

Interactive comment on “Impacts of European drought events: insights from an international database of text-based reports” by K. Stahl et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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The paper reflects the main goals of NHESS, representing a relevant issue. In general, the paper is adequate. It describes the creation of a database of drought reports, trying to organise drought impact information in recent episodes. However, from my point of view, this is a purely descriptive work (there is not research at all).

Nonetheless, I recommend accept the paper, but minor revision should be done.

GENERAL COMMENTS

I should like to have seen the relationship between indices, impacts and response measures, in order to provide a list of measures adequate to each impact. I mean, organizing information related to drought impacts represent a big effort but, the usefulness of this work would be increased if the users of the database could also see

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the effectiveness of the measures to reduce the vulnerability (also with the physical features of the drought episodes). This idea is briefly reflected in section 5 (only two lines).

Section 4 would be more understandable if all the drought events (with all the comments related with impacts and regions) were described in chronological order. There are too many leaps in time and the reader may be confused.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Page 5459 lines 3-4-5. I don't understand the idea of considering optional the inclusion of (5) secondary impacts/response measures. Is this optional because the impacts are secondary? Or is it optional because this is a response?

Page 5459 line 20 and 21. Here the authors explain that this is a relevant information. So, why is it optional?

Page 5459 line 18. Who is the responsible of translating the reports to English?

Page 5470 line 13-15. Here we could include a classification of measures according to drought indices and impacts.

Page 5476 line 9. Authors should not forget the monitoring of water management variables such as level reservoirs, piezometric levels, or the reuse of treated wastewater. . . Hence infrastructures may help decision-makers reducing vulnerabilities (among others).

Figure 1. The size of the legend is too small. Countries should appear without abbreviation (United Kingdom instead of UK)

Figure 3. I recommend changing the type of the chart. Bar chart or pie chart should be more visual.

Figure 4. Countries should appear without abbreviation (United Kingdom instead of UK).

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Figure 5. The size of the legend is too small.

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