



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

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**14 – 27 February 2018**

### Indonesia

***The threat of forest and land fires continues to increase with the start of the dry season.*** Four provinces of South Sumatra, Riau, West Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan put emergency alerts in place. As of 21 February 2018, 90 medium and high hotspots have been recorded in these four provinces, with additional hotspots identified in two other provinces of Java and Sulawesi on 26 February 2018.

**Source:** United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2018, Feb 26). *Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (20-26 Feb 18)*.

***Floods and landslides totally led to 11 deaths, 20,000 affected people and 10 damaged houses across Brebes Regency, Central Java Province and Cirebon Regency, West Java Province.*** The Local Disaster Management Agency of Brebes Regency declared emergency operations status from 22 February to 3 March 2018.

**Source:** ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Feb 22). *Indonesia, Landslide and Flood in Brebes, Cirebon*.

***Sinabung Mountain located at Karo Regency in the Province of North Sumatera erupted on 19 February 2018.***

The eruption sent hot gas and ash up to five kilometres away. The area of this mountain was restricted as the no-activity zone by three kilometres. The government is working a second round of relocations for 1,900 households. The first round was already for 170 households while the third round is planned for 1,100 households later in 2018.

**Source:** United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2018, Feb 19). *Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (13-19 Feb 18)*.

### Lao PDR

***A storm damaged hundreds of houses in Xieng Khuang and Vientiane Provinces from 21 to 22 February 2018.***

Reportedly, 80 houses were damaged in Nonghed District of Xieng Khuang while there were damages on 70 houses and a primary school in Paknum District of Vientiane. Related authorities evaluated damages for possible helps. The mayor's delegation gave 20 million kip (2,416 USD) cash along with 500 iron roofing sheets to local people as a relief package.

\* 1 USD = 8,278 kip

**Source:** Lao New Agency (2018, Feb 27). *Storm Hits Parts Of Laos*.

### Malaysia

***The government set aside 564 million ringgit (131.2 USD) for Phase 2 of the Bandar Pekan Flood Mitigation Project.*** According to the Prime Minister Najib Razak, this project would benefit more than 83,000 people in an area of 6,200 hectares including Pekan Town as well as agricultural areas of Sungai Miang and Durian Sebatang in Pahang State. Besides, Kelantan State gets an allocation of 800 million ringgit (186 million USD) to address flood problem.

\* 1 USD = 4.30 ringgit

**Source:** The Star Online (2018, Feb 26). *RM564mil set aside for flood mitigation project in Pekan*.

**Sarawak Fire and Rescue Department in Miri District airlifted another 5.9 tonnes of food aid on 15 February 2018 for remote villagers due to bad road conditions from the recent floods.** The floods have mostly subsided but some remote settlements still need food aid until they can source for their own supplies again.

**Source:** The Star Online (2018, Feb 15). *5.9 tonnes of food aid airlifted to remote areas of Sarawak.*

## Philippines

**Tropical Storm Sanba affected 237,626 people and damaged 1,279 houses across MIMAROPA, Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas and Caraga regions from 11 to 16 February 2018.** Yet, 5,329 families were evacuated while 32,467 people were served by evacuation centres. Damages on rice were reported in Eastern Visayas by 42.8 million peso (823,077 USD). Carrascal and Lanuza Municipalities of Surigao del Sur Province were declared under the state of calamity on 13 February 2018. The storm also caused landslides, interruption on power and transportations, flight cancellations and class suspensions. The Department of Social Welfare and Development as well as the Local Government Units provided 8.4 million peso (161,538 USD) worth assistances for the affected families. Tropical Storm Sanba has already exited the country at Palawan Province on 16 February 2018.

\* 1 USD = 52 peso

**Source:** National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (2018, Feb 18). *SitRep No.09 re Preparedness Measures and Effects for Tropical Storm "BASYANG" (I.N. SANBA).*

**Mayon Volcano Eruption was updated to affect 89,514 people in Albay Province whereas the alert status remained at the level 4 for Bicol Region.** A total of 67,628 affected people was being served by evacuation centres. Classes were still suspended in Albay and Camarines Sur Provinces. Since 16 January 2018, Albay Province has been declared under the state of calamity.

Damages on rice were reported at 161.2 million peso (3.1 million USD) of 10,443 affected farmers. Relevant units provided assistance worth 366.2 million peso (7 million USD) to affected families in Albay Province.

\* 1 USD = 52 peso

**Source:** National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (2018, Feb 18). *SitRep No.40 re Mayon Volcano Eruption.*

## Thailand

**The upper region of Thailand is expected for fluctuated weather from 26 to 27 February 2018.** People in the North are advised to brace for heavy rainstorms while central provinces should prepare for hailstorms. Affected provinces include Kamphaeng Phet, Kanchanaburi, Tak, Uthai Thani and Nakhon Sawan. Farmers should also prepare for possible damage to their crops.

**Source:** National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Feb 25). *Weather fluctuations can be expected in upper parts of Thailand.*

**The Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha assured a sufficient water supply for farmers working inside irrigation areas during the dry season.** Water supply is under supervision of the Royal Irrigation Department while the national water storage is at around 75 percent of its capacity. For farmers outside irrigation areas, what agricultural products and how to grow must cautiously be considered to get through the drought in 2018.

**Source:** National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Feb 20). *PM Prayut ensures sufficient water supply for agricultural use during drought.*

## Viet Nam

**Hailstorms damaged hundreds of houses in Nghe An Province on 21 February 2018.** Chau Ly and Nghia Xuan Communes were reported affected. Yet, there were no fatalities and local units sent a team for helping affected people with food and repairing damaged houses.

**Source:** Viet Nam News (2018, Feb 22). *Hailstorms destroy hundreds of houses in Nghe An.*

## **P.R. China**

***P.R. China continues to expect rain in the South while a cold front will sweep across most parts of the country.*** Moderate rainfalls are forecast in areas along Yangtze and Han Rivers, regions between two rivers and regions at the southern part of Yangtze River. Besides, Guizhou and Yunnan Provinces along with northwestern and southern regions will see temperature drop by 4 to 10 degrees Celsius from 20 to 22 February 2018.

**Source:** Xinhua (2018, Feb 18). *Cold front to chill China as rain lingers in the south.*

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