



9 APRIL 2020

RFI: NSC is requesting for DOD to report any health initiatives (GHE activities) provided to partner nations over the last 5-10 years that are being used today by the partner nation for COVID-19

CFE-DM RESPONSE:

The Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance has supported health initiatives (GHE activities) provided to partner nations over the last 5-10 years through the execution of **Health Emergencies in Large Populations workshop (H.E.L.P.)** and **Health and Humanitarian Action in Emergencies (HHAE)** workshop.

H.E.L.P. builds capacity among allies and partners within the USINDOPACOM AOR to better manage public health emergencies and natural disaster response. In tandem with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), World Health Organization (WHO), and University of Hawaii, H.E.L.P. strengthens participant's ability to manage humanitarian operations in armed conflict, natural disasters, and major disease outbreaks. H.E.L.P. includes both military and civilian participants and thus constitutes a valuable opportunity for both to develop an appreciation for their respective views before meeting in the midst of a disaster. H.E.L.P. emphasizes optimal roles, division of labor, and best practices when relief agencies and military forces work alongside one another during humanitarian responses, thus increasing interoperability with U.S. military forces.

COVID-19 Utilization H.E.L.P. - The Indo-Asia Pacific region is the most disaster prone theater in the world. It has the greatest number of, and the most powerful, volcanoes, earthquakes, and cyclones than any other region of the world. The region is also no stranger to infectious diseases like avian influenza, SARS and the current COVI-19 pandemic. CFE's conduct of the annual HELP Course over the last 24 years in partnership with the ICRC and WHO has prepared selected personnel sent from ministries of Defense, Ministries of Health, and from National Disaster Management Organizations to plan, assess, and coordinate responses to public health emergencies, including threats from infectious diseases. Since first conducting the HELP course in Hawaii in 1996, CFE-DM has graduated nearly 700 humanitarian, civilian, and military participants. Almost 300 personnel completed the course within the last 10 years from Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Fiji, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Solomon Island, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, and Vietnam. Please see the testimonials below from course graduates currently involved with COVID response efforts:

COVID 19 Utilization: H.E.L.P./HHAE Alumni supporting in field for COVID 19

H.E.L.P.

Thailand - Dr. Sudjai Chaprasart, Chief of Coordination Section at ASEAN Center of Military Medicine in Thailand, coordinate and facilitate the deployment of military medical assistance to the affected areas or states in crisis situation.

Malaysia - Dr. Sze Loon Chow, Public Health Medicine Specialist and Senior Principal Assistant Director of the Penang State Health Department in Malaysia, conducts risk communications via series of public health talks, seminars, and coordinate potential case detection, investigation, and isolation.

Bangladesh - LTC MD Fakhru Alam, Directorate General Medical Services from the Bangladesh Army, is diligently educating the public of COVID-19, assist with quarantine of travelers, isolating suspected cases, and assist with testing. <https://www.cfe-dmha.org/News/2020/20200409-CFE-DM-alum-works-to-break-COVID-19-human-transmission>

Philippines - Dr. Irvin Miranda, medical officer, currently working in the fight against COVID-19 for the Philippines Department of Health. His expertise is being utilized at the national emergency operations center for Philippine's National Disaster Management Office or National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. <https://www.cfe-dmha.org/News/2020/20200331-CFE-DM-alum-coordinates-COVID-19-logistics-in-the-Philippines>

HHAE

Fiji - Mr. Tomasi Tuilevu, Acting Sub Officer of the Fiji National Fire Authority, collaborates with the Incident Management Team (IMT) Operation Centre in tracking down travelers from overseas, community outreach, and maintaining law and order by ensuring citizens follow the curfew enforcement.

Attachments: 2 Pagers H.E.L.P./ HHAE, participation rosters, Yearly Participant Data by Country

POC for this action is Joseph Martin, Director CFE-DM and can be reached at email: joseph.d.martin2@pacom.mil or COMM: 808-472-0518.