challenges from legal perspective

- **Reporting mechanism** for harassment & child protection during time of major disaster and armed conflict.
- **Lack of awareness** of existing reporting mechanism.
- Those within the NS and other key humanitarian actors are **not well trained** or **up to the required level of expertise** to ensure that the reporting mechanism is to be executed.
- Existing system may be over simplified / too general and **not tested as to its effectiveness**.
- **Lack of legal experts for a NS to separately** create an **effective** reporting mechanism which is **user-friendly** to all members and volunteers.
- **Lack of training and experienced** staffs and volunteers to ensure that the mechanism will run effectively.
FEAR OF MAKING ERROR MAY RESULT IN RELUCTANCE ON THOSE RESPONSIBLE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION

**SENSITIVE**
It is a sensitive issue (custom, culture & religion)

**REPUTATION**
Risk of jeopardising the reputation of the NS or RCRC movement

**COUNTER SUED**
Fear of being counter sued (defamation).

**LACK OF CONFIDENCE**
Lack of confidence in taking the appropriate legal action.
LEGAL TECHNICALITIES
question on legal technicalities such as the required amount of evidence needed & acting in reliance of hearsay.

UNFAMILIAR
Unfamiliar with the law of the land when abroad

FEAR OF MAKING ERROR MAY RESULT IN RELUCTANCE ON THOSE RESPONSIBLE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION

LOSING VOLUNTEERS
fear of losing volunteers to other NGOs (competition)

FEAR OF TAKING ACTION
against members of NS especially high ranking members and volunteers in comparison to full time paid staffs of NS
Propose

Introduction of a model standard reporting mechanism which can be used by all NS, other components of the RCRC movement and other humanitarian actors in time of armed conflict and disasters.

The reporting mechanism **not to be over simplified** and **practicable** for the majority of humanitarian actors to use (**user-friendly**).

To be **tested** as to its effectiveness.

Appropriate **training** to be conducted to all the relevant members and volunteers of the National Societies and other components of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement.
Thank you

Saiful Izan bin Nordin
Manager,
IHL, Legal & International Relations
Malaysian Red Crescent
ihlmrcs@gmail.com
Skype: saiful.ihlmrcs