



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

No. 380
14 - 20 August 2024

Malaysia

Floods forced evacuations in Malaysia. Heavy rainfall since 11 August 2024 affected Perak, Labuan, Melaka, and Negeri Sembilan states of Malaysia causing floods and population evacuations. As of 13 August 2024, 369 people were evacuated to various evacuation centres across the states. Meanwhile, more heavy rainfall was forecast over most parts of the country during 14 – 15 August 2024.

Sources: Reliefweb. (2024, Aug 14). *Malaysia - Floods (Malaysian Meteorological Department, ADINet) (ECHO Daily Flash of 14 August 2024)*.

Philippines

Class suspensions were imposed in the Philippines due to volcanic smog. The local government units in the Calabarzon Region and Metro Manila of the Philippines announced class suspensions on 19 August 2024 after Taal Volcano in Batangas city formed volcanic smog. Residents were warned of adverse health effects and advised to wear face mask when going outdoors. The Provincial Disaster Risk

Reduction and Management Office also distributed N-95 respirator masks to residents in several towns. The volcanic smog composed of sulfur dioxide gas and other volcanic gases mixed with atmospheric oxygen, dust or ashes, and sunlight, which caused a foggy view, irritations of the eyes, throat, and nose.

Sources: Philippine News Agency. (2024, Aug 19). *Calabarzon, nearby LGUs suspend classes Monday due to Taal vog.*

Thailand

Floods submerged many parts of Thailand. The moderate monsoon trough, low-pressure area, southwest monsoon triggered heavy rains in Chiang Mai, Phayao, Nan, and Chiang Rai provinces, Thailand during 15 - 18 August 2024. Many areas of the provinces were flooded while more than 1,000 households were affected. Yet, no casualties or injuries were reported. Floods remained in some low-lying agricultural areas while the floodwater level in some areas decreased. Relevant agencies and volunteers inspected the damage and provided assistance to those affected. Likewise, Phetchabun, Phuket, and Rayong provinces were also affected by flooding.

Sources: Reliefweb. (2024, Aug 19). *Thailand, Flooding in Phetchabun, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Nan, Phayao, Rayong, and Phuket (16 Aug 2024)*.

China

Rainstorm in China left 50 people dead. As of 19 August 2024, 50 people were confirmed dead while 15 others were still missing in Zixing City, China's Hunan province due to typhoon-induced heavy

rains. Floods and landslides were also reported in some areas. Typhoon Gaemi severely hit the city since last July affecting 128,000 people. Meanwhile, 11,869 houses, and buildings were collapsed. Power systems, roads, and communications were interrupted in hundreds of villages. Rescue efforts and post-disaster reconstruction were underway.

Sources: Xinhua. (2024, Aug 19). *50 dead, 15 missing in typhoon-induced heavy rainfall in central China city.*

Japan

Back-to-back earthquakes jolted Japan's Ibaraki prefecture. The Japan Meteorological Agency reported that two back-to-back earthquakes rocked northern part of Ibaraki prefecture, Japan on 19 August 2024. The first quake with a magnitude of 4.7 was detected around 12:48 a.m. followed by a stronger tremor with magnitude of 5.1. The second quake had an intensity of lower 5 on the Japanese scale of 0 to 7 at a dept of 8 kilometres. However, there was no threat of tsunami. The agency also warned of possible earthquakes with maximum intensity of lower 5 next week.

Sources: The Asahi Shumbun. (2024, Aug 19). *Double earthquake puts Ibaraki on alert for more shaking.*

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