



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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31 July – 6 August 2019

Indonesia

A strong 6.9-magnitudes earthquake struck Indonesia's Java island.

According to the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), there were at least five people died and four injured due to this powerful undersea earthquake occurred at 7 p.m. (local time). The epicentre was 147 kilometres southwest off the coast of Sumur, Banten province.

A tsunami warning was issued and lifted two hours later after there were no reports of rising sea waters.

Across provinces of Banten and West Java, more than 223 houses and 10 buildings were damaged after the quake. The most damage was recorded in Pandeglang.

Recently, the residents living along the southern coast of Banten and instructed to avoid beaches and move to higher ground have returned to their homes.

Source: The Jakarta Post. (2019, August 3). *Four die in Banten earthquake, two of them due to panic, exhaustion;* and The Straits Times. (2019, August 3). *Five killed, four injured by Friday's quake on Indonesia's Java island.*

Lao PDR

Continuous heavy rain caused flooding in low-lying areas of Nan district in Luang Prabang province. As of 31 July 2019 at 7 a.m. (local time), the Nan River overflowed and flooded eight villages of the province. Initially, there were at least 372 families from several villages affected.

According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, people in northeast, central and southern regions of the country were advised to be on alert for severe weather while a tropical depression passed over the country from 30 July – 4 August 2019.

A weather warning for strong wind and heavy rain was issued for the capital and the other provinces including Phongsaly, Huaphan, Xieng Khuang, Luang Namtha, Oudomxay, Bokeo, Luang Prabang, Xayaboury, Xaysomboun, Vientiane, Borikhamxay, Khammuan, Savannakhet, Saravan, Champassak, Xekong and Attapeu.

Source: Vientiane Times. (2019, July 31). *Almost 400 families hit by flash flooding in Luang Prabang.*

Philippines

A tornado hit the province of Negros Occidental causing widespread damages.

On 3 August 2019, the tornado ruined seven houses in several towns and 41 other structures in two areas including Pontevedra town and La Carlota city, according to the Provincial Disaster Management Program Division (PDMPD).

The tornado was caused by the enhanced southwest monsoon. Besides, flooding was reported in Barangay San Juan due to a surge of storm.

However, there were no casualties reported in the two affected areas.

Source: The Manila Times. (2019, August 5). *Tornado destroys 48 houses in NOccidental.*

China

Heavy rains triggered flash floods in central and northwest of China.

In the central China, the heavy rains and floods damaged 57 houses while 13 people were confirmed dead in Shiyang city and Yunxi country. The local government was initiated an emergency response.

The heavy rains also cut off water supplies, electricity and telecommunications.

Meanwhile, three people were killed and other four people have been missing after heavy downpours hit in northwest China's Shaanxi province. The rescue work has been underway in the area.

Source: Xinhua. (2019, August 6). *Heavy rain leaves 13 dead in central China*; Xinhua. (2019, August 6). *3 killed, 4 missing as downpours hit NW China.*

Japan

There were 57 people died and 18,347 people taken to hospitals as a result of a heatwave sweeping Japan. The number of people taken to hospital during the week starting 29 July 2019, were more than triple comparing to the previous week's 5,664. According to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, this weekly figure was the second highest record since 2008.

Tokyo had the most people taken to the hospital at 1,857 people followed by 1,342 in Aichi and 1,307 in Saitama.

People have been advised to constantly stay hydrated and rest in cooler areas.

Source: The Japan Times. (2019, August 6). *57 dead and 18,000 taken to hospitals in one week amid Japan heat wave.*

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