



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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21 – 27 April 2021

Indonesia

Villagers faced difficulties from rain-related disasters. A number of flood and strong wind incidents caused by high-intensity rainfalls broke out in several regencies of the two Sumatra Island Provinces namely Riau and North Sumatra throughout 20-24 April 2021.

Heavy inundations were reported in Riau's Kampar and Siak Regencies. More than 300 households were affected while around 40 families had to evacuate from their residences. As many as 59 houses along with 100 hectares of rice were submerged. Meanwhile, a whirlwind destroyed at least 57 households in Serdang Bagadai Regency. Fortunately, no casualties were reported.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Apr 19-25). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 16.*

Malaysia

A fatal lightning struck in the middle of a heavy downpour and killed two people. The journey to a fishpond during a torrential rainfall of five friends ended up in a fatality of two after they got struck by deadly lightning on 25 April 2021. The

investigation revealed that the incident happened in Temerloh district of Pahang, Malaysia. The victims were hit by a thunder bolt and instantly killed on the spot even though their friends tried to get them to the health clinic immediately after the incident occurred.

Source: New Straits Times. (2021, Apr 26). *Two friends killed by lightning at Lanchang fish pond.*

The Philippines

An earthquake jolted an island in the Philippines. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) reported an occurrence of a 4.6-magnitude earthquake rocking some parts of Leyte Island in the morning of 23 April 2021. However, there were no damages and aftershocks following this temblor triggered by the movement of an active fault in the area.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Apr 23). *4.6-magnitude quake jolts Leyte Island.*

The death toll rose as the super typhoon traveled past the country. The authorities logged a total of six deaths along with 16 injuries, all in Bicol, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas and Davao Regions, as of 23 April 2021, after the vicious super typhoon Surigae took a close path to the Philippines' eastern coastal provinces on 18-19 April 2021.

The lethal influences of the typhoon, such as intense downpours and acute inundations, could also be seen in Cagayan Valley, Bicol, Eastern Visayas and Caraga as 235,752 people were severely affected. More than 40,000 people had to evacuate from their homes to either sought shelter with their families and friends or stayed at more than 250 evacuations centres.

Relative to this, there were 1,030 houses receiving various degrees of destruction, 86 of which were classified as totally

damaged. In addition, the loss of PHP 211 million or roughly USD 4.3 million worth of agricultural products also incurred in this disastrous calamity.

1 USD = 48.49 PHP (as of 28 April 2021)

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Apr 23). *2 deaths reported in Eastern Visayas due to 'Bising'*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, Apr 22). *4 dead, 13 hurt due to 'Bising'*.

Thailand

The sudden storm caused widespread damaged. On the afternoon of 26 April 2021, several villages in Bua Yai district of Nakhon Ratchasima province, Thailand witnessed an abrupt strong wind attack causing major damages to around 20 houses, school buildings and a temple. Many roads between villages were also impassable due to fallen trees obstructing the transportation. However, no one was harmed.

Source: Bangkok Post. (2021, Apr 27). *Storm batters Korat's Bua Yai district.*

Japan

People were advised to take caution as a volcano erupted. Mount Minami, a volcano situated on Sakurajima in southwestern Japan, violently exploded in the early hour of 26 April 2021, sending a column of smoke and volcanic ashes up 2.3 kilometers into the sky. This situation immediately pushed the Meteorological Agency to issue an alert to the people in the vicinities including those in the cities of Kagoshima and Tarumizu in Kagoshima Prefecture to be aware of the volcanic impacts. There has yet to be any report regarding the injured or property damages.

As a result of this, the no-entry zone has been imposed for 2.4 kilometres around the crater as a precaution measure against falling rocks and stones and pyroclastic

flows. Yet, there were no casualties or property damages due to this eruption.

Source: The Japan Times. (2021, Apr 25). *Weather agency issues alert as Japan's Sakurajima volcano erupts.*

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