



An analysis of flooding economic impact in Urumea area

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Severe weather phenomena impact the Basque society and economy in many ways, from disruption in various sectors and substantial damages in infrastructure to human and economic losses. Particularly flooding is the natural event that causes the most disaster damage in Basque Country.

In this work we focus on flood impact produced in Urumea area during this century. Urumea River is sited in the East part of Basque Cantabric Basin, flowing to the Bay of Biscay through the city of San Sebastian. Is a representative river for this part of the country, with rather steep slope and short concentration time. In Urumea basin high precipitation events, flash-floods and associated impact are relatively usual.

In this study we use, as a reference for impact, the losses from flood damage paid by Spanish Insurance Compensation Consortium during 21-st century. Data are analyzed and presented in different ways grouped per date, period, amount, damage type, location, etc. We also include in the analysis observations from the automatic weather stations available in the area (precipitation and river levels) in order to extract some conclusions. The final objective is to contribute to knowledge of impact characteristics in this area, increasing awareness and preparedness in flash-floods events.