

Interactive comment on “Forecast-based financing: an approach for catalyzing humanitarian action based on extreme weather and climate forecasts” by E. Coughlan de Perez et al.

E. Coughlan de Perez et al.

coughlan.erin@gmail.com

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We appreciate the thoughtful comments and suggestions on this manuscript. Our replies to specific suggestions are below.

COMMENT: Well-written/structured paper. Very interesting forecast-base financing system proposed which may fulfill a current need in this area. Regarding the implementation of the system, it will be critical to analyze, even at local/country level, the results after it became operational. A significant effort may be still needed to further

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understand which are the main challenges and constrains to feed the system within this approach. And also, if with time, other humanitarian organizations set up and implement similar forecast-based systems. In general, looking forward to see future progress and results of it for the cited case studies!

AUTHOR RESPONSE: Agreed. In Togo and Uganda we intend to analyze results throughout the process of design, implementation, and monitoring of the system, and publish information on the challenges and successes to enable others to replicate the process. The fact that the assumptions underpinning the thresholds are explicitly stated beforehand greatly facilitates evaluation of outcomes and testing of these assumptions (contrary to many other humanitarian evaluations where operational evaluations are often looking mainly at “lessons learned” rather than analyzing the design of our response).

COMMENT: The example of the smokers as in the conclusion seems a bit out of context and, in my opinion, cuts the flow of the paper at the moment when the reader is keen to get the conclusions and further steps of such a framework. So instead of it why not use other example of risk communication of a natural hazard? AUTHOR RESPONSE: Agreed; this has been removed from the manuscript.

COMMENT: Sections 1.Introduction (pg. 3195 lines 2-4) and 4.Pilot applications (pg. 3208, lines 16-17) cited same sentence, maybe just cite in one of the sections (?).

CHANGES TO MANUSCRIPT: [Section 4 Pilot Applications] While results vary depending on the programme itself, positive benefit-cost ratios have been shown for a variety of long-term disaster risk reduction programmes

COMMENT: In Page 3194 Line 22: do you mean “lead times” instead of “time lags”?

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CHANGES TO MANUSCRIPT: Corrected using suggested replacement.

COMMENT: In Page 3202 Line 15: citation Hurford et al. has missing the publication year: (2012) CHANGES TO MANUSCRIPT: Corrected.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 2, 3193, 2014.