

# Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme

The **Asia Pacific** is the most disaster prone region of the world. Between 2004 and 2013, more than **40% of natural disasters** occurred in the Asia-Pacific region. In the last ten years, **80% of deaths due to disasters** happened in Asia and the Pacific (ADB). By 2025, seven of the world's top ten mega-cities will be in Asia. Rabid urbanization and **climate change** have led to more frequent and recurring disasters with greater impact. (McKinsey & Co.)

RSIS established the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme on 21 July 2015 to facilitate and enhance cooperation on preparedness and response strategies to the fragile and unpredictable situations we face in the Asia-Pacific.

Aside from comprehensively investigating regional emergency response frameworks, governance issues, disaster preparedness strategies and the identification and development of response niches for civilian and military actors, the programme also seeks to develop the next generation of global leaders in HADR through roundtable sessions, dialogues and workshops.

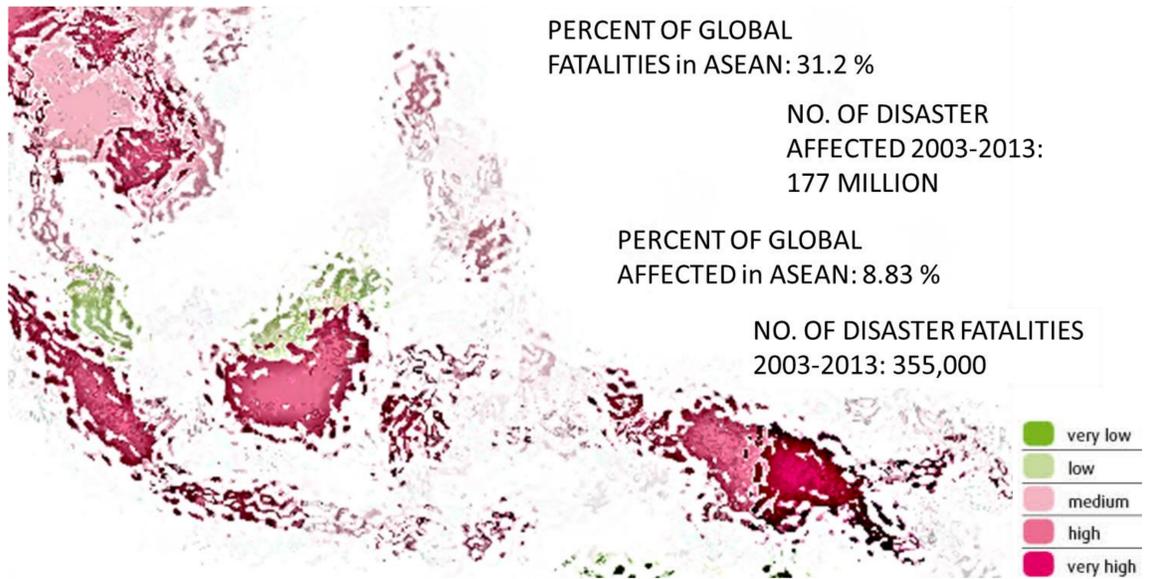
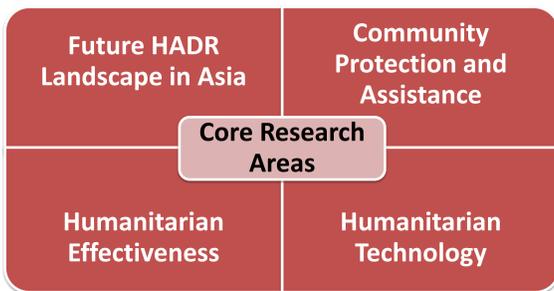


Foreign military forces assisted the Philippine government's relief efforts in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan in 2013.



Typhoon Haiyan killed at least 7,000 people and flattened many impoverished communities, triggering massive international humanitarian relief operations in the Philippines in 2013.

## Natural Disasters: Humanitarian Response in ASEAN



### Key Mechanisms:

- ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER)
- ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre)
- ASEAN Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercises (ARDEX)
- Emergency Rapid Assessment Team (ERAT)
- Changi Regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Coordination Centre
- Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN

## Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief



### Myanmar Flood 2015

Heavy rains have caused floods and landslides in several parts of the country during the last two weeks of July. Cyclone Komen, that made landfall in Bangladesh on 30 July, has brought strong winds, heavy rains resulting in floods and landslides in several states and regions in Myanmar.



Photos of recent flood in Myanmar. The flood is regarded as one of the worst disasters in decades (Credit: [www.channelnewsasia.com](http://www.channelnewsasia.com), [www.flicker.com](http://www.flicker.com))

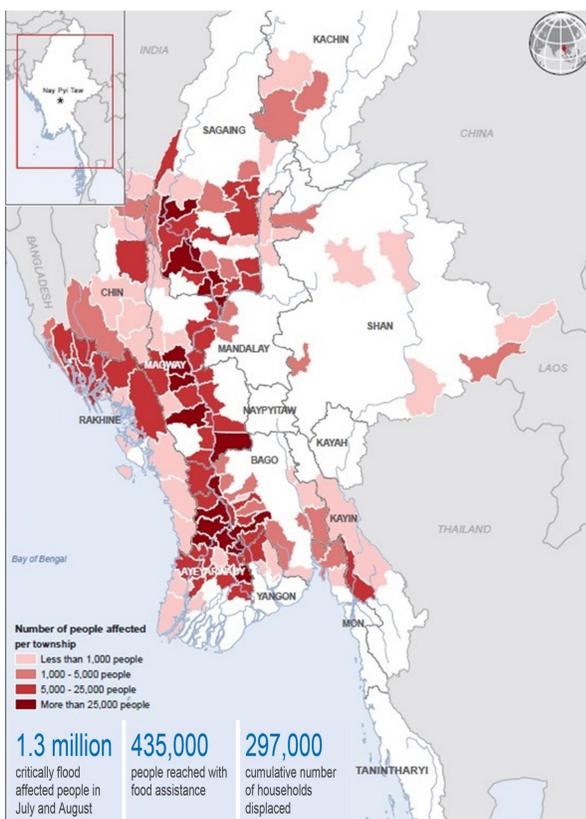


Figure 1. Number of people affected by recent flood in Myanmar  
Source: [www.unocha.org/myanmar](http://www.unocha.org/myanmar)