



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Brunei Darussalam

The country is at the peak of the southwest monsoon season according to the Meteorological Department. This monsoon tends to be quite stable with less tendency of rainfall, causing temperature to exceed 34 Celsius. The country is likely to experience hazy conditions as well due to dry weather cross the Southeast Asia. The monsoon will last until September 2018. When this monsoon coincides with storm and typhoon seasons, the country will face thunderstorms depending on the location. The Meteorological Department will keep monitoring weather conditions and issue advisory or warnings if necessary.

Source: Borneo Bulletin (2018, Jul 23). *Peak Southwest Monsoon season brings hot temperature, dry weather.*

Cambodia

The authorities of Stung Treng Province evacuated around 100 families in Stung Treng City due to floods. Floods were caused by rising water levels in the Mekong River. Provincial authorities have already evacuated 1,289 families or 5,000 people from communes along the Sekong River last week. Those families could not

return to their homes as water levels were still rising. As water levels in the Mekong River are projected to increase in the next few days, relevant ministries and officers are called to be alert for preventing any incidences.

Source: Khmer Times (2018, Jul 31). *Stung Treng floods displace more families.*

Indonesia

The 6.4-magnitude earthquake occurred on 29 July 2018 with epicenter at the northeast of Mataram City of West Nusa Tenggara Province. Although there were no tsunamis, the earthquake was felt in Lombok, Bali and Sumbawa Island with a total exposed population of around 14 million people. Due to the local disaster management agency, there were totally 15 deaths, at least 40 injuries, 6,237 displaced people and above 1,000 damaged houses. East Lombok Regency was hardest hit due to 11 deaths and 398 heavily damaged houses. Related officers started to search and rescue missing people, to provide health assistance and relief items and to set up evacuation camps. Yet, there is no indication that international assistance will be requested or welcomed.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Jul 30). *M 6.4 Lombok Earthquake, Indonesia Flash Update 02.*

Lao PDR

According to monsoon season and heavy rainfalls from Tropical Storm Son Tinh, 349 villages in 41 districts of 10 provinces were flooded from 18 to 19 July 2018 while there were collateral flash floods in Attapeu Province by water discharge from Xepien-Xenamnoy Dam on 24 July 2018. Flooded areas were across Attapeu, Xayabuly, Savannakhet, Khammoun, Bolikhamsay, Luang Prabang, Bokeo, Sekong, Xiengkhouang as well as Oudomxay Provinces. National focus of response is on Sanamxay District, Attapeu Province declared as the national disaster

emergency zone and 123 people remained missing. In Sanamxay District, there were 16,256 affected people from 3,864 families. The Government of Lao PDR intensified search and rescue efforts and planned for rehabilitation and development plan for Sanamxay District. Additional assistances came from other ASEAN member states and dialogue partners as well as the AHA Centre. However, above-average rainfall is expected for the northern ASEAN region. In the meantime, the risks of exposure to flash floods and landslides are increasing due to southwest monsoon effect lasting until late September and early October 2018.

Source: ASEAN Humanitarian Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) (2018, Jul 30). *Situation Update No. 6 Effect of TS 11 (Son-Tinh) and Situation of Xepien and Xenamnoy Dam.*

Myanmar

There were five deaths and over 95,000 evacuees due to floods across seven states and regions according to the Disaster Management Department.

Dead people were found in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Magwe and Tanintharyi while Mon, Kayin, Sagaing and Ayeyarwady were also hit by floods. Related authorities traveled to the affected areas to console evacuees, expressed concerns and provided supports to flood victims. However, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology warned of more rain in coming weeks. The monsoon will also be upgraded in the coastal areas because of depression. People living by the river and low-lying areas in Thabaung township located in Ayeyarwady Region are advised to take necessary precautions against floods as it is flooded every year.

Source: The Myanmar Times (2018, Jul 30). *Five dead, nearly 100,000 displaced by Myanmar floods.*

Philippines

Above 250,000 households were affected by floods as well as continuous rainfalls. This situation was caused by the southwest monsoon enhanced by tropical storms in the recent weeks. Those affected

were found across Ilocos, Central Luzon, Cordillera Administrative Region, Western Visayas, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA and National Capital Region. In addition, there were four deaths as well as 14,551 families in 302 evacuation centres. Damages on infrastructure and agriculture were at 817 million peso (15 million USD). Pangasinan Province was declared a state of calamity on 23 July 2018.

* 1 USD = 53.45 peso

Source: The Philippines Star (2018, Jul 24). *NDRRMC: Over 250,000 families affected by days of rain, flooding.*

Thailand

The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation coordinated with 59 provinces in anticipation of heavy rains. Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-ocha also instructed all provinces to integrate aid measures urgently and asking citizen to be aware of the situation. There were rising waters in the northeastern and other regions, affecting transportation and plantation. Those provinces were called to prepare for situations that may arise from the storms, to set appropriate water levels, to inspect reservoirs and to prepare rapid response teams and equipment for dealing with floods.

Source: National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Jul 31). *PM orders preparations for flooding nationwide.*

Viet Nam

Heavy rain due to Typhoon Son Tinh caused 19 deaths and 17 injuries in northern and north-central provinces.

Deaths were found in provinces of Yen Bai, Thanh Hoa and Hoa Binh while floods also damaged 10,000 houses. In the Red River Delta, 59,000 hectares of rice and 2,000 hectares of maize and other crops were inundated. Meanwhile, in the north-central region, nearly 51,000 hectares of rice as well as 13,400 hectares of maize and other crops were damaged. The Central Steering Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control have asked northern localities

to focus on clearing traffics, searching for missing victims and providing food and accommodation for those left homeless by floods. Yet, central provinces from Thanh Hoa to Thua Thien-Hue will continue to face heavy rainfall while Quang Binh and Quang Tri have been told to prepare for landslides as the rain show no signs of stopping.

Source: Viet Nam News (2018, Jul 22). *Downpour and flood engulfed north, north-central regions during weekend.*

P.R. China

The emergency relief fund of 1 billion yuan (147 million USD) has been earmarked by the Ministry of Finance to aid local authorities with flood relief and agricultural production restoration. This will be allocated to provincial-level regions of Gansu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Fujian, Guanxi, Shaanxi, Chongqing, Guizhou, Xinjiang, Zhejiang and Inner Mongolia which are plagued by typhoons and floods. The local authorities will use the fund to rebuild water conservancy facilities, to purchase seeds, chemical fertilisers, pesticides, agricultural machinery fuel and fodder grass as well as to dispose dead livestock and poultry. The fund will be used for subsidies for farmers hit by disasters as well in order to maintain social stability.

* 1 USD = 6.80 yuan

Source: Xinhua (2018, Jul 26). *China allocates flood relief fund.*

Japan

Typhoon Jongdari left at least 24 people injured after passing the western parts of Honshu on 29 July 2018. Yet, no injuries or damages from this typhoon were immediately reported across regions hit by floods and landslides earlier in July 2018 as local authorities had advised residents to evacuate early. Typhoon Jongdari also made a landfall near Ise of Mie Prefecture, brought intense rainfall across wide areas, disrupted transportation and caused the extreme heat in the Hokuriku Region along the Sea of Japan. No deaths or missing

people had been reported. However, rain will continue in some areas even after the typhoon passes whereas the temperatures are also expected to shoot up, bringing risk of heatstroke and heat exhaustion back.

Source: The Japan Times (2018, Jul 29). *24 injured as Typhoon Jongdari traverses west Japan.*

Gathered by the Food Emergency Monitoring and Information (FEMI) Sub-Division of the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: kanin.lao@apterr.org / kanin.la34@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

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