



Massive floods in Indonesia

Flooding in Indonesia on November to early December, 2025

Massive floods in Indonesia represent one of the most devastating disaster events in the country's history. In November 2025, several provinces were severely affected, particularly in Sumatra, including Aceh, north Sumatra, and west Sumatra. The event was classified as a wet hydrometeorological disaster, with flooding and landslides as the predominant impacts. These devastations were triggered by prolonged and accumulated extreme rainfall.

Damage and losses

Impact on the affected area

Multiple sectors were affected across the impacted regions, with consequences most evident in humanitarian impacts, including fatalities and missing persons. The disaster severely disrupted livelihoods, caused significant damage to the agricultural sector, and affected food crops, horticulture, plantations, and livestock. Critical infrastructure, including houses, schools, educational institutions, bridges, roads, and health facilities, was also damaged. Flooding affected a total of 18 provinces, with Aceh, north Sumatra, and west Sumatra experiencing the most extensive damage and disruption, according to the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). Reports indicate that the total number of fatalities reached 986 people, highlighting the urgent need for sustained emergency response and long-term recovery efforts.

Moreover, approximately 80,000 hectares of rice fields were affected, representing about 1.09 percent of the country's total rice cultivation area. Despite this limited national impact, localized declines in rice production are anticipated in the affected regions, particularly around February–March 2026, according to Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia.

Currently, estimates of losses to food stocks and warehouse inventories are not yet available, as government efforts remain focused on emergency response, logistics distribution, and the provision of essential supplies to evacuees.

Agricultural devastation

Agricultural land:

- Several provinces and regions were affected by the disaster, with total damaged areas amounting to 400,062 hectares. The most significantly impacted provinces and regions are detailed below:
 - Aceh affected 333,262 hectares (83% lost).
 - North Sumatra affected 54,095 hectares (14% lost).
 - West Sumatra affected around 1 hectare (1% lost).
 - The rest were recorded to lost around 7,467 hectares, including south Sumatra, Lampung, west Java, Banten, East Java, central Java, Bali, west Kalimantan, south Kalimantan, southeast Sulawesi, west Sulawesi, north Sulawesi, and south Sulawesi.

Affected crops:

- Several crops were affected, with total reduction of production volume in field amounting to 1.09 million tons. Details are as follows:
 - Oil palm reduced 404,555 tons (37% reduced).
 - Paddy reduced 394,642 tons (36% reduced).
 - Arabica coffee reduced 83,562 tons (8% reduced)
 - The rest were recorded to lost around 207,874 tons, e.g. maize, cassava, cocoa.

Government responses and countermeasures

In response to the severe floods and landslides, the Indonesian government rapidly deployed national disaster response teams, established emergency shelters, and mobilized logistics support, despite challenges such as damaged roads that slowed evacuations and aid delivery. Recovery efforts focus on rehabilitating critical infrastructure, restoring electricity and sanitation services, rebuilding homes, and supporting affected communities with temporary shelters and essential supplies.

To safeguard food security, the government is assisting farmers with replanting rice, restoring agricultural land and irrigation systems, and supplying food from other regions until local production recovers. Financial relief measures, including the waiver of Kredit Usaha Rakyat (KUR) loans for affected farmers, have also been introduced.

Indonesia has stated that it can manage the disaster response independently and has not declared a national emergency, while expressing appreciation for international concern. Limited international assistance has been received, including medical aid from Malaysia, emergency funding from the European Union, support from UN partners, and relief supplies and connectivity services provided by humanitarian organizations and private companies.

Sources:

1. ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council
2. Recapitulation of Disaster Impacts, the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). <https://gis.bnpb.go.id/BANSORSUMATERA2025/>
3. Prabowo will write off KUR debts of Aceh farmers affected by the disaster, Tempo. <https://www.tempo.co/ekonomi/prabowo-akan-hapus-utang-kur-petani-aceh-yang-kena-bencana-2096744>