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Lower Mekong Initiative
Pacific Resilience Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange
STORYBOARD (10-13 June 2013)

Purpose: The LMI DREE is an annual civil-military disaster preparedness and response initiative between the governments of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and the United States. It focuses upon regional readiness to all-hazard situations in the Lower Mekong area. The LMI DREE provides a framework for civil-military authorities to develop best practices, engage in collaborative dialog, exercise plans and procedures to enhance HA/DR capabilities.

Highlights
• Inaugural LMI PR DREE successfully completed 10-13 June 2013 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Event included 100+ participants. Attendees from Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam, United States, IOs and NGOs.
• Event featured HA/DR capability briefings by all LMI Member States, UN-OCHA, Mekong River Commission and ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Centre.
• Problem-solving sessions completed on hydrology & hydraulics, civil-military integration, and foreign humanitarian assistance.
• Site visit to flood-prone areas in Kampong Speu Province.
• Strategic Table-Top Exercise (TTX) on ASEAN response procedures completed by all participants.

Way Ahead
• LMI PR DREE will continue next year, and will rotate to another LMI Member State to host. Likely candidates include Lao PDR and Thailand.
• Complexity of exercise scenario will likely increase, with Table Top Exercise (TTX) migrating to a Command Post Exercise (CPX).
• Strategic focus on ASEAN SASOP and AADMER protocol could shift to a more operational focus next year.
• Continue to build enduring partnerships with LMI partners in order to enhance cross-border combined disaster preparedness and response in the Mekong delta.
• Continue to invite and encourage IOs, IGOs and NGOs to participate to enhance civil-military integration.
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**Day 1: Highlights**
- LMI DREE opening ceremony led by COL Kunk (USARPAC) and COL Sear Tony (RG).
- Approximately 100 participants present from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and multiple IGOs/NGOs.
- LMI overview presented by Mr. Ben Roohi (USEMB - PP).
- HA/DR capabilities shared by KH, LA, MM, TH, VN, & US.
- Participants received briefing on UN-OCHA capabilities and an overview of the AHA Centre.
- Conducted round-table work group preview for Day 2.

**Tomorrow’s Activities**
- Participants will complete Roundtable Activities 1 and 2.
- Roundtable discussion #1 will focus on Hydrology and Hydraulics (led by Mekong River Commission).
- Roundtable discussion #2 will feature HA/DR civil-military integration (led by USAID-OFDA).
- Participants will conduct facilitated discussions and work group out briefs.
- A visit to flood-prone areas in Kampong Speu Province will be led by the Royal Gendarmerie. Sites visited are part of the exercise scenario that will be featured later in the week.
Day 2: Highlights

• Participants completed Roundtable Activities 1 and 2.
• Roundtable discussion #1 focused on plans for mitigating the effects of flooding while continuing to enable economic growth in floodplains.
• Roundtable discussion #2 evaluated civil-military integration and the assessment of requirements for FHA prioritization, movement, and distribution.
• Facilitated discussions and work group out-brief solutions to real world historic HA/DR problems.
• Executed site visit to Kampong Speu Province, where RG showed dam, levee and safe haven locations. All locations will be used during the TTX, which commences tomorrow.

Tomorrow’s Activities

• Participants will complete the final Roundtable discussion on the subject of Foreign Humanitarian Assistance (FHA). The session will be led by UN-OCHA and reference lessons learned from the 2011 Mekong floods.
• Facilitate discussion and work group out briefs.
• The first two phases of the Table-Top Exercise will be executed. The exercise will focus on response through regional ASEAN mechanisms, standards, and procedures. Cambodian national response procedures will also be exercised.
• Conduct Day 3 summary of events.

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Lower Mekong Initiative
Pacific Resilience Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange
STORYBOARD (12 June 2013)

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Day 3: Highlights
• Completed the final Roundtable discussion and work group out-brief concerning initial foreign humanitarian assistance actions when facing an imminent large-scale flood event impacting the Mekong River and surrounding areas.
• Executed Phase 1 and 2 of the Table-Top Exercise (TTX).
• Phase 1 focused on ASEAN disaster response protocols (AADMER & SASOP).
• Phase 2 emphasized disaster response and national level government coordination.

Tomorrow’s Activities
• Complete final phase of TTX (Phase 3).
• Facilitate AAR work group activities.
• Present group AAR findings.
• Conduct LMI PR DREE Closing Ceremony.
• Hold press conference with USARPAC, USEMB, Cambodia National Committee for Disaster Management and Royal Gendarmerie.
• Distribute and collect participant evaluation forms.
• Compile final details for comprehensive written AAR.
Lower Mekong Initiative
Pacific Resilience Disaster Response Exercise & Exchange
STORYBOARD (13 June 2013)

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Day 4: Highlights

• Completed final phase of Table Top Exercise (TTX), encompassing disaster recovery and closeout.
• Facilitated After Action Review (AAR) work group activities.
• Presented group AAR briefings and overall feedback on LMI PR DREE.
• Conducted official closing ceremony led by Deputy Chief of Mission Jeff Daigle (USEMB), BG Sar Sambothon (Royal Gendarmerie) and HE Dr. Nhim Vanda (Cambodia National Committee for Disaster Management).
• Held press conference to discuss LMI topics and disaster management preparedness.
• Distributed certificates, group photos, and event proceedings to all participants.

Way Ahead

• LMI PR DREE will continue next year, and will rotate to another LMI Member State to host. Likely candidates include Lao PDR and Thailand.
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• Strategic focus on ASEAN SASOP and AADMER protocol could shift to a more operational focus next year.
• Continue to build enduring partnerships with LMI partners in order to enhance cross-border combined disaster preparedness and response in the Mekong delta.
• Continue to invite and encourage IOs, IGOs and NGOs to participate to enhance civil-military integration.