



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

**No. 152**  
**15 - 21 January 2020**

---

### Indonesia

**Many parts of Indonesia were heavily affected by floods.** The city of Samarinda in East Kalimantan suffered from the tremendous floods on 14 January 2020. There were 7,213 people affected and forced to move to safer areas. However, no casualties or injuries were reported.

Meanwhile, heavy rains hit Central Java province on 16 January 2020 causing a river in Blora Regency to break its banks. Approximately 70 houses were inundated by one-metre-high floodwater.

West Sumatra province also faced the similar natural tragedy as torrential rains triggered floods and landslides in Tanah Datar Regency on 17 January, 2020.

A few days later, flash floods caused a bridge to collapse in Kaur Regency, the western Bengkulu province on 19 January 2020. There were nine people reported dead due to this incident.

**Source:** FloodList. (2020, Jan 15). *Indonesia – Samarinda Floods Again, Thousands Affected*; FloodList. (2020, Jan 20). *Indonesia – 7 Dead After Floods Cause Bridge to Collapse in Bengkulu Province*; FloodList. (2020, Jan 21). *Indonesia – Heavy Rain Triggers Flooding in Central Java and West Sumatra*.

**The powerful earthquakes struck Indonesia twice this week.** On 18 January 2020, an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.1 jolted eastern Papua province at 11:38 p.m. (local time). The epicentre was located 39 kilometres northwest of Jayapura district of the province, at a depth of 56 kilometres under the earth.

Then, a 6.6-magnitude earthquake struck north Sulawesi province on 19 January 2020. The quake occurred at 11:58 p.m. (local time). Its epicenter was 64 kilometres southwest Bolaang Mongondow Selatan district of the province at a depth of 95 kilometres under the sea floor.

However, no tsunami warning was issued.

**Source:** Xinhua. (2020, Jan 19). *6.1-magnitude quake hits eastern Indonesia, no tsunami alert issued*; Xinhua. (2020, Jan 20). *6.6-magnitude quake strikes off central Indonesia, no tsunami warning issued*.

### Philippines

**The Philippine officials warned residents not to return to the danger zones as the Taal Volcano has remained Alert Level 4.** Although the volcano seems to have weakened more than a week after it erupted on 12 January 2020, the continuous volcanic quakes and emission of sulfur dioxide signify that the magma or molten rocks are moving upward the volcano's surface that might lead to further eruptive activity.

The Taal Volcano Island has 47 craters and the eruption could occur anywhere, not only the main crater.

Fewer volcanic tremblors were recorded by the Philippine Seismic Network (PSN) from 20 – 21 January 2020. There were only five quakes registered of magnitudes of 1.6 to 2.5. Meanwhile, small 448 volcanic earthquakes were recorded by the Taal Volcano Network.

According to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), a total evacuation order remained in place for the

Taal Volcano Island and high-risk areas within 14 kilometres radius of the volcano's crater. As of 21 January, more than 271,000 people were affected.

Provincial and municipal authorities are leading the disaster response with the support of the DSWD and the Philippine Red Cross. The United Nations (UN) agencies and humanitarian partners are assisting the Government with technical and logistical support to local and regional authorities to assess and respond to the needs of people affected by the disaster.

**Source:** Manila Bulletin. (2020, Jan 21). *Eruption possible in 47 Taal craters*; OCHA (2020, Jan 21). *FLASH UPDATE NO. 3 Philippines: Taal Volcano Eruption*.

## **China**

**A 6.4-magnitude earthquake hit a city in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on 19 January 2020.** According to the China Earthquake Networks Center (CENC), the quake jolted Jiashi County in Kashgar Prefecture at 9:27 p.m. (local time) and followed by at least eight aftershocks.

There were at least three people injured. Train services in the quake-hit area were temporarily halted.

Personnel from emergency management, civil affairs and health departments were dispatched to the area for relief work and evacuation was underway.

Another 5.2-magnitude earthquake was also monitored in the city of Artux at 10:23 p.m. (local time).

**Source:** Xinhua. (2020, Jan 19). *3 injured in 6.4-magnitude earthquake in Xinjiang*.

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.*