



## Hundreds Dead and Missing in Flooding Across South East Asia

Hundreds of people have been reported dead or missing across Southeast Asia after some of the heaviest rainfall in decades swept through the region. Monsoon rains, intensified by tropical storms, have triggered some of the worst flooding in years, affecting millions in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. On Indonesia's Sumatra island, the death toll has risen past 300, with fears it may climb further as dozens remain unaccounted for. As of Saturday, Thailand had reported 160 deaths, while Malaysia has also recorded several fatalities.

The events underline the region's growing exposure to climate related hazards. Longer periods of intense rainfall and rapid weather shifts continue to strain infrastructure and limit response capacity. Emergency teams remain active, yet the situation shows how vital early warning systems and nature-based protections have become.

As recovery begins, the focus now turns to practical steps that strengthen resilience.



## COP30 Seals Uneasy Climate Deal That Sidesteps Fossil Fuels

Global climate talks in Belém ended with a major commitment to increase support for countries most exposed to climate change. Nations agreed to triple global funding for climate adaptation by 2035, raising annual support from about \$40 billion dollars to nearly \$120 billion dollars. The decision marks a stronger shift toward long term resilience.

Climate experts welcomed the move as an encouraging sign that higher income countries will expand assistance for communities already facing rising seas, drought, and severe weather. While the target will not solve every challenge, it can help developing nations build safer infrastructure, improve climate smart agriculture, and protect essential ecosystems.

The real measure of success will be delivery. This pledge must become practical action that reaches people quickly and transparently. If countries follow through, the increased funding can support a more secure and climate resilient future for those who need it most, analysts said.



## China Opens First Coal-to-Chemicals Plant Powered in Part by Green Hydrogen

In a notable clean-tech milestone, China has started up its first coal-to-chemicals plant powered in part by green hydrogen. The new facility in Inner Mongolia integrates a 150 MW wind and solar farm to produce emissions-free hydrogen for use in turning coal into fuels and chemicals. The plant is slated to yield about 70 million cubic meters of green hydrogen annually. Traditionally, coal-to-chemicals processes generate substantial CO<sub>2</sub>, but by substituting green hydrogen (made from renewable electricity) for coal-derived hydrogen, the project aims to cut emissions significantly.

## 300 deaths

More than 300 people have died on Indonesia's Sumatra island due to severe flooding

## \$120 billion

At COP30, countries committed to triple climate adaptation funding to nearly \$120 billions a year by 2035

## 70 mcm

China's first coal-to-chemicals plant will yield 70 mcm of green hydrogen a year