



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

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### **Indonesia**

**Floods hit four regencies and one municipality in South Sulawesi.** Heavy rains over the past weekend caused floods in the regencies of Barru, Soppeng, Pinrang, and Sidenreng Rappang and the municipality of Parepare.

At least one person died while hundreds of houses and many of public facilities and government offices were inundated according to the South Sulawesi Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD).

Barru and Sidenreng Rappang were the hardest-hit areas with two-metre high floodwater. Especially in Balusu district, about 121 families were left isolated.

Several roads were cut off and the section of the Trans-Sulawesi Highway, which passed through Barru, was also flooded slowing down the traffic.

**Source:** The Jakarta Post. (2020, Jan 13). *South Sulawesi floods leaves homes cut off, at least one dead.*

### **Philippines**

**The Taal volcano near the Philippine capital has erupted for the first time since 1977.** The eruption occurred on 12 January 2020 near the crater of the Taal volcano on the island of Luzon, about 60 kilometres south of the capital, Manila.

The column of ash released from the volcano rose to about 2 kilometres high into the sky. Heavy ashfall was reported in towns located generally southwest and west of the main crater. Civil aviation authorities strongly advised to command aircrafts to avoid volcano's surrounding airspace. Approximately thousands of people in the provinces near the volcano were forced to evacuation centres.

The province of Batangas has declared a state of calamity on 13 January 2020 to allow the funds from the national budget to be allocated for rescue operations and relief-related efforts.

The volcano alert level has been raised to four out of five meaning that hazardous explosive eruption is possible within hours to days according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

Besides, the Philippine Seismic Network recorded a total of 212 volcanic earthquakes in the area.

**Source:** The Straits Times. (2020, Jan 13). *Manila shuts down, thousands evacuated amid volcano eruption fears;* AHA Centre. (2020, Jan 14). *TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION, PHILIPPINES FLASH UPDATE #2;* NHK. (2020, Jan 14). *Philippine province declares 'state of calamity'.*

### **Japan**

**On 11 January 2020, a volcano on a southwestern Japan island erupted.** According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, rocks were thrown about 300 metres high from the crater of Mt. Shintake on Kuchinoerabu Island following the eruption at around 3:05 p.m. (local time).

The agency maintained the alert level for the volcano at 3 out of 5. Meanwhile, the climbers were advised to refrain from scaling the mountain, after raising the level from 2 in October.

The agency warned of possible flying rocks and pyroclastic flows within about 2 kilometres radius of the crater.

**Source:** Kyodo News. (2020, Jan 11). *Volcano erupts on southwestern Japan island, no injuries reported.*

### **A 5.0-magnitude earthquake struck eastern Japan including Tokyo.**

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, the earthquake occurred on 14 January 2020 at 4:53 a.m. (local time) in southern Ibaraki Prefecture with a focus about 50 kilometres below the surface.

The quake was measured 4 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in parts of Ibaraki, Gunma, Tochigi and Saitama prefectures. The tremor was also felt across wide areas in eastern Japan including Tokyo, Yokohama and Chiba.

There was no immediate report of injuries or property damages due to the temblor. Also, no tsunami warning was issued.

**Source:** Japan Today. (2020, Jan 14). *M5.0 quake jolts eastern Japan, including Tokyo.*

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