



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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The Philippines

A landslide killed one person in the Philippines. Downpours influenced by the southwest monsoon triggered a landslide and hit many parts of the Philippines. On 16 July 2023, a woman was reported dead, and 14 houses were buried after the landslide hit Antipolo city of Rizal province. Around 17 families had to evacuate to a temporary shelter. Moreover, nearly a thousand families in the regions of Ilocos, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Mimaropa, and Western Visayas were also affected and faced power outages. There were 543 residents in Central Luzon and Western Visayas preemptively evacuated while 14 houses in Calabarzon and Western Visayas were damaged. The downpours also disrupted the traffic, and operations of domestic flights and seaports.

Sources: The Manila Times. (2023, July 17). *Rain-induced landslide hits Antipolo house, kills woman.*

China

Extreme weather caused chaos in China. On 13 July 2023, rainstorms wreaked havoc in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality causing more than 2,600 people to evacuate. Houses and streets were flooded while 44 rivers in Wanzhou district were swollen. The district raised the emergency response for floods from level 3 to level 2. In addition, Typhoon Talim made landfall in the coastal area of Guangdong province on 17 July 2023. Nearly 230,000 people had to flee their homes. The authorities ordered 68 coastal tourist destinations to temporarily close, and 8,262 fish-farming workers to evacuate while 2,702 fishing vessels were called back to the ashore. The typhoon later moved to the city of Beihai of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 18 July 2023 prompting the emergency response to level 2. Later, China's national observatory issued a yellow alert for the typhoon, which weakened to the level of severe tropical storm.

Sources: Xinhua. (2023, July 14). *2,600 evacuated as rainstorms hit southwest China's Chongqing*; Xinhua. (2023, July 18). *Typhoon Talim makes landfall in China's Guangdong*; Xinhua. (2023, July 18). *Typhoon Talim makes second landfall in China.*

Japan

Japan was rattled by torrential rains. The seasonal rain front located over the Japanese archipelago triggered intense rainfall and mudslide in Toyama prefecture while Ishikawa prefecture recorded 6 hours of rainfall with a total of 199 millimetres during 12 - 13 July 2023. As a result of the incident, a local politician was found dead in Toyama prefecture after he urged residents to evacuate due to the risk of flooding. A house was destroyed and roads were cut off

by mudslides leaving 101 people to be isolated. Besides, heavy rains in Akita prefecture during 15 – 16 July 2023 killed a man and forced over 2,000 people to relocate. In the meantime, four people were injured after a house was hit by a landslide. Flooding also occurred in many areas of the prefecture. Bullet train services between Morioka and Akita stations were suspended, and many cars were abandoned on the roads.

Sources: The Japan Times. (2023, July 13). *Local politician dies as torrential rain sweeps Sea of Japan coast*; The Japan Times. (2023, July 16). *Heavy rains hit Tohoku region, leaving at least one dead and four injured in Akita*.

Republic of Korea

Downpours across South Korea claimed many lives. As of 17 July 2023, the number of death toll caused by heavy downpours in South Korea rose to 40 people, 19 of which were found in southeastern province of North Gyeongsang. Moreover, nine people remained missing and 34 people were reportedly injured. A total of 10,570 people across the country were evacuated while 28,607 households had to live without electricity. The downpours also damaged 628 public facilities and 317 other private properties. The country had experienced intense rainfalls since 9 July 2023 according to the Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasure Headquarters.

Sources: Yonhap. (2023, July 17). *49 dead or missing in downpours after 4 more bodies recovered from underground road*.

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: bussapailyn@pterr.org
Website: <http://www.pterr.org/>

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