



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

The National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) has warned of an increasing risk of land and forest fires from August to September as a result of the prolonged dry season. The BNPB detected 538 hot spots with a confidence level of medium- to high-. However, the actual number might be higher as the satellites do not pass through several regions such as Aceh, West Sumatra and East Nusa Tenggara. Riau, Jambi, South Sumatra and Kalimantan have declared emergency-alert status for forest fires until October 2017.

Source: The Jakarta Post (2017, Aug 22). *BNPB warns of more forest fires in upcoming weeks.*

Lao PDR

Damages caused by Tropical Storm Sonca were estimated at 55.5 billion kip (6.70 million USD) due to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Reportedly, this typhoon claimed 10 lives, affected over 21,600 families, swept away 130 houses and damaged 19 houses.

Losses and damages have been reported in Vientiane, Attapeu, Khammouane, Phongsaly, Huaphan, Oudomxay, Xayabouly, Bolikhamxay, Xekong, and Champassack. The ministry has been working with the affected provinces to mobilise relief assistance for the victims. So far, above 870 million kip (104,996 USD) has been provided as relief aid but it is smaller than that actually needed.

* 1 USD = 8,286 kip

Source: Lao News Agency (2017, Aug 24). *Sonca Storm Damages Estimated at 55.5 Billion Kip.*

Philippines

From 24 to 26 August 2017, Tropical Storm Pakhar affected 3,397 people from 929 families in the Region I, II, III and CAR. Reportedly, 395 people of 123 families were served inside 17 evacuation centres. There were 17 flooded areas in Bataan, Camarine Sur, Quezon City and Valenzuela City. Of which, flood waters in 15 areas are already subsided. In addition, there were suspensions of classes, works and flights as well as temporary interruption of power supply. Reportedly, a total of 410,635 Family Food Packs are worth 143.59 million peso (2.81 million USD) and available Food and Non-food Items are worth 447.09 million peso (8.75 million USD). However, Tropical Storm Pakhar has already exited the Philippine Area of Responsibility and all tropical cyclone warning signals are now lifted.

* 1 USD = 51.09 Philippine peso

Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) (2017, Aug 27). *SitRep No. 05 re Preparedness Measures and Effects of Tropical Storm "JOLINA" (I.N. PAKHAR).*

Thailand

Floods and flash floods due to Typhoon Talas and Sonca from 5 July to 15 August 2017 occurred in 44 provinces consisting of 302 districts and 14,105 villages. There were totally 38 deaths, 1.90 million affected people from 609,425 households and 3,282 damaged houses. However, the situations remained in Kalasin, Roi Et, Yasothon, Ubonratchathani and Ayutthaya, covering 23 districts and 503 villages. Due to those flood-remained provinces, there were 9,714 affected people from 3,000 households whereas 11 evacuation points have already served 3,246 people from 918 households.

Source: Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior of Thailand (2017, Aug 29). *Disaster Report (Thai Version).*

During the same period, in terms of agriculture, the floods totally affected 766,223 farmers across 45 provinces. In terms of crop, there were 665,091 affected farmers with 6.30 million rai (1 million hectares) of farmlands. Damages were found for 265,298 farmers with 1.99 million rai (318,400 hectares) of paddy. In terms of fisheries, there were 31,972 affected farmers with 30,191 rai (4,831 hectares). In term of livestock, there were 69,160 affected farmers with 1.80 million livestock. Assistancess are being provided for farmers with assessed damages across all aforementioned types.

* 1 rai (Thai system) = 0.16 hectare

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand (2017, Aug 29). *Report of disaster situation in agriculture (Thai Version).*

Viet Nam

Lao Cai is the first northern province to claim damages caused by strong winds and heavy rains due to Typhoon Hato. There were 750 damaged houses, 40 damaged hectares of rice and vegetable and 37 damaged hectares of corn whereas damages were estimated at around 7 billion dong (308,000 USD). Besides, in Ha Giang, heavy rain affected transportation of goods and products to Thanh Thuy Border Gate. Typhoon Hato will become a low pressure system over the border between Viet Nam and China, resulting in heavy rainfall in the northern provinces.

Source: Viet Nam News (2017, Aug 24). *Typhoon Hato: Strong winds damage houses, uproot trees.*

P.R. China

Typhoon Hato caused at least 8 deaths, over 300 damaged houses and 20 sq km (2,000 hectares) of farmland in Guangdong province. Initial estimates put damage costs at 5.50 billion yuan (825.50 million USD). Typhoon Hato also caused blackouts affecting more than 700,000 households. Public transport services and more than 300 flights were cancelled while businesses and schools are closed.

* 1 sq km = 100 hectares

Source: South China Morning Post (2017, Aug 24). *Typhoon Hato death toll rises to 8 in southern China's Guangdong province.*

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