



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 400
1-7 January 2025

Cambodia

Banteay Meanchey solves water scarcity for rice cultivation.

The Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology in Banteay Meanchey collaborated with local authorities and farming communities. This collaboration led to a critical intervention to open the water gates of the Trapaing Thmar Reservoir to irrigate approximately 8,300 hectares of farmland in the Phnom Srok and Preah Net Preah districts. Due to the facing water shortages that have impacted daily use recently. The goal was to provide enough water to the targeted field in order to ensure the remaining rice crops were properly irrigated. This cooperation came to boost rice production in these provinces in 2024-2025 during the dry season.

Source: Khmer Times. (2025, Jan 6). *Banteay Meanchey addresses water needs for rice cultivation.*

Cambodia and China increased their rice export quota.

According to the Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia and China had made an agreement on increasing the milled rice export quota by 25 percent from 400,000 tonnes to 500,000 tonnes. As China is a major market for Cambodian rice, this effort is expected to boost Cambodian rice's exports and gain the Kingdom's agriculture sector. Therefore, the Cambodia Rice Federation set the target to export a million tonnes of milled rice, urging raising production and storage capability and elevating rice quality standards into the international market by 2025.

Source: Khmer Times. (2025, Jan 1). *Kingdom, China up rice export quota.*

Indonesia

Bulog aims to procure 3 million tonnes of domestic rice.

Indonesia's state food procurement company, Bulog, targeted to procure domestic rice from 1.27 million tonnes in 2024 to 3 million tonnes this year. According to the Coordinating Minister for Food of the Republic of Indonesia, the government will increase the purchase price for unhusked rice from 500 rupiah (0.0309 USD) to 6,500 rupiah (0.4015 USD) per kilogramme from 15 January 2025. Besides, Indonesia's rice output is estimated to rise to 32.8 million tonnes in 2025.

*1 USD = 16,190.00 rupiah

Source: Reuters. (2025, Jan 6). *Indonesia's Bulog aims to procure 3 million tons of domestic rice.*

Philippines

Launch 'Sulit rice' in 24 Kadiwa ng Pangulo centers and kiosks.

Sulit rice is 100 percent broken white rice under the Sulit rice programme which sells at 36 PHP (0.6197 USD) per kilogramme. According to the Department of Agriculture, Sulit rice will soon be available in 24 Kadiwa ng Pangulo (KNP) centers and kiosks due to the positive public reception during the trial run in two selected KNP sites in Manila. Furthermore, the sale of Sulit rice may be expanded to Regions 3 and 4-A, specifically the Bulacan, Pampanga, Rizal, Cavite, and Laguna areas, by February or March 2025.

*1 USD = 58.09 PHP

Source: The Philippine News Agency. (2025, Jan 6). *DA to launch 'Sulit rice' in 24 Kadiwa ng Pangulo centers, kiosks.*

Thailand

SMEs can apply for rice export licenses within 30 minutes.

Thai government has speeded up the rice export licenses process from three days in the past to 30 minutes by migrating the documentation process to an electronic platform. This initiative change comes from the Department of Foreign Trade (DFT) under the Ministry of Commerce. Besides, this move goes along with the government's policy of encouraging farmers and rice traders classified as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to export their rice freely all over the world. DFT expected these moves to help boost Thailand's rice exports to around 7.5 million tonnes in 2025.

Source: The Nation. (2025, Jan 3). *SMEs can now get a licence to export rice in 30 minutes.*

Viet Nam

Eight rice enterprises got awards for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Eight rice enterprises received awards of approximately 3.16 billion VND (over 124,300 USD) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in rice production from the Transforming Rice Value Chain for Climate Resilient and Sustainable Development in the Mekong Delta (TRVC) project, a project that helped transform the rice value chain in the Mekong Delta to a low-emission rice production system and develop 1 million hectares of high-quality. Besides, this project has been approved by the Prime Minister in 2023. In fact, over 27,000 tonnes of carbon emissions were saved during the last summer-autumn rice season. The Vietnam Rice Company (Vinarice), one of the participants in the TRVC project, would dispense the awards money for farmers to improve farming skills, provide support to female farmers and those with disabilities, and offer additional subsidies to others.

Source: VietnamPlus. (2025, Jan 4). *Eight rice enterprises awarded for emissions reduction.*

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

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