



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

**No. 358**  
**6 – 12 March 2024**

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### Indonesia

**Floods and landslides claimed dozens of lives in West Sumatra province.** Torrential rains triggered floods and landslides in West Sumatra province, Indonesia on 7 March 2024 raising a death toll to 32. According to the National Disaster Mitigation Agency, these catastrophic disasters damaged over 1,500 houses, more than 50 worship centres, and over 10 roads. In the meantime, more than 70,000 residents had to evacuate to safer areas. Due to this, there were five out of province's 12 regencies declaring a state of disaster emergency.

**Sources:** The Star. (2024, Mar 12). *Death toll from western Indonesia floods and landslides rises to 32.*

### The Philippines

**Taal volcano's sulfuric gas emission covered parts of Batangas province.** Taal volcano emitted 6,837 tonnes of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) gas per day on 11 March 2024. The vog covered parts of municipalities of Agoncillo, Laurel, Balete, Sta. Teresita, Calaca, Mabini, Mataasnakahoy, Lemery, San Nicolas, and

Talisay in Batangas province, potentially leading to health risks including eye and respiratory tract irritation. In relation to the situation, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology issued Alert Level 1, indicating an abnormal condition.

**Sources:** ABS-CBN News. (2024, Mar 12). *Vog alert up in Batangas towns as Taal volcano emits sulfur dioxide.*

### China

**A 5.5-magnitude quake hit Zadoi county in China's Qinghai province.** An earthquake of magnitude 5.5, with a depth of 10 km, struck Zadoi county in Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, in northwest China's Qinghai province on 7 March 2024. However, there were no casualties or property damages according to the China Earthquake Network Center.

**Sources:** Xinhua. (2024, Mar 7). *5.5-magnitude quake hits NW China's Qinghai, no casualties reported.*

### Japan

**Hokkaido avalanche killed two foreign skiers.** An avalanche struck Mount Yotei in Hokkaido on 11 March 2024. Among the group of six skiers, three people, identified as New Zealand nationals, were caught on the northern slope, slightly above the midpoint of the mountain. Tragically, two of them lost their lives while another sustained injury.

**Sources:** Japan Today. (2024, Mar 12). *2 dead in Hokkaido avalanche identified as New Zealanders.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat  
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840  
Email: [bussapailyn@apterr.org](mailto:bussapailyn@apterr.org)  
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

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