



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

A mild earthquake struck Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province. On 6 August 2023, an earthquake of magnitude 5.3 shook Sigi district in Central Sulawesi province. There were at least 28 houses damaged while many Lembantongoa villagers were forced to flee their houses. The earthquake also caused a widespread power outage in the village. Various parts of Indonesia are frequently rocked by earthquakes since the country straddles the Ring of Fire, where several tectonic plates meet and cause frequent volcanic and seismic activities.

Sources: Antara News. (2023, Aug 7). *Sigi earthquake forces several Lembantongoa villagers to take refuge.*

Lao PDR

Landslides blocked a major road in Lao PDR. Heavy rains from 27 July to 2 August 2023 triggered several landslides on road 8A linking between Khammouane and

Bolikhambxay provinces. Nearly 10 kilometres of the road were blocked causing more than 70 people to be stranded and 110 vehicles to be trapped or damaged. Besides, one person was missing while property, farmland, and livestock were affected. Several government and volunteer agencies provided immediate assistance to those affected and stepped up to accept the donations.

Sources: Laotian Times. (2023, Aug 8). *Landslides on Route 8A in Laos Leave 110 Vehicles, 70 People Stranded.*

Thailand

Rainstorms damaged the north of Thailand. Heavy rains for over a week hit Sop Moei district of northern Thailand's Mae Hong Son province. As of 3 August 2023, a bridge connecting Si Wa Doe village to other areas was destroyed while houses and paddy fields were flooded. Many big trees were also toppled and shut down the traffic. Sop Moei mayor immediately ordered officers from the Volunteer Defence Corps and local administrations to clear the roads and restore the traffic. Moreover, the village lost electricity supplies, and the internet was cut off. In the meantime, rocks had slid down from a hill and were fallen on a road blocking Highway 105. Drivers were warned to aware of potential rockslides or landslides.

Sources: Bangkok Post. (2023, Aug 3). *Heavy rains drench North's rice fields.*

Viet Nam

Flash floods and landslides claimed seven lives in Viet Nam. On 4 August, 2023, non-stop rains for several days in the

hills in Hanoi's Soc Son district caused flash floods, and swept mud and rocks into a road below, where four resorts were located, There were 13 cars parked on two sides of the road buried while people had to wade through the mud to leave the resorts. Later, heavy downpours also caused flash floods and landslides in the provinces of Lai Chau, Yen Bai, and Son La. As of 6 August 2023, seven people died and at least three others were missing. Many houses, farms, and roads were damaged. Meanwhile, 28 households in Son La Province were forced to evacuate. According to the National Center for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting, many northern localities were at high risk of landslides.

Sources: VN Express. (2023, Aug 4). *Flash flood in Hanoi suburb buries cars under mud*; VN Express. (2023, Aug 6). *Seven dead due to flash floods, landslides in northern Vietnam*.

China

Several parts of China were strongly hit by heavy rains. Shulan city in Jilin province had experienced continuous rains since 1 August 2023 causing 14 people dead and one person missing. Earlier, flash floods triggered by heavy rains Heilongjiang province on 3 August 2023. A bridge along the Harbin to Mudanjiang Highway was damaged sweeping at least two vehicles to fall off. Traffic restrictions were suddenly put in place on the affected section of highway. Likewise, the districts and countries across Baoding city in Hebei province as of 5 August 2023 had suffered from floods due to the impact of Typhoon Doksuri over the past few days. More than 1.1 million people were affected, with 627,000 people had to evacuate. The floods damaged almost 12,000 houses and 500,000 rai of crops.

Emergency assistances were provided to those affected in each area.

Sources: Xinhua. (2023, Aug 3). *Vehicles fall off bridge damaged by floods in NE China*; Xinhua. (2023, Aug 5). *10 killed, 18 missing after heavy rain hits north China's Baoding*; Xinhua. (2023, Aug 6). *14 killed, one missing after heavy rain hits China's Jilin*.

Japan

Typhoon Khanun ravaged parts of Japan. Okinawa and Kagoshima prefectures were battered by Typhoon Khanun with strong winds and heavy rains for two consecutive days. There were reports of two dead and at least 62 people injured as of 3 August 2023. Over 170,000 households in the prefectures had to live without electricity. Meanwhile, Naha Airport resumed operations after shutting down for two days; however, 304 flights remained cancelled. The storm was forecast to make a sudden and sharp turn to the east of Japan on 4 August 2023.

Sources: Japan Times. (2023, August 3). *Typhoon Kanun kills two in Okinawa, injures at least 62*.

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