AUTHOR COMMENTS

We would like to thank the reviewer for his/her constructive comments. We have responded and amended the manuscript as described below.

ANONYMOUS REFEREE #1

Major item 1

Authors put stress on the number of victims by the Typhoon Haiyan. However the readers cannot judge whether it is high or low, because of no review on the other storm surge disasters. Authors are recommended to make comparison among recent storm surges and the disasters occurred in East Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, USA, etc., and to give objective description on the magnitude of the Haiyan's disaster.

Author's response

We agree that a clear picture on the impact of Haiyan must be described in the paper. We have included a comment on this matter in the introduction to highlight the magnitude of Typhoon Haiyan disaster in comparison with previous events in the world.

Author's changes in manuscript

Added in the introduction:

As a reference, Haiyan is the strongest cyclone since the year 2000, with 1-minute sustained wind speed over 300 km/h. Among Category 5 cyclones since 2000, only Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh caused more casualties than those from the Super Typhoon Haiyan (Table 1). Cyclone Nargis is not considered in this table because is of Category 4, however the number of casualties was very large.

Table 1: List of Tropical Cyclones of Category 5 Saffir–Simpson Scale with fatalities recorded in the 21st century. [P1SW]: Peak 1-minute sustained wind in km/h; [NAO]:North Atlantic Ocean; [EPO]:Eastern Pacific Ocean; [WNPO]:Western North Pacific Ocean; [NIO]:North Indian Ocean; [SWIO]:South-West Indian Ocean; [AR]:Australian Region; [SPO]:South Pacific Ocean.

Name	Year	P1SW	Fatalities	Area
Hary	2002	260	4	SWIO
Kenna	2002	270	4	EPO
Inigo	2003	260	58	AR
Heta	2003	260	2	SPO
Isabel	2003	270	16	NAO
Gafilo	2004	260	237	SWIO
Ivan	2004	270	91	NAO
Katrina	2005	280	1833	NAO
Rita	2005	285	125	NAO
Wilma	2005	295	63	NAO
Dean	2007	280	40	NAO
Gonu	2007	270	78	NIO
Sidr	2007	260	15,000	NIO
Rick	2009	285	3	EPO
Ului	2010	260	1	SPO
Megi	2010	295	69	WNPO
Sanba	2012	285	6	WNPO
Phailin	2013	260	45	NIO
Haiyan	2013	315	6268	WNPO
Marie	2014	260	3	EPO
Vongfong	2014	285	9	WNPO

Major item 2 (p.8, l.10)

What kinds of storm warnings were given to the residents? Precise description of the warnings is necessary to be given in the manuscript to understand what happened.

Author's response

To clarify the process of warning and information given to the population a paragraph was added at the end of the "Overview of the survey" section, where we describe people's reaction and lack of evacuation despite the available warnings

Author's changes in manuscript

Added section:

The warning information of Haiyan was issued by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) officially through a Weather Advisory at 11:00am on November 5 and then upgraded to a Sever Weather bulletin on November 6. This information was transfer to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and from here to national, regional and local offices in charge of convey population to evacuation. The estimations of PAGASA were accurate and distributed 18 hours before the landfall in Guiuan. Still, fatalities were reported due to a delayed evacuation.

Minor item 1 (p.4 ls. 19-20)

Duplication with line 7 to 10 in page 3

Author's response

The information is purposely replicated in these two sections: (1) as part of the introduction to the topic of the paper (p.3 - lines 7 to 10), and (2) when the details of the overview of impacts from Typhoon Haiyan are described (p.4 - lines 19-20).

Author's changes in manuscript

No modification was made.

Minor item 2 (Fig. 5 to 7)

The characters in the figure are too small and less contrast to read

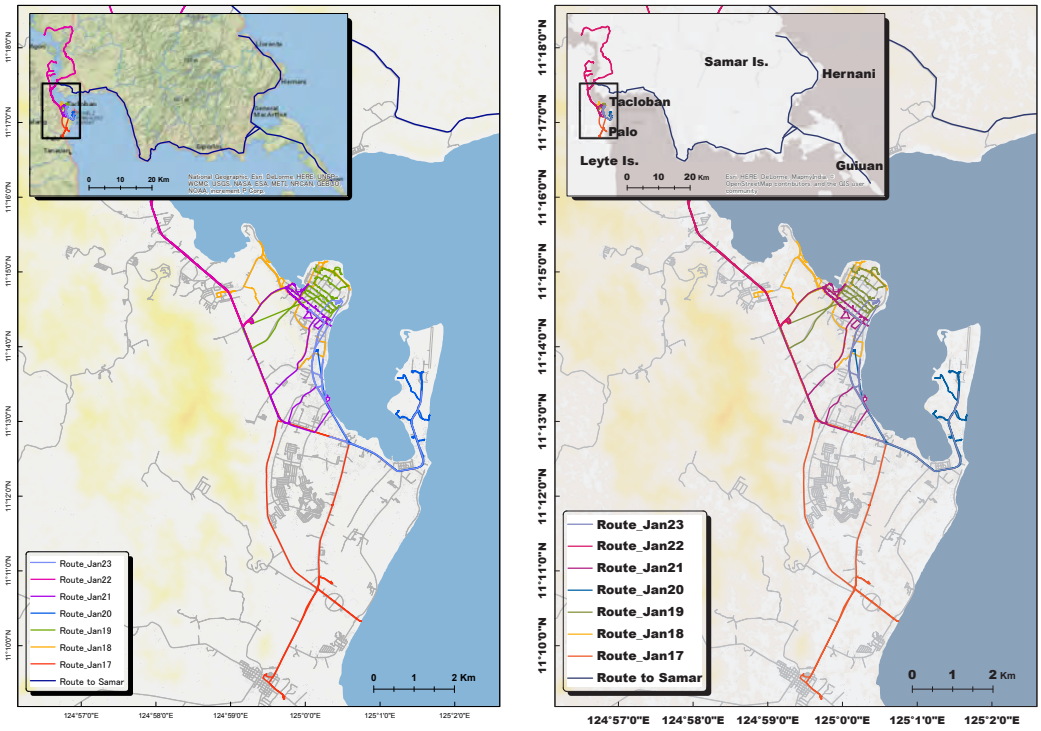
Author's response

Thank you for the accurate recommendation. The image was changed as shown below.

Author's changes in manuscript

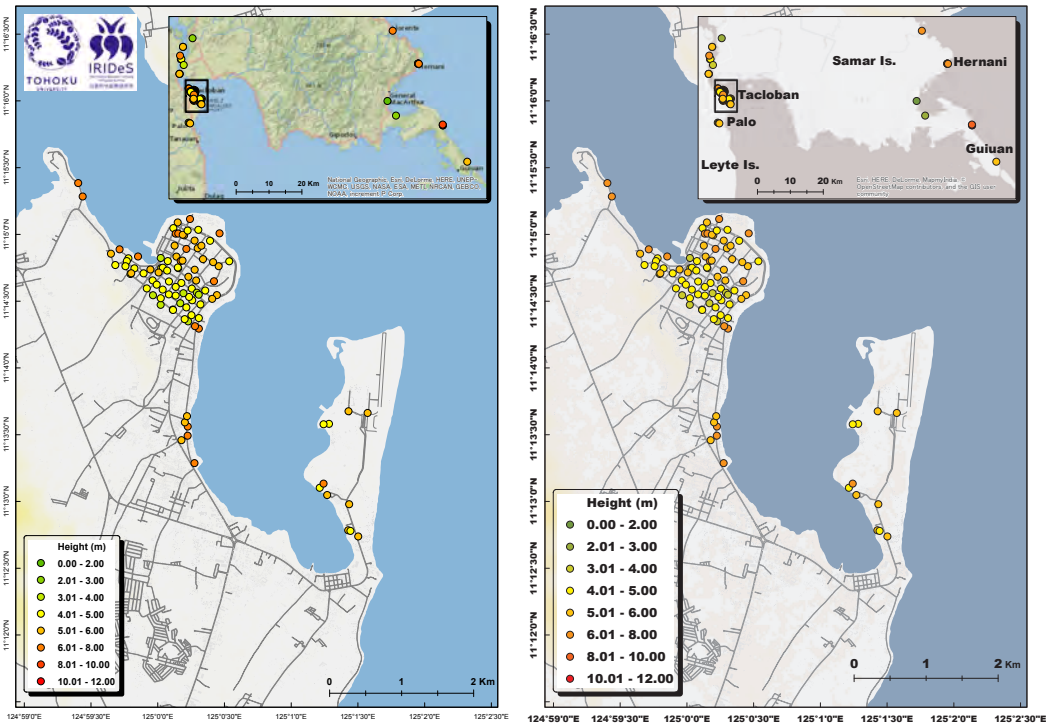
Figure 5 Before and After:

Figure 6 Before and After:



In addition, other annotations in all figures were increased for better visibility.

Figure 7 Before and After:



Minor item 3 (Fig. 7)

"Level" in the figure caption could be "Height" according to the note in the figure.

Author's response

Thank you for the accurate recommendation. The caption was corrected.

Author's changes in manuscript

Caption Before:

Level of storm surge inundation (Leyte Is. and West Samar Is.) and surface wave heights (East Samar Is.) with respect to the local mean sea level.

Caption After:

Storm surge inundation (Leyte Is. and West Samar Is.) and surface wave heights (East Samar Is.) with respect to the local mean sea level.