



ONE ASEAN
ONE RESPONSE

THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULLETIN

VOL.71 | MARCH 2021



HIGHLIGHT

International Women's Day 2021:
Celebrating Women's Leadership
in Disaster Management

MONTHLY DISASTER OUTLOOK

Monthly Disaster
Review and Outlook for
March 2021

THE OTHER SIDE

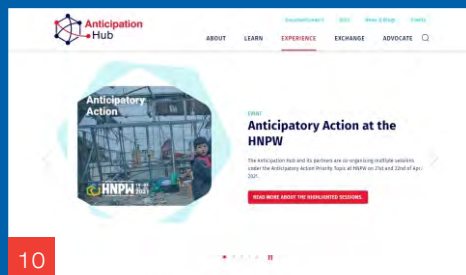
Theophilus
Yanuarto

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Hi Readers,

Welcome to Volume 71 of the AHA Centre's Column, your ever-reliable source of news and information on disaster management in the ASEAN region.

For this edition's Highlight we cover the AHA Centre's engagement in a number of events related to International Women's Day and its celebrations, as well as hear from a number of presenters on women's leadership in the disaster management sector. The Insight brings us a look into travel during the pandemic from one of our own AHA Centre staff, while the Other Side sits down for a chat with Theophilus Yanuarto from the Indonesian National Disaster Management Authority.

We follow-on with an insight into the new collaboration between the AHA Centre and the Anticipation Hub, as well as capture some key points and learnings from the 3rd ASEAN Risk Monitor and Disaster Management Review (ARMOR) webinar focusing on *Shifting into a Forecast-Based Regional Humanitarian Response*.

Please enjoy the stories and updates within the pages of the Column Volume 71, and we look forward to engaging with you soon somewhere in across the region or the world.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021: CELEBRATING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



As part of 2021's International Women's Day and the month of celebrations that followed, the AHA Centre was engaged in an array of events and discussions promoting and highlighting women's roles in disaster management and leadership. AHA Centre staff participated through online platforms, and the Centre's Executive Director Ms Adelina Kamal was a keynote speaker for a number of these interesting events.

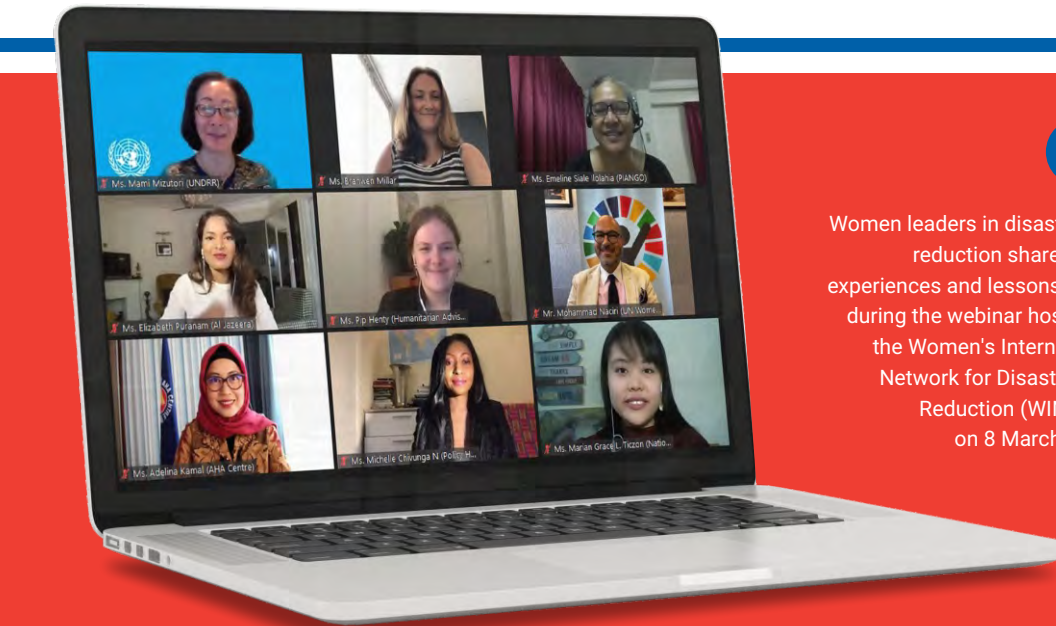


A key event was the virtual discussion held by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Women's International Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (WIN DRR), UN Women and UNDRR's Regional Office for Asia and Pacific. It engaged some of the Asia-Pacific region's leading women in disaster management, and saw an array of diverse and inspiring women leaders sharing insights and concerns related to women's role in disaster and the wider community – particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Mami Mizutori, the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, probed key areas of governance and participatory strategies by highlighting the need to ask government "Have you included woman in the making of strategies? Are women part of the decision-making and part of the implementation of these strategies?". "If the answers are no" she continued, "then we need to strongly urge governments to involve women to get their feedback on the strategies".

Ms Marian Grace L. Ticzon, a Youth Advocate from the National Rural Women Coalition in the Philippines, also brought some fresh and different insights to the discussion, speaking about some of the key issues faced by rural women and youth. "First are the pre-existing issues faced by most rural women and young women, in particular a lack of access to resources and basic services. Infrastructure and access to health services are barriers, as many

Written by: Moch Syifa | Photo Credit: AHA Centre



Women leaders in disaster risk reduction shared their experiences and lessons learnt during the webinar hosted by the Women's International Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (WIN DRR) on 8 March 2021.

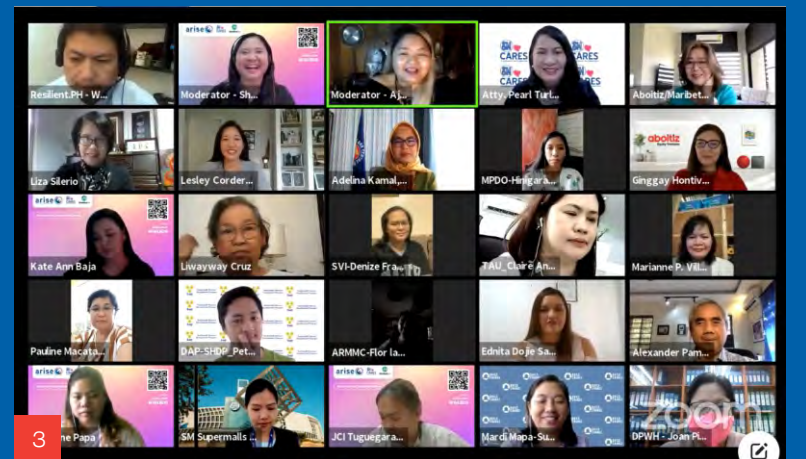
live in remote areas and have difficulties accessing transport to health centres and services." "Second is a lack of access to information" Ms Ticzon continued, "as many rural women don't have an internet connection, particularly if they live in a remote area".

AHA Centre Executive Director Ms Adelina Kamal spoke about leadership during crisis – among other important topics – and called on women to engage from early on to lead and support their communities.

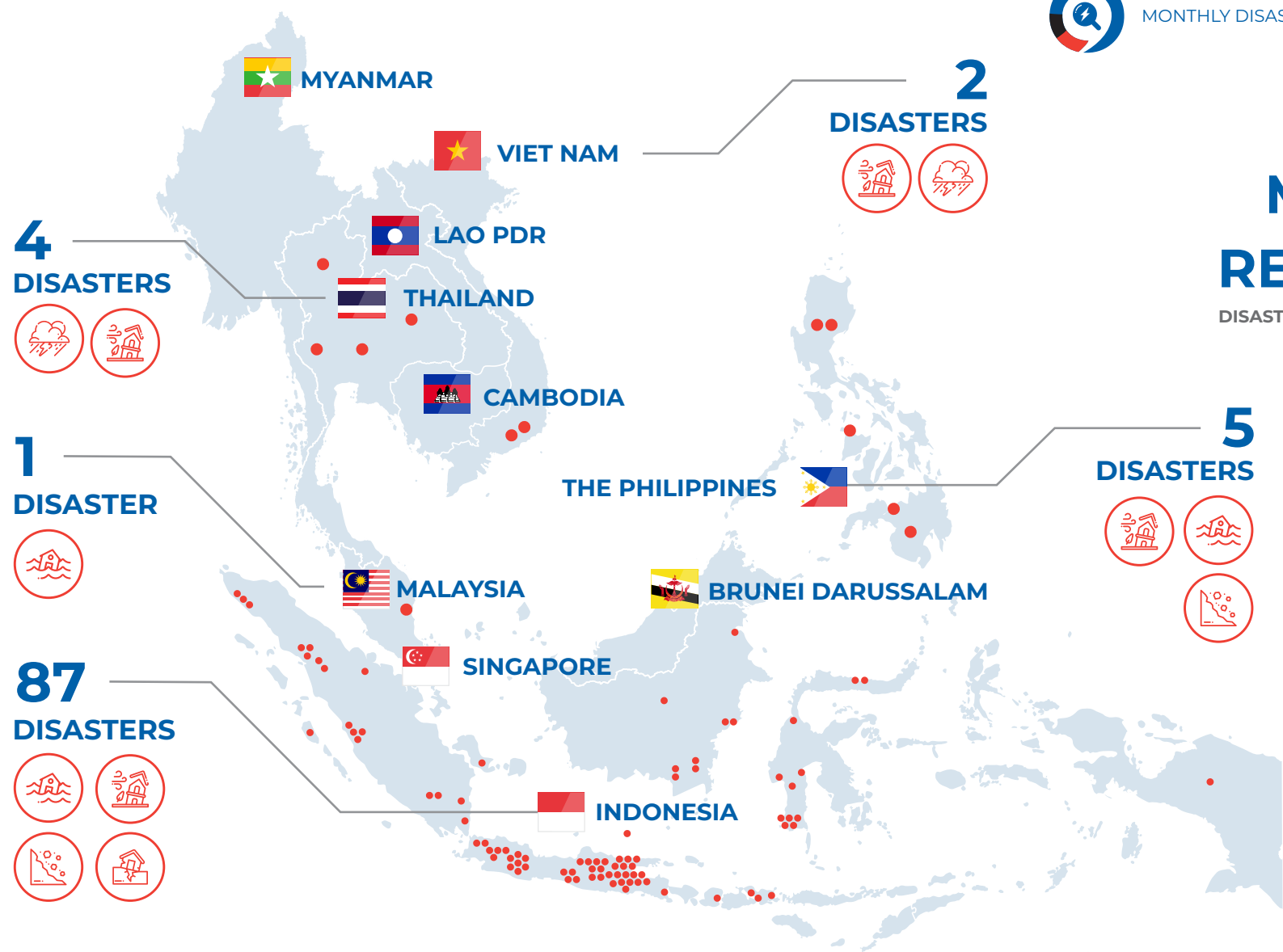
"Leadership is tested during crisis, but leadership can also be moulded during crisis. It takes a skilled swordsmith and the hottest fire to forge a sword. The swordsmith can be our teacher or mentor that provides us with the great opportunity to learn, and the fire is the crisis that will make us versatile in future battle".
Ms Adelina Kamal

Other key speakers also shared their insights on women's leadership during the pandemic, including presentations from Ms Bandana Rana (UN CEDAW Community), Ms Emeline Siale Ilolahia (Executive Director of PIANGO), and Ms Michelle Chivunga N. (Founder/CEO Global Policy House). The discussion was moderated by Ms Elizabeth Puranam from Aljazeera, and set the tone to further advance the movement of women leaders within the disaster management sector, and under the pandemic context in general.

Another key event during the last month was the "Women Leaders in Building Disaster Resilience" held on March 31 by ARISE Philippines – a local subsidiary of ARISE (the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies) – who is a UNDRR-led network of private sector entities committed to support and implement the Sendai Framework and other key development policies. The event was implemented to recognise the important role of women participation and leadership in disaster risk reduction and resilience. Finally, another event that engaged Ms Kamal as a speaker was held by Asashi Shimbun, a newspaper from Japan, called Think Gender. Ms Kamal spoke to to inspire women, especially in Japan, to become leaders across an array of sectors and contexts.



- 1 The AHA Centre has involved inspiring women leaders in several events, such as Leaders' Talk during the ACE Programme.
- 2 Think Gender, an event organised by the Asashi Shimbun, also involved the AHA Centre and other women leaders in the world.
- 3 ARISE-Philippines organised a webinar giving the spotlight on women leaders who contribute in building regional, national and community disaster resilience.



REGIONAL TALLY		
	MARCH 2021	MARCH IN FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE
• Number of recorded significant disasters	99	19
• Number of affected people	304,854	266,319
• Number of internally displaced people	5,413	17,204
• Number of damaged houses	61,510	11,078
• Number of casualties	6	33
• Number of injured people	23	74
• Number of missing people	0	20

(covering the period of Weeks 9 - 12 in 2021 and 2016-2020 average)

MONTHLY DISASTER REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

DISASTER MONITORING & ANALYSIS
(DMA) UNIT , AHA CENTRE

MARCH 2021

GENERAL REVIEW OF MARCH 2021

March 2021 saw a five-fold increase in terms of number of disaster occurrences compared to the five-year average for the same month. Noticeably, the number of houses that have been damaged/affected by reported disasters (63% of which were floods) for the period was also more than 5 times higher than the average. There is also an increase in the number of affected people during the month of March 2021. In contrast, lower numbers were observed for internally displaced persons (68.5% decrease), casualties (81.8% decrease), injuries (68.9% decrease), and missing people (100% decrease). The increase in disaster numbers were largely driven by the La Niña conditions resulting in increased precipitation across Indonesia – from where almost 80% of the disasters were reported. As of the first quarter of 2021, the number of disaster reports (328) is already more than half of the previous year's annual total (530). Despite this significant increase, the number of affected people for 2021 is on-track to come in well below 2020's totals, with current figures reaching 14% of 2020's final amount (26.1 million).

A total of 19 significant earthquakes ($M \geq 5.0$) were reported in the region for March 2021 by local authorities in Indonesia and the Philippines. Volcanic activity was also reported for volcanoes currently on Alert Level III, namely Mount Merapi and Sinabung in Indonesia. Taal Volcano in the Philippines was elevated to Alert Level 2 with steam-driven or phreatic eruptions, volcanic earthquakes, ash, and a dangerous accumulation/emission of volcanic gas affected surrounding areas. Activity was also reported for the mountains of Ibu, Dukono, Raung, and Kerinci in Indonesia, and also Mayon and Pinatubo in the Philippines – but none resulted in significant damage. Such early warning information from the local agencies is crucial in mitigating the effects of tectonic hazards.

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 Member States' 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)

DISASTER COMPARISON IN NUMBERS

WHITE BAR | MARCH 2021

RED BAR | MARCH IN FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

Earthquake	1	1
Flood	68	12
Landslide	7	2
Storm	3	3
Wind	20	2
Total	99	19
Indonesia	87	15
Malaysia	1	1
Philippines	5	1
Thailand	4	1
Viet Nam	2	1
Total	99	19

(covering the period of Weeks 9 - 12 in 2021 and 2016-2020 average)

SEASONAL OUTLOOK

The ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC) sees a likely transition in the ASEAN region from Northeast Monsoon to inter-monsoon conditions in April 2021, and prevailing winds are expected to be light and variable in direction on most days. An increase in shower activities is expected as the monsoon rain band moves over the equator. The inter-monsoon conditions are expected to persist until May 2021, before a transition to Southwest Monsoon conditions in June 2021.

For the April to June 2021 period, models predict above-average rainfall over much of the ASEAN region north of the equator (mainland Southeast Asia and central and northern Philippines), and some chance of below-average rainfall for much of Sumatra and Borneo. La Niña conditions are present over the tropical Pacific Ocean, with climate models predicting its continued weakening to ENSO neutral conditions throughout the months of April to June.

Warmer-than-usual temperatures are expected over the equatorial region Peninsular Malaysia, Indonesia, as well as southern Philippines. The traditional dry season for the Mekong sub-region is likely to continue into April and May 2021, with significant hotspot and smoke haze activities. Above-average rainfall is expected for the sub-region, and shower activities on some days could help to alleviate the situation. The traditional dry season for the Mekong sub-region is expected to end by late May/early June 2021. Some parts of the southern ASEAN region, such as Sumatra and Borneo, may experience below-average rainfall between April-June 2021, and isolated hotspots with localised smoke plumes may develop at times during periods of drier weather. More persistent dry weather for the southern ASEAN region is expected from June 2021 as the traditional dry season sets in, increasing the risk of elevated hotspot activities and transboundary smoke haze.

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.

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REPORTED DISASTERS

throughout the ASEAN
region in March 2021



TRAVEL CORRIDOR ARRANGEMENTS: BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND HEALTH INTERESTS

Access the full version of this article here:

<http://bit.ly/JPTravelCorridor>

TheJakartaPost

An article by the AHA Centre's own Grace Endina – a preparedness and response officer in the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) – was recently published on the Jakarta Post's website. Named Travel corridor arrangements: Between economic and health interests, this article provides an insight into travel during the time of pandemic, and highlights areas for learning that could be utilised during this or future pandemics. The following are excerpts from Grace's article, with the full version linked at the end of the text.

I am one of the few people who were fortunate to be able to travel amid the pandemic, flying from Jakarta to Yangon, Myanmar. Indeed, it was really challenging even before I hopped on the flight in my mask and face shield, and with my handy bottle of hand sanitizer. Thanks to the pandemic, I had to transit in Singapore and then Malaysia, due to the different procedures in each country. These included the validity period of COVID-19 test results, flight availability, sudden visa requirements and transit restrictions for passengers arriving from certain cities.

At Yangon International Airport, airport authorities and officers from the Ministry of Health strictly recorded passengers' data and then transported them via a shuttle service to a designated quarantine hotel. Foreigners were taken to one hotel, where we were required to self-quarantine for exactly two weeks. Another interesting observation was the rather long time that passed between arriving flights at the three airports, which I guess was intended to enable airport authorities and health officials to manage and control the arrival of international travelers.

Written by : Grace Endina

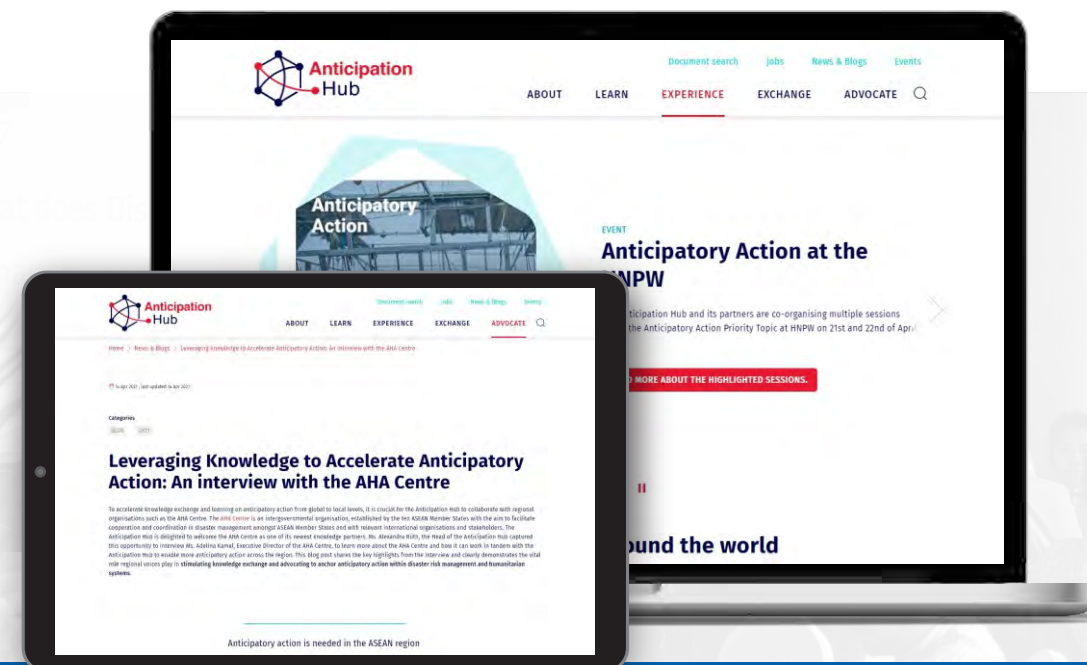


The most interesting aspect was the quarantine process and period. While some studies have suggested that the coronavirus may not be detected in the early days of exposure, each country applied different quarantine periods and different swab testing frequencies and intervals for travelers. Singapore and Myanmar, for instance, imposed a very strict quarantine period of 14 days and required two polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests. Once you exit the immigration counters in these countries, you are transported on a bus to the designated quarantine hotel, accompanied by airport authorities. The airport authorities have already booked your hotel for the quarantine period, so you have no options to stay at

different hotel. The quarantine hotels are not open to regular guests. Meanwhile, in Indonesia, the quarantine period is currently five days with two PCR tests. As soon as you exit the airport, salespeople from designated quarantine hotels and designated taxi companies offer their services to arriving travelers who do not have bookings yet.

My experience traveling during COVID-19 showed that each country has adopted different arrival procedures and quarantine protocols. I guess this depends mainly on the availability of their resources and interests in view of restoring essential business services. While it is clear that the generally prescribed quarantine period is 14 days, there is no prescribed method for how best to manage airports amid the pandemic. The health sector advises travelers to quarantine for 14 days without taking an immediate swab test, but others may think differently in terms of issues of practicality rather than what should be done from the perspective of public health. With these different standards for travel corridor arrangements, is it possible to protect business interests and public health at the same time?

AHA CENTRE TO COLLABORATE WITH THE ANTICIPATION HUB



Being prepared for disaster requires anticipating all aspects that may arise, and sees anticipatory action gathering a greater focus at the global and regional level. Recognising this, the AHA Centre is coming together with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to engage with the Anticipation Hub. The Column spoke to a number of key leaders within the Anticipation Hub system to get their insights into the AHA Centre's engagement and the values of the AHA Centre joining the Anticipation Hub.



The Anticipation Hub is an online knowledge and exchange platform that supports practitioners, scientists and policymakers to utilise anticipatory action in the humanitarian sector – with the overall aim to reduce disaster risk and adapt to climate change. Hosted by the German Red Cross in cooperation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Hub is also supported by the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, with funding support from Germany's Federal Foreign Office.

The Anticipation Hub's Head, Alexandra Rueth told us that "collaboration between the Anticipation Hub and the AHA Centre will put into action our commitment to implementing more anticipatory action, and subsequently reducing the impacts of climate change". "Our collective approach to sharing knowledge, exchanging experiences and joint advocacy will strengthen our capacity to reduce disaster risk and protect lives of the most vulnerable both in the ASEAN region and globally", she explained.

The importance of the partnership was also highlighted by Jan Gelfand, the Head of Delegation, Country Cluster Delegation for Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Representative to ASEAN, when he said "The partnership will allow us to move forward together on commitments made to reduce the impact of climate change on the most vulnerable communities, enabling regional disaster management bodies such as the AHA Centre to provide

Written by: Moch Syifa, William Shea

effective and timely support ahead of crises". Mr Gelfand also spoke of the role of anticipatory action across the region, by stating that "There is an increased focus of anticipatory action at regional level as well as in the AADMER Work Programme. The Anticipation Hub can offer support via trainings, concrete advocacy messages and facilitating connections with relevant stakeholders, such as research institutes and universities". "Together we can enable the integration of anticipatory action into national disaster risk management systems" he concluded.

Providing further insight into the working value of the partnership, the Regional Forecast-based Financing Coordinator for IFRC Asia Pacific, Mr. Raymond Zingg explained the role of the parties within the hub, and how they bring value to the overall anticipatory action efforts. "The Anticipation Hub will enable further learning and exchange of practices and methodologies for enabling anticipatory action in new and emerging settings, including conflict and disease outbreaks", Mr Zingg said, while also stating that "it will facilitate innovation between global and regional partners on topics such as impact-based forecasting for multiple hazards".

Mr Zingg finished by saying "We want to provide faster, more effective and more dignified humanitarian assistance - the new normal is anticipatory action - and continued collaboration/coordination and technical knowledge exchange is crucial to make this happen". These thoughts were echoed by the AHA Centre's Executive Director Ms Adelina Kamal when she emphasised the need for the ASEAN region to shift from reacting to anticipating disasters, especially to manage the increasing frequency, intensity and impact of disasters.

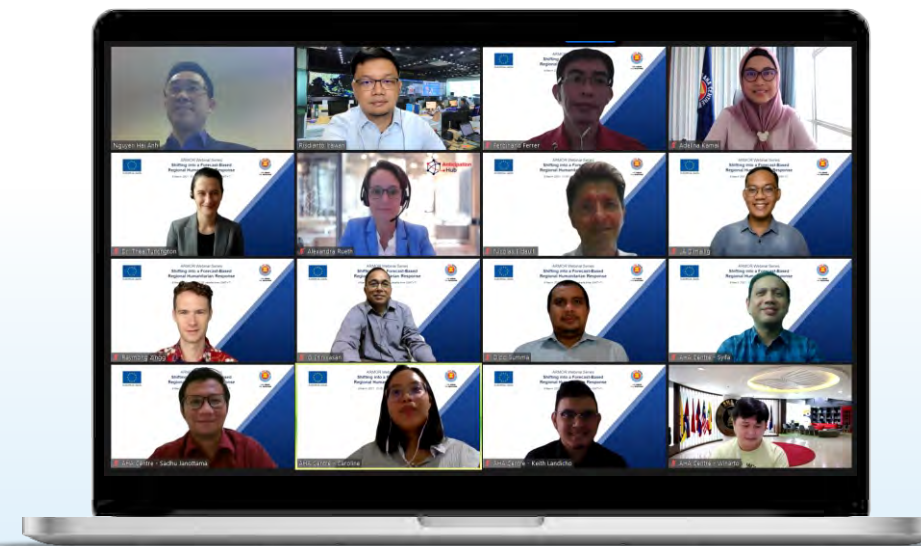
"The Anticipation Hub has a vital role to play in creating and sharing this evidence to influence behaviour change and facilitate this resulting systemic change in mind-set." Ms. Adelina Kamal

Here is the link to the blog written by Anticipation Hub in its April newsletter following Ms. Rueth's interview with Ms. Kamal on the benefits for the AHA Centre in joining the Anticipation Hub:

<http://bit.ly/AHub-blog>

ARMOR WEBINAR SERIES #3:

SHIFTING INTO A FORECAST-BASED REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



The third instalment of the ASEAN Risk Monitor and Disaster Management Review (ARMOR) Webinar Series focused on the topic of 'Shifting into a Forecast-based Regional Humanitarian Response'. The webinar series is being implemented to discuss articles presented by the ARMOR 2nd Edition, with this session aiming to highlight the importance of anticipatory action in disaster management. The webinar engaged various experts and commentators from different international organisations, and was conducted in a virtual environment on 4 March 2021.

The webinar began with a discussion on the article titled When Early Actions Save Lives: Anticipating Instead of Reacting with Forecast-based Financing. Panellists in this session spoke about how Forecast-based Financing (FbF) strengthens humanitarian mandates by enabling National Societies to assist people in need more quickly and effectively. They also discussed about internal processes in becoming more agile in delivering aid and services under FbF, and the emergency response processes profiting equally – which means that FbF also contributes to the enhancement of responses.

The three panellists for the session were Mr Raymond Zingg (Regional Forecast-based Financing Coordinator for Asia Pacific of the IFRC), Mr Nguyen Hai Anh (Vice President and Secretary-General of the Viet Nam Red Cross Society), and Mr Ferdinand Ferrer (Philippine Red Cross Chapter Administrator of Camarines Norte). Mr Anh provided an example of FbF implementation in Viet Nam for heatwaves in an urban context, with the main objective of reducing the impact of heatwaves on Hanoi's most vulnerable populations. As each heatwave can affect a large area, the organisations recognised the need to identify the most at-risk zones. Mr Ferrer shared

lessons learned on developing an Early Action Protocol (EAP) for tropical cyclones in the Philippines, as the Philippine Red Cross (PRC) developed an EAP that enables the implementation of early actions focusing on the most at-risk municipalities. The EAP adapts to the local contexts of these municipalities by encouraging the strengthening of vulnerable houses, early harvesting of mature crops, and evacuation of livestock.

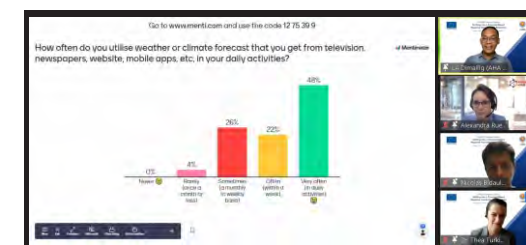
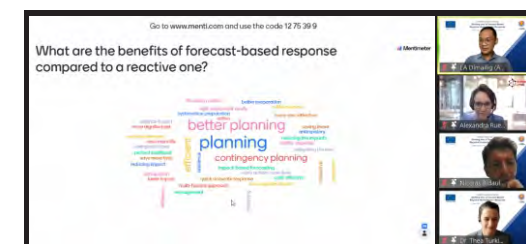
The second ARMOR article up for discussion was Three Weeks' Notice: Forecasting Extreme Weather Events with Subseasonal-to-Seasonal Climate Prediction, which engaged Dr Govindarajulu Srinivasan (Chief Scientist for Climate Applications, Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia – RIMES), and Dr Thea Turkington (Senior Research Scientist in the Seasonal and Sub-seasonal Prediction Section, Meteorological Service Singapore). The panellists discussed the importance of considering Subseasonal-to-Seasonal (S2S) predictions as part of a broader spectrum of weather and climate products that should be utilised together to improve decision-making in the areas of preparedness and response.

Written by: Moch Syifa | Photo Credit: AHA Centre

Such easy-to-use decision support systems that bring together a range of weather and climate information will better enable disaster managers to put S2S into action. It was also explained that successful integration of S2S into disaster preparedness protocols can reduce disaster impacts, because the predictions from S2S have a higher update frequency than seasonal predictions, as well as longer lead time than short and medium-range weather forecasts.

All webinar participants also had the opportunity to have an interactive session with the expert panellists and commentators. Interestingly, discussing the issues related to anticipatory decision-making saw most participants agree that anticipatory action implementation also needs to be supported by the policy makers and governments. In line with this context, an announcement was also made at the beginning of the webinar related to the AHA Centre's new collaboration with the Anticipation Hub. Ms Adelina Kamal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, stated that this collaboration will enable more anticipatory action across the region.

Different perspectives on both articles were provided during the event, with guest commentary offered by Alexandra Ruth (Head of the Anticipation Hub from the German Red Cross), and Nicolas Bidault (Head of Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, UN World Food Programme Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific). The ARMOR Webinar Series was organised as part of the EU-SAHA project, through the support of the European Union Mission to ASEAN.



The ARMOR Webinar #3 recording can also be accessed on YouTube channel at:

<https://youtu.be/4qygHy2aihE>



THEOPHILUS YANUARTO

Communication and information are integral elements of disaster management, and are becoming even more important as the digital era expands. This month we speak with Theophilus Yanuarto in his role as the Supervisor for Disaster Communication and Publications, in the Data, Information and Disaster Communication Centre of Indonesia's National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB).



One of the alumni from batch 2 (2015) of the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme, Mr Yanuarto explained the programme's impact and influence on his career since his graduation. "I felt it was a very comprehensive programme that provided disaster management analysis and knowledge capabilities, including enhancing our skills in some activities", he explained. "This programme greatly increased my capacity in various contexts, such as related to risk communication, incident command system, international humanitarian system, logistics. It also not only strengthens relations between countries but can contribute to my organisation and other relevant organisations focusing on disaster management."

Mr Yanuarto is also a member of the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT), and explains how his engagement in disaster responses has resulted in relevant learning for his overall work. "I learned many things when involved in emergency management in the region, ranging from the characteristics of the disaster, how the government responds, working in teams of members from several countries." Mr Yanuarto also highlights the feeling of togetherness experienced during his role supporting the emergency response to Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines in 2018. "I was warmly received while at NDRRMC and communicating with colleagues there. I also saw the positive dynamics between the people working in the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) when responding to the Typhoon Mangkhut."



Mr. Yanuarto has had the opportunity to involve in several international humanitarian responses.

Written by : Moch Syifa, William Shea | Photo Credit : Theophilus Yanuarto

Currently, Mr Yanuarto's role with the BNPB sees him responsible for the publicity of disasters in Indonesia. "The forms of publication can be text, audio, or video" he explained, "and are very useful for local disaster management agencies in terms of public communication in disaster-affected areas". Within this, however, Mr Yanuarto can identify ongoing challenges that are part of disaster communication – in particular gaps between national and local-level communication capacities. "In the context of disasters, the media usually relies on information from the national level", he explained. "However, the speed of information delivered from the affected area – information urgently needed by the community, including the media – remains a challenge."

Looking ahead, Mr Yanuarto has high hopes for disaster management across the ASEAN region, and recognises the importance in regional cooperation in the face of disaster. "I hope the vision of One ASEAN One Response can be the catalyst for government policy related to receiving assistance from ASEAN countries", he said.



Through ASEAN-ERAT and ACE Programme, Mr. Yanuarto learned how the emergency management works in the region.

"Each ASEAN nation has experience in disaster management – especially in the context of local knowledge – and sharing of such knowledge can enrich disaster management among ASEAN Member States."

ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE



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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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