



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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1 - 7 December 2021

Indonesia

Scores of people died and went missing due to the destructive volcanic eruption in Indonesia. The Mount Semeru, located on the island of Java, Indonesia, violently erupted on 4 December 2021. The eruption sent volcanic ash up into the sky and showered nearby villages with hot mud. Entire houses and vehicles were swallowed by volcanic ash. As of 7 December 2021, a total of 34 people died and 17 others were missing, according to the national disaster agency. Nearly 3,700 people needed to evacuate from the affected area. In the meantime, the rescue operations were facing massive difficulties from the dangerous conditions created by volcanic debris and the volcano which remained active. Officials warned local residents not to enter the areas within 5 kilometres radius of the crater.

Source: The Jakarta Post. (2021, Dec 7). *Mount Semeru volcano eruption death toll rises to 34.*

Malaysia

More than a hundred people in Malaysia fled their homes as a result of flooding. On 6 December 2021, floods occurred in several areas in Malaysia including Batu Pahat District of Johor State, Pasir Mas District of Kelantan State and Kuching

District of Sarawak State. There were 138 people from 43 families, most of them were in Sarawak State, evacuated to safer zones. Fortunately, no casualties were reported.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Dec 6). *Malaysia, Flooding in Sarawak, Kelantan, and Johor.*

The Philippines

A state of calamity was declared as floods affected thousands of families in the Philippines. A state of calamity was issued over Kabacan Municipality of North Cotabato Province, the Philippines after prolonged heavy rainfalls for the past month led to severe floods, according to the disaster management action officer on 1 December 2021. As a result of natural calamity, 2,071 families experienced negative impacts of floods while 110 hectares of rice fields were submerged in floodwater. In response to the situation, the authorities provided comprehensive assistance for the affected people and farmers.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Dec 1). *NoCot town under state of calamity due to floods.*

Thailand

Intense rainfalls triggered floods across Thailand's southern parts. The intensified rainfalls since 27 November 2021 led to widespread floods in eight southern provinces of Thailand consisting of Phetchaburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Chumphon, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Krabi, Phatthalung and Songkhla. According to Thailand's Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the inundations badly affected 21,109 households or around 105,545 people but no one died. As of 1 December 2021, the worst- flood-hit provinces were Chumphon, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat and Songkhla provinces.

Source: Floodlist. (2021, Dec 2). *Thailand – Floods Affect 100,000 in Southern Provinces.*

Viet Nam

Serious floods situation caused people in central Viet Nam to inevitably die or go missing.

Acute floods and landslides occurred due to a continuous downpour since 26 November 2021. The situation had rapidly worsened as 18 people were missing, which some feared dead, across the central provinces in Viet Nam namely Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Kon Tum and Dak Lak, according to the Vietnam Disaster Management Agency as of 1 December 2021. Moreover, some parts of Binh Dinh Province were inundated by up to 1.2 metres deep of floodwater forcing about 66,000 students not to go to school. Meanwhile, more than 6,000 households had to evacuate. Several transportation routes were cut off and wide agricultural areas along with livestock also received some losses and damages. Relative to this, the central areas of the country were forecast to continue experiencing further precipitations.

Source: Floodlist. (2021, Dec 2). *Vietnam – 18 Dead or Missing as Floods Worsen.*

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