Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss.,
doi:10.5194/nhess-2017-58-RC2, 2017

Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences
Discussions

Interactive comment on "The influence of antecedent conditions on flood risk in sub-Saharan Africa" *by* Konstantinos Bischiniotis et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 26 April 2017

Dear authors and editors,

I evaluated this paper exploring the use of SPEI and 7-days antecedent precipitation as indicators of damage triggering floods in the sub-Saharan Africa.

If I put the glasses and look at the manuscript in the viewpoint of an NGO looking for an assessment about this topic, then I would be rather satisfied with this report.

As contribution for the scientific community this manuscript: - lacks of rigorous description of the data sources and their limitations; - makes in my opinion wrong use of the term "lead time" in many sections; - has a rather small sample; - do not looks at missed events; - presents a very simplistic descriptive statistical evaluation; - poorly

acknowledges recent effort in seasonal forecasting (e.g. http://www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci.net/special_issue824.html).

Concerning the missed events, have you tried to obtain information about events not-reported in the Münich-RE report, but being taxed as potential flooding in FPU with less than 5 events?

I am generally very positive with respect to pragmatic approaches like this, but here I have the feeling that here more efforts are needed in order to better support the statements concerning the potential of this method as a early indicator of floods.

Please consider also the comments in the PDF

Best regards

Please also note the supplement to this comment:
http://www.nat-hazards-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/nhess-2017-58/nhess-2017-58-RC2-supplement.pdf

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., doi:10.5194/nhess-2017-58, 2017.