



S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
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***CENTRE FOR
NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY
STUDIES***





Agenda

- Non-Traditional Security (NTS)
- RSIS Centre for NTS Studies
- Consortium on NTS Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia)



What is Non-Traditional Security (NTS)?

- Focuses on non-military security threats
- Transnational in nature and defined in political and socio-economic terms
- NTS threats do not stem from competition between states or shifts in balance of power
- Often caused by human-induced disturbances to fragile balance of nature with dire consequences to both states and societies
- Resource scarcity, climate change and environmental degradation, natural disasters, infectious diseases, transnational crime, irregular migration, ethnic conflicts, arms smuggling, sea piracy and others
- These phenomena cause instability → threat to security
- Consequences often more difficult to reverse or repair.





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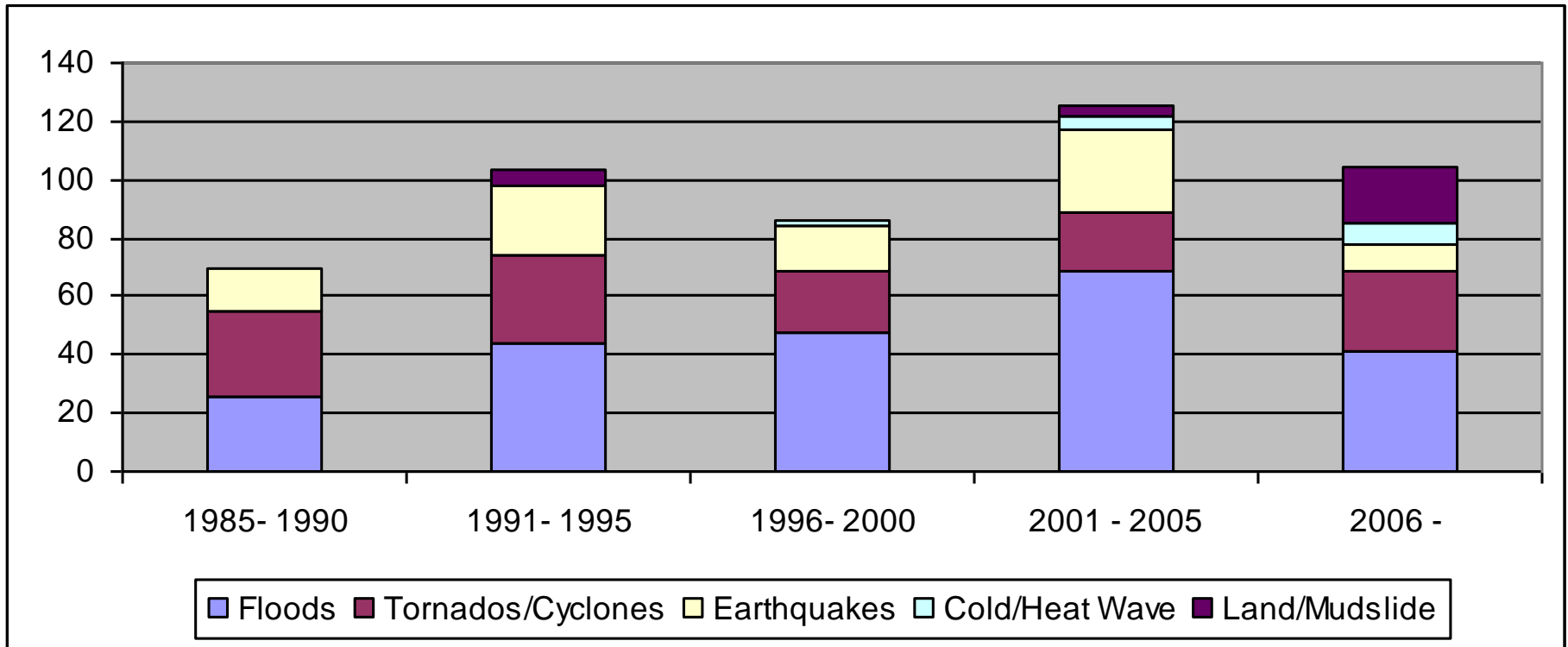
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Referent object of security →
people or human
collectivities, not just the
state!



Illuminating the Increasing Importance of NTS Issues: *Natural Disasters in Asia*



Source: UNOCHA www.reliefweb.int, (accessed 13 May 2008)



Promoting NTS Studies in Asia

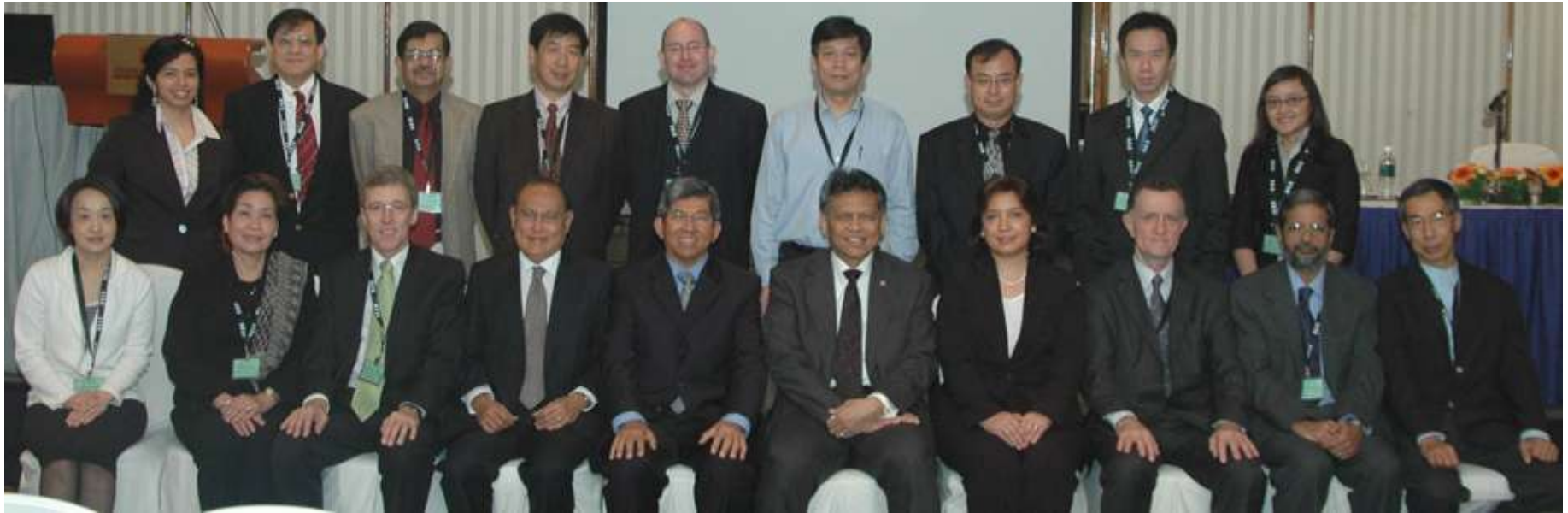
- Since 1999, the RSIS has successfully conducted and managed a programme on NTS, aiming at increasing awareness of a range of NTS challenges and the need to develop regional institutional capabilities as a response
- With growing regional interest on NTS issues, the RSIS established the Consortium on NTS Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia) in January 2007
- In May 2008, the RSIS NTS programme was upgraded to become the Centre for NTS Studies, which serves as the Secretariat of NTS-Asia



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Launch of RSIS Centre for NTS Studies, 6 May 2008, Traders Hotel, Singapore

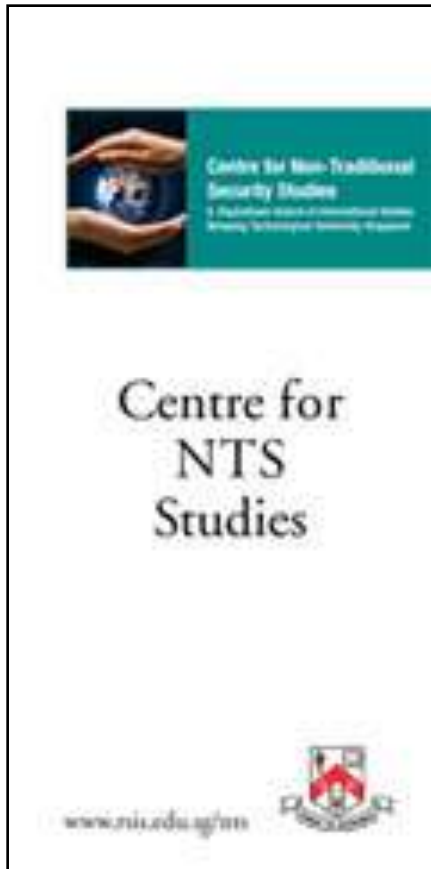




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RSIS Centre for NTS Studies - Missions



- **Conduct Research**
- **Produce policy-relevant analyses**
- **Furthering awareness & building capacity to address NTS issues & challenges in Asia-Pacific & beyond**



RSIS Centre for NTS Studies - Objectives

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



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RSIS Centre for NTS Studies – Key Research Programmes

Pandemics and Security Programme

- Health and Human Security
- Global Health Governance
- Pandemic Preparedness and Global Response Networks



Energy and Security Programme

- Security and Safety of Energy Infrastructure
- Stability of Energy Markets
- Energy Sustainability
- Nuclear Energy and Security



Climate Change and Security Programme

- Mitigation and Adaptation Policy Studies
- The Politics and Diplomacy of Climate Change



Food Security





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RSIS Centre for NTS Studies - Outreach & Capacity Building



Long Sarou



Neth Naro

Mr. Long Sarou (Royal University of Phnom Penh) and Mr. Neth Naro (University of Cambodia) have recently completed the Centre's visiting research fellowship programme for 2008. Under the programme, Sarou and Naro respectively conducted research on "Livelihood Strategies amongst Indigenous People in the Central Cardamom Protected Forests, Cambodia" and "Migration & Human Trafficking - A Case for Regional Cooperation".



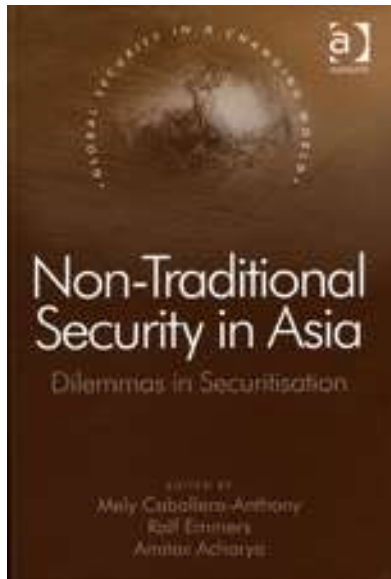
Cambodia's CCPPF



Indigenous peoples of Kandal village



RSIS Centre for NTS Studies - Publications



Books &
Monographs



NTS Alerts



RSIS
Commentaries



NTS Insights



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What is NTS-Asia?



- Currently a network of 14 research institutes and think tanks from across the Asian region
 - Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Vietnam

ISDS



CSDS





Objectives of NTS-Asia

- Develop further the process of networking among scholars and analysts working on NTS issues in the region
- Build long-term and sustainable regional capacity for research on NTS issues
- Mainstream and advance the study of NTS in Asia



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NTS-Asia Activities (1)



First Annual Convention, 5-6 November 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka



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NTS-Asia Activities (2)



Dissemination Seminar: NTS Challenges in Asia, 5-8 March 2007, United States of America. Three seminars held in IPA New York, CSIS Washington DC and IEAS Berkeley University, San Francisco



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NTS-Asia Activities (3)



Subregional Workshops: Workshop on Humanitarian Emergencies and Human Security, 2-4 September 2007, Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Jointly organized by RSIS and CSIS, Indonesia.



NTS-Asia - Research Fellowship Programme

- A duration of 3 months
- Choice to conduct research at any of the 14 NTS-Asia member institutes
- To produce a publishable research paper/monograph prior to conclusion of the programme

2008-2009 Research Fellows

- **Ms. Manisha Sobhrajani, development-sector worker, Indian Kashmir.**
Affiliated with several organizations such as WISCOMP, CDR and ICM.
 - *Analysis of Media Reportage on Gender-based Violence in Jammu and Kashmir*
- **Dr. Xue Li, Research Fellow, Division of International Strategy, Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEP), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences**
 - *Sino-ASEAN Energy Cooperation: Limitation, Potential and Prospects*
- **Mr. John Jackson Ewing, Teaching Fellow, Bond University, Australia**
 - *Security Implications of Climate Change - Case Study of the Philippines*



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Check Out the NTS E-News!

- NTS-Alert's timely issues
- Worldwide Readership
- 350 on mailing list and counting
- List is not exhaustive as some are point of contacts who disseminate e-news even further



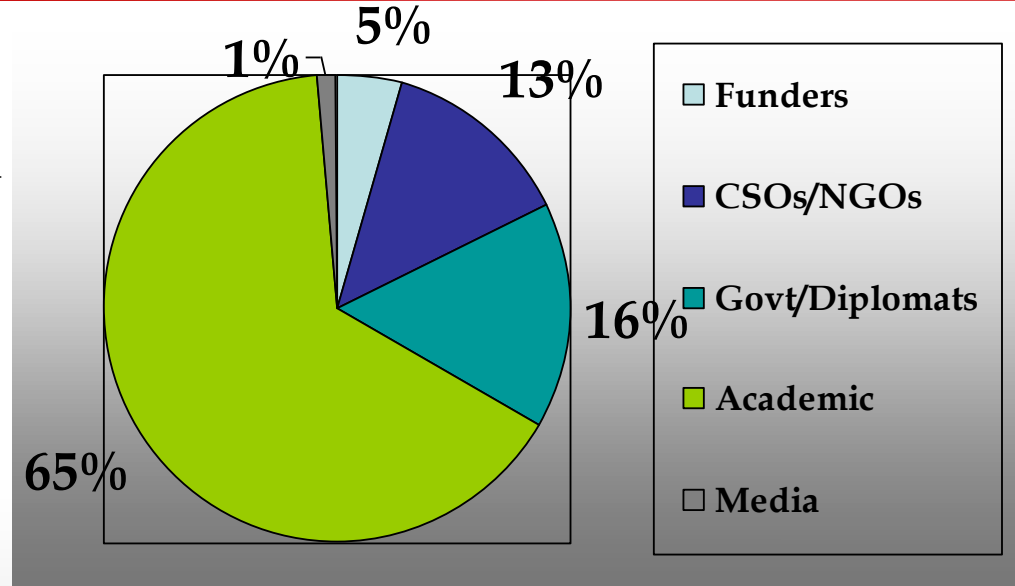
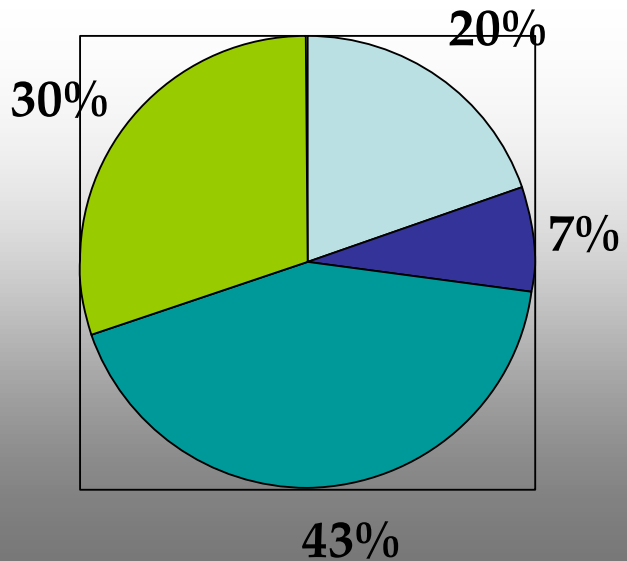


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E-News readership by profession

note: some academics double up in NGOs and some government circles



E-News readership by region



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Visit Our Websites

RSIS Centre for NTS Studies:

www.rsis.edu.sg/nts

NTS-Asia:

www.rsis-ntsasia.org



As of 24 February 2009, the NTS-Asia website for instance registered 35,058 visits, with a typical visitor having examined 20 documents found on the site.



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Thank You!