



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

Ash engulfed communities in Indonesia as a powerful volcano erupted. Mount Merapi, the most active volcano in Indonesia located near City of Yogyakarta, violently erupted on the morning of 16 August 2021. The explosions set off trails of red lavas from its crater and sent a cloud of ash up 3.5 kilometres in the sky, blanketing several local communities in vicinity. There were no reports of any casualties or evacuation orders. However, the local residents were recommended not to enter the areas within five-kilometre radius from the volcano from the risk of lava flows.

Source: The Straits Times. (2021, Aug 16). *Indonesia volcano Mount Merapi erupts, blankets villages in ash.*

Thousands evacuated as floods ravaged Indonesia's provinces. From 14-16 August 2021, heavy rainfalls over South Kalimantan, North Sumatra and Aceh Provinces caused several local rivers to overflow, which then led to inundations. It affected 38,657 people along with 6,375 houses. Around 2,350 people, mostly in Tanah Bumbu Regency of South Kalimantan Province, had to flee from their homes to stay at two evacuation centres. No casualties were reported in any of these incidents.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Aug 16). *Indonesia, Flooding in Asahan Regency, North Sumatra*; AHA Centre. (2021, Aug 16). *Indonesia, Flooding in Batu Bara Regency, North Sumatra.* (2021, Aug 9-15). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 32.*

Myanmar

Three deaths were found after a flash flood swept through Myanmar's region. A flash flood triggered by heavy rainfalls during the monsoon season pounded Mogok Township in Myanmar's central Mandalay Region on the morning of 12 August 2021. As a result, three people were killed by a brick wall and power poles that collapsed down onto their home due to a strong flood current.

Source: Burma News International. (2021, Aug 13). *Three killed due to heavy rains.*

The Philippines

Two earthquakes jolted the Philippines. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) reported of two tectonic earthquakes with magnitudes of 7.1 and 5.7 hitting the Provinces of Davao Oriental and Batangas on 12 and 13 August 2021 respectively. The stronger quake struck 95 kilometres southeast of Municipality of Governor Generoso with a depth of 39 Kilometres, while the weaker one had an epicenter at 15 kilometres southwest of Calatagan Municipality. There were no major damages and casualties resulted from these events.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Aug 14). *Magnitude 5.7 quake hits Batangas*; Philippine News Agency. (2021, Aug 12). *Magnitude 7.1 quake jolts DavOr.*

Thailand

The northern province of Thailand encountered inundation. On 14 August 2021, northern Thailand's Chiang Rai Province experienced a flooding incident in Phaya Mengrai and Wiang Kaen Districts. The inundation affected 750 residents from 150 households in total and caused one road to be submerged. Fortunately, there was no report of deaths and injuries.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Aug 9-15). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 32.*

Viet Nam

A fatal landslide killed three in northern Viet Nam. Three construction workers were killed and one was wounded due to a heavy rain-induced landslide in the northern province of Quảng Ninh on 12 August 2021. The landslide hit and buried a group of six workers who were sleeping close to an embankment. Only two of them were able to escape safely.

Source: Viet Nam News. (2021, Aug 12). *Three people killed in landslide.*

China

An onslaught of central China extreme inundations raised the 'red alerts' in Hubei's cities. The catastrophic rain hit the central Chinese province of Hubei causing five cities declared 'red alerts.' Rainfalls increased the water in 774 reservoirs above the flood warning levels. Regarding this, flooding slaughtered a total of 21 people in Township of Liulin, part of City of Suizhou, one of the worst-hit areas in the province. In addition, inundations also forced nearly 6,000 people to evacuate from their homes, and caused destruction to above 3,600 houses and 8,110 hectares of crops. Electricity, transportations and communications in the province were disrupted as well. The disaster was estimated to incur economic losses of RMB 108 million (USD 16.64 million).

*1 USD = 6.49 RMB, as of 19 August 2021

Source: Reuters. (2021, Aug 13). *China cities declare rain 'red alerts' as flood death toll hits 21.*

Japan

Intense rains set off deadly mudslides in many areas of Japan. Torrential rainfalls caused 62 cases of mudslides in 17 prefectures along with activating the

overflow of 36 rivers in nine as reported on 16 August 2021.

Two particular mudslide events striking Nagasaki and Nagano Prefectures on 13 and 15 August 2021 collectively killed four people, injured two persons and caused two others to be missing. Another three people were reported missing in Hiroshima and Kumamoto Prefectures.

The heavy downpours prompted the local authorities on 15 August 2021 to issue the highest-level alerts covering about 1.83 million people in seven prefectures. More rainfalls were also forecast to continue battering areas from western to the northeastern parts of the country.

Source: The Japan Times. (2021, Aug 16). *Heavy rain continues in Japan as mudslides kill four and leave five missing.*

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