

# Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



The year 2020 has been quite a journey for all of us. The year started with the shockwaves of COVID-19 racing down the spines of every displaced person. It exacerbated the issues of refugees and migrants putting them at further risk owing to the political conditions that prevail and the additional impact of the unprecedented pandemic. The right to life was challenged as most people were pushed to the brink of survival. The geopolitical pressures only added to their misery. The events in Myanmar concerning the Rohingyas, threats of deportation in Malaysia, ongoing struggles of refugees in Australia, human rights violations in East Asia, including China and North Korea, have remained causes for concern.

As a network we have been consistently at the forefront of facing these challenges. Ever since the pandemic broke out, our Secretariat has been functioning on a hi-fly mode. Some of our staff who went back to their countries for a short vacation could not return to the office. However, those in Thailand continued to hold fort while the others worked virtually. The key challenge of not being able to meet in person has not dampened our efforts. Our work in using the virtual space compensated for the in-person meetings.

In the past year, we have been actively engaged in our three core areas of work namely: Advocacy, Capacity Building, and Research. We have been engaged with UNHCR's new decentralised regional consultations, conducted our first virtual annual Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy, and completed several key research reports.

While being engaged in many constructive endeavours, APRRN has been through changes in leadership, and postponed the 8th Asia Pacific Consultation on Refugee Rights (APCRR8) to 2021, with the prospect that it will be held virtually.

This annual report presents a bird's-eye view of the work of APRRN for the year 2020 and our contribution and impact on refugee rights in our region. I hope this will serve as a record of our work and a testament of our efforts.



Ashok Gladston Xavier Acting Chair

# WORD FROM SECRETARY GENERAL

I am profoundly proud of the efforts made by APRRN members this year. It has been the defining challenge of my career to steer the Secretariat through the hurdles and complications that the pandemic has so vividly laid bare, and to support as best possible our members, friends, colleagues, and fellow refugee rights advocates through processes and emergencies that we could not have anticipated, even one year ago.

While the pandemic thrust a considerable shift into our programmatic planning, it also created space for new actors to step up, for donors and partners to reconsider their approaches, and for APRRN to examine how we, as a sprawling and diverse group of individuals across dramatically varied contexts, could best build upon and capitalise on our connections to support those most disadvantaged and placed at



risk by the effects of increased mobility restriction, inaccessible medical care, the halting of regular service provision, and the most insidious of all reactions, the weaponisation of xenophobic nationalism against those most vulnerable in our populations: undocumented refugees.

Together we helped support the refugee-led movement in Asia and the Pacific to grow to dimensions we have not seen before in the region and created virtual fora that allowed for an inclusivity that APRRN has not previously been able to match. We were able to bring debates around our fundamental mission to members who had not previously had the means to participate, and to create avenues for policy makers and others to hear directly from affected populations in real time. We continued our operations in newly-designed formats, advancing our flagship programming - such as the Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy and our regular workshops and strategy sessions - in ways reconfigured to ensure we maximised our reach and influence in a shrinking political and operative space.

We leave 2020 behind and looking forward to 2021 we can rely on the fact that the movement for dignity, rights, and inclusivity for all people is only growing. We have new voices in our ranks and fresh strategies to explore. Despite the challenges we face - new and old - APRRN continues to persevere in our mission and remains dedicated to the core values that drive us as individuals and as members of this fine network.

I look forward to working with all of you in the future, in whatever form that may take.

Themba Lewis Secretary General

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AICHR ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights

APCRR Asia Pacific Consultation on Refugee Rights

APHR ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights

APNOR Asia Pacific Network of Refugees

APRRN Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ATD Alternatives to Detention

CRSP Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons

CSO Civil Society Organisation

GCM Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

GCR Global Compact on Refugees

GRF Global Refugee Forum

IDC International Detention Coalition

NHRI National Human Rights Institution

NSM National Screening Mechanism

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

WG Working group

ANZPWG Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Working Group

DSWG Durable Solutions Working Group

EAWG East Asia Working Group

IDWG Immigration Detention Working Group
LAAWG Legal Aid and Advocacy Working Group

RLPWG Refugee Leadership and Participation Working Group

RPWG Regional Protection Working Group

RWG Rohingya Working Group
SAWG South Asia Working Group
SEAWG Southeast Asia Working Group

WGDWG Women, Gender, and Diversity Working Group

YWG Youth Working Group

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

APRRN at a Glance		7	
Key Achievements		8	
Programme Activities: Advocacy			
(	COVID-19	9	
1	National Advocacy	10	
F	Regional Advocacy	14	
Programme Activities: Capacity Strengthening		18	
Programme Activities: Information Sharing		21	
Organisational Development		23	
Annex			
C	Organisational Members of APRRN	24	
I	_eadership of APRRN	27	
F	Financial Statement	29	
Acknowledgement		30	

# APRRN AT A GLANCE

The Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) is a collaborative movement which advances the rights and inclusion of refugees and other people in need of protection—including torture survivors, trafficked persons, IDPs, stateless persons, migrants in vulnerable situations and returnees—in the Asia Pacific region so they may have equal and adequate access to assistance and protection, and to timely durable solutions.

The Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) is a growing network consisting of more than 250 civil society organisations and individuals from 25 countries. APRRN's Secretariat, based in Bangkok, delivers capacity building, distributes emerging information, convenes learning exchanges and facilitates essential discourse to enable our 250 members to collaborate, collectively strategise and conduct joint, comprehensive and far-reaching refugee rights advocacy in order to promote the implementation of refugee protective policy and legislation.

APRRN works to build strong alliances and partnerships to advance refugee rights and address the needs of refugees and other people in need of protection, directly contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals; we facilitate the collaboration which is essential to policy change. APRRN members include human rights advocacy groups, research institutions, law firms providing pro-bono legal aid, and refugees themselves. APRRN envisions a region in which refugee communities, civil society, UNHCR, states, and other actors collaborate effectively towards the common purpose of protection.

APRRN was formed in 2008 at the first Asia Pacific Consultation on Refugee Rights (APCRR), held in Malaysia, in which representatives of 70 civil society organisations from 14 countries determined that it was necessary to establish a coordinating entity to convene collaborative action and thus progress and advance refugee rights across the region. APRRN's membership is immensely diverse: members include displaced people, community-based refugee organisations, service providers, human rights advocacy groups, research institutions, and law firms that provide pro bono legal aid.

At each APCRR, Working Groups put together action plans for the next two years. Through these Working Groups, members share information and resources with each other, regularly organise events, collaborate on advocacy, and work on joint projects. APRRN members collaborate through 12 different Geographic and Thematic Working Groups:

# Geographic

Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific East Asia South Asia Southeast Asia

#### **Thematic**

Durable Solutions
Immigration Detention
Legal Aid and Advocacy
Refugee Leadership and Participation
Regional Protection
Rohingya (Interim Working Group)
Women, Gender, and Diversity
Youth

# **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Responses to COVID-19
- Shifting to online activities (including Short Course)
- Responding to pushbacks and xenophobia
- International work (e.g., Global Pledges, UN Network on Migration)

2020 was a challenging year for all, as the COVID-19 pandemic and attendant health risks and travel restrictions forced us to reimagine our work and respond to a rapidly changing landscape, including outbreaks of xenophobia, boat pushbacks, and opportunistic shrinking of the civil society space. In response, APRRN quickly re-organised, re-envisioning what was possible and reimagining how we could advocate for the protection of refugees across the Asia Pacific region and strengthen the capacity of advocates for refugee rights. Our responses included vigilantly monitoring and responding to protection challenges, advocating for the inclusion of refugees in all COVID-19 preparedness and response plans, supporting localisation and refugee-led initiatives, and bridging local, regional and global responses.

As a regional network, many of APRRN's activities already took place virtually, so we were relatively well prepared to adapt to the new reality. In 2020, APRRN held its first virtual Short Course—receiving the largest number of applications in its history—thus strengthening the capacity of advocates throughout the region, while also engaging in joint advocacy. Participants were among the most diverse of Short Courses APRRN has organised: of the 26 participants, 16 were women and 12 were people with refugee backgrounds; half of the resource persons were women. The virtual learning process and platform provided participants, especially those limited by travel restrictions due to their legal status, the opportunity to convene, work on group projects, and collaborate with international course mates. The course helped foster remote engagement, which has been sustained after the course.

In 2020, Converge, a network consultancy, explored APRRN's network structure and governance to streamline our processes, more effectively deliver our objectives, and strengthen communications. From April 2020 to October 2020, Converge met with the Secretariat, the Board Members, the Steering Committee, and APRRN members more broadly to identify challenges and strategise solutions. They presented a synthesis of APRRN stakeholder engagement, underpinned by the feedback they received and identifying key areas for growth. A draft APRRN Network Charter outlining APRRN's purpose, priorities, and principles was created.

As the year progressed and it became more apparent that travel restrictions would not soon be lifted, and that many of the countries in which APRRN members are based were grappling with severe COVID-19 outbreaks, APRRN's membership amended the APRRN Statutes to enable the Steering Committee to postpone APRRN's eighth biennial Asia Pacific Consultation on Refugee Rights (APCRR8). With the General Assembly's approval, APCCR8 was postponed until 2021.

# Programme Activities: Advocacy

## COVID-19

APRRN members were quick to identify and respond to the diverse ways that COVID-19 would impact refugee communities. Through public advocacy and closed-door discussions, we stressed the importance of including refugees in national COVID-19 responses regardless of legal status. We pushed for the inclusion of refugees in the planning and implementation of support strategies and advocated for alternatives to immigration detention in light of the pandemic. In addition to advocacy, APRRN members quickly organised to ensure that refugees were receiving accurate information about COVID-19 and accompanying restrictions in a timely manner in languages they understood, that refugees had protective equipment where possible, and that refugees were able to support themselves and each other despite the impact of the lockdowns on sectors in which they worked. Throughout this process, APRRN members shared information, ideas, and resources across borders and coordinated our advocacy efforts for greater impact.



#### NATIONAL ADVOCACY

## Australia, New Zealand, and PNG

APRRN played a prominent role in the Refugee Council of Australia's national Refugee Alternatives conference in Brisbane in February 2020, with APRRN Chair, Arash Bordbar, leading discussions on how NGOs and refugee-led organisations were working together on Asia Pacific refugee policy priorities. Hayso Thako of the Karen Refugee Committee in Thailand outlined the development of the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR), while Hafsar Tameesuddin, resettled in 2019 from Malaysia to New Zealand, spoke about issues facing Rohingya refugee communities across the region. Guled Mire of Third Culture Minds in New Zealand and Evan Jones of Asylum Access Malaysia shared their thoughts on how international cooperation could support the concerns of local refugee communities.

As the COVID-19 outbreak became a pandemic in March 2020, APRRN members mobilised to respond to the pressing needs of refugee communities. Australia's new National Refugee-led Advisory and Advocacy Group worked with NGOs to highlight national concerns about rapidly growing destitution among people seeking asylum left with no financial safety net after losing employment and the health risk to people held in immigration detention. APRRN members in New Zealand and those working with refugees held under Australia's offshore processing regime in Nauru and Papua New Guinea (PNG) worked on similar issues related to health risks, the impacts of lockdowns and financial hardship.

During 2020, APRRN welcomed Caritas PNG as its first active organisational member in PNG. A new agency of the PNG Catholic Bishops Conference, Caritas is involved in supporting two forgotten groups of refugees – West Papuan refugees living in great hardship in Port Moresby and Kiunga and refugees sent by Australia in 2013 to detention in PNG. APRRN members in Australia and New Zealand are now working to support Caritas PNG's advocacy for both groups of refugees.

After the October 2020 election in New Zealand which saw Jacinda Ardern's Labour Government win a rare Parliamentary majority, APRRN members came together to strategise on joint national advocacy for the government's three-year term. Members identified the need for improved support for resettled refugees and for those whose refugee status is recognised in New Zealand, as well the need for increased national engagement on refugee protection issues in the nearer parts of Asia Pacific, particularly Indonesia, Malaysia, PNG and Nauru.

# Bangladesh

From October to December 2020, APRRN's Youth Working Group collaborated with the Centre for Applied Human Rights of the University of York and the Rohingya University on an 'Introduction to Human Rights' training for 30 youths across 21 camps in Kutapalong, Cox's Bazar. Due to travel restrictions as a result of COVID-19 and limited internet access in the Ukhiya

District, as imposed by the Bangladesh government, the programme was adapted to be conducted fully online through the use of multiplatform messaging and video conferencing applications. The training covered 'Introduction to Human Rights', 'Human Rights in the Law', 'International Law and Institutions', 'A Human Rights Approach: P.A.N.E.L. Principles', 'Human Rights Defenders', 'Primary Health', 'Empowerment', and 'Women's Rights'. Each group was given a set of related assignments and discussions were held throughout the week, for a total of 23 hours of instruction.

#### Indonesia

The situation of Rohingya refugees in Indonesia attracted attention after boats with Rohingya refugees coming from Bangladesh arrived on the shores of Indonesia's Aceh Province in June and September 2020. APRRN called upon Indonesia and Australia, as the Co-Chairs of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Process), to use the Consultation Mechanism to convene meetings to address the ongoing boat landings. Despite reports in May 2020 that Indonesia and Australia were in talks on using the Bali Process to address the issue, there has been little progress on a regional response.

In October 2020, following encouragement by APRRN, the Indonesian Government spoke at the 'Virtual Donor Conference on Sustaining Support for the Rohingya Refugee Response'; Indonesia's remarks during the conference can be heard here.



## Malaysia

APRRN members in Malaysia have engaged in considerable advocacy over the past year on a range of fronts. Xenophobia and arbitrary arrest escalated following the declaration of a Movement Control Order on 18 March 2020. Despite the Ministry of Health having declared that all foreigners regardless of status would be provided with free testing and treatment for COVID-19, many migrants and refugees – especially those who were undocumented – were afraid to present themselves for screening for fear of arrest. APRRN worked closely with RWG members to respond, including through engagement with the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, press releases, an op-ed, and an open letter, as well as endorsing several joint statements.

During increased and targeted anti-Rohingya campaigns on social media in April 2020, APRRN and RWG members in Malaysia documented and reported a large number of anti-Rohingya petitions on online petition platforms. In April and May 2020, APRRN identified and documented almost 40 anti-Rohingya petitions on Change.org, including some that had garnered over 100,000 signatures. Through a collective effort by the Secretariat and APRRN's membership, who reported the petitions to Change.org, the vast majority of these petitions were removed.

On 30 April 2020, the Home Minister of Malaysia, Hamzah Zainuddin, made a <u>statement</u> on Rohingya refugees that was contrary to the government's response to the Rohingya refugee crisis thus far. In response to his statement, the APRRN RWG facilitated the drafting and publication of an <u>op-ed</u> on behalf of Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar (the former Foreign Minister of Malaysia) criticising the Home Ministry's statement. RWG Chair, Lilianne Fan, also urged MAPIM President to hold a workshop on countering xenophobia among Malay stakeholders in Kedah. On 27 June 2020, MAPIM held the workshop titled 'Addressing Xenophobia Within Communities', attended by local community and religious leaders, local NGOs, Rohingya refugee representatives, UNHCR, IOM, the Red Crescent, Geutanyoe Foundation and three members of Parliament from Kedah.

Beyond this, APRRN supported a consultation between refugee representatives and the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) on refugee policy that APRRN members had helped set up in December 2019. The objective of the group is to study the issues faced by refugees in Malaysia and for parliamentarians to collaborate with civil society and refugee communities on activities towards the development of a domestic legal framework for refugees. In August 2020, APRRN supported a consultation between refugee representatives and the APPGM leadership. The consultation brought 25 refugees representing 17 different communities in Malaysia to the Parliament building to brief the APPGM on key issues facing their communities.

During the November 2020 ASEAN Summit, the Malaysian Prime Minister used some of APRRN's key messages on responsibility sharing in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) in his <u>speech</u> at the virtual summit. RWG Chair, Lilianne Fan, had sent key messages to

the Foreign Ministry and Prime Minister's advisor, which included this very point on responsibility sharing and the GCR. This was the first time that a Malaysian Prime Minister had mentioned the GCR at an ASEAN Summit.



#### Thailand

In December 2019, Thailand passed its first piece of regulation recognising the need for protection for non-citizens who are unable to return to their countries of origin. The regulation quietly came into force in June 2020; however, the National Screening Mechanism (NSM) established by the regulation has yet to be implemented, and questions and concerns remain regarding its operation. APRRN, its members, and partners, all of whom were key to the passage of the initial regulation, have continued to advocate for strengthened language and processes under NSM policy, aiming to ensure that the regulation, once fully operational, ensures protection for vulnerable populations and provides clear pathways for improvement and evaluation. We have done this through diplomatic briefings, roundtables, op-eds in local newspapers, building partnerships with the police bureau responsible for the NSM's operation, and developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks to increase accountability and transparency for both the NSM and the Memorandum to End Child Detention. APRRN members were integral to the Thai government signing a Memorandum of Understanding to End Immigration Detention of Children in 2019.

Outside of the NSM and advocacy related to COVID-19, APRRN initiated a multi-year project advocating for refugees' right to work in Thailand. This project included the drafting of a research report and organising a multi-stakeholder roundtable on refugee work rights in Thailand. Finally, APRRN members drafted a shadow report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the body of independent experts which monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by its state parties, and met to assess Thailand's progress on ending child detention over the previous year.

# Republic of Korea

APRRN members in Korea are part of the national Korea Refugee Rights Network. In response to the Korean government's exclusionary COVID-19 policies, the network participated in joint advocacy demanding the extension of universal COVID-19 economic relief to refugees, refugee applicants, and humanitarian visa holders. The network also distributed protective masks to migrants and refugees, as they were not included in the nationwide mask distribution scheme by the government and conducted advocacy in opposition to the government's initiative for an amendment to the Refugee Act that was finally proposed to the legislature on 28 December 2020.

In October 2020, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK) found that the Ministry of Justice's push to expedite refugee status determination procedures had led to acts that violated the human rights of refugee applicants, including fabricated refugee interview reports. The Dongcheon Foundation, an APRRN member, acted as a co-petitioner with NHRCK, to investigate this case. In addition, the Dongcheon Foundation also conducted an annual refugee law training targeted towards lawyers, 'ReLATE; Refugee Legal Aid Training and Empowerment', with APRRN's Secretary General participating as a speaker.

# REGIONAL ADVOCACY

# **Regional Forum on Anti-Terror Legislation**

In November 2020, APRRN and the Philippines Commission on Human Rights convened a forum on the effect of anti-terror legislation in Asia on refugees and civil society, with a focus on India, the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, and Malaysia. The forum highlighted shared experiences of national security laws that provide the executive with expansive powers with ambiguous limits, enhance the government's powers to investigate, detain, prosecute, and use force, such as extended pre-charge detention and shoot-to-kill powers, and limitations on judicial scrutiny. These commonalities demonstrated a growing challenge to civil society actors and legal rights practitioners including, in all cases, those defending individuals seeking protection. Participants also identified how COVID-19 has introduced additional challenges, as public health laws can be used to detain journalists and human rights defenders. There is a concern that these states of

emergency can become permanent and enable abuses. The discussion provided glimmers of light: participants shared tools that civil society can use to push back against the abuse of the legislation, including the need to use regional networks, such as APRRN, and to strategise internationally towards common approaches to challenging the national security discourse restrictions being placed on advocates and refugees.

# UNHCR Dialogue with NGOs on Support Platform for Solution Strategy on Afghan Refugees (SSAR)

In December 2020, UNHCR, APRRN and ICVA co-hosted the UNHCR Dialogue with NGOs on Support Platform for Solution Strategy on Afghan Refugees (SSAR). This briefing presented the UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific Director's perspectives from his recent mission to Afghanistan and Pakistan and provided overall updates on the support platform for SSAR. This was followed by a discussion of current dynamics and developments in the SSAR, a question-and-answer session, and closing remarks by APRRN's Refugee Leadership and Participation Working Group Chair, Najeeba Wazefadost.

# Film Screening: Parallels between Australia's and Thailand's Immigration Detention Policies

On 3 December 2020, APRRN and the Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies at the University of Auckland (CAPRS) co-hosted a documentary screening of 'Chauka, Please Tell Us the Time' at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand to raise awareness about immigration detention in the region. The documentary provides a glimpse into the injustices, violence and grave human rights abuses resulting from Australia's policy in the Manus Island offshore immigration detention centre through the testimonies of its inmates. It was followed by a panel and Q&A discussion with the directors of the film along with experts from the Refugee Council of Australia and the International Detention Coalition in Bangkok, centred on the detrimental effects of prolonged and indefinite detention.



The discussions examined Australia's offshore immigration detention policy and why it has been normalised despite inhumane conditions and legal challenges, and how we can change this reality so that immigration detention is only used as a measure of last resort. Comparative discussions of Thai immigration detention policy and practice complemented and contrasted the Australian example, localising the discussion. Key solutions to advance alternatives to detention were identified, including Thailand's Memorandum of Understanding to End Child Detention, and successful alternatives and recommendations were explored.

# NGO Meeting on Bhashan Char Relocation (Bangladesh) with the Special Rapporteur on the Situation on Human Rights in Myanmar

On 6 December 2020, APRRN RWG Deputy Chair, Chris Lewa, and APRRN Rohingya Consultant, Yuvraj Rathore, met the Special Rapporteur on the Situation for Human Rights in Myanmar, Tom Andrews, along with members of an informal Cox's Bazar Advocacy Coordination Group comprising activists from Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Bangladesh Rohingya Response NGO Platform and Fortify Rights. The information-sharing meeting explored the relocations being conducted by the Bangladesh Government to the island of Bhashan Char. The relocations were conducted in the absence of a pending UN technical and protection assessment of the island's habitability and prevented access to international agencies or journalists who could monitor the quality of services and the condition of refugees on the island. Chris Lewa presented crucial information during the meeting, much of which was gathered through interviewing refugees before they were relocated to the island, along with key updates gathered from interviewees post-relocation. Concerns around the voluntariness of the relocations and the quality of protection services available on the island were the primary issues agreed upon by all in the meeting. The Special Rapporteur released a <u>statement</u> on this issue four days after this meeting.

## **APNOR Consultations**

APNOR convened an Asia-Pacific regional conference on support for refugee leadership in COVID-19 responses in June 2020 and published a report on the outcomes on regional consultations with refugees and on COVID-19. A consultation with refugees in Japan was held on 17 December 2020 which included refugee leaders from Myanmar's Rohingya community, Syria, Ethiopia, Pakistan and Afghanistan. A report on the consultation, highlighting the many challenges faced by people seeking protection in Japan, was published in February 2021. In September 2020, APRRN member, APNOR, hosted two virtual consultations with Rohingya refugees – one was focused on the Cox's Bazar local context and the other examined a regional mandate. Both consultations were proposed to identify key issues, capacity gaps, and opportunities with the aim to establish a Rohingya refugee thinktank in the region. A report was released. On 17 December 2020, a consultation with refugees in Japan was held, joined by refugee leaders from Myanmar's Rohingya community, Syria, Ethiopia, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

# **NationalityforAll Consultations**

Throughout November and December 2020, APRRN members participated in and facilitated sessions during consultations on 'Advancing Rights and Protections for Stateless Populations, Refugees, and Communities with Precarious Legal Status' which were organised by NationalityforAll, Open Society Justice Initiative, and Refugee Solidarity Network. Topics of presentations and discussions focused on how to overcome barriers leading to detention; exclusion from legal status and documentation; children's rights and birth registration; and access to education, employment and health.

# **Asia Displacement Solutions Platform Report launch**

On 14 December 2020, the Asia Displacement Solutions Platform (ADSP) held a virtual discussion, as a follow up event to their <u>report</u> on 'Rohingya in South East Asia: Opportunities for Engagement'. RWG Chair, Lilianne Fan, was a panelist at the virtual panel discussion, which aimed to unpack some of the opportunities and challenges in the region as related to civil society engagement with the Rohingya crisis.

# **Global UN Network on Migration**

APRRN actively engaged in the Global UN Network on Migration, including as a co-lead of the working group on expanding pathways and as a member of the working group on alternatives to detention and the working group on safe and dignified returns.

# Conference on 'Sustaining Support for the Rohingya Refugee Response'

APRRN delivered a statement in the virtual 'Sustaining Support for the Rohingya Refugee Response' conference, stressing that while the displacement and statelessness crisis faced by the Rohingya ultimately requires a solution by Myanmar, protection, legal documentation, and access to services for Rohingya in host countries across the region is urgently needed now. APRRN also encouraged key regional actors to participate in the conference. The statements and further information about the conference can be found here.



## **UNHCR Engagement**

Despite barriers to in-person communication, APRRN continued to engage with UNHCR throughout 2020, including through drafting and presenting the Asia Pacific NGO Statement at the UNHCR NGO Consultations and participating in the UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting.

# Programme Activities: Capacity Strengthening

# Virtual Workshop for NGOs in Bangladesh

In July 2020, the APRRN Rohingya Working Group, in collaboration with the Bangladesh Rohingya Response NGO Platform, organised a virtual workshop for NGOs on 'Refugee Protection in the Context of COVID-19'. The workshop was designed for managers working with refugees in Cox's Bazar, to build capacity for protection monitoring across sectors. The virtual workshop featured refugee law experts, refugee protection researchers, and humanitarian practitioners as speakers or facilitators. The virtual workshop comprised three thematic sessions: Protection Principles and COVID-19 Protection Monitoring During COVID-19: Identifying Needs, Vulnerabilities, and Risks; Referrals and Responses; and Countering Stigma and Discrimination During COVID-19.

# Global Compact on Refugees / Global Compact on Migration Global Compact on Refugees

In 2020, APRRN strove to fulfil pledges made at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum, including the Refugee Leadership Pledge and the Legal Pledge.

# Refugee Leadership Pledge

APRRN partnered with the Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR) to submit a pledge to 'Cocreate enabling environments for refugees' and affect others' meaningful participation'. Over the course of 2020, APRRN has promoted the pledge and examined the networks' structure in light of the pledge text itself:

APRRN and APNOR pledge to review, strengthen, develop, and implement internal network policies, procedures, strategies, and practices which maximise our contributions, under a whole of society approach, to the co-creation of sustainable enabling environments for the leadership and meaningful participation in all decisions affecting their lives of people with living and lived refugee experience, forced migration experience, host communities, and other affected people.

APRRN's response has included proposed changes to statutory barriers to refugee leadership and participation at every level of the network, as well as working to ensure greater support for refugee participants in APRRN events and governance structures in order to facilitate this engagement.

## Legal Pledge

At the 2019 Global Refugee Forum, 28 law firms, bar associations, and corporations pledged to address the unmet legal needs of refugees and others forcibly displaced, as well as those of the NGOs that work with and for these groups. The law firms' commitment to provide 127,000 pro

bono hours was highlighted in the opening plenary of the GRF and has been commended globally. In 2020, APRRN actively participated in the Legal Pledge core group, which engaged in three main tasks to ensure that the commitments made are appropriately channelled to deliver maximum impact. First, the core group sought to familiarise NGOs with best practices for working with pro bono lawyers, including by organising a workshop and preparing a menu of pro bono services, a pro bono project checklist, and templates and guidance for pitching projects. Second, the core group matched NGOs with law firms by helping NGOs with their pitches and organising a roundtable at which nine NGOs pitched 15 projects to 46 lawyers from 28 law firms. Finally, the core group is establishing a pro bono pilot project in Asia, which should serve as a model and contribute to the nurturing of a pro bono culture within the country in which it takes place.

## 'Refugee Women and Girls: Key to the Global Compact' Project

In 2020, the APRRN Women, Gender, and Diversity Working Group continued its partnership with the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in conducting consultations on gender-responsive implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and carrying out COVID-19 responsive projects at the local level in Thailand, Malaysia, and Bangladesh. Women and girls in the three project locations are using their skills, knowledge, and experience as first responders to assist other women and girls impacted by the pandemic. The project strongly emphasises genuine participation and partnership with refugee women, while addressing sexual and gender-based violence. The framework in which the project developed includes the concept of being refugee-led – with women and girls putting forth suggestions, developing proposals, deliver and evaluate the services themselves; refugee inclusion and involvement, with partnership with stakeholders and inclusion for genuine input; and refugee-informed, whereby refugees are consulted but not being directly involved with decision-making processes. The project has also developed psychosocial training which has been translated into seven community languages.

## **Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy**

The Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy is an annual capacity strengthening activity that APRRN organises in collaboration with academic and institutional partners and experts. Its purpose is to increase the knowledge, critical human rights understanding relevant to forced migration, and capacity of advocates for refugee rights in the Asia Pacific region. Typically, participants from around the region convene in Bangkok for the course. APRRN conducted the first virtual Short Course due to travel restrictions imposed by COVID-19.

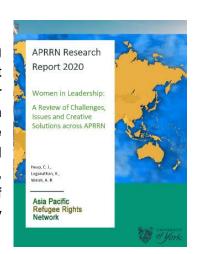
This year, participants examined the impacts of COVID-19 on refugee rights and the different protection strategies employed. The objective of the course was for participants to use the knowledge gained in the following series of modules in their regular work, as well as to develop advocacy plans in their specific area of refugee rights lobbying. The course covered a range of thematic areas, including women, gender, diversity, and intersectionality, inclusion of refugees and community engagement strategies for effective advocacy, and regional collaboration and protection mechanisms.

The Short Course was conducted online from 24 November until 18 December 2020, two days per week, three hours per day. Each week, 29 participants, 12 of whom had personally experienced forced displacement, were taken through sessions that covered different considerations for advocacy and practical skills for strategic planning.

The course lectures and presentations were presented by leading experts working on forced migration issues in the region, including academics, activists, legal advocates, UNHCR representatives, and NGO workers. During the course, participants were given access to curated reading lists, pre-recorded presentations, and a forum for exchange, exercises, and discussion. Participants were able to discuss the content of the presentations with the group and resource persons online.

# Report on Women in Leadership

In February 2020, the APRRN Women, Gender and Diversity Working Group commissioned a research project on how APRRN could support women in leadership in the network. Students from the Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York completed a research project. This research report was shared with all members in July. The report, 'Women in Leadership: A Review of Challenges, Issues and Creative Solutions across APRRN', was produced by Cheyann Heap, Krithika Loganathan and Adam Walsh, under the supervision of APRRN member, Alice Nah, and was shared with members in July 2020 in print and through a presentation on the findings.



# Practitioners' Roundtable on the Right to Work

In recent years, organisations in Thailand and Malaysia have been increasingly interested in the right of refugees to work. Coordination on the work has been a challenge: while organisations have made efforts to ensure that their approaches are complementary, they have not previously defined a shared strategy. Therefore, in December 2020, APRRN organised a day-long Practitioners' Roundtable on the Right to Work. The roundtable provided civil society organisations with an opportunity to regroup in light of not only COVID-19, but also the advent of the National Screening Mechanism in Thailand and to hear from a range of interested parties.

The 20 experts were divided into three groups to map why refugees do not have the right to work in Thailand, what concrete changes need to happen, and what actions need to be taken to realise those changes. The groups varied, with one group being entirely composed of women, one group containing three of the five refugee participants, and one group with a large number of persons focused on camp-based refugees. In the afternoon, the groups shared their maps with each other and developed pitches for projects that would advance refugee work rights in Thailand.

# Programme Activities: Information Sharing

## **Communications**

APRRN continues to maintain its communication channels including a website, social media accounts, Google Groups, and teleconferences. Between January 2020 and December 2020:

- Facebook 'Likes' have increased from 4,957 from the beginning of January to 6,544 towards the end of December.
- In 2020, APRRN gained 677 new Twitter followers, with an average of over 2,400 tweet views per day.
- In August 2020, APRRN started to compile Biweekly Briefs to keep members abreast of activities, developments, and opportunities in the region. Since then, APRRN has published 25 issues of the Biweekly Briefs.

Additionally, the COVID-imposed switch to online meetings enabled APRRN to take part in a wide variety of meetings in 2020, ranging from a discussion on Rohingya solutions with civil society, to the 2020 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs, to a workshop on practicing solidarity with LGBTIQ+ forcibly displaced people, to a discussion on preventing and mitigating the impact of statelessness.

## **Statements**

In 2020, APRRN published a number of statements, op-eds, press releases, a direct letter, and an open letter, raising issues and concerns regarding the protection of refugees and asylum seekers in the region. Please note that some of these were not publicly published.

- Direct Letter: Letter of Concern Regarding NSM to Director General Nattawat Krisanamara, (February 2020)
- Joint Statement: ASEAN must uphold human rights in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, (March 2020)
- Joint Statement: ASEAN Urged to Heed UN Sec-Gen Call for Global Ceasefire, Ensure Human Rights Amid COVID19, (March 2020)
- Op-ed: Korean COVID Response, Sisan, (Korean), (March 2020)
- Statement: Suspension of Afghan Refugee Repatriation from Pakistan a Short-Term Solution to a Long-Term Problem, (March 2020)
- Op-ed: Special measures needed to Curb COVID-19 in refugee and migrant communities, (Malay Mail), (March 2020)
- Press Release: Repatriated Vietnamese Blogger Receives 10 Year Sentence, (March 2020)
- Urgent Statement: Refugees Must be Prioritised Included in COVID-19 Response, Not Vilified or Ignored, (March 2020)
- Urgent Statement: Global Response to COVID-19 Should not Undermine the Right of Asylum, (March 2020)

- Joint Statement: APNOR-APRRN Calling for Urgent Action on Covid-19 for Refugees, (March 2020)
- Op-ed: A New Era for Refugee Protection in Thailand?, Bangkok Post, (March 2020)
- Press Release: Regional Response Needed as Bangladesh Refuses Rohingya Refugees, (April 2020)
- Urgent Statement: End Pushbacks of Rohingya Refugees, (April 2020)
- Joint Statement: Allow Refugees Stranded in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea to Disembark, (May 2020)
- Joint Statement: An Urgent Call to States, Donors, and other Stakeholders to Promote and Protect the Rights of Stateless Persons in Their COVID-19 Responses, (May 2020)
- Op-ed: Solution to Rohingya Crisis Does not Lie in Hatred or Inaction, Malay Mail, (May 2020)
- Op-ed: Rohingya Crisis Won't Go Away with Inaction, Silence, New Straits Times, (May 2020)
- Open Letter: To António Guterres: Extension of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, (May 2020)
- Press Release: Bangladesh Intercepts Boat, Rohingya Refugees Reportedly Taken to Bhashan Char Island, (May 2020)
- Joint Statement: ASEAN Must Ensure Protection for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the Region, (June 2020)
- Press Release: Thailand Quietly Delays Implementation of Refugee Screening Mechanism, (June 2020)
- Statement: Three Years On: Rohingya Need Sustainable Solutions, (September 2020)
- Statement: Virtual Donor Conference on "Sustaining Support for Refugee Response", (October 2020)
- Joint Statement: Joint Response to the Draft CMW Draft General Comment No. 5 (2020)
   On Migrants' Rights to Liberty and Freedom from Arbitrary Detention, (October 2020)
- Urgent Statement: Malaysia Must Pursue Alternatives to Immigration Detention for Children Immediately, (December 2020)
- Urgent Statement: Hong Kong's Regressive Legislative Amendments Risk Undermining Protection For Refugees and Asylum Seekers (Chinese), (December 2020)

# ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# **Staff Updates**

In 2020, the APRRN Secretariat underwent several staff changes:

- In February 2020, Daniel Davies joined the Secretariat as a Programme Officer working primarily on advocating for work rights in Malaysia and Thailand.
- In March 2020, Michelle Soe Moe joined the Secretariat as a Programme Associate.
- In June 2020, Imran Khan joined the APRRN Secretariat as a Funding and Development Coordinator.
- In September 2020, Marie Martin joined the APRRN Secretariat as a Consultant working on advocacy for particularly vulnerable populations.
- In October 2020, Yuvraj Rathore joined the APRRN Secretariat as a Consultant focused on Rohingya refugees. He succeeded Temme Lee, who concluded her time with the Secretariat as a Consultant in July 2020.
- In November 2020, Nuchnalin Leerasantana joined the APRRN Secretariat as a part-time Project Coordinator, monitoring the implementation of the National Screening Mechanism in Thailand.

# **ANNEX**

# ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS OF APRRN

#### **Afghanistan**

- · Afghanistan Democracy and Development Organization
- · Afghan Planning Agency
- · Tabish Organisation
- · War Child Canada

#### Australia

- · Access Community Services Limited
- · Act for Peace-National Council of Churches in Australia
- · AMES Australia
- · Amnesty International Australia
- Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors (ASeTTS)
- · Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
- · Australian Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne)
- · Australian National Committee on Refugee Women
- · Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce
- Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)
- · Bhutanese Community in Australia
- · Centre for Human Rights Education, Curtin University
- · Cisarua Learning Limited
- · Connect Settlement Services
- · Community Migrant Resource Centre
- Diaspora Action Australia
- DLA Piper
- Forced Migration Research Network (University of New South Wales)
- · Forcibly Displaced People Network
- · Help Himalayan Youth Foundation
- HOST International
- · House of Welcome
- · International Detention Coalition
- International Tamil Refugee Advocacy Network ITRAN
- Migrant and Refugee Rights Project Asia Pacific
- Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network
- Multicultural Youth Queensland
- MDA Ltd
- Naiker Associates
- NAMII, Consultants
- National Refugee led Advisory and Advocacy Group (NRAAG)
- Occupational Opportunities for Refugees and Asylum Seekers Inc (OOFRAS)
- · Overseas Services to Survivors of Torture and Trauma
- Oxfam Australia
- Quaker Service Australia
- · Refugee Council of Australia
- Settlement Services International (SSI)
- Survivors of Torture and Trauma Assistance and Rehabilitation Service (SA)

- · The Kick Project
- UNICEF Australia

#### Bangladesh

- · Association of Rohingya Refugee Student
- · Bangladesh Institute of Human Rights
- BRAC
- COAST Trust
- · Centre for Social Integrity
- · Handicap International Humanity & Inclusion
- · Nibedito Samaj Kalyan Songstha
- Naripokkho
- Odhikar
- OKUP (Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program)
- · Rohingya Students' Union
- PHALS (Programme for Helpless and Lagged Societies)
- · Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit

#### Cambodia

- Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility (CARAM Cambodia)
- · Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW)
- Minority Rights Organization (MIRO)

#### France

· Urban Refugees

#### Germany

· Society for Threatened Peoples

#### **Hong Kong**

- · Branches of Hope
- Daly and Associates
- · Christian Action
- Health in Action
- · Justice Centre Hong Kong
- · Our Lives Matter
- Post Return Monitoring Network
- · Resolve Foundation
- RUN Hong Kong Limited

#### India

- · ARA Legal Initiative
- · Development and Justice Initiative
- · Rohingya Human Rights Initiative
- LHA Charitable Trust
- OfFRE
- Socio Legal Information Centre (Human Rights Law Network)
- The Other Media

- · Tibetan Legal Association
- · Tibetan Voluntary Health Association

#### Indonesia

- · Human Rights Working Group
- JAPPSI Indonesian Refugees and Asylum Seekers Advocacy Network
- · HELP for Refugees (Yayasan HELP Indonesia)
- LBH Jakarta
- People's Crisis Centre
- · Roshan Learning Centre
- SUAKA Indonesian Civil Society Network for Refugee Rights Protection
- World Relief
- Yayasan KKSP, Kelompok Kerja Sosial Perkotaan
- · Yayasan Geutanyoe (Geutanyoe Foundation)

#### Iran

- Association for Protection of Refugee Women and Children (HAMI)
- · Zanjirehomid Charity Institute

#### Japan

- · Forum for Refugees Japan
- · Japan Association for Refugees
- · Refugees International Japan
- Stateless Network
- · Tokyo Public Law Office

### Kyrgyzstan

Publication Foundation – Legal Clinic 'Adilet'

#### Macau

Global and Community Mental Health Research Group

#### Malaysia

- · CARAM Asia
- Beyond Borders
- Development of Human Resources For Rural Areas (DHRRA)
- · Federation of Reproductive Health Associations, Malaysia
- Good Shepherd Services
- · Health Equity Initiatives (HEI)
- Malaysian Social Research Institute
- · Mercy Malaysia (Malaysian Medical Relief Society)
- Migration Working Group
- · Penang Stop Human Trafficking Campaign
- Rohingya Project
- Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM)
- SUKA Society
- Tenaganita
- · Voice of the Children
- PKPKM Sabah
- Yayasan Chow Kit

#### Mongolia

· Human Security Policy Studies Centre

#### Myanmar

- · Rohingya Human Rights Monitoring Network
- · Chin Human Rights Organization
- · Danish Refugee Council

#### Nepal

- · Human Rights Organization of Nepal
- INHURED International
- Population Watch
- PPR Nepal

#### **New Zealand**

- · Asylum Seeker Support Trust
- · ChangeMakers Resettlement Forum
- · Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies
- · English Language Partners New Zealand
- Empower
- Canterbury Refugee Council
- · Hope Worldwide Pakistan
- KiwiClass
- · New Zealand Myanmar Ethnic Council
- · New Zealand National Refugee Network
- New Zealand Refugee Youth Council
- New Zealand Sri Lanka Forced Migrants' Support Group
- POONGA
- Refugees as Survivors
- · Refugee Council of New Zealand
- Pegasus Health (Charitable)

#### Pakistan

- Children and Women Trust
- · Community Help Community
- · Direct Focus Community Aid
- · ESCR Asia Pakistan
- Forum for Human Rights Law and Policy (FHRLP) Pakistan
- Foundation for Rural Development (FRD)
- · Human Rights Alliance (HRA) Pakistan
- · Legal Researchers
- · RightsNow Pakistan
- IDEA-Initiative for Development and Empowerment Axis
- Musawi
- Rural Empowerment and Institutional Development (REPID)
- Rural Development Project (RDP)
- Pakistan International Human Rights Organization (PIHRO)
- Society for Human Rights and Prisoners Aid (SHARP Pakistan)
- Union Aid
- · Youth Association for Development

#### Papua New Guinea

- · Caritas Papua New Guinea
- · Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee

#### **Philippines**

- · Community and Family Services International
- · Migrant Forum in Asia
- Philippine Arab Cooperation Council Inc.

#### **Republic of Maldives**

Maldives NGO Federation

#### Republic of Korea

- · APIL (Advocates for Public Interest Law)
- · Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights
- · Dongcheon Public Interest Foundation
- Duroo Association for Public Interest Law
- EcoFemme
- · Human Asia
- · Immigrants Advocacy Center Gamdong
- Korean Public Interest Lawyers Group GONGGAM
- · Migration to Asia Peace (MAP)
- Medipeace
- NANCEN
- No Chain for North Korea
- Refuge pNan

#### Singapore

- · Advocates for Refugees Singapore (AFR-SG)
- · Reyna Movement
- · Open Universities for Refugees
- · Save the Children

#### Sri Lanka

- South Asian Network for Refugees, IDPs & Migrants (SANRIM)
- · Centre for Migration Research and Development (CMRD)
- · National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka

#### Switzerland

· Same Skies

#### Taiwan

- · Taipei Overseas Peace Service
- · Taiwan Association for Human Rights
- Union of Excluded Immigrants and Unwanted Citizens (UNIC)

#### Thailand

- ALTSEAN-Burma
- Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)

- · Asylum Access
- · Bangkok Urban Community Club
- Burma Link
- · Caritas Thailand
- · Center for Asylum Protection
- · Coalition for the Rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons
- · Courageous Kitchen
- Equal Asia Foundation (Stichting EqualA Foundation)
- · Fortify Rights
- Human Security Alliance (HSA)
- · Karenni Social Development Center
- · Jesuit Refugee Service Asia Pacific
- People's Empowerment Foundation
- The Arakan Project
- · The Branch Foundation

#### UK

- · Burma Campaign UK
- · Centre for Applied Human Rights (University of York)
- · Refugee Legal Aid Information
- · Garden Court International
- · Karenni Student Development Programme (KSDP)
- Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study (University of London)
- The Equal Rights Trust

#### USA

- · Bond Street Theatre Coalition
- BPSOS, Inc.
- · Burma Border Projects
- · Japan-America Refugee Network
- Organization for Refuge, Asylum, Migration (ORAM)
- · Refugee Solidarity Network
- Uyghur Human Rights Project

#### Vietnam

 Centre for Community Development and Social Work (CODES)

#### Regional

· Asia Pacific Network of Refugees (APNOR)



# LEADERSHIP OF APRRN

(As of December 2020)

#### **APRRN Board**

Acting President: Ashok Gladston Xavier (Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation, India)

## **Members**

- Puttanee Kangkun (Fortify Rights, Thailand)
- Parinya Boonridrerthaikul (Coalition for Refugees and Stateless Persons, Thailand)
- Geraldine Doney (Forced Migration Research Network, University of New South Wales, Australia)
- Carolina Gottardo (Jesuit Refugee Service, Australia)
- Paul Power (Refugee Council of Australia, Australia)

# **APRRN Steering Committee**

APRRN Acting Chair: Ashok Gladston Xavier (Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation)

# **Geographic Working Group Representatives**

Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific

Chair: Paul Power (Refugee Council of Australia, Australia)

East Asia

Chair: Il Lee (Advocates for Public Interest Law, South Korea)

South Asia

Chair: Imran Khan Laghari (Human Rights Alliance, Pakistan)

Southeast Asia Chair: *Vacant* 

# **Thematic Working Group Representatives:**

**Durable Solutions** 

Chair: Gopal Krishna Siwakoti (INHURED International, Nepal)

Immigration Detention

Chair: Lars Stenger (SUAKA, Indonesia)

Legal Aid and Advocacy

Chair: Takgon Lee (Dongcheon Foundation, South Korea)

Refugee Leadership and Participation

Chair: Najeeba Wazefadost (Australia National Committee on Refugee Women, Australia)

Regional Protection

Chair: Tamara Domicelj (Act for Peace, Australia)

Women, Gender and Diversity

Chair: Carolina Gottardo (Jesuit Refugee Services, Australia)

Youth

Chair: Hayatullah Akbari (Geutanyoe Foundation, Malaysia)

# **Experts (Non-Voting members)**

Rohingya

Chair: Lilianne Fan (Geutanyoe Foundation, Malaysia)
Deputy Chair: Chris Lewa (The Arakan Project, Myanmar)

## **Non-Steering Committee Members**

Deputy Chair Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific: Hafsar Tameesuddin (Asylum Seeker

Support Trust, New Zealand)
Deputy Chair East Asia: *Vacant* 

Deputy Chair South Asia: Dr. Wais Aria (Tabish Organisation, Afghanistan)

Deputy Chair Southeast Asia: Vacant

Deputy Chair Durable Solutions: John Roc (Refugee Council of Australia, Australia)

Deputy Chair Immigration Detention: Sahar Okhovat (Refugee Council of Australia, Australia)

Deputy Chair Legal Aid and Advocacy: Brian Gorlick (Refugee Law Initiative)

Deputy Chair Refugee Leadership and Participation: Wahkushee (Karen Peace Support

Network, Thai-Burma Border)

Deputy Chair Regional Protection: Naiyana Thanawattho (Asylum Access, Thailand)

Deputy Chair Rohingya: Chris Lewa (The Arakan Project, Myanmar)

Deputy Chair Women, Gender and Diversity: Vacant

Deputy Chair Youth: Vacant

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

# **INCOME 2020**

Grants	THB	15,880,375.20
Interest received		45,369.92
Other Income		1,551,349.75
Total Income		17,447,095.17
EXPENDITURES 2020		
Program Expenses		3,157,884.04
Administrative Expenses		10,854,413.51
Total Expenditures		14,012,297.55
CDANTE 2020		

# **GRANTS 2020**

Heinrich Boell Stiftung Southeast Asia	601,072.72
OAK Foundation	2,583,108.99
Open Society Foundations	2,964,745.08
Oxfam	621,400.00
Planet Wheeler Foundation	2,000,443.49
Porticus	3,502,230.41
Settlement Services International	275,083.75
UNHCR	1,440,718.78
Worker Rights Consortium	1,891,572.30

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

APRRN would like to thank the following funders and volunteers for their support in 2020:

## **FUNDERS**

- Heinrich Boell Foundation
- Oak Foundation
- Open Society Foundation
- Oxfam
- Planet Wheeler Foundation
- Settlement Services International
- Julia Taft Foundation
- UNHCR
- Worker Rights Consortium

## **VOLUNTEERS**

- Mohammed Ali (University of York)
- Cecilia Bull (University of York)
- Emily Canlas (University of York)
- Cheyann Heap (University of York)
- Krithika Loganathan (University of York)
- Adam Walsh (University of York)



















www.aprrn.org facebook.com/APRefugeeRightsN twitter.com/APRRN\_