



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Brunei

Flash floods disrupted the hospital services in Brunei Darussalam. On 29 March 2023, several low-lying areas in Belait district were hit by flash floods. Suri Seri Begawan Hospital was also affected. There were four clinics of the hospital including Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT); Audiology; and Paediatric temporarily closed for one day to clean up and maintain works according to the Ministry of Health. The hospital later took another step to ensure that the services would not be interrupted. Besides, official hotline was set up for people who needed more information.

Sources: Borneo Bulletin. (2023, Mar 31). *Belait hospital hit by flash floods.*

Indonesia

Indonesia's central Kalimantan faced flooding while Bali experienced moderate earthquake. Heavy rains on 29 March 2023 caused the Kapuas River to overflow and flood at least 14 villages in Kapuas Regency of Central Kalimantan province. Flooding

affected 16,234 people and submerged around 4,166 houses, 70 public buildings, 32 schools, 11 health facilities and 70 roads. An emergency was declared in the area by the Kapuas Regency Government. Relevant agencies were deployed to bring efficient and effective relief to the affected communities. Additionally, Bali province was jolted by 5.0 magnitude earthquake on 31 March 2023. The epicentre of the quake located in the sea, 97 kilometres southwest of South Kuta district in Badung Regency, at a depth of 10 kilometres. However, the earthquake did not trigger a tsunami.

Sources: Floodlist. (2023, Apr 3). *Indonesia – Floods in Central Kalimantan Damage 4,000 Homes*; Tempo. (2023, Apr 1). *5.0M Earthquake Jolts Bali, BMKG Announces.*

Thailand

A forest fire in central Thailand was under control. A wildfire broke out on Khao Chaphlu Mountain in Nakhon Nayok province due to a lightning strike on 28 March 2023. Following the lightning, the strong winds fuelled the fire to spread to Khao Laem Mountain located near Phrommani and Khao Phra sub-districts in Muang district on 29 March 2023, and Khao Nang Dam Mountain on 30 March 2023. The spread of the fire caused the two sub-districts to be declared as disaster zones. Relevant officials were also instructed to work closely with local agencies to address the situation. As of 1 April 2023, there was only one spot between Khao Tabak and Khao Laem Mountains that needed to carefully monitor to prevent any further breakout due to strong winds while the fire in other spots were under control. Also, the barriers at Khao Tabak Mountain were set up to protect Khao Yai National Park from the wildfire.

Sources: Bangkok Post. (2023, Apr 1). *Khao Chaplu fire now 'under control'.*

Singapore

Some areas of Singapore were affected by flash floods. On 30 March 2023, Singapore's National Water Agency 'Public Utilities Board (PUB)' issued a flood risk alert in Kramat Lane and Cavenagh Road nearby the Orchard Plaza after the level of floodwater rose above 90 percent of the drain capacity. In the meantime, flash flood warnings were designated in several parts of the country. People were advised to avoid the Kramat Lane to ensure their safety while the PUB officers quickly mobilised assistance to the flood-affected areas. Later, flooding in the Kramat Lane reportedly subsided. The occurrence of flash floods was a result of heavy rainfalls.

Sources: The Strait Times. (2023, Mar 30). *Burst of heavy rain leads to flash flood warnings in several parts of Singapore.*

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