



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

**No. 51**  
**15 – 21 November 2017**

### Malaysia

***The number of flood evacuees in several areas in Kedah State rose to 930 people of 250 families.*** They were being served at six evacuation centres in the Kubang Pasu and Kota Setar districts. The majority of evacuees by 278 people were staying at Dewan Kampung Bata in Malau while a new evacuation centre was opened in Kota Setar on 16 November 2017 to house 48 people from 13 families.

**Source:** The Star Online (2017, Nov 17). *Number of flood evacuees in Kedah rises to 930.*

### Philippines

***The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) welcomed 60 million peso (1.5 million AUD) worth of prepositioned relief supplies and funds from the Australian government on 13 November 2017.*** For national responses to humanitarian crises, relief supplies such as tents, sleeping mats and blankets can support the immediate requirements of 160,000 people. A part of the grant was also utilized for construction of

the new warehouse of the DSWD with a capacity for storing 41,400 Family Food Packs (FFPs). This increases the storage capacity of the DSWD National Resource Operations Centre to 100,000 FFPs.

**Source:** Philippine Information Agency (2017, Nov 17). *DSWD welcomes P60M worth of prepositioned relief supplies from Australian gov't.*

### Thailand

***The Meteorological Department warned of climate variability in the upper part as well as heavy rain in the southern part of Thailand from 18 to 21 November 2017.***

Moreover, floods due to Tropical Depression and water releases from the Chao Phraya Dam and the Ubol Ratana Dam totally were updated to cause 28 deaths and 327,420 affected people from 126,390 households from 10 October to 16 November 2017.

**Source:** Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Nov 17). *Disaster Report (Thai Version).*

### Viet Nam

***On 19 November 2017, Tropical Depression Kirogi entered the sea off the coast of Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan provinces.*** The total number of people expected to evacuate is 28,879 people from 6,089 households and five households have been evacuated in Thuan Bac district of Ninh Thuan. Yet, the storm has already been weakened into a low pressure.

**Source:** ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (2017, Nov 19). *Tropical depression Kirogi – Ninh Thuan people swim before tropical depression.*

***An aid package for victims of Typhoon Damrey arrived in Khanh Hoa province on 16 November 2017.*** The goods including utensils, personal hygiene aids, house repair tools as well as ships and engine, worth above 174,000 USD, were sent from the ASEAN Co-ordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management. In addition, the Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control of Viet Nam will work with hardly-hit Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh provinces for distributing the goods. Viet Nam also received emergency aid from P.R China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, Russia and New Zealand.

**Source:** Viet Nam News (2017, Nov 16). *ASEAN sends aid to typhoon victims in Viet Nam.*

## **P.R. China**

***Political advisors met to discuss ways to reform the country's grain pricing system.*** Despite steady growth in grain production in recent years and safeguarded food security, the current policies of grain pricing and storage must be improved to address problems of weakened role of the market, a large inventory build-up and high fiscal burdens. The proposals were put forward to reform the country's minimum procurement price system by making it more flexible and letting the market play a more decisive in the grain pricing. Measures should be taken to improve ways to subsidise the grain growers in order to prevent a drop in their incomes while reforms should also be conducted on grain procurement and storage enterprises.

**Source:** Xinhua News Agency (2017, Nov 17). *Political advisors offer suggestions to China's grain pricing reform.*

## **Republic of Korea**

***Some 2,000 houses have been damaged by a series of earthquakes up to magnitude 5.4 hitting Pohang city according to the Ministry of Interior and Safety.*** Reportedly, there were 1,124 displaced people living in 11 temporary shelters, 82 injuries and damages on 1,988 houses, 77 factories, 227 schools, 79 public offices, 23 port facilities as well as seven roads. However, above 80 per cent of damaged properties have been restored and related officers will discuss about short-term restoration measures and long-term preparation plans for a bigger earthquake in the future as well as increases of the earthquake-related budget in 2018.

**Source:** Yonhap New Agency (2017, Nov 20). (2<sup>nd</sup> LD) *Pohang quakes damage some 2,000 houses, 227 schools.*

***Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon paid a visit to Pohang-si in Gyeongsanbuk-do province and the epicenter of the 5.4-magnitude earthquake leading to above 1,500 displaced people.*** Each government body was urged to stick to its procedure manuals and guidelines in terms of the restoration process. Besides, President Moon Jae-in ordered that a safety check on the national nuclear power plants and industrial facilities be carried out abruptly.

**Source:** The Government of the Republic of Korea (2017, Nov 17). *Gov't to help people recover from Pohang quake.*

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