Spot report: Flooding in Laos affected 33 people died and 280,000 families displaced

Background

Tropical Storm (TS) Podul made landfall in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR), bringing rainfall and winds which has caused flooding in six provinces in the southern part of the country. Later on, tropical depression Kajiki slammed into the area one after the other last week, dumping and estimated 40 centimeters of rain in parts of southern Laos. The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA) reported that the flood affected 397,000 people across the 6 provinces of Khammouan, Savannakhet, Champasak, Saravan, Sekong, and Attapeu.

The worst hit areas are the provinces of Champasak, where over 116,000 have been affected, and Sekong 121,700 affected. Elsewhere, over 32,000 have been affected in Khammouan, 36,000 in Savannakhet, 60,000 in Saravan and 29,000 in Attapeu. Fatalities were reported in Savannakhet, Champasak, Saravan, Sekong, and Attapeu. Houses were damaged or destroyed including 28 in Khammouan and 9 in Sekong. Around 88,000 people have been displaced in Khammouan (4,000), Savannakhet (24,000), Champasak (30,000), Saravan (30,000), Sekong, and Attapeu. Hundreds of schools have been closed as 102,000 people have been displaced and 150,000 hectares of farmland have been lost. Many roads are inaccessible and at least 37 houses have been damaged as well. Champassak, Laos’ most southwestern province, has been the worst hit, with one-third of the affected people living there. Roads, banks and highway 13 are all flooded.

Actions Taken

Laos’ central and provincial governments have made efforts to help flood victims move to higher ground, while using boats and helicopters to deliver food and drinking water, but some local authorities and affected villagers confirmed in interviews with RFA’s Lao Service that aid still isn’t reaching many locations inaccessible by road traffic.
ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS –

Severity ranking of the concerns effect in the ASEAN region.

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<td>Flooding in Laos affected 33 people died and 280,000 families displaced</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>The national assistances have reached the affected area.</td>
<td>The ACMM keep on monitoring and update medical information.</td>
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Remarks:
R: Severe Situation: Urgent intervention required.
Y: Situation of concern: Surveillance or assistance may or may not require, intensive monitoring
G: Relative normal situation or local Government can cope with the crisis, monitoring and no action required.
N/A: Lack of/unreliable data: Further assessment required.

ACMM Recommendations,

According to the circumstances, the ACMM is monitoring the situation closely for providing update information to member countries.

References:
1. https://www.AHAcenter.org
2. https://reliefweb.com