Since the NTS-Asia Consortium relaunch in February, much has been going on behind the scenes. Our membership figures now stand at 29 as we await confirmation from other organisations who were welcomed aboard after the relaunch.

Our new webmaster Joey has been working on the new website (sample home page is above) and we have also refreshed our logo to better reflect the dynamism of the Consortium, as well as the promise of myriad collaborations across the region. The newsletter that you are reading has been revamped to incorporate some of the suggestions raised during the brainstorming session.

In this issue we feature a young researcher from the NTS Centre at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, NTU, Julius Cesar Trajano and our Secretary-General, Mely Caballero-Anthony as our NTS expert, but we hope to garner more interviews and content from network members for future issues. These researcher profiles will also be uploaded onto the new website.

We are constantly on the lookout for news and information from member organisations and your regions, so do keep us informed of developments and opportunities so that we can help to publicise them to the rest of the network. Some great innovations and recent publications have been featured here and once the website is ready, real time updates will be possible.

We welcome your ideas, feedback and input and look forward to supporting joint efforts in research, networking and knowledge sharing. Do get in touch with either Margareth (ismsembiring@ntu.edu.sg), Serina (isserina@ntu.edu.sg) or Joey (issjoeyliang@ntu.edu.sg)
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

It has been a busy couple of months since the relaunch of the NTS-Asia Consortium. Now that we’ve re-established our commitment to the network and reconnected with everyone, it is time to get to work.

Here at the Secretariat, the team has been busy revamping the look and feel of our communication material and online presence. Thus far you have seen the revised logo, this newsletter and a sample of the exciting new website to come. We will keep you updated on the progress of this work in our monthly emails.

As members of the Consortium, we now need to advance and deepen our collaboration. Let us find ways to work together to generate new knowledge or share our unique approaches to NTS matters. It was clear during the meeting in February that there is a great desire to mentor and train young researchers. The Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Sri Lanka has taken the first step in creating a platform for online interaction between scholars at their new E-Multilogue. More information on this innovation can be found later on in this newsletter. This is a great example of how network members can come together to further mainstream NTS and get the conversation going.

I look forward to more news like this, as well as suggestions and opportunities to collaborate between members. The Secretariat will do its best to publicise and promote your upcoming events and programmes; we just need you to keep the information coming!

Warmest regards,
Mely Caballero-Anthony
Secretary-General
NTS-Asia Consortium Secretariat

MEET THE EXPERT  Mely Caballero-Anthony

Q: How have NTS issues evolved in the last 20 years?

A: Quite significantly. One notes that the concept NTS has become part of the security lexicon used by policy and academic communities, and have become an integral part in the work of many civil society groups within and outside Asia. NTS issues such as pandemics, transnational crimes, migration, food and energy security and others have also become major agendas in many regional and international multilateral meetings.
Q: In your opinion, what can NTS-Asia consortium members do to contribute to solving NTS issues?

A: The NTS-Asia Consortium presents a body of expertise that is useful in addressing many of the NTS challenges faced around the world. The Consortium brings together different experts coming from many regions in Asia who collaborate on research projects, share research findings including best practices and lessons learnt and help build capacity in understanding how NTS challenges affect the security and well-being of states and societies. The regular exchange and dialogue among Consortium members also helps to keep NTS on the policy agenda of governments and international and multilateral institutions that deal with issues of security, peace and development.


A: This book is purposely conceptual. It addresses some of the key questions often asked on what the concept of ‘non-traditional security’ means, how this is different from other concepts like ‘human security’ and ‘comprehensive security’, and what is a non-traditional security approach to security? The aim in writing this book is not only to advance the understanding of NTS issues found in many parts of the world. More significantly, by addressing the conceptual challenges, it hopes to contribute to the building of knowledge by mainstreaming non-traditional security as both an area of research and a field of study to broaden existing security studies.

YOUNG RESEARCHER PROFILE

Julius Cesar I. Trajano

I am an associate research fellow with the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU). I am originally from the Philippines. I came to Singapore in 2010 to pursue my MSc degree in Asian Studies and joined RSIS in 2012 as a senior analyst.

My research interests encompass both traditional and non-traditional security issues which include energy security, particularly nuclear energy governance; humanitarian assistance, territorial disputes in the South China Sea, ethnic conflicts and separatism in Southeast Asia; nationalism; and human rights and democratisation issues in Southeast Asia. My current research project is on nuclear energy cooperation in Southeast Asia. Most of my recent publications are on this issue and have been published in RSIS Commentaries, The Straits Times and other regional newspapers. I also recently co-authored a journal article that comprehensively discusses regional norms and challenges to nuclear energy governance in Southeast Asia. I have been participating in regional Track 2 meetings on energy security to contribute to regional discussions on nuclear energy governance.
REFLECTIONS

The need to examine nuclear energy cooperation in Southeast Asia
By Julius Cesar I. Trajano

As Vietnam is determined to commission the first nuclear power plant in Southeast Asia in the next decade; and Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia have been contemplating the utilisation of nuclear power; it is now timely to organise a research programme on nuclear safety. Being an international education hub, Singapore is well-positioned to facilitate regional as well as global discussions on nuclear safety. Being an international education hub, Singapore is well-positioned to facilitate regional as well as global discussions on nuclear safety. Being an international education hub, Singapore is well-positioned to facilitate regional as well as global discussions on nuclear safety. Being an international education hub, Singapore is well-positioned to facilitate regional as well as global discussions on nuclear safety.

In doing this research, I explore critical issues that will seriously affect regional cooperation on nuclear safety and emergency preparedness. Some of the critical issues include human resource development; safety regulatory framework; radiation environment monitoring; data exchange and information sharing; cooperation on early warning and notification system; and cross border arrangements and joint exercises, among others. As RSIS has been participating in the overall discussion on the post-2015 ASEAN Community, it is important for RSIS to contribute to the conversation on nuclear safety as this is a part of the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint 2025.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)**

Obayedul Hoque Patwary, Bangladesh – Myanmar Relations: The Security Dimension, BIPSS Focus
Click [here](#) to read more.

The Himalayan Challenge, Water Security in Emerging Asia
Click [here](#) to read more.

Click [here](#) to read more.

**ANM Muniruzzaman, Why South Asia can’t afford to be glacial in its response to climate change, Scroll. in, 31 May 2016.**
Click [here](#) to read more.

**Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS)**

RCSS Newsletter, March 2016, Issue No. 1

**Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unite (RMMRU)**

Click [here](#) to read more.

**Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP)**

Click [here](#) to read more.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Click [here](#) to read more.

**Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P)**

China and the Responsibility to Protect Vol.6.No 2.(2016)
Click [here](#) to read more.

Russia and the Responsibility to Protect Vol.6 No.1 (2016)
Click [here](#) to read more.

**Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)**


**The SMERU Research Institute**

### The National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS)


### The Asan Institute for Policy

Asan Korea Perspective Vol. 1 No. 10 (2016.05-09 – 05.22)

### WorldFish


### The Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS Philippines)

Aries Arugay, 2016, The Crises of Representation in the Philippines and the Role of Charter Change

### Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue


### Asian Research Center for Migration – Institute of Asian Studies (IAS), Chulalongkorn University


### Asia Human Community (AHC)

「人間の安全保障」に向けた東南アジアの現在と課題 （明石書店、2016年9月予定）
(Realizing ‘Human Security’ and Challenges in the Southeast Asia, Akashi Shoten, Sept. 2016)

### Asia Human Center for Non-Traditional Security and Peaceful Development Studies, Zhejiang University


### Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS), S. Rajarajatnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Mely Caballero-Anthony, Paul Teng, Jonatan Anderias Lassa, Tamara Nair, Maxim Shrestha, April 2016, Public Stockpiling of Rice in Asia Pacific, NTS Report No.3.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Margareth Sembiring, Climate change, disaster risk reduction and gender: The Southeast Asia experience, RSIS Commentary, 13 May 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesclaros and Mely Caballero-Anthony, Food Prices: A Double-edged Sword, RSIS Commentary, 16 May 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Celina Yulo Loyzaga, From Brazil to Singapore: Containing Zika in Southeast Asia, RSIS Commentary, 19 May 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Paul Teng, Andrew McConville, Agriculture and ASEAN Economies: Still Key for Growth, RSIS Commentary, 26 May 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Alistair D.B. Cook, World Humanitarian Summit: Meeting Expectations or Falling Short?, RSIS Commentary, 27 May 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

Tamara Nair, Why ASEAN’s Disaster Management Strategy must Include Gender, East Asia Forum article, 03 June 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.

### Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS, S. Rajarajatnam School of International Studies (RSIS))

Mely Caballero-Anthony, Paul Teng, Jonatan Anderias Lassa, Tamara Nair, Maxim Shrestha, April 2016, Public Stockpiling of Rice in Asia Pacific, NTS Report No.3.
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Click [here](#) to read more.

Tamara Nair, Why ASEAN’s Disaster Management Strategy must Include Gender, East Asia Forum article, 03 June 2016.
Click [here](#) to read more.
PAST EVENT SUMMARIES

Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P)

PUBLIC SEMINAR: Post-2015 Myanmar and Minority Protection under the NLD: Challenges and Opportunities
16 March 2016
Brisbane, Australia

The National League for Democracy (NLD) took over the reins of government in Myanmar on 1 February 2016 after a landslide election victory in November last year (Read the NLD Election Manifesto). Notwithstanding the euphoria over the NLD’s victory in Myanmar, a number of issues continue to pose major challenges to the country’s long-term peace and development. This includes the protection of minority ethnic groups who remain vulnerable to attacks by the military in the absence of any durable ceasefire or peace agreement. The protection of the stateless Rohingyas is another problem that the NLD government has to address. These issues, among others, could make or unmake the democratic transition in Myanmar under the NLD. What then are the prospects and opportunities for Myanmar peace and development under the NLD in the short- to medium-term? What can ASEAN and its member states do to assist Myanmar in building the capacity to ensure the protection of minority groups in the country, including the stateless Rohingyas? What role can Australia and the international community play in helping the NLD government in addressing human protection issues in the country and in managing risk factors for atrocity crimes?

WORKSHOP AND SEMINAR: R2P and Atrocities Prevention in Malaysia
15 April 2016
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (APR2P), co-hosted the Seminar on the Responsibility to Protect and Atrocities Prevention in Kuala Lumpur. The purpose of the seminar was to explore the opportunities and enabling factors that will help strengthen the capacity of Malaysia to prevent and respond to risk factors related to mass atrocity crimes. Through the discussion, ideas were exchange between 30-40 selected participants from government agencies, academia, think tanks, civil society organisations, international organisations and special interest groups.

Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)

President of BIPSS attended The Policy Dialogue on “Paris and Beyond- The State of Climate Change Diplomacy”

The President of BIPSS, Major General A N M Muniruzzaman, ndc, psc (Retd) attended The Policy Dialogue on “Paris and Beyond- The State of Climate Change Diplomacy” in Seoul, Korea. The dialogue was attended by senior diplomats, policy makers and experts from many countries. General Muniruzzaman is also the Chairman of ‘Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC)’ and presented a paper at the dialogue titled “Road to Paris: The Diplomatic Angle of Understanding Climate Security.”

President of BIPSS attended the conference on ‘Proportionate Response to the Risk of Climate Change’

The President of BIPSS, Major General A N M Muniruzzaman, ndc, psc (Retd) attended the conference on ‘Proportionate Response to the Risk of Climate Change’ at the invitation of Sir David King, United Kingdom (UK) Foreign Secretary’s Special Representative on Climate Change, organized by UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). The conference held at the Lancaster house in London brought together senior policy makers and experts on the subject. General Muniruzzaman also spoke at the conference on “The Role of Leadership in Climate Change Management”, the session was chaired by Rt Hon Baroness Anelay, Minister of State, UK foreign and Commonwealth Office. General Muniruzzaman is also the Chairman of ‘Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC)’
and presented a paper at the dialogue titled “Road to Paris: The Diplomatic Angle of Understanding Climate Security.”

**BIPSS Attends Roundtable at IDSA**

On 09 April, a BIPSS delegation spoke at a roundtable organised by the South Asia Centre at the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, India’s premier security and foreign policy think tank. The roundtable was moderated by Brigadier Rumel Dahiya [Retd] Deputy Director General of IDSA. The roundtable focused on issues related to Indo-Bangladesh Relations and the Threat of Terrorism and Extremism in the region. The event was attended by scholars from IDSA, senior serving and retired officials of the Government of India, representatives of the international community in New Delhi and former ambassadors.

**Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unite (RMMRU)**

**Dissemination Workshop on Gendered Practices of Remittance Use: Implications for Human Resource and Youth Development**

Organised By: RMMRU
Supported By: UKAid
31 January 2016

A dissemination workshop titled “Gender Practices of Remittance Use: Implication for Human Resource and Youth Development” was organised by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) on Sunday, 31 January 2016 at the Conference Room, Senate Bhaban, University of Dhaka. The workshop was attended by academia, representatives from government, NGOs, media and civil society organizations. In the first two sessions, researchers - Dr. Syeda Rozana Rashid, Associate Professor, University of Dhaka and Dr. Jalal Uddin Sikder of University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), presented their findings on gender dynamics of intra-household decision making regarding remittance use and their impacts on youth aspirations and human resource development. Professor Tasneem Siddique, founding chair of RMMRU and Professor in Political Science, University of Dhaka synthesised the research findings. She stressed on the need for adopting policies to mainstream vocational education within the formal education system so as to produce skilled youths for job markets at home and abroad. Participants in the workshop also discussed the importance of campaigning for female education and career development and female labour migration. The study was funded by the DFID.

**Training workshop for Household Listing of Origin Area Survey**

Supported By: BUET
Organized By: RMMRU
Venue: Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, University of Dhaka
24 February 2016

We are pleased to inform that RMMRU has successfully completed the day long training workshop on Household Listing of Origin Area in collaboration with BUET, BIDS and JJS that was held on 24th February 2016 at Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, University of Dhaka. The training programme was organized under DECCMA project. DECCMA is a research project which explores migration and climate change adaptation in delta regions in Ghana, Bangladesh and India. The research will conduct a household survey on adaptation and migration in coastal areas of all three regions to understand how households in those areas are affected by environmental changes, how the household manages environmental stresses, whether households engages in migration and what influences does migration has in households’ adaptation process. Prof. Dr. Munsur Rahman of IWFM, BUET; Prof. Dr. C R Abrar, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, RMMRU; Prof. Dr. Tasneem Siddiqui, University of Dhaka and Chair, RMMRU; Dr. Anwara Begum, Senior Research Fellow of BIDS, Dr. A K M Nabiul Islam, former Senior Research Fellow BIDS; Mr. Mohammad Rashed Alam Bhuiyan, Lecturer, University of Dhaka; Mr. Anisur Rahman Majumdar, Bangladesh Country Coordinator of DECCMA Project and Mr. Md. Jakir Hossain, Executive Director of JJS attended the workshop and contributed as trainers in distinctive sessions. The workshop primarily dealt with household listing methodology in selected Mouzas of the sampled origin areas. The number of participants including enumerators was sixty five.

**Public Hearing on Cost of Migration**

Thursday, 2 June 2016
Dhaka, Bangladesh

The main aim of this programme was to communicate the migrant’s voice to the global and national organisers of GFMD which will take place in December. In this public hearing, migrant workers will be providing testimonies on the costs (economic and social) that they incurred for migrating and benefits that they received.

**Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP)**

**Breaking the Silence: Issues of Gender and Equality in India**

3-4 May 2016
Faridabad, India

Drawing on the popularity of the film HE NAMED ME MALALA and integrating its screening with discussions, WISCOMP organized capacity building workshops for the students and faculty members of Manav Rachna International University (MRIU, Faridabad) on May 3-4, 2016. How does one create a gender sensitive environment? What are the principles that guide us? Why is it critical for young adults at universities to develop capacities to achieve these objectives? How does one ensure women and girls’ equal access to educational rights? These are some of the questions that WISCOMP’s gender equality and equity initiative ‘The Medium is Message: Together Against the Violence of Gender Exclusion’ raised in its interventions with the students and faculty of MRIU spanning over 2 days. The aim was to create collaborative spaces to bring together diverse groups of stakeholders…
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Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIIS)

Li Dongyan invited to attend luncheon at the residence of Swiss Ambassador in Beijing
13 May 2016
Senior Fellow Li Dongyan of International Politics Theory Division was invited to attend a luncheon at the residence of the Swiss Ambassador Jean Jacques de-Bardel in Beijing. Attendants, including UN Expert Mirjana Spoljaric from the United Nations and International Organizations Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, exchange views on China’s role in UN affairs, among other issues.

Huang Wei and Zhu Dandan meet with a researcher from Institute of East Asian Studies of Thammasat University, Thailand
12 May 2016
The Head of the Global Governance Division and Research Fellow Huang Wei and Dr. Zhu Dandan met with Researcher Chayapat Wareenil from the Institute of East Asian Studies of Thammasat University, Thailand, to exchange views on “Belt and Road Initiative” and other issues.

Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong

Public Lecture on ‘A Costly Order: Labour Migration, Commercial Intermediaries and Social Reordering in China’
14 April 2016
Hong Kong University, Hong Kong

Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS)

Workshop: History as a Political Category
18-19 April 2016
Delhi, India

A workshop on ‘History as a Political Category’ was held on 18-19 April 2016 at CSDS. The workshop was jointly organized by CSDS and the M.S Merian International Centre of Advanced Studies ‘Metamorphoses of the Political’ (ICAS:MP), Delhi.

Optimizing Indonesia’s Energy Resources Using Digital Technology
30 March 2016
Jakarta, Indonesia

The Asan Institute for Policy Studies

Roundtable with Threat Reduction Advisory Committee
17 May 2016
Seoul

On May 17th, 2016, the Asan Institute for Policy Studies hosted a closed roundtable with the Threat Reduction Advisory Committee (TRAC). Key issues discussed included the intersection of China with security issues in Korea and Chinese intervention in an event of crisis or conflict on the Korean peninsula. The comparative cases of North Korea and Iran were also raised with regards to security and nuclear nonproliferation concerns.

The Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS Philippines)

Forum on Electoral Contests Resolution in India and the Philippines
13 April 2016
Manila, the Philippines

The National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS)

MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF CHINA’S RISE: A NEW AGENDA FOR THE JAPAN-U.S. ALLIANCE
7 MARCH 2016
Tokyo, Japan

Ho Chi Minh City Peace and Development Foundation (HPDF)

Conference on Sustainable Uses of the Mekong Water Resources
22-23 April 2016
Gan Tho City, Vietnam

Ilmin International Relations Studies

The Role of the United Nations for Korean Unification
7 June 2016
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIIS)

National Consultation on “Preventing Violent Extremism through Community Engagement”
19 April 2016

Seminar on Engaging the Ethnic Minorities in National Development: Way Forward
04 May 2016

The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC)

Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016
22-26 February 2016
Clark Freeport Zone, the Philippines