

Interactive comment on “Developing an early warning system for storm surge inundation in the Philippines” by J. Tablazon et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 18 December 2014

This paper describes the development of storm surge maps for the Philippines. This work is timely, the paper is well written and of great importance for the region. The dimension of human disasters caused by storm surge in the region are alarming and of great importance. I consider the paper scientifically sound and of great significance. I have several suggestions that could make the manuscript better suited for publication: I considered the title a little misleading. The “early warning system” in the title leads the reader to expect a warning framework. Instead, the paper focused on developing probabilistic maps for the region based on forecasts. At the end of the paper, I think I connected the dots and realized how the maps could be used to emergency management but I consider that the strongest point of the study is the development of maps for planning, design and perhaps support initial efforts of response. While the frequency

C2750

analyses and the storm surge methodology are very robust and well defined, the description of the 2D Flow modeling framework is a little short and there is not sufficient information for the reader to understand how the coupling of the storm surge model, tides and the 2D overland model is done. This is a complicated issue and need to be better explained. On the other hand, the authors do a great job describing the storm surge model and meteorological forcing. Perhaps that should be the focus of the paper rather than the 2D flow modeling. It could be beneficial to include a sentence regarding the fact that we are neglecting the storm surge and tidal interaction by just adding them after the simulations. Suggestion: What are the impacts of having a probabilistic map that is not related to advisory categories? That could present a more realistic scenario for planning and design. This is just a thought. No need to actually do it for this paper.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 6241, 2014.

C2751