



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

It was updated that earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi led to 2,100 deaths, 680 missing people, 4,612 injuries and 78,994 displaced people as of 15 October 2018. There were damages on 68,451 houses and 20 health facilities. The most affected areas were Palu city and regencies of Donggala and Sigi. Due to the World Bank, the total economic damages were estimated at more than 500 million USD. Housing, commercial and industrial building together with public and private infrastructure are the key affected sectors. The status of Central Sulawesi Disaster Emergency Response was extended by 14 days from 13 to 26 October 2018. The assistances from the national government, ASEAN countries and humanitarian actors included deployment of personnel, relief items of shelters and hygiene, donations and food assistances. Search and rescue supports were being under reviewed while medical services resume in hospitals and health centres of the most affected areas. The difficulties of medical services were access problems, lack of personnel and waste management.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Oct 15). *Situation Update No. 12 – M 7.4 Earthquake & Tsunami Sulawesi, Indonesia.*

The 6.4-magnitude earthquake shook East Java and Bali regions on 11 October 2018. The national disaster management agency (BNBP) confirmed the impact of the earthquake by 3 deaths, several damaged houses in East Java. The worst affected areas were Semenep and Gayam districts. Moreover, there were 36 injuries, 1,038 affected people and 419 damaged houses in Situbondo regency. The earthquake was felt throughout East Java region consisting of cities and districts such as Mojokerto, Kota Probolinggo and Sampang while it was felt to be mild to moderate in Denpasar, West Lombok and Pandaan. In general, there is not much damage due to the earthquake. The BNPB continues to monitor progress of the earthquake impact and to collect the data for assessment.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Oct 11). *Indonesia, Earthquake in East Java and Bali.*

Lao PDR

Deputy Prime Minister reported that there were still 31 missing persons by floods in Sanamxay district, Attapeu province in July 2018. The authorities in charge decided to officially stop search operations but will be set to immediately be resumed if the authorities receive new information on traces and evidences. Since the search operation began immediately after the flash flood, the total death toll was 40 persons. Earlier, the official reports put the cumulative total number of missing and confirmed deceased at 131, excluding who died in hospitals. These numbers have been updated to 65 after missing people were found alive. There were 19 affected villages covering around 14,440 people of 3,540 families. Of these, 6 villages were utterly wiped out, resulting in thousands of homeless people. Since July 2018, tropical storms have affected 17 provinces and the capital Vientiane. Reportedly, there were 56 deaths, 648,605 affected people in 116 districts as well as damages on houses, public works, transport, electricity, forestry and agriculture. Losses in other sectors

have yet to be completely compiled. The assistances for the victims included search and rescue efforts, financial aids and food supplies.

Source: Vientiane Times (2018, Oct 16). *31 missing still as Sanamxay search ceases, DPM says.*

Malaysia

Kelantan state is expected to get more rainfalls in the last three months of 2018. According to the Deputy Secretary of State, heavy rain would be in November and December while 607 temporary relief centres with combined capacity of 198,000 evacuees will be opened throughout the state, namely Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai and Pasir Mas in preparation for disaster. In addition, a total of 207 boats and 4,471 security personnel from various agencies such as fire department, police, Malaysian Armed Forces and Malaysian Civil Defense Force have been put on standby. Based on the forecast, heavy rainfall in November will occur in coastal area whereas it will affect remote areas of Kuala Krai and Machang in December. Meanwhile, Kelantan Social Welfare Department had received financial allocation from the Federal Government and from the state government for food and other supplies at relief centres for flood preparation.

Source: News Straits Times (2018, Oct 15). *More rainfall in Kelantan from next month.*

Philippines

The country may be hit by two to three more tropical storms until the end of 2018. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services (PAGASA) warned that most of tropical storms in the latter part of the year are land-falling or crossing the landmass but no weather disturbance is forecast to affect the country this week. The intertropical convergence zone which is the ground for low-pressure areas or potential tropical storms, however, will bring cloudy skies with scattered rains over areas of Palawan, Eastern Visayas and Mindanao, Metro Manila and the rest of the Philippines will

experience fair weather. PAGASA warned of flash floods and landslides during severe thunderstorms and warned of dry spells to drought conditions which are likely to affect most areas of Luzon and to develop into El Nino phenomenon.

Source: Philstar (2018, Oct 15). *2 to 3 cyclones may hit Philippines before yearend.*

Thailand

Deputy Prime Minister General Chatchai Sarikulya asked farmers in the Northeast of Thailand to refrain from off-season rice growing due to limited water supplies. Farmers along the Phong River have been asked to refrain from off-season rice growing due to limited water supplies and to switch to cultivate drought-tolerant crops, instead. Gen Chatchai told that Ubol Ratana Dam is currently at only 36% of capacity. The officials are preparing cloud-seeding operations to replenish both the dam and the Lam Nong Rang reservoir in the northeastern region.

Source: National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Oct 10). *Deputy PM urges northeastern farmers to refrain from off-season rice growing.*

Viet Nam

Local authorities in the Mekong Delta are taking measures to mitigate the impact of floods due to high tides during the annual flood season. Can Tho city and the delta provinces were affected severely by high tides. In Can Tho city, floods submerged streets and damaged embankment, affecting 37 hectares of rice fields as well as 91 hectares of vegetables and cash crops whereas high tides caused fish and other aquatic species to escape into rivers and canals. Relevant authorities hold the meeting on measures to deal with those situations, set up search and rescue teams, monitor the situations and pumping stations to withdraw floodwaters in farming areas, strengthen weak embankment and prepare agricultural machines to harvest autumn-winter rice. Meanwhile, high tides have inundated many areas including the national highway, blocking the traffic and

entered into fresh water areas, threatening rice fields and other planting areas in Bac Lieu province. In Tien Giang province, high tides have flooded many areas in Cai Be district and My Tho city, leaving many fruit orchards submerged. However, the level of flood in the Mekong delta is declining and will increase again on 18 October 2018 by high tides.

Source: Viet Nam News (2018, Oct 13). *Mekong delta fights flooding from high tides.*

P.R. China

The central government warned of safety risks in the area where Sichuan province and Tibet autonomous region meet in Southwest China after landslide blocked part of the Jinsha river on 11 October 2018. The Ministry of Emergency Management said that another landslide is possible and sent the relief items to help the affected residents on 13 October 2018. Regional meteorological authorities issued alerts for rain and snow as well as warnings of icy roads. Some 6,617 people in the area where provinces of Yunnan, Sichuan and Tibet converge. The local units in Yunnan were stepping up evacuation efforts in the low-lying areas along the Yangtze river and monitoring of the water flow whereas the evacuation of another 8,455 people was in progress. The Yunnan flood control units requested that local governments including in Diqing, Lijiang, Dali and Kunming take all measures to assist residents in threatened areas and have sent two working groups to Diqing and Lijiang to lead the efforts.

Source: Chinadaily (2018, Oct 15). *Ministry: Risks remain high in landslide-hit area.*

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