



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Lao PDR

Lao PDR receives 1,000 tonnes of rice from Japan and the Republic of Korea for flood victims.

The governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) have provided 1,000 tonnes of rice through the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) for distribution to people in Lao PDR who suffered severe losses during flooding in 2021 and 2022. Of which, 300 tonnes were donated by Japan and 700 tonnes from ROK. Heavy rainfall associated with tropical storms caused flooding, landslides and other disruptions across northern Laos. The flooding occurred in 12 provinces and affected 70,523 families with many suffering crop losses. The total damage was estimated at more than 552 billion kip (31.83 million USD).

*1 USD = 17,338.93 kip

Source: Vientiane Times. (2022, Dec 22). *Lao govt receive 1,000 tonnes for flood victims.*

Thailand

Thailand plans to invest more in rice seed production.

According to the Rice Department, 1.256 billion baht (36.18 million USD) will be invested to increase the production of rice seeds from current 95,000 tonnes to 150,000 tonnes per year. The plan is expected to ensure the seed production meets the demand and improve food security. The department will increase manufacturing capacity at 16 rice research centres

nationwide, with investing in 31 machines to expand the production of breeding and foundation seeds.

*1 USD = 34.69 baht

Source: The Nation. (2022, Dec 23). *Rice department will upgrade machinery to boost seed production.*

Increasing shipments and the baht appreciation push Thai rice prices.

Rates for Thai 5 percent broken rice were quoted at 452-460 USD per tonne, up from 425-457 USD per tonne last week, due to increasing shipments and the stronger baht. There is more demand from Asian countries, while African countries are more interested in rice from India. Furthermore, there was news that the rice supply could tighten soon so rice exporters were buying to stock up, Bangkok-based traders said.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Dec 22). *RPT-ASIA RICE-More exports, stronger baht send Thai rates to over 6-month high.*

Viet Nam

Vietnamese rice prices and international demand see stable this week.

The prices of Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice remained at 448-453 USD per tonne, unchanged from a week ago, when the prices reached their highest level since July 2021. Demand for Vietnamese rice remains steady, especially from the Philippines, a Ho Chi Minh-based trader said. The preliminary shipping data showed that 167,650 tonnes of rice are to be loaded at Ho Chi Minh City port from 1 to 28 December 2022, with most of them heading to the Philippines and Indonesia.

Source: Reuters. (2022, Dec 22). *RPT-ASIA RICE-More exports, stronger baht send Thai rates to over 6-month high.*

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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.