

Alumna leads earthquake recovery effort for Thai nationals

When a devastating earthquake struck Nepal in April this year, Thai citizen Jiraporn Sudanich set up an emergency center to help fellow Thai nationals weather post-disaster impacts.

Sudanich is an alumna of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Comprehensive Crisis Management course (CCM 11-1).

She was serving in Nepal as Thailand's deputy chief of mission in Kathmandu. Because the Thai ambassador was out of the country when the earthquake struck, Sudanich was the country's senior representative in Nepal.

She led two embassy staff members in recovery efforts. Together, they identified roughly 200 Thai citizens



Thailand's *Spouse* magazine profiled Jiraporn Sudanich's Nepal earthquake response.



needing assistance.

She and her team drove embassy vehicles through nearby neighborhoods and at the airport to transport Thai citizens to the ambassador's residence where they coordinated security and provision of food, water and gas

for one week. A few days later, the Kathmandu airport re-opened and Sudanich's team aided evacuation of Thai citizens back to their home nation.

Sudanich said her CCM experience equipped her with tools needed to think through

such a situation.

"Learning about causal loops (a problem analysis tool) helped me enormously during those critical days in the aftermath of the earthquake. I was able to think and plan everything within the framework of a system. I used this to categorize the problems I had to deal with, understand ways to solve them and who should be responsible for each step."

She also noted how she was able to use her DKI APCSS alumni connections to gain valuable assistance from the Nepal Army and police. Sudanich also praised support from other entities, private and diplomatic.

Editor's note: Several DKI APCSS alumni from various countries assisted in the broader relief effort.

Former Fellow affects positive change in diplomatic service

An alumnus of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies has transformed the way Pakistan approaches career development and assignment of its foreign service officers.

Syed Gillani, director of personnel for Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, successfully implemented a Fellow's Project he developed as part of the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 14-1) curriculum.

Gillani established an improved career planning and assignment processes for Foreign Service officers who serve in diplomatic posts worldwide. During a May 1 brief to 112 Fellows of ASC 15-1, he explained that the old assignment system lacked transparency, logical career development paths and consideration for personal choices and family circumstances. He said he realized individual success within the service was based predominantly on each individual's own

ambition and entrepreneurship rather than a systemic, institutional process that facilitated their development.

Gillani built his Fellows Project, under the guidance of DKI APCSS faculty members Dr. Miemie Byrd and Butch Finley, to achieve three core objectives: make assignments more predictable, inclusive and transparent; develop core competencies centered on vital international relationships and issues; and minimize interference with children's academic year due to moves.

The ASC alumnus said his persistence enabled him to overcome common organizational change resistances. The successful implementation of his project resulted in higher morale and improved efficiency and effectiveness for the department as 67% of the officers received their first choice of assignments while 88 percent received at least one of their top three selected preferences.



DKI APCSS alumnus Syed Gillani successfully implemented a Fellows Project designed to improve career development and assignments for foreign services officers in Pakistan.

CCM alum leverages TV role to advocate women's equality

Launches project to spotlight issues associated with wartime violence and crisis vulnerabilities

Aarti Chataut, a broadcast journalist with Nepal Television, discussed her work in addressing gender-based violence and inequality with 150 U.S. and international Fellows July 31 at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies.

Chataut is an alumna of the Center's Comprehensive Security Responses to Terrorism course (CSRT 15-1) and an expert on gender issues in her nation. Utilizing a DKI APCSS education on subjects, such as interagency collaboration and inclusion, she developed a Fellows Project titled "Breaking the Silence: Bringing Real Peace to Nepal through Reconciling the Issue of Wartime Violence against Women."

Chataut tackles what she perceives are persistent inequalities and vulnerabilities impacting women and children following the Nepal government's roughly 10-year fight with Maoist rebels.

A 15-year broadcast veteran and commentator on Nepal's political and social life, Chataut leveraged her NTV position to bring her Fellows Project to life. She launched a new 25-minute



Aarti Chataut leads a Nepal Television program dedicated to building awareness on women's post-conflict vulnerabilities. The program, called *PAHAL*, is the result of the Fellows Project she developed during her time in APCSS' Comprehensive Responses to Terrorism course (CSRT 15-1).

TV magazine program called *PAHAL* in April 2015. Its objective is to raise awareness about women and children, their vulnerabilities during crises, and sexual and gender-based violence against women. Its first edition featured an interview with Nepal's Minister of Women, Children and Social Welfare. Chataut has engineered 13 subsequent episodes in less than four months on Nepal's principle broadcast information network.

According to the APCSS alumna, the program not only informs the public, but also puts forward proposals on how to solve problems. Offered solutions include everything from setting up special units within security agencies to introducing training courses for agencies that educate government officials about gender-related international laws. Her program has also proposed long-term solutions such as the inclusion of gender issues in school

curricula, to change what she calls anti-woman practices in society.

Chataut said her DKI APCSS experience was instrumental in helping her understand multiple facets of issues that can emerge during a crisis.

She also noted she learned to take a whole-of-society approach by identifying multiple stakeholders involved in an issue. "When I decided to launch my project...I was able to develop the concept and contents based on what I learned at (DKI) APCSS."

In her July address to Comprehensive Crisis Management course (CCM 15-1) participants, Chataut encouraged Fellows to "go the extra mile" in taking on a Fellows Project. "A person can change the world... we all have the capacity to change the world."

In addition to being a journalist, Chataut also serves as an instructor for in-service training for government officials and police officers on the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, and other gender-specific subjects.

She has received 30 national and international awards for her work on women's and gender-related issues. She has also received three Nepal government awards for achievements in women's empowerment, journalism and education.