



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

No. 93

31 October – 6 November 2018

Cambodia

Stung Treng authorities provided nearly seven tonnes of rice seeds to families in Sdov commune affected by recent floods. The Stung Treng governor reported that the authorities brought seven tonnes of rice seeds and vegetables to 134 families in Sdov commune who lost crops during the floods. The rice seeds are useful for planting to earn income for farmers after flood damages. In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said it would distribute 3,000 tonnes of rice seeds for farmers affected by floods across the country. Due to the National Committee for Disaster Management, recent floods hit 23 provinces across the country, leading to 63 deaths and damages on 105,013 hectares of rice fields. Of the total damaged hectares by floods, 51,495 hectares were destroyed.

Source: Khmer Times (2018, Nov 6). *Rice seeds aid Stung Treng flood victims.*

Indonesia

Heavy rains with strong winds hit Bojonegoro district, East Java province on 3 November 2018. The national agency

of disaster management reported that one person was injured whereas a number of houses were damaged by winds and rain. Meanwhile, continuous heavy rain for three hours in Banjarnegara district, Central Java province caused floods and fallen trees in villages of Merden and Danareja villages. Flood water inundated farms, plantations and some residential areas. Electricity was cut off in some of the affected areas and there were no reports of any casualties.

Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2018, Nov 5). *Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (30 Oct – 5 Nov 2018)*

Prominent land cracks were seen in Barangin regency, Sawahlunto, West Sumatra on 2 November 2018 following weeks of downpour. The national agency of disaster management reported that this event damaged 16 houses and caused 22 people to remove from the houses. A crack is about 40 metres in length. However, no deaths have been recorded. The agency said that the area had been hit with heavy rains since 11 October 2018, affecting soil conditions. It is possible that this crack will continue and damage more houses and buildings. The agency has been clearing up debris by using backhoes and excavators while tents and public kitchens have been set up for displaced persons.

Source: The Jakarta Post (2018, Nov 2). *Land cracks appear in W. Sumatra after heavy rains.*

Malaysia

There were totally 159 evacuated people to temporary shelters when flash floods struck villages located in Negeri Sembilan state. Those affected villages consisted of Kampung Geylang, Kampung Tembathin, Kampung Baru Pertang and Kampung Melayu. Kampung Geylang was the worst affected village with 99 evacuees to Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Geylang. Plus, 53 residents coming from Kampung Tembathin and Kampung Baru Pertang were placed at Kampung Tembathin and Taman Bukit Pertang halls. The relevant

authorities are surveying affected villages and will allow residents to return to their homes once floodwaters recede.

Source: New Straits Times (2018, Nov 4). *Flash floods strike four N Sembilan villages; 159 evacuated.*

Philippines

As of 5 November 2018, Typhoon Yutu totally caused 11 deaths, 2 injuries, 1 missing person and 254,454 affected people of 65,340 families across Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Eastern Visayas and Cordillera Administrative Region. A total of 32,519 people of 8,864 families were pre-emptively evacuated. Of the affected, 466 people of 135 families are being served inside evacuation centres. This typhoon also damaged 7,904 houses and resulted in 402 million peso (7.5 million USD) worth of agricultural damages. There were suspensions of classes as well as government works during 29 – 31 October 2018, flight cancellation and interruption on power supplies across affected regions. However, most of affected power supplies have already been restored. Municipalities of Mayoyao and Lamut in Ifugao province as well as Barlig municipality in Mountain province have been declared the state of calamity. The assistances were provided by related units to affected regions.

* 1 USD = 53.53 philippine peso

Source: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council of the Philippines (2018, Nov 5). *SitRep No. 15 re Preparedness Measures and Effects for Typhoon "ROSITA" (I.N. YUTU).*

Visayas and Mindanao will face rain showers according to intertropical convergence zone which is a breeding ground for potential low-pressure areas and tropical cyclones. Cloudy skies with scattered rains and thunderstorms will be in Visayas, Northern Mindanao, Caraga as well as in Zamboanga Peninsula. At the same time, Metro Manila and the rest of the country will have partly cloudy with rain showers due to localised thunderstorms. The public was advised to be alert against

possible flash floods or landslides over low-lying or mountainous areas due to severe thunderstorms. The warning of storm has not been issued but the sea vessels are warned of rough seas over the coastlines of Luzon. However, the formation of a low-pressure area or tropical storm that may affect the country throughout the week is not expected.

Source: Manila Bulletin (2018, Nov 4). *Visayas, Mindanao to experience rain showers due to ITCZ.*

Thailand

The people of Pattani province has been put on alert for flash floods due to heavy rains. The officials in Pattani issued an alert to the residents in Mueng district and to those living on the banks of the Pattani river to watch out for a further increase in the water level. They were also warned of possible floods in low-lying areas after heavy rain hit the region at the beginning of November 2018. However, if rain resumes soon, it will result in the rising water level of the Pattani river again. Therefore, all residents in the areas are advised to stay on alert, to be vigilant and to keep watch on announcements from the government and related offices until 8 November 2018.

Source: National News Bureau of Thailand (2018, Nov 4). *Flood risk in Pattani – Yala.*

Viet Nam

Some 1,100 tonnes of rice were handed over to thousands of families in Ninh Thuan province. The total amount of rice was sourced from national reserves for distributing to around 74,200 people from 16,800 households in drought-hit districts. The provision made by the order of Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc aims to help those facing the risk of food shortages by drought in the province. Each recipient was given 15 kg of the grain for one month. The authorities had worked on distribution plan with prioritization of local people in remote

areas. Over the past year, villagers have been unable to produce crops because the local water sources have run dry due to the impacts of climate change and drought. In addition, many households were poor and their main income source was agriculture.

Source: Viet Nam News (2018, Nov 5). *1,100 tonnes of rice handed out in drought-hit Ninh Thuan.*

The storm Yutu was downgraded from typhoon to tropical low-pressure system on 2 November 2018 morning as reported by the National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting. Yutu is the seventh major storm to hit the East Sea in 2018. This storm has crossed the Luzon Island of the Philippines to enter into the waters of the East Sea and quickly lost strength. On 3 November 2018, the centre of the storm was 650 kms to the northeast of Paracel archipelago with wind speeds of 40 to 60 km per hour. The low-pressure system will move slowly northward at 5 km per hour. However, its centre is expected to be 420 km southwest of Taiwan. Due to the influence from Yutu, the northeastern area of the East Sea will have strong wind and rough waters.

Source: Viet Nam News (2018, Nov 2). *Storm Yutu weakens as it hits the East Sea.*

P.R. China

Due to the local authorities, there have been no reports of casualties or toppled houses from the 5.1-magnitude earthquake in Sichuan province. Due to the China Earthquake Networks Centre, the quake hit Xichang and Liangshan Yi Autonomous prefecture. The provincial government of Sichuan said that the quake had not disrupted road or water traffic in the city of Xichang. Some rural houses were slightly damaged whereas several counties suffered poor communication. Meanwhile, slight tremors were felt in several towns. The provincial seismological bureau had sent a team to the quake-hit region.

Source: Xinhua (2018, Oct 31). No casualties reported so far in Sichuan earthquake.

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