



# WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

**No. 458**

**11 – 17 March 2026**

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## Indonesia

### **5.3-magnitude earthquake hit West Java in Indonesia.**

On 13 March 2026, a 5.3-magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of West Java, Indonesia, with tremors felt across several areas, including Cianjur, Sukabumi, Bandung, Cimahi, and Bogor. The strongest shaking, reaching level IV on the Modified Mercalli Intensity scale, was recorded in the Cidolog and Cirap areas. However, no building damage was reported, and the earthquake did not trigger a tsunami.

**Source:** Tempo. (2026, Mar 13). *M5.3 Quake Off Sukabumi Felt Across West Java, No Tsunami Risk.*

## Malaysia

### **Floods and landslides submerged Malaysia.**

Prolonged heavy rainfall triggered floods and landslides in eastern Malaysia. As of 13 March 2026, a total of 320 people were evacuated across the Sabah State, including 300 in five evacuation centres in the Paitan district due to flooding, and 20 in one evacuation centre in Sandakan due to landslides. Since the beginning of the incidents in Sabah and Sarawak, nearly

1,650 people were affected. Further rainfall was expected across eastern Malaysia.

**Source:** ReliefWeb. (2026, Mar 13). *Malaysia-Floods and landslides, update (ADINet, Met Malaysia) (ECHO Daily Flash of 13 March 2026)-Malaysia.*

## Philippines

### **Mount Kanlaon eruption forced school closures in the Philippines.**

Mount Kanlaon erupted on 15 March 2026, sending a plume of ash and gas around 5,000 metres into the air and affecting several communities, including Bago City, La Castellana, and Canlaon City in the Philippines. According to the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council as of 16 March, there were no reports of casualties, damage, or displaced people. Classes were suspended in Himamaylan City, Hinigaran, Binalbagan, and Isabela. The volcano remained under Alert Level 2, indicating ongoing unrest, with the possibility of further steam-driven eruptions, rockfalls, and hazardous ashfall. Local authorities distributed face masks to affected residents, and entry into the 4-kilometre permanent danger zone around the crater was strictly prohibited.

**Source:** Daily Tribune. (2026, Mar 16). *Kanlaon eruption triggers ashfall, Negros class suspension.*

## China

### **Powerful cold front brought snow and sandstorms in China.**

An intense cold front moved eastward across China from 12 to 15 March 2026, bringing severe snow and sandstorms, with temperatures in northwest China expected to drop by more than 20 degrees Celsius. The heaviest snowfall was forecast for 13 and 14 March, affecting parts of Qinghai, Gansu, Shaanxi, and Shanxi provinces, with some areas bracing for heavy to severe snow. On 12 March, parts of the Xinjiang Uygur, Ningxia Hui, and Inner Mongolia autonomous regions, as well as

Gansu and Qinghai provinces, were forecast to experience blowing or floating dust.

**Source:** Vietnam News. (2026, Mar 13). *Cold front sweeps east across China, bringing snow and sandstorms.*

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*\* This Weekly Update on Natural Disasters in ASEAN Plus Three is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication.*