



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

There were two eruptions at Mount Agung in Bali from 25 to 26 November 2017. There were 25,016 evacuees in 224 evacuation sites and 28 flights were delayed. Bali Province Government stated that tourism sector has not badly affected by Mount Agung activities and is safe for tourism. However, the AHA Centre is closely monitoring the situation and is maintaining close coordination with the National Disaster Management Authority (BNPB).

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (2017, Nov 26). *MT. AGUNG ERUPTION, BALI, INDONESIA / FLASH UPDATE #2.*

Seven districts in Surakarta of Central Java province have declared an emergency alert status for floods and landslides due to heavy rainfall. Three disaster emergency alert posts were located in the areas of Gading, Kotabarat and Pedaringan whereas the Surakarta administration had also prepared logistics and personnel and mapped out locations for kitchens and shelters. The alert status will be effective from 22 November 2017 until the beginning of 2018.

Source: The Jakarta Post (2017, Nov 22). *As rain intensifies, Surakarta on alert for disaster.*

Malaysia

Three rivers in Kelantan State continues to rise following a heavy downpour for two consecutive days.

The number of flood victims evacuated to relief centres stood at 317 people from 89 families. Continuous heavy rain since 25 November 2017 caused some low-lying areas at several districts to be flooded.

Source: The Star Online (2017, Nov 27). *Water levels in Kelantan continue to rise.*

Philippines

The National Food Authority (NFA) management welcomed the recent pronouncement of President Rodrigo Duterte that he is looking into proposals to strengthen the agency and give it a bigger role in ensuring national food security. President Duterte intends to improve national food chain and food supply and said that the NFA could be the consolidator of products from each region to be repositioned in other parts of the country where these commodities are needed. So, the NFA will use nationwide logistics and manpower to handle food stock distribution to stabilise supply and prices while helping farmers gain access to the market.

Source: National Food Authority (2017, Nov 20). *NFA WELCOMES PRESIDENT DUTERTE'S PLAN TO EXPAND THE AGENCY'S FOOD SECURITY ROLE.*

Thailand

Floods due to the north-eastern monsoon hit seven southern provinces from 25 to 27 November 2017. Floods caused one missing and 306 evacuees from 68 households in Songkhla while 17 houses were affected in Narathiwat. Flood damages are still being assessed in Phatthalung, Trang, Pattani, Yala and Nakhon Si Thammarat. The assistances included aid packages, boat supports and evacuation.

Since 22 November 2017, flood due to heavy rain and water release from the dam remained in three districts and 18 villages in Phetchaburi province. Besides, floods due to Tropical Depression and water releases the Chao Phraya Dam and the Ubol Ratana Dam led to 29 deaths and 327,420 affected people from 126,390 households in 23 provinces from 10 October to 27 November 2017. However, flood situation remained in Ayutthaya consisting of 33,282 affected people from 13,313 households.

Source: Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Nov 27). *Disaster Report (Thai Version)*.

Viet Nam

Seven dams and reservoirs in the provinces of Quang Nam and Thua Thien-Hue have begun releasing water as the central region experiences continuous rainfalls. Alerts on potential flash floods, landslides and floods in lowland areas have been issued in Quang Nam, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Tri and Da Nang City. In Quang Nam, several areas were flooded in Dai Loc and Nong Son districts due to heavy rains and water releases from four dams. In Thua Thien-Hue, three biggest dams and reservoirs were ordered to release water and mountainous communes have been placed under red alert for landslides and flash floods. Besides, in Ho Chi Minh City, there were 149 damaged houses and seven severely flooded roads.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Nov 21). *Dams release water, flood several areas.*

Republic of Korea

President Moon Jae-in made a surprise visit to Pohang city recently struck by a 5.4 magnitude earthquake that displaced thousands of people. He acknowledged difficulty of high school seniors due to the postponed annual college entrance exam and promised additional support for local residents. The earthquake displaced 1,380 people and damaged above 18,000 houses and apartments. The government declared a special disaster zone in the quake-hit area on 20 November 2017. However, there may not be enough support funds for damaged homes. The government will provide additional funds at zero or very low interest rates to help affected people.

Source: Yonhap New Agency (2017, Nov 24). (LEAD) *President Moon makes surprise visit to quake-hit Pohang.*

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