

Acronym: ASEAN

Full Name: Association of South-East Asian Nations

Website: www.aseansec.org

Established: 1967

**Location:** ASEAN Secretariat: Jakarta, Indonesia

Areas of expertise: In the area of Disaster Management: courses and expertise development; development of ASEAN Disaster Information Sharing and Communication Network, development of a regional agreement on disaster management and emergency response, development of standard operating procedures to operationalise disaster response mechanism.

<u>Main Partners and collaborations:</u> The United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, the Pacific Disaster Centre, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, IFRC, Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), and others.

## **Short Description:**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established in 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Today, the ASEAN has ten Member States, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Lao PDR and Myanmar, and Cambodia. The motto of this organization is "One Vision, One Identity, One Community".

In the area of Disaster Management, the ASEAN created the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) in 2003, which is composed by heads of national agencies responsible for disaster management of ASEAN Member Countries. The ACDM assumes overall responsibility for coordinating and implementing the regional activities. In addition, the ACDM has developed an ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management (ARPDM) to provide a framework for cooperation for the period of 2004-2010 in order to build a region of disaster-resilient nations and safer communities.

## Main activities:

The ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management achieves the following activities established on the ARPDM, namely: establishment of the ASEAN Response Action Plan; courses and expertise development; ASEAN Disaster Information Sharing and Communication Network (ASEAN DISCNet), i.e. Development of ACDM Website and NDMO Websites; and Publication of ASEAN Disaster Management Information Network (ADMIN) Newsletter.

One of the priority projects is the establishment of an ASEAN Regional Disaster Management Framework. Under this, activities will include development of a regional agreement on disaster management and emergency response; development of standard operating procedures to operationalise disaster response mechanism under the agreement; enhancing quick response team of Member Countries; and conduct of simulation exercises.

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**Source:** Association of South-East Asian Nations