



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

No.24
12 – 18 April 2017

Indonesia

Flash floods due to prolonged heavy rain in Aceh Tenggara caused 2 deaths, thousands of affected people and 298 damaged houses. Emergency responses from relevant authorities were conducted by evacuation, deployment of heavy vehicles for clearing mud, logistic supports, relief aids and assessment of needs. Urgent needs are required by food, water, tents and related items. Meanwhile, flood also caused 1,784 affected people in Aceh Barat. Emergency responses and assessment are still being conducted by local authority.

Source: National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB) (2017, Apr 12). *Emergency Response on Aceh Tenggara Flash Flood, 2 Killed and 298 Houses Damaged.* News.

Myanmar

Regional authorities in Rakhine State and Magway Division prepared for damages from Cyclone Maarutha. This cyclone entered through the Bay of Bengal and had already been weakened. Although no casualties were reported, regional authorities relocated people in danger and provided emergency materials

for up to 2,000 families. Warnings were also issued as there might be high waves in Rakhine State and Ayeyarwady delta.

Source: Mizzima News (2017, Apr 17). *Responders at the ready as Cyclone Maarutha hits Burma.*

Philippines

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) continued relief assistance to 4,260 affected people in Lanao del Sur due to the 6.0-magnitude earthquake. Affected people already received assistance worth 500,176 peso (10,096 USD). The DSWD also organized the mission team to Cotabato City to augment food and non-food items while the DSWD Central Office is continuously coordinating with its Field Offices in the Northern Mindanao, Davao and Soccsksargen regions for updates related to disasters.

* 1 USD = 49.54 Philippine peso

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) of the Philippines (2017, Apr 18). *Relief assistance continues to arrive in quake-affected barangays in Lanao del Sur.*

Thailand

Thunderstorms, gusty winds and hail are forecast for 35 provinces in the Northeast, North, East and Central regions. These events are caused by high pressure zone moving from China and will extend over upper Thailand. People are advised to take precautions and keep updating on weather advisories. Reportedly, northern Nan province was already hit by storms and there were damages on houses and some vehicles.

Source: Bangkok Post (2017, Apr 13). *Storm warnings for 35 provinces.*

Viet Nam

Due to the Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Viet Nam needs to improve the quality of weather forecasting and enhance international cooperation to prepare for natural disasters. In 2016, natural disasters such as droughts, floods and storms caused losses of 39.7 trillion dong (1.75 billion USD), 264 deaths and 370,000 damaged houses. Despite efforts for prevention and damage minimisation, shortcomings still occurred. The authorities called for coordination between relevant agencies, examination of disaster patterns for prevention solutions, review of irrigation system and public awareness.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Apr 18). *Natural disasters cost Viet Nam \$1.7 billion.*

P.R. China

China planned to define planting areas for grain and key agricultural products for effective production. A total of 60 million hectares will be allocated for grain including rice, wheat and corn whereas the other 15.90 million hectares are for five key agricultural products of soybean, cotton, rape seed, sugarcane and rubber. This move is in line with a national strategy on food supply and aims at optimising production pattern. Infrastructure investment and financial supports will also be encouraged.

Source: China Daily (2017, Apr 12). *China plans planting areas to upgrade agricultural plan.*

Gathered by the Food Emergency Monitoring and Information (FEMI) Sub-Division of the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: kanin.lao@apterr.org / kanin.la34@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Related Information is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.