



IMMEDIATE IMPACT

14-KM DANGER ZONE
COVERING 15 TOWNS AROUND THE
VOLCANO IN THE PROVINCES ON
BATANGAS AND CAVITE

EFFECTS OF ASH FALL
THREAT TO HEALTH, ESPECIALLY
RESPIRATORY; CLOSURE OF MANILA
AIRPORT (UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE);
TRAFFIC DISRUPTION; CLASSES AND
WORK SUSPENSION

[LEFT PHOTO]: Taal Volcano Location

Source: ASEAN DMRS

[RIGHT PHOTO]: Extent of Ash Plume

Source: Himawari-8 Satellite

Philippines

- The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology ([PHIVOLCS](#)) raised the alert level of Taal Volcano, located about 60-km south of Manila (left photo above), to Alert Level 4 yesterday, 12 January 2020 at 1830h. Alert Level 4 means that a hazardous explosive eruption is possible within hours or days. Intense unrest began with steam-driven activities inside the main crater yesterday afternoon, which progressed into magmatic eruption – characterised by weak lava fountain accompanied by lightning and thunder, early this morning.
- Intensified eruptive activities in the main crater generated a 10 to 15-km steam-laden tephra column, with frequent volcanic lightning. The plume (right photo above) resulted to ash fall, reportedly reaching as far as north of Manila. A total of 75 volcanic earthquakes were recorded within the area, as of 0400h today. According to PHIVOLCS, such intense seismic activities probably signify continuous magmatic intrusion beneath the edifice, which may lead to further eruptive activity.
- Based on historical records, Taal Volcano erupted 33 times since 1572 prior to this event, with the last eruption on October 1977. While there were occasional unrests in the years that follow, increase in volcanic activities leading to this eruption started to be observed in March 2019.
- The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council ([NDRRMC](#)) advised concerned regional centres to closely monitor the situation and take appropriate actions. Evacuation of residents near the volcano are being conducted by local authorities.
- Authorities advised the general public of ash fall-related health hazards, and recommended staying indoors. N95 face masks are reportedly experiencing a shortage in Metro Manila. Due to the ash plume, Manila Airport was ordered closed until further notice. Reopening might commence once Manila airspace clears and deemed safe for aircrafts. Local authorities also announced suspension of classes and work in areas near the volcano, and those affected by the ash fall.
- The NDRRMC Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) conducted a coordination meeting with relevant stakeholders this morning. Coordination lines with subnational authorities are continuous, and updates from the field are relayed accordingly.
- Current Government priority is evacuation of residents inside the danger zone and management of evacuation centres. At present, the management of this event is still within local capacities.
- The AHA Centre is continuously monitoring the event and will issue updates should there be any significant development.

DATA SOURCES

AHA Centre Disaster Monitoring & Response System (DMRS);
ASEAN Disaster Information Network;
Pacific Disaster Center (PDC Global);
Philippines: National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
Council (NDRRMC); Philippine Institute of Volcanology and
Seismology (PHIVOLCS)
Himawari-8 Satellite

DISCLAIMER

The AHA Centre was established in November 2011
by the Association of South East Asian National
(ASEAN) and ASEAN member states to facilitate
cooperation and coordination among the Parties,
relevant agencies of the United Nations and
international organisations in disaster

management and humanitarian assistance.

The use of boundaries, geographic names, related
information and potential considerations for response
are for reference, not warranted to be error free or
implying official endorsement from ASEAN Member
States.

© 2020 AHA Centre.
All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email
because you are registered in
our distribution list.

Our mailing address is:
AHA Centre,
GRAHA BNPB 13th Floor,
Jl. Raya Pramuka Kav. 38,
Jakarta 13120 Indonesia