



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Myanmar

Around 150 internally displaced persons are currently seeking refuge at the Zayanngyi monastery in Mandalay Division where supplies are running dangerously low. Those people were displaced by the internal conflict around Namhsan township in the Northern Shan State and in need of medical supplies, food and blankets. The Palaung Social Aid Association in Mandalay donated four sacks of rice and 2,500 kyat (1.85 USD) for each person and it costs more than 75,000 kyat (56 USD) for one meal for those people.

* 1 USD = 1,350 kyat

Source: Ko, K. K. (2017, Jan 17). *Namhsan IDPs in dire need of supplies*. Myanmar Times.

Philippines

The Department of Social Welfare and Development provided relief assistance worth 6.42 million peso (128,552 USD) to 276,860 affected people from 58,334 families in 482 villages across the regions of Western and Central Visayas as well as Northern Mindanao and CARAGA due to the cold front causing floods. Of the reported number, there were 17,237 displaced families staying in 200 evacuation centres. This assistance was part of the augmentation support to the affected Local Government Units (LGUs). Lately, the disaster quick response teams in the affected regions are continuously monitoring the disaster operations as well as conducting an assessment of the damages in partnership with the LGUs.

* 1 USD = 49.91 Philippine peso

Source: Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines (2017, Jan 21). *DSWD provides P6.4M worth of assistance to affected families by the cold front*.

The National Food Authority (NFA) is ready to provide the rice requirements of the Local Government Units (LGUs) and relief agencies in flood-affected areas in Mindanao. In the Northern Mindanao region, Cagayan de Oro City was heavily affected and declared a state of calamity. Local NFA offices in this region were on alert and closely coordinating with the LGUs for rice distribution to affected families. The NFA has already released a total of 10,600 bags to the Department of Social Welfare and Development for the pre-positioning of rice stocks. As of 18 January 2017, NFA inventories stood at 499,723 bags in this region and at 10.16 million bags for the country.

Source: National Food Authority of the Philippines (2017, Jan 19). *NFA Ready to Supply Rice in Flooded Areas in Mindanao*.

Thailand

Since 1 January 2017, monsoonal floods claimed 45 lives and affected 1.73 million people in 122 districts across 12 provinces in the southern part of Thailand since 1 January 2017.

Ranked by severity, floods still remained in 37 districts across 7 provinces of Nakhon Si Thammarat, Surat Thani, Phatthalung, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Trang, Songkhla and Chumphon. Royal bags, needed items, life-saving boats as well as water pumps and impellers were provided to those affected provinces. Reportedly, there were 11 deaths, 460,270 affected people and 1,185 damaged houses as well as 6,058 rai (969 hectares) of affected farmlands across 8 districts of Nakhon Si Thammarat. However, there is a precaution of approaching heavy rains incurring flash floods from 22 to 25 January 2017 on Songkhla, Pattani and Narathiwat provinces.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Jan 19). *Disaster Report (Thai Version)*.

Since 1 December 2015, monsoonal floods totally affected 680,994 farmers across 12 provinces in the southern part of Thailand. In term of affected crops, there were 469,510 farmers with total damaged farmlands by 1.10 million rai (175,248 hectares), of which paddy fields claimed by 25 percent. In term of affected fisheries, there were 20,837 farmers with a total damaged area by 32,649 rai (5,224 hectares) and 96,114 m² of floating baskets. Finally, in term of affected livestock, there were 190,647 farmers with 8.86 million affected livestock and a total 19,400 rai (3,104 hectares) of grass fields.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand (2017, Jan 19). *Report of disaster situation in agriculture (Thai Version)*.

Viet Nam

The Government Decree No.2, to take effect from 25 February 2017, will regulate compensation forms and levels for supporting farmers affected by natural disasters and epidemics.

Compensations for losses per hectare are set at 30 million dong (1,300 USD) for agriculture, at 60 million dong (2,600 USD) for aquaculture, at 20 million dong (881 USD) for forestry and up to 1.5 million dong (66 USD) for salt production. Financial aid for destroying disease-affected livestock and in-kind supports are also available. However, each household will only benefit from one compensation policy that suits their conditions most.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Jan 17). *New compensation regulations*.

China

Due to a government plan, some 1.40 million people of 400,000 families living in geological disaster hot spots will be relocated by the end of 2020.

This is because disasters in such areas cannot be prevented or reduced by human interventions. Measures will be taken for addressing geological risks and protection projects will be launched in populated areas. In addition, groundwater sourcing in vulnerable areas will become outlawed and related authorities will explore potential hazards resulting in loss of life and earnings.

Source: Xinhua (2017, Jan 18). *China to relocate 1.4 mln people away from geological threats*.

Japan

FAO and Japan hold high-level discussions to enhance a strong partnership with focuses on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and improving outreach to Japanese public. Japanese delegates including senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries were briefed by the FAO on resilience-boosting programmes for emergency efforts and related works, strategic partnership with the private sector and the guidelines for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems. The FAO is also keen on boosting awareness by translating publications and increasing communication between the FAO and the government of Japan.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) (2017, Jan 24). *FAO and Japan hold high-level discussions to bolster a strong partnership.* News.

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