



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

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Malaysia

Flash floods struck Selangor state of Malaysia. Heavy rains on 16 August 2023 triggered flash floods in the area of Seksyen 13 in Shah Alam city of Selangor state causing muddy waters. Some vehicles were disrupted. Meanwhile, the water level of Damansara River reached warning mark. The team from the Selangor Fire and Rescue Department was dispatched to the affected area for monitoring the situation.

Sources: New Straits Times. (2023, Aug 16). *Heavy rain causes flash floods in Shah Alam.*

Myanmar

Flooding forced thousands of people in Karen state to evacuate. Heavy rains since 2 August 2023 had pounded Hpa-An township of Karen state causing water runoff from surrounding mountains, and overflowing of the Salween River. Low-lying roads and many areas in the township were flooded. There were 6,850 people forced to flee their homes and shelter at temporary

relief centres. Although floodwater in some areas had gradually receded, affected people were still worried about the rising of water which might occur again. Apart from Hpa-An township, Hlaingbwe, Paingkyone, Kawkareik, Myawaddy, Kyainseikgyi, and Kyonedoe townships also suffered from flooding.

Sources: Mizzima. (2023, Aug 16). *Flooding forces 6,850 people to leave their houses in Hpa-An Township, Karen State.*

The Philippines

The Philippines' Camarines Sur province experienced an earthquake swarm. According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), there was a report of an earthquake swarm starting on 19 August 2023 in Ragay municipality, Camarines Sur province, the Philippines. As of 20 August 2023, at least 45 earthquakes were recorded. The highest magnitude was 4.4 which felt at intensity 5 (strong) in the municipality. Residents in the affected area were advised to protect themselves from strong earthquakes while local authorities were called on to inspect buildings and infrastructure for signs of damage. An earthquake swarm is defined as a short-lived sequence of minor to light earthquakes, showing no identifiable large event or main shock.

Sources: Rappler. (2023, Aug 20). *Earthquake swarm hits Ragay town in Camarines Sur.*

China

Heavy rains in China' Sichuan province left six people missing. On 21 August 2023, heavy rains hit Dengchang village in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan province affecting a highway construction site in the village. There were 85 people at the site, 79 of which were rescued safely while six people remained missing. The search for those missing, and on-site risk investigation and monitoring were underway.

Sources: Xinhua. (2023, Aug 21). *6 missing after heavy rain in China's Sichuan.*

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

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