



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

Floods have hit Riau province since mid-February, causing 4 deaths and 5,000 affected families. The Riau Disaster Management Agency recorded that 65 villages in five regencies were still flooded. The regencies of Rokan Hulu and Pelalawan were hit worst.

Source: Harahap, R. (2017, Mar 13). *Weeks of flooding in Riau claims four lives, affects 5,000 families.*

Lao PDR

The report summarised flood situations and effects in August 2016 as well as food security operations. In total, there were 5 casualties and 26,328 affected people across Oudomxay, Luangprabang, Saravan, Sayabouri and Xiangkhouang provinces. Food security operations were conducted by distribution of rice, canned fish and instant noodle for 5,160 people from 901 households in Oudomxay province which was hit worst.

Source: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2017, Mar 9). *DREF Operation Final Report.*

Philippines

The 6.7-magnitude earthquake caused 8 deaths, 249 injuries and 53,455 affected people from 10,691 families along with 10,645 damaged houses in Surigao del Norte province.

The state of calamity was declared in the entire province of Surigao del Norte on 13 February 2017. Cost of damages on infrastructure was 719.56 million peso (14.29 million USD) whereas the total assistance for affected families was 25.67 million peso (509,831 USD). The Department of Social Welfare and Development in the CARAGA region has a total of 109,501 Family Food Packs worth 42.29 million peso (839,920 USD) which are ready for distribution to affected families in Surigao City.

* 1 USD = 50.35 Philippine peso

Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (NDRRMC) (2017, Mar 11). *SitRep No. 19 re Effects of Magnitude 6.7 Earthquake in Surigao City, Surigao Del Norte.*

Thailand

Disaster situation in agriculture according to a drought and floods in the southern part of Thailand have been reported. Firstly, since November 2016, a drought damaged 100,477 rai (1,608 hectares) of paddy from 6,106 farmers in the eastern Sa Keo province. The assistance was worth 111.83 million baht (3.20 million USD). Secondly, since December 2016, floods caused damages on 57,147 farmers across 12 provinces in the southern part of Thailand. In terms of damaged crops, there were 39,463 farmers with a total farmland of 216,915 rai (34,706 hectares) of which paddy claimed by 59 percent. In terms of damaged fisheries, there were 12,634 farmers with a total area by 20,726 rai (3,316 hectares) and 79,673 m² of floating baskets. Finally, in terms of livestock,

there were 5,050 farmers with 332,608 dead or lost livestock. A total assistance of 257.38 million baht (7.42 million USD) has already been distributed to 33,292 farmers across all aforementioned terms.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

** 1 USD = 34.71 baht

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand (2017, Mar 20). *Report of disaster situation in agriculture (Thai Version)*.

Viet Nam

Local authorities in the Mekong Delta region are determined to prevent recurrence of disaster and saltwater intrusion according to serious losses on farmers last year. Storage of fresh water, irrigation upgrades and climate-change adaptation are preparation in the region. The authorities also made careful plans for the winter-autumn crop based on water availability. In addition, there is the master plan for climate-change adaptation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development linking agricultural production and rural development in the Mekong Delta. Under this plan, rice is now mainly planted in Long An, Dong Thap and Tien Giang provinces.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Mar 12). *Delta takes urgent steps to prevent drought*.

China

The Ministry of Agriculture has begun promoting potatoes as the food of the future to feed its population. Potatoes will be promoted as the fourth staple after rice, grain and corn for food security because of easy plantation, high nutrition and income generation for local farmers. According to the ministry, potato cultivation will be increased to 6.67 million hectares by 2020 and outputs will account for 30 percent of future national food. Reportedly, Yunnan province is among

the top five potato producers due to stable annual output at around 10 million tonnes.

Source: Wanli, Y. and Yingqing, L. (2017, Mar 10). *Potatoes, China's food of the future*. China Daily Europe.

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