



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

High-frequent floods drenched multiple provinces across Indonesia. There were several inundations in seven provinces of Indonesia namely Central, West and South Kalimantan, South Sumatra, North Maluku, West Java and Banten during 19-23 May 2021. Due to high-intensity and prolonged rainfalls, the water levels in many rivers increased to the point of overflowing.

In total, these catastrophes collectively generated sufferings to above 11,000 people and forced 39 people in South Sumatra and Banten to evacuate from their homes. Nearly 3,000 houses were affected by floods, 18 of them received partial damages. Floods also struck some infrastructures such as roads and bridges while numerous public buildings, consisting of government offices and places of worship fell victim to the same disasters.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, May 17 - 23). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 20.*

A violent quake inflicted extensive damages to many residences. There

were 552 houses and 45 government buildings damaged by a 6.2-magnitude earthquake occurring in Blitar Regency, East Java Province on 21 May 2021. A total of 15 houses got absolutely destroyed, while the rest sustained partial damages. Further, three persons were injured with one deemed serious.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, May 17 - 23). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 20.*

Malaysia

Thousands of evacuees still stuck in relief centres as severe floods continuously persisted. Torrential rainfalls triggered heavy floods causing massive difficulties in two states of Malaysia namely Sabah and Sarawak on 17 and 20 May 2021 respectively.

As reported on 23 May 2021, Sarawak saw an overall improving situation as the number of flood victims who priorly had to relocate into temporary relief centres dropped to only 233 in the afternoon from 442 in the morning on the same day.

In contrast, the flood in Sabah seemed to get worsened as the state logged 205 more evacuees on the afternoon of 23 May 2021, topping the total number of displaced people to 5,037 from 4,832. The authority also found one death caused by drowning in the second hardest-hit district of Sabah.

Source: Floodlist. (2021, May 22). *Malaysia – Thousands Evacuate Floods in Sabah and Sarawak*; Malay Mail. (2021, May 23). *More flood victims in Sabah, Sarawak records a drop.*

The Philippines

Tremors were felt as two earthquakes struck the country. People residing in Zambales province felt a mild shaking generated from a 5-magnitude tectonic quake on 23 May 2021. The quake caused by the movements of the fault struck at 92 kilometres southwest of the municipality of San Antonio around noon with a depth of 19 kilometres. Also, there was a 5.6-magnitude earthquake hitting 128 kilometres under the ground at 258

kilometres southeast of Jose Abad Santos, Davao Occidental province.

Both earthquakes did not cause any damages. Nevertheless, a possibility of aftershocks still posed a threat to the people.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, May 23). *Quakes hit Zambales, Davao Occidental.*

The latest emission of two volcanoes grew concerns to the authority. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) observed a large volume of steam coming out of Taal and Kanlaon volcanoes' craters on 20-21 and 23-24 May 2021. In addition to this, the Phivolcs detected total 16 volcanic earthquakes triggered by Taal and Kanlaon volcanoes during the abovementioned period.

The alert level 2 and 1 were registered to Taal and Kanlaon respectively. The entry into the vicinity of both craters was also strictly prohibited.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, May 24). *'Abnormal' Kanlaon emits steam plumes*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, May 21). *Quiet emission of steam plume monitored at Taal main crater.*

China

Unexpected extreme weather killed more than 20 during a marathon event.

The death toll of people killed by extreme weather during the cross-mountain marathon race in Baiyin City of Gansu Province rose to 21 as reported by the local rescue headquarters on 23 May 2021. The tragedy occurred on the afternoon of 22 May 2021 when a sudden change of weather brought hails, freezing rains and gales to hit the racing course that had the altitude of 20 to 31 kilometres, causing many participants to experience sudden drop in temperature. The incident still underwent a further investigation. There were 151 out of total 172 participants confirmed to be safe; however, eight of them sustained minor injuries.

Source: Xinhua. (2021, May 23). *Death toll rises to 21 in mountain marathon in China's Gansu.*

A powerful earthquake hit the northwest province of China with no report of casualties. The residents of Qinghai Province, especially the capital city of Xining, in northwestern China experienced a 7.4-magnitude earthquake that shook Maduo County of Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture on the afternoon of 22 May 2021. There were no casualties, power outages and communication interruption as well as major damages to the residences. However, some of the highway junctions and bridges could not endure the impacts and collapsed causing a disruption in transportation.

Source: Xinhua. (2021, May 22). *No casualties reported after 7.4-magnitude quake hits China's Qinghai.*

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