



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

**No. 199**

**23 December – 5 January 2020**

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### Indonesia

**Floods and landslides caused massive damages in Indonesia.** Inundations and landslides hit several provinces in Indonesia over the period of 23 December 2020 to 3 January 2021, putting nearly 42,000 persons into misery, around 2,000 of them were displaced. Moreover, almost 9,000 houses and more than 20 public buildings including schools were also damaged. The affected provinces were Gorontalo, West Java, South Sulawesi, Riau, Jambi, Aceh and Riau Islands. The disasters were a result of torrential rainfalls triggering rivers to overflow and causing soils to be unstable.

**Source:** AHA Centre. (2020, Dec 28 – 2021, Jan 3). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE WEEK 53*; AHA Centre. (2020, Dec 21 – 2020, Dec 27). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE WEEK 52*.

### Malaysia

**Many thousands of people fled their homes due to flooding.** Kedah, Perak, Selangor, Kelantan, Johor, Pahang and Terengganu states of Malaysia were lashed by flooding due to a torrential rainfall since 1 January 2021. The situation caused

three persons to be killed as well as around 25,000 people in the said states to be pushed away from their homes. Public infrastructures also sustained some damages from the disaster.

The flood situation in Pahang was the worst out of all since most of the displaced people were in this state. On the other hand, Johor saw its situation gradually improving as the number of evacuees has slightly reduced.

**Source:** Floodlist. (2021, Jan 4). *(Updated) Malaysia – Floods in Johor and Pahang Leave Thousands Displaced, 1 Dead, 1 Missing*.

### The Philippines

**An earthquake shook many areas in the Philippines.** On 25 December 2020, a 6.3-magnitude earthquake jolted Calatagan, Batangas, and sent tremors to several areas of the Philippines. A moderate intensity was felt in areas such as Manila City, Quezon City and Pasig City, while a less tremor was recorded in other areas of the country.

Luckily, there were no reports on any casualties and damages following the shakes. According to the Department of Science and Technology, no threats of a tsunami were posed as well.

**Source:** Manila Bulletin. (2020, Dec 25). *Phivolcs says no threat of tsunami following Calatagan quake*.

**Deadly flash floods inflicted huge destructions in the Philippines.** Harsh weather-induced flash floods occurred in Bicol and Negros on 31 December 2020, forcing around 15,000 persons to leave their homes, as well as killing at least three individuals. Over 370 residences were damaged, while about 75 houses were entirely destroyed. More floods were expected to increase as the prevailing tail-end of a frontal system over Bicol kept bringing more heavy rain into the areas.

**Source:** The Watchers. (2021, Jan 4). *Deadly flash floods affect more than 15 000 families in Central Philippines*

## **Singapore**

**Singapore experienced the heaviest rainfall in 39 years.** A torrential downpour poured in Changi over 1-2 January 2020, with a total recorded rainfall amount of 318.6 millimetres. This is higher than the normal monthly average of January by almost 100 millimetres, as stated by the Public Utilities Board. As the result, the flood risk warning was issued for several locations as the water level in drains and canals exceed 90 percent.

**Source:** New Straits Times. (2021, Jan 4). *Singapore records highest rainfall in 39 years.*

## **Thailand**

**A severe flood hit a southern province of Thailand, while many others were placed under warning.** Around 150 people from 30 families in Chumphon province, a southern part of the country, struggled with a heavy flood occurring on 25 December 2020. No casualties or damages were reported. In addition, other southern provinces along the Gulf of Thailand coast were warned by the Meteorological Department of possible storms and flash floods until 8 January 2021.

The warning was issued for Surat Thani to the southernmost provinces of Thailand, especially Songkhla, Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat since the most severe rainfall and water runoff were expected in these provinces.

**Source:** AHA Centre. (2020, Dec 25). *Thailand, Flooding in Chumphon Province*; AHA Centre. (2020, Dec 25). *Thailand, Flooding in Chumphon Province.*

## **Japan**

**A volcano erupted on an island of Japan.** Residents in Suwanose Island in Kagoshima Prefecture saw an eruption of Mount Otake in the early hours on 28 December 2020. Even though no one was harmed during the event, the eruption prompted the Meteorological Agency to

raise the volcanic alert level and recommend people not to go near the crater.

**Source:** The Japan Times. (2020, Dec 28). *Alert level raised as Mount Otake erupts on Suwanose Island, off Kyushu.*

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