



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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### Indonesia

**Heavy floods and landslides claimed many lives in Indonesia.** Three provinces in Java Island of Indonesia experienced destructive inundations and landslides that broke out over 7-14 February 2021. These events happened after torrential rainfalls ravaged the areas for many days. Overall, six deaths and 17 missing were reported as well as nearly 70,000 displaced people.

There were four people killed and 16 missing in East Java Province after the province was hit hard by two sets of floods and landslides following downpours on 6 and 14 February 2021. The said events also injured 17 people and damaged 294 homes. In relation to this, 357 became displaced.

In Central Java Province, flooding and landslides affected around 35,000 people and displaced 150 people on 10 February 2021. At least two people were killed and one went missing. Similarly, numerous floods and landslides wreaking havoc in West Java Province since 7 February 2021 caused difficulties to above 150,000 people and drove 64,000 away from their homes. There were nearly 40,000 buildings damaged.

**Source:** Floodlist. (2021, Feb 15). *Indonesia – 2 Dead, 16 Missing After Rain Triggers Landslide in East Java Province*; Floodlist. (2021, Feb 11). *Indonesia – Indonesia – 4 Dead, 1 Missing, 60,000 Displaced After Floods Across Java Island*.

### The Philippines

**Concerns grew as several volcanoes increased their activities.** Some people in the vicinities of Kanlaon Volcano and Taal Volcano were evacuated and many were strongly advised by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) to stay vigilant upon observing the rise in volcanic activities.

In the case of Kanlaon Volcano, a total of 28 volcanic earthquakes were reported during 11-13 February 2021 while the increase in gas emission and the slight inflation of the volcano slopes had been noticed since June 2020. Due to this, the public was firmly recommended not to enter the 4-kilometer radius from the volcano called the Permanent Danger Zone in fear of hazardous eruption.

Likewise, as many as 68 volcanic tremor episodes had been detected in the nearby area of Taal Volcano since 13 February 2021. As this activity signaled the increase in hydrothermal activity threatening the areas of Taal Volcano island, the authority took preemptive measures and evacuated around 60 people to the safer areas on 16 February 2021. This figure, however, could grow more as the evacuation has been underway.

**Source:** Philippine News Agency. (2021, Feb 16). *Preemptive evacuations conducted on Taal Volcano Island*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, Feb 16). *Rise in seismic activity, hotter crater lake recorded in Taal*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, Feb 14). *Eruption alert raised as Kanlaon Volcano grows restive*.

**Many thousands left their homes as heavy floods hit two provinces.** At least 8,500 residents in three provinces including Leyte, Eastern Samar and Davao del Norte were forced to flee their homes as a result of severe flooding in their residential areas on 10 February 2021.

Floods struck roughly 75 villages in Leyte and three in Eastern Samar, causing one person to drown and at least 2,500 to relocate into evacuation centres. Several

thousands became displaced. On the other hand, the proposal to declare a state of calamity in the town of Santo Tomas, Davao del Norte was brought up since a total of six barangays were stricken by flash floods on 14 February 2021, leaving over 6,000 displaced. To relieve the suffering, the local government dispatched many mobile disaster units to provide assistance for those whose houses were submerged in the water. Also, the task of evacuating more people to the safer places was put as a first priority.

**Source:** Philippine News Agency. (2021, Feb 15). *6K families displaced as flood hits DavNor town*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, Feb 11). *Leyte floods drown teen, displace thousands of families*.

## **Japan**

### **Recent M7.3 quake reminded Japan of the unprecedented quake a decade ago.**

The strong earthquake of magnitude 7.3 made people across the nation frightened as it struck Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures in the Tohoku region on 13 February 2021 only a few weeks before the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake. At least 100 people across six preferences namely Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Saitama and Chiba, were injured while many houses and building were damaged. No deaths were found.

The quake also caused power outages that affected more than 950,000 households, but this problem was quickly solved the day after. The nuclear power plants in the affected areas showed no major abnormal incidents. However, the people were advised to be cautious as several aftershocks with a magnitude of up to 6 were expected.

According to the Meteorological Agency official, the quake was believed to be an aftershock of the Great East Japan Earthquake that brought a deadly tsunami and nuclear disasters in March 2011.

**Source:** The Japan Times. (2021, Feb 14). *Powerful magnitude 7.3 earthquake jolts Tohoku area*.

## **Republic of Korea**

### **Small tremors shook the western coastal region of the ROK.**

The Korea Meteorological Administration reported that two minor earthquakes rattled Incheon on 10 February 2021, and North Jeolla on 15 February 2021 respectively. The magnitudes of these quakes ranged from 2.1 to 2.5 which were strong enough to make people in nearby areas feel the trembling. Fortunately, no serious damages were reported.

**Source:** Yonhap News Agency. (2021, Feb 15). *Minor quake hits S. Korea's western coastal region*; Yonhap News Agency. (2021, Feb 10). *Minor quake occurs in waters off western city of Incheon*.

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