

INSIGHTS

MALAYSIA'S DISASTER OVERVIEW

THE OTHER SIDE

Mr. Sugimin Pranoto

*Head of the Professional Certification
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National Disaster Management Authority
of Indonesia (BNPB)*



ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE

THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE
NEWS BULLETIN
VOLUME 33

NEWS HIGHLIGHT



RAKHINE
October 2017

THE ROAD TO RAKHINE

NEWS STORY

CONTINGENCY PLANNING
WORKSHOP IN THE PHILIPPINES

THE 31ST MEETING OF THE ASEAN
COMMITTEE ON DISASTER
MANAGEMENT AND RELATED
MEETINGS

UNDP PRIVATE SECTOR
FOUNDATION: START-UPS TO THE
RESQUE COMPETITION

ACE CORNER



ACE PROGRAMME VISIT TO
JAPAN

ACE PROGRAMME
PARTICIPANTS FROM
MALAYSIA & MYANMAR

DISASTER OUTLOOK

14 TOTAL DISASTERS from
1 - 31 October 2017



OCTOBER 2017

THE ROAD TO RAKHINE

RAKHINE, MYANMAR

EDITOR'S NOTE**Greetings fellow ASEANers!**

The '*One ASEAN, One Response*' vision reflects a collective effort – coordinated by the AHA Centre – to support ASEAN Member States (AMS) in responding to disasters as one, alongside increasing the scale, the speed and the solidarity of such disaster response actions.

For the second time this year, the AHA Centre responded with humanitarian assistance to human-induced disaster, namely the displacement of communities affected by conflicts in Rakhine State, Myanmar. While such a crisis may differ in context, the spirit of the AHA Centre's engagement remains the same – that is the spirit of *One ASEAN One Response*. The progress of ASEAN's humanitarian assistance to the people of Rakhine State is covered in this edition's *News Highlight*.

This edition also covers the Contingency Planning Workshop in the Philippines, the 31st Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management, and related meetings, in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, as well as the *Startups to the Rescue* competition, held during *Slingshot ASEAN 2017* in the Philippines.

For *The Other Side* section, we are thrilled to speak with Mr. Sugimin Pranoto, the Head of the Professional Certification Agency for Disaster Management at the National Disaster Management Authority of Indonesia (BNPB). We also get some great insight into the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme, through interviews with participants from Malaysia and Myanmar

regarding their visit to Japan in the *ACE Corner* section.

Finally, this edition takes a deeper look into Malaysia's disaster preparedness context. We hope that these insights will be beneficial for our readers.

We also welcome your suggestions, comments, and feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us at comm@ahacentre.org. Enjoy your reading!

Sincerely,


The Column Editor








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ONE ASEAN
ONE RESPONSE

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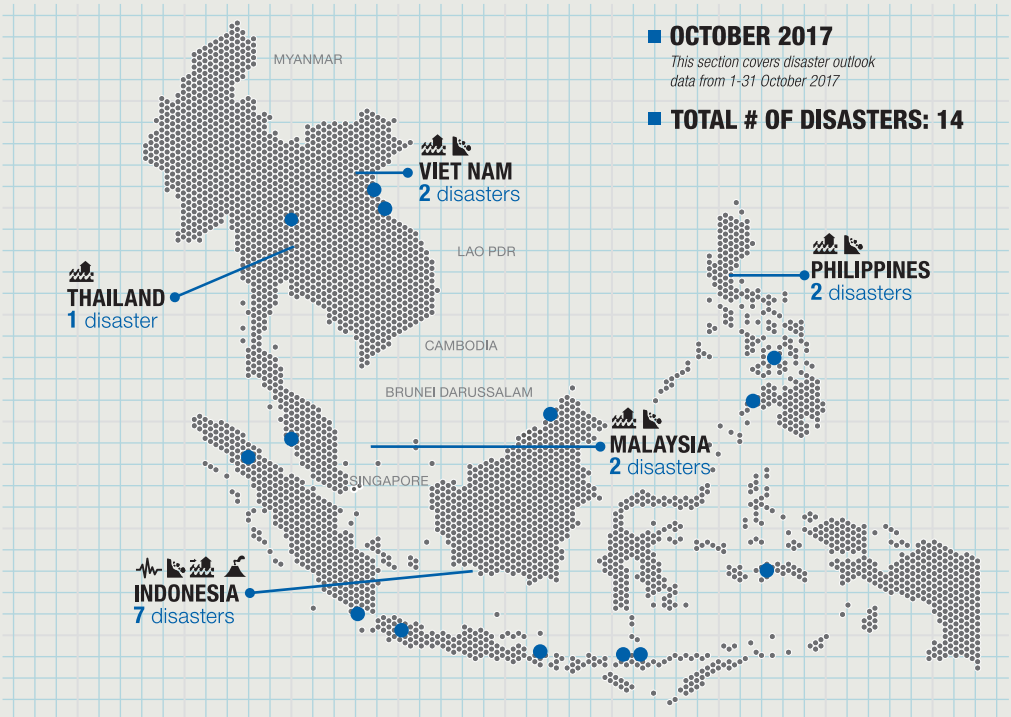


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MONTHLY DISASTER OUTLOOK OF OCTOBER 2017



ESTIMATED NUMBERS



26,940 (see disclaimer)
Affected Houses



390,389
People Affected



92
Deaths



44
Missing People



24
Injured People



188,525
Displaced People

DISCLAIMER:

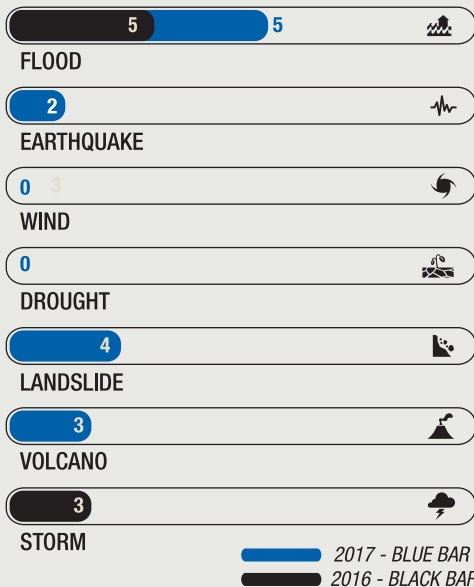
The use of boundaries, geographic names and estimated disasters data are not guaranteed to be error free, or to imply official endorsement from ASEAN Member States. All recorded significant disasters have been cross-referenced with other global disaster databases. For affected houses, the reported data is potentially under-estimated, particularly regarding prolonged emergency situations, such as communities affected by the Mount Sinabung volcano (North Sumatra, Indonesia) and flooding in Thailand.

SOURCE:

Basemap uses global administrative areas. Disaster information is generated from a range of sources, including the National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs) of each ASEAN Member State, international organisations, and news agencies. For each recorded significant disaster, description and detail of data and information sources are available at: <http://adinet.ahacentre.org/reports>.

DISASTER OUTLOOK

DISASTER COMPARISON NUMBER
OCTOBER 2017 // 2016



GENERAL OVERVIEW

During the month of October 2017, 14 recorded significant disasters affected the ASEAN region. Hydro-meteorological disasters formed a majority of the incidents during the month, as a result of heavy rainfall, triggering disasters such as floods in Malaysia (Sabah), the Philippines (Zamboanga), Thailand (in 22 provinces) and Viet Nam (in 7 provinces), as well as a flash-flood in Indonesia (Tanggamus, Lampung). In Viet Nam, flooding was followed by a landslide, and there were also two separate landslides in Malaysia (Penang) and the Philippines (Bolojoon, Cebu). Floods in Viet Nam were of a critical nature, resulting in the deaths of 72 people, with 44 others still missing.

In terms of geological disasters, October 2017 saw two earthquakes and three crisis situations resulting from volcanic activity in Indonesia. A moderate magnitude 4.9 earthquake at a depth of 10 km struck East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) on the 10th October 2017, resulting in over 100 damaged houses and the displacement of 2,172 people. On the 31st October 2017, the phenomena of earthquake swarms were experienced in Ambon, Maluku, with the strongest shake registered at magnitude of 6.2, and 88 related foreshocks and

aftershocks felt across 14 hours. This event resulted in minor damage to key public facilities in the local area. North Sumatra's Mount Sinabung erupted once more on the 12th of October 2017, although did not affect the 31,739 displaced residents in nearby areas. The alert level of Mount Agung in Bali was revised from Level IV (Warning / the highest) to Level III (Watch) by the Government of Indonesia (through PVMBG) on October 29th, 2017. However, the BNPB (Indonesian NDMO) and BPBD Bali (local DMO) continued their emergency response activities until the 9th of November 2017, before slowly returning the evacuees as the situation settled. In NTT, despite Mount Lewotok's alert level being classified as Level II, a series of volcanic tremors resulted in the evacuation of 732 people, with assistance from the BPBD of NTT (local DMO).

In general, all recorded-significant disasters occurred in October 2017 were within the response capacity of each National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs) and their local government counterparts. There was no request for emergency response support addressed to the AHA Centre during this period.

FORECAST FOR NOVEMBER 2017

For November 2017, preparedness for current and potential hydro-meteorological disasters is advised for all Member States, including intensification of public outreach on early warning information. In the first week of November 2017 alone, one typhoon (Typhoon Damrey) and one Tropical Depression (Number 29) have already caused significant damage across 14 provinces of Viet Nam and in Penang, Malaysia. The currently developing Tropical Depression Number 30 also requires attention, as it has caused landslides in the Philippines, and may result in further floods and landslides across provinces of Viet Nam already affected by Typhoon Damrey.

On the 9th of November 2017, volcanic activities increased once more for both Mount Sinabung (North Sumatra) and Mount Agung (Bali). Related government authorities in Indonesia (BNPB, BMKG and PVMBG) reported that Mount Sinabung erupted once more, accompanied by 200 seconds of earthquake activity and a volcanic ash release reaching 2,500 meters in height, while in Bali the volcanic activities of Mount Agung caused a magnitude 5.0 earthquake in nearby municipalities. General preparedness measures are advised for countries and communities at risk of potential sudden disasters triggered by geological hazards, particularly earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

INSIGHTS

MALAYSIA'S DISASTER OVERVIEW

While Malaysia is geographically located outside the Pacific Ring of Fire, ensuring it is relatively free from a number of environmental crises experienced by neighbouring countries, the nation's people still remain vulnerable to a range of other natural hazards, including floods, landslides, and haze arising from land and forest fires.

NATURAL HAZARDS

FLOODS



Floods form the major natural disaster threat facing Malaysia. On the other end of the scale, droughts are also experienced, although they are most prevalent in the eastern part of the country. Based on its geographical location, Malaysia remains less vulnerable to flooding than other parts of the region. The 2014 year-end downpour and floods were the worst ever in the country's history, affecting more than half a million people. Damage to infrastructure alone was estimated at USD 670, or around RM 2.851 billion. Areas that have never experienced floods before were also inundated during this event, in which floodwaters rose to unprecedented levels.

LANDSLIDES



Landslides are often found in the form of slope failures (man-made and natural slopes) along Malaysia's highways and roads in rural, residential and urban areas. There have also been instances of large-scale failures in natural terrain, such as rock falls at limestone hills, debris flows through valleys, and slow-movement landslides in the mountain regions. From 1900 to 2009, 611 lives have been lost across 60 recorded landslides, although these numbers do not take into account unrecorded events, particularly between 1900 and 1990. Records from 1989 to 2009 show that there were 56 landslides recorded, of which 33 were fatal with a combined total of 541 lives lost. On average, there are about 2.8 landslides per year, of which 1.7 cause loss of life and property.

HAZE



In addition to flooding, Malaysia also suffers from periodic intense haze. Haze is measured by the Air Pollutant Index (API), which is based on five major air pollutants – namely sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ground level ozone, carbon monoxide and particulate matter with a diameter below 10 micrometres. Most of these pollutants come from sources such as industries, motor vehicles, open burning and power generation. Malaysia collaborates with neighbouring countries under the framework of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution to minimise risks and impacts of haze caused by land and forest fires. This collaboration includes assistance for undertaking cloud seeding operation in areas with land and forest fires during dry periods.

NEWS HIGHLIGHT

THE ROAD TO RAKHINE



The Executive Director of the AHA Centre, Ms. Adelina Kamal, and the Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar, Dr. Win Myat Aye, during the handover ceremony in Yangon

On the 14th of October, 2017, in Yangon, the AHA Centre delivered 80 tonnes of ASEAN relief items to the Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar.

While the act in itself may appear to be no more than a standard AHA Centre procedure during a time of crisis, it saw the AHA Centre engaging in a humanitarian response outside of its original working parameters. While such efforts fall outside the original mandate of the AHA Centre, this response stands as the second such effort to support communities affected by a non-environmental crisis – with the first being support provided to conflict-affected communities in Marawi, the Philippines, earlier in 2017.

Dr. Win Myat Aye, the Minister of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, summed up the importance of such actions by the AHA Centre. “I do believe that as ASEAN is one family, all our brethren countries will always stand by each other in any situation. We would like to convey our deepest appreciation to the AHA Centre for its readiness to support

Myanmar and the people from Rakhine State,” he said, during the handover ceremony in Yangon.

Such sentiments were also echoed by the AHA Centre’s Executive Director, Ms. Adelina Kamal, who stated that “While this time the context of the crisis is different, the spirit that the AHA Centre is delivering is the same. It is that of ASEAN’s solidarity. It is the spirit of One ASEAN One Response.”

An informal meeting between the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN, that took place during the United Nations General Assembly in New York on September 23rd, 2017, formed the initial recommendation for the AHA Centre to engage with the Myanmar government-led mechanism for delivering humanitarian assistance to displaced communities in Rakhine State. Based on the Chairman’s Statement on the Humanitarian Situation in Rakhine State issued following the meeting, the Foreign Ministers underlined the importance of increased humanitarian access to the affected areas, and that assistance should be provided to all affected communities without discrimination.

A handover ceremony was witnessed by Ambassadors of ASEAN Member States based in Yangon, as well as representatives from partner countries of ASEAN, including Japan and the United Kingdom. Relief items provided by the AHA Centre included family tents, family kits, personal hygiene kits, kitchen sets, aluminium boats, generators, and many other items. The relief items were sent through Yangon International Airport in two batches, with the first plane arriving on the 13th of October 2017, followed by a second plane arriving two days later. The relief items were then dispatched by the Myanmar Government overland to Rakhine State.

Following the arrival of the relief items in Yangon International Airport, the AHA Centre joined the Union Minister to meet with different ethnic groups in three remote areas of Northern Rakhine

CONTINGENCY PLANNING WORKSHOP IN THE PHILIPPINES



Participants of the Contingency Planning Workshop, Manila, October 2017

Should a 7.2 magnitude earthquake strike Metro Manila, the immediate identified needs would be debris management, structural engineers and water treatment facilities. These gaps were identified during the National Workshop for the Development of the ASEAN Regional Contingency Plan, held on 10th-11th of October, 2017, in Manila, the Philippines.

The two-day workshop was attended by participants from various government agencies in the Philippines, including the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Health, the Department of Interior and Local Government, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, the Philippines National Police, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Other stakeholders in the Philippines, such as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Philippine Red Cross, and the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) also attended the workshop, alongside the embassies of nine ASEAN countries based in Manila. The workshop aimed to enhance coordination among national agencies and stakeholders in the Philippines, in preparation for the impact of a large earthquake in Metro Manila. This included identifying if certain gaps could be supported by assets and capacity through the AHA Centre, other ASEAN countries and partners, in the theme of the 'One ASEAN, One Response' vision.

State, witnessing the distribution of the relief items from the Myanmar Government in these remote locations, and gaining an aerial view of the affected areas.

The AHA Centre continues to hold ongoing discussions with the Myanmar Government to ensure that relief items reach the displaced communities without discrimination. As of end of October 2017, a majority of the ASEAN relief items had been distributed to displaced communities in Rakhine State, while the AHA Centre continues to undertake activities to support displaced communities at the time of this edition's release.



The arrival and ground-handling of the relief items at Yangon International Airport, prior to mobilisation to Rakhine State.

Co-organised by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) - Office of Civil Defence of the Philippines, and the AHA Centre, the contingency planning workshop formed one of a series of activities organised by the AHA Centre under the ASEAN Joint Disaster Response Plan. The AHA Centre will conduct similar national contingency planning workshops in two other ASEAN countries, namely Indonesia and Myanmar, later this year and in 2018. Specific disaster scenarios have been chosen for each of the three disaster-prone nations as the focus for such workshops, including a Metro Manila earthquake in the Philippines, a Mentawai Megathrust tsunami in Indonesia, and a large-scale cyclone event in Myanmar. These choices form the base of the regional contingency planning, due to the high probability of their occurrence, and the level of possible impact on the population.

The workshop in the Philippines was co-sponsored by the AHA Centre, and supported by the ASEAN – U.S. PROGRESS, and the U.S. Centre for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DMHA).

THE 31ST MEETING OF THE ASEAN COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RELATED MEETINGS



Group photo session before the AHA Centre presents its progress report to the Governing Board of the AHA Centre

The Heads of National Disaster Management Organisations of the ASEAN Member States met for the 31st Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and the 7th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre on the 17th-19th of October, 2017, in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. Chaired by Lao PDR, the meetings were held in succession, with the overall schedule rounded-out by other related meetings and activities – including the 5th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), the 6th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), and the regional commemoration of the 2017 ASEAN Disaster Day for Disaster Management.

During this event, the AHA Centre presented its progress report to the 7th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre, and highlighted its achievements throughout the previous, as well as outcomes of emergency missions to provide humanitarian assistance for populations affected by floods and landslides in northern Viet Nam, as well as displaced communities in Marawi, the Philippines and in Rakhine State, Myanmar.

One of the issues discussed was regarding the AHA Centre's scope and mandate to work beyond natural disasters. The AHA Centre also presented the 'Road to Rakhine' report, that covered the progress of ASEAN humanitarian assistance to displaced communities in Rakhine State, Myanmar. The Governing Board determined that the AHA Centre's focus should remain on response to natural disasters, and that the provision of humanitarian response to other types of emergencies will be decided on a case-by-case basis, as guided by the Governing Board.

"Our experiences in providing humanitarian assistance to internally displaced communities in Marawi (the Philippines) and now to displaced communities in Rakhine State (Myanmar) have

THE ACE PROGRAMME PARTICIPANTS FROM MALAYSIA



JANAKI RANI



MURNI MAT AMIN



How long have you worked within the disaster management field and what is your role?

J I have been working with the Malaysian Ministry of Health for more than 10 years, most of the time in Sabah, Penang, and now in Kuala Lumpur. During the early years I worked mainly within hospitals, before moving into my current work within Primary Health Care. Primary Health Care often focuses towards preventative measures – which includes preparedness for natural disasters. We have standby medical teams for floods, haze, and health education, as well as a unit for disaster surveillance.

M I have been the Head of Finance and Procurement in the Malaysian National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) since 2015, and am responsible for coordinating all financial and procurement aspects of the agency's work. While a majority of my 11 years working experience has focused more towards security analysis, a little outside the scope of emergency operations, I have continuously been engaged within a range of international disaster management programmes since 2007.

What motivated you to apply to participate in the ACE Programme?

J As part of my involvement in training programmes for Public Health Specialists, I benefit from exposure to a full range of other training programmes. My programme supervisor, Dr. Rohani, informed me about the ACE Programme and encouraged me to apply.

M Being part of the ACE programme has been a goal of mine since the programme first began. I believe that the hands-on experience gained through this programme provides me tremendous and comprehensive exposure to the dynamic regional mechanisms and technological advancements experienced by the disaster management field in the region.

Which ACE Programme activities do you most look forward to?

J From when I first arrived, I have really been looking forward to deployment so I can assist in an emergency situation.

M I look forward to participating in exercises or simulations, as I find I learn more effectively through these kinds of activities.

What are the challenges that you have faced throughout the ACE Programme?

M Choosing the topic and focus of my individual project proposal has been my greatest challenge. Throughout the course I have learned so much and gained a variety of new and different perspectives. This has provided me a number of ideas and interesting subjects that I can now further explore.

What personal outcomes do you hope to gain from the ACE Programme?

J After learning so much from the range of facilitators, I hope to be deployed to an emergency to apply my learnings in the field. I also hope to be a better leader in the future, and that the activities I lead will result in greater outcomes.

THE ACE PROGRAMME PARTICIPANTS FROM MYANMAR



NAY WIN



How long have you worked within the disaster management field and what is your role?

N I began working in the Director General's Office as a Staff Officer around four years ago, and am currently working as the Assistant Director in the Pakokku District.

K I began working in this field in 2004, when I was involved in the Indian Ocean Tsunami, at which time I worked for the Relief and Resettlement Department of the Government of Myanmar.

What motivated you to apply to participate in the ACE Programme?

N I was managing the building of temporary flood camps in my district earlier this year, in which I faced a range of difficulties as I had no experience in camp management. My interest in the programme increased upon seeing that the ACE Programme offered a camp management component as part of the course.

K My interest to join the ACE Programme arose because of the multitude of disaster hazards experienced in Myanmar. So far, I personally have been affected by three cyclones (Mala, Nargis, and Akash), the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, and numerous earthquakes. I hope to learn how to help develop more resilient communities in Myanmar, and also share my new knowledge with my colleagues.



KYAW THU HTIKE



Which ACE Programme activities do you most look forward to?

N Most definitely the Camp Coordination and Camp Management courses. Also, the community-based training related to landslides that was presented by the Red Cross in Semarang was extremely valuable since my district is highly exposed to landslides.

K For me it was the Humanitarian Logistics training. This is the subject I hoped to study the most. Secondly, I also valued the rapid assessment training course.

What are the challenges that you have faced throughout the ACE Programme?

N As we moved around a lot and visited many new countries, I had difficulties adjusting to the variety of food. However, there is one restaurant that I really like in Jakarta.

K First of all, definitely the language barriers. Aside from that, probably the intensity of the programme, as not only do we study all day, but also have tasks to undertake at home in the evening.

What personal outcomes do you hope to gain from the ACE Programme?

N I would like to support my community to be better prepared, so people can be safer from disasters.

K I hope to implement the relevant learning points I obtained through the ACE Programme, especially in terms of improving the logistics system in my office.

ACE PROGRAMME VISIT TO JAPAN

Designed to prepare future leaders of disaster management in ASEAN, the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme is a highly intensive and comprehensive ASEAN regional level disaster management training programme.

Beginning the fourth month of its six-month training schedule, the participants flew to Tokyo, Japan on the 21st of October 2017, for ten days of hands-on training courses, lectures and comparative studies related to Japan's disaster-affected areas and experiences.

The participants visited various locations during their 10-day visit, including the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Disaster Prevention Centre, the Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park, Yahoo Japan office, and Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Participants also learnt from a range of Japanese emergency response leaders, engaging in lectures and workshops with individuals including Mr. Kazumi Takahashi from Public Works Office of Miyazaki Prefecture Ms. Sachie Saijo from Peace Winds Japan, and Mr. Ryuta Taniguchi, a Senior Consultant from Dentsu.

Before heading back to Indonesia, the participants also took the time to visit the headquarters of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which is Japan's governmental agency that is chartered with assisting economic and social growth in developing countries. JICA play a large role in supporting both the international and ASEAN emergency response movements, with this visit allowing participants to connect and learn from some of the world's most renowned leaders in the field of disaster management.

The Government of Japan has been a key supporter of the AHA Centre and the ACE Programme since its inception in 2014, as part of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). The visit to Japan is one of the most anticipated sessions for ACE Programme participants, as it allows for invaluable exposure to the country's preparedness measures and response experience related to a range of major disasters. Participants witness the impact and response to the earthquakes and tsunamis that have primarily impacted Japan, and learn how to reduce losses from disasters through various community-based and disaster risk-reduction efforts.



Visiting Saitama Underground Discharge Channel Facility



Ms. Agustina Tnunay from the AHA Centre (left) delivers a token of appreciation to Ms. Suchi (right), during the visit to JICA headquarters



All smile during the lecture session of Mr. Seiji Baba (JICA)



Participants meet with Mr. Masataka Uo at Japan International House

definitely allowed the AHA Centre to grow and develop our capacity to engage in humanitarian response in other contexts,” said Ms. Adelina Kamal, Executive Director of the AHA Centre, after the Governing Board meeting. “Based on the guidance from the Governing Board, our focus for the time being will be on our main objectives, which are operationalising ‘One ASEAN One Response’, and realising the vision for ASEAN to become the future global leader on disaster management.”

On the side-lines of the event, the ASEAN Ministers in charge of Disaster Management also released 50 fish into the Mekong river, symbolising hope for the 50th anniversary of ASEAN.



ASEAN Ministers in charge of Disaster Management officially launch the 2017 ASEAN Day for Disaster Management in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

UNDP PRIVATE SECTOR FOUNDATION: START-UPS TO THE RESQUE COMPETITION

On the 20th of October 2017, during the Slingshot ASEAN 2017 event in the Philippines, 20 business start-ups from various ASEAN nations participated in a pitch battle called ‘Start-ups to the Resque’. The activity focused on disaster preparedness and resilient recovery, and offered a grand prize of USD \$10,000.



A range of ASEAN business start-ups receive their rewards after the Start-Ups to the Resque competition.

The pitch competition was organised by QBO Innovation Hub (QBO), the Philippines’ first public-private initiative for start-ups, formed through the partnership of renowned private companies and government institutions, including IdeaSpace, J.P. Morgan, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

In line with its vision of progressing the Philippines’ start-up ecosystem, QBO, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), and the AHA Centre, developed ‘Startups to the Resque’ as a mode to promote the role of start-ups in national development, as well as encourage new ideas that will strengthen the country’s preparedness and resilience in the face of a disaster.

A local Education Technology (EdTech) start-up, Frontlearners Inc., took out first place through their idea of providing students with an e-learning tool that integrates disaster preparedness content into its curriculum. The device works with or without Internet, is ready-to-use, solar powered, and provides centralised information on how to prepare, respond, and recover from a given disaster.

THE OTHER SIDE

Mr. Sugimin Pranoto

Head of Lembaga Sertifikasi Profesi Penanggulangan Bencana (LSP-PB) at Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB) (Professional Certification Agency for Disaster Management at the National Disaster Management Authority of Indonesia)



What attracted you to join the disaster management field?

I was originally working as an advisor in the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing of Indonesia. It was there that I received an offer to become a Senior Advisor with the BNPB. However, as I was one year out from retirement, I instead joined the BNPB's Steering Committee, which led me headlong into the disaster management field.

Can you tell us how LSP-PB was formed? How did it become part of BNPB?

In 2012, while I was still on the Steering Committee of the BNPB, we developed the idea of creating a standardisation and certification mechanism at the national level, which would be implemented through a type of certification institution for disaster management. Two years later, our idea was approved by the Head of the BNPB, under the condition that it would be formed through the trustees of the BNPB.

LSP-PB is included within the second category of the three certification institution categories. This category means that we are solely responsible for establishing and developing the institution, as well as for covering the operational costs. We work in accordance to the new Standard Kompetensi Kerja Nasional (SKKNI), or National Indonesian Competency Standards for emergency response. Our aim is to establish 52 competency units for certification in the disaster management field.

Additionally, earlier this year we were offered an opportunity to present a plan to develop a regional-level standardisation and certification mechanism, as part of the work undertaken by the Knowledge, Innovation and Management Working Group of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM),

How can this certification mechanism be applied at the regional level?

Indonesia has been entrusted with leading the development of the standardisation and certification mechanism for the ASEAN region. Using the SKKNI as a reference, we prepared a framework for the regional mechanism, which was approved by the ACDM in mid-October 2017. Initially, the regional standardisation and certification mechanism will be applied for five emergency response-related competencies – namely rapid assessment, logistics management, shelter management, Water, Shelter and Hygiene (WASH), and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). LSP-PB, together with the AHA Centre and other partners, have been developing the primary curriculum based on these five competencies.

What are the requirements for undertaking the certification course? Is it limited only to professionals in the disaster management field?

Anyone can apply for and undertake the standardisation and certification process. We work with government officials and the private sector, as well as with the general public. It is also possible for people working in the disaster management field to gain extra certification, and said individuals should present their portfolios to gain such extra accreditation.

What are your key expectations for the coming years?

My hope is that we can fully operationalise the framework for the standardisation and certification mechanism at the ASEAN level. To achieve this, we must continue to build relationships and networks with a variety of partners and related stakeholders.

For more information about the certification mechanism please visit: www.lspbb.org


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**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 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.