



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

The death toll from floods and landslides in Indonesia's South Sulawesi province has so far risen to 70 people. Torrential rain has hit some parts of South Sulawesi since last Monday, 21 January 2019, caused floods, landslides and cut off road access in several areas.

According to the authorities said on Tuesday, 29 January 2019, Floods and landslides that hit 12 regencies and one city across South Sulawesi last week have killed 70 people, 6 are still missing and nearly 9,500 people have been displaced. Gowa, Janeponto, Makassar, Maros and Majo were the most affected by the floods.

Across the province, a total of 550 houses were either damaged or carried away by the floods and mud, and about 5,100 others were submerged under water. The disaster damaged 65 schools, 13,000 hectares of rice fields and 34 bridges.

A state of emergency will remain in place until 6 February 2019, while rescuers look for those still missing and help repair damaged infrastructure.

The Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) has warned of heavy rains and strong winds during the week in South Sulawesi, and said the rainy season would peak at the end of January or beginning of February nationwide.

Source: Channel News Asia. (2019, Jan 26). *Death toll from Indonesia floods, landslides climbs to 68*; The Jakarta Post. (2019, Jan 27). *In South Sulawesi, floods, landslides displace more than 6,700 people, kill 68*; AFP. (2019, Jan 29). *Indonesia flood, landslide death toll hits 70*.

An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.6 struck the Aru islands, Maluku on 26 January 2019 at 5:12 p.m. (local time). The earthquake's epicenter was detected northwest off the coast of Dobo at a depth of 10 kilometers. Tremors were felt as far away as Timika, Papua.

The quake was strong enough to damage two building but, no injuries or casualties have been reported.

Source: The Jakarta Post. (2019, Jan 26). *Panicked residents flee their home as 6.6-magnitude earthquake rocks Aru Islands*.

Malaysia

More than 500 families in five Sabah districts evacuated from their homes which were inundated by floods. Flooding in the state has continued to worsen. As of 27 January 2019, a total of 2,771 flood victims have been evacuated from their homes and moved to separate shelters at 19 relief centres in Kota Marudu, Matunggong, Pitas, Kota Belud, Sipitang and Paitan.

According to Sabah Fire and Rescue Department assistant director (operations) Misran Bisara, evacuees might be able to return home on 28 January 2019, if the rains and floodwaters recede.

Source: The Straits Times. (2019, Jan 27). *Number of Sabah flood victims soars to 2,607*; The Star Online. (2019, Jan 27). *Rescuers in Sabah working round the clock to help flood victims*.

Philippines

A 5.5 magnitude earthquake jolted northern Philippines on Thursday, 24 January 2019. The quake struck at 4:34 p.m. (local time) at a depth of 24 km, 27 km northwest of Calayan town in Cagayan province, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said.

The tremor was felt in Pasuquin in Ilocos Norte province and Vigan City in Ilocos Sur province, but was not expected to cause any damage. Otherwise, the official said that aftershocks are expected.

Source: Xinhua. (2019, Jan 24). *5.5-magnitude earthquake rattles northern Philippines*; Philippine News Agency. (2019, Jan 24). *5.5-magnitude quake jolts parts of Ilocos Norte*.

Japan

Many parts of Japan experienced earthquakes. On 26 January 2019, a 4.4 magnitude earthquake struck Kumamoto Prefecture at 2:16 p.m. (local time) at a depth of around 10 kilometers with the town of Nagomi, registering a lower 5 on the Japanese earthquake intensity scale of 7.

On a same day, an earthquake with 5.7 magnitude hit Iwate Prefecture on the Honshu island around 5:23 p.m. (local time) at a depth of 30 kilometers.

The quake logged 4 in some parts of Iwate Prefecture on the Japanese seismic intensity scale.

Meanwhile, another earthquake with a magnitude of 5.3 struck off the east coast of Japan's Chiba prefecture on 29 January 2019 at 12:42 p.m. (local time). It was centered off the east coast of Chiba Prefecture at a depth of 40 kilometers.

The quake logged 2 on Japan's seismic scale, which peak at 7, in coastal regions in Chiba and Shizuoka Prefectures, the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) said.

There is no report so far on major damages or injuries in these three prefectures.

Source: The Japan Times. (2019, Jan 26). *Earthquake rattles Kumamoto Prefecture town*; Xinhua. (2019, Jan 26). *Magnitude-5.7 quake strikes Japan's Iwate Prefecture, no tsunami warning issued*; Xinhua. (2019, Jan 29). *5.3-magnitude quake strikes off east coast of Japan, no tsunami warning issued*.

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