



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

**No. 113**  
**10 – 16 April 2019**

---

### Indonesia

**A powerful earthquake of 6.8 magnitudes struck off Indonesia's central Sulawesi province.** The quake struck at 6:40 p.m. (local time) on 12 April 2019, with an epicentre of 85 kilometres southwest of Banggai Kepulauan and 10 kilometres under the sea floor.

The tremors were felt in Taliabu of North Maluku province, forcing local people to evacuate to safer areas.

After a strong earthquake hit central Sulawesi province, there were about 20 aftershocks in various magnitudes. The strongest aftershock was recorded at 5.6 magnitudes while the mildest one was recorded at 3.4 magnitudes.

People in the affected areas were able to return to their houses, but they were highly advised to stay alert.

**Source:** Xinhua. (2019, Apr 12). *Powerful quake strikes off central Indonesia, tsunami alert lifted*; Xinhua. (2019, Apr 13). *Indonesian agency reports 20 aftershocks following C. Sulawesi's 6.8-magnitude earthquake.*

### Thailand

**Summer storms damaged houses in the provinces of Nakhon Ratchasima, Kalasin, and Phitsanulok.** On 14 April

2019, 13 houses in Khon Buri district of Nakhon Ratchasima province and more than 30 houses in Muang district, Kalasin province were damaged by heavy rains and strong winds.

There were four districts of Phitsanulok province hit by thunderstorms on 15 April 2019. Many houses, trees and electricity poles were damaged

The Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department and Meteorological Department warned of storms in northern, northeastern and central provinces until 17 April 2019.

**Source:** Bangkok Post. (2019, Apr 15). *Summer storms damage houses in Korat, Kalasin*; The Nation. (2019, Apr 16). *Storms whip Phitsanulok, leaving damaged houses and downed power poles.*

**The government warned of severe drought, due to the impact of El Nino.** All relevant agencies have been instructed to manage the country's water supplies and urged people to use water prudently.

According to domestic and international agencies, including the Thai Meteorological Department and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Thailand was predicted to face a hotter climate and lesser rainfall for the rest of this year because the El Nino phenomenon in the Pacific Ocean is now developing into a mild El Nino phase.

**Source:** The Nation. (2019, Apr 15). *Water situation worrying.*

### Viet Nam

**Thunderstorms hit several areas in the north of Viet Nam.** According to the National Steering Committee for Natural Calamity Prevention, the storms damaged more than a thousand houses and hundreds of hectares of agricultural production in four provinces and two communes during 14 – 16 April 2019.

The Provincial Steering Boards for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, and Search and Rescue mobilised forces to

help local people recover from the destruction and stabilise their lives.

**Source:** Viet Nam News. (2019, Apr 16). *Rain and high winds destroy houses in the north.*

## China

**Strong rainfall caused a deadly flood in the city of Shenzhen, southern China's Guangdong province.** Eleven people were killed after a sudden strong rainfall hit the area.

On 11 April 2019, the rainstorm hit Shenzhen city, leading to floods that swept away dredging workers at different river sections in the districts of Luohu and Futian.

Authorities of Guangdong Province issued a circular on strengthening safety and preventing deadly risks during flood season, demanding all projects be stopped and workers be evacuated to safe areas during heavy rainfall to prevent loss of life.

**Source:** The Watchers. (2019, Apr 12). *Sudden strong rainfall leaves 7 dead, 4 missing in Guangdong's Shenzhen, southern China*; Xinhua. (2019, Apr 13). *11 people dead in Shenzhen floods.*

**A 3.0-magnitude earthquake jolted Huairou district in northern Beijing.** According to the China Earthquake Networks Center, the temblor hit the area at 12:47 p.m. (local time) on 14 April 2019, at a depth of 19 kilometres.

The tremor was felt in Beijing, especially in the districts of Huairou, Yanqing, and Changping.

However, neither casualties nor property damages were reported.

**Source:** Xinhua. (2019, Apr 14). *3.0-magnitude quake hits Beijing.*

## Japan

**An earthquake of 6.0 magnitudes struck off the coast of Miyagi Prefecture on the northeastern side of Honshu island.** According to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), the quake occurred at 5:18

p.m. (local time) on 11 April 2019, at a depth of 10 kilometres.

The quake registered 3 on the 7-point Japanese seismic intensity scale in some areas of Miyagi Prefecture and the neighbouring prefectures.

However, there was no report of damages or injuries.

\*1 hectare = 6.25 rai

**Source:** Xinhua. (2019, Apr 11). *6.0-magnitude quake strikes off Japan's Miyagi Prefecture, no tsunami warning issued.*

**The Mount Aso in Kumamoto prefecture, southwestern Japan erupted.** A small eruption was observed at the Mount Aso around 6:28 p.m. (local time) on 16 April 2019.

The eruption occurred at the No. 1 crater of the Nakadake peak of the volcano by spewing out smoke and ash which reached 200 metres high.

The Volcanic Alert Level was raised from 1 to 2 after the Japan Meteorological Agency detected volcanic tremors accompanied by a large volume of volcanic gas at the volcano on 14 April 2019.

The local volcano deliberative council restricted entry within a kilometre of the crater.

**Source:** The Asahi Shimbun. (2019, Apr 16). *Mount Aso in Kumamoto erupts; alert level raised from 1 to 2*; The Watchers. (2019, Apr 16). *Eruption at Asosan, the first since October 2016, Japan.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat  
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840  
Email: [nattavadee@apterr.org](mailto:nattavadee@apterr.org)  
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

\* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Food Security Related Information is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.