



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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8 – 14 November 2017

Indonesia

Floods were reported in eight villages of Aceh Singkil Regency, Aceh province on 8 November 2017. Those villages included Ujung Limus, Silatong, Tanjung Mas, Cububukan, Serasah Lae Riman, Lipat Kajang and Kain Golong. There were 1,738 affected people and a minor damage on Singkil-Subulussalam Road. Relevant agencies have assisted the evacuation process.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (2017, Nov 8). *Indonesia, Flood in Aceh Singkil.*

Malaysia

Malaysia is bracing for more floods in the coming days. Due to the north-east monsoon, floods are to be expected in Kelantan and Terengganu until December 2017 and heavy rains will likely hit Pahang, east Johor and west Sarawak in January 2018. For assistances in case of floods, there are preparations of food stockpiles, personnel and relief centres in Kelantan, Pahang and Sarawak.

Source: The Straits Times (2017, Nov 10). *Malaysia bracing itself for more floods as north-east monsoon approaches.*

Myanmar

Malnutrition remains a serious national concern despite a significant improvement of nutrition of children aged five and under during the past six years. Stunting, wasting and anaemia are still the government's concerns though the prevalence of malnutrition among children five and younger dipped from 35 per cent in 2010 to 29 per cent in 2016. Stunting among children is highest in Chin State while wasting is highest in Rakhine and Yangon. In addition, 70 per cent of Myanmar children younger than two years are suffering from anaemia. The Ministry of Health is collaborating with related departments along with UN agencies and other organisations to improve nutrition programme through community-based and school-based activities as well as introduction of the fortified rice.

Source: The Myanmar Times (2017, Nov 8). *Malnutrition among children down, but concerns persists.*

Philippines

The National Food Authority is collaborating with the Philippine Maize Federation, for a taste survey of rice-corn blend as part of the mainstream Filipino diet. The survey's result will help marketing corn as an alternative staple to remove rice imports. Reportedly, domestic rice consumption was at 12.9 million MT while production stood at 11.5 million MT, leading to a deficit of 1.4 million MT. The highest rice import was recorded at 2.6 million MT in 2008. National per capita rice consumption was at around 109 kg. However, one out of five Filipino eats white corns as staple food next to rice and one-third of farmers depend on corn for livelihood.

Source: National Food Authority of the Philippines (2017, Nov 10). *NFA SUPPORTS ADVOCACY ON RICE-CORN BLEND.*

Thailand

Floods totally caused 24 deaths and 327,420 affected people across 23 provinces from 10 October to 13 November 2017. Flood situations have improved across 10 provinces such as Phichit, Ayutthaya and Maha Sarakham comprising 166,292 affected people from 60,979 households and 40 evacuee households. In addition, agricultural lands were affected by 40,906 rai (6,545 hectares). Aid packages, medicine and boats were provided while personnel were deployed for assistance.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Nov 13). *Disaster Report (Thai Version)*.

Viet Nam

Typhoon Haikui is building in the East Sea on 10 November 2017 after the damages by Typhoon Damrey. As Typhoon Haikui approaches the south, villagers hit by Typhoon Damrey are in need of 31,700 tonnes of rice. In the short term, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc was asked by the Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control to approve 3,400 tonnes of rice to localities in Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa and Dak Lak. Other assistances were by the extension of debt repayment and lendings for recovering production for farmers while soldiers were sent to help residents repair houses and roads. Reportedly, Typhoon Damrey totally caused 91 deaths, 23 missing people, above 120,000 destroyed houses and more than 25,000 damaged hectares of crops.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Nov 10). *New storm nears as mop-up continues*.

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