



# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting

4 September 2024

## Disaster Law Overview

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### Common Threads of Activity - Disaster Law

Disaster law activities in Southeast Asia have focused on creating and refining legal frameworks that ensure effective disaster risk reduction and management. National Societies across the region have engaged in legal advocacy, policy analysis, and the harmonization of laws to improve the legal landscape surrounding disaster management.

#### National Society Activities

- **Legal Advocacy:** The Philippines Red Cross actively involved in advocating for the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010. This legislation established a comprehensive framework for disaster risk reduction and management,
- **National Security Council Act:** The Malaysian Red Crescent Society Played a crucial role in lobbying for amendments to the National Security Council Act. Their advocacy aimed to incorporate a stronger focus on disaster management and humanitarian response, ensuring that disaster preparedness and response are well-integrated into national security policies.
- **Assessment of Existing Laws:** The Indonesian Red Cross conducted a thorough review of existing disaster-related laws and regulations to identify gaps and inconsistencies. This review resulted in actionable recommendations for policy improvements, addressing issues such as the integration of forecast-based financing and community-based surveillance.
- **Law and Policy Analysis:** The Thai Red Cross analyzed the impact of existing disaster laws on vulnerable populations, including women and children. This analysis informed their advocacy efforts to ensure that disaster management policies are inclusive and address the needs of all affected groups.

## ASEAN Initiatives

**ASEAN Disaster Law and Policy Framework:** This framework is designed to guide the development and harmonization of disaster laws and policies across ASEAN member states. It aims to provide a comprehensive approach to integrating disaster risk reduction and management into national legal systems, ensuring consistency and effectiveness in regional disaster response efforts.

**ASEAN Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (DRFI) Program:** The DRFI program explores innovative financing mechanisms to manage disaster risks, including legal and regulatory aspects related to disaster insurance and risk financing. It aims to enhance the financial preparedness of ASEAN member states for disaster response and recovery.

**ASEAN Legal Experts Group on Disaster Management (ALEGDM):** This platform facilitates cooperation and information sharing among legal experts in the region, contributing to the development of regional legal standards.

## Potential Joint Activities

- **Policy Advocacy and Reform** - Engage in joint advocacy and reform initiatives to drive meaningful changes in disaster management legislation.
- **Collaborative Research and Analysis** - Conduct joint research and analysis on disaster-related laws and regulations to identify gaps and areas for improvement.
- **Regional Disaster Law Workshops and Training** - Organize collaborative workshops and training sessions focused on disaster laws and policies for legal and disaster management professionals from ASEAN member states and National Societies.
- **Harmonization of Disaster Legislation** - Develop model disaster laws and regulations to harmonize legal frameworks across ASEAN member states, promoting improved cross-border coordination and response.
- **Strengthening Legal Frameworks for Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)** - Enhance legal frameworks to support community-based



disaster risk management by integrating community perspectives into national policies.