



# PEER

Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response



[www.adpc.net/peer](http://www.adpc.net/peer)





The Asia region is highly prone to disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, cyclones and disease outbreaks. These events can overwhelm emergency response systems and hospitals are often unable to cope. High population growth rates, environmental degradation and rapid urbanization further exacerbates vulnerability to disasters. Asia is by far the world's most disaster-prone region.

The Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) is a regional program initiated in 1998 by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). PEER aims to enhance local and regional disaster preparedness and build the response capacities of vulnerable countries within the Asia region. To achieve this goal, PEER is working on the institutionalization of sustainable disaster preparedness training programs and emergency response systems. PEER has completed two stages and the third stage of the program in Asia is underway.



The **Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)** Thailand executed the first stage of PEER from 1998 to 2003 in four Asian countries; India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. The primary focus of PEER Stage 1 was to establish partnerships with key stakeholders in the project countries and to lay the foundation for the PEER program. A key goal was to adapt disaster response training courses to fit the Asian context. These courses are; **Medical First Responder (MFR)** and **Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR)**. PEER 1 also implemented the following development courses for instructors; **Training for Instructors (TFI)**, **MFR Instructors Workshop (MFRIW)** and **CSSR Instructors Workshop (CSSRIW)**. The complimentary course - **Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE)** - linking pre-hospital emergency care to tertiary care health facilities - was designed and pilot-tested in PEER Stage 1

**National Society for Earthquake Technology Nepal (NSET)**, implemented the second stage of PEER from 2003 to March 2009. The number of Asian countries involved was extended to six - including Bangladesh and Pakistan following the Kashmir earthquake in 2005.

There were two main aims for PEER Stage 2; the nationalization of MFR courses at the regional basic and instructors' levels, and implementing CSSR by adapting to the national contexts and languages. Master Instructors were trained in the target countries to design, coordinate and organize training courses and to monitor sessions, in place of overseas monitors and course coordinators. Adequate numbers of Master Instructors were trained in each country to independently organize national level training programs.

The first HOPE course, which focused on seismic hazards, was reoriented to address multi-hazard considerations. In the final year of PEER Stage 2, the new HOPE curriculum was finalized, piloted and implemented. Responding to the need to develop HOPE instructors, NSET reoriented the TFI course into HOPE-TFI and conducted an instructors' development program.



The activities for PEER Stage 3 from 2009 to 2014 centre around the continuation of the previous program implementations by AD PC and NSET.

The HOPE course is continuing in the same six PEER countries, and expanding to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam.

A new program is being implemented entitled **Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE)** for PEER Stage 3 in the ten project countries. This is extending the reach of PEER to the local level. All CADRE activities contribute to the overall goals of PEER, to promote an effective and proactive national-level response in times of emergencies and disasters.







 **PAKISTAN**  
National Disaster Management Authority



 **BANGLADESH**  
Ministry of Food and Disaster Management



 **LAO PDR**  
National Disaster Management Office



 **VIET NAM**  
Disaster Management Council



 **THAILAND**  
The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation



 **CAMBODIA**  
National Committee for Disaster Management



 **NEPAL**  
Ministry of Home Affairs



 **INDIA**  
National Disaster Management Authority



 **INDONESIA**  
Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana



 **PHILIPPINES**  
National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council



**PEER  
Country  
Nodal Agencies  
for Disaster  
Management**



[www.adpc.net/peer](http://www.adpc.net/peer)



## OBJECTIVE 1 Community Action for Disaster Response (CADRE) Course

**GOAL:** To establish a system for enhancing community-level first responder capacity in disaster-prone communities in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines, and expand to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Thailand.

The training targets local non-professional emergency responders through a simple course, drawing upon core trainings from PEER Stage 2 that included Medical First Responder (MFR), Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR), Training for Instructors (TFI) and other existing courses such as Community Based First Aid (CBFA). The CADRE curriculum was developed in partnership with participating Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies and drawing on the experience of the Community Response Team (CERT) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Country coverage:** Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Viet Nam and Thailand

**Implemented by:** Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

**Supplemental Support from:** American Red Cross

## OBJECTIVE 2 Hospital Preparedness for Emergencies (HOPE) Course

**GOAL:** To improve the capacity of hospitals and healthcare facilities to be prepared to manage emergencies and mass casualty events, through the continuation of HOPE in six former PEER countries and the extension of HOPE to four new countries.

The training program is designed for healthcare personnel, both administrative and medical, to prepare healthcare facilities and personnel to respond effectively to community emergencies involving large numbers of casualties. This enables hospitals and health facilities to develop well designed, facility-specific plans to increase their ability to respond to emergencies and continue functioning to provide critical medical care.

**Country coverage:** Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Viet Nam and Thailand

**Implemented by:** Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

**Supplemental Support from:** American Red Cross

## OBJECTIVE 3 Medical First Responder (MFR) and Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue (CSSR) Course

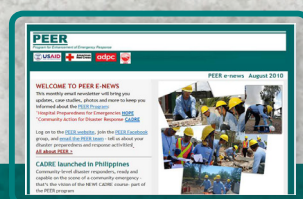
**GOAL:** To strengthen the capabilities of PEER countries to provide Collapsed Structure Search and Rescue as well as to enhance and institutionalize Medical First Responder capacity, to provide basic and advanced life support during emergencies.

**Country coverage:** Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines

**Implemented by:** National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET)



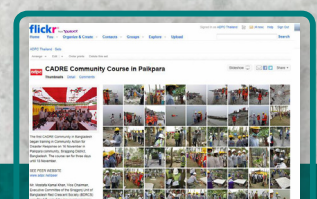
Join PEER on Facebook  
'Program for Enhancement of  
Emergency Response'



PEER E-NEWS  
Sign up on PEER Website: [www.adpc.net/peer](http://www.adpc.net/peer)



PEER WEBSITE  
[www.adpc.net/peer](http://www.adpc.net/peer)



See PEER photo galleries on Flickr  
'adpc community'



ASIAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTER  
SM Tower, 24th Floor, 979/69 Paholyothin Road  
Samsen Nai, Phayathai, Bangkok 10400  
Tel: +66 (0)2298 0681 to 92  
Email: [peer@adpc.net](mailto:peer@adpc.net)  
Website: [www.adpc.net/peer](http://www.adpc.net/peer)