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ONE RESPONSE

THE COLUMN

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CHARLIE



HIGHLIGHT

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Induction Course

MONTHLY DISASTER OUTLOOK

Monthly Disaster Review and Outlook
for April 2019

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AHA CENTRE

ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management



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EDITOR'S NOTE



HI READERS,

Welcome to Volume 50 of the AHA Centre's monthly newsletter, which continues its role of telling the stories of ASEAN disaster management from across our broad region.

Direct Relief takes the centre stage in this volume's Partnerships feature, while the AHA Centre Diary gives readers an update on the topics and outcomes of the recent 10th Meeting of the AHA Centre Governing Board.

There's plenty to learn from Volume 50, as we get into all the details from the recent implementation of the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT) 11th Induction Course that took place in Brunei Darussalam recently. Our Other Side article continues with the ASEAN-ERAT theme, as we learn more about the interesting experience of one of ASEAN-ERAT members, Mr. Adiratna Wira, who is one of the few responders that have been deployed on ERAT missions 3 times within one year.

Wherever this volume of The Column may reach you, we hope you continue to be inspired and engaged in the exciting disaster management movement taking place across the ASEAN region.

The Editor

Volume 50's Insight article provides the readers with a further look into the recent ASEAN Risk Monitor and Disaster Management Review (ARMOR) journal – particularly interesting for those of you yet to have the time to take in this exciting publication's array of unique and innovative content.



EDITOR IN CHIEF
Adelina Kamal

THE EDITORIAL TEAM

MANAGING EDITOR
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JOURNALIST
Carla Budiarto, Dipo Summa, Melya Wardhani,
Lawrence Anthony Dimailig, Shahasrakiranna,
Shintya Kurniawan, William Shea

EDITOR
William Shea

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
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GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Denis Indra Permana

PUBLISHED BY
The AHA Centre

THE 11TH ASEAN-ERAT INDUCTION COURSE

Following the success of the previous courses, the AHA Centre conducted the 11th ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) Induction Course to train a new group of disaster responders ready for deployment across the ASEAN region. The Level 1 course took place in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, from the 8th to the 15th of April 2019. After successfully completing the 100 hours of course materials and training, the thirty are now prepared to engage in disaster responses at any moment as part of the united One ASEAN, One Response movement.



The course's 30 participants were made up of representatives from all 10 ASEAN Member States' National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs), and other sectors, such as health, foreign affairs, etc. as well as civil society representatives from the AADMER Partnership a Group (APG), the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the ASEAN Secretariat, and staff of the AHA Centre. The 11th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course was made possible through the strong support of National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) of Brunei Darussalam, its own In-Country ASEAN-ERAT team, as well as funding support from the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF).

Alongside classroom sessions covering modules of information management, rapid assessment, logistics management, and coordination, there was also a 48-hour simulation exercise that adopted the scenario of a 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Metro Manila. This exercise was injected into the course to prepare and familiarise participants with the situation experienced during real disasters.

"Overall the course was well planned and executed within an interactive classroom sharing setting, as well as a realistic field simulation exercise. This made the learning more engaging and effective. Beyond learning about the technicalities, it was an excellent opportunity to learn and hear from fellow participants from the other NDMOs and organisations about their deployment experiences, as well as their country's culture", said Matthew Tay, a participant from the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF).



The 4th Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the 6th ASEAN-ERAT Advisory Group Meeting held back to back with the 11th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course.

Written by: Melya Wardhani | Photo: AHA Centre

The success of the 11th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course was also possible with the engagement of partners from various organisations including MapAction UK, RedR Australia, the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and the IFRC.

During the course, three graduates of the ASEAN-ERAT Training of Trainers course played important roles as course facilitators, which formed a new innovation during the 11th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course. "As a relatively newcomer in the area of disaster management, the Induction Course provided me with a compact yet insightful overview of the roles of an international response team during the occurrence of sudden on-set disasters" explained Akmal Aji from the NDMC of Brunei Darussalam.

"Even though many aspects of the course such as the simulation exercise was tough and energy-draining, I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience, as it was rewarding to be learning a skill-set that can contribute to alleviating the hardships faced by people affected by the devastating impact of natural hazards" he continued.

Fittingly, Mr. Aji highlighted the importance of the engagement of all the different parties within the course, when he said that *"The training wouldn't have been as fun if it hadn't been for the other participants and the course facilitators, who aside from being knowledgeable and helpful, ensured that the entire course was well-organised and carried-out successfully"*.



1 Opening ceremony of the 11th ASEAN-ERAT Induction Course was attended by the Permanent Secretary, Security, Welfare and Law, Ministry of Home Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, Awg Mohd Amir Hairil bin Haji Mahmud; and Director of the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), Ministry of Home Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, ACDM Focal Point for Brunei Darussalam, Col (R) Bapak Pg Hj Maiddin Bin Pg Hj Said

2-3 Emergency simulation exercises during the induction course that lasted for 48 hours

4-5 The classroom sessions involve partners from RedR Australia, UNOCHA Asia Pacific, IFRC, MapAction, and PDC



Three disaster events significantly influenced the rise in casualties across the region – namely flooding, followed by a rain-induced landslide in Bengkulu Province, Indonesia, and the magnitude 6.1 earthquake in Central Luzon, the Philippines.

MONTHLY DISASTER REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

DISASTER MONITORING & ANALYSIS (DMA) UNIT, AHA CENTRE
APRIL 2019

GENERAL REVIEW OF APRIL 2019

April began 2019's second quarter by continuing the trend of lower disaster occurrences compared to the average of the five previous years, with the number of people affected by disaster reaching only 11% of the previous five-year average. This significant difference is primarily caused by an extreme event during 2016 that skews the five-year average – namely the 2016 drought in Cambodia that affected 2.5 million people. On the other hand, April 2019 witnessed higher-than-average displacement, house damage, and casualty figures. A majority of population displacement during April was due to widespread flooding and rain-induced landslides in Indonesia and Myanmar. Increased atmospheric activity, due to the inter-monsoon period, resulted in scattered rain showers across the region, while the Madden-Julian Oscillation further enhanced the duration and amount of rainfall in Indonesia during the last week of the month. Meanwhile, a majority of house damage was due to a hailstorm in Central Myanmar, that saw hailstones as large as golf balls raining down on homes made from light materials. Three disaster events significantly influenced the rise in casualties across the region – namely flooding, followed by a rain-induced landslide in Bengkulu Province, Indonesia, and the magnitude 6.1 earthquake in Central Luzon, the Philippines.

Geophysical activity registered 56 earthquakes of magnitude 5.0 and above during April 2019. Three of these earthquakes resulted in significant impact to people and structures, seeing them classified in disaster statistics – a 6.8M in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia (close to ground zero for the devastating 7.5M earthquake that triggered a tsunami and liquefaction in 2018), and back-to-back 6.1M and 6.5M earthquakes in Central Luzon and Eastern Samar, the Philippines. Lastly, there were four volcanoes, all in Indonesia, being monitored due to increased activities – Mount Agung, Mount Karangetang, and Mount Soputan, all at Alert Level 3, and Mount Sinabung, which is at Alert Level 4, the highest alert level for volcanoes in Indonesia.

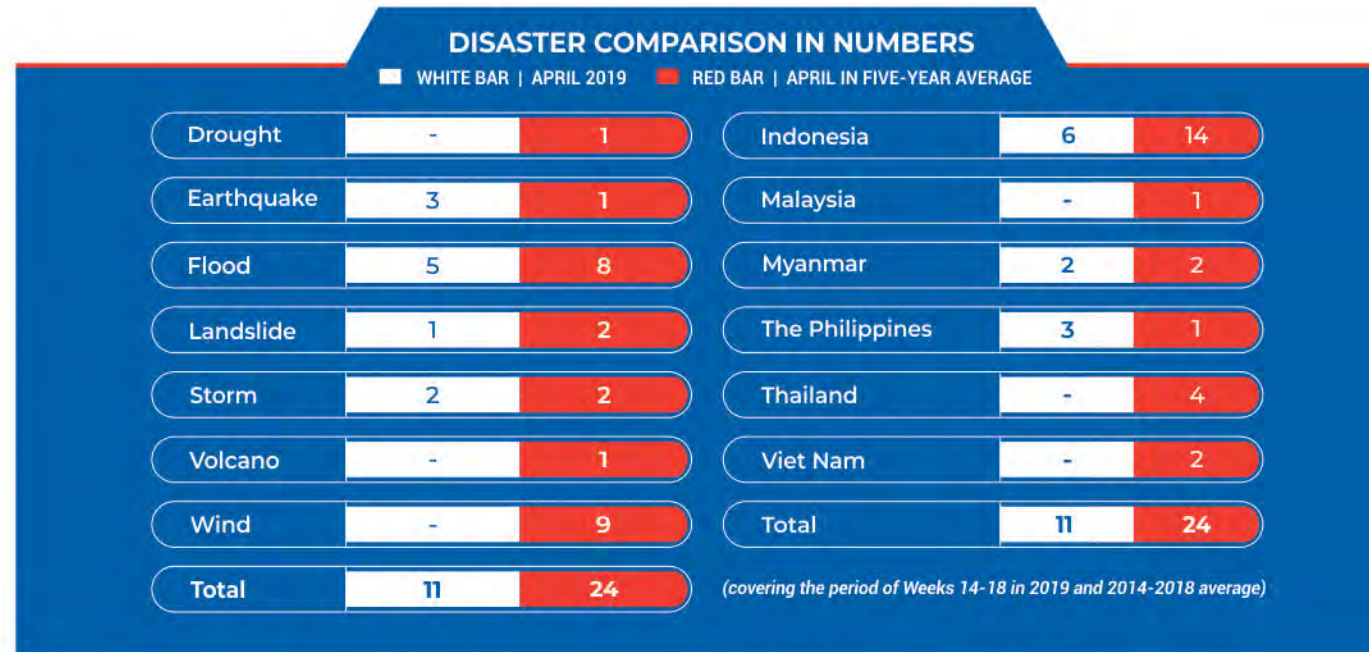
GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY REGISTERED 56 EARTHQUAKES OF MAGNITUDE

5.0

AND ABOVE DURING APRIL 2019

REGIONAL TALLY	APRIL 2019	APRIL IN FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE
• Number of recorded significant disasters	11	24
• Number of affected people	90,501	808,464
• Number of internally displaced people	38,349	9,076
• Number of damaged houses	13,726	1,887
• Number of casualties	58	23
• Number of injured people	303	47
• Number of missing people	27	1

(covering the period of Weeks 14-18 in 2019 and 2014-2018 average)



SEASONAL OUTLOOK

Written by: Lawrence Anthony Dimallig, Shahsakariranna

The inter-monsoon period is expected to last until June, upon which the Southwest Monsoon will become dominant in the region. During this transition, a northward shift of monsoon rain bands will be observed. While rainy conditions are expected in the northern ASEAN region, the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre forecasts generally below-average rainfall. However, the gradual increase in rain shower activities is expected to subdue hotspot activities and improve haze conditions in the Mekong sub-region. Meanwhile, drier weather conditions are expected to slowly increase across the southern ASEAN region, particularly in Indonesia. Seasonal models tend to exempt the southern ASEAN region from the warmer temperatures expected in most of the region during the second quarter of the year.

As part of its preparatory activities for the rainy season in the northern ASEAN region and dry conditions in the southern ASEAN region, the AHA Centre will conduct a table-top exercise to test its Emergency Response

Organisation procedures for responding to any disaster within the region. Alongside this, connectivity testing with respective Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) of each ASEAN Member State is also being planned. Finally, in cooperation with the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC Global), a DisasterAWARE Multi-Hazard Monitoring Platform is planned to be established in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and the Philippines. DisasterAWARE is a powerful and reliable early warning and multi-hazard monitoring platform, that supports disaster management and emergency response by providing early warning, multi-hazard monitoring, impact assessment modelling, and geospatial data. The Centre has been using the regionally-adapted version of DisasterAWARE, (Disaster Monitoring and Response System – DMRS), in its daily operations for many years. At present, the AHA Centre and PDC Global are working with Myanmar to develop capacity and capability to utilise the DMRS, while several ASEAN Member States already utilise their own versions of DisasterAWARE – including Indonesia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

DISCLAIMER
 Disclaimer: AHA Centre's estimation is based on data and information shared by National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs) and other relevant agencies from ASEAN Member States, international organisations, and news agencies. Further information on each recorded significant disaster, description, and detail of data and information are available at: <http://adinet.ahacentre.org/reports>.

Data Sources : ASEAN Disaster Information Network, ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre

BOOK REVIEW:

THE ASEAN RISK MONITOR AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT REVIEW (ARMOR)



As covered in Volume 49 of the Column, the AHA Centre's publication and launch of the ASEAN Risk Monitor and Disaster Management Review (ARMOR) recently took place, with the publication aiming to bridge science with decision making in the region's disaster management field. The journal, made-up of 10 unique chapters, stands as the first publication of its kind providing risk profile information specifically regarding the ASEAN region. As the sheer amount of accumulated knowledge and information on disaster in the region continues to grow, the first ARMOR publication opens a forum for critical analysis and synthesis of such information, aiming to inform policy making and disaster management operations, both within the region and outside. Importantly, the first edition also highlights best practices, trends and innovations in ASEAN disaster management, and provides the platform for further expansion of current ideas as well as facilitating a space for new considerations from some of the region's leading disaster management minds.

NEW AND UNIQUE INSIGHTS



One of the stand-out features from ARMOR's first edition is the range of new, innovative and unique information it provides regarding disaster management in the region. A modern and unique theme is raised in Chapter Five, as the authors take readers through the context of **Natech: The Silent and Potentially Deadly Threat in ASEAN**, that discusses the growing potential risk of Natech (technological incidence/disasters triggered by natural hazards) in ASEAN, and how the region can work to mitigate such risks. Such an area is becoming increasingly relevant as the region continues to develop, with the risks related to technological disaster due to natural hazards increasing alongside the increasing numbers of factories, hazardous material sites and technology-based infrastructure throughout ASEAN's landscape.

Chapter Two (**Most-at-Risk Cities in ASEAN That Must be Watched**) also gives the readers a fresh update regarding research findings on risk of disaster for ASEAN cities, with new and updated data leading to some interesting and unexpected findings – some of which challenge traditional perceptions regarding disaster management in the region. Similar findings and unique circumstances are also delivered in Chapter One **Trillion Dollar Multi-Hazard Risk Landscape in Southeast Asia** article. An interesting discussion on **Utilisation of Space-based Information for Supporting Emergency Response and Recovery** takes place through Chapter 10, with the article developed based on actual emergency response experiences that utilised space-based information, alongside direct field observation, to inform operational decision making.

THE ASEAN REGION'S PROGRESS IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



Written by: William Shea

A key strength of ARMOR is its delivery of information related to the 'state-of-play' for disaster management in the ASEAN region. We are provided with a strong insight into the relevant topic of climate change and its impact on areas such as water, food and health security during disaster, with Chapter Three focused on **Why Climate Change Matters for ASEAN**. The conversation on early warning systems and their use and impact for ASEAN is also highlighted, with Chapter Five providing analysis and a snapshot of the **State of Early Warning Systems in ASEAN**. ARMOR also provides focus to the AHA Centre itself, particularly the opportunities for the AHA Centre to fully realise its role as a knowledge hub for disaster management. This interesting insight is covered through in Chapter Seven's **Regional Knowledge Hub for Disaster Management: Strategy, Policy and Practice in ASEAN**, followed-on directly with Chapter Eight discussing the evolving roles of the AHA Centre in **Regional Centrality and the Shift of Humanitarian Landscape: The Case of ASEAN**. Such information is developed by analysing and comparing two uniquely different emergency response operations – super typhoon Haiyan and the earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi – providing readers not only a historical insight to the change that has evolved over time, but also the key areas in which the AHA Centre has established its role within the regional disaster management landscape.

KNOWLEDGE THAT CROSSES GENERATIONS



A great aspect of this ARMOR edition is the array of input from researchers and professionals covering different generations and skillsets, ensuring that the full scope of ASEAN disaster management is encompassed within the 10 chapters. We learn about the history of ASEAN disaster management and lessons learned through **Achieving the ASEAN 2025 Vision for Disaster Management: Lessons from a Worthy Journey** in Chapter Nine – a piece developed by seasoned researchers Alistair D. B. Cook and Lina Gong. In contrast, one of ASEAN's up-and-coming disaster researchers, Juwita Nirmalasari, proposes an innovative way to accurately and immediately identify drought events that can be utilised by policy makers to engage in early and significant interventions, as the guest contributor in Chapter Six titled **Application of Breaks for Additive Season and Trend (BFAST) for Drought Monitoring**. This range of elements, mix of modern and historical outlooks, and the array of experiences and backgrounds provides balance and space for innovation throughout the entire journal. In reality, it represents how the ASEAN disaster management sector should be perceived throughout all of its efforts – combining experience and lessons learned based on research and data, while remaining open and ready to embrace new technology and innovative ideas from new generations of disaster managers moving through the ranks.



DIRECT RELIEF



Emergency stockpile stored in the Direct Relief's Global Warehouse & Distribution Centre

The AHA Centre is proud to partner with Direct Relief – a humanitarian aid organisation with experience throughout more than 80 nations worldwide. Direct Relief leverages its status as a licenced and accredited distributor of pharmaceuticals to improve the health and lives of people affected by poverty or emergencies – providing medical aid, particularly in times of disaster. Direct Relief has also utilised its years of experience in disaster response to design and implement standardised solutions such as emergency response packs and medical facility modules that help address the needs of vulnerable communities before and after disaster strikes. In 2016, the AHA Centre and Direct Relief signed a Memorandum of Intent (MOI), with the three-year partnership resulting in a range of benefits for both parties, as well as the communities of ASEAN facing disaster.

Direct Relief's approach to disasters focuses on supporting the immediate needs of communities by working with local partners and governments to determine required solutions based on each unique emergency situation. Their disaster response priorities include emergency logistics, equipping first responders, and bolstering existing medical systems, considering the specific needs of displaced persons, and being flexible based on disaster and location. Such aims align with those of the AHA Centre, and were reflected in the aims of the 2016 MOI which included:

- Access for the AHA Centre to in-kind (donations) of pharmaceuticals, medicines, medical equipment and supplies;
- The opportunity to stockpile and prepare such medical materials;
- Collaborative disaster preparedness working arrangements that support the AHA Centre with the identification of medical materials commonly required during disaster response, and supporting the efficient access to such materials when required;
- The collaborative development of a framework to engage corporate entities, such as medical suppliers, for stockpiling, funding and understanding medical supplies, that will in turn support the overall emergency preparedness and response mechanisms of the AHA Centre;
- Organising and engaging in information and knowledge-sharing activities between the partners, as well as externally, and Direct Relief providing the AHA Centre access to its own relevant resources and knowledge management that may support the AHA Centre's operations.



Written by Carla Budiarto, William Shea | Photo : Direct Relief

More recently, the partnership has evidenced its value during the range of disaster responses coordinated by the AHA Centre during 2018 – particularly during the large-scale response and recovery efforts after the Central Sulawesi earthquake and tsunami during late 2018 and early 2019. Direct Relief identified a need for the procurement and development of specific health needs within a number of the region's disaster-affected communities, and through the AHA Centre provided a direct injection of USD 50,000 for a latrine project. The support resulted in the development of 120 latrine units across 12 locations, having a significant impact on positive health outcomes for the people during the recovery phase. During the response, the AHA Centre also facilitated Direct Relief to provide support communicating with the Government of Indonesia and local NGO partners, to ensure smooth and suitable delivery of support in the affected region.

Direct Relief has also recently highlighted an interest in supporting the AHA Centre's ASEAN Resilient Village project taking place during Central Sulawesi's recovery stage. With 2019 marking the end of the current MOI, the AHA Centre and Direct Relief – in recognition of the valuable partnership – have already begun talks to continue and expand their working relationship. There are an array of potential opportunities and mutual values that may be addressed outside of the current agreement, and both parties hope to finalise the continuance of the partnership in the coming months.



Direct Relief collaborates with the AHA Centre in providing latrines for the disaster-affected communities in Central Sulawesi



Emergency Medical Packs bound for Dunn, North Carolina, leave Direct Relief's warehouse. Health centers and clinics in the area are still evaluating the damage in their communities from Hurricane Florence.

THE 10TH MEETING OF THE AHA CENTRE'S GOVERNING BOARD

The 25th of April, 2019 saw the ASEAN region's 10 National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs) come together for the 10th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre. The event was held in the city of Mandalay, Myanmar, with all ASEAN Member State NDMO representatives meeting, along with representatives from the AHA Centre and the ASEAN Secretariat, to discuss the AHA Centre's progress, work, and plans for the future.



One of the outcomes of the meeting was the Governing Board's endorsement of a draft Memorandum of Intent (MoI) between the AHA Centre and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) – a strategic partnership that was highlighted recently in Volume 49 of The Column



The AHA Centre presented its recent work and outcomes across key areas for the period between October 2018 and April 2019, including providing updates regarding disaster responses that took place during the previous six months. The Centre presented to the Governing Board its activities related to the Central Sulawesi Earthquake and Tsunami – including the ongoing ASEAN Resilient Village recovery phase project – as well as support for the Government of Myanmar through implementing needs assessments to identify possible areas of cooperation to facilitate repatriation of displaced persons to Rakhine State. Another key presentation was the publication of the AHA Centre's 2018 Annual Report, which was delivered to the Governing Board during the meeting.

One of the outcomes of the meeting was the Governing Board's endorsement of a draft Memorandum of Intent (MoI) between the AHA Centre and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) – a strategic partnership that was highlighted recently in Volume 49 of The Column. The endorsed MoI contains numerous key focus areas, including strengthening coordination of regional and international assistance, supporting capacity development, strengthening preparedness activities (for example through joint trainings, simulation exercises and workshops), assisting with expertise to prepare and conduct the ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX), enhancing crisis communications, and strengthening the capacities of the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT).

Written by: Dipu Summa | Photo: AHA Centre



Finally, the Governing Board also supported the outcomes of the AHA Centre's internal planning workshop – that took place in January 2019 – which recommended the organisation of the Centre's core services into five primary areas. These areas will now be known as:

- coordination;
- data intelligence and analysis;
- resource management;
- financing, and;
- knowledge and outreach

In closing the meeting, the Chair of the Governing Board, Dr. Ko Ko Naing, Director - General of the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) of Myanmar, expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the support all ASEAN nations had provided to Myanmar, while also commending the AHA Centre on its hard work, and highlighting the Centre's readiness to be called upon whenever a need arises.

The 25th of April, 2019 saw the ASEAN region's 10 National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs) come together for the 10th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre



H.E. Win Myat Aye, the Union Minister of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement of Myanmar handed over a token of appreciation to Ms. Adelina Kamal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre



The Governing Board of the AHA Centre regularly holds two meetings on an annual basis to provide further guidance and direction for the AHA Centre as the primary regional coordinating agency for disaster management and emergency response

MR. ADIRATNA WIRA ADNAN

The diversity of the ASEAN region is reflected through the pool of talents within the ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ERAT). The range of expertise and skills combined also showcases the inclusivity of ASEAN humanitarians - who meaningfully enrich perspectives of decision makers while engaged in emergency response. For this Volume of The Column, one of the ASEAN-ERAT Information Management specialists from Malaysia shares his story with us in between his packed schedule.



Now sitting as the Senior Assistant Director in the Technical and Infrastructure Department of Malaysia's National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), Mr Adiratna Wira Adnan has found himself on a career pathway that was somewhat unexpected. A background in engineering, and numerous strategic roles in public works and infrastructure development had Mr Adiratna working across some of Malaysia's largest road and development projects, coordinating teams and collaborating with experts while contributing to Malaysia's rapidly expanding infrastructure sector.

Adi – as he likes to be called – recalls being seconded to NADMA three years ago, and he was immediately interested in the work due to a range of other disaster relief experiences he encountered during his time in the private sector. "It's not what I had originally envisaged", Adi tells us, "but perhaps it is my pre-determined fate, and I am truly glad to be working here". Adi also recognises the value brought by an engineering mind with disaster management, highlighting the relationship between risk-awareness in engineering that is also central disaster risk reduction (DRR) practices. "Trained as engineer, it helps me promote the safety-first awareness, analysing it qualitatively and later taking necessary action to avoid, mitigate or reduce the risk – particularly in safety and security aspects of DRR-related tasks", Adi says.

As a member of the ASEAN-ERAT, Adi is one of the few members that have been deployed three times in less than one year, with the region calling upon his expertise during 2018's Typhoon Mangkhut and Central Sulawesi emergency responses, as well as the preliminary needs assessment mission in Rakhine in early 2019. Adi highlights the varying natures of each deployment – the different contexts, aims and experiences all unique in their own way. Adi's first response to Typhoon Mangkhut saw him taking part as a Team Leader of a small team gathering information that was complex and time-sensitive, while in contrast, the Central Sulawesi response was a large deployment in numbers and scope of work, collaborating with partners from both local and international parties. "It put all the existing related procedures and policies – not only ERAT but national and regional – to the test", he remembers.



Adi's first response to Typhoon Mangkhut saw him taking part as a Team Leader of a small team gathering information that was complex and time-sensitive



Written by: Shinyia Kurniawan, William Shea | Photo: AHA Centre

More recently, the preliminary needs assessment for repatriation readiness in Rakhine was a slow-on-set mission, seeing the more intense tasks taking place at the end of the 10-day deployment. Adi tells us that this was the "first extensive humanitarian assessment by ERAT, covering different and diverse aspects of assessment outside of the usual ERAT scope. It reflected the importance of safety and security aspects during deployment, that were perhaps often secondary during other previous response deployments".

Adi's tips for other ASEAN-ERAT members are highly relevant to his array of experiences during deployment. Primarily, Adi says "it is of the utmost importance to be well-prepared for deployment, physically and mentally. Personal preparedness should also include gathering relevant information, as well as useful tools for use when deployed. These efforts will help remove any self-doubt, and elevate your motivation, as you will perform strongly with the right tools at hand". Adi has also facilitated workshops and trainings as part of the ASEAN-ERAT courses, as well as other related courses at universities and schools.

He enjoys such engagement, and recognises the value that learning from each other's experiences can hold. "I consider myself facilitating a knowledge sharing session, of which I believe each person has something valuable to share that everybody can benefit from. Thus, the enthusiasm and energy within the class or the session always inspires me to do more."

Finally, Adi also highlights the importance of work-life balance, even if your role is committing to serve your nation at all times. He tries to keep his work and family life separate, and undertake any extra tasks late at night as not to affect quality time with his loved ones. However, he also highlights that his fellow responders are his second family, and is always ready to give 100% commitment during responses. It is this mix of work and home life that provides Adi with his happiness, and he states that "I pursue happiness and challenges in work. I believe we will be happy if we give something to others and when we acquire something for ourselves. In this field, the opportunity to give – a new idea, a new way to do things, new technological advances improving regular relief efforts – this is as endless as disaster and its risk management itself, it is as broad as the seas".

ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE



THE AHA CENTRE OFFICE

Graha BNPB, 13th Floor
Jl. Pramuka Kav. 38
Jakarta - 13120
INDONESIA



www.ahacentre.org



comm@ahacentre.org



AHA Centre



@ahacentre



@ahacentre

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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