



Project Commencement, 1 Sept 2019

The project on Promotion of Social Entrepreneurship in Disaster Risk Reduction to Build Community Resilience commenced with the main objective to foster long-term community resilience in Malaysia and Cambodia by empowering young female social entrepreneurs to develop disaster resilience plans. The project will run over three years in four pilot areas (Kuala Selangor, Shah Alam and Ampang Jaya in Selangor, and Kpg Speu in Cambodia). Led by SEADPRI-UKM, key partners include the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP), Geological Society of Malaysia (GSM) and Malaysian DRR Service Organization (MDRRSO).



1. Members of the Project Meeting at SEADPRI-UKM to discuss project implementation with Dr. Melanie Robertson (2nd, right); also attended by Dr. Chhinh Nyda (3rd right) of the Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Inception Workshop, 19-21 Nov 2019

The Inception Workshop for the Project was held in conjunction with the visit of the IDRC Programme Manager, Dr. Melanie Robertson. This workshop comprised project meetings and courtesy calls to key agencies in Malaysia. Meetings were held at SEADPRI-UKM to review project monitoring and evaluation, log frame, research ethics, budget and reporting to IDRC, among other matters.



2. Presentation by Mr. Ahmad Fairuz, Head of the SMART Selangor Command Centre (SSCC) of the Selangor State, to familiarize project members with initiatives by the State, as well as facilities and datasets available at the centre.

Courtesy visits were made to six key agencies including the Selangor State Office Disaster Management Unit, National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) Malaysia, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC), Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA), the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM), as well as the High Commission of Canada in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The visits were the starting point to strengthen policy engagement and collaboration with government entities, to enable them to put in place disaster resilience plans and policies to promote female social entrepreneurship in DRR. The visits were made by the Project Leader, Programme Manager from IDRC and project members from the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) and Malaysia. The visits set the foundation to formalise institutional arrangements between SEADPRI-UKM and the State of Selangor to implement the project, as well as arrangements to involve NADMA, MESTECC, MEA and the ASM as members of the Project Steering Committee to monitor and evaluate the progress of the project.



3. The project leader briefed the Director General and officers of NADMA Malaysia during the courtesy visit where the national focal point for disaster agreed to become a member of the Project Steering Committee.



4. Prof. Joy Pereira (right) and Dr. Melanie Robertson (left) met Her Excellency Julia Bentley, the High Commissioner of Canada at the Canadian High Commission to brief her on the project and possible involvement of the High Commission in strategic events.





The project is also looking to expand linkages with the Ministry of Women and Welfare, Ministry of Youth and relevant parties to involve more women and youth as well as provide policy guidance.

Project Briefing to the Selangor Chief Minister, 5 Dec 2019

A brief on the IDRC project was presented to the Selangor Chief Minister, YAB Dato' Seri Amirudin bin Shari and 12 EXCO members of the state by the Project Leader to gain approval from the State Office for the support of its Disaster Management Unit to chair the Project Committee. The project received positive feedback from the members at the meeting and the collaboration was successfully approved by the Chief Minister; a formal letter of support from the State Office was issued shortly after. The Selangor State Office Disaster Management Unit plays a crucial role in enabling and facilitating the implementation of this project at the three pilot areas in Selangor under their administration. The office has also been instrumental in providing valuable networking prospects, including with other active research groups in the state that offer invaluable opportunities to complement and leverage on each other's work.



5. The Chief Minister (top) and 12 EXCO members of State of Selangor were present at the project briefing for approval from the State Government.

Meeting with the Youth and Sports Office of Kuala Selangor, 6 Dec 2019

A visit to the Youth and Sports Office of Kuala Selangor was made as a preliminary action to arrange for engagement with the local youth groups and plans for disseminating survey forms. It is crucial to advance engagement with and foster long-term resilience of communities by mobilizing social entrepreneurship in DRR. Also, dissemination of survey forms is fundamental to deepen the understanding of the impact of social entrepreneurship on long-term community resilience and vulnerability as well as on DRR in communities moving toward recovery, and vulnerable to future threats. The Office expressed their support and offered to help coordinate the engagements with the youth groups in Kuala Selangor, and the dissemination of the survey forms which were developed by the Malaysian Youth Delegation led by Mr. Bryan Yong, with support from Dr. Sharina Abdul Halim, project member from LESTARI, UKM.



6. A meeting with Mr. Iqbal, the Youth Officer (far left) at the Kuala Selangor Youth and Sports Office; it was attended by project members from SEADPRI and LESTARI, and project collaborator from the Malaysian Youth Delegation.

