



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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27 Dec 17 – 2 Jan 18

Indonesia

The Mount Sinabung in Karo Regency, North Sumatera Province erupted on 27 December 2017.

Ash volcanic rain hit several villages, directly affecting thousands of people despite no casualties. The Centre for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation has recommended people to stay away up to 7 km from the volcano. The government is finalising relocation plans for a total of 3,331 households. Out of these, 370 have already been moved to Siosar and another 1,860 are in the process of self-evacuation.

Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) (2018, Jan 2). *Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (27 Dec 2017 – 2 Jan 2018)*.

Lao PDR

Farmers in northern provinces are assessing crop damage after frost coated their vegetable beds last week. Chinese cabbage, garlic, onion and beans were affected by frosts across provinces

of Xienkuang, Phongsaly and Huaphanh. However, in Xienkuang, authorities were assessing the situation and most farmers did not suffer any losses.

Source: Vientiane Times (2017, Dec 28). *Crops affected by frost in northern provinces.*

Malaysia

The number of flood victims in the Johor State has risen to 371 people with most of those affected from Mersing District. Reportedly, 337 evacuees sought shelter at seven flood relief centres while another 34 evacuees were at relief centres in Kota Tinggi District. Districts of Mersing and Kota Tinggi as well as Labis Village of Segamat District were hit by floods due to heavy downpour since 31 December 2017.

Source: The Straits Times (2018, Jan 2). *Floods hit Johor, more than 300 people evacuated.*

Philippines

Tropical Depression Bolaven led to 11,823 affected people from 2,812 families across the regions of Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Northern Mindanao as well as Caraga since 31 December 2017. Of which, 3,547 affected people of 865 families were being served inside 30 evacuation centres. No deaths and injuries were reported. There were also disruptions on transportation and domestic flight cancellations. Rice fields were underwater across flooded areas in Capiz province. The Department of Social Welfare and Development have stockpiles and standby funds amounting to 704 million peso (14 million USD) for disaster preparedness. As of 2 January 2018, Tropical Depression Bolaven still maintained its strength as it moved closer to Palawan.

* 1 USD = 49.92 peso

Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (NDRRMC) (2018, Jan 2). *SitRep No.04 re Preparedness Measures for Tropical Depression "AGATON" as of 8:00 PM.*

Additionally, Typhoon Tembin caused 165 deaths, 18 injuries, 176 missing and 794,613 affected people of 168,081 families along with 6,850 damaged houses across MIMAROPA, Central Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Davao, SOCCSKSARGEN, Caraga and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao since 20 December 2017.

A total of 77,331 affected people from 15,831 families were being served inside 72 evacuation centres. The cost of damage on rice was estimated at 894.4 million peso (17.9 million USD) with 84 per cent in Eastern Visayas. The state of calamity was declared in Bukidnon, Lanao del Sur, Palawan, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur and Zamboanga Sibugay from 23 to 27 December 2017. Totally, 21,629 family food packs and 100 sacks of rice were provided to affected families. Typhoon Tembin exited the Philippines Area of Responsibility on 24 December 2017.

* 1 USD = 49.92 peso

Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (NDRRMC) (2018, Jan 2). *SitRep No.16 re Preparedness Measures and Effects of Typhoon "VINTA" as of 8:00 AM.*

Thailand

Floods due to the north-eastern monsoon since November 2017 in the southern region totally affected 624,504 farmers. Reportedly, there were 429,429 affected farmers with 2.02 million rai (323,200 hectares) of farmlands in terms of crops across 12 provinces. Paddy fields were damaged by 57,774 rai (9,244 hectares).

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand (2017, Dec 29). *Report of disaster situation in agriculture (Thai Version).*

Viet Nam

Evacuees in Soc Trang Province returned to their homes as Typhoon Tembin weakened into a less powerful tropical depression. Reportedly, around 82,000 evacuees returned home on 26 December 2017. In the meantime, all agencies, sectors and locals of Ben Tre have resumed their normal activities. However, the low pressure system is forecast to bring heavy rains along the coast from Binh Dinh to Phu Yen, creating the risk of flash floods and landslides.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Dec 27). *Storm evacuees return home.*

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