



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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### Cambodia

***The IBIS Rice Conservation Co.,Ltd (IBIS Rice) joins hand with the Phnom Penh Commercial Bank Plc (PPCBank) to encourage eco-friendly farming.***

The IBIS Rice has signed a financing agreement with the PPCBank to support 1,500 smallholder farmers, who live in seven wildlife conservation areas of Stung Treng and Monduliri provinces, to grow organic jasmine rice with the wildlife-friendly practices. This project aims to protect endangered species and improve farmer's livelihood. Farmers could sell their rice at 50 percent higher than the market price. This organic rice is also certified wildlife-friendly and organic, meeting the standard set by the European Union and the United States Department of Agriculture; therefore, it is allowed to sell in the high-end market globally, including Europe and Canada. Besides, the project could reduce deforestation by 75 percent in the conservation areas.

**Source:** The Phnom Penh Post. (2020, Dec 17). *Bank backs eco-friendly farming.*

### Myanmar

***Myanmar's first digital platform is set to use in the rice sector by 2021.***

According to the Myanmar Rice Federation, the country's first digital platform, a mobile application named the MRF Rice Portal, is expected to be available in the last week of December 2020 or the first week of January 2021. The application will provide information as well as online trading of rice, paddy, and

seeds for rice farmers, seed production farmers and companies, rice millers, and traders. Currently, Myanmar's seeds and rice production are traded via social network, which is an ineffective way.

**Source:** Myanmar Times. (2020, Dec 21). *Myanmar rice trading to go digital in 2021.*

### Viet Nam

***Rates for Vietnamese rice export increase significantly to 9-year peak because of the container shortages.***

This week, rates for Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice were quoted at 500 USD per tonne, the highest level since December 2011, from 470-490 USD per tonne last week. According to a trader based in the Mekong province of An Giang, the prices rose sharply because a shortage of containers drove freight rates up, causing difficulties for traders to ship their products. Currently, freight rates for a 20-foot container to Africa have risen to 5,000 USD compared with 1,500 USD in the last two months, said the trader.

**Source:** Reuters. (2020, Dec 21). *Shipping container crunch lifts Vietnam rice rates to 9-year peak.*

***Viet Nam will export 10,000 tonnes of rice under the Viet Nam-Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Free Trade Agreement.***

As of 8 September 2020, the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission issued Decision No.110 on the allocation of Vietnamese rice import quotas for each member country in 2021 as committed in the Viet Nam-EAEU Free Trade Agreement. In relating to this, the EAEU countries pledged to provide a rice quota of 10,000 tonnes to Viet Nam next year. Of which, Belarus has a quota of 9,600 tonnes and Armenia has 400 tonnes.

**Source:** Bizhub. (2020, Dec 18). *EAEU gives Viet Nam tariff quota of 10,000 tonnes of rice in 2021.*

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\* 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.

