



Call for Proposals (PHASE I)

Implementing Partners for ASEAN Volunteers Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Projects

*Committed to bringing ASEAN to the People
By integrating ASEAN Volunteers in recovery and development strategies*

I. OVERVIEW

- Cyclone Nargis struck the coast of the country on 2 May 2008. Moving across the Ayeyarwady Delta and then southern Yangon Division over a day and a half, it severely affected more than 2.4 million people, who suffered loss of family, home and livelihoods. Since the tragedy, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Government of the Union of Myanmar (GoUM), the international community led by the United Nations (UN) and communities made extensive efforts to respond to the needs of the cyclone-affected people.
- **The response to date has also been notable for the regional solidarity shown to Myanmar by member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other neighbours.** ASEAN has continued to play a vital “bridging” role between the Government of Union of Myanmar (GoUM), local NGOs and the international humanitarian community.
- ASEAN’s commitment to support the continued recovery efforts in Myanmar is also demonstrated in bringing ASEAN closer to the centre of the communities through its Volunteers Programme in Myanmar. The Programme is founded on partnerships with civil societies which demonstrated the “process of ASEAN integration and community building, which all sectors of society are encouraged to participate in, and benefit from” (ASEAN Charter Article 1.13). The Volunteers fostered a sense of “shared commitment and collective responsibility in enhancing regional peace, security and prosperity” (ASEAN Charter Article 2.2 (b)).
- As noted at the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force (AHTF) in Indonesia on 2 July 2009, the AHTF Chairman expressed that **the key for effective facilitation of the recovery process is wider engagement with ministries in implementing the TCG PONREPP, which complements the national reconstruction and rehabilitation plan. The meeting also stressed the need for partnerships in integrating the recovery efforts into development strategies to build back better and safer.**
- To further address critical recovery needs in the Nargis-affected areas, the following priority sectors were endorsed by 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force (AHTF) in Indonesia on 2 July 2009 and approved during the 42nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Thailand on 20 July 2009: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Education, Health, Livelihoods (agricultural and non-agricultural), and Shelter.
- To date, 18 young professionals from five ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand have proudly served as ASEAN Volunteers in three community projects covering from Tawkhayan West village tract in Kungyangon township, Tha Lek Gyi village tract in Pyapon township, to Hayman village tract in Bogale township with different thematic focus based on the immediate early recovery needs of the communities.

II. RATIONALE

- The ASEAN Volunteers Programme adheres to the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint adopted at the 14th ASEAN Summit from 28 February to 1 March 2009 in Thailand. The planned actions set-forth are B1 (x) Facilitate the rural volunteers movement and the exchange of young professional in

rural development in ASEAN; B7 (xi). Establish an ASEAN Volunteers Programme to assist disaster stricken areas which will also enhance ASEAN togetherness E4 (iii) Explore the establishment of an ASEAN Volunteer Programme, to be composed of young professionals, with focus on supporting rural development and assisting communities to help themselves by 2009; E4 (iv) Support youth volunteers undertaking emergency or humanitarian missions by giving them recognition.

- To reaffirm ASEAN's continued commitment to support its people-centred approach and to the recovery efforts, it is in pursuit of **brief proposals from eligible humanitarian and development agencies and organisations for project funding from 3 to 6 months** of support to communities in Nargis affected areas of the Delta. The submitted proposals must be **concise and detailed in the prescribed ASEAN project format**. The **deadline of submission is on 14 August 2009 not later than 5pm**. Submission details are provided in the succeeding sections. Shortlisted partners may be requested to develop a full proposal based on their submitted concept notes (e.g. Logical Framework etc.).

III. PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

- The proposed projects must clearly reflect the alignment to the implementing partners' overall programme framework. Preferably, the projects would support the outcomes detailed in the recovery indicators and development strategies indicated in the PONREPP and Periodic Review (PR) II findings; placing emphasis on "promoting the development of progressive, prosperous and self-reliant rural communities "towards creating a caring society" in the ASEAN Member States as articulated in ASEAN's Framework Action Plan for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (2004-2010). *Annex 1 provides a detailed list of these outcomes and findings. However, it is best to refer to the documents for proper context.*
- Disasters have detrimental social and economic impacts on the regions' peoples and resources. Throughout the region, recurrent large-scale disasters and frequent localized disasters caused by the impact of natural hazards erode development gains and compromise a country's prospects for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and HFA by 2015. Conversely, the process of development can have a major impact on creating and reducing disaster risks.
- By integrating community-driven and build back safer approaches into the ASEAN Charter mandates, the project activities are envisaged to contribute in stimulating local economies, to strengthen capacities and to reduce disaster risks and increase resilience at the local level.

IV. SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

- Due to vast critical community needs, **in Phase I, proposals must reflect activities in the Livelihoods sector integrating DRR**. The preferred activities could be ranging from provision of livelihood packages, sustainable initiatives on micro-financing/cooperatives, local capacity building, action-oriented researches and other activities to stimulate the local economy, which integrate mechanisms to reduce disaster risks. The priority sectors are also defined but **NOT limited** to:
 - **Livelihoods (Agriculture and Fisheries)**: increasing agricultural and fishery productivity through investments in agricultural and fishery soil health, water management, extension services, and research increases food availability for subsistence farmers.
 - **Livelihoods (Non-Agricultural)**: considering the possible impacts of disasters on livelihoods, particularly those affecting the informal sector and youth. Initiatives on providing daily employment to stimulate the community economy must have internationally accepted labour practices. Promote innovative mechanisms on sustainable income generation to reduce underlying risk such as microfinance and risk transfer schemes, targeting especially women.
 - **Disaster Risk Reduction**: priority is given to proposals with clear adherence to the priorities of the Hyogo-Framework for Action (HFA) on DRR, ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), ASEAN Charter and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint. The ASCC set-forth actions towards building disaster-resilient nations and safer

communities by strengthening community-based disaster preparedness and response through (i) promotion of public participation in programmes related to disaster risk reduction and emergency response, (ii) implementation of public awareness and education, (iii) promotion of indigenous knowledge and practices, (iv) sharing of best practices and lessons learnt, and (v) promotion of sustainable livelihood options through socio-economic development activities to minimise disaster risks and enhance community-coping capacities. Research on the degree to which women and children suffer the negative impact of disasters could be undertaken, to better understand and address their specific vulnerabilities and needs.

V. ELIGIBILITY/CRITERIA

All participating organizations and submitted proposals will be reviewed under the following:

- Proposals are **granted up to 130,000 USD**. An indicative financial plan with certain budget items is included in the prescribed format.
- ASEAN has ear-marked up to 500,000USD from bi-lateral commitments by the People of Timor Leste (TL) for this phase and is planning to conclude up to four implementing partners for Phase I; with consideration to the most critical needs and equal geographical distribution. A potential implementing partner could submit a maximum of three proposals only.
- Priority is given to **most vulnerable communities** of the following recovery hub offices (RHO): Bogale, Labutta, Pyapon and Yangon. Please refer to some townships indicated in the PR2 findings with critical recovery needs.
- **Organisations with a proven track record of working in the sectors and geographical areas of need identified** – agencies should already be operational close to the areas of the Delta they propose to target assistance and services. Standing capability to deliver the proposed project of assistance must be demonstrated in the proposals. Printed or electronic copies of previous IEC materials delivered could be included as Annexes of the proposals.
- Potential implementing partners submitting **proposals should have the relevant Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and letters of agreement from GoUM line ministries to operate in the townships and areas covered under their proposals.**
- **ASEAN Volunteerism** should be reflected in the proposals submitted. The organization and agency will be supported by ASEAN Volunteers from different ASEAN member states. Specific roles and capacity building activities for the ASEAN Volunteers must be identified clearly in the proposals. *The ASEAN Volunteers' Terms of Reference, reflected as Annex 2, could provide position indications for proper planning purposes.*
- **Clear Linkages with local organizations, township authorities and relevant line ministries** must be demonstrated. The proposal must state activities, level of involvements and roles of local resources in coordination with their respective GoUM line authorities. Please state which local organisations, local NGOs, civil society groups; the potential implementing partner will be working with and the added value the partnership will bring to the local organisation over the duration of the proposal to ensure sustainability.
- **Beneficiaries** must be clearly demonstrated in numbers and results. Objectives and indicators of the proposed projects of assistance need to be aligned to and make a measurable contribution to PONREPP's Results Framework. Reporting and coordination of proposal activities under the PONREPP co-ordination system must be shown.
- The **proposed approach** primarily adheres to the ASEAN's People-centred approach, Charter and the ASCC Blueprint. It must also recognised best practices, including HFA, HAP and SPHERE minimum standards for disaster response and the PONREPP principle of being community-driven.

- The TCG Periodic Review II was launched on the 27 July 2009 – ASEAN HTF will use its findings in the evaluation of proposals received. Other donor facilities will also be consulted to avoid overlaps for effective aid tracking.

VI. SUBMISSION DETAILS

The **deadline of submission is on 14 August 2009 not later than 5pm**. All proposals submitted beyond the given deadline and/or not in the prescribed format will not be considered for evaluation. Please email your proposals or inquiries to: **avprojects.aseanhtf@gmail.com** AND/OR addressed your printed proposals (sealed in an envelope) to:

ASEAN Volunteers Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Projects (PHASE I)

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VII. Indicative Schedule

- Call for Proposals Announcement – 04 August 2009
- Submission Deadline – 14 August 2009 not later than 5pm
- Programme and Technical Review – 17 to 19 August 2009 includes TCG endorsement
- Announcement of Successful Partners – 22 August 2009
- Partner Full Proposal Development and Volunteer Orientation – 23 to 28 August 2009
- Expected Starting Date of Project Implementation – 1 September 2009