



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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### Indonesia

***The Indonesian Red Cross started recovery activities for helping people affected by the Aceh earthquake.*** After emergency responses, this action focused on two activities by cash transfer programmes for livelihood recovery (CTP) and by the health of citizens. Due to CTP, the funds would be used to provide basic needs to 507 families in 9 villages of Pidie Jaya district and would be earmarked for shelters to 526 families across Pidie Jaya, Bireuen and Pidie districts. Citizen health would be recovered by hygiene and sourcing of water as well as mobile health services and psychosocial supports.

**Source:** Indonesian Red Cross (2017, Jan 12). *PMI recovery of livelihoods and shelter and citizens health.*

### Myanmar

***Fortified rice, being sold across the Yangon and Ayeyarwaddy regions, needs help from social and welfare organisations for further distribution.*** This is due to the PATH project since 2013, concerning with supply chains and distribution channels of fortified rice aiming at decreasing the incidence of micronutrient deficiencies of the country. This project tries to cover all consumers

by using networks for social welfare and relief services apart from retail and wholesale markets. However, rice millers are hesitant to become fortified rice producer because of complex process and its prices are up to 15 percent higher when compared to ordinary rice resulting from packaging and distribution costs.

\* PATH is an international, nonprofit global health organisation based in Seattle, the U.S.A.

**Source:** Win, S. P. (2017, Jan 13). *Fortified rice needs new networks to reach wider population.* Myanmar Times.

### Philippines

***The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) will provide food-for-work assistance to volunteers for repairing schools damaged by Typhoon Nock-Ten in the Bicol region.*** Volunteers, who mostly are victims, are under Emergency Brigada Eskwela programme of the Department of Education for repairing damaged schools and facilities. DSWD has already given an initial 350 pieces of family food packs to volunteers in Catanduanes and Camarines Sur provinces. The target is to allocate 5,000 pieces of family food packs with prioritised provinces of Albay, Sorsogon and Masbate. Reportedly, 625 classrooms in the region were damaged and this scheme also urges for replication by other field offices of both Departments for helping victims to recover faster.

***Moreover, it is updated that there are 690 people of 146 families still staying in 14 evacuation centres in Camarines Sur.*** Typhoon Nock-Ten totally affected 2.43 million people of 547,242 families in 2,012 villages across CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Bicol and Eastern Visayas regions and a total of 250.76 million peso (5.06 million USD) of relief assistance has been provided.

\* 1 USD = 49.53 Philippine peso

**Source:** Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) of the Philippines (2017, Jan 13). *DSWD provides food-for-work to DepEd volunteers for repair of schools damaged by 'Nina'.*

## Thailand

**Monsoonal floods claimed 36 lives and affected 1.06 million people in 119 districts across 12 provinces in the southern part of Thailand.** Recently floods still remained in 76 districts across 8 provinces of Phatthalung, Songkhla, Trang, Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Chumphon, Krabi and Prachuap Khiri Khan. Reportedly, Nakhon Si Thammarat was hit most by 9 dead and 795,304 affected people in 23 districts. Although water levels in every province already decreased, there are precautions of the new monsoon with heavy rainfall and strong winds from 14 to 19 January 2017.

**Source:** Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Jan 13). *DDPM reports flood situations in 8 provinces and integrates related units for assistances to victims (Thai Version)*. News.

**Monsoonal floods totally affected 664,034 farmers across 12 provinces in the southern part of Thailand.** In term of affected crops, there were 449,524 farmers with total farmlands by 1.06 million rai (168,814 hectares), of which paddy fields claimed by 26 percent. In term of affected fisheries, there were 24,361 farmers with a total 39,293 rai (6,287 hectares) with 107,718 floating baskets. Finally, in term of affected livestock, there were 190,149 farmers with 8.87 million livestock and a total 18,843 rai (3,015 hectares) of grass fields.

\* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

**Source:** Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand (2017, Jan 13). *Report of disaster situation in agriculture (Thai Version)*.

## Viet Nam

**The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has been tasked to find solutions for limitations on agricultural land ownership, restricting large-scale farming and production.** Such limitations stem from the National Land Law prescribing the maximum of 9 hectares for each household in the Mekong Delta and southeast provinces for farming-growing trees, aquaculture as well as salt processing and the maximum of

6 hectares for the other areas. Lifting the limitations on agricultural land ownership would be favourable for large-scale production and long-term investment in agriculture, competitiveness of national agriculture, living standards of farmers as well as coordination with foreign businesses.

**Source:** Viet Nam News (2017, Jan 13). *PM calls for lifting curbs on land ownership*.

## China

**The central government allocated 400 million yuan (58 million USD) to help regions affected by natural disasters.** The relief funds will be used to assist farmers in the southern regions, which were severely affected by typhoons and floods in the second half of 2016, to restore agricultural production, to ensure transportation of forage grass in pastoral areas and to control diseases. Local authorities are tasked to allocate relief funds in a timely manner, and to improve regulation for efficiency. The central government altogether earmarked 3.49 billion yuan (506.05 million USD) to support agricultural disaster relief in 2016.

\* 1 USD = 6.90 Chinese yuan

**Source:** Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China (2017, Jan 12). *China earmarks funds to help with agricultural disaster relief*. News.

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