

# THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULETIN

VOL 20

One ASEAN One Response

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULETIN 2016

## 2016 ASEAN STRATEGIC POLICY DIALOGUE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

*Change and Innovation: Learning from the Private Sector to Enhance Disaster Management in ASEAN*

Pan Pacific Hotel, Singapore, 19 August 2016



### NEWS HIGHLIGHT

#### ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management 2016

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and Red Crescent Societies Recovery  
“Ways of Working”**

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ONE ASEAN  
ONE RESPONSE

VOLUME 20  
**2016**



It is the responsibility and function of the AHA Centre to continuously strengthen and deepen the ASEAN thinking of disaster management, referring to the fact that many ASEAN countries are located in a disaster-prone area.

Through collaboration with the Singapore Civil Defence Force, ASEAN Secretariat, and Corporate Citizen Foundation in Singapore, the ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management was conducted again this year.

The dialogue was expected to establish more disaster-educated people like Mr. Adi Bishry, ICT Officer of the AHA Centre who shared his story of being an IT officer to being deployed during the most devastating Typhoon ever recorded in history, the Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.

Typhoon Haiyan struck the Tacloban area in the Philippines almost three years ago, but the pain and loss caused by ‘Yolanda’ seems like still near the heart of the people in Tacloban. As the last study visit in the programme, the ACE Programme Officers visited the Philippines to learn broaden their knowledge about the disaster management in the Philippines.

It is unwittingly that six months of the training programme have passed for the sixteen (16) Officers who participated in the ACE Programme batch 2016. On August 31st, 2016, they officially graduated the programme and considered to be respected as the ASEAN Future Leaders of Disaster Management. The Column would like to congratulate all of the graduates for their success in joining the programme.

To end, if you wish to share some stories / articles / blogs / comments with us to improve the bulletin, please drop us a message at comm@ahacentre.org, and we will do the rest.

Sincerely,  
The Column Editor

**The Column** is a monthly news bulletin from the AHA Centre – capturing the latest activities from the organisation.

NEWS HIGHLIGHT

ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management 2016



CEOs' Talk facilitated by Mr Said Faisal, Executive Director of the AHA Centre (left) with business leaders from Shaw Organisation (Singapore), ServisHero (Malaysia) and Kamadjaja Logistics (Indonesia)

The first ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management (SPDDM) was successfully conducted last year in Singapore and came up with the “ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management” as a strategic direction for ASEAN to serve better in disaster management for the next ten years.

In advancing the ASEAN’s strategic engagements and leadership in disaster management, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management ACDM has decided to convene the ASEAN SPDDM as an annual event. The ASEAN SPDDM was jointly organised by the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC), Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) and the Corporate Citizen Foundation (CCF).

“The principal focus of this Dialogue will be on strengthening and deepening ASEAN thinking in disaster management, with an emphasis not just on the short-term, but long-term policy thinks, setting up structures and ways in which we can deal with these issues,” stated by Mr. K. Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and

Ministers for Law during his opening remarks. “It will work with research institutions and various ASEAN sector bodies, and give special attention to regional cooperation on disaster management for the next ten years.”

By carrying the theme of “Change and Innovation: Learning from the Private Sector to Enhance Disaster Management in ASEAN”, the ASEAN SPDDM was held in concurrence with the World Humanitarian Day on 19 August.

Facilitated by the Executive Director of AHA Centre, Mr. Said Faisal, the focus of this year’s ASEAN SPDDM was the CEO’s Talk, which delivered by Mr. Markham Shaw, the Executive Vice President of the Shaw Organisation Group of Companies Singapore, Mr. Karl Loo, Co-Founder and CEO of ServisHero Malaysia, and Ms. Ivy Kamadjaja, the Deputy CEO of Kamadjaja Logistics Indonesia contributed as the main speakers of the event.

The three CEOs / Senior Executives expressed their professional views on how the participants should



ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management 2016

embrace change and innovate as a means of enhancing disaster management cooperation within the ASEAN Region.

In addition to enhancing disaster management cooperation of ASEAN Member States, Mr. Said Faisal, Executive Director of AHA Centre said, “The role of private sector in disaster management is significant due to their extensive resources and capacities, enabling faster and bigger response in disaster which also reiterates our One ASEAN One Response inclusivity, where all actors including private sector jointly responding to disasters as one.”

As disasters could have a direct impact on general business, it is important for the private sector to play an essential role in realising the resilient community of ASEAN by having a sound business continuity plan through innovations, as well as responding to disasters and taking steps to reduce disaster losses.

The ASEAN SPDDM was attended by 120 participants, comprising of the Heads of the National Disaster Management Offices (NDMO) of ASEAN Member States (AMS), Ambassadors of ASEAN Dialogue Partners and other countries, relevant UN agencies, owners, leaders and CEOs of private sector entities, the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Partnership Group (APG), civil society partners, youth networks in ASEAN, academia, and representatives of other ASEAN bodies. The Dialogue was an excellent opportunity for the participants to learn from each other.



Opening remarks by Mr. K. Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and Ministers for Law



Activities

Philippines Visit - ACE Programme

Looking back to 2013, Philippines were devastated by the strongest typhoon ever recorded, Typhoon Haiyan – that also famous by the name of Super Typhoon Yolanda. As powerful as the Typhoon Haiyan destroyed large portions of Southeast Asia, particularly the Philippines, it caught attention from many parties around the world. As of now, the thrills and posttraumatic stress disaster is still noticed by the survivor, although the area has slowly recovered.

The catastrophe left a remarkable pedagogy for ASEAN’s disaster management officers and led the ACE Programme to learn from their experience through a field visit to the Philippines. On 15-19 August 2016, the ACE Programme Officers followed a list of activities including a visit to the Red Cross and Government Agencies, Partner Agencies (such as WFP Philippines Country Office, IOM Philippines Country Office, and UNOCHA Philippines Country Office), OCD Region 8 Office and Site visit, the Disaster Response Centre (DRC) in Visayas and Cebu area, and several other places to gain their knowledge regarding Philippines’ strategic implementation in handling disaster.



Port Visit Logistics



Visit to PRC Cebu Warehouse



B AHA Centre Executive Programme Graduation 2016



With the support from the Government of Japan through Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF), the AHA Centre has successfully conducted three batches of the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme. After a six-month of training with the AHA Centre in Jakarta, sixteen (16) ACE Programme Officers batch 2016 from eight (8) respective NDMOs has accomplished the serial trainings and was graduated in the late August 2016.

The third batch's graduation ceremony was conducted in the Armed Forces of the Philippines – Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Quezon City, Philippines. It was attended by the Secretary General of ASEAN, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN, Ambassadors of Dialogue Partners, ASEAN Country Permanent Representatives, ACDM Chairman, Focal Points, ASEAN Secretariat, Dialogue Partners, ACE Programme Partners, ACE Programme Officers, and the AHA Centre.

The ceremony was opened by remarks and warm welcome from USEC Ricardo B. Jalad, OCD Philippines, Mr. Bintang Susmanto Noortjahjo, BNPB – ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and Conference of the parties, Mr. Said Faisal, Executive Director of the AHA Centre, and H.E. Ambassador Kazuo Sunaga, Japan Ambassador to ASEAN via video remarks.

Of the 1000 hours invested by the Officers throughout the ACE Programme, they have developed technical knowledge and skills, mastered the procedures for coordinated and timely response, managed logistics planning for emergency response, and formed bonds amongst other participants from different ASEAN Member States (AMS).

The Programme also enhanced the capacity of ASEAN Member States' disaster management offices as they exchanged knowledge, solutions, and skills amongst the Participants as well as with disaster management experts who took part throughout the training and workshop sessions, also during the study-visit.

Although H.E. Kazuo Sunaga, Japan Ambassador to ASEAN could not attend the graduation ceremony, he congratulated the ACE Programme Graduates via video remarks, "It is my great pleasure to extend my congratulations to the sixteen Officers on the completion of the Programme."

On behalf of the AHA Centre, The Column would like to express our appreciation and congratulate all Graduates of the ACE Programme batch 2016. The ASEAN welcomes you as the future leader in disaster management.



Group Photo during the Graduation of ACE Programme 2016

Myanmar Earthquake

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016, a 6.8 Magnitude earthquake shook Myanmar causes four deaths, one injured, and hundreds of ancient temples damaged, including religious buildings and Pagodas with The Ancient and National Cultural Heritage Area of Bagan that were recorded as the worst affected area.

On behalf of the AHA Centre, The Column would like to express our condolences to the people of Myanmar. Together with the Government of Myanmar, the AHA Centre monitored the situation and stand-by in view of the incident.

Bagan, Myanmar

Death

1 Person

Injured

4 People

Affected Religious Buildings

100+ Units

DISASTER OUTLOOK

The AHA Centre

One ASEAN One Response

1

TOTAL DISASTERS

MYANMAR

1

TOTAL DISASTERS

THAILAND

1

TOTAL DISASTERS

LAO PDR

4

TOTAL DISASTERS

VIET NAM

4

TOTAL DISASTERS

PHILIPPINES

14

TOTAL DISASTERS

INDONESIA

Affected Houses

23,100 Units

Affected Agriculture

31,500 Ha

Affected Population

1,616,500 People

Death

51 People

Displaced People

68,800 People

Injured People

48 People

AUGUST

DISASTER COMPARISON NUMBER

2015 - Black bar

2016 - Red bar

FLOOD

314

EARTHQUAKE

02

WIND

02

DROUGHT

10

LANDSLIDE

02

VOLCANO

02

STORM

13

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Indonesia reported the highest number of natural disasters occurring in the region with 14 incidents, representing 56% of the total 25 incidents recorded for the month of August. This is followed by 4 incidents each in Viet Nam and the Philippines, and 1 each in Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand. Flooding is the highest recorded disaster with 14 incidents, followed by 3 storm incidents, 2 incidents each for earthquake, landslide, wind and volcanic eruption. A total of about 1,616,500 people were affected by these disasters, displacing approximately 68,800 and damaging 23,100 houses. Compared to the same month last year, there were lesser disasters reported at 5 incidents in the region in 2015.

FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER

The Philippines, Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia, Brunei, most of Malaysia including Sabah, north and central Myanmar, and North and West Sumatra in Indonesia will have a normal rainfall outlook for the month of September. Singapore, Sarawak in Malaysia, Indonesia's Kalimantan Provinces, Sulawesi, Maluku Islands, West & East Nusa Tenggara, and Papua is forecasted to have a slightly above normal rainfall. South Sumatra and Java is expected to be wet with above normal rainfall. The only part of the region to experience slightly below normal rainfall is the southern part of Myanmar, in the Bago Division area and vicinity (source: <http://asmc.asean.org/asmc-seasonal-outlook/>).

DISCLAIMER:

The use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown are not warranted to be error free or implying official endorsement from ASEAN Member State.

SOURCE:

Basemap is from global administrative area. Information is generated from many sources including NDMO, International Organisation and news agencies.

Supported by:

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NEWS STORY

INSARAG Asia-Pacific: Regional Earthquake Response Exercise 2016



Exercising Joint Press Briefing-INSARAG Exercise



INSARAG - Joint Operations between ASEAN-ERAT and UNDAC

Continuing the adoption of GA Resolution 57/150, INSARAG Steering Group conducted multi-stakeholder training exercises to promote and practice the INSARAG and United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) disaster response methodologies across the INSARAG Regional Groups of Africa/Europe/Middle East (AEME), Asia-Pacific (A-P) and the Americas. These exercises aimed to raise the awareness of the participating stakeholders in host-countries that regional exercises needed to incorporate the management components of international organizations to generate an integrated and well-coordinated response in supporting the host countries actors.

The exercise was based on a sudden onset disaster on urban environments with limited resources, which overwhelms local and national response and assistance. The INSARAG A-P Regional Earthquake Response Exercise 2016 hosted by Indonesian National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) and taken place in Yogyakarta for five-days. There were two phases included in the exercise: Preparation Phase and Operational Phase. The Preparation Phase aimed to familiarise participants with internationally agreed-upon deployment and coordination procedures based on the INSARAG Guidelines, as well as educate them the specific aspects of INSARAG and UNDAC methodologies. On the other hand, the Operational Phase is a one and a half day national simulation that includes a scenario inject-driven – where participant groups are challenged by a specific situation of only limited information were provided. These exercises were de-briefed and facilitated by group mentors for each of the activities.

The expected outcomes of the exercise were for participants to have a clear understanding regarding national and international alert and notification procedures on the Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (VOSOCC), Indonesia’s national response planning for a major earthquake scenario, mobilisation of international USAR and EMT assets, in-country arrival of international assistance teams and the establishment of a Reception/Departure Centre (RDC), host country disaster management mechanisms for the acceptance, arrival, coordination and utilisation of international assistance, joint operations planning by national and international response elements, coordinated assessment and information management functions, cluster and inter-cluster coordination arrangements, and the role of the UN Country Team (UNCT) / Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) representatives and its partners.

6<sup>th</sup> ERAT Induction Course



The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course in the Philippines

Group activity during the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course

The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) adopted the AADMER Work Programme specifically on the establishment of a fully-functional ASEAN Emergency Response & Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT). Through ASEAN-ERAT, ASEAN is foreseen to be better in the preparedness and capacity to respond to disaster, as well as ensuring the rapid and collective deployment of ASEAN’s resources for Member States within the ASEAN region.

As discussed in the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management meeting in Viet Nam, ASEAN-ERAT’s roles were expanded, including supporting the emergency response operations – comprising of logistics, emergency communications, and coordination among all parties involved, and others.

Following the operationalisation of the AHA Centre, ACDM has given the responsibility for the AHA Centre to organise the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course which have been respectively conducted on May 2014 and June 2015.

This year, the AHA Centre with the support of Member States and the AADMER Partnership Consortium Group (APG), the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course was conducted from 21-30 August 2016 in the Philippines. The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course was conducted as part of the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme in which representing Officers of ASEAN Member States participating in the programme automatically joined Induction Course.

The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course aimed to prepare regional responders who have experience in emergency management and coordination to respond to a major disaster in the ASEAN region. The Induction Course also prepared the participants to be able to assist national governments and the AHA Centre in meeting regional or international requirements.

Participants in the course, including representatives from AMS, APG, partners organisation or entity, ASEAN Secretariat and AHA Centre, as well as ACE Programme’s Officers. They contributed in various activities during the course, including on-field simulation, implementation of ICT kit; practice to set up standard relief-items, and many more.

As much as thirty-eight (38) graduates completed the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN ERAT Induction Course. The whole Induction Course would not be realized without the support from JAIF.

INSIGHTS

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Recovery “Ways of Working”

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Recovery “Ways of Working”

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world’s largest humanitarian organisation that provides assistance to everyone without viewing ones’ nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions.

The ACE Programme batch 2016 had the honour to be facilitated by IFRC during the Red Cross Induction Course in Semarang in May 2016. During the Course, IFRC explained its “ways of working” within recovery phase.

Recovery refers to a process that takes people’s lives to normal in a way they will be more resilient to future disaster. Response and relief received in early recovery and the recovery phase needs to accommodate their short-term and longer-term necessities.

To support and strengthen the capacity to work with vulnerable communities, IFRC has the “Ways of Working”, which stressed on five points, including:

01 Participate in disaster-affected people who have a right to determine their own future. This is a way to encourage affected-people to focus on their future and try to reach their dreams.

02 Inclusive participation with equal involvement of members of the community regardless of age, sex, ethnicity and wealth. During the post-disaster period, it is important to make each affected-people to be important again, to have a function within society, and gain people’s trust again.

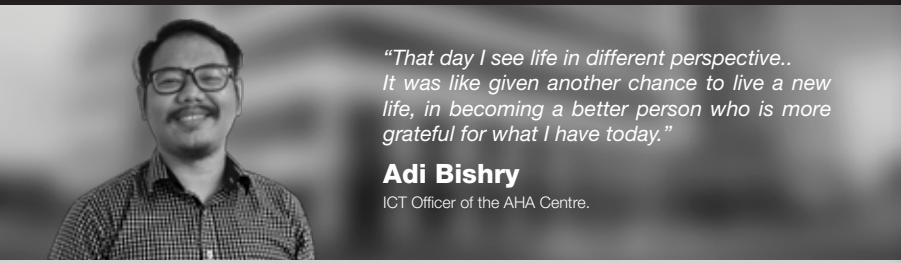
03 Being accountable to the affected, ensuring that affected populations can influence and participate in decision making concerning the operation.

04 Doing no harm either socially, economically, or environmentally.

05 Being timely and starting early to support and complement relief activities whenever possible.

**INSIGHTS** is a special column for guest contributors, and does not necessarily reflect or represent AHA Centre’s point of view.

THE OTHER SIDE



“That day I see life in different perspective.. It was like given another chance to live a new life, in becoming a better person who is more grateful for what I have today.”

**Adi Bishry**  
ICT Officer of the AHA Centre.

It is such an honour for The Column to be able to cover an inspirational story from Mr. Adi Bishry, ICT Officer of the AHA Centre who is also a Typhoon Haiyan’s survivor.

Mr. Adi Bishry shared his journey as one of the first staff ever recruited by the AHA Centre – until his story of becoming a survivor of the world’s most devastating typhoon, ‘Yolanda’ in 2013.

Here is a story from Mr. Adi Bishry..

Can you share your journey as you entered into this field?

My journey in the humanitarian field started in 2011 when I first joined the AHA Centre. Before that, I was working in an IT company based in the same building as the AHA Centre’s office. At that time, I was required to support the Indonesian Taskforce in preparing the establishment of AHA Centre. My main task was to setup the basic and minimal IT capability to support AHA Centre’s early operations.

My days were spent mainly in the AHA Centre’s office until the late 2011 I have officially become the second staff of the AHA Centre after Mr. Said Faisal.

You have witnessed the development and expansion of the AHA Centre since it was first established. What are the changes? What aspects that developed the most?

I think seeing all the ICT equipment and system are now in placed at the AHA Centre is the most impressive development aspect that I witnessed, since I work closely with the equipment. I remember when we didn’t even have anything, but now we have DMRS, ASEAN WebEOC, ADInet, servers, PCs, Laptops, etc.

We know that you have been deployed to the Philippines during Typhoon Haiyan, could you share your experience while you were there?

When I joined the AHA Centre, I had no idea that I would be deployed to an impacted area. However, all officers in the AHA Centre need to be in the ERAT Team.

Typhoon Haiyan was my first deployment to a disaster site. My main task there was to bring the satellite phone and Bgan (Broadband Global Area Network) in supporting communications between LEMA (Local Emergency Management Agency) with the NDMO (National Disaster Management Office) during the disaster period. But I think my faith came a little different than what we have planned, because Typhoon Haiyan struck Tacloban on the second day of my deployment.

That morning on November 8th, 2013 gave the longest 90 minutes in my life. Along with one other local officer, we hid under a table as our shelter while windows shattered and roofs flew off, and things hit our shelter. The sound that Typhoon Haiyan produced was the loudest thing I have ever heard in my life. We waited until it passed. My mind, heart, and mouth did not stop praying the whole time, until it finally got better.

The feeling of surviving a disaster is like no other feelings, I was thrilled, grateful, and confuse at the same time. Everywhere I look, all I can see was chaos and mess. Infrastructure was destroyed, buildings were no longer seen as mighty as it was, the affected people walking around in town with an empty soul flashed out from their eyes.

That day I see life in a different perspective.. It was like given another chance to live a new life, in becoming a better person who is more grateful for what I have today.

After experiencing and surviving one of the most devastating disasters ever recorded, do you still want to go back to Tacloban?

Yes.. I may be traumatic of the disaster, it made me burst into tears sometimes even until now. But the people, the survivors made me want to go back to Tacloban. Survivors of Tacloban have great ardour and hopes in building their future under the debris of typhoon Yolanda.

**THE OTHER SIDE** is a special column where we interview professional players in disaster management. Crafted with light discussion in a casual manner, THE OTHER SIDE captures the human side, up close and personal. This section does not necessarily reflect or represent AHA Centre’s point of view.

# One **ASEAN** One **Response**

## About ASEAN

*The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia. As set out in the ASEAN Declaration, the aims and purposes of ASEAN among others are to accelerate the economic growth, social progress, cultural development, to promote regional peace and stability as well as to improve active collaboration and cooperation.*

## About The AHA Centre

*The AHA Centre is an inter-governmental organisation established on 17 November 2011, through the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, witnessed by the ASEAN Heads of States, from 10 ASEAN Member States: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Centre was set-up to facilitate the cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with the United Nations and international organisations for disaster management and emergency response in the ASEAN region.*

## About AADMER

*The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) is a legally-binding regional multi-hazard and policy framework for cooperation, coordination, technical assistance and resource mobilisation in all aspects of disaster management in the 10 ASEAN Member States. The objective of AADMER is to provide an effective mechanism to achieve substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in social, economic and environmental assets, and to jointly respond to emergencies through concerted national efforts.*

### Talk To Us:



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