



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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### Indonesia

**Indonesian government will start enforcing a new regulation on rice price ceilings on September 1, 2017.** The price ceilings will only apply to the medium rice with 25 percent broken rice rate and premium rice with 15 percent broken rice rate. In all provinces of Java, Lampung and South Sumatra, Bali, West Nusa Tenggara and Sulawesi, the rice price ceiling for medium rice is 9,450 Rupiah (0.7 USD) per kilogram while for premium rice is 12,800 Rupiah (0.95 USD) per kilogram. In the rest of Sumatra's provinces, East Nusa Tenggara and Kalimantan, the rice price ceiling for medium rice is 9,950 Rupiah (0.74 USD) per kilogram while for premium rice is 13,300 Rupiah (0.99 USD) per kilogram. In Maluku and Papua, the rice price ceiling for medium rice is 10,250 Rupiah (0.76 USD) per kilogram while for premium rice is 13,600 Rupiah (1.01 USD) per kilogram.

\* 1 USD = 13,343 Rupiah

**Source:** The Jakarta Post. (2017, Aug 24). *New regulation on rice price ceilings to be applied starting Sept. 1.*

### Lao PDR

**Fourteen provinces have been impacted by Tropical Storm Sonca since the end of July to the beginning of August, causing heavy rain, landslides, and flooding.** Around 37,831 hectares of rice fields was inundated in flooded areas, including Phongsaly, Huaphan, Luang Namtha, Xieng Khuang, Oudomxay, Xayaboury, Vientiane, Borikhamxay, Khammuan, Savannakhet, Champassak, Saravan, Xekong and Attapeu. Oudomxay province suffered the most, especially four districts - Xay, La, Namor and Nga, with 371.29 hectares of rice fields was flooded. The total cost of damage in Oudomxay was over 26 billion Kip (3.1 million USD), reported provincial authorities.

\* 1 USD = 8,175.59 Lao Kip

**Source:** Vientiane Times. (2017, Aug 26). *Laos: Fourteen provinces impacted by tropical storm.*

**In the first six months of 2017, total value of Lao rice export has fallen to 11.2 million USD, a drop of 42 percent compared to the same period of 2016 with the figure of 19.4 million USD.** According to the challenges in improving productivity to achieve quality standards required for export and high interest rates on loans, including transportation and electricity costs. These have encouraged some rice farmers to grow other crops instead. However, the government has set the country's rice export target at 400,000 tonnes for 2017, focusing on black rice, kaynoi rice (Lao specialty rice) and fragrant rice while new improved varieties such as thadokkham, tasano, phonngam and hom are also in demand. Further, the state expects to raise Lao rice production to 5 million tonnes and increase the volume of rice exports to 1 million tonnes by 2020.

**Source:** Vientiane Times. (2017, Aug 24). *Laos: Rice export value plummets in Q2.*

**Source:** Buarapha, W. (2017, Aug 24). *LAOS' RICE EXPORTS DROP IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2017.* Vientiane Times.

## Myanmar

**400,000 acres of rice field was submerged by floods as of August 18, only around 90,000 acres have been destroyed.** Bago, Ayeyarwady, Magwe and Yangon regions have been the most affected by the floods during the rainy season, but water levels have almost receded. Nonetheless, Myanmar expects to export 4 million tonnes of rice by 2020. The country can meet this target as the floods did not significantly affect the cultivation of crops, said the government.

\* 1 acre = 0.4 hectare

**Source:** Su Phyo Win. (2017, Aug 28). *Floods destroy 90,000 acres of paddy field.* The Myanmar Times.

## Viet Nam

**Viet Nam plans to reform rice production to gain sustainable development in the production and export of rice.** According to the strategy for developing the country's rice export market in the 2017-2020 period with a vision to 2030, the annual rice export is expected to reach 4.5-5 million tonnes with the value around 2.2-2.3 billion USD per year by 2020 and reach 4 million tonnes with the value around 2.3-2.5 billion USD per year by 2021-2030, one of the goals is gradually reduce the rice export volume but increase the rice export value. Initially, the agricultural sector would focus on researching high-quality rice varieties and rice production technical package to reduce production cost, improve rice quality, protecting the environment, and ensure sustainable agricultural reforms, said the government.

**Source:** Viet Nam News. (2017, Aug 28). *VN to reform rice production, improve exports.*

## China

**China produced less rice in the first harvest period of 2017 compared to 2016, due to decreases in planting area and yield.** This 2017, China's early rice planting area stood at 5.46 million hectares, 2.8 percent less than 2016, and yield edged down 0.4 percent to 5.81 tonnes per hectare. The falling planting area was due to an inadequacy of rural labor, improved agricultural structure and crop rotation, and the decline of the yield per hectare was mainly due to meteorological disasters, said the statistician of National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) - an agency under the government of China.

**Source:** Xinhua. (2017, Aug 26). *China's early rice yield drops.*

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\* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Rice Situations is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.