



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

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Indonesia

A flash flood on Indonesia's eastern Ternate Island left 13 people dead. A flash floods, triggered by torrential rains on eastern Ternate Island, Indonesia, killed 13 people and affected residential areas on 25 August 2024. Rua village in North Maluku province was the hardest hit area. The main road accessing to the village was cut while dozens of houses and buildings were buried by the mud. Search and rescue teams together with locals were underway to find missing people.

Sources: The Washington Post. (2024, Aug 25). *A flash flood on Indonesia's eastern Ternate Island sweeps away buildings and leaves 13 dead.*

Lao PDR

Extensive flood in Lao PDR forced people to evacuate. Continuous heavy rains this month caused extensive flooding in central and northern parts of Lao PDR. As of 23 August 2024, floods forced people in several villages of Bokeo province to evacuate and shelter at schools, other public facilities, or their relative houses. In the meantime, the overflowing of Yang and Nang rivers in

Xayaboury province combined with water from hillsides caused the situation to be worsen. More than 80 houses and over 100 hectares of crops in the province were inundated. Cattle, poultry, livestock farms and fishponds were also badly affected. In addition, roads and several small dams were damaged while soil erosion was found in the area. Relevant agencies provided assistance to those affected.

Sources: Vientiane Times. (2024, Aug 23). *Floods swamp Xayaboury, Bokeo provinces.*

Philippines

Mount Kanlaon's volcanic activity were detected. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology reported on 22 August 2024 that Kanlaon Volcano in Negros Island of the Philippines exhibited an increase of volcanic activity, such as gas emissions, shallow earthquakes, and swelling of the volcano. The volcanic gases also reached nearby communities which could cause health problems. Meanwhile, 15 volcano-tectonic earthquakes were detected. The public was advised to be vigilant and avoid entry into the four kilometres radius of danger zone. The Kanlaon volcano was under Alert Level 2 (increasing unrest)

Sources: Philippine News Agency. (2024, Aug 22). *Kanlaon Volcano becoming more restive, says Phivolcs chief.*

Thailand

Floods remained in five northern provinces of Thailand. Flooding situation in Thailand as of 25 August 2024 remained in five provinces namely Chiang Rai, Nan, Phayao, Phetchabun and Phrae while nine more people died. Earlier, floods hit 22 provinces during 16 - 22 August 2024, killing

22 people and affecting 30,807 families. Moreover, water levels in the Mekong River continued to rise and affect low-lying areas in the north and north-eastern provinces. Thousands of rai of farmland in Bueng Kan province were also flooded. The Office of the National Water Resources had sent an emergency notice to the Mekong River Commission Secretariat, requesting increased flood surveillance and prediction of daily peaks from water stations along the river in eight provinces of Thailand, and urged the officials to report the latest water situation to member countries.

Sources: Bangkok Post. (2024, Aug 25). *Floods remain in 5 northern Thai provinces.*

Viet Nam

Severe weather widely affected Viet Nam.

According to the Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control in the provinces of Ha Giang, Lao Cai, Dien Bien, Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Hoa Binh, Hanoi and Nghe An as of 26 August 2024, heavy rain accompanied by whirlwinds, lightning, floods, and landslides on 24 – 25 August 2024 killed two people and injured two others. Over 450 houses were damaged while 705 hectares of rice and crops together with 10 hectares of fish ponds were severely submerged. Also, 58 points of roads were eroded. Local authorities mobilised forces to help those affected and clear traffic routes.

Sources: Relief Web. (2024, Aug 26). *Viet Nam, Storms, Floods, Strong Winds, and Landslides in 8 Provinces (Northern Region) (24 Aug 2024).*

China

China experienced extreme weather.

Many parts of China were lashed by torrential rains. As of 23 August 2024, 11 people were found dead in Liaoning province, northeast

China while 14 others went missing. About 188,757 people were affected. Houses, infrastructure, and crops were also seriously damaged. Moreover, two people died in Gansu province, northwest China on 24 August 2024 due to heavy rains. Water supply in some areas was cut off. Meanwhile, heavy rainfalls continued to pound northern China's provinces including Beijing, Tianjin, and Hebei. Contrarily, a red alert for high temperatures was issued in Chongqing municipality, southwest China on 26 August 2024. Residents were urged to take precautions. Red alert is the highest level in China's three-tier high-temperature alert system issuing when temperatures to be forecast to exceed 40 degrees Celsius within 24 hours.

Sources: Xinhua. (2024, Aug 23). *11 dead, 14 missing after heavy rain hits China's Liaoning;* Xinhua. (2024, Aug 25). *2 killed in strong convective weather in northwest China;* Xinhua. (2024, Aug 26). *China Focus: Scorching heat sweeps west China while heavy rains drench the north.*

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