



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Malaysia

More than 66,000 people in Malaysia were displaced by flooding. The northeast monsoon caused frequent heavy rains and severe floods in five states of Malaysia namely Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Johor and Perak. Floods claimed five lives and forced 66,718 people to evacuate. The hardest-hit areas were Kelantan and Terengganu while another three states were affected by rising water levels. The government of Malaysia allocated around USD 122 million to the National Disaster Management Agency for dealing with the situation and more funds would be provided, if deemed necessary. The meteorological department earlier warned of the wet weather expected to last until early 2023 due to an active La Nina and the negative Indian Ocean Dipole concurrences.

Sources: The Straits Times. (2022, Dec 20). *Flooding in Malaysia displaces over 66,000, 5 deaths reported.*

Myanmar

Minor to moderate earthquakes struck Mandalay and surrounding areas of Myanmar. According to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, a 5.2-magnitude earthquake struck Mandalay and Sagaing regions in central Myanmar on 15 December 2022. The epicentre was east of Tada-U township of Mandalay. The earthquake caused slightly damages to the Me Nu Oak-Kyaung (brick monastery), Yadana Seme and Manaung Yadana pagodas, and other buildings. Later, three minor to light earthquakes were recorded near Mandalay on 16 December 2022. Residents in the townships of Mandalay, Sagaing, Minkun, Inwa, Kyaukse, Tada-U, and Paleik felt the tremors. The quakes were measured 4.7, 3.3, and 3.6 on the Richter scale respectively. However, no casualties were reported.

Sources: Irrawaddy. (2022, Dec 16). *Myanmar's Religious Buildings Damaged by Earthquake*; ELEVEN. (2022, Dec 17). *Three moderate earthquakes struck near Mandalay on Dec 16.*

The Philippines

Floods and landslides forced hundreds of people in Bicol to flee their homes. Continuous rains brought by the shear line and northeast monsoon had been triggering floods, and landslides in the provinces of Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur and Catanduanes in Bicol region since 18 December 2022. Some roads, bridges and spillways were impassable. The number of evacuees rose to 600 as of 20 December 2022. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration in Southern Luzon raised an

orange heavy rainfall warning in Albay and Catanduanes provinces meaning that floods and landslides threatened the low-lying and mountainous areas. Meanwhile, a yellow warning, advising the communities to be more cautious of possible flooding, especially those living near river channels, was raised in Camarines Norte province.

Sources: Inquirer.Net. (2022, Dec 20). *Bicol evacuees rise to 600 due to nonstop rains.*

Thailand

Southern provinces of Thailand were heavily hit by flooding. The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation reported of severe flooding in nine southern provinces of Thailand including Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Trang, Phatthalung, Satun, Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat after the incessant heavy rains had continued to hit the areas since 17 December 2022. There were 49 districts, and 51,543 households affected. Meanwhile, three people died in Narathiwat province, and another one was found dead in Songkhla province. The National Thai Water also reported of the overflowing river in around 25 locations across the south.

Sources: Floodlist. (2022, Nov 19). *Thailand and Malaysia – Floods Leave 4 Dead, Thousands Displaced.*

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