

**PROPOSAL FOR ASEAN EOC NETWORK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PHASE 2)  
REQUEST FOR GPP FUNDING FOR 2018-2021**

**A. INTRODUCTION**

The ASEAN EOC Network development project, hereby known as the project, was approved and implemented from Nov 2016 to March 2018 (extended to 31st May 2018) under the Letter of Agreement (LOA) Amendment 2016 Annex V with the following specific objectives:

- i. To develop networking between Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) of all ASEAN Member States (AMS)
- ii. To strengthen and sustain the networking between EOC of AMS
- iii. To form one part of an early warning system through timely sharing of information
- iv. To support AMS in building their public health(PH) EOC capacity (including communication, information management, mobilization, coordination and collaboration with other partners, etc.) as part of their national emergency response framework
- v. To share expertise, lessons and experiences in building, evaluating, exercising and utilizing EOCs for early warning and public health emergency response among AMS
- vi. To develop and make available common procedures and protocols for AMS PHEOC and promote best practices and
- vii. To develop and implement public health EOC training for AMS

However, because the duration of the project was to end within 17 months i.e. 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, the project focused on selected objectives with activities designed to build the ASEAN EOC network platform, establish a baseline capacity of the EOC and to promote understanding and collaboration between the AMS. This project was also designed to be a pilot

project before committing to long term plans for the network. Thus, while objectives i, ii, iv, and v were achieved within the 17 months, a longer period of time is required to achieve the rest of the objectives.

Having now established the rudimentary ASEAN EOC Network, hereby known as the network, it is important for the network to develop its regional surveillance and communication system, establish its presence as the public health driver/coordinator for the region and work together with the other ASEAN entities during periods of crisis. From our meeting and study visit to the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA), the network concluded that the way forward for the network is to work together with AHA in monitoring and coordinating the PH role for the region during disasters. Preliminary discussions with AHA has garnered tentative agreement for the network to use the Disaster Monitoring and Response System (DMRS) of AHA to monitor Public Health events if certain conditions pertaining to modifying, maintaining and long-term sustainability can be met. For the purpose of communications between the EOC of the network as well as coordinating the PH aspect of disasters, we need to secure the mandate from ASEAN before discussion with the AHA can be initiated.

## **B. PROPOSAL**

We propose for an extension of the activities of the ASEAN EOC Network development project to fulfill the incomplete as well as new objectives of the network. This extension will be known as ASEAN EOC Network development project Phase 2, hereby known as Phase 2, and would be implemented over 5 years but for now, the proposal will be for 3 years with an in-depth review at the end of 3 years before developing plans for the remaining 2 years. The objectives of Phase 2 will be:

- i. To strengthen networking amongst PHEOC of the ASEAN EOC Network
- ii. To develop an online monitoring system across the 10 AMS
- iii. To support AMS in building their PHEOC capacity and to strengthen Malaysia's in-country EOC network

- iv. To share expertise, lessons and experiences in utilizing EOCs for early warning and coordinating PH emergencies
- v. To develop and make available common procedures and protocols for PHEOC and promote best practices
- vi. To develop and implement PH EOC training
- vii. To work towards collaborating with AHA in with respect to monitoring disasters, communications and coordination of PH activities during disasters

The objectives will be fulfilled through 3 strategies as mentioned as below;

**1. Strengthening in-country EOC network (Malaysia)**

We bear in mind that our own Malaysia's in-country network is still not on par with the developed countries and will continue to work to strengthen our i-Net which was established in 2017 but still not functioning yet. Phase 2 will be getting our National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) or National Security Council (NSC) to activate the i-Net for routine monitoring of events in Malaysia. Effective communication and coordination within and between ministries EOCs and response systems are critical for the success of inter-agencies response. In Malaysia, during natural disasters, NADMA will be the coordinating Agency for the integrated command and control for preparedness and response. While the National Security Council will be the coordinating Agency in preparedness and response to any crisis related to security issues.

While we have developed basic guidelines and SOPs for disease outbreaks, our preparedness guidelines for CBRNe is inadequate and rudimentary. We hope to upgrade and add on to our existing guidelines.

## **2. Strengthening the ASEAN EOC network**

The network is now quite established with the EOC contact persons of the AMS familiar with each other and willing to communicate and assist one another. To strengthen the regional network, there should be regular Video Conference, meetings, workshops and sharing of information. Therefore, training on the operations of a PHEOC, Incident Management System (IMS), Risk Assessment & Risk Communications and other related areas are needed. A Field simulation exercise for the country and region is also planned. To further develop the network, EOC in charge or EOC officers are sent on attachment to the more established EOC of Singapore, Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia. Study visits are also benefiting and we plan to visit Canada's PHEOC to learn of their functioning as well as that of Singapore, Thailand and Philippines. Other AMS visits will be included, if needed. These visits will be planned as back to back activities with an EOC meeting.

We also recognize the different capacity and capabilities of the respective AMS and will now find ways to assist each other to progress. Thus, it is our aim to recognize subject matter experts (SME) on PHEOC from established AMS and use them to help those AMS in need. They can be visiting consultants or facilitators for in-country training workshops. As surveillance of events is very much an integral part of the EOC for most of the AMS, training and meetings on surveillance will be held at a regional level.

With the conclusion of the ASEAN SOMHD work plan 2010 to 2015, the ASEAN Working Group on Pandemic Preparedness (AWGPPR) was dissolved and the objectives consolidated under the Cluster 2 group. However, many of the activities planned under the AWGPPR are not included and an agreed framework of preparedness has yet to be finalized. As such, this network plans to resume from where AWGPPR left off.

### **3. Collaboration with AHA Centre**

The network plans to work with AHA in 3 areas

- i. Monitoring Public Health events through the DMRS
- ii. Communications between AMS using Web-EOC and SASOP
- iii. Establishing the role of the ASEAN EOC Network as coordinator of the PH function in disasters

As this will be built from ground up, it will require a lot of work including administrative and technical meetings for its success. Furthermore, we need to secure mandate from the higher levels of ASEAN before we can begin discussion. At this moment, the tentative agreement from initial discussions with AHA is that the network can utilize the DMRS for its monitoring of PH events.

### **4. Engagement of a dedicated officer**

Considering the scope of the project and the activities involved, it is crucial to have a dedicated officer to carry out the decisions made, activities and monitor the progress of activities at national and regional level. The dedicated officer is also responsible as the contact person to ensure constant communications between all parties at national and regional are intact including organizing meetings, video conferences and field work.

## **C. PLAN OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE STRATEGIES**

### **1. Strengthening in-country EOC network including that of Malaysia**

- a. Coordinate inter and intra agency meetings to strengthen i-Net as well as update/add SOPs for PHEOC focusing on all-hazards approach
- b. Meeting with AMS to identify the needs of respective AMS, list of SME and visit dates

- c. Help the AMS in developing their own in-country EOC if and when required
  - i. Funding limited hardware for AMS
  - ii. Funding SME to the requesting AMS for workshops or consultation
- d. Workshops for operations of a PHEOC, Incident Management System (IMS), Risk Assessment & Risk Communications (RARC) and other related areas.
- e. Development of Field simulation exercise (FSE) module and 2 yearly FSE involving region

## **2. Strengthening the ASEAN EOC network**

- a. Study visits to Canada's PHEOC and selected EOC AMS
- b. Attachments for EOC officers at selected AMS
- c. 2 monthly Video Conferences on current topics or events
- d. Annual meetings and training
- e. Resuming the activities of AWGPPR

## **3. Collaboration with AHA**

- a. Modify existing DMRS used by AHA to include PH events.
- b. Allowing the use of the Web-EOC program for communications for the network as well as with AHA
- c. Include PH Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) into the Standby arrangement for SOP for joint disaster relief and emergency response operations
- d. Cost of maintenance and operations of the computer systems used above
- e. Attachments of ASEAN EOC officers at AHA
- f. Meeting with the relevant bodies and sectors of ASEAN to promote PHEOC as module under AHA

#### 4. Engagement of a dedicated officer

Since this is both a local and regional program, a special staff is needed. Core duties include:

- a. implementing decisions made as well as monitoring progress
- b. Ensure constant communications between all parties are intact
- c. Coordinate all meetings and training
- d. Produce weekly or monthly reports and bulletins

#### D. ACTIVITIES

Table 1: Strategies, activities and costing for Phase 2

Strategy 1: Strengthening in-country EOC network including that of Malaysia for 2018-2021					
No	Activity	Details of activity	No of activities		
1.a	Meeting to consolidate i-Net (Malaysia)	Multi-sectoral meeting of agencies with EOC. Led by NADMA or NSC. 26 sectors are identified. Each sector will be represented by 1 or 2 officers. Need agreement on the frequency of i-Net meetings, type of data to be shared, shared SOPs for identified events etc	2 4		
1.b	Intersectoral workshop to review EOC guidelines and all hazard SOPs	Workshops to review or develop SOPs outcome of the discussion above or to strengthen existing guidelines found within			

		the PH EOC. Mainly SME from MOH but also involve other agencies.			
	1.b.i Review EOC guidelines	Revision of the MOH Malaysia PHEOC Guideline in line with WHO revised PHEOC Framework	1		
	1.b.ii SOP for All Hazards approach	Need to review SOPs specifically on CBRNe events. SME from all agencies required	1		
	1.b.iii Mobilisation of human resources during PH emergencies workshop	Workshop to finalise the draft Guidelines for mobilisation of human resources during PHE including all hazards.	1		
<b>Strategy 2: Strengthening the ASEAN EOC network</b>					
<b>No</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details of activity</b>	<b>No of activities</b>		
	2.a Quarterly VC among AMS EOC in charge	Video conference organised by Malaysia using Zoom cloud programme. Zoom services will be purchased over 3 years. Topics of VC will be of current interest, PHE happening in AMS or globally and occasionally academic interest.  USD 100 for presenters, to be shared, for each VC	3  13		



	2.b Attachment for AMS EOC officers at the identified AMS EOCs	<p>2 1 officials from each AMS working in the EOC will be sent for attachment to the AMS EOCs for a period of 5 days according to AMS selection and according to allocated budget from Canada's GPP for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year and another 1 from 5 designated AMS for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.</p> <p>(Example of AMS EOC - either Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia etc)</p>	1 1		
	2.c.i Consultation visits to AMS	Identified SMEs will be deployed to AMSs on request to provide consultation in improving the EOC setup or in conducting workshops.	3		
	2.c.ii Assistance for CLMV	Depending on the outcome of the consultation, a maximum sum of USD10k will be recommended to improve the infrastructure of the EOC	3		
	2.d.i ASEAN RARC Centre workshop/training for AMS	This is a continuation of an ASEAN training activity since 2010. 2 participants from each AMS plus 15 participants from host country will be trained in RARC each year. Topics will focus on CBRNe.	3		
	2.d.ii Mini conference on RARC	A one-off event to enable AMS PHEOC officers understand and share experience from other parties. Our plan is to send 2 participants from each AMS for an	1		

		organised conference on RARC in any of the AMS			
	2.d.iii PHEOC and CBRNe training	Basic courses on running a PHEOC and IMS will be done. 2 participants from each AMS plus 10 participants from host country will be trained each year. Topics will focus on CBRNe.	2		
	2.d.iv Joint Simulation Exercise	Organised by Malaysia on a yearly basis with invitation for 2 officials from each AMS as observers. At the same time, the EOC of the 10 AMS will also participate online based on certain scenario. ASEC will also be participant from Jakarta and Malaysia.	2		
	2.e Yearly meeting for initiation, assessment or wrap-up	2 representatives from each AMS plus 6 participants from host country will take part.	2		
	2.f Study visit to Canada PHEOC Canada	Canada GPP has proposed for AMS to visit the Canada national PHEOC. However, the visit will be an expensive affair and confirmation of this activity is needed (details c/o Bob) [2 pax per AMS x10AMS (health EOC + security), 2 ASEAN Sec (health + disaster or security)] NOTE: 1 time visit for 6 days + 2 days travel	1		
	2.g Enhancing Regional Mechanism for Pandemic Preparedness and Response relevant to health security				

	2.g.i Coordination Meeting on Pandemic Preparedness and Response	Pandemic influenza is the most likely of disease to affect a large part world's population in the shortest time. As such, yearly meetings to assess the AMS preparedness on it is essential. Other areas covered include regional stockpile, regional mobilisation of resources through AHA or otherwise. Collaboration with ASEF. [ 3 pax per AMS x 10 AMS (health EOC + AHC2 Country Coordinator and animal health, 2 ASEAN Secretariat (health +animal health) and Plus Three (self - funded) x 3 days x 1 event per year (can be back to back with HC2)	1		
	<del>2.g.ii Workshop/Simulation Exercise on Pandemic Preparedness and Response on Regional Mechanism under EOC [ 3 pax per AMS x 10 AMS (health EOC + AHC2 Country Coordinator and animal health, 2 ASEAN Secretariat (health +animal health) and Plus Three (self - funded) x 3 days x 2 events</del>				
	2.h. To develop a generic Guideline on the preparedness and response to all hazards (Proposal from MOH Cambodia)				
	2.h.i.a Cambodia in-country workshop to develop Guidelines on preparedness and response to all hazards	A consultant will be used in forming the guidelines with a working group of 24 representatives of 12 Cambodian ministries/agencies	1 Expert Meeting cost		

	2.h.i.b Workshop at Victoria Angkor Resort	Workshop on preparedness and response to all hazards for 3 participants (MOH + other related agency) from each AMS plus up to 10 participants from host country.	1		
	2.i.i laboratory training/kick of technical meeting on Flavi-virus surveillance	This is a follow up on the UNITEDengue training led by Malaysia and Singapore. For Phase 2, instead of dengue, flavivirus will be the organism under surveillance using the platform set up from UNITEDengue.	1		
	2.i.ii AMS in-country surveillance of flavivirus	After the initial training, AMS will use the UNITEDengue platform to collect (1152 samples per country per year) from sentinel sites to check for flavivirus. This is to ensure proficiency to use the PCR technique and the sentinel sites in the absence of EPD outbreaks.  All sampling and testing will be done in-country. Support will be given for test kits and sequencing.	2		
	2.i.iii Enhancing the coordination of ASEAN Partnership on Laboratory	2 official contact points from AMS on reference laboratory	3		
	<b>Strategy 3. Collaboration with AHA Centre</b>				
<b>No</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details of activity</b>	<b>No of activities</b>		
	<b>3.a.Meetings/Training/</b>				

	<b>Attachements</b>				
	3.a.i Attachment and training at AHA Centre	1 official from MOH and one (1) from NADMA/related agency/NSC from each AMS will attach themselves to AHA Centre for a period of not more than 5 days to be implemented at the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year. The officials can be exchanged with agencies dealing with security.	1		
	3.a.ii Coordination Meeting with AHA to discuss role of PHEOC in AHA	<p>Selected representatives from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Philippines will meet with AHA Centre representatives and its board of governors to discuss the way forward to include PH in the regional response.</p> <p>Further meetings will also be held with the relevant sectors.</p>	2		
	3.a.iii Workshop with AHA Centre to determine expanded scope and TOR	2 participants from each AMS, AHA Centre, ASEC, selected representatives from NDMC will meet to provide details for the expanded scope and TOR	1		
	<b>3.b. Surveillance and Monitoring</b>				
	3.b.i Workshop with AHA Centre and IT people to modify DMRS	Selected representatives from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Philippines will meet with AHA Centre representatives,	1		

		Pacific Disaster Command Centre (PDCC) to develop the surveillance and monitoring tool for PH using the DMRS			
	3.b.ii Discussion with IT for data mining for event surveillance	Selected representatives from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines and Cambodia will meet with AHA, PDCC and IT specialist to design the data mining programme for PH surveillance.	2		
	3.b.iii Training for AMS to use DMRS Event Surveillance in Jakarta	2 officers from each AMS will be trained once the DMRS is ready for PH events	2		
	3.b.iv Evaluation of DMRS Event Surveillance	2 users from each AMS will be invited for the assessment	2		
	<b>3.c. Engagement meetings</b>				
	3.c.i. Presentations at Joint Task Force Meeting on expanded scope and progress of coordination and collaboration with AHA [1 event per year x 3 years x 5 persons from EOC Malaysia]	The meeting in March by ASEAN on the issue of AHA response is still limited to natural disaster. We hope to engage with all relevant parties to pursue the concept of including medical and public health response into the activities monitored by AHA during peace as well as disaster time.	3		
	3.c.ii Meeting at SOMHD or ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management and other relevant ASEAN Meetings [1 event per year		3		

	x 3 years x 2 persons from EOC Malaysia]				
	3.c.ii Meeting at JTF	TBC			
<b>Strategy 4: Engage a dedicated officer for 2018 – 2021</b>					
<b>No</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details of activity</b>	<b>No of activities</b>		
4.a	To implement activities of ASEAN EOC Network	The project coordinator engaged for phase 1 of the ASEAN EOC Network development project will continue for phase 2 at a salary scale of USD 4,000 per month for 36 months	Monthly salary		

## E. TIMELINE

Phase 2 is proposed from Q3 2018 to Q3 2021. Please refer to the table below.

	Q1 2018	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 2019	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 2020	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 2021	Q2	Q3
<b>1. Strengthening in-country EOC network including that of Malaysia</b>															
1.a Meeting to consolidate iNet (Malaysia)				x		x		x		x		x		x	
1.b Intersectoral workshop to review EOC guidelines and SOP															

1.b.i Review EOC guidelines			x												
1.b.ii SOP for All Hazards approach				x											
1.b.iii. Mobilisation of human resources during PH emergencies						x									
<b>2. Strengthening the ASEAN EOC network</b>															
2.a Quarterly VC among EOC in charge including yearly subscription of zoom video conference service			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2.b Attachment for AMS EOC officers to identified AMS EOCs						x				x					
<b>2.c Consultation visits to AMS</b>															
2.c.i Visits to CLMV countries to assist their EOC, on request						x				x				x	
2.c.ii Assistance for CLMV						x				x				x	
<b>2.d Training workshops / Joint simulation exercise for AMS</b>															
2.d.i ASEAN RARC Centre workshop/training for AMS				x				x				x			
2.d.ii ASEAN RARC Mini Conference – one off in 2021									x						
2.d.iii PHEOC and CBRNe training							x							x	
2.d.iv Joint Simulation Exercise				x						x					
2.e Annual meeting for initial assessment/wrap-up							x								x



2.f Study visit to Canada PHEOC Canada (TBC)														
<del>2.g AWGPPR</del> 2.g Enhancing Regional Mechanism for Pandemic Preparedness and Response relevant to health security														
2.g.i Coordination Meeting on Pandemic Preparedness and Response						x								
2.g.ii Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness														
2.h. Project activities coordinated by other AMS														
2.h.i Cambodia : To develop a generic Guideline on the preparedness and response to all hazards														
2.h.i.a Workshop at Victoria Angkor Resort to Revise EOC SOP to Expand to cover all hazard approaches for Cambodia (In-Country)					x									
2.h.i.b Workshop at Victoria Angkor Resort to develop generic SOP for all Multi-hazards public health emergency response approach for AMS							x							
2.i. LABORATORY														
2.i.i Laboratory training on Flavi-virus surveillance			x											
2.i.ii AMS In-country surveillance (yearly purchase of flavi-virus test kit)					x				x					

2.i.iii Enhancing the coordination of ASEAN Partnership on Laboratory [ 2 official contact points from AMS on reference laboratory x 10 AMS + (2 ASEAN Sec)] x 3 days x 3 events															
			x				x				x				
<b>3. Collaboration with AHA</b>															
<b>3.a. Meetings/Training/Attachements</b>															
3.a.i Attachment and training at AHA								x							
3.a.ii Coordination meeting with AHA to discuss role of PH in AHA				x		x									
3.a.iii Workshop with AHA to determine expanded scope and TOR					x										
<b>3.b. Surveillance and Monitoring</b>															
3.b.i Workshop with AHA and IT people to modify DMRS					x										
3.b.ii Discussion with IT for data mining for event surveillance				x			x								
3.b.iii Training for AMS to use DMRS Event Surveillance /Jakarta					x				x						
3.b.iv Evaluation of DMRS Event Surveillance							x				x				
<b>3.c. Engagement meetings</b>															
<del>3.c. Presentations at SOM, JTF on expanded scope of AHA</del> 3.c.i Presentations at Joint Task Force Meeting on expanded scope and progress of coordination and						x				x				x	

collaboration with AHA [1 event per year x 3 years x 2 persons from EOC Malaysia]															
3.c.ii Meeting at SOMHD or ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management and other relevant ASEAN Meetings [1 event per year x 3 years x 2 persons from EOC Malaysia]							x				x			x	
3.c.ii Meeting at JTF															
4 Engage a dedicated officer for 2018 - 2021															
4.a. Implementing activities of ASEAN EOC Network			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	

## F. COSTING

The overall costing is estimated about = USD ~~2,160,227.00~~ 1,747,407.00

(To be finalized).

CAD ~~2,778,051.922~~ 2,247,165.402

*Kindly note that in this calculation the rate of USD 1 = CAD 1.286*

## G. IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Lead country will be Malaysia working together with ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) and other international partners ie GPP Canada, WHO, CDC Atlanta, CBEP.

## **H. CONCLUSION**

The IHR (2005) Article 13 requested each State Party to develop, strengthen and maintain the capacity to respond promptly and effectively to public health risks and public health emergencies of international concern. The ASEAN-EOC Network is established to meet the above requirement and to fulfil Malaysia commitment to GHSA as well as to ASEAN. The ASEAN EOC Network is initiated as part of Regional Surveillance and Response mechanism that would enhance early detection and response among ASEAN Member States in effectively managing public health emergencies or crises including all hazards as a region. Effective risk assessment and risk communication is also very important to effectively managing any public health emergencies or crisis. The purpose of this paper is to seek Canada's GPP financial support and partnership for strengthening of the ASEAN EOC Network that was established for phase 2.

**Prepared by;**

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