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Interactive comment on "Efficient GIS-based model-driven method for flood risk management and its application in central China" *by* Y. Liu et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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General comments

Overall, the manuscript describes the framework of a DSS (decision support system) that can be used for flood risk management. I agree with the authors that efficient ways are currently needed to manage flood risk and support decisions. This is definitely of high importance to communities and countries worldwide. From that perspective, the topic addressed is both interesting and important. In addition the system that is described is comprehensive and contains several state-of-the-art elements. Unfortunately though the manuscript at its current form does not support sufficiently the claimed novelties of the system. In my opinion considerable work is needed to a) present better to readers the main elements (mostly conceptual but also technical) of the system and b) demonstrate the claimed superiority relative to simpler systems.

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Below I provide a list with major comments that in my opinion need to be addressed before the manuscript is eligible for publication.

Major Comments

âĂć Language errors (both grammar and syntax) are a major issue. In many cases text is confusing due to language errors. Since the manuscript is mainly descriptive, language has a strong control on the amount and clarity of information that is passed to the reader. âĂć From the abstract you state "The main innovation is the application of model-driven concepts. . ..". My opinion is that these "model-driven concepts" are not adequately and clearly described. For example you state: "Model-driven method is a recent trend in software engineering whose main proposal is to focus on models rather than on computer programs". What do you mean exactly? Is the main topic of the manuscript about software engineering OR about a methodological/conceptual framework? âĂć Evaluation of the system is needed to show that the system works properly. Currently you are just presenting an example, which shows that system is functioning at an operational level. This is good but it does not provide evidence to justify the claimed efficiency of the system. How is this system superior from other simpler DSS? Can you provide an example showing how this system supports decision in a more efficient way?

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 1, 1535, 2013.

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