

RSIS Non-Traditional Security (NTS)

Year In Review 2014



RSIS NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY (NTS) *YEAR IN REVIEW 2014*

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Message from the Executive Deputy Chairman

Dear Readers,

2014 has been a dramatic and stressful year. There were typhoons and floods. Many scandals about food safety troubled consumers in various countries. But the most spectacular challenge has been the threat from the Ebola virus which killed thousands of innocent people. It seems that as our global community progresses in every conceivable arena of modern life, we are still unable to protect our society from infectious diseases.

As the world becomes smaller from technological advances and the remarkable connectivity resulting from economic integration and infrastructure development, particularly in transportation, new threats to human security have emerged. Such challenges require organising international efforts. The traditional institutions and parameters of international cooperation have to be recalibrated. Creative measures and innovative policies are needed to secure the global community from the non-traditional security (NTS) threats. The way forward rests with countries willing to exert more effort to work with one another for the common good.

The study of NTS contributes to this urgent process of organising international cooperation and engaging non-state actors with a global reach to deal with the impact for NTS challenges. RSIS has been among the first to mobilise new intellectual capabilities and harness human ingenuity to tackle the enormous complexity arising from the spread of NTS challenges. The snapshots contained in this Year in Review will provide a sampling of what RSIS is doing on NTS issues. We hope it will help in your appreciation of the impact of NTS and the considerable amount of work needed to deal with it.

Ong Keng Yong

Executive Deputy Chairman

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Singapore

Message from Head of Centre

Dear Readers,

As ASEAN forges ahead with regional integration and the ambitious goal of creating an ASEAN community of nations and people, it is more important than ever before to understand the common challenges faced in the region.

This year, several significant issues came into the limelight. Ebola and MERS continue to be major concerns for global health security. Singapore, Malaysia and the Indonesian province of Riau experienced the longest dry spell on record, causing water shortages, transboundary haze and fish stock depletion. Taiwanese food company, Wei Chuan Food Corp was embroiled in a scandal involving tainted oil. Indonesia finally ratified the ASEAN haze treaty and President Joko Widodo was recently elected ushering in a new era in Indonesian politics. An anti-trafficking bill was introduced in parliament in Singapore. And, just as thought we had an eventful 2014, another powerful cyclone, Hagupit, threatened to inflict massive devastation in typhoon-prone Philippines that was still recovering from the ravages of Cyclone Yolanda in 2013. Thus, even though there is cause for concern there is also room for hope. Transnational issues, which threaten security and thus stability and development, cannot be tackled in isolation. Due to their very nature, they demand collective action. The maintenance of important global public goods requires the participation of various stakeholders. There are a growing number of platforms for dialogue on food, water, energy, health and environmental issues that offer avenues forward to address these challenges.

This year's Year in Review focuses on the common threats that affect states and societies across the region. It aims to draw on relevant insights from theory and practice, thus contributing to raising awareness and the level of policy debate.

Associate Professor Mely Caballero-Anthony

Head

Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

Singapore

Key NTS Events 2014

India marked its third year since its last reported polio case, a landmark in the global battle against the disease.

Cambodia has been mired in political unrest after the Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party won 68 of the 123 legislative seats in the general elections in July 2013. Opposition leader, Sam Rainsy, has refused to accept the election results and has accused the Hun Sen government of pandering to Vietnam's interests.

The Thai government imposed a 60-day state of emergency in Bangkok and surrounding provinces, from 22 January, to cope with rising violence in Bangkok.

Vietnam delays the construction of its first nuclear power plant. It was originally planned to start in late 2014, and has been pushed back to 2017 or 2018.

Zhejiang became the first province to pass legislation for relaxing China's one-child policy, allowing a couple to have two children if one of them is an only child.

China, a leading contributor to global carbon emissions, aims to double the number of wind turbines in the next 6 years to reduce its carbon footprint.

JANUARY JULY

Malaysian Airlines Flight MH 17 was shot down by a Russian-designed surface-to-air missile when the aircraft was flying above eastern Ukraine at 33,000 feet, an air zone which the two latter countries had been fighting over in the past months.

Joko Widodo (Jokowi), former mayor of Jakarta, was elected as Indonesia's president, winning 53% of total votes. He is the first president without connections with either Suharto or the military.

Minister in the Malaysian Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Mah Siew Keong, announced that the Malaysian government would conduct a feasibility study on the construction of a nuclear power plant in 10 years' time.

The United Nations marked the first-ever World Day against Trafficking-in-Persons by calling the international community to end trafficking and the exploitation of victims, mostly women and children, for sex, forced labour, organ removal and other practices similar to slavery.

During the World Humanitarian Summit regional consultation for East Asia, over 140 participants from 16 countries recognized the importance of a collective and coordinated response to humanitarian crises, as well as coherence with other UN Assemblies' disaster risk reduction, sustainable goals, and climate change.

Singapore, Malaysia and the Indonesian province of Riau experienced the longest dry spell on record. The dry spell caused water shortages, bush fires, transboundary haze and death of fish stocks.

The European Union and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat sign a 35.5 million euros climate financing agreement to address adaptation, reduce reliance on fossil fuels and facilitate capacity building.

The Obama administration initiated a pact known as the "Global Health Security Agenda" with 26 other countries, focusing on improving defence against outbreaks (including prevention, detection, response) of infectious diseases.

Thai elections were proclaimed invalid after a boycott by the opposition and disruptions by the protesters left a fifth of the population unable to vote.

The eruption of East Java's Mt. Kelud in Indonesia led to a two-day closure of the airport and losses in the manufacturing and farming sectors.

FEBRUARY AUGUST

The World Health Organization declared the Ebola epidemic in West Africa as an international health emergency. Ebola has led to nearly 5000 deaths since the epidemic started.

Two senior surviving leaders of the Khmer Rouge, Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan, were found guilty of crimes against humanity and sentenced to life in prison by the UN-Cambodia tribunal.

China slashed its 2020 shale-gas goal from over 60 billion cubic meters (bcm) annually to 30 bcm.

Indonesia's anti-graft agency (KPK) gave the state food buying agency, Bulog, until December to fix problems in its national subsidised rice scheme, Raskin, or face a probe by the KPK.

Indonesia launched the Indonesian Centre of Excellence for Nuclear Security and Emergency Preparedness (I-CoNSEP), designed for coordinating nuclear security and established emergency responses.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) which warned of more severe climate impacts.

A joint humanitarian response was launched by Australia, China, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam to find survivors/debris from the Malaysian Airlines Flight MH 370 after it went missing while flying over the Gulf of Thailand in the South China Sea.

The 2014 Nuclear Security Summit was successfully held in The Hague, the Netherlands. This is the third of the four summits specifically aimed at enhancing nuclear security and reducing the risk of nuclear terrorism.

MARCH SEPTEMBER

Australia agreed to sell uranium to India, based on a mutual agreement that India will only use the ore for its civilian nuclear programme. This landmark agreement holds the potential of providing clean energy to over 1.25 billion people and follows the 2008 US-India nuclear agreement.

The United Nations adopted Resolution 2177 which offers instructions for how countries can best deal with the Ebola threat, such as lifting general travel and border restrictions, maintaining transport links, engaging with non-state actors and providing needed support, especially within Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Mekong River Commission Summit presented the Ho Chi Minh Declaration which proposed to expedite the implementation of basin-wide studies to reduce negative impacts of dam projects and prioritise initiatives to tackle the impact of natural disasters and climate change.

The Philippine government signed a second peace deal with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). However, the exclusion of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), private armies and paramilitary groups from the peace deal may hinder the peace process.

276 Nigerian school girls were abducted by Boko Haram, a militant group that is seeking the release of all imprisoned militants in Nigeria in exchange for the freedom of the girls.

The World Health Organization published "A global brief on vector-borne diseases" which outlines the steps that governments, communities and families can take to protect people from diseases such as malaria and dengue at the World Health Day on 7 April.

The United States suspended the delivery of financing for military training and sales after retired Thai leaders were detained by military generals following a coup on 22 May.

National police officials of ASEAN member states agreed to work together as "ASEANAPOL" towards an action plan for addressing international crime, which includes information sharing and skills training.

Cambodia signed an agreement to accept refugees from Australia, in exchange for pecuniary compensation.

Russia signed a 30-year agreement to sell China 38 billion cubic meters of natural gas at slightly subsidised rates annually, with the latter providing financing for development of gas fields and pipelines.

The World Bank reported that internationally traded food prices went up by an average of 4% , led by wheat (18%) and maize (12%).

At the World Health Assembly organized by the World Health Organization resolutions such as the establishment of a monitoring framework for child nutrition, a pooled fund for voluntary state contributions towards research into diseases of the poor, and the completion of unfinished work of the health Millennium Development Goals in the post-2015 development agenda, were approved.

Thailand's military government ended the rice price-support scheme of former Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in which the government paid farmers 50% more than world market prices. The scheme had failed to increase the price of rice exports and resulted in massive stockpiling of grains in the country's warehouses.

ASEAN celebrated ASEAN dengue day on 15 June to demonstrate the region's commitment to tackling this disease through raising awareness and mobilising resources for prevention and control.

APRIL

OCTOBER

MAY

NOVEMBER

JUNE

DECEMBER

Pro-democracy activists blocked major roads in Hong Kong and launched a month-long sit-in after China announced a decision to vet candidates for post of Chief Executive before a popular vote. Popular elections for the Chief Executive will be the first in Hong Kong's history.

Governments in Southeast Asia enhanced efforts to combat radicalisation with Indonesia banning support for ISIS and Malaysia arresting suspected ISIS-militants as ISIS extended its reach into Muslim communities in Southeast Asia.

Taiwanese food company, Wei Chuan Food Corp, was accused of selling thousands of tonnes of tainted oil intended for animal food as regular cooking oil, affecting more than 1000 restaurants, bakeries and food plants in Taiwan.

The world's largest carbon emitters, the United States and China, sealed a climate deal during the APEC summit. China pledged that emissions will peak by 2030 with a goal of achieving 20% energy consumption from renewables and the United States agreed to cut emissions by 26 to 28% below 2005 levels by 2025.

India returns to the negotiation table on the issue of food stockpiling, after stalling the WTO's Bali Package (December 2013) since July 2014. It is the biggest WTO achievement since its inception, the Bali Package is a global trade deal which addresses, among others, the instabilities of food stockpiling, putting a limit of 10% on all countries.

For the first time, a bill against Human Trafficking is passed in Singapore's Parliament ("Prevention of Human Trafficking Bill"). It defines acts of trafficking in persons (TIP), the means to these, and penalties of the acts.

The Philippines braved Typhoon Hagupit, the strongest to hit since Typhoon Haiyan which devastated thousands in 2013. There were only 27 reported deaths and no deaths in Tacloban City, as of 9th Dec 2014, compared to thousands last year in Tacloban City. In addition to better preparation, it was also helped greatly by the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA). The AHA Centre sent a six-man ASEAN Emergency Rapid Assessment Team to help vulnerable areas prepare for the typhoon.

The disappearance of AirAsia flight QZ8501 en-route from Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore, saw the rapid deployment of search and rescue teams from the defence forces of Malaysia, Singapore and Australia to assist Indonesia in the search for the missing plane.

Ebola and Asia's Health Security

Mely Caballero-Anthony

The alarming spread of Ebola in West Africa caught the global community by surprise and raised concern of the possible contagion beyond the region. Although its first reported outbreak was in March 2014, it was only 5 months later in August that the WHO declared Ebola to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). The delayed announcement of the WHO and the slow global response were blamed for the rapid rate of infection which, at latest count stood at 17,942 infections and 6,388 reported deaths. The West African states of Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea had been the worst affected countries, while cases were also seen in the United States and Spain.

The outbreak of a highly infectious disease like Ebola had taken a huge toll on human lives and at one point threatened to paralyse the workings of daily life in the affected countries. Moreover, the high risk of infection among health workers and care givers had unfortunately sowed panic and distrust and had, in turn, adversely affected the much needed medical assistance coming from within and outside the African region.

The health crisis also proved to be very costly for the less developed Ebola-hit region, with the World Bank estimating that the epidemic could financially cripple West Africa by US\$32.6 billion by the end of 2015.

SARS 2002 - 2004

- 16 November 2002: SARS Outbreak began in Guangdong province of China
- 11 April 2003: World Health Organisation issues global health alert for SARS
- November 2002 - July 2003: According to WHO, SARS caused an eventual 8,096 cases and 774 deaths

EBOLA 2014

- December 2013: Outbreak began in Guinea, spreading to Liberia and Sierra Leone
- 18 September 2014: UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2177 that Ebola outbreak in Africa constituted a threat to global peace and security
- 26 December 2014: Latest estimates from the US Center for Disease Control suggest 19,980 cases and 7,793 recorded deaths. These estimates note that actual cases could be two to three times higher than official estimates

Lessons from Asia

The Ebola crisis proved to be a surreal repeat of what happened to Asia during the SARS pandemic in 2003. SARS also spread rapidly beyond Asia, but unlike Ebola that still continues to spread, already in its fourth month after it was declared PHEIC, SARS

was effectively contained within four months after its reported outbreak. The comparison between the two global health crises could not have been more stark and thus point to salient lessons that need to be heeded if global health is to be protected.

Rapid disease reporting and response are critical

The Ebola virus first appeared in Africa in 1976. But the alarming health crisis that the current Ebola outbreak has caused was due to a number of reasons. One critical factor was the delay in its first reporting to the time it was declared by WHO as a PHEIC and by the United Nations Security Council Ebola as a 'threat to international peace and security'. The time lag affected the rapid mobilisation of medical assistance which was extremely critical in areas where health systems are very weak and fragile. As a consequence, by the time international efforts were organised, thousands of lives were already lost. Among the victims were medical personnel and care givers. At the height of the crisis, the WHO had projected Ebola infections to reach 20,000 people.

The importance of timely reporting of disease outbreaks cannot be overemphasised. This was critical to Asia during the SARS crisis and was instrumental in immediately mobilising resources to contain the pandemic. This was missing in West Africa, although there were reports about the spread of Ebola from NGOs like Medecins Sans Frontieres. After the SARS outbreak, the practice of disease surveillance and timely reporting was institutionalised in Asia with the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) regional disease surveillance mechanisms that has standardised a Protocol for Communication and Information Sharing on Emerging Infectious Diseases. The protocol encourages member states to report all cases of diseases that are categorised as a PHEIC.



Terisa Folaron / flickr.

Lessons from the SARS episode in 2004 have prepared most countries' health systems in Asia for Ebola.

With ASEAN as the driving force, the APT disease surveillance mechanism further led to the creation of the APT Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN), which brings together regional expertise in joint disease surveillance, including conducting epidemiological studies and sharing treatment protocols. This particular framework proved to be a useful forum for the medical community in ASEAN to discuss the treatment and control of Ebola in the event that this virus enters the region.

Importance of timely reporting of disease outbreaks cannot be overemphasised. This was critical in Asia during the SARS crisis and was instrumental in immediately mobilising resources

Information sharing and effective communication

A serious impediment in effectively containing the spread of Ebola was the fear and panic that the Ebola outbreak generated, not only within the affected communities but in neighbouring countries that were proximate to the crisis area. This did not only affect the treatment of infected people and their families, but also the way dead bodies were handled.



UNICEF in Guinea / flickr.

Massive public information campaigns are needed to counter the misinformation and misperception about Ebola and its victims.

Even some medical workers were shunned and stigmatised due to a lack of accurate information on how to manage the effects of Ebola. A case in point was the way a returning nurse from West Africa had to be isolated without proper quarantine guidelines. This type of reaction is symptomatic of how a lack of information and proper medical guidelines on how to deal with possible exposure to the disease can not only alienate health workers but also diminish the valuable contribution of these first responders to any global health crisis.

Taking a leaf from the experience of the SARS, it is instructive to note that massive public information campaigns were undertaken by authorities in SARS affected countries to counter the misinformation and misperception about SARS and its victims. Cognizant of the need to get the public well informed about how to deal with a highly infectious disease outbreak, the concerted public information campaign contributed to the establishment of the ASEAN Risk Communication Resource Centre (CRC) which aims to support efforts in managing public health emergencies.



European Commission DG ECHO / flickr.

Some medical workers were shunned and stigmatised due to a lack of accurate information on how to manage the effects of Ebola.

Massive public information campaigns were undertaken by authorities in SARS affected countries to counter misinformation and misperception

Critical regional and global response

Despite earlier criticisms of a delayed response to an evolving global health crisis, the international assistance that followed was critical in finally getting the much needed medical resources to the disease stricken countries. Many countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, China, Japan and Southeast Asian countries provided both financial and

human resources to help stem the Ebola outbreak. International financial institutions like the World Bank and the IMF further contributed around US\$235 million to boost international financial assistance. Equally important was the deployment of qualified and trained health workers to affected areas where medical care was almost absent.

Raising the importance of strong public health systems

One of the common features of the Ebola outbreak is the fact that the most affected countries are also among the poorest in the world and had recent histories of internal conflicts. These common characteristics also explain why their public health systems are weak and the infrastructure poor. Hence the ability of these countries to put a strong defence against deadly diseases is seriously hampered by the lack of proper health facilities, particularly laboratories for diagnostic testing of new or re-emerging viruses. The shortage of trained medical personnel to deal with highly infectious disease outbreaks further compounds the problem of controlling the spread of the disease. In most cases, poor countries do not have the surge capacity to deal with outbreaks of deadly Ebola-type pandemics.

As international efforts continue to fight Ebola, it is worth noting that in the last decade, the world has seen two major health crises of global proportions. While ASEAN and the wider region may have been spared from the Ebola episode, in a highly connected world however, Asia cannot afford to let their guard down. Given the regional health frameworks that have been put in place as a result of Asia's experience with SARS, there are more compelling reasons now to strengthen regional cooperation in disease surveillance and pandemic preparedness, as well as increase public awareness of how to manage pandemic outbreaks.

Community health volunteers in the Ebola-affected countries in West Africa are crucial in raising awareness and preventing the spread of the Ebola virus. They are vital for contract tracing and teaching self-quarantine measures for the sick who have no access to health facilities.

European Commission DG ECHO / flickr.



The Rise of Food Sovereignty in Southeast Asia

Jonatan Anderias Lassa

Since the 1996 Food Summit, there has been an acceptance among policy makers and researchers globally that “food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.” However, this definition is deemed inadequate by some social movements. La Via Campesina, an international social movement, launched Food Sovereignty at the 1996 Food Summit as an alternative concept to the mainstream definition of food security which was officially adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization. It was initially considered as an alternative framework to the market-driven nature of food security which did not give enough attention to the questions of where, how, by whom and for whom food was produced. Food Sovereignty has been gaining popularity as a number of governments have

officially adopted its framework and principles on a national level. In the Via Campesina’s Forum for Food Sovereignty in 2007, its principles were elaborated once again as following:

- Promotion of greater participation in decision-making and the rights of farmers to define their own food and agriculture systems;
- Marginal farmers should have access to land (including land reforms), water, seeds, livestock breeds and credit;
- Right of local people to have access to healthy and culturally appropriate food in which;
- Food should be produced in an ecologically sustainable manner;
- Decision-making on food production, distribution and consumption should be placed in the hands of local producers, distributors and consumers and not in the hands of markets and corporations;

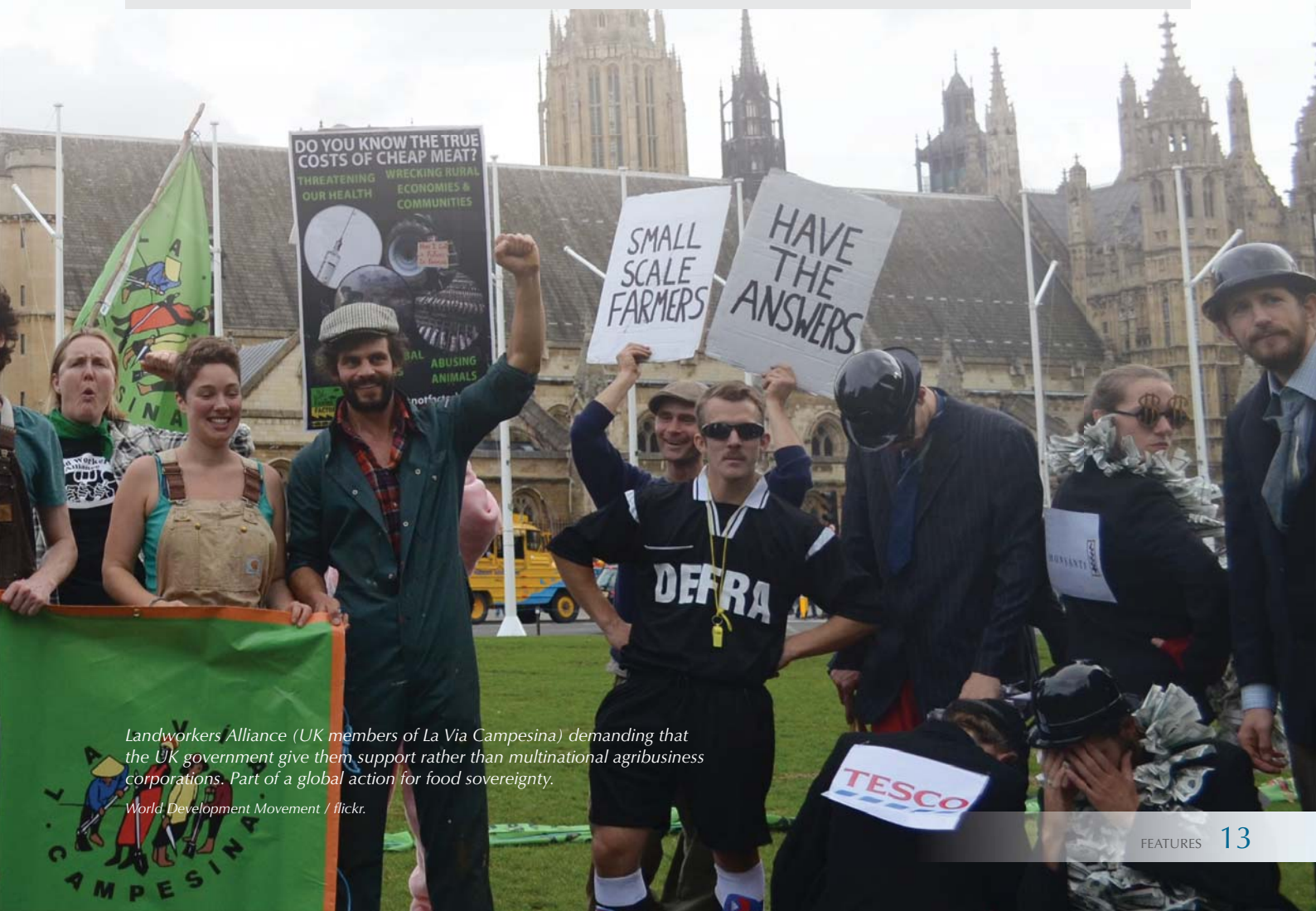


- Prioritization of local and national economies and markets, and empowerment of peasant and family farmer-driven agriculture, artisanal fishing, pastoralist-led grazing, and food production;
- Ensuring transparency in food trade that guarantees just income to all peoples and the rights of consumers to control their food and nutrition;
- Ensuring the rights of local producers to use and manage lands, territories, waters, seeds, livestock and biodiversity;
- Establishing new social relations free of oppression and inequality;
- Ensuring food systems safeguard inter-generational equity.

In the rice producing regions of Southeast Asia, the food sovereignty movement arose from organised action among rice farmers. In this case, it simply meant rice (rather than food) sovereignty. However, over time, food sovereignty expanded to include more diverse types of food commodities and food systems. It has finally emerged as a new framework where civil society and governments seek to democratize local food systems. It emerged from an alternative policy framework conceptualised and popularised by global civil society to be a progressive discourse to mainstream food security policy of governments in Southeast Asia.

In the context of Asia, food sovereignty is often promoted by:

- Asia Pacific Network on Food Sovereignty – headquartered in Quezon City NCR Philippines
- PCFS People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty, Quezon City established in 2001
- Food Sovereignty Network South Asia (FSNSA) headquartered in Kolkata, India
- The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (Global)
- La Via Campesina, the International Peasant Movement



Landworkers Alliance (UK members of La Via Campesina) demanding that the UK government give them support rather than multinational agribusiness corporations. Part of a global action for food sovereignty.

World Development Movement / flickr.

Jokowi and Food Sovereignty Adoption



Yulian Hendryana / flickr.

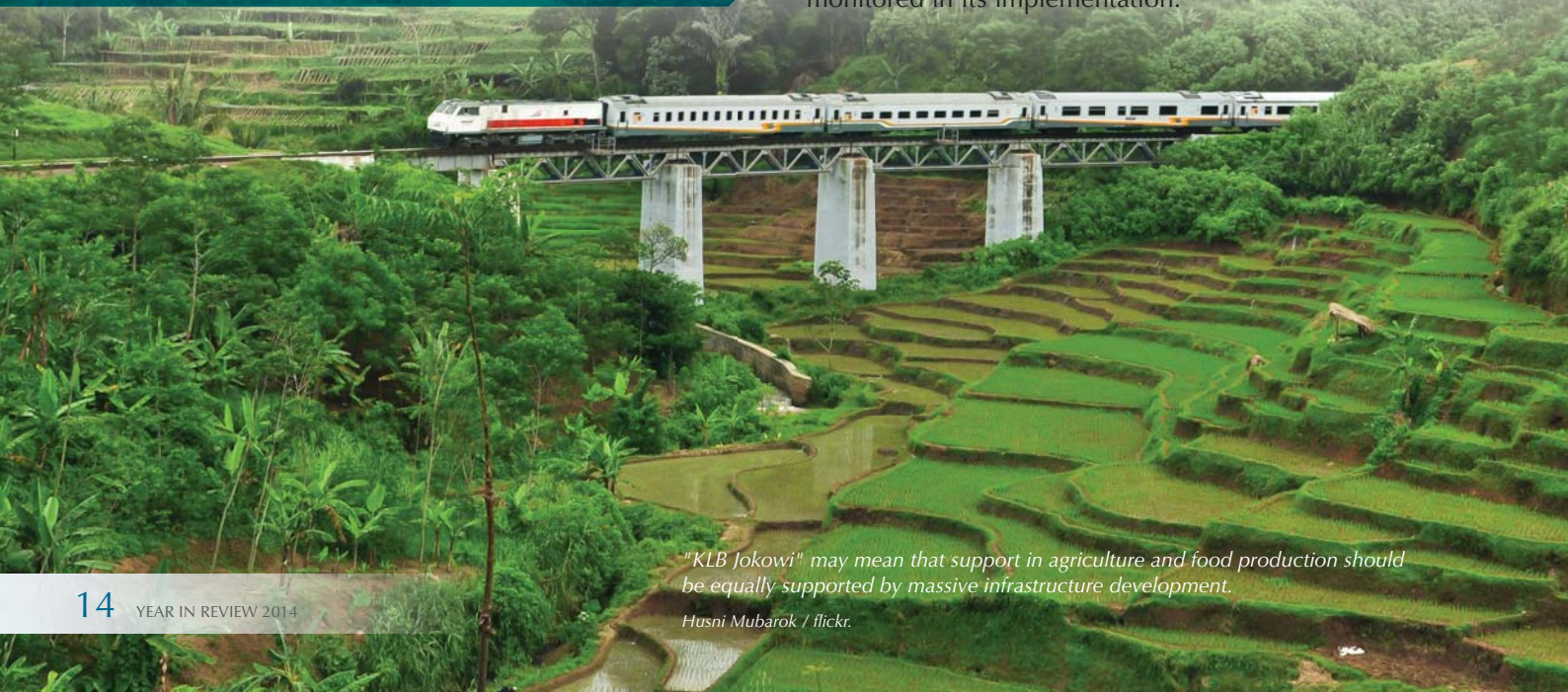
The newly elected president of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, adopted Food Sovereignty as a concept in his political campaign in 2014. His approach proved to win hearts and minds of the voters.

A recent post on Jokowi's Facebook page, stated, "Food security is different from food sovereignty. Food security is simply the availability of foodstuffs (logistically) in warehouses and in the markets regardless of the origin whether from imports or locally produced. Food sovereignty means we produce and market our food ourselves, while the surplus of agricultural crops is exported. If we are sovereign in our food production, any disturbances abroad, will not have a significant impact on our food reserve and we can still have an adequate supply to feed our people. Our commitment towards food sovereignty is firm. Our food sovereignty vision at the highest level is for our food production to overflow the local and international markets or at the very least, we have to be the largest food producer in ASEAN."

Food Sovereignty, as opposed to food security, has recently been adopted as a formal policy framework by the newly elected Indonesian President, Joko Widodo (Jokowi). Jokowi's notion of food sovereignty has largely focused on the food production dimension of food security. Food sovereignty can be politically attractive to strong nationalistic regimes which can capitalise on the concept to win the hearts and the minds of voters particularly in the large agrarian economies of Southeast Asia. It was once a concept used by farmers' organisations, fishers, pastoralists and local/indigenous peoples' organisations, civil society organisations (CSOs), as well as interested politicians. It was flexibly designed, as Paul Nicholson (La Via Campesina) argued, so that "Food sovereignty is not a fixed principle, it's a process - it's happening, and it's been made to happen, through the struggles of peoples all over the world."

***"Food
sovereignty
is not a fixed
principle,
it's a process"***

Prior to Jokowi, the Indonesian government passed the Food Bill 8/2012 which defines food security as 'the rights of the state and the nation to determine food policy which ensures people's right to food and provides rights for the people to determine food systems that is appropriate with local resources'. Despite the fact that President Jokowi claims to adopt the notion of food sovereignty into Indonesian food policy, it is still little known how the key food sovereignty components are being formulated in policy planning and adequately monitored in its implementation.



"KLB Jokowi" may mean that support in agriculture and food production should be equally supported by massive infrastructure development.

Husni Mubarak / flickr.

The Challenges

The operationalisation of food sovereignty is never without difficulties. One of the debates is where to locate sovereignty (at citizens or at state level). The concept, therefore, requires a clearer definition. Jokowi's definition of food sovereignty has been much clearer at the production level but less clear on how to sustain food access and nutrition, with food stability.

In today's neoliberal economic context, some scholars have credited food sovereignty to be used as a counter narrative to confront global land grabbing problems as well as unsustainable practices in local and international food systems. Indonesia and Malaysia are concerned with the promotion of local production to increase rice self-sufficiency, illustrating their policy orientation towards food sovereignty. The recent adoption of food sovereignty is likely to reinforce a food self-sufficiency policy in Indonesia, which many have argued is often short lived and inefficient.

The Philippines civil society has been pressuring the government to adopt the food sovereignty framework. However, the government's interest remains on market orientation. Indeed, economic success from the production of genetically modified (GM) maize has made little

room for the government to proceed to experiment with food sovereignty. It remains unclear how much traction food sovereignty gets in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia's food policies. There is an increasing concern from Vietnam's agriculturalists over the impact of GM crops, especially maize. However, criticisms of GM foods are concerned with food safety and risks and whether necessary controls over inputs and seeds exist. Amid the continuous trends of reduced agricultural land, demographic shifts, climate change and the search for new technology to feed 9 billion people in 2050, recent and future bio-technology may offer greater possibilities for a second green revolution. The proponents of food

sovereignty may be resistant to science-based innovation especially when it comes to GM foods and related biotechnology. The food sovereignty policy narrative embeds risk averse behavior to markets and new biotechnological experiments which in turn may give little space for future innovation and is a challenge to future food security. It is indeed necessary to conduct

a more systematic study into the costs and benefits of food sovereignty to provide a scenario analysis of existing and alternative models for future food security and for more rational policy making.

Recent adoption of food sovereignty is likely to reinforce a food self-sufficiency policy in Indonesia, which many have argued is often short-lived and inefficient



Via Campesina argues for Food Sovereignty.

Jean-Marc Desfilhes / flickr.

The New Realities and Changing Landscape of Humanitarian Action

Alistair D.B. Cook



Russell Watkins / Department for International Development

A church on the outskirts of Tacloban is one of the few buildings to remain unscathed after Typhoon Haiyan devastated the city on 8 November 2013.

As 2014 draws to a close, the Philippines confronted Typhoon Hagupit when it made landfall on 4th-5th December. Initial reports made by the Joint Typhoon Warning Centre predicted it would reach the intensity of Typhoon Haiyan. Yet, while the devastating impact of last year's Typhoon Haiyan was averted, a reported 18 people were dead, 916 injured, close to one million displaced, and an estimated US\$75 million in damages by mid-December.

As we commemorate the first anniversary of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, it is important to reflect on the several advances made in humanitarian assistance over the past twelve months and how better preparedness and awareness channelled limited resources where they were needed.

As the scale of Super Typhoon Haiyan became clear at the beginning of 2014 – killing 6,300 people, affecting 11 million people and costing an estimated US\$10 billion – many lessons were observed as various government agencies and militaries, international and regional organisations, non-governmental organisations, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement took stock of the international response.

One year on, while Typhoon Hagupit was much less intense, the humanitarian response had improved with

better warnings around storm surges, advanced placement of food stocks and medical teams to minimise casualties, and 1.7 million people evacuated their homes into nearly 5,200 evacuation centres.

These two super typhoons were not isolated incidents. Many communities across the Asia - Pacific face more frequent and larger disasters. In addition to more extreme weather events is an increasingly diverse range of international humanitarian responders. One of the core challenges we face today is the absence of appropriate governance mechanisms to make sure efforts are not duplicated, harm is not done, and needs are met. The 1994 Oslo Guidelines were put in place to coordinate international humanitarian responses. Yet twenty years on, the guidelines in place are no longer fit for purpose. Indeed, that is not to say that guidelines and standard operating procedures have not been written; they have and in a great number.

The challenge the global community faces today is how to formulate an inclusive framework that draws on the strengths of different stakeholders. The Sphere standards were designed to provide universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance. However, these standards are criticised for their overly technical focus and saw some humanitarian responders withdraw from the project. The international humanitarian system is now a crowded field with a diversity and rising number of non-state actors in addition to traditional state actors and international organisations providing humanitarian assistance. As a result, there is a need for a revised, inclusive and comprehensive framework for humanitarian assistance.



NOAA / JMA

Super Typhoon Hagupit on 5 December 2014 Edited MTSAT-2 (a Japanese weather satellite) by way of NOAA of Super Typhoon Hagupit next to the Philippines.

Realising Change?

Today's humanitarian landscape sees non-state actors providing the majority of civilian assistance. Alongside NGOs, the UN and Red Cross account for a quarter of the response each, as calculated by the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance. At the same time, the types of disasters communities and states face have diversified and some have collided to create complex humanitarian emergencies. There is an increasing risk of technological disasters including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) hazards where countries adversely affected by financial crises are unwilling to replace or unable to maintain aging infrastructure or are built in harm's way of extreme weather events, pre-existing social tensions or conflicts.

Further, the international community faces a multitude of factors such as urbanisation, rapid population growth, climate change, and water shortages which impact how communities and states respond. In essence, non-traditional security threats have grown; the responses needed have become more complex but are faced with glacial changes in approach.

While the humanitarian landscape continues to evolve, it is essential that the principles of humanitarian assistance remain intact to ensure civilian protection but new modes of interacting have never been more pressing. The principles of neutrality, impartiality, independence and a commitment to humanity need to form the bedrock of humanitarian assistance the world over.

That is why this year the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon started an initiative to improve humanitarian action, which will culminate in the Global Humanitarian Summit in 2016. In the lead up to the world summit, the UN Secretary-General aims 'to build a more inclusive and diverse humanitarian system by bringing all key stakeholders together to share best practices and find innovative ways to make humanitarian action more effective'. The 2016 summit will convene a space for the key actors to create pathways forward to address the humanitarian challenges related to natural hazards and conflicts.

Tacloban, January 28th, 2014 - In the Rawis and Anibong Bay districts, 8 boats were washed ashore by the typhoon and killed hundreds of people.

Claudio Accheri / flickr.



Humanitarianism in the Asia-Pacific

Across the Asia-Pacific governments and communities are trying to grapple with extreme weather patterns and conflicts. It has been evident for a long time that a coordinated humanitarian response is difficult, and will remain a challenge particularly between civilian and military actors.

Within the region, ASEAN has been at the forefront of bringing together key humanitarian responders to develop an effective and coordinated response. Through the development of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Relief, the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management or AHA Centre for short was established as a regional body to facilitate linkages between national governments, the United Nations and international organisations in times of need.

Established in November 2011, the AHA Centre most recently sent its emergency response team and the ASEAN Emergency Response Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) a day before Typhoon Hagupit landed in the Philippines. The team monitored developments, provided emergency telecommunication support, and assisted in rapid assessment of the Philippines national disaster council. They also provided logistical support for relief item deployment from ASEAN's emergency stockpile in Subang, Malaysia, and coordinated with other ASEAN member states and regional non-state or private sector actors like the Corporate Citizen Foundation's Swift Emergency Evaluation Deployment (SEED) team.

With the difficulties faced to deliver aid where it was needed most in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, there was recognition that the surge capacity of donor militaries played an important role and was a key stakeholder in the humanitarian landscape.

The launch of Singapore's Changi Regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Command and Control Centre (RHCC) in September 2014 is to coordinate such

a military response with an affected country when they do not have the bandwidth themselves. However, while the offer of a mobile Command and Control unit was in place during Typhoon Hagupit, the devastation seen by Typhoon Haiyan a year earlier was averted.

As a result of these two significant developments, Southeast Asia is now home to two regional coordinating institutions for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief – the AHA Centre and Changi RHCC. It is therefore of critical importance that these two regional institutions work together to build towards an inclusive and coordinated response in the aftermath of a disaster in the Asia-Pacific.

One of the greatest challenges these institutions face will be for effective communication between militaries, national governments, regional organisations and civilian agencies. However, the emergence of these two regional bodies signals a clear commitment by governments in Southeast Asia to build capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies.

These regional institutions will face more complex disasters ahead and so while the seeds of cooperation and coordination have been planted, the forthcoming year will provide the opportunity to continue to develop disaster preparedness and response in the region.



Debris littering the streets of Tacloban City on November 14, nearly a week after the storm struck.

Eoghan Rice - Trócaire / Caritas

Evolution of AHA Centre and Future Prospects

The establishment of the AHA Centre in 2011 was a long time in the making. On 26 June 1976 the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand signed the ASEAN Declaration on Mutual Assistance on Natural Disasters in Manila, Philippines. The declaration sought to establish designated national government agencies to be internal coordinating bodies to gather, collate and exchange data on natural disasters.

These agencies were also identified to be the key focal point for ASEAN cooperation to improve communications on disaster warnings, exchange of experts, trainees, information and documents, and provide medical supplies, services and relief assistance.

Yet it was not until early 2003 that the experts group was strengthened to be a full committee, meeting on a regular basis and agreeing to a regional program to develop an ASEAN framework for cooperation on humanitarian assistance, and disaster reduction,

management and relief. At a special ASEAN Leaders' Meeting on Aftermath of the 26 December 2004 Earthquake and Tsunami, regional leaders committed to better coordinate efforts to ensure effective and sustainable responses in ASEAN.

As a result, the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Relief was signed in 2005 and came into effect in 2009. Now a decade later as we commemorate those that lost their lives, the AHA Centre is illustrative of the regional commitment and response ASEAN member states made.

Under Said Faisal, the executive director of the AHA Centre, it has established a 91-member ASEAN Emergency Response and Assessment Team (ASEAN-ERAT) of which 72 are from ASEAN member states. This is illustrative of the significant progress made over the last decade and part of a vision for the regional mechanism to facilitate cooperation in ASEAN characterised into four waves.

AHA 1.0	AHA 2.0	AHA 3.0	ASEAN X.0
Coordination with national disaster management office	- Consolidates ASEAN partnerships across sectors - The start of the ASEAN Community in 2015 formally establishes the 'One ASEAN, One Response' vision	- Make external connections with the ASEAN Regional Forum, East Asia Summit among others - Further enhance partnership with UN agencies particularly OCHA	ASEAN response to humanitarian emergencies outside the region

Advancing Non-Traditional Security Studies

Maxim Shrestha

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa, cyclone Hudhud in South Asia, and the rise of ISIS in the Middle East, are just some of the notable non-traditional security (NTS) issues in 2014. Barring a few major incidents – mainly the Russia-Ukraine crisis and skirmishes in the South China Sea – which are largely viewed through a traditional security lens, the majority of international crises in the past year fall within the domain of NTS. How can we explain and understand NTS?

NTS is an approach to assess and analyse security issues from a comprehensive, needs-based perspective rather than from a statist and military understanding. The strict conceptualisation of international security in terms of national sovereignty and territorial integrity is insufficient given the immediate challenges and urgency of internal conflicts, pandemics, global fight against hunger, environmental deterioration, and transnational crime which pose a greater threat to people, irrespective of national borders.

NTS is an approach to assess and analyse security issues from a comprehensive, needs-based perspective

It is increasingly evident that NTS issues are becoming front and centre for most governments and policy makers. There is growing awareness that potential threats can now emanate from within the state or through non-state actors, rather than from another state as was largely the case in the past. Today security, international legitimacy, and sovereignty rest not only on territorial control, but also on a nation's service, support, and fulfilment of the basic rights of its citizens.

Refugees continue to risk their lives in open seas in search of better lives.

U.S. Department of Defense / Wikimedia.



NTS as a Framework



International Committee of the Red Cross / flickr.

International humanitarian organisations offer support to millions of people every year.

NTS is not the antithesis of what is referred to as traditional security; rather it is the reconceptualisation of it. Traditional understandings of security in strategic military terms and political stability are still necessary and relevant components of national security. These are therefore important considerations for food, energy, and health security among others, and part and parcel of how we understand such insecurities can destabilise or affect states and societies.

NTS identifies individuals and communities as the referents for security, yet does not negate the role and importance of states in delivering and

providing security. It helps broaden and deepen the understanding of security today, where non-state actors, organisations, political entities, and the people and communities who are at risk themselves play a greater role in providing or ensuring their own security.

NTS identifies individuals and communities as the referents for security, yet does not negate the role and importance of states in delivering and providing security

It is important to assess NTS issues across different levels of analysis, in geo-strategic terms where states and political entities become the focus and in human security terms where the focus lies on societies, communities and individuals. Lastly, how these two levels interact, influence and reinforce each other on a particular issue – be it water scarcity, pandemics or climate change, allows a deeper understanding of the issue at hand.

Evolution and Mainstreaming of NTS

A more comprehensive understanding of security emerged in the 1980s, particularly after the end of the Cold War. With growing consciousness about environmental degradation, international human rights, democratisation, and the rapid pace of globalisation, state-centred notions of security quickly became limited. The need for a broader conception of security increasingly became clear.

The United Nations' Human Development Report of 1994 introduced the Human Security paradigm on a global level and can be considered a milestone in reframing the concept of security. Similarly the Human Security Commission in 2000 further propagated the need and relevance of an NTS approach. Closer to home, Asia's experience of the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997/98 and its aftermath also helped raise the

significance and the need for Asia to start thinking from an NTS perspective.

Following in these steps, a consortium of NTS studies in Asia was officially launched in 2007, which helped to offer a clear, agreed definition of NTS. According to NTS-Asia, "Non-traditional security issues are challenges to the survival and well-being of peoples and states that arise primarily out of non-military sources, such as climate change, resource scarcity, infectious diseases, natural disasters, irregular migration, food shortages, people smuggling, drug trafficking and transnational crime. These dangers are often transnational in scope, defying unilateral remedies and requiring comprehensive - political, economic, social - responses, as well as humanitarian use of military force."

Trends over the last decade suggest an increase in the number of networks and mechanisms which have opened up to address NTS issues. Cities, rather than nations, have been cooperating with one another on a multitude of issues from climate change, pressures of urbanisation, and migration, to name a few. Similarly, non-government actors are also becoming more involved and participating in local, national, and multilateral forums and influencing the NTS agenda.

Along with increased influence on agendas, non-government actors and stakeholders – be it communities, NGOs, private sector, national and sub-national organisations – are also directly involved in addressing NTS issues, often times by working together. Given such developments, NTS has become even more relevant as a framework to understand and analyse security today.

Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia)

Academic institutions and scholars from across Asia came together in 1999 to discuss non-traditional aspects of security in a post-Cold War and post-Asian Financial Crisis regional environment. Other than examining NTS issues, the Consortium also analyses trends and developments like globalisation, regional integration, governance in plural societies, and environmental challenges which have a direct impact on the security landscape going into the future.

Today, NTS-Asia continues to facilitate and advance the discussion on NTS and transnational issues, investigate and scrutinise the process of securitisation and de-securitisation of issues, and promote better understanding of NTS to policy makers to help formulate appropriate and effective policies.

Challenges and Future Steps

Despite acceptance and greater appreciation of the NTS approach in the last couple of decades, this broadening of security has also brought with it its own set of conceptual and theoretical problems which continue to be relevant today. For example

- What does it mean to securitise something and who is to provide this “security”?
- What, why, by whom, and for what ends does an issue get securitised?
- What is the role of the state in securitising and/or guaranteeing such security?
- Is the state always in the best position to respond to such new security problems?



Indian Navy

Estimated damages of over US\$11 billion and 109 lives were lost to Cyclone Hudhud in 2014.

These questions are pertinent to critically discuss security and securitisation. There is an inherent risk of diminishing relevance if any type of political, social and cultural threat is securitised or framed as a non-traditional security problem. How we choose and decide on what makes something a security issue versus something that is just a challenge of modern everyday life that has to be addressed on a regular basis.

Security issues now require a more systemic and oftentimes a long-term perspective

The presence of these important challenges and unresolved debates suggest that NTS as an approach and framework is going to continue to evolve. On some level this is welcomed since the concept of security itself is dynamic and is likely to evolve in the 21st century. Nonetheless, it is clear that security issues now require a more systemic and often times a long-term perspective, rather than an isolated short-term understanding, in order to effectively tackle them. This is something NTS will continue to offer to the discourse in the foreseeable future.

Hong Kong civil protests also referred to as the Umbrella movement, have been ongoing since late September.

Citobun / Wikimedia Commons.



Citobun / Wikimedia Commons

Hong Kong civil protests also referred to as the Umbrella movement, have been ongoing since late September.

For a more detailed discussion on the NTS Framework, please refer to

- Mely Caballero-Anthony and Alistair D.B. Cook (2013) Non-Traditional Security in Asia: Issues, Challenges and Frameworks for Action (ISEAS).
- J. Jackson Ewing and Mely Caballero Anthony (2013) Non-Traditional Security in the 21st Century, RSIS Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Year in Review 2013.



Swings and Roundabouts: Political Transitions in Southeast Asia

As we entered 2014, Thailand was in the midst of demonstrations and mass civil unrest; Myanmar saw increased levels of violence and the political standoff between the Cambodian People's Party and Cambodian National Rescue Party led to protests in Phnom Penh. From the outset, it appeared 2014 would be the year of political backsliding and the erosion of democratic practices in the region. However, eleven months on the largely peaceful contest to elect Indonesian President Joko Widodo, offered a sign of hope that democratic elections are sustainable and can be free and fair in Southeast Asia.

Across the region we have seen an increasingly active civil society where people have taken to the streets to protest against corruption and poor government records. In Thailand the bitter and divisive protests saw the red and yellow shirts once again take to the streets.

On 22 May, the Royal Thai Armed Forces led by General Prayuth Chan-ocha staged a coup d'état overthrowing the caretaker government of Prime Minister Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan who took office after the Constitutional Court of Thailand removed Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra from office. General

Prayuth Chan-ocha established a Council for Peace and Order to run the country.

Under the military government, many activists have been arrested and detained. While the international community responded quickly with sanctions, in a bizarre twist, voices from Myanmar began to openly share their experience of 'disciplined democracy' as a lesson for Thailand. However, it appears that military rule in Thailand will remain for the foreseeable future.



A crowd of anti-government protesters the day before the scheduled elections at the intersection of Silom road and Rama 4 road in Bangkok, Thailand, 1 February 2014.

Russell Watkins / Department for International Development

Peace, democracy and displacement

Rather more familiar with voices from Thailand sharing their own democratic experience, Myanmar's 'disciplined democracy' saw the continued rise of anti-Muslim rhetoric, violence and riots across the country. This was coupled with a fragile peace process between the military and the officially recognised ethnic nationalities. While multiple rounds of negotiations were held throughout the year, conflict remained part of the process and culminated in the Myanmar Army reportedly killing 23 people in a mortar attack in November along the Myanmar - China border in

Kachin State. Actions such as this threaten to derail the talks. Further west, along the Bangladesh-Myanmar border in Rakhine State saw huge numbers of displaced and stateless Rohingya, some fleeing by boats ending up in neighbouring Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Many Rohingya remain internally displaced in camps within Rakhine State with severely restricted access to food, clean water and health services. While international NGOs sought access to the populations of concern, many organisations could not finalise



Heng Reaksney / VOA Khmer.

A young protester calls for Prime Minister Hun Sen to step down on the final day of a three-day rally organised by opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party, Phnom Penh, Oct. 25, 2013. Throughout 2014 the government and opposition continued to dispute the election outcome.

Memoranda of Understanding with the government and so remain unable to reach those most in need. What many viewed as incremental steps towards the opening up of political space in Myanmar have not materialised with any significant speed or reach. As we enter 2015, the national elections will be held in Myanmar most likely under the unreformed 2008 constitution limiting the full participation of many people.

Practical Politicking?

Further east in Cambodia, the outcome of the national elections in 2013 remain disputed between the government and opposition parties. However, it appears that the growing political activism and demographic changes in Cambodia will provide more public contestation in the months and years ahead. Indonesia also saw much political activity throughout 2014 which culminated in the presidential election. The election saw a race that reflected the dynamics Cambodia has started to show with young people playing an important role in highlighting issues of corruption and foul play. The popular election of President Joko Widodo in Indonesia is a move forward to what many hope will be a less corrupt democratic system. Indeed, across the region younger people have started to play an increasingly significant role in all political systems.

As we enter 2015, Southeast Asia has had a tumultuous year for democracy from protests over disputed polls to an intense election battle in Indonesia. A more active political space across the region illustrates the importance that popular movements and how they can affect the direction of national politics in both positive and negative ways. While the Indonesian election offered hope, the increasing prominence of the 969 movement in Myanmar and its evolving relations with the Sri Lankan Bodu Bala Sena, a like-minded Buddhist nationalistic monastic organisation, represent increased anti-Muslim sentiment in both countries and represents the hostility faced by minority groups across the region. It therefore reminds us of the heterogeneous nature of Southeast Asian countries and the need to unpack the motivations of political leaders who purport to support democracy but ultimately use it as a cover to undermine social cohesion. As we enter 2015, the emergence of nationalism under the guise of popular democracy offers a sombre note but the increasing activism of the next generation offers some hope on which to end the year.

Contributed by Alistair D.B. Cook



Adam Jones

Police Checkpoint with Closed-Off Muslim (Rohingya) Area in Sittwe Rakhine State, Myanmar, 28 January 2014.



Pemerintah Provinsi DKI Jakarta
(Provincial Government of Jakarta).

While Governor Jokowi and his vice governor, Basuki, publicised their monthly salary and the provincial budget for transparent anti-corruption measures.

*Construction workers dismantling a bamboo scaffold 18 storeys high.
Terrence T.S. Tam / flickr.*

Comprehensively Tackling Trafficking in Persons

30th July 2014 was the first World Day against Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and demonstrates the growing global awareness of human trafficking. According to the UN TIP Protocol, TIP means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons through means such as force, coercion and deception for exploitation. However it

is left to countries to codify these terms in national law. The conventional anti-TIP framework basically consists of prevention, protection and prosecution and this has been expanded to 4Ps through the inclusion of partnerships by the anti-TIP taskforce of Singapore. In addition to the 4Ps, addressing the socio-economic causes is also essential for eradicating the scourge.

TIP Threatening Human Security

Women and children are most vulnerable to human trafficking. Gender-based discrimination and violence may force women to accept unreliable employment opportunities and children are often overpowered by traffickers physically and intellectually. According to the UN Office for Drugs and Crime, women account for nearly 60% of the trafficked population across the globe and children are being increasingly targeted. Nonetheless, it is important to recognise that men also face the risk of forced labor, organ trafficking and sex trade. Many aspects of human security of victims are gravely threatened and undermined throughout the process of trafficking, such as personal security, health security and economic security. During the

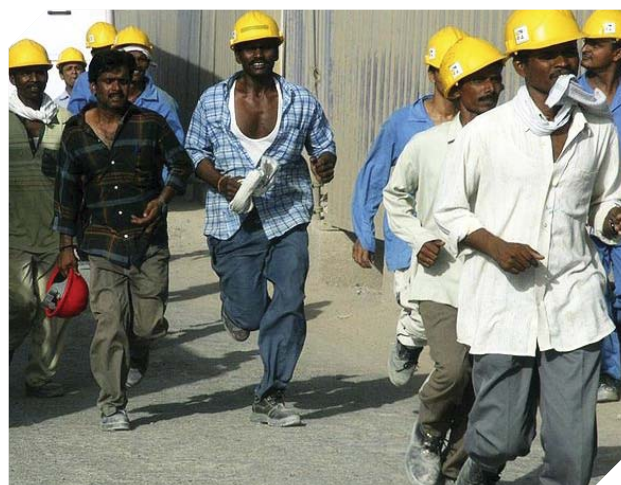
journeys to destination countries, trafficked people often endure extremely harsh living conditions and high safety risks like sinking vessels at sea. The UN's refugee agency estimates that over 200 people died on the trafficking route from the Bay of Bengal to Thailand and Malaysia in the first six months of this year, many of whom were suspected of being victims of trafficking. Victims of organ trafficking face the risk of potential health deterioration as a result of organ removal. Economic insecurity is another threat. Some victims have their payment partially or completely withheld by unscrupulous employers and the unpaid wages is estimated to be about 20 billion US dollars according to the International Labor Organization.

TIP Challenges in East Asia

According to the UN, East Asia is among the regions facing the worst challenges from human trafficking. Varying levels of economic development place regional countries on different ends of the trafficking chain. Human trafficking flows from poorer countries to more developed ones. Singapore, Japan and Australia are destinations of this intra-regional trafficking, while Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar are the main countries of origin. For some they are both source and destination countries, such as China and Thailand. The Thai police have found hundreds of Bangladeshis and Myanmar people across Thailand who have been imprisoned by traffickers in remote islands or jungles. Many victims are first lured by the false promise of a high-paying job and end up as indentured labourers or forced into prostitution.

Forced labour and sexual exploitation account for about 80% of detected TIP cases in East Asia with the share of forced labor higher. According to the US 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report, 57% of migrant workers surveyed in Thailand's fishery and related

industries have experienced forced labour. Other forms of exploitation that also need to be tackled in the region range from trafficking for begging where children and disabled persons are abducted and forced to beg on street, to organ removal, and illegal adoption.



Imre Solt / Wikimedia

Migrant labourers are often targets and victims of trafficking in persons.

A Comprehensive Approach

The 4Ps attempt to bring together law enforcement, legislation, judicial procedures and cooperation between different branches of society. In order for a successful anti-human trafficking strategy, early detection and case reporting relies on strict law enforcement and public engagement. However, without proper legislation and an effective judicial system, prosecution remains near impossible. While strengthening the above tools for combating human trafficking, it is also crucial to address the underlying socio-economic causes. The UN Global Plan of Action against human trafficking that was launched in 2010 identified contributing factors such as poverty, unemployment, discrimination and gender-based violence. For instance, there were fewer Thai victims in Germany when the unemployment rate in Thailand decreased, according to the UN Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012. Hence, to eliminate the root causes of human trafficking, it is important to empower people particularly vulnerable groups by



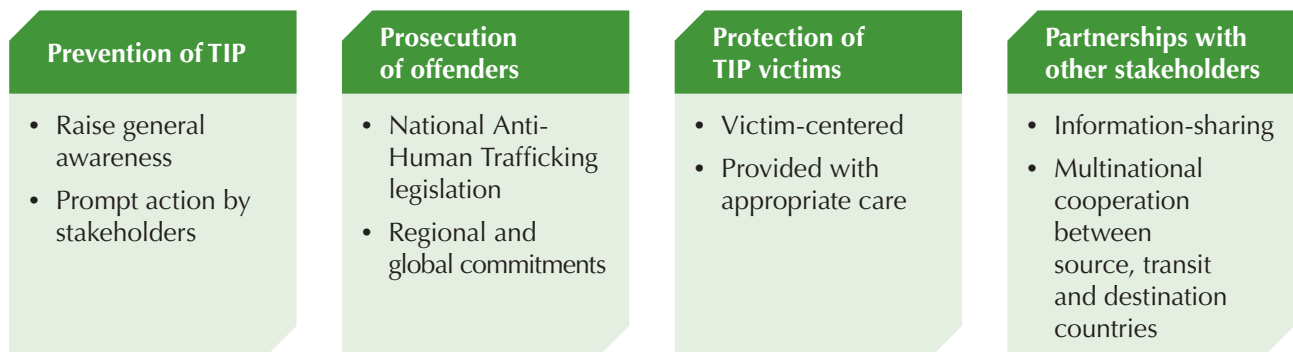
International Labour Organization / flickr.

A young domestic worker washing utensils by a pond. Many domestic workers are subject to exploitation through forced labour.

teaching them working skills and raising their vigilance against possible tricks by traffickers. As a result, the eradication of human trafficking dovetails with the global agenda on human development.

The 4Ps Strategy

As Singapore's National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons 2012 – 2015 enters its final year, it is important to understand the holistic strategy driving it, outlined below.



Future Prospects

As we enter 2015, there are several notable developments in the campaign against human trafficking in the Asia-Pacific. With the formal handover of the keys to the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation in September 2014 behind us, the intergovernmental organisation begins work at its new home to facilitate cooperation between police forces. This will provide a stronger mechanism in the Asia-Pacific for information sharing and proactive research into new areas and the latest training techniques particularly in cybercrime. This will have a positive impact on the ability for states

in the region to respond to the digital world being used as a recruitment ground for trafficking victims and as another means to raise awareness.

However, states in the Asia-Pacific continue to face capacity issues to respond to this increasingly complex issue. Beyond international commitments, turning the spirit of international agreements into enforceable national law will remain the greatest challenge.

Contributed by Lina Gong.

Singapore's Anti-Human Trafficking Bill – Reinforcement to the Fight

While regional integration has promoted economic development by accelerating the movement of people and commodities, it has also created unintended consequences like increased human trafficking. According to the UN, East Asia has seen the highest rates of human trafficking in the world. Out of 21 million victims of forced labour globally, 11.7 million are East Asian. Moreover, victims from this region have been found in all regions across the globe. As a regional economic and transportation hub, Singapore is unavoidably affected by this trend as the country relies heavily on foreign labour for sectors like construction and domestic service.

A dedicated anti-human trafficking bill was passed in the Singapore Parliament in November this year. It is the latest step for the country to combat human trafficking since a National Plan of Action was launched in 2012. Before the bill was tabled in Parliament, the government task force had several rounds of public consultation, which developed the 4Ps framework to pursue a holistic approach to the problem.

This law sets out a formal definition of human trafficking, in line with the Palermo Protocol, which is critical for identifying and prosecuting human trafficking cases. The Singapore government disagreed with local NGOs over the number of human trafficking cases in 2014 due to definitional differences, and the new act works towards clarifying these definitions in the future.

The bill also provides detailed penalties for offenders and specifies measures of protection and assistance for victims. The dedicated law enables law enforcement to investigate and determine suspected cases in a more targeted way and empowers relevant agencies to help the victims. The law will complement Singapore's existing 4P framework to combat human trafficking.

Contributed by Lina Gong



The Singapore Parliament passed a dedicated law against human trafficking in November this year.
Schezar / flickr.

Building Regional Preparedness for Nuclear Energy



IAEA Imagebank / flickr.

Regional and international cooperation are central to nuclear emergency readiness.

Despite the 2011 Fukushima incident, nuclear energy is still perceived as a viable option in meeting increasing energy demands for countries in Southeast Asia. Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia are making preparations for their first nuclear power plants (NPP). Vietnam is ahead of the game since it signed agreements with The Russian State Nuclear Energy Corporation (ROSATOM), manpower trainings in

Russia and Japan, and identified nuclear sites in Ninh Thuan Province. However, Vietnam had to postpone the construction of its first NPP until 2020 to ensure the highest safety and efficiency standards. Meanwhile, the future of nuclear energy in Indonesia and Malaysia remains elusive as a lack of political will seems to impede the realisation of NPP plans.

ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) Timeline

2011	• Proposal to establish a regional network for nuclear regulatory body in ASEAN at International Conference on Safety, Security, and Safeguards in Nuclear Energy, 1-2 September, Bangkok.
2012	• Meeting to finalise Terms of Reference.
2013	• 1st meeting held in Phuket included 41 participants from IAEA and ASEAN. • 6 main focus areas: Nuclear regulation; Monitoring; Best practices; Radiation detection; Maintenance of instruments.
2014	• 2nd meeting in Chiang Mai reached consensus to recommend ASEANTOM should be classified as ANNEX-1 entity under the ASEAN Political Security Community pillar. • Thailand in collaboration with Singapore to draft an ASEAN-IAEA regional technical cooperation project to monitor environmental radiation.
2015	• 3rd ASEANTOM proposed to be hosted in Malaysia.

Enhancing Nuclear Security and Safeguards

Regardless of some variance in the advances towards nuclear energy, countries in the region demonstrate commitments to nuclear safety, security and safeguards (3S). In March 2014, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia participated in the Nuclear Security Summit where they presented their respective national progress reports on nuclear security. Vietnam is reviewing its legal and regulatory framework to adhere to IAEA's nuclear safety and security standards while Indonesia is drafting a law on nuclear security to strengthen its existing Law no. 10 Year 1997 on Nuclear Energy.

Indonesia's accession to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) and the ensuing national legislation will further reinforce Indonesia's framework for nuclear security. Malaysia is also revising its Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 (Act 304) to include the provisions of the IAEA Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its 2005 Amendment Protocol, the ICSANT, and the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement.

Southeast Asia needs to build its capacity for nuclear emergency preparedness and response.

IAEA Imagebank / flickr.



Strengthening Nuclear Safety

In terms of nuclear safety, Vietnam is amending its 2008 Atomic Energy Law to separate its nuclear regulatory body VARANS from nuclear energy promoter the Ministry of Science and Technology in order to ensure VARANS independence in conducting its regulatory functions. Vietnam also works very closely with the IAEA to conform to all international safety standards and regulatory practices. Indonesia has long been engaging the IAEA to work on the technicality of nuclear safety as evidenced in the NPP Siting in 1998, Strengthening of Nuclear Safety Infrastructure in 1989, and NPP Site Confirmation and Structural Safety in 1997.

In line with nuclear safety, the three countries are also gearing up their nuclear emergency preparedness. Vietnam's VARANS is working with relevant national and local government agencies to craft a concrete

emergency response and evacuation plan. Indonesia and Malaysia are more advanced in their nuclear emergency preparedness framework. Under the supervision of Indonesia's nuclear regulatory body BAPETEN, an inter-ministerial and inter-agency Organisation for National Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response System (OTDNN) was established. In addition, BAPETEN formed the Indonesian Centre of Excellence on Nuclear Security and Emergency Preparedness (I-CoNSEP) to further enhance coordination among different relevant agencies. Malaysia's nuclear regulatory body AELB has established a Nuclear Emergency Team and placed first responders at northern, southern, eastern, and Sabah-Sarawak parts of Malaysia. AELB also engages other agencies such as the National Disaster Centre, Ministry of Health, Royal Customs of Malaysia, and Royal Malaysian Police in nuclear emergency planning and cooperation.

Future Avenues for Regional Cooperation

Reflecting on the developments in the three countries, it is evident that the plans for NPPs remain in the national agenda. Although Vietnam is at present the only country in Southeast Asia that is likely to operate NPPs in the near future, it is important that the region starts exploring different avenues to build its capacity in preparing and responding to nuclear emergency. Examples include conducting radiation risk computer modelling, establishing a regional nuclear crisis centre and Centres of Excellence on Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards (3S), pursuing joint nuclear emergency drills, and training a medical contingent for nuclear accident relief. In addition, in light of the need for well-qualified and well-trained individuals in the nuclear field, the region may look into developing a comprehensive nuclear literacy

campaign and human resources training programme, and conducting regular meetings to share knowledge and experience among the ASEAN's academic institutions, think tanks and government agencies. To address spent fuel-related concerns, the region can explore the potential of establishing a regional/multilateral nuclear enrichment centre and an ASEAN Management of Spent Fuel Regional Framework.

By having these proposed measures in place, Southeast Asia will be more prepared to respond to challenges arising from the presence of NPPs.

*Contributed by
Margareth Sembiring and Julius Cesar I. Trajano*

Shale Gas Industry in China and India Faces Reality Check

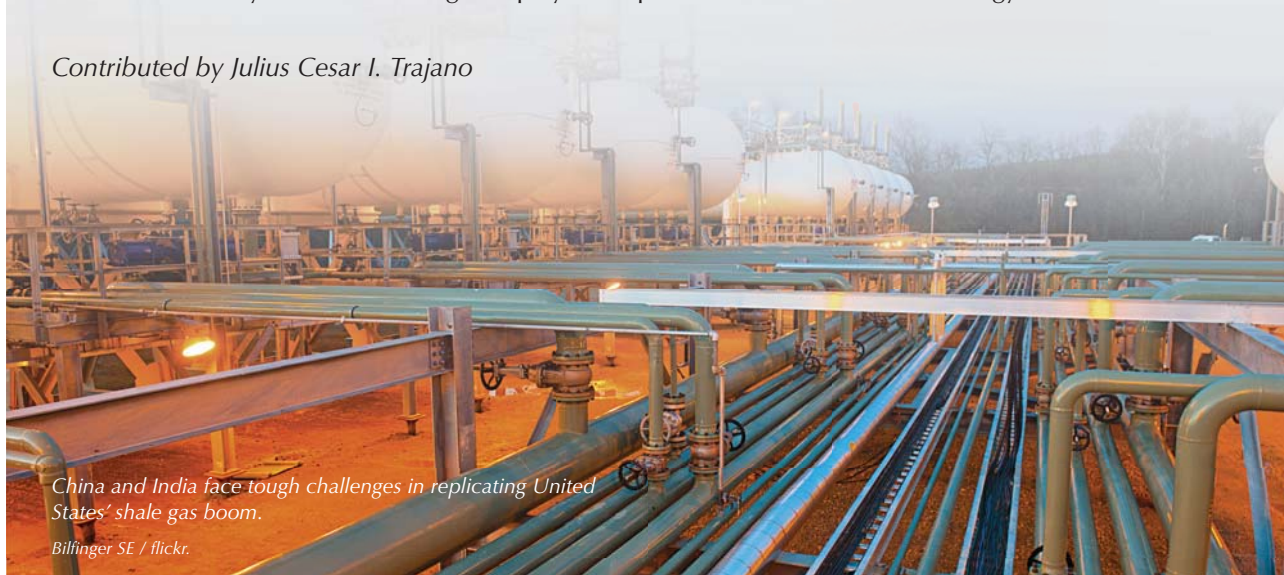
While the United States enjoys a shale gas boom as a result of hydraulic fracturing revolution, China and India face greater obstacles to exploiting their vast shale resources. According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), China is estimated to hold the world's largest deposits of shale gas (1,115 trillion cubic feet), nearly twice as much as the US reserves. However, China's shale gas industry has been struggling to take off, compelling the Chinese government in 2014 to reduce the 2020 shale gas target from over 60 billion cubic meters (bcm) to 30 bcm annually. IEA has projected India's shale gas production at 35 bcm by 2035. But shale gas is unlikely to cause an oil boom in India like that in the US, but small-scale success is possible.

Hydraulic fracturing, the process of extracting shale gas, needs as much as 25 million litres of water for each well. However, 61% of China's shale lies buried beneath water-stressed regions and in many cases, shale gas deposits are buried deeper than those in North America, making extraction difficult, expensive, and environmentally risky. Most of India's shale gas reserves are also located inland in areas already facing critical water shortages. China's biggest challenge is technological as it lacks the necessary personnel and equipment to exploit its shale gas reserves on a massive scale. Large state-run companies like PetroChina and Sinopec are relatively inexperienced in exploiting unconventional gas when compared to American companies. Like China, India still lacks the technological capacity for hydraulic fracturing as well as the needed infrastructure for distributing the gas once extracted.

State regulations on ownership of subsurface minerals in China and India also serve as a major hurdle to massive shale gas exploration as they prohibit private ownership of mineral deposits. On the contrary, the US allows private ownership of sub-surface minerals allowing private landowners, motivated by profits, to sell their property with shale reserves to exploration firms without any bureaucratic hindrance.

As both China and India are still crafting strategies as to how to overcome obstacles to massive shale gas exploration, they also need to ponder the question of how to mitigate the environmental and public health implications of hydraulic fracturing. The extraction process releases methane and poses inherent risks to public health, air quality, water quantity and quality, and wildlife. Moreover, while promoters of shale gas claim that it has low carbon content, large-scale extraction can further increase the carbon footprint of both China and India as well as cumulative global carbon emissions yet their thirst for energy will ensure that hydraulic fracturing will play an important role in their future energy mix.

Contributed by Julius Cesar I. Trajano



China and India face tough challenges in replicating United States' shale gas boom.

Bilfinger SE / flickr.



Migrant labourers oftentimes work longer and harder than contracted for without access to enough food, even that which they harvested.

ILO/ Thierry Falise / flickr.

Securing Food for the Vulnerable

Despite there being considerable decline in the share of hungry people in the world, it seems unlikely that the 1996 World Food Summit (WFS) target of halving the number of undernourished people by 2015, will be met. As of this year, 526 million people in Asia are still classified as undernourished, making the region home to the greatest number of hungry and undernourished. Remarkable successes in economic growth and poverty reduction in Asia notwithstanding, a large proportion of the region is plagued by problems with food. None are more affected than those deemed

‘vulnerable’. Even countries that are food secure at the macro-level can experience insecurities among its susceptible groups. This is not necessarily only in rural and remote areas but these insecurities can exist in the dynamic cities of Asia as well – Mumbai’s urban poor for instance. The problem with addressing these insecurities is that food analysis tends to be couched largely in terms of production and quantity of food. Indeed, the relentless persistence of food insecurities despite the increase in food availability, begs a reorientation of existing approaches.

Who are the ‘vulnerable’?

Vulnerable populations are groups of people that are most susceptible to reduced quality or quantity of food. Women and girls most often feature in this group as they oftentimes allocate food resources to others in the household before themselves, which in some societies favour males. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2014 statistics, rates of anaemia in both pregnant and non-pregnant women in India are above 50%. Apart from gender, migrant labourers are another vulnerable group. Farm hands or fishermen who are actively engaged

in food production are most often not entitled to the output. The Greater Mekong Sub-region has well over two million migrant labourers with numbers set to rise. In addition to labour exploitation and physical confinement, they also face threats to their food security. Civilians in conflict or disaster zones can suffer from food insecurities when emergency food aid might not provide long-term solutions. This list is not exhaustive and it goes to show how ensuring sufficient quantities will not address food problems for these groups.

The Way Forward for ASEAN



Andrew McConnell / Panos.

People in regions devastated by natural disasters need more than emergency aid to secure a sustainable source of food.

A large part of engaging with vulnerable populations on food and nutrition involves a need to systematically incorporate issues of physical, social and economic access to food. National commitment is vital if vulnerable communities are to be assured of food security. India's National Food Security Bill is a step in this direction. In a similar vein, there needs to be constructive conversations on commitment on the part of governments within ASEAN. The Indonesian Agency, Bulog, through 'Raskin' or 'rice for poor' programme, displays the commitment required from governments to address food insecurities of the vulnerable. A part of the nation's rice stocks are released to identified poor families at subsidised rates. The National Food Authority in the Philippines operates a Disaster and Crisis Preparedness Programme which ensures the release of rice within 24 hours after a disaster strikes and stabilises the supply and price of rice for a two-week period during emergency and crisis situations. Despite their shortcomings, these policies reflect the type of action required to reduce food insecurities in vulnerable groups.

Human security gives importance to food security and its relevance to conventional security issues. This includes drawing concrete connections between food security and other areas of concern for Southeast Asia, including economic, energy, environmental and perhaps even traditional securities. The putative

solution of regional or global trade as a means to strengthen food availability has downgraded its importance compared to other aspects of human security. It is a formidable challenge to produce enough food that is nutritious, affordable, easily available, environmentally sustainable, and socially acceptable for a region as diverse as Southeast Asia. It is even more difficult to isolate and pay attention to groups that are particularly vulnerable to food insecurities. Yet here is something that needs our immediate attention. The global food crisis of 2007/08 revealed the lack of solidarity to ensure food security in the region. In the light of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015, it is hoped that greater regional cooperation will go a long way in addressing food security concerns in member states and thereafter assuring a right to food for the vulnerable.

Contributed by Tamara Nair



Bread for the World / flickr.

India's Food Security Bill may go some way in securing food for the country's vulnerable groups.



Villagers in Cambodia empty stagnant sources of water that act as mosquito breeding grounds.

Asian Development Bank / flickr.

Dengue Buzz: Finding Ways to Cooperate

Dengue, now prevalent in more than 100 countries, puts more than 40% of the world's population at risk. A viral infection commonly found in tropical urban areas, dengue affects about 50 to 100 million people every year – mostly children – but remains a neglected tropical disease. Neglected tropical diseases affect the most vulnerable in society, mostly the poor, but often lack political attention, funding and intervention.

Costs and Spread of Dengue

This year's World Health Day on 7 April focused on vector-borne diseases including dengue – the fastest growing – showing a 30-fold increase in incidence over the last 50 years. Dengue is becoming more an urban disease, affecting densely populated areas with poor access to adequate housing, safe drinking water and sanitation. An average dengue episode can last for about two to three weeks with medical costs at an average of US\$ 514 that can surge to US\$1491 for hospitalised patients.

The estimated annual economic burden of dengue in ASEAN is US\$ 1 billion annually. Dengue can be caused by four related dengue viruses (DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4). Infection with one virus does not provide immunity against the others and people infected by one virus after another are at risk of contracting dengue haemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome.

Aside from rapid and uncontrolled urbanisation, increase in the movement of people through airports, ports and across borders also contribute to the spread of dengue. Travel-acquired dengue infections have been on the rise in the past decade with the increased volume of international passengers originating from regions with endemic dengue. Such cases have been reported in many temperate areas in North America, Europe, Australia and Japan.

A worrying trend is that the International Air Transport Association has estimated that the Asia-Pacific will be expecting 380 million more passengers between 2012 and 2016 which possibly will increase the vulnerability of contracting dengue and more passengers possibly becoming active carriers of the dengue virus.

Initiatives in Asia-Pacific

Despite a number of regional initiatives and national programmes dedicated to dengue prevention and control, dengue outbreaks are still pervasive in Southeast Asia. ASEAN member states have reported the highest number of dengue cases in the Asia-Pacific region. The Philippines have recorded the highest number of cases in the past five years.

This year, dengue cases recorded a historic high in Malaysia. As of October 2014, Malaysia has already reported more than 82,000 cases. June 2011 marked the start of cooperation in dengue prevention and control in ASEAN with the observance of the ASEAN Dengue Day. The table below outlines the major intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector initiatives developed and implemented in the past five years (2010-2014) aimed at addressing dengue in the region. It shows that there is collective recognition that preventing dengue is a long-term and year-round activity and not just a seasonal or periodic activity.

There is also expansion in cooperative and collaborative mechanisms for dengue surveillance and dengue vaccine development – particularly among major pharmaceutical companies.

However, even with increased surveillance and reporting, the burden on surge capacities during rainy seasons for dengue, for example, needs to be assessed in countries where it is endemic and most prevalent, including Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, the Philippines – and for the past two years – Malaysia. Strong community awareness and action and a functional public health system remain key for dengue prevention and control.

Contributed by Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul



Sanofi Pasteur / flickr

Students attending ASEAN Dengue Day in Malaysia.

Intergovernmental Initiatives	Initiatives led by Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Academe	Initiatives led by Private Sector and Multilateral Financial Institutions
Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED)	International Consortium on Dengue Risk Assessment, Management and Surveillance (IDAMS) partnerships in Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia	Sanofi Pasteur dengue vaccine trials in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
Strategic Framework for the Asia Pacific Dengue Partnership (APDP)	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) community-based dengue campaigns	Sanofi Pasteur support for the ASEAN Member States Dengue Vaccination Advocacy Steering Committee (ADVASC) (2011)
Asia Pacific Dengue Strategic Plan (2008-2015)	Field tests on the effectiveness of genetically modified-Aedes mosquitoes with Wolbachia bacteria in Australia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Brazil and Colombia	Merck dengue vaccine development and clinical trials (2010-2014)
ASEAN Medium-Term Plan on Emerging Infectious Diseases (2011-2015)		Takeda support for DENVax clinical trials in Singapore and Thailand (2013- present)
ASEAN Dengue Day (since 2011)		Technical Assistance from ADB for community-based dengue vector control (i.e. introduction and breeding of mosquito larvae-eating guppy fish) through Project on "Regional Public Goods for Health: Combating Dengue in ASEAN" in Cambodia and Laos
United in Tackling Epidemic Dengue (UNITEDengue regional surveillance system) (since 2012)		

Activities and Publications 2014

The Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies continues to lead research in the areas of (1) climate change, resilience and sustainable development; (2) energy security; (3) food security; (4) health security; (5) peace, human security and development; and (6) water security.

In 2014, the Centre focused on projects related to the themes of food security and nuclear energy development in Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia, and pursued activities under the ASEAN-Canada Research Partnership. It published over 65 books and articles in connection with these projects, both via external

channels and through its in-house publications – NTS Bulletin, NTS Insight, NTS Issues Brief, NTS Policy Brief, NTS Working Paper Series, ASEAN-Canada Research Partnership Working Paper Series, and NTS Event Report. The Centre also launched a new series known as the NTS Report that aims to provide an in-depth study on a particular topic, allowing the findings to serve as relevant references during longer periods of time. All Centre publications continue to be well-received in academic and policy circles.

The Centre held 13 conferences and seminars during this period.

PUBLICATIONS

COMMENTARIES

Volcanos Test Indonesia's Disaster Management
East Asia Forum, 2014
Jonatan Anderias Lassa

"Meta governance" for Future (polycentric) Disaster Risk Reduction
Expert meeting on The Future of DRM - Global Assessment Report
2015 on DRR- Meeting series UNISDR, UNDP and LKYSPP, 2014
Jonatan Anderias Lassa

Quick Response to Volcanic Activity
The Jakarta Post, 2014
Jonatan Anderias Lassa

Indonesia's Growing Aversion to Food Imports:
Foolish or Foresighted?
Food Industry Asia, 2014
J. Jackson Ewing

Philippines-US Pact Shows a Human Face
Asia Times Online, 2014
Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano

Human trafficking in Asia going online
East Asia Forum, 2014
Alistair D. B. Cook and Caitriona Heinl

NEWSLETTER

Perspectives for Climate Diplomacy in Southeast Asia,
Environment, Conflict and Cooperation
Adelphi Newsletter, 2014
Stephan Wolters and Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul

BOOK/BOOK CHAPTER

'Health and Human Security: Pathways to Advancing a Human-Centred Approach to Human Security', in Routledge Handbook of Health Security
Routledge, 2015
Mely Caballero-Anthony and Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul

'Regionalism and Food Market Interventions: Lessons from ASEAN and the EU', in Food Security: The Role of Asia and Europe in Production, Trade and Regionalism
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and the European Union, 2014
J. Jackson Ewing and Sandra Silfvast

'Brave New World? Food Security and Health in the Asia-Pacific', in The politics of food security: Asian and Middle Eastern Strategies
Gerlach Press, 2014
J. Jackson Ewing and Ong Suan Ee

'Non-traditional Security in Sino-US Relations: Low-hanging Fruit or Ripe for Contention?', in New Dynamics in US-China Relations
Routledge Press, 2014
J. Jackson Ewing

'Myanmar's Chairmanship of ASEAN: Challenges and Opportunities', in Myanmar's Growing Regional Role
The National Bureau of Asian Research, 2014
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European Policy Centre, 2014
Paul S. Teng and Margarita Escaler

Irregular Migration and Human Security in East Asia
Routledge, 2015
Jiyoung Song and Alistair D.B. Cook

'Human Insecurity and Displacement along Myanmar's Borders', in Irregular Migration and Human Security in East Asia
Routledge, 2015
Alistair D.B. Cook

'Civilian Protection and the Politics of Humanitarian Action in Kachin State', in Law, Society and Transition in Myanmar
Hart, 2014
Alistair D.B. Cook

'South China Sea Disputes in the Xi Era', in China Entering the Xi Era
Routledge, 2014
Alistair D.B. Cook

'A Non – Traditional Security Threat: Cyberspace and Human Trafficking', in Trafficking in Human Beings – Recent Trends and Solutions in Europe and Asia
Select Books, 2014
Alistair D.B. Cook

JOURNAL ARTICLE/WORKING PAPER

Understanding ASEAN Centrality
Pacific Review, 2014
Mely Caballero-Anthony

Human Security in ASEAN: 20 Years On
Asian Journal of Peacebuilding, 2014
Mely Caballero-Anthony and Surin Pitsuwan

Southeast Asian Perspectives on UN Peacekeeping: Indonesia and Malaysia
Journal of International Peacekeeping, 2014
Alistair D.B. Cook

Impact of Climate Change of Agriculture: Options for Local Adaptation in East Nusa Tenggara
Working Paper No 8, Institute of Resource Governance and Social Change, 2014
Jonatan Anderias Lassa, Seran-Mau, Yoseph and Elcid Li, Dominggus

REPORT

A Post-Disaster Monitoring Study of Education in Emergencies Following the DKI Jakarta Flood 2013
Research Report to Save the Children Australia, 2014
Jonatan Anderias Lassa

A Food Security Framework for Collaboration
Discussion Paper, Agriculture & Development Discussion Paper Series 2014-1, SEARCA, SEAMEO, 2014
Paul S. Teng

ASEAN Food Security: Towards a More Comprehensive Framework
Economic Research Institute for East Asia (ERIA) Policy Brief, 2014
Barry Desker, Mely Caballero-Anthony and Paul S. Teng

Perspectives for Climate Diplomacy in Southeast Asia
Adelphi, 2014
Stephan Wolters, Dennis Tanzler, Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul and Alistair D.B. Cook

NTS REPORT

The Sustainability of Nuclear Energy in Southeast Asia: Opportunities and Challenges
Mely Caballero-Anthony, Alistair D. B. Cook, Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Margareth Sembiring

NTS BULLETIN

Human Security 20 Years On: The Evolution of Human Security
Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

20 Years of Human Security: A Special Focus on Food Security
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New Issues in Human Security: Energy-Climate-Water-Food Nexus
Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

Energy Security in the 21st Century: A Human Security Perspective
Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

Protection of Civilians (POC): A Human Security Perspective
Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

NTS INSIGHT

The Rise of Iskandar Malaysia: Implications for Singapore's Marine and Coastal Environment
Pau Khan Khup Hangzo and Alistair D. B. Cook

Examining Economic Development, Environmental Policy and Transboundary Pollution: The Case of Iskandar Malaysia and Air Quality
Margareth Sembiring and J. Jackson Ewing

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Communities and Critical Infrastructure: Opportunities for Reinforcing Resilience
Gianna Gayle Herrera Amul and Sofiah Jamil

NTS POLICY BRIEF

Food Security Robustness: A Driver of Enhanced Regional Cooperation?
Paul S. Teng and Maria C. S. Morales

NTS EVENT REPORT

First ASEAN-Canada Forum and Public Symposium 2013: Reflections on an Inclusive and Equitable ASEAN Community in 2015 (20–21 August 2013)

International Conference on Nuclear Governance Post-Fukushima (31 October 2013)

Perspectives for Climate Diplomacy in Southeast Asia (29 November 2013)

Workshop on Community Resilience and Human Security: From Complex Humanitarian Emergencies to Sustainable Peace and Development (10–11 April 2014)

ASEAN-Canada Forum 2014: Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Growth (24–25 July 2014)

NTS WORKING PAPER

Of Auxiliary Forces and private Armies: Security Sector Governance (SSG) and Conflict Management in Maguindanao, Mindanao
Maria Anna Rowena Luz G. Layador

AVAILABLE ONLINE



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<http://www.rsis.edu.sg/nts/resources.asp>

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Matthew J. Bock

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Hoang Thi My Nhi

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Can ASEAN Develop a Robust Nuclear Energy Regime?

Mely Caballero-Anthony, Alistair D. B. Cook, Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano, Margareth Sembiring

Food Sovereignty Discourse in Southeast Asia:

Helpful or Disruptive

Jonatan Anderias Lassa and Maxim Shrestha

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Priorities and Commitments Needed

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Coh Tian and Jonatan Anderias Lassa

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Raman Letchumanan

Lessons of Two Disasters: Building Resilience from Within

Mely Caballero-Anthony and Julius Cesar Imperial Trajano

WTO Breakthrough on Stockpiles: Sustaining Food Security

Jonatan Anderias Lassa and Maxim Shrestha

EVENTS

Workshop on Mitigating Freshwater Conflicts in Asia:

Harnessing Avenues for Cooperation

26 February 2014, Singapore

Seminar on Prospects for Market-based Carbon Management in Indonesia and Thailand

9 May 2014, Singapore

Workshop on Community Resilience and Human Security:

From Complex Humanitarian Emergencies to Sustainable Peace and Development

10–11 April 2014, Singapore

Joint ICRC and RSIS-NTS Consultative Roundtable on the Humanitarian Dimension and Protection Aspects of Trafficking in Persons (TIP)

26–27 June 2014, Singapore

Seminar on Transboundary Environmental Governance Issues in ASEAN: The Case of Mekong Water Management and Haze Pollution Control

23 July 2014, Singapore

2014 Advisory Committee Meeting and ASEAN-Canada Forum

23 July 2014, Singapore

ASEAN-Canada Forum on Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Growth

24–25 July 2014, Singapore

International Conference on Asian Food Security (ICAFS) 2014

21–22 August 2014, Singapore

ASEAN-Canada IDRC Training Workshop for Junior Fellows

25–29 August 2014, Vancouver, Canada

Joint RSIS-NTS and German Embassy Distinguished Public Lecture on Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development: The Role of Cities

19 November 2014, Singapore

Joint RSIS-NTS and German Embassy Policy Roundtable on Sustainable Development, Environmental Security and Climate Change

20 November 2014, Singapore

Joint RSIS-NTS and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Roundtable Discussion on Current and Future Challenges of Globalised Humanitarian and Security Crisis

28 November 2014, Singapore

Joint RSIS-NTS and German Embassy Climate Diplomacy Film Screening

10 December 2014, Singapore

About the RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies, NTU

The **RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies** conducts research and produces policy-relevant analyses aimed at furthering awareness and building capacity to address NTS issues and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

To fulfil this mission, the Centre aims to:

- Advance the understanding of NTS issues and challenges in the Asia-Pacific by highlighting gaps in knowledge and policy, and identifying best practices among state and non-state actors in responding to these challenges.
- Provide a platform for scholars and policymakers within and outside Asia to discuss and analyse NTS issues in the region.
- Network with institutions and organisations worldwide to exchange information, insights and experiences in the area of NTS.
- Engage policymakers on the importance of NTS in guiding political responses to NTS emergencies and develop strategies to mitigate the risks to state and human security.
- Contribute to building the institutional capacity of governments, and regional and international organisations to respond to NTS challenges.

Our Research

The key programmes at the **RSIS Centre for NTS Studies** include:

1. Climate Change, Resilience and Sustainable Development
2. Energy Security
3. Food Security
4. Health Security
5. Peace, Human Security and Development
6. Water Security

Our Output

Policy Relevant Publications

The **RSIS Centre for NTS Studies** produces a range of output such as research reports, books, monographs, policy briefs and conference proceedings.

Training

Based in RSIS, which has an excellent record of post-graduate teaching, an international faculty, and an extensive network of policy institutes worldwide, the Centre is well-placed to develop robust research capabilities, conduct training courses and facilitate advanced education on NTS. These are aimed at, but not limited to, academics, analysts, policymakers and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Networking and Outreach

The Centre serves as a networking hub for researchers, policy analysts, policymakers, NGOs and media from across Asia and farther afield interested in NTS issues and challenges.

The Centre is the Coordinator of the ASEAN-Canada Research Partnership (2012–2015) supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. It also serves as the Secretariat of the initiative.

In 2009, the Centre was chosen by the MacArthur Foundation as a lead institution for its three-year Asia Security Initiative (2009–2012), to develop policy research capacity and recommend policies on the critical security challenges facing the Asia-Pacific.

It is also a founding member and the Secretariat for the Consortium of Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia).

More information on our Centre is available at www.rsis.edu.sg/nts

About the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

The **S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)**, Nanyang Technological University, was inaugurated on 1 January 2007 as an autonomous School within **Nanyang Technological University (NTU)**, upgraded from its previous incarnation as the **Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS)**, which was established in 1996.

The School exists to develop a community of scholars and policy analysts at the forefront of Asia-Pacific security studies and international affairs. Its three core functions are research, graduate teaching and networking activities in the Asia-Pacific region. It produces cutting-edge security related research in Asia-Pacific Security, Conflict and Non-Traditional Security, International Political Economy, and Country and Area Studies.

The School's activities are aimed at assisting policymakers to develop comprehensive approaches to strategic thinking on issues related to security and stability in the Asia-Pacific and their implications for Singapore.

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