

CONCEPT NOTE

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in National Emergencies Training

28 August – 1 September 2023

The IFRC Asia Pacific Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Training and Learning Collaborative has been building the capacity of the IFRC Asia Pacific and the National Societies in the region to scale up their MHPSS response in times of disasters and other humanitarian emergencies since 2021. One of the strategies is to conduct regional trainings on MHPSS which is relevant and based on the technical needs of the region.

The IFRC Asia Pacific Region and the AP MHPSS Training and Learning Collaborative will conduct the MHPSSiNE Training, which aims to prepare disaster managers, emergency team leaders, and psychosocial responders to understand basic concepts of psychosocial support in emergencies and to plan and implement PSS activities. The training is designed for MHPSS focal points from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Movement and humanitarian organizations responsible for initiating or supporting the overall mental health and psychosocial activities and interventions during emergencies. The goal is to ensure that emergency response efforts include mental health and psychosocial support strategies, which can prevent distress from developing into more severe mental health and psychosocial conditions.

Through the support of the IFRC Reference of Psychosocial Support, IFRC Asia Pacific Region Office and AP MHPSS Training and Learning Collaborative, there will be a plan to conduct a Regional Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in National Emergencies Training to be hosted by the Japanese Red Cross Society which aims to further enhance the competency of the MHPSS Focal Persons to run an integrated and stand-alone MHPSS response.

Date: 28 August – 1 September 2023
Duration: 5 days
Location: Japanese Red Cross Headquarters

Training objectives:

The general objective of the Regional Mental Health Psychosocial Support in National Emergencies Training is to enhance the competency of Red Cross and Red Crescent Staff and Volunteers in the National Societies in the Asia Pacific region to run an integrated and stand-alone MHPSS response. The training aims to equip participants with technical skills in programming and management of MHPSS interventions at a larger scale of disasters. By doing so, the training seeks to guarantee a mechanism to support the mental health and psychosocial well-being of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable sectors, during humanitarian crises in the Asia Pacific countries.



Topics covered:

- Introduction to the Red Cross Red Crescent MHPSS Policy and Resolution
- Understanding mental health and psychosocial support
- Principles of PSS in emergencies
- Impacts on communities after a crisis event
- Protection concerns during disasters
- Child protection and Child Friendly Spaces
- Loss and grief in disasters
- Psychosocial assessment
- Psychological first aid in disasters
- Psycho-education after disasters
- Planning for PSS interventions
- Caring for volunteers

Who should attend

Since this is considered as an advanced training on MHPSS, the participants of the training are expected to have the following qualifications:

- Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers, including IFRC personnel;
- Participants who have already been trained in basic PFA, and preferably have facilitation experience and actual experience in providing and coordinating PFA services;
- Participants who have attended one or more MHPSS trainings such as PFA in Groups, PFA ToT, Child-Friendly Space, etc.;
- Participants with experience in working in domestic or international emergency and disaster response; and
- Fluent in English and able to actively participate in the training. Able to facilitate sessions, exercises, and discussions in English

These qualifications are important to ensure that the participants have the necessary foundation and experience in MHPSS and emergency response work, as well as the language proficiency and facilitation skills required to actively engage in the training.

Funding

Interested participants will need to cover their cost by the National Society or partner National Societies, which includes accommodation, per diem and cost related to travels such as air fare, airport transfers, visa, transit accommodation and insurance.

Dates, deadlines and other important information:

Participants must be able to participate in the entire training, arriving on or before 27 August and departing from the training venue no earlier than 4 pm on the 1 September.

Deadline for application: 24 July 2023

National Societies can send maximum of three (3) applications that will be selected and evaluated by the IFRC Health and AP MHPSS Collaborative for the recruitment. Please note that we only accept applications submitted through the online system: Click [here](#) to go to the online registration form.

Visas

Please identify the specific visa requirements for your country here:

https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html

Japanese Red Cross is only able to provide limited support for visa application (letter of invitation etc.) and can only do so for applicants who meet the application deadline.

For further information

If you have questions regarding this training program and the registration form, email: prednison.morales@ifrc.org or healthevents.ap@ifrc.org