

Severe flood hit Indonesia

Severe floods in northern Indonesia have left at least 13 people dead and driven tens of thousands of others from their homes in recent days. Landslides and rising waters have cut off several villages in one district of the province of North Sulawesi province, leaving about 1,000 residents stranded. Heavy rains started drenching the region Tuesday (1/14) and have resulted in about 40,000 people leaving their homes to seek temporary shelter. Most of the deaths in North Sulawesi were reported Wednesday (1/15). Heavy rains have also caused deadly landslides and flooding this week on the southern Philippines island of Mindanao -- roughly 500 kilometers (320 miles) north of North Sulawesi. A low pressure area has battered parts of Mindanao with wind and rain since the weekend, leaving 26 people dead and displacing more than 200,000.