



Workshop on

Promoting community-based disaster risk reduction, CCA and emergency response for older people and other vulnerable groups in ASEAN and Japan

Bangkok from 15 – 19 October 2012

Background:

Asia is the region most affected by disasters, and it also has the largest and most rapidly growing population of older people in the world. Aside from the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake, Asia also suffered from the 2004 Asian tsunami which killed 230,000 people in Indonesia alone, the 2008 Cyclone Nargis which killed nearly 150,000 people in Myanmar, and regular floods such as those that hit Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and the Philippines and other countries in recent months. When disaster strikes, older people are among the most vulnerable to neglect, injury, death and disease. Yet their needs are often overlooked. With such high loss of life and extensive economic damage, increasing the resilience of its 10 member states is a key priority for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). With rapidly ageing populations, in particular, ASEAN countries need to prepare their older citizens and other vulnerable groups to protect themselves and their communities. Japan has already reached levels of population ageing that ASEAN countries are moving towards, and has much to share from its advanced approaches to protecting and assisting such vulnerable groups in serious disasters. ASEAN nations and Japan have experienced major disasters in the recent past and have realised the need for a stronger DRR approach to build resilient communities.

The project:

“Promoting community-based disaster risk reduction for older people and other vulnerable groups in ASEAN and Japan” is one of the key activities to expand the capacities in ASEAN on disaster risk reduction (DRR) planned by HelpAge International and its affiliates and other partners in the region. One of HelpAge’s main initiatives in the Asia/Pacific region is building strong community-based Older People’s Associations, which actively promote livelihood, health, income security, social and inter-generational participation in villages – and increasingly disaster risk reduction. OPAs are self-managed community-based organisations of older people. With the increasing regularity of natural disasters, the OPAs in some of the countries of this region have been in the frontline of emergency response and are actively developing and implementing plans for community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR). They are also advocating inclusion of older and vulnerable groups in government DRR plans and programmes. In other countries, OPAs have not yet become active in preparing for and responding to disasters and have much to learn from the workshop. ADPC is one of the collaborating agencies that will provide technical input on DRR in the workshop. They are a leading agency on DRR in the region supporting national governments and civil society to design and implement effective DRR policies and programmes in the Asia region.

Apart from the focus on DRR, this 5 day workshop will also discuss key aspects of Climate Change Adaptation and its relevance to agencies working with older people. The last day of the workshop will be the roll out the training module developed by HelpAge on, How to work with Older People in Emergencies “HOPE”.



Overall objective:

To share best practices and agree action points for promoting disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and emergency response among vulnerable groups by working through community-based institutions of older people in ASEAN countries and Japan.

Specific objectives:

- Practical experience shared by civil society organisations in other ASEAN countries in how to strengthen community-based Older People's Associations so they can enhance protection from disasters for vulnerable groups
- Greater understanding of Japan's community-level experience in preparing and responding to disasters affecting older people and other vulnerable groups
- Technical knowledge of DRR and its implementation from regional experts to contribute to ASEAN's goal of Building Disaster-Resilient Nations and Safer Communities in Asia/Pacific
- Common language and concepts in discussing CCA/DRR in developing countries within the HelpAge Regional Network of organisations, expanded to include participation from Japan
- Increased capacity on working with older people in emergency response focussing on their resourcefulness and vulnerabilities.
- A publication to disseminate the conclusions and lessons of the workshop, with acknowledgement of the Japan Foundation's support

This project addresses HelpAge's and the Japan Foundation's priority on disaster-prevention and disaster-proof society. In particular, it aims to promote "the global, inter-generational sharing of disaster experience." The project also supports ASEAN's Strategic Framework for 2009-2015 and its priority of Building Disaster-Resilient Nations and Safer Communities through workshops and other capacity building activities.

About 40 – 50 participants from the region are expected to attend the 5 day workshop to be organised at a suitable venue in Bangkok. A majority of the participants will be from HelpAge programme or from the affiliates and partners who are currently implementing DRR or emergency programmes and have lessons to share. Resource persons for the technical input will come from ADPC, Japan and from HelpAge regional and London offices.

Facilitators:

HelpAge International and the Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) will jointly design and deliver the workshop. ADPC will also co-facilitate workshop sessions, support with the venue and assist in the preparation of the final report.

HelpAge (Regional office and London team) will develop the sessions on HOPE and CCA and facilitate the sessions.

Participants:

HelpAge affiliates and partners in the region, ASEAN Partnership Group, relevant UN agencies, relevant government agencies in the ASEAN countries and local CSO's in Thailand and Japan.

Cost of participation:

Local cost in Bangkok for accommodation and food during the workshop will be covered by HelpAge. Unfortunately we are unable to cover international travel cost. More information regarding the venue and the workshop will be sent in due course of time.

Tentative schedule

Sunday, 14 October 2012

All International participants' arrive in Bangkok

16:00-19:00 Registration and informal get-together, followed by dinner

Day 1: Monday, 15 October 2012

08.30 – 09.00 Registration for local participants

09.00 – 10.00 Opening ceremony

- Welcome address by HelpAge
- Opening address by ADPC
- Keynote address by Japan Foundation
- Special address by UNESCAP

10.00 – 10.30 Tea/coffee break

10.30 – 10.45 Participants introductions
Workshop objectives
Logistics

10.45 – 12.00 Disaster risks to the ASEAN region: Lessons for the future
ADPC

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 15.00 Disasters and the vulnerability of older people - HelpAge

15.00 – 15.15 Tea/coffee

15.15 - 16.15 Great Easter earthquake and Tsunami and other major disasters in Japan (speaker to be confirmed)

16.15 – 17.00 Open discussion on the day's sessions

Day 2: Tuesday, 16 October 2012

09.00 – 10.30 Older people and disasters: Sharing of lessons learned

- Japan (YMCA)
- Thailand
- Philippines

10.30 – 10.45	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
10.45 – 12.00	Sharing of lessons learned continued <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Myanmar• Vietnam• Cambodia
12.00 – 13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
13.00 – 14.30	Role of older people and Older People's Organisations in CBDRR: How they add value
14.30 – 15.00	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
15.00 – 16.00	Report of the study of the Great Eastern disaster in Japan College of Nursing, Japan Red Cross
16.00 – 17.00	Open discussion of the day's sessions

Day 3: Wednesday, 17 October 2012

09.00 – 10.30	Elements of national and local DRR plans and opportunities for including older people (HelpAge and ADPC)
10.30 – 10.45	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
10.45 – 12.00	Overview of AADMER implementation and civil society participation in ASEAN (APG) Elements of national and local DRR plans and opportunities for including older people (HelpAge)
12.00 – 13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
13.00 – 15.00	Developing action points
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
15.15 – 16.30	DRR Workshop evaluation and conclusions

Day 4: Thursday, 18 October 2012

09:00– 10.15	Climate risk in the South East Asia Region (ADPC) Current, upcoming and long term climate change issues in the region understanding the uncertainty and application, need for scientific, NGO, technical collaborations – Climate Smart DRR programming
10.15 – 10.30	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
10.30 – 12.00	Older people and Climate impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The vulnerability nexus of an ageing world under increasing environmental and climatic risk• Health – Infectious diseases and NCD's• Migration and protecting older people's rights and wellbeing

- Natural disaster
- Conflict and resource disputes
- The potential role of a social pension as a cash transfer mechanisms for Green and climate funds
- How do we build an evidence base to get policy traction

12.00 – 13.00

Lunch

13.00 – 15.00

Climate Change, food security and older farmers – Climate smart agriculture

15.00 – 15.15

Tea/coffee break

15.15 – 16:15

Older peoples contribution to Climate resilience
Knowledge gaps in the science – OP hubs of local environmental system and change knowledge – the need for documentation

Using older peoples groups to monitor the climate and local environment - examples of verifying flood models with older people, installing rain gauges, flora and fauna mapping and diaries, tracking river level variations

16:15 – 17:00

Open discussion – what have you taken away from today, what initiatives do you now want to take forward on older people and climate change

Day 5: Friday, 19 October 2012

Helping Older People in Emergencies (HOPE)

08.30 – 09.00

Registration and refreshments

09.00 – 09.50

Welcome and Introductions

09.50 - 10.45

Introduction to Ageing

10.45 – 11.00

Tea/Coffee Break

11.00 – 11.40

Legal frameworks, policy and demographic shift

11.40 – 12.30

Needs and capacities of older people in a humanitarian crisis

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch

11.30 – 14.15

Gaps in global humanitarian practice

14.15 – 15.15

Integrating older people in humanitarian programming

15.15 – 15.30

Tea/ Coffee Break

15.30 – 16.45

Making it happen - integrating older people in your organisational response

16.45 – 17.15

Closing session

Day 6: Saturday, 20 October 2012

Departure