



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

**No. 139**  
**9 - 15 October 2019**

### Lao PDR

#### ***Saravan province prepares the new crop to replace harvest lost due to floods.***

In Saravan province, farmers in 50 villages of Khongxedon district are preparing to plant more than 3,000 hectares of dry season rice at the end of October 2019 in order to compensate for the rice that was damaged by the recent floods. According to Deputy Governor of Khongxedon district, over 15,000 hectares of agricultural land were affected, while 13,500 hectares of rice and other crops were damaged. Last week, the authorities delivered seven tonnes of rice seeds and vegetable seeds to the residents of 36 villages in Khongxedon district; however more are still needed. People need more seeds to plant to replace the rice and vegetable crops they lost. They will also need at least 5,000 tonnes of rice a month and over the next six months, but they have received only 100 tonnes so far. After floods devastated central and southern provinces at the end of this August and at the beginning of September, more than 130,500 hectares of rice fields have been damaged. Accordingly, farmers in flood-hit areas need rice seeds for dry season cultivation from November this year to March next year.

**Source:** Vientiane Times. (2019, Oct 9). *Saravan prepares new crop to replace harvest lost to floods.*

### Malaysia

#### ***The Malaysian government will provide infrastructure for glutinous rice cultivation project to rise farmers' income.***

According to Prime Minister, the Malaysian government will focus on providing the necessary infrastructure facilities instead of cash aid, such as building drainage and other related facilities, to make a success of the glutinous rice cultivation project along with an increase of farmers' income. Farmers, who participate in the project, will earn an extra income through training and some infrastructure provided by the government. In the 2020 budget, the government announced to allocate 30 million ringgits (7.1 million USD) for glutinous rice cultivation in Langkawi, expecting to benefit about 1,200 farmers.

\*1 USD = 4.191 ringgits

**Source:** Bernama. (2019, Oct 13). *Govt to provide infrastructure for glutinous rice cultivation project.*

### Viet Nam

#### ***The export prices of Vietnamese rice rose to the highest rate, due to the growing demand in the African market.***

Recently, the demand for Vietnamese rice, especially jasmine rice, has significantly increased. Resulting in the export prices of Vietnamese rice this week rose to the highest level in two months. Prices for 5 percent broken rice in Viet Nam rose to 350 USD a tonne from 330-340 USD a tonne last week. According to preliminary data, at least 70,600 tonnes of rice are scheduled for loading at Ho Chi Minh City Ports during 1-20 October 2019, with most bound for West Africa and Malaysia. In September alone, rice shipments from Viet Nam fell 20.4 percent or about 479,363 tonnes from August. Meanwhile, rice shipments from in the January-September period increased 3.7 percent from a year earlier to 5.06 million tonnes, according to Customs data.

**Source:** Reuters. (2019, Oct 10). *Asia Rice-African demand boosts Vietnam rates, India prices dip to 4-month low.*

## China

### ***A new hybrid rice research base was recently opened in the south of China.***

On 9 October 2019, an 83.3-hectare new research base for hybrid rice breeding was inaugurated in Guanyang country, located in the south of China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The research base is part of a newly-launched workstation of Yuan Longping, China's father of hybrid rice. Yuan and his team will focus on breeding high-yielding hybrid rice strains, which could be adaptive to various environments. They aim to develop rice strains that could achieve a yield of more than 1,200 kilogrammes per mu (0.07 hectare) or 18 tonnes per hectare. In addition to the output, the team would work to improve quality. The workstation is located in Guanyang country because the area provides a very high yield of super hybrid rice and ratoon rice. Earlier this year, the average yield of super hybrid rice in Guanyang exceeded 1,000 kilogrammes per mu or over 14 tonnes per hectares in one season.

*\*1 hectare = 15 units*

*1 unit = 0.067 hectare*

**Source:** Xinhua. (2019, Oct 10). *Hybrid rice research base opens in south China.*

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

*\* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Rice Situations is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.*