



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Cambodia

Death toll from the worst flooding in Cambodia has risen sharply. The most severe flood, causing a mass devastation in 20 out of 25 provinces of the country since 1 September 2020, already killed 43 people, mostly in Banteay Meanchey, according to the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) on 26 September 2020.

Nearly 600,000 people were directly affected, around 47,000 of them had to flee from their residences. Moreover, flooding also caused damages to more than 130,000 houses, almost 1,000 schools as well as around 390,000 hectares of plantations, mostly rice fields.

To make matters worse, nine provinces, consisting of Ratanakiri, Stung Treng, Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey, Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, Pailin, Banteay Meanchey and Battambang, were expected to experience more rainfalls brought by tropical storm Molave during 28-29 October 2020.

Source: Khmer Times. (2020, Oct 28). *Ongoing flash floods claim 43 lives*; Khmer Times. (2020, Oct 25). *Cambodia to experience heavy rain this week due to Molave*.

Indonesia

More than 10 people were killed as a consequence of landslide in Indonesia. The high-intensity downpour battered the area of South Sumatera Province provoking the overflow of river in Musi Banyuasin Regency on 20 October 2020 while around 600 people were affected.

The heavy rainfalls also caused unstable soil conditions in Muara Enim Regency of the same province. It led to a tragic landslide in a coal mine, killing 11 people on 21 October 2020.

Source: AHA Centre. (2020, Oct 22). *Indonesia, Landslide in Muara Enim, South Sumatera Province*; AHA Centre. (2020, Oct 21). *Indonesia, Flooding, Musi Banyuasin, South Sumatera Province*.

Lao PDR

Lao PDR suffered the severe impacts from a series of tropical storms striking Mekong region. Many provinces of Lao PDR including Salawan, Savannakhet and Sekong witnessed widespread flash floods and landslides influenced by several tropical storms and tropical depression which were also expected to make landfalls in Viet Nam throughout the month of October.

The National Disaster Management Office with participation of the Lao Red Cross reported that around 10,000 households or 70,000 residents were affected, while two persons were killed in Salavan Province.

Source: Reliefweb. (2020, Oct 23). *Lao People's Democratic Republic: Floods - Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA), DREF Operation MDRLA007*.

The Philippines

Two massive tropical storms wreaked havoc in the Philippines. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) had to take precaution measures to evacuate around 600 people in the provinces of Cagayan, Isabela and Quirino as the tropical storm Saudel made landfalls over Aurora Province on 21 October 2020. This natural calamity

resulted in the displacement of 335 persons and nearly 5,000 affected.

The similar incident occurred on 26 October 2020. The strong wind of up to 150 kilometres per hour along with torrential rains generated from severe tropical storm Molave was seen throughout the island provinces south of the capital, Manila forcing 25,000 individuals to find shelters in schools and government buildings which were converted to serve as evacuation centres. In addition, 12 fishermen and one yacht crew member went missing after failing to return to the shore before the storm hit.

Source: Floodlist. (2020, Oct 21). *Philippines – Tropical Storm “Saude!” Prompts Evacuations*; Yahoo. (2020, Oct 26). *Philippines: Typhoon leaves 13 missing, displaces thousands*.

Viet Nam

Viet Nam prepared to evacuate over million as the strongest typhoon was approaching. Over 1.2 million residents in seven central provinces namely Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh, were expected to evacuate as Typhoon Molave, said to be as strong as Typhoon Damrey which killed 106 people in November 2017, was in its way to the country.

The storm would likely make landfalls over Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh provinces on 28 October 2020 with estimated maximum wind speed of 135 kilometres per hours. Several provinces along the stretch of coastline also were predicted to be badly hit with large-scale torrential rainfalls, while mountainous areas would be prone to landslides.

Source: VnExpress. (2020, Oct 19). *Vietnam prepares to evacuate over 1.2 million people ahead of Storm Molave*.

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