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ECHO DAILY FLASH

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations

23 January 2020

I. International

China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea - Novel Corona virus (DG ECHO,WHO, media)

- Xinhua news reports a total of 580 confirmed cases for novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) globally as of 23 January. Of the 580 cases reported, 571 cases are in China and Thailand (3), Japan (1), South Korea (1), United States (1), Macao (1), Taiwan (1), and Hong Kong (1).
- A team from the World Health Organisation (WHO) is in China working with local experts and officials to investigate the outbreak. WHO's emergency committee announced it would not yet declare a global emergency for the new virus but will decide during its meeting of 23 January whether or not to declare a public health emergency of international concern.
- The Chinese authorities have suspended planes and trains in and out of Wuhan, a city of 11 million people on 23 January.

Mozambique - Severe weather update (INAM, UN OCHA, media)

- Heavy rain, widespread floods and strong winds have been affecting Zambezia, Cabo Delgado and Sofala provinces since December 2019, resulting in an increasing number of casualties and damage.
- According to UN OCHA, as of 21 January, the number of fatalities has increased to 28, with another 66 people injured and more than 58,000 affected, 17,432 in Zambezia, 13,169 in Cabo Delgado and 6,328 in Sofala. More than 10,200 houses have been damaged or destroyed, 47 schools affected and several bridges damaged.
- The National Institute of Disaster Management of Mozambique (INGC), who is in the lead of the response, is providing emergency and medical assistance. 10,000 people are sheltering in Zambezia Province and 137,000 received 367 tents and food in Cabo Delgado.
- More rain is forecast over central and northern provinces over the next 24 hours.

Philippines - Volcanic eruption update (GDACS, DROMIC, NDRRMC, PHIVOLCS, Copernicus EMS)

- According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Technology (PHIVOLCS), Taal volcano continues to witness weak to moderate white steam-laden plumes up to 500 metres above its main crater.
- The national Disaster Response Operations Monitoring and Information Centre (DROMIC) have counted more than 266,000 people displaced (147,873 sheltered in 500 evacuation centres) and 316,989 affected in Calabarzon Region.
- The level 4 alert and mandatory evacuation order for people within a 14 km radius from the main crater and along the Pansipit River Valley remain in effect.
- The EU's Copernicus emergency satellite mapping service was activated on 13 January and 3 maps have been produced.

Australia - Bush fires update (Australian Government, JRC GWIS, media)

- New South Wales (NSW), including the Greater Sydney Region, eastern Victoria, South Australia, and the Australian Capital Territory continue to be affected by bush fires.
- According to the Crisis Coordination Centre of the Australian Government on 23 January, 32 people have died, 24 in NSW, 5 in Victoria and 3 in South Australia. 3 American firefighters died on 23 January when their water bomber plane crashed during operations in the Snowy Monaro Local Government Area (NSW).
- Around 10.65 million hectares have been reportedly burnt, and 3,012 houses destroyed. The most affected is the NSW with more than 5.3 million hectares burnt and more than 2,300 houses destroyed. Ongoing bushfires near Canberra airport resulted in the preventative evacuation and grounding of a number of flights.
- Over the next 24 hours, according to the EU's Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS), the fire risk will remain moderate to extreme across NSW, Canberra, eastern Victoria, and eastern South Australia and very low to low in central-southern Victoria and southern South Australia.

II. Europe

Spain and France - Severe weather update (COGIC, AEMET, Meteo France, Copernicus EMS, media)

- Heavy snow and rain, strong winds, very low temperatures and storm surge has been affecting northern and eastern mainland Spain, the Balearic Islands and southern France since 19 January.
- In Spain, Catalonia and Valencia have witnessed the worst of the weather. 3 people have died in Valencia (1 in Gandia, 1 in Carc aixent and 1 in Moixent municipalities) and 3 in Avila, Alicante and Almería provinces. 4 people are missing on the Balearic Islands, Girona Province.
- In France, there has been river flooding in the Pyrénées-Orientales, Aude, Ariège, and Haute-Garonne departments. 2,000 people have been preventively evacuated across the Pyrénées-Orientales and Aude. Approximately 27,000 homes remain without electricity, and several roads (including the A9 highway France-Spain) are closed due to snow.
- Orange warnings for rain have been issued over southern and north-east Spain and red warnings for floods over the French Pyrénées-Orientales and Aude departments.
- The EU's Copernicus emergency satellite mapping service was activated on 22 January for Occitanie Region in France at the request of the French authorities.

Meteoalarm - As of 23 January, 8.00 UTC (EUMETNET)

- On 23-24 January: Red Alert for floods in southeastern **France**.

Floods and flood warnings during the last 24 hours reported by national services (European Flood Awareness System - EFAS)

- France:** Warning level 3/3 for 2 sections and 2/3 for 6 sections in South East.

III. Factsheets

Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)

- The Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) has a fully staffed and trained duty system. Around-the-clock presence ensures real time monitoring and immediate reaction day and night.
- The centre can identify eventual gaps in European assistance and propose how these gaps can be covered, through financial support from the EU.
- In 2019 the EU strengthen the collective European response to disasters via the development of a reserve capacity, known as the scEU reserve, and to be used as last resort when Member States' capacities are already fully used.
https://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/emergency-response-coordination-centre-ercc_en

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