

Interactive comment on “Using video games for volcanic hazard education and communication” by L. Mani et al.

L. Mani et al.

lara.mani@plymouth.ac.uk

Received and published: 14 March 2016

In the opening paragraph the reviewer suggests that the testing strategy and data provided within this paper is not sufficient enough to make meaningful conclusions about participants' learning and the effectiveness of this method in communicating hazard-related information. The authors would like to comment here that this study is currently a work-in-progress and is designed to provide an initial evaluation of the technique of using video games for education rather than as an exhaustive study. Further, this manuscript has been written to provide an insight into some of the key lessons learned from undertaking this kind of study for other researchers considering pursuing a similar line of research. We acknowledge that these aims may not be clear in the current manuscript but will clarify this in the finalised manuscript. Additionally, the title of the manuscript will be altered to reflect this issue.

C1

We agree with the reviewer that the methodology currently described requires further detail and this will be added to the revised manuscript and a copy of the testing instrument will also be included. To clarify, the pre and post-test quizzes comprised 12 open-ended questions developed by the authors, and revised and refined after consultation with a social scientist.

With regards to the multiple-choice quiz, this is a section within the game itself and was not designed to be used to test for knowledge gain. Instead, data from this can identify areas where students are weakest and allows for educators to tailor outreach sessions to confront this.

To address the comments made about the technical difficulties encountered during the testing, the technical issues that were encountered, such as the failure of the game analytics, will be described in more detail in the revised manuscript.

Thank you for the detailed comments relating to minor changes required to the manuscript. These changes will be made to the final manuscript and further detail will be added where appropriate.

Interactive comment on Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., doi:10.5194/nhess-2016-23, 2016.

C2