



ONE ASEAN
ONE RESPONSE

THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULLETIN

VOL.70 | FEBRUARY 2021



The Indonesian Red Cross or Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) distributed the Temasek Foundation's face masks in Mamuju and Majene, West Sulawesi in February 2021.

HIGHLIGHT

Distribution of Temasek
Foundation's Reusable Face Masks:
More Masks for More Communities

MONTHLY DISASTER OUTLOOK

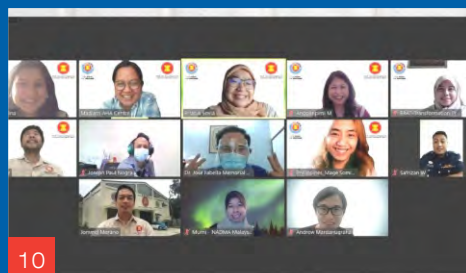
Monthly Disaster
Review and Outlook for
February 2021

THE OTHER SIDE

Mary Ann Sarah Cruz Ulat

THE COLUMN 70

THIS ISSUE:
DISTRIBUTION OF TEMASEK FOUNDATION'S
REUSABLE FACE MASKS: MORE MASKS FOR
MORE COMMUNITIES



02 | HIGHLIGHT

The distribution of the Temasek Foundation's reusable face masks – as covered in Volume 68 of the Column – has continued to reach many more recipients, including communities affected by the recent earthquake in West Sulawesi of Indonesia.

05 | MONTHLY DISASTER OUTLOOK

08 | INSIGHT

10 | AHA CENTRE DIARY

12 | AHA CENTRE DIARY 2

16 | THE OTHER SIDE

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ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian
Assistance on disaster management

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Hi Readers,

The AHA Centre's Column Volume 70 is packed with new and interesting news and stories for the ASEAN disaster management sector, as we settle into our new and interesting normal across the region.

This month our Highlight article gives an insight into the ongoing delivery of the Temasek Foundation's face masks for ASEAN communities, and our Insight article provides an interesting look into the potential of virtual and augmented reality technology in disaster management.

Our Other Side interview this volume is with AHA Centre Executive programme alumni Mary Ann Sarah Cruz Ulata, who also works for the Philippines National Disaster Management Organisation, and the AHA Diary gets readers engaged and interested in innovations for the Humanitarian and Emergency Logistics Expo (HELIX), as well as an update from the AHA Centre Executive Programme Steering Committee about what the team has in store for the 2021 programme implementation.

We hope this volume of the Column is interesting and informative, and engages all readers to continue your passion for disaster management in the ASEAN region.

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DISTRIBUTION OF TEMASEK FOUNDATION'S REUSABLE FACE MASKS:

MORE MASKS FOR MORE COMMUNITIES

The distribution of the Temasek Foundation's reusable face masks – as covered in Volume 68 of the Column – has continued to reach many more recipients, including communities affected by the recent earthquake in West Sulawesi of Indonesia. The Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia – PMI) distributed the face masks in Mamuju and Majene – the two most affected areas in West Sulawesi – during the month of February 2021. Other local non-government organisations (NGOs) also have helped distribute the masks to the wider recipients.

Through the AHA Centre, Singapore's Temasek Foundation donated 1.5 million reusable face masks at the end of 2020 to support the ongoing COVID-19 response in the region. The masks have been distributed to ASEAN Member States, ASEAN centres, entities related to ASEAN, and the PMI. These organisations then engage local non-profit organisations to deliver masks to ASEAN communities. According to PMI, the communities of West Sulawesi are increasingly vulnerable and at high risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the disaster situation. Therefore, distributing face masks to these communities can help prevent the spread of the virus. PMI itself received 512,000 face masks that have been distributed to several locations in Indonesia, including West Sulawesi.

As well as the PMI, *Diberi Untuk Memberi* (Given to Give) – a Jakarta-based non-profit organisation – also delivered face masks to communities in Mamuju. They had also previously been distributing masks to food sellers, local medical centres, and the general community in Jakarta.

Distribution to communities was also undertaken by the ASEAN Insurance Council in Tangerang Selatan, Banten. The Mayor of Tangerang Selatan City, Mr Benyamin Davnie, showed his appreciation for the ASEAN Insurance Council's efforts, hoping that the spread of the virus could be reduced by having more people wearing face masks.

Written by : Moch Syifa



The AHA Centre staff have also voluntarily helped distribute the face masks to their networks. For example, Ms Yuni Wahyuningtyas, the AHA Centre Project Development Officer, channelled distribution to Canari Foundation, a local non-profit organisation. “I have several networks, especially local non-profit organisations. I think it's good to also donate the face masks to these organisations so that they will reach the wider community”, she explained.

Ms Adelina Kamal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, highlighted her appreciation of Temasek Foundation's support to the region's fight against the pandemic, as well as all parties who have helped distribute the face masks.

“

“This cooperation between Temasek Foundation and AHA Centre reflects our commitment to fight hand-in-hand against the pandemic in the region”

“It's also a pleasure knowing that this activity has engaged more local-based organisations and grass-root communities”,

- Adelina Kamal

”

The earthquake's affected communities of West Sulawesi in Indonesia are increasingly vulnerable and at high risk of contracting COVID-19 as the communities are still recovering from the effects of the disaster.



AS THE PANDEMIC CONTINUES

THE DISTRIBUTION OF FACE MASKS REMAINS ONE OF THE KEY EFFORTS TO PREVENT COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION OF THE VIRUS.



- 1 A local resident of Mamuju, West Sulawesi received reusable face masks distributed by Diberi untuk Memberi.
- 2 Palang Merah Indonesia or the Indonesian Red Cross helped distributed the face masks to the earthquake's affected communities in West Sulawesi.
- 3 The distribution of the face masks by ASEAN Insurance Council in local communities was attended by the Mayor of South Tangerang Mr Benyamin Davnie.

Photo credit: ASEAN Insurance Council, Diberi untuk Memberi, Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI).

105
DISASTERS12
DISASTERS

117

REPORTED DISASTERS

THROUGHOUT THE ASEAN
REGION IN FEBRUARY 2021

DISCLAIMER

Disclaimer from ASMC: The qualitative outlook is assessed for the region in general and based on the latest runs from models provided by the SEA RCC-Network LRF node. For specific updates on the national scale, the relevant ASEAN National Meteorological and Hydrological Services should be consulted.

Sources : ASEAN Disaster Information Network (ADINet), ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC), ASEAN Disaster Monitoring and Response System (DMRS), Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB), Pusat Vulkanologi dan Mitigasi Bencana Geologi (PVMBG), Badan Meteorologi, Klimatologi dan Geofisika (BMKG), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), Philippine Institute for Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), National Disaster Management Agency - Malaysia (NADMA), Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation - Thailand (DDPM), Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA)

MONTHLY DISASTER
REVIEW AND OUTLOOKDISASTER MONITORING & ANALYSIS
(DMA) UNIT , AHA CENTRE

FEBRUARY 2021

GENERAL REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 2021

February 2021 was characterised by a significantly higher number of disaster occurrences in comparison to the average from February during the previous five years – with a six-fold increase overall. In-line with this increase, statistics show significantly higher comparative numbers of affected people (almost 6 times the February five-year average), internally displaced (7 ½ times), damaged houses (36 times), casualties (2 ½ times), and missing persons (7 times). A majority of recorded disasters in February occurred in Indonesia, over 70% of which were floods. These increases can be largely attributed to the Northeast Monsoon conditions that brought wetter conditions to Indonesia (Java Island and regions around it), causing flooding, rain-induced landslides and heavy winds. The effects of a frontal system's tail end were also evident in eastern parts of the Philippines, which was also subject to Tropical Storm DUJUAN that affected 272,500 people living in the area. La Niña conditions are still present in the tropical Pacific Ocean, and continue to be associated with wetter conditions for Southeast Asia.

A total of 32 significant earthquakes (M≥5.0) were reported in the region during February 2021, although they caused limited damages to populations and infrastructure. Volcanic activity was reported for numerous Alert Level III volcanoes – including Mount Merapi, Sinabung, Semeru, and Karangetang in Indonesia – all of which remain under close monitoring. Recent volcanic activity was also reported for Ibu, Dukono, and Raung mountains in Indonesia, and Taal in the Philippines, but there were no significant related damages.

DISASTER COMPARISON IN NUMBERS

WHITE BAR | FEBRUARY 2021

RED BAR | FEBRUARY IN FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

Drought	1	-
Earthquake	2	-
Flood	85	16
Landslide	12	2
Storm	2	-
Volcano	1	-
Wind	14	1
Total	117	19

Indonesia	105	16
Malaysia	-	2
Philippines	12	1
Total	117	19

(covering the period of Weeks 5 - 8 in 2021 and 2016-2020 average)

SEASONAL OUTLOOK

According to the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC), the prevailing Northeast Monsoon conditions are expected to continue into March 2021. During this period, the prevailing northeasterly or easterly winds over the northern ASEAN region could strengthen at times due to the influence of high pressure systems moving eastwards over continental Asia. In addition to the traditional dry season over the northern ASEAN region, areas in the equatorial parts of the southern ASEAN region could occasionally experience dry and windy conditions during March, as they are in the dry phase of the Northeast Monsoon. Inter-monsoon conditions are expected to develop in April and continue into May 2021. The prevailing winds across the ASEAN region are expected to be light and variable, and an increase in shower activities is forecast for the ASEAN region during this period.

For the March to May 2021 period, models predict above-normal rainfall over much of the ASEAN region north of the equator. La Niña conditions are present over the tropical Pacific Ocean, with climate models predicting La Niña conditions to weaken over the boreal spring (March – June). La Niña conditions are typically associated with wetter-than-normal conditions over the Southeast Asia region. While below-average rainfall is expected for much of Indonesia's Sumatra, Borneo and Sulawesi islands for March – May, these areas tend to be

less influenced by La Niña conditions at this time of year. Warmer-than-average temperatures are expected over the equatorial region for the period, with much of mainland Southeast Asia, except Myanmar, experiencing below to near-average temperatures.

Despite the slight chance of above-normal rainfall outlook over the Mekong sub-region in March-May 2021, dry conditions are expected to persist, as it is still the traditional dry season for the Mekong sub-region. During this period, the hotspot situation and risk of transboundary haze occurrence in the sub-region are likely to remain elevated. The gradual return of wet weather conditions from April 2021 onwards is expected to bring some respite to elevated hotspot and haze occurrences over parts of the sub-region. In the southern ASEAN region, hotspot activities should generally subside during this outlook period. However, during periods of drier weather, there may be brief occurrences of isolated hotspots with localised smoke plumes, in particular over parts of the equatorial region where below-normal rainfall is forecast.

The qualitative outlook is assessed for the region in general and based on the latest runs from models provided by the SEA RCC-Network LRF node. For specific updates on the national scale, the relevant ASEAN Member States' National Meteorological and Hydrological Services should be consulted.

Written by : Keith Paolo Landicho, Sadhu Zukhruf Janotama, Lawrence Anthony Dimailig

REGIONAL TALLY

	FEBRUARY 2021	FEBRUARY IN FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE
• Number of recorded significant disasters	117	19
• Number of affected people	1,459,792	253,673
• Number of internally displaced people	378,995	51,490
• Number of damaged houses	149,672	4,189
• Number of casualties	37	15
• Number of injured people	52	80
• Number of missing people	28	4

(covering the period of Weeks 5 - 8 in 2021 and 2016-2020 average)



UTILISING VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY

FOR TRAINING EXERCISES AND FIELD-BASED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Responding to a disaster during the emergency situation is not a simple process. It requires multi-level coordination, multidisciplinary experts, and an array of other resources. Therefore, well-trained human resources for disaster management and emergency response are imperative. Virtual and Augmented Reality holds significant potential to be utilised as a platform for training disaster management actors, particularly in this current pandemic situation. Not only this, but such technology shows significant potential for utilisation in certain aspects of field-based emergency response as well.

According to Kumaran, et al. (2007), in the article Augmented Reality Applications in Disaster Management, for post-disaster relief activities to return to normal, we require multidisciplinary experts, stakeholders, and layers of coordination for preparing rescue and recovery plans. This process sometimes takes time, and can cause conditions to become worse. Thus, well-planned actions are key to rescue affected people, and also to reduce the number of casualties.

Written by : Moch Syifa



In order to address the issue of complexity in coordination process, it is suggested that Virtual and Augment Reality technology applications be utilised for training in disaster management as well as in the field during emergency response.

For training, Virtual and Augmented Reality is an effective way to make learning process easier and more efficient. In an emergency response, Virtual and Augmented Reality can help visualise the effects of calamities, by providing increased time to experts for making alternative plans. The technology also helps disaster management actors and stakeholders better plan actions during an emergency situation. By having well-planned structure and actions, the relief work can take place immediately after disaster strikes.

However, there are challenges in developing and implementing Virtual and Augmented Reality in disaster management and emergency response. The main challenge is the cost of the technology, and also limitations for implementing on a wider scale. Those challenges aside, some experts believe that Virtual and Augmented Reality in disaster management – especially in the training process for disaster management actors – can still have advantages.

THE ADVANTAGES OF VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROCESS

- 1 This technology is safer for training as it reduces interactions and dangers faced in the field.
- 2 It provides more comprehensive experiences for participants, and provides more realistic disaster scenarios.
- 3 Although the technology itself is costly, training using Virtual and Augmented Reality is cost effective, as participants and trainers are not required to physically visit certain locations.
- 4 The technology also makes the learning process more visual, and can provide an almost-real experience.

ASEAN-ERAT

REMAIN READY, REFRESHED AND CONNECTED

The ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT) members have continued to stay connected amid the array of challenges faced within the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. While managing disasters and COVID responses in their respective countries, ASEAN-ERAT members found time to gather virtually as part of ASEAN-ERAT Coffee Chat sessions, and engaged in the ASEAN-ERAT Refresh Our Mind series. The aim of these sessions was to support ASEAN-ERAT members to continue to interact with each other – even if only virtually – as well as to remain engaged with the ASEAN-ERAT system itself and its specialisation courses.

A total of forty-five ASEAN-ERAT members from four ASEAN Member States (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Singapore) participated in the first ASEAN-ERAT Coffee Chat session, which was held online on 4 December, 2020. It provided an opportunity for members, from the programme's first group (2010 graduates) through to the twelfth group (2019 graduation) to re-connect and discuss the issues related to past responses, as well as the ERAT induction course itself. Based on the feedback from the first session, the second ASEAN-ERAT Coffee Chat was held on 11 December 2020, and deliberated specifically on ASEAN-ERAT's role into the future. Thirty-eight ASEAN-ERAT members engaged from across all groups, with productive discussions resulting in several ideas on enhancing the ASEAN-ERAT members' role in the future. One such idea was for more specialised skillsets to enable the ASEAN-ERAT members to support complex and evolving humanitarian emergencies, such as pandemic situations amongst others.

Kicking-off 2021 on January 29, the AHA Centre organised the first event of the ASEAN-ERAT Refresh Our Mind series, which focused on Rapid Needs and Damage Assessments, and was attended by seven ASEAN-ERAT members. The event included a 100-minute online learning task designed for ASEAN-ERAT members who feel they need a refreshment on the ASEAN-ERAT system, as well as Rapid Needs and Damage



ASEAN-ERAT members virtually gathered on the first ASEAN-ERAT Coffee Chat and discussed the ASEAN-ERAT's role in the future.

Written by: Madiatri A. Silalahi, Siva Balan | Photo Credit: AHA Centre

Assessments, and was delivered through a fun learning, interactive, and insightful session. The event commenced with a quiz that invited ASEAN-ERAT members to refresh on the ASEAN-ERAT system and Rapid Needs and Damage Assessments in general. Then three ASEAN-ERAT members (Ms Mary Grace Somido from the Philippines, Ms Grace Endina and Mr Yos Malole from Indonesia) shared insights on their hands-on experiences conducting a rapid needs assessment during deployments. The final section for the first event was a hands-on activity that allowed participants to develop a scenario-based Assessment Plan. The participants were provided with access to the ASEAN-ERAT Learning Management System to watch three short videos related to the first event's content.

Participants attending the ASEAN-ERAT Coffee Chat sessions and the first ASEAN-ERAT Refresh Our Mind event provided positive feedback overall, and encouraged the AHA Centre to continue organising such virtual events in 2021 to increase connections and engagement for more ASEAN-ERAT members.





PREPARING FOR DELSA'S HUMANITARIAN AND EMERGENCY LOGISTICS EXPO (HELIX)



If you are interested in participating, more detailed information can be accessed at link above

In today's complex yet interconnected world, responding to disasters and other humanitarian emergencies drives a need to rethink and innovate our disaster management processes. Furthermore, with increased disaster risks as the global climate warms, rapid mobilisation of humanitarian assistance and an efficient flow of relief supplies must be achieved. Innovation in the name of saving more lives continues to form an integral part of this solution.

What makes something "innovative"? The answer differs from person to person; but in general, we find something innovative if it tackles a problem in a different way from the norm. This may include looking at the problem from a different perspective, approaching the solution in an unexpected way, or applying a solution from a diverse or different context to work within a context it was not designed for.

In the modern era, the search for innovation is often led by profit-driven companies, and within the disaster management field this is particularly prevalent for businesses who focus on the issue of supply chain and logistics optimisation. For example, DHL has developed its map-based application Resilience 360 as a risk analytics tool for its commercial operations, which also has clear relevance to humanitarian logistics and supply chain management.

With many important developments in commercial logistics, actors within the humanitarian sector must take stock and critically review innovations to understand how they can improve disaster management – from pre-

disaster through to the response and recovery phases. Such innovations hold potential to solve challenges concerning the transport, storage and distribution of relief assistance, as well as improve the design of relief items themselves.

Immediate access to vital aid such as sanitation, medicine, shelter, and nutrition are key elements of swift disaster response. Examples of innovations in this area include improved product designs of items such as collapsible jerry cans for household water storage, field-deployable medical tents, portable and self-contained semi-rigid shelters, and tools for relief personnel and search-and-rescue operations.

Another key area for disaster managers is the importance of data and information access and utilisation. Increasingly, sharing of satellite imagery – combined with drone technology and robotics – has been used to assess the immediate impacts of disasters and support search-and-rescue operations. Such innovations were evident during the 2018 Central Sulawesi earthquake and tsunami response.

Written by: Gaynor Tanyang

Additionally, new and environmentally-friendly technologies – especially in manufacturing and transportation, which are especially critical to logistics – form another frontier that is being developed within innovation efforts in the humanitarian sector. This includes the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar power, in logistics transportation, and recyclable materials for developing emergency relief items. Such examples of environmentally-conscious developments are increasingly important given the undeniable link between climate change and increasing environmental disasters.

While it is easy to be swept up with technological hardware and digital innovations, many innovations may also be simple interventions that reach the most vulnerable groups. For example, the survivors of Typhoon Haiyan – particularly the elderly, people with disabilities and pregnant women – were offered a choice between "direct build" or cash transfers for their shelter assistance, thereby ensuring suitable opportunity for survivors to repair or rebuild their house. Cash transfers and vouchers are also being increasingly utilised over direct provision of relief items, allowing affected populations in making their own decisions on priority expenses during the aftermath of a disaster.

Such a wide array of topics may seem intimidating, but are nevertheless a critical component for any humanitarian effort. The AHA Centre in its role as the coordinating body of disaster management in Southeast Asia, and as part of its core mission of Knowledge and Outreach, continues to participate in and drive forward conversations regarding research and innovation in disaster management and humanitarian logistics.

The AHA Centre's Disaster Emergency Logistics System of ASEAN (DELSA) programme's upcoming event, the Humanitarian and Emergency Logistics Expo (HELIX), forms the newest component in the Centre's steadfast commitment to this role. The event, which will be held in 20-25 May 2021, aims to foster exchange and discussion of new and emerging innovations in the field of humanitarian logistics through an exciting array of panel discussions featuring experts and innovators. HELIX also includes the AHackathon (a software development competition) and iPitch (an innovation pitching competition), that are both aimed at encouraging and generating diverse new ideas from students, amateurs and professionals. The event is being held as part of Viet Nam's National Week of Disaster Prevention and Control, led by the Viet Nam National Disaster Management Authority. HELIX will be held in a fully online format, and invites the participation of youth, students, and established agencies in developing new approaches and solutions within this dynamic field through technology and creative design thinking.

MARY ANN SARAH CRUZ ULAT

This volume we catch-up with AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme alumni Mary Ann Sarah Cruz Ulat (Sarah) from the Philippines National Disaster Management Organisation. Sarah took us through her work in the disaster management sector, her engagement in the ACE Programme and other ASEAN regional initiatives, and her experiences responding to disaster over recent years.



Sarah is currently the Head of the Operational Coordination (OpsCoord) Section of the Response and Operational Coordination Division, Operations Service, Office of Civil Defense Central Office (OCD CO). The Office of Civil Defense is the executive arm of the Philippine's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). Her team sits on the strategic and policy-making level, with the OpsCoord Section primary responsible for the formulation of policies, plans, programmes and standards related to operations activities and response initiatives. She has been part of the OCD for almost six years, and holds an array of interesting and challenging experiences as a result.

As her role is a relatively new one, Sarah highlights a number of challenges and changes that she is currently facing and adjusting to within the work. "Time challenges are many, as are the challenges of mobility and accessibility in a nation like the Philippines", Sarah explains. "I also recognise the need for people to integrate different levels within disaster response", she says, but follows by acknowledging these challenges are a common experience in disaster management regardless of one's position.

Sarah highlights the ACE Programme as one of the defining milestones in her career to this date, and stated that it forms a key element of her ongoing learning journey in the disaster management field. "It developed both personal and professional aspects of my work", Sarah remembers, "it allowed me to better myself, gain friends, and experience new things while also gaining technical knowledge on various tools and mechanisms, and being exposed to the international sector". Sarah considers the ACE Programme as an opportunity to develop relationships that can be used in building resilience. "Learning is a journey and so is resilience" she states. "This couldn't be more emphasised than throughout the ACE Programme, as it helped us develop our competency in leading emergency and disaster situations through shared theories and practices. Bearing in mind that the core of what we do is for the people, from saving lives and reducing human suffering during disaster, to the improvement of the community's quality of life by building resilience within yourself and the community you are working with."



For Ms Sarah, ACE Programme is definitely one of the defining milestones in her journey.



Written by : Moch Syifa, William Shea | Photo Credit : AHA Centre

Sarah's experiences responding to disasters also continue to define her career journey, although she hasn't been engaged in a response since completing the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) course in 2019. "As part of organising the Philippine humanitarian mission to Indonesia to extend assistance to the affected population of the Palu, Central Sulawesi earthquake and tsunami in 2018, I realised the importance of policies and plans being formulated and implemented in preparation for events like this", Sarah says. "This then creates an enabling environment for a more unimpeded and timely response, even in a trans-boundary operation."

Sarah also draws on her academic background in environmental planning and human ecology when looking at the disaster management scenarios, and highlights the importance of strong local governance and community engagement as the major contributing factors to achieve resiliency.

"Participatory and inclusive approaches are key in preparing and implementing people-centred and community-driven development and DRRM plans. Communities tend to be collectively unique, requiring a unique approach in collaborating with them also. We must try to build connection, relationship, and trust with the communities; dipping your fingers into the water will enable you to better understand and relate."

Finally, Sarah talks of the importance and context of ASEAN for disaster management, and recognises that ASEAN nations can capitalise on relationships, promote togetherness, and learn from each other regarding disaster.

"I envision that disaster risk reduction and management (DRR) is embedded in everybody's way of life, and there is a sense of common responsibility. Starting with a strong foundation of community-based disaster risk reduction and management. A collective effort towards a more holistic, inclusive and sustainable DRR in ASEAN can result in a region that is more proactive when it comes to disaster management."

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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 AHA Centre by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, witnessed by the ASEAN Heads of State / Government 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 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.

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