



Photo Credit: Carsten ten Brink via flickr.com under creative commons license

LATEST NEWS

Global plastic waste problems came under spotlight in the last couple of years. A report by Ocean Conservancy released in 2015 that shows 8 million metric tons of plastic litter entering the ocean annually has caused a stir in the global community and resulted in numerous multilateral discussions aimed at addressing the issue.

In Southeast Asia, plastic waste conundrum has gained a renewed interest this year especially in relation to two high profile cases involving garbage-filled containers at the ports of the Philippines and Malaysia. After close to four years of dispute, in late May 2019 the Philippines was finally able to ship sixty-nine trash containers that were mixed with unrecyclable waste back to Canada. Similarly, upon finding unwanted materials mixed together with imported recyclables, Malaysia planned to return containers of garbage back to where they came from.

China's ban on plastic waste import that took effect in 2018 is another source of concern for the region. The initiative has resulted in increasing volumes of plastic waste import to Thailand, Vietnam, and Malaysia that prompted these countries to respond with countermeasures to halt such import.

The recently concluded G20 meeting and ASEAN Summit clearly highlighted the urgency to find solutions to these problems. The need for innovation and investment are common themes reflected in the declarations following the high-level meetings. Interestingly, these are also the general thrust of the global solutions to climate change.

In developing nations, innovation and investment often mean dependence on donors and developed countries. Does this then imply that, even in the face of common challenges, developing countries will continue to remain at the receiving end of the force of capitalism? This could probably serve as food for thought as we continue our good work in the sphere of non-traditional security issues.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management
20-21 August 2019 | Singapore

RSIS-GCSP Crisis Management Course
14-18 October 2019 | Singapore

RSIS-IAEA Faculty Professional Development Course on Nuclear Security
21-25 October 2019 | Singapore

Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)

The Digital Revolution : Understanding the Impact of Digitalisation
02-03 September 2019 | Bangladesh

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT



We feel greatly heartened by your enthusiasm and congeniality at the last NTS-Asia annual convention held in March 2019 in Singapore. Adopting the theme of Bringing Back Multilateral Cooperation in NTS Governance, the meeting was a success with many of you coming forward with topics to present at various panel sessions.

Following the conference, we have come up with a policy brief that we have earlier sent you by email, which can also be found [here](#). I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the points mentioned in the document. First, on the issue of irregular and forced migration, states should consider mainstreaming migration into national development initiatives, synergising frameworks on migration and humanitarian assistance, enhancing public-private partnerships, working with civil society groups, and empowering migrants and diaspora communities. Second, on the

issue of income inequality, more efforts should be made to mainstream capacity-building assistance and human resource development in regional and national economic development agenda. This is especially urgent in the face of current technological wave that may cause greater displacement of labour, and increasing economic inequalities between classes and gender that can exacerbate existing discriminatory practices. Third, on the issue of sustainable development and environmental protection, there is a need to promote greater public awareness through the principles of circular economy. Fourth, on identity politics, pluralism and cohesive societies, Asian countries can foster stronger dialogues to share about national experiences, lessons learnt, and policies for social cohesiveness. Last but not least, on digitalisation and relevant security concerns, a holistic regional cyber security strategy for countering online radicalisation and terrorist operations

In this issue

- 1 LATEST NEWS
- 2 UPCOMING EVENTS
- 3 MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- 4 RESEARCHER PROFILE
- 5 REFLECTIONS
- 6 RECENT PUBLICATIONS
- 7 PAST EVENT SUMMARIES

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Mely Caballero-Anthony and Margareth Sembiring
Designed by Joey Liang

needs to be developed.

In this Newsletter, we are pleased to feature the Executive Director of Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) Ambassador Pou Southirak who shares his insightful perspective on peace, harmony, and development for peaceful coexistence in Myanmar. We also have Ms. Charadine Pich, a Senior Research Fellow at the CICP, who writes about economic disparity and the need for inclusivity in Cambodia.

As always, you may update the Secretariat on news and events, nominate your resident researchers, or send in suggestions, by writing to Margareth Sembiring (ismsembiring@ntu.edu.sg) or Joey Liang (isjoeyliang@ntu.edu.sg).

Warmest regards,
Mely Caballero-Anthony
Secretary-General

Researcher Profile

PICH Charadine

Ms. PICH Charadine is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Global Center for Mekong Studies (GCMS) at the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP). She has also served as adjunct lecturer of ASEAN studies in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Paragon International University,

Cambodia, where she taught a course on ASEAN in the regional and global context and led the 1st ASEAN Regional Forum Simulation. She had been working with several non-government organizations and had also jointly conducted numerous research projects, prior to her current affiliation.



Ms. Pich obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations with High Honors from Zaman University (Cambodia) and holds a Master of Arts in Dialogue Studies (focused political dialogue) with Merit from Keele University

(United Kingdom). She has written on various issues concerning Cambodia's political development and its subsequent foreign policy implications. Her focus is on Mekong sub-regional development, Sino-Cambodian relations (particularly political

economy dilemma, foreign aid diplomacy, and economic statecraft), ASEAN-China relations, Cambodia's politics and foreign relations, among others.

REFLECTIONS

Peace, Harmony, and Development for Peaceful Coexistence in Myanmar

By Ambassador Pou Sothirak
Executive Director of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace

Humanity still has not come to terms with the notion that mass atrocities must never re-occur and that all civilians must be genuinely protected from mass violence and conflict. Given recent events in Myanmar, we should seriously rethink our conceptualization of human security, which must transcend state sovereignty or territorial integrity to embrace firmly human well-being at all levels.

For peaceful coexistence to prevail, Myanmar should explore all options to determine an appropriate resolution to the root causes of the communal violence that have had severe ramifications upon tens of thousands of innocent Muslim civilians in the country.

First, there must be acknowledgement that continued violence is being committed against the Rohingya community. This outbreak of violence prompted large scale migration of Rohingya refugees escaping into Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand to find protection. All sides must work towards the most appropriate response and resolution to end this refugee crisis. Cooperation between the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh governments, with assistance from the international community, is an essential step. Collaboration by both states is needed to end the crisis by resolving their differences over refugee repatriation arrangements and building trust between the two governments and their respective security forces.

Second, ASEAN should not remain idle amidst this glaring human suffering within its boundaries. The grouping must explore its own role and responsibilities here. Despite claims by the government of Myanmar that resolving the Rakhine situation is a purely domestic issue, ASEAN should know that this crisis is affecting the peace and security of neighboring states. ASEAN needs to put aside its



Photo Credit: Kachinland News

entrenched 'non-interference' policy, since the Rohingya crisis is not merely an internal matter of Myanmar, rather a cross-border issue requiring due attention and action. However, ASEAN needs to be sensible not to further complicate the issue but to capitalize on the 'ASEAN Way' to constructively engage with Myanmar.

Third, the international community could do more to secure conditions for peaceful coexistence and development" This should include a deeper commitment to humanitarian needs and human rights protection in Myanmar. The UN should work to persuade the Myanmar government to permit increased international humanitarian assistance to the affected Rohingya population by international organizations. Stronger engagement by UNHCR, ICRC and other entities are needed to ensure a sustainable solution to the Rakhine crisis.

Fourth, the United Nations "Responsibility to Protect" (R2P) adopted at the World Summit in 2005 should be deployed here. Myanmar should take upon itself the responsibility to protect its population against mass atrocities.

It is in Myanmar's best interest to demonstrate a willingness to cooperate with the international community in

addressing these challenges, with ASEAN and the United Nations taking the lead in engaging with the government of Myanmar to bring about a sustainable solution to end this tragic humanitarian crisis and to foster the peaceful co-existence among all mankind through actions that promote peace, harmony and development.

REFLECTIONS

Cambodia's Economic Disparity Gap: The Road toward a more Social Inclusivity

By PICH Charadine

Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP)



Photo Credit: Asia Dialogue

Since Cambodia has got its own feet on the ground after decades-long of civil war and social turmoil, the Government has attained the annual economic growth rate of 7% on average, making the country one of the fastest growing economy in the world for the past two decades or so. With the stable political climate after 1998, we have witnessed a surge of FDI inflow to the country which further elevate the development prospect. This positive trend is projected to continue, though, there are downsides to this prosperity at large. Despite the government's commitment to achieve the poverty alleviation rate of 1% annually, approximately 4.5 million people remain near-poor and as such being vulnerable of falling back into poverty when exposed to economic and other external shocks, according to the World Bank Report.

Major key factors that facilitate the steady economic growth rate in Cambodia include the rise of FDI in the manufacturing industries (especially garment sector), improved access to economic and social infrastructure, as well as a significant boost of disposable income. Cambodia has also got preferential trade agreements with many development partners such as the US' GSP (Generalized System of Preferences) and the Europe Union's EBA (Everything-But-Arms) scheme that help enhancing the country's economic interdependency and uplifting our competitive advantage over the years.

Alongside with the looming real estate and property booms across different parts of the country, Cambodia still faces

a number of development challenges including the need for good quality public services, sound business and investment environment, better land administration (particularly on the recent outbreak of Economic Land Concessions – ELCs), the improvement of natural resources management, environmental sustainability, good governance and social accountability. There is also a persisting concern on the restraints of opportunity toward having access to basic health and education sectors that has and would create a vicious circle of the so-called "poverty traps".

Moving forward, the success of addressing these challenges will rest not only on maintaining macroeconomic stability and increasing economic diversification and the export competitiveness, but also on improving the quality of public service delivery through more effective public spending that is more responsive to citizens' needs. Health and education sectors remain both important challenges and development priorities for Cambodia of which the Government has made significant progress as regards to its reform policies over the year. One should also put high emphasis on the aspect of "Development for All" rather than focusing on short-term gain at the expense of long-term social stigma and the subsequent socioeconomic impacts, especially toward the vulnerable poor. The Government should also consider shifting the construction booms, which is signified an over demand at the moment, to more prioritized areas needed for immediate development goals. Infrastructure deficit is yet another key development challenge

limiting Cambodia from being part of a wider regional and global value and supply chains.

With the aspiration to become an upper-middle income country by 2030 and high-income country by 2050, the Cambodian government must pay closer attention to FDI diversification and embracing proactive diplomacy to avoid the "Thucydides Trap", i.e. being perceived as having a patron-client relationship with one country over the other, and that would yield negative impacts concerning the Kingdom's middle to long terms growth and development. GDP growth should not be the sole indicator to evaluate the overall social well-being of the people.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The SMERU Research Institute

What Skills Lead to Entrepreneurial Success? Evidence from Non-Farm-Household Enterprises in Indonesia, Newsletter, June 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

SMERU Brochure, Newsletter, May 2019



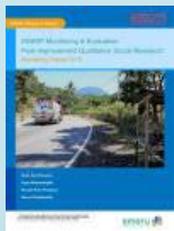
Click [here](#) to read more.

Improving Cognitive Skills for Entrepreneurial Productivity and Growth in Indonesia, Briefs, April 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

EINRIP Monitoring & Evaluation Post Improvement Qualitative Social Research: Monitoring Report 2018, Research Report, March 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Institute of Strategic & International Studies, Malaysia (ISIS)

ASEAN FutureForward Anticipating the Next 50 Years, Book, 12 June 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

ISIS Focus 1/2019 No. 9, Editorial Letter, 08 May 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

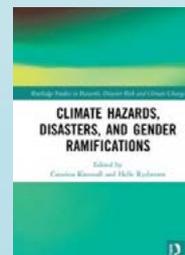
I India in APEC: Views from the Indo-Pacific A Malaysian perspective, 06 May 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific Affairs, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University (ANU)

Gender Responsive Alternatives on Climate Change from a Feminist Standpoint, Book chapter, 2019



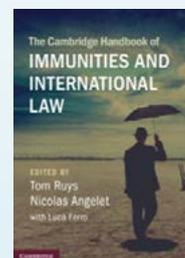
Click [here](#) to read more.

Intersectionality, Transitional Justice, and the Case of Internally Displaced Moro Women in the Philippines, Journal article, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place – Immunities of the United Nations and Human Rights, Book chapter, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Emerging Non-Nuclear Technology and the Future of the Global Nuclear Order, Book chapter, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

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

Christopher Chen, Humanitarian Technology: Taking the 'Human' out of Humanitarianism?, Commentaries, 05 August 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Alistair D. B. Cook, Foo Yen Ne, PNG Seeks to Re-Engage Southeast Asia: Role of Disaster Preparedness, Commentaries, 18 July 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin July 2019, Newsletter, 18 July 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Lina Gong, Combating Marine Debris: What After the Bangkok Declaration?, Commentaries, 08 July 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Margareth Sembiring, Global Waste Trade Chaos: Rising Environmentalism or Cost-Benefit Analysis?, NTS Insight, 01 July 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Lina Gong, Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Tackling East Asia's New Environmental Challenge – Marine Plastic Pollution, Policy Reports, 20 June 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin July 2019, Newsletter, 19 June 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Advancing Non-Traditional Security Governance through Multi-stakeholder Collaboration, Policy Reports, 20 June 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Martin Searle, Striking a Balance: Centralising and Decentralising Disaster Management through New Technologies, Policy Reports, 06 June 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Martin Searle, Striking a Balance: Short- and Longer-Term Interests of People Receiving Aid, Policy Reports, 03 June 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin May 2019, Newsletter, 21 May 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Sofiah Suaad Binte Mohamed Jamil, Environmental Awareness: Alternative Strategies Beyond Symbolism, Commentaries, 08 May 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Tavida Kamolvej, Disaster Management: Can ASEAN Be a Global Leader?, Commentaries, 08 May 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin April 2019, Newsletter, 22 April 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Paul Teng, Jose Ma. Luis P. Montesclaros, Singapore's '30 by 30' Strategy: Can Food Self-Production Be Achieved?, Commentaries, 25 March 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

NTS Bulletin April 2019, Newsletter, 19 March 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Catherine Bragg, International Humanitarian Assistance: What Must Change, Commentaries, 11 March 2019

Click [here](#) to read more.

Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Resource Sharing and Joint Development in the South China Sea: Exploring Avenues of Cooperation, NTS Insight, 11 March 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

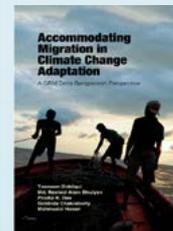
NTS Bulletin February 2019, Newsletter, 20 February 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, Bangladesh (RMMRU)

Accommodating Migration in Climate Change Adaptation, Book, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Dynamics of Decentralisation Migration Services Under Spotlight, Book, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

Impact of Migration on Poverty and Growth in Bangladesh, Book, 2019



Click [here](#) to read more.

PAST EVENT SUMMARIES

Bangladesh Institute of Peace & Security Studies (BIPSS)

President BIPSS Maj Gen Muniruzzaman (Retd) and Mr Shafqat Munir Head of BCTR, attended the Bangladesh - Myanmar Track 1.5 Dialogue in Singapore.



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) and Mr Shafqat Munir Head of BCTR and Research Fellow, BIPSS attended the Bangladesh - Myanmar Track 1.5 Dialogue in Singapore last week. This was the seventh round of this important dialogue process between the two countries. It touched on major issues related to the on going Rohingya crisis and stressed on the urgent need for speedy repatriation of the Rohingya refugees.

BIPSS Delegation Visited the Department of International Relations at Yangon University, Myanmar



During the recent visit to Myanmar for the Track 1.5 dialogue, the visiting BIPSS delegation also visited the Department of International Relations at Yangon University. During the visit, President BIPSS and members of the delegation took part in a lively interaction with the Chairperson and faculty members of the department on current strategic issues facing the Indo-Pacific region. The BIPSS delegation subsequently visited the interfaith dialogue Myanmar, a NGO which works on promotion of interfaith harmony. During both meetings the BIPSS delegation emphasised on the importance of the early and safe return of all Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh. The delegation

also visited the Embassy of Bangladesh and called on the Ambassador.

In addition to the official visits, the BIPSS delegation also visited several famous historic sites including the Mausoleum of Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar II and Taukkyan Commonwealth War Cemetery.

A Delegation From BIPSS Led by President, BIPSS, Maj Gen A N M Muniruzzaman, Ndc, Psc (Retd) Visited Myanmar



A delegation from BIPSS led by President, BIPSS, Major General A N M Muniruzzaman, ndc, psc (Retd) visited Myanmar recently as part of an ongoing Track 1.5 initiative with Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS). During the visit, BIPSS delegation took part in a bilateral think tank dialogue with MISIS. As part of the dialogue, various issues of mutual concern were discussed. Both sides also shared their perspectives on Indo-Pacific strategy, BRI and other key strategic issues of the day.

The two institutes also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to further enhance their institutional collaboration. The BIPSS delegation also took part in meetings and briefings at Nay Pyi Taw. It may be mentioned that the ongoing Track 1.5 initiative includes regular consultations between MISIS and several top tier think tanks in Bangladesh.

BIPSS Conducted a Roundtable Titled 'The Emerging Role of China in South Asia'.

BIPSS conducted a roundtable titled 'The Emerging Role of China in South Asia'. Eminent experts on foreign policy, journalists and members of the academia were present in the roundtable.

Participants of the roundtable discussed different aspects of China's role in South Asia with the emergence of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). They also touched upon trends that will change the destiny of people south and south-east Asia in the years to come.



President BIPSS Delivers Keynote Address at China-South Asia Forum



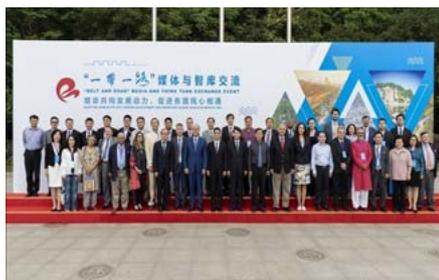
President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) was invited to give a Keynote address at the 7th China - South and South East Asia Think Tank Forum in Kunming last week. The annual Forum brings together leading think tanks and policy makers from the region. General Muniruzzaman's Keynote address to the Forum was titled "China and South Asia: People-to-People Connectivity for Common Destiny" where he stressed on the people to people bond between China and South Asia with particular emphasis on Bangladesh.

President BIPSS Maj Gen Muniruzzaman (Retd) Attended the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilisations (CDAC) in Beijing.

President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) attended the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilisations (CDAC) in Beijing last week. Hosted by the Government of PRC, the Conference was inaugurated and addressed by President Xi Jinping and

was attended by all Asian countries. In his speech the Chinese President called for greater cooperation and harmony amongst the rich culture and history of countries in Asia. The conference ended with a spectacular display of Asian music and culture at the Olympic stadium.

General Muniruzzaman then attended and spoke at the Conference on BRI for Exchange Between Think Tank and the Media in Nanjing. It may also be mentioned that BIPSS is founding member of the newly launched Belt and Road Studies Network (BRSN) that brings together selected major think tanks in BRI countries.



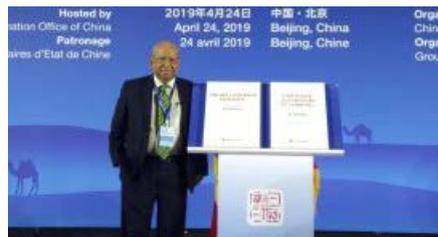
Mr. Shafqat Munir, Head of BCTR and Research Fellow BIPSS Recently Visited Germany As Part of a Delegation of the COSATT.



Mr. Shafqat Munir, Head of Bangladesh Centre for Terrorism Research (BCTR) and Research Fellow recently visited Germany as part of a delegation of the Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT). The delegation visit started with a conference on Indo Pacific vision at the Max Weber Institute for Sociology in Heidelberg University where Mr. Munir was also a speaker. Subsequently the delegation met senior officials in Berlin at the German federal parliament the Bundestag and the Federal Foreign Office. They also visited major German think tanks such as SWP and GIGA and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. During this visit Mr. Munir also spoke to DW TV on the threat of terrorism in South Asia.

It may be mentioned that BIPSS is one of the founder members of COSATT. Supported from its inception by the KAS, COSATT has emerged as one of the most pivotal epistemic communities in the South Asian region.

President BIPSS Maj Gen Muniruzzaman (Retd) Attended the Belt and Road Summit in Beijing, China.



President BIPSS Major General Muniruzzaman (Retd) attended the Belt and Road Summit in Beijing, China last week. This major summit was held at the five year mark of BRI. It was attended by more than 40 heads of state and governments, 150 country delegations and chiefs of all major international organisations like the UN, IMF and others. General Muniruzzaman also attended the Inaugural Meeting of the newly launched Belt and Road Studies Network (BRSN). BIPSS is one of the founding members of this important network that will provide policy inputs for the BRI work and process which has been termed as 'the project of the century'.

A Roundtable on 'The Security Implications of Climate Change' was Convened by BIPSS in Collaboration With The Daily Star



A roundtable on 'The Security Implications of Climate Change' was convened by BIPSS in collaboration with The Daily Star on 30th April, 2019. The roundtable included Major General ANM Muniruzzaman, ndc, psc (retd) president BIPSS and chairman of Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC) as the keynote presenter. The program included three discussants from academia, former government official and researcher who elaborated on various aspects of Climate change. Members of diplomatic missions, academia, eminent journalists and others were present in this roundtable.

The discussion of the roundtable also included an interactive question and answer session that provided rich insights, fresh thinking and new paradigms for understanding the security implications of Climate change for Bangladesh and

beyond. Throughout 2019, BIPSS will continue to analyse the security implication of climate change.

BIPSS Organised a Day Long Regional Conference on New Trends in Terrorism: Regional Cooperation to Meet the Challenges



BIPSS recently organised a day long Regional Conference on New Trends in Terrorism: Regional Cooperation to Meet the Challenges. Eminent foreign experts, members of law enforcement agencies, representatives from a number of foreign missions and scholars participated in the conference. There was a lively discussion between the speakers and participants. The High Commissioner of Canada in Bangladesh was the Chief Guest for the opening session. The conference was drawn to a close with the closing remarks of the President, BIPSS.

BIPSS Organised a Three Day National Workshop Titled 'Countering Violent Extremism (CVE): Building Resilience and Capacity' Under the Auspices of its Specialised Centre BCTR.



BIPSS organised a three day National Workshop titled 'Countering Violent Extremism (CVE): Building Resilience and Capacity' under the auspices of its specialised centre Bangladesh Centre for Terrorism Research (BCTR). The workshop had drawn experts from various disciplines. Stakeholders such as the members of the academia, media, think tanks, armed forces, paramilitary organisations and law enforcement agencies and the Islamic Foundation participated in the workshop. There was a lively discussion between the speakers and participants and policy recommendations were provided by the eminent experts in their chosen fields. The three day workshop was drawn to a close with the closing remarks from President,

Securitized Humanitarian Space? Interrogating NGO-Military Relations in the Bangsamoro (Philippines) Theatre

06 August 2019

Canberra, Australia

In the last decades, the non-government organization (NGO) community in the Bangsamoro area has diversified and thrived owing largely to humanitarian imperatives brought about by intermittent clashes between government troops and rebel groups. Institutional gains from the peace processes between the national government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and support from international donors provided further impetus, creating fertile ground for NGOs engaged in development projects and peacebuilding initiatives. The military, long deployed in theatre, has also shifted gear towards less kinetic action and more engagements with civilian actors, in line with its recalibration of internal security

strategies beginning 2010. Local NGO-military interface has taken on directions that require a rethink of the theoretical arguments about civil society role in exacting democratic civilian control of the armed forces (Croissant et al., 2010) and problematisation of the presumed divide between state (the military, as its agent) and civil society in a contested space (Bell et al., 2017; Ruffa and Vennesson, 2014).

The presentation outlines the nature and dynamics of localised NGO-military engagements in the Bangsamoro area drawing from previous works on the subject (Rood 2005; Toohey 2005; Medina 2016; Hall 2017) and from results of the ANU Philippines Project Collaborative Grant on the 2017 Marawi crisis. Local platforms and mechanisms are increasingly available for NGOs to work with and dialogue with co-located military units. Networks built amongst themselves and with partner-military units enabled NGOs to carry out activities. Heightened security threats,



however, constrict this political space, giving less premium for NGO participation and influence in decision making which matters to the communities they represent. In these situations, the military defaults to assert its authority as state security agent and takes on independent humanitarian provisioning themselves in conjunction with their mission. Despite their number and diversity, NGOs in the Bangsamoro area have not been able to act as effective civilian control apparatus to local military units. successful implementation of, the agenda, both at UNHQ and elsewhere.

Human Rights and Participatory Politics in Southeast Asia

05 August 2019

Canberra, Australia

There was a degree of optimism when in 2008 the leaders of Southeast Asian nations announced the creation of a regional human rights commission to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the peoples of Southeast Asia. The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission of Human Rights was established in 2009 with a mandate to uphold internationally recognised human rights standards in 'a regional context, bearing in mind national

and regional particularities and mutual respect for different historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, and taking into account the balance between rights and responsibilities.'

In this seminar, Dr Renshaw examines the human rights developments that have taken place in Southeast Asia since the signing of the ASEAN Charter in 2007. In doing so she addresses two issues which stand at the heart of human rights theory and practice. The first is whether and how human rights can be promoted and implemented in and among states that are not liberal democracies. The

second is whether regional human rights institutions have the potential to influence human rights practices in ways that global institutions cannot. These are issues which concern not only international human rights lawyers, but scholars and students of political science, international relations and global studies.

Migrant Worker Rights and Norm Contestation in Southeast Asia: Establishing Meaning-in-Use Through Social Interaction

7 June 2019

Canberra, Australia

This study starts from the puzzling observation that the norm of migrant worker protection has produced multiple understandings in both meaning and application in three Southeast Asian countries: Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. This variety is the result of an ongoing process of norm interpretation and reinterpretation in which norm promoters and norm adopters engage in complex

and recursive processes of deliberation and contention. Building on the recent debate advanced by critical norm research in IR, this talk presents a new theoretical model or "the norm contestation model" in capturing the effect and operation of norms. The model demonstrates that the diversity in the meaning of norms is a product of norm contestation where actors challenge the validity of claims on how migrant worker rights should be understood and protected. It encapsulates social interaction among involved actors in contesting what norms mean and how they ought to be applied in a particular context. Underlying these arguments, this presentation demonstrates the story of how migrant worker rights



norms have been (re)interpreted, contested and argued over in Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia.

Faith in Action: Understanding the Relationship Between Faith and Practice for Evangelical Humanitarian Organisations

07 June 2019

Canberra, Australia

The increased interest in the role of religious actors, ideas and practices in the International Relations (IR) discipline is a promising development of contemporary scholarship. Within the study of humanitarianism in particular, attention to the range of ways in which religion infuses action and meaning in the global space has raised important questions about how best to understand these interactions. However, slow movement away from secular framings of humanitarianism means that religious

actors remain under-conceptualised and poorly understood.

This talk advances this conceptualisation work by providing a novel theoretical framework to explore the relationship between identity and practice for faith-based humanitarian agencies.

This framework investigates the role of theological commitments in creating organisational orientations and frameworks of action that then interact constitutively with a prism of environmental factors in order to produce humanitarian practices that both reflect and diverge from broader mainstream responses. It then applies this framework to the humanitarian practices of three evangelical Christian NGOs as they



engaged with two humanitarian disasters in the Asia-Pacific – the Boxing Day tsunami in Aceh, and Cyclone Nargis in the Ayeyarwady delta region.

About the Speaker

Alana Moore is a PhD candidate in the Department of International Relations, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, ANU.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, Bangladesh.(RMMRU)

National Dissemination Workshop on Safe and Sustainable Cities: Human Securities, Migration and Well-being

13 March 2019

Dhaka



National Dissemination Workshop on Safe and Sustainable Cities: Human securities, Migration and Well-being held on 13th March 2019 at CIRDP International Conference Centre. The research seeks to explore ways of accommodating human security needs of climate change induced internal migrants for the creation of sustainable cities in line with SDG 11. The keynote address was given by Professor Neil Adger, of University of Exeter, UK. There were present policy makers, architects, city planners, academia, and the representative from NGOs in the workshop. At the inaugural session, Dr Md. Enamur Rahman, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, was present as the Chief Guest and Mr M. A. Mannan, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Planning has graced the programme as the Chief Guest at the concluding session. The programme was chaired by Prof. Tasneem Siddiqui, Founding Chair, RMMRU.

Study Findings Dissemination Workshop on Social Cost of Migration on Left-Behind Migrant Spouses and Children in Bangladesh

27 February 2019

Dhaka



A dissemination workshop was organised by Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) on 27th February 2019 at CIRDP International Conference Centre for sharing the study findings on Social Cost of Migration on Left-Behind Migrant Spouses and Children in Bangladesh. The objective of the research is to generate knowledge on the impact of internal and international migration on left behind family members, specifically the left behind children and spouses. The study also aims to help policymakers integrate the interest of left behind families in national planning as well as ensuring benefits of Sustainable Development Goals, 2030 to the members of migrant households. At the beginning of the workshop, Prof. Tasneem Siddiqui, Founding Chair, RMMRU presented the key findings of the study in front of policymakers, scholars, academia, the representatives of NGOs and the media. At the inaugural session, Mr. Md. Shahriar Alam, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs graced the programme as the Chief Guest and Mr. Israfil Alam,

MP, Chair, Bangladesh Parliamentary Caucus on Migration and Development as Guest of Honour. Moreover, Ms. Suzanne Mueller, Senior Adviser, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Dr. Ahmed Munir Saleheen, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment were present in the workshop as the Special Guests. The working session was divided into three parts in which the research findings on social costs of migration on left behind children, left behind wives and left behind husbands were presented sequentially and also discussed with the discussants as well as audiences.

Capacity Development Training of UDC Entrepreneurs and 333 call Centre Agents

Dhaka



RMMRU organized a capacity development training for UDC Entrepreneurs and 333 call centre agents with Access to Information (a2i). This is a collaborative initiative between RMMRU and a2i under access to safe migration information services at door steps through 333 and digital centre project. Through this Capacity development training UDC representatives and 333 call center agents gathered knowledge about basic concept of Migration, safe Migration,

steps and process of migration like visa processing, online registration, roles and responsibilities of recruiting agencies, fraudulence in migration sector, human trafficking, Online complain mechanism, remittance management

process, stakeholders related to migration sector etc. one of BMET representative was present there to demonstrate government's available digital services in migration to the participants. This initiative is designed under the Fairer

Labour Migration project (FLM) of PROKAS programme, British Council to ensure safe migration and protection of migrants' rights by providing easy access of migration information and services through UDC's and 333 call centre.

The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP)

CICP Attending the 2nd GCMS Think Tank Forum on 22 March 2019 in Vientiane, Lao PDR
22 March 2019
Cambodia



On 22nd March 2019, in Vientiane, Lao PDR, Ambassador Pou Sothirak, CICP Executive Director and Director of Global Center for Mekong Studies (GCMS) - Cambodia Center, attended the 2nd GCMS Think Tank Forum.

Participants include representatives from all of the 6 GCMS Centers, representatives

from Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, the Mekong River Commission, Mekong Institute and ACMECS, and observers from Embassies of China, Japan, EU as well as some scholars from Lao PDR.

The one full day forum discussed two important aspects (1) pathways towards an open and inclusive LMC, and (2) approaches to jointly build a LMC Economic Development Belt. Amb. Pou Sothirak gave his views on how to make LMC more inclusive and open among other initiatives.

CICP Hosting Lecture on Norm Localization of the Responsibility to Protect in Southeast Asia: Making Atrocity Prevention More Effective
11 March 2019
Cambodia

On 11th March 2019, at its Office in Phnom Penh, CICP hosted Lecture on Norm Localization of the Responsibility to

Protect in Southeast Asia: Making Atrocity Prevention More Effective, by distinguished speaker, Dr. Hiromu Miyashita, Research Associate, Waseda University in Japan.

The event was attended by a group of Friends of R2P - Cambodia, comprising of Venerable Monks, researchers, scholars and university students.

During the Lecture, discussions included the historical aspects of R2P, the normative framework of the norm, atrocity prevention efforts and prospects in Cambodia as well as Southeast Asia.



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

Singapore Humanitarian Network (SHINE) Workshop 2019
31 July 2019
Singapore



Singapore Humanitarian Network (SHINE) Workshop 2019, NTU@One-North, Singapore: On 31st July 2019, the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme hosted the Singapore Humanitarian Network (SHINE) Workshop 2019. Nineteen researchers from different disciplines and twelve practitioners based in Singapore came together to discuss transdisciplinary research collaboration in humanitarian affairs. During the previous meeting in December 2018, the network established working groups on 3 key transdisciplinary areas: (1) Education, (2)

Logistics, and (3) Data Management and Modelling. In the morning, the working groups presented on the progress of their respective projects. A World Café was then convened to encourage discussion between members of the the working groups and practitioners. In the afternoon, the participants talked about some of the gaps that exist between academia and practitioners, and identified potential ways to bridge these gaps.

Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Conference 2019
20 July 2019
Singapore

Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Conference 2019, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore: On 20th July 2019, Alistair D. B. Cook, Senior Fellow, and Christopher Chen, Associate Research Fellow, participated in the Singapore Red Cross Humanitarian Conference 2019. Revolving around the theme of 'Partnership and Volunteerism for Humanity', the conference presenters reflected on the

importance of volunteers to the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, as well as the need to build transformational partnerships with various stakeholders in a community. The event was also a celebration of the Singapore Red Cross's 70th anniversary. Other highlights of the conference included the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Aviva Singapore and the Singapore Red Cross, and acknowledgement of the graduates of the Singapore Red Cross's Overseas Disaster Deployment training course.



Annual Meeting of the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN)

8-12 July 2019

Vienna, Austria



Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, and Mr Julius Trajano, Research Fellow, attended the Annual Meeting of the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN) at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria on 8-12 July 2019.

The INSEN meeting brought together 83 registered participants, who are mostly faculty members and researchers, from 49 countries. The meeting deliberated on enhancing collaboration among universities, research institutes, and other stakeholders involved in nuclear security education and research. Mr Julius Trajano was also nominated to serve as vice chair of Working Group II (Faculty Development and International Collaboration), one of the three working groups of INSEN.

IBM Call for Code 2019

10 July 2019

Singapore



IBM Call for Code 2019, Marina Bay Financial Centre, Singapore: On 10th July 2019, members of the RSIS HADR Team participated in the IBM Call for Code 2019. Held at IBM Studios in Singapore, the event included a knowledge sharing session in the morning and an interactive group hackathon in the afternoon. The Singapore Civil Defense Force (SCDF) presented on "Sense-making for Emergency Response in the Smart City". With a specific focus on fires in an urban setting, the presentation also set the scene for the afternoon's hackathon. Participants had to develop IoT solutions to provide early warning of fires. Dr Alistair Cook, Research Fellow and Coordinator of

the HADR Programme, was on the judging panel for the ideation challenge, while Mr Christopher Chen, Associate Research Fellow, attended as an observer.

East Asia, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Roundtable

8 July 2019

Bangkok



East Asia, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Roundtable, Bangkok, 8 July: Alistair D. B. Cook, Coordinator of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Programme and Research Fellow, NTS Centre, RSIS participated in a roundtable discussion on East Asia, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in Bangkok. The University of St Andrews School of International Relations hosted the discussion with support from the Global Challenges Research Fund and the Scottish Funding Council. The Keynote Address was delivered by Vice Admiral Alexander Pama (ret.), Armed Forces of the Philippines. The first panel on Regional Challenges: lessons from practitioners included Antonio Lozaga, President, National Resilience Council, the Philippines; Hilde Jakobsen, Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Bangkok, Thailand; Martin Sebastian, Maritime Institute of Malaysia; and Chris Ankersen from the Center of Global Affairs, New York University, USA. The second panel to disseminate research findings included Alistair D. B. Cook from RSIS; Miwa Hirono from Ritsumeikan University, Japan; Rikard Jalkebro and Cath Jones from the University of St Andrews; and Garren Mulloy from Daito Bunka University, Japan.

International Studies Association (ISA) Asia-Pacific Conference 2019

4-7 July 2019

Singapore

Staff of the NTS Centre participated in the International Studies Association (ISA) Asia-Pacific Conference 2019 from 4th to 7th August 2019 in Singapore. With the theme 'Asia-Pacific and World Order: Security, Economics, Identity and Beyond', the conference provided scholars and practitioners with a forum to debate and discuss their new ideas and ongoing

research projects.

The RSIS HADR team organised a panel titled 'Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in the Asia-Pacific: Perspectives, Challenges and Future Pathways', which invited contributors to share their papers and research findings on HADR in the Asia-Pacific region. More specifically, it sought to provide an avenue for discussions surrounding (1) regional nuances, (2) various challenges in implementing humanitarian responses, and (3) future pathways for effective humanitarian action in the region.

Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, chaired the panel, while Dr Alistair Cook, Research Fellow and Coordinator of the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme, was the discussant. Mr Angelo Trias, Associate Research Fellow, presented a paper highlighting his work on the RSIS HADR database. Mr Christopher Chen, Associate Research Fellow, presented a paper titled 'Mapping the HADR Landscape in the Asia-Pacific: The Rise of Non-Traditional Humanitarian Actors'.



6th Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on Northeast Asian Security

5-6 June 2019

Singapore

Dr Lina Gong delivered a presentation on China's cooperation with Southeast Asia in disaster response at the 6th Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on Northeast Asian Security, held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 5-6 June 2019.



8th Australian & New Zealand Disaster & Emergency Management Conference

12-13 June 2019

Singapore



Staff of the NTS Centre participated in the 8th Australian & New Zealand Disaster & Emergency Management Conference from 12th to 13th June 2019 in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of NTS Centre, presented a paper titled 'Mapping the HADR Landscape in the Asia-Pacific: The Rise of Non-Traditional Humanitarian Actors'. Mr Christopher Chen, Associate Research Fellow, and one of the co-authors of the paper, attended as a delegate. The conference provided a forum for the exchange of current ideas and practices between emergency and disaster management practitioners from Australia and New Zealand and further afield.

HMAS Canberra

15 May 2019

Canberra



RSIS HADR Team Visit to HMAS Canberra: On 15th May 2019, Dr Alistair Cook and Mr Christopher Chen, along with RSIS students and colleagues from Mercy Relief, Singapore Civil Defence Force, and the Changi Regional HADR Coordination Centre, participated in a half-day guided tour of the HMAS Canberra. Docked at Changi Naval Base for the duration of the Maritime Defence Exhibition and Conference 2019, the HMAS Canberra has unique capabilities that can be deployed to assist an affected state in HADR operations. The participants were given a short presentation of the Australian Defence Force's HADR capabilities. This was followed by a guided tour around the vessel. They

emerged with a better understanding of the Canberra's capabilities, as well as how it fits into larger-scale HADR efforts.

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-session Meeting on Non-proliferation and Disarmament (ARF ISM on NPD)

8-9 April 2019

Bali, Indonesia



Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of RSIS' NTS Centre, and Mr Julius Cesar Trajano, Research Fellow at NTS Centre, delivered a presentation on nuclear governance in the Asia-Pacific and the role of Southeast Asia at the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-session Meeting on Non-proliferation and Disarmament (ARF ISM on NPD), held in Bali, Indonesia on 8-9 April 2019. Their presentation was among the policy-oriented research contributions of CSCAP to the ARF ISM on NPD. The meeting served as a valuable multilateral platform among ARF member-states to share their assessments on peaceful uses of nuclear technology, regional and global non-proliferation issues, and disarmament.

Sixth Meeting of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) Study Group on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament

7 April 2019

Bali, Indonesia



Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of RSIS' NTS Centre, and Mr Julius Cesar Trajano, Research Fellow at NTS Centre, attended the Sixth Meeting of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP) Study Group on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, held in Bali, Indonesia on 7 April 2019. They delivered a presentation on nuclear governance in the Asia-Pacific and the role of Southeast Asia.

Around 45 senior scholars and officials from Asia-Pacific countries deliberated on recent developments in non-proliferation, denuclearisation of North Korea, nuclear safety and security governance in the Asia-Pacific, and the issue of nuclear disarmament.

Exercise Coordinated Response (ExCoores) 2019

2-4 April 2019

Bali, Indonesia



Exercise Coordinated Response (ExCoores) 2019, 2-4 April 2019: ExCoores 2019 had the following objectives: (i) to demonstrate the Multi-National Coordination Centre (MNCC) concept of operations, (ii) exercise AFD MNCC in coordinating Assisting Militaries aid and relief efforts, and (iii) walk-through RHCC concept of operations in supporting the Affected State's military MNCC. The RSIS Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme team participated in ExCoores 2019, a biannual event that aims to enhance military-to-military coordination and interoperability during HADR operations in the areas of information-sharing and deployment and employment of foreign military assistance. This year's exercise is co-organized by the Bangladesh Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh Armed Forces Division (AFD), SAF Regional HADR Coordinating Centre, and the Centre for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance. Dr Alistair Cook and Mr Angelo Trias together with 18 non-government organizations participated in focus group discussions and observed 25 foreign militaries engage in table-top exercises at the Changi Command & Control Centre (CC2C) in Singapore. The exercise scenario involves foreign military assistance in response to a 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Dhaka.

The 4th NTS-Asia Consortium Annual Meeting

25-26 March 2019

Singapore

The 4th NTS-Asia Consortium Annual Meeting on “Bringing Back Multilateral Cooperation in NTS Governance” brought together 23 out of the 31 members of the NTS-Asia Consortium. It was held on 25-26 March 2019 in Singapore. since then, and consider changing humanitarian and disaster environments and needs.



RSIS Seminars on Disaster Risk Reduction

13 March 2019

Singapore



RSIS Seminars on Disaster Risk Reduction delivered by Dr Tavid Kamolvej, Visiting Fellow, RSIS, NTU, Singapore; Dean of the School of Political Science, Thammasat University, Thailand; and Advisor to Director General of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Thailand.

Dr Kamolvej gave two seminars titled “Globalisation of Disaster Risk Reduction Frameworks: Implementing SENDAI and AADMER” and “Policy Instruments for Non-Structural Disaster Risk Reduction Measures: Building and Construction Safety in Thailand”. The first seminar on 13th March 2019 explored the mutually reinforcing components of the SENDAI Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), while the second seminar on 14th March 2019 focused on some of the non-structural disaster risk reduction measures currently being implemented in Thailand.

Dr Kamolvej used to serve as Disaster and

Emergency Management advisor to the National Disaster Warning Center, Thailand. She also joined the sub-committee on Disaster and Risk Communication of the National Committee of Broadcasting, Televising, and Telecommunication, to develop national and local communication regulations and a framework for action. At the international level, Dr. Kamolvej used to be communication and coordination instructor for the US State Department Senior Crisis Management Seminar Program in collaboration with American University, Washington DC, USA, and also represented Thailand in the Technical Expert Team to develop indicators and methodology for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction with UNISDR.

Book Launch Seminar on Negotiating Governance on Non-Traditional Security in Southeast Asia and Beyond

6 March 2019

Singapore



RSIS organised a book launch seminar on Negotiating Governance on Non-Traditional

Security in Southeast Asia and Beyond, authored by Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony, Professor of International Relations and Head of the RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies. Around 50 people attended the seminar, held at NTU@One North on 6 March. Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman of RSIS, congratulated Prof Caballero-Anthony for writing an excellent book that would further advance the concept of non-traditional security in both academic and policy studies. In delivering her summary of the book, Prof Caballero-Anthony argued that in a region that is often described as

zealous in protecting state sovereignty, security governance of NTS issues does exist, bringing together state and non-state actors who can set the security agenda, provide resources, push for observance of certain norms, and seek collaborative policy approaches.



Palu, Sulawesi and Jakarta Fieldwork

3-9 March 2019

Palu, Sulawesi and Jakarta

Palu, Sulawesi and Jakarta Fieldwork: 3 – 9 March 2019. The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies’ Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Programme research team travelled to Jakarta and Palu to document experiences, reflections and insights of different actors involved in HADR efforts after the 2018 Central Sulawesi disasters. Dr Alistair Cook

and Mr. Angelo Trias conducted interviews with representatives from the Government, international organizations, regional bodies, NGOs, local community partners and faith-based groups to understand the scope of the emergency response and challenges encountered. Data gathered from the fieldwork will help identify broad trends, policy recommendations, and key partnerships to develop to improve future humanitarian action in Indonesia and the wider Southeast Asian region. One of the key findings from our forthcoming report

is the transforming role of the AHA Centre and its importance will play in the region. This changing role and responsibilities of the AHA Centre will impact the way disaster responses are approached in Southeast Asia.



RSIS Conference on Asia and the Humanitarian World

28 February - 1 March 2019

Singapore

RSIS Conference on Asia and the Humanitarian World, 28 Feb – 1 March: The HADR Programme, NTS Centre, hosted a conference on Asia and the Humanitarian World to understand perspectives from the region on the dynamics, limits and possibilities of humanitarian action. Speakers and participants discussed the current status of multilateral humanitarian settings, reviewed bilateral humanitarian cooperation in Asia, and investigated the role of militaries, the private sector and civil society in providing humanitarian assistance. The conference brought together scholars and practitioners focused on humanitarian action in Asia.



RSIS
S. RAJARATNAM
SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

**RSIS Conference on Asia and Humanitarian World
Singapore**
28th February – 1st March 2019



Book Launch Seminar on Negotiating Governance on Non-Traditional Security in Southeast Asia and Beyond

6 March 2019

Singapore

Nepal Fieldwork: 18-22 February. The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies' Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster

Relief (HADR) research team travelled to Kathmandu, Nepal to understand whether technology used during the 2015 Nepal earthquake had a longer term impact on the local population, and whether emerging technologies in humanitarian action can facilitate both the centralisation and decentralisation of disaster management. Mr Martin Stanley Searle and Mr Christopher Chen met with stakeholders from INGOs,

government bodies, international and local innovation labs to discuss these two areas of research.



RSIS Seminars on the International Humanitarian System

18 February 2019

Singapore



RSIS Seminars on the International Humanitarian System delivered by Dr Catherine Bragg, Visiting Senior Fellow, RSIS, NTU, Singapore; Adjunct Full Professor, Centre for Humanitarian Action, University College Dublin; and Governor of the University of Toronto, Canada. Dr Bragg

is a former Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator in the United Nations (2008-2013). As the ASG, she was the deputy head of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Prior to her secondment to the UN, she spent 24 years in the federal public service of Canada. In total, she has visited over 100 countries and been involved in response to close to 30 humanitarian crises and situations. The first seminar on the 19th February 2019 assessed the development of the international humanitarian system over the last thirty years and the second seminar on the 21st February 2019 focused on the need to re-orient the international humanitarian system drawing on Dr Bragg's experience in the field.

Workshop on 'Unpacking Industry 4.0'

8 February 2019

Singapore



Head of RSIS Centre for NTS Studies, Prof Mely Caballero-Anthony, speaking at the Workshop on 'Unpacking Industry 4.0', organised by NTU's College of Humanities and Social Sciences on 8 February 2019.