



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

No. 78

27 June – 10 July 2018

Indonesia

Flash flood due to heavy rain was reported in Sijunjung Regency of West Sumatra Province. Flash flood inundated several areas of villages in the district of Tanjung Gadang. There were 205 affected people from 41 families and 27 damaged houses leading to 135 displaced persons. Despite no casualties, the initial loss may reach 500 million rupiah (34,701 USD) due to damages on a local bridge, agricultural areas, livestock and local markets. Related units were on the ground to assist affected people.

* 1 USD = 14,409 rupiah

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Jul 6). *Indonesia, Flood in Sijunjung Regency.*

On 27 June 2018, Mount Agung in Karangasem District of Bali Province started to erupt. Mount Agung is currently at the level three of alert status, meaning that eruption can happen at any time. The eruption caused ash rain to the west and southwest of the volcano. No-activity zone has been established by 4 kilometres. More than 300 people were displaced with local and national authorities assisting affected people. Further eruptions are possible.

Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2018, Jul 2). *Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (26 Jun – 2 July 2018)*

Philippines

The Department of Social Welfare and Development reported flash flood in Kabacan Municipality, North Cotabato Province since 30 June 2018. Flash flood was caused by heavy rain and led to 8,068 affected people from 2,017 families. Those affected were also displaced and reported to be evacuated to their families outside of evacuation centres. Related units provided assistance to the affected families already.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Jul 3). *Philippines, Flashflood in Kabacan, North Cotabato.*

Two to four tropical storms are likely to form in July 2018, which could either make landfall or divert away from the North. This is because of the peak of southwest monsoon season ranging from July to September and tropical storms are at maximum together with occurrences of thunderstorms and sudden heavy rains. The possible affected areas are provinces of Zambales, Bataan, Palawan, Romblon, Oriental Mindoro and Occidental Mindoro as well as Western Visayas. Meanwhile, Metro Manila and the rest of the country will have cloudy skies with isolated rains from thunderstorms. People living in low-lying and mountainous areas are warned of possible floods and landslides.

Source: Manila Bulletin (2018, Jul 2). *2 to 4 cyclones likely to form in July.*

Singapore

The first 14 days of July 2018 will be less wet and slightly hotter than the last two weeks of the previous month. Overall, rainfall is forecast to be slightly below normal in most parts of Singapore according to the Meteorological Service Singapore. Reportedly, floods have been occurred already in several parts of the country because of torrential rain with the heaviest downpour on 26 June 2018 when total rainfall reached the peak in residential areas of the western region.

Source: The Straits Times (2018, Jul 2). *Weather to be less wet for first half of July, but showers to persist.*

Thailand

The Royal Irrigation Department has updated the water holding capacity at reservoirs and urged farmers to carry on farming plans during rainy season.

The department planned for the expected increase in rainfalls at the beginning of July 2018 and managed water by controlling the amount of water in reservoirs across the country not to exceed 80 per cent of the capacity. Pumps and other tools would be prepared for assisting villagers in irrigation service areas to farm and harvest products in advance of flood season in August 2018. Those areas will be used as retention areas to control water volume in Chao Phraya River. Reportedly, as of 27 June 2018, rice farmers have started their farming by 62 per cent of the plan while cultivation in Chao Phraya River area has covered 6.17 million rai (987,200 hectares) or around 81 per cent of the total farmland.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Jul 3). *RID updates water situation for farmers during rainy season.*

Viet Nam

Flood recovery work is underway in the northern provinces of Lai Chau, Ha Giang, Lao Cai and Dien Bien. Due to the Central Steering Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, 23 people died and there were 11 missing people, 958 damaged houses and flooded thousands of hectares of crops. Damages on roads and irrigation works were estimated at around 487 billion dong (21 million USD). Lai Chau was considered the hardest hit province because of 16 deaths and 9 missing as well as damages on 452 houses and over 1,000 hectares of rice and maize. The assistance from concerned authorities included search and rescue, clearing of traffics, evacuation, household relocation in vulnerable areas and provision of food and water to affected people as well as financial aids for families of dead people and lost homes.

* 1 USD = 23,190 dong

Source: Viet Nam News (2018, Jun 30). *Flood relief work underway.*

P.R. China

More severe weather is forecast to hit the country. Continuous heavy rainfall will hit most parts such as Anhui, Hubei, Jiangsu and Sichuan provinces with thunderstorms in some areas. There were floods in 31 rivers in provinces of Yunnan, Sichuan, Gansu, Shaanxi and Shandong along with Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Besides, storms hit 48 cities and districts in Sichuan and Shandong, causing 254,3000 people as well as damages on 46 houses and 8,360 hectares of crops. Loss was estimated at around 733 million yuan (111 million USD). No deaths or missing people were reported.

* 1 USD = 6.60 yuan

Source: Chinadaily (2018, Jun 29). *Heavy rain batters country, bringing floods in its wake.*

Japan

The death toll from torrential rain in western Japan reached 176 people and dozens of people were missing as of 10 July 2018. The number of casualties is expected to increase as officials assess damages in affected areas. Most deaths were found in Hiroshima Prefecture by 47 people. And there were totally 86 missing people after massive floods and landslides destroyed homes and displaced thousands of people. Besides, around 11,000 people were staying at evacuation centres across 15 prefectures. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told the special disaster response meeting unit that the number of personnel helping out had been boosted up and they were putting in utmost efforts to save lives.

Source: The Japan Times (2018, Jul 9). *Death toll from west Japan downpours and flooding reaches 176.*

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