



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

No. 419

21 - 27 May 2025

Indonesia

A strong earthquake jolted Indonesia's Sumatra Island. On 23 May 2025, a magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck Bengkulu province on Sumatra Island, damaging at least 100 homes. Some residents were injured but no fatalities were reported. The police and military established camps for affected people and remained on alert for possible aftershocks. Local authorities also assisted residents with repair and rebuilding efforts. The epicentre of the quake was located 43 kilometres southwest of Bengkulu city with no potential to trigger a tsunami.

Source: Antara. (2025, May 23). *6.3-magnitude quake strikes Bengkulu, damages hundred homes.*

Malaysia

Strong rain and storm rattled Malaysia. On 24 May 2025, heavy rain and storm damaged 89 houses in Felda Lui Barat, and Kampung Baru Ayer Hitam in Jempol district, Negeri Sembilan state of Malaysia. A total of 252 people from 68 families were affected. A temporary evacuation centre was later opened at Sekolah Menengah

Kebangsaan Lui Barat to shelter those affected

Source: The Star. (2025, May 25). *Storm damages over 80 houses near Jempol.*

Philippines

Mild earthquakes struck several parts of the Philippines. A 4.6-magnitude earthquake jolted Quezon province and other areas in Luzon Island including Metro Manila on 27 May 2025. There were at least 19 aftershocks detected. Classes at Our Lady of Fatima University campuses in Valenzuela and Quezon city, work in Calamba city, and public transportation in Manila were briefly suspended. However, no major damage was initially recorded. Earlier, on 26 May 2025, a 5.0-magnitude earthquake at a depth of 82 kilometres hit Davao Occidental province with no damages reported.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2025, May 26). *Magnitude 5 earthquake hits Davao Occidental*; Philippine News Agency. (2025, May 27). *OCD: No major damage from Luzon quake.*

Thailand

Chiang Rai province experienced severe flooding. Continuous heavy rains throughout the night caused the Sai River in Mae Sai district, northern Thailand's Chiang Rai province to overflow, and flooded several communities on 24 May 2025. Many homes were submerged, forcing residents to evacuate. In some areas, floodwater reached depths of 0.5 to 1 metre. Authorities closely monitored the situation. Meanwhile, the First Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge was temporarily closed to facilitate the clearing of debris and improve water flow.

Source: The Nation. (2025, May 24). *Residents evacuate as downpour causes flooding in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai.*

China

Landslides and mudslide in China left 10 dead. Landslides on 22 May 2025 in Changshi and Guowa township in Bijie city, southwest China's Guizhou province killed four people while 17 others remained trapped. The provincial authority activated a Level II emergency response for geological disasters. Similarly, a mountain torrent and mudslide struck Sanshe village in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 23 May 2025, causing six deaths and two others missing. The mudslide also damaged 10 houses. Search and rescue teams were deployed to carry out rescue operations. In response to heavy rainfall in southern regions of the country, China's flood control authorities later activated Level-IV emergency response measures in Jiangxi and Guizhou provinces, as well as the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 27 May 2025.

Source: Xinhua. (2025, May 22). *Death toll rises to 4 in SW China landslides*; Xinhua. (2025, May 25). *Death toll rises to 6 in south China mountain torrent*; Xinhua. (2025, May 27). *China activates emergency response to floods in several regions.*

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