



POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR  
CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH

RECEIPT

## Evaluation of a global modeling chain for flood-induced displacement risk

WP5 International cooperation, development and resilience  
RECEIPT webinar – 30.04.2021

Benedikt Mester

# Agenda

1. Setting the Scene: Intro on Disaster-Induced Displacement
2. Roadmap: Storyline Approach and Research Questions
3. The Uncertainties of Modeling: Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain
4. Outlook: Displacement Vulnerability

# Setting the scene

## 1. Intro on Disaster-Induced Displacement

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RECEIPT

Kakinuma et al., 2020

Kam et al., 2021

## Displacement

Political Unrest  
Damage to Infrastructure

Loss of Productivity

Disruption of Communities  
Injuries

Loss of Biodiversity  
Reduction of Tourism

Unemployment

## Natural Hazards

Sedimentation  
Psychological Impacts

Loss of Ecosystems

Costs of Response and Relief

Interruption of Business

Pollution

Insurance Losses

Diseases

## Loss of Assets

Loss of Cultural Heritage

## Fatalities

Jongman et al. 2015

Tanoue et al. 2016

Dottori et al. 2018

Willner et al. 2018

...

# 1. Intro on Disaster-Induced Displacement

## Definition of Displacement

Internally displaced person (IDP):

- Evacuated or left homeless after a natural disaster
- Fails to return to their home and is neither integrated locally nor into another settlement
- Stays within national borders (↔ refugee, migrant and asylum seeker)

# 1. Intro on Disaster-Induced Displacement

## Diversity of Displacement



Photo by Gideon Mendel

Flooding in Bangkok, Thailand  
November 2011

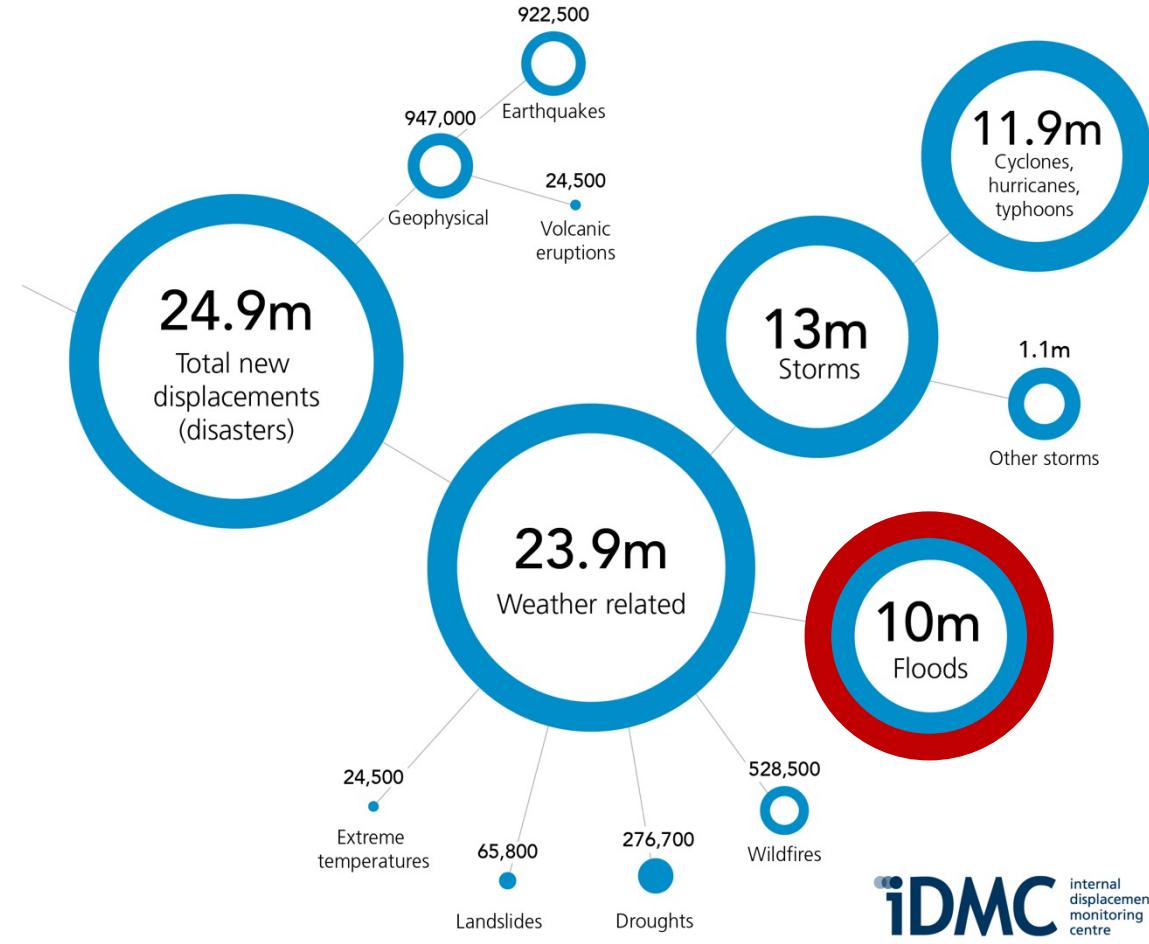


Photo by Justin McManus

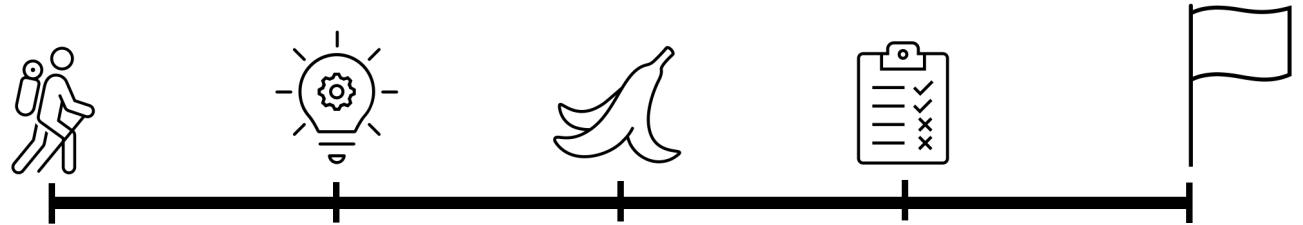
Bushfires in Mallacoota, Australia  
December 2019

# 1. Intro on Disaster-Induced Displacement

## Displacement in Numbers



IDMC, 2020



# Roadmap

## 2. Storyline Approach and Research Questions

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### Displacement Storylines

#### Four hotspot regions:



Country shapes by [www.gadm.org](http://www.gadm.org)

#### Storylines on the Past:

- Simulate past extreme floods with today's exposure
- Simulate historic exposure with recent events (e.g., Mozambique 2007, Nigeria 2012)
- Compare observed events with **counterfactual impact** events (Mengel et al., 2020 in review)

#### Storylines on the Future:

- Simulate displacement risk under different **RCP** and **SSP** projections
- Include **vulnerability** scenarios

#### Link to EU:

- Identify future policy needs for humanitarian and development aid
- Highlighting potential sources of social and political instability

## 2. Storyline Approach and Research Questions

### Research Questions

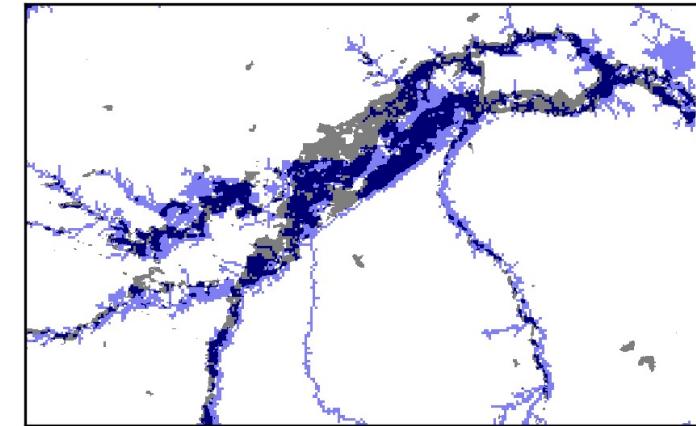
1. Is our flood model capable of capturing past displacement events?
2. How does the vulnerability to flood-induced displacement depend on socio-economic factors?



Evaluation of the global flood modeling chain



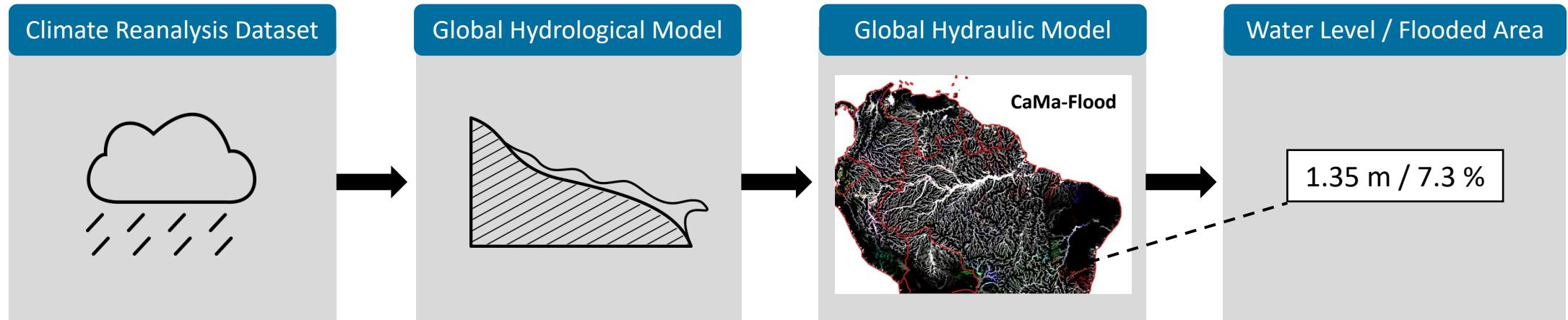
Past displacement vulnerability



# The Uncertainties of Modeling

## 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain



$$3 \times 11 \times 1 = 33$$

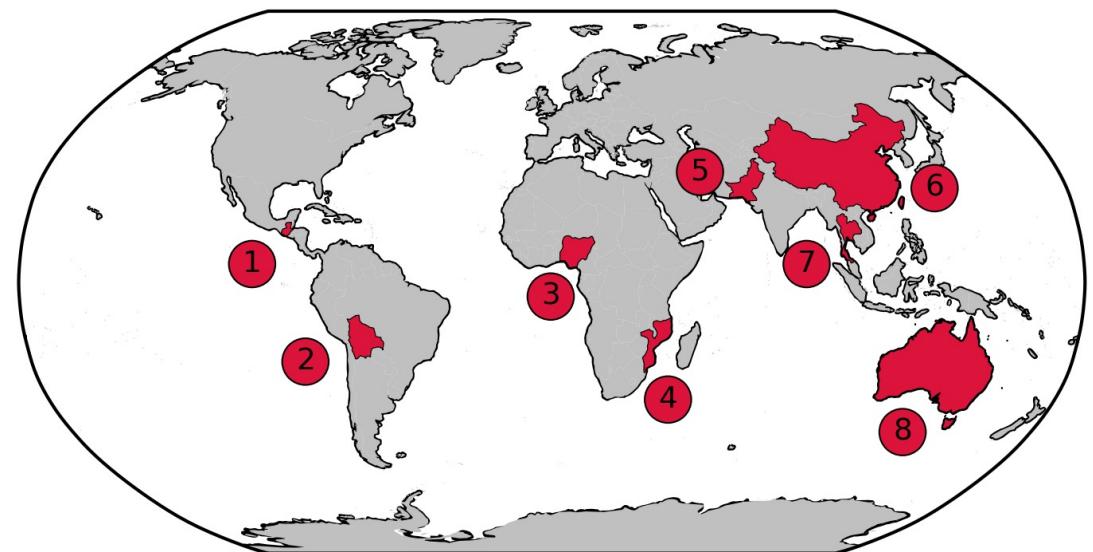
A horizontal bracket under the first two multipliers indicates they are multiplied together.



### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

#### Case Study

- Eight major floods on four continents, covering a variety of climates and hydraulic characteristics
- Evaluation using model agreement maps and spatial performance metrics
- Testing the effect of a flood-volume adjustment procedure („adjust“) (Kim et al., 2009; Hirabayashi et al., 2013) and the inclusion of spatially explicit flood protection levels („protect“) (Scussolini et al., 2016)



Country shapes by [www.gadm.org](http://www.gadm.org)



### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

Validation with MODIS satellite imagery

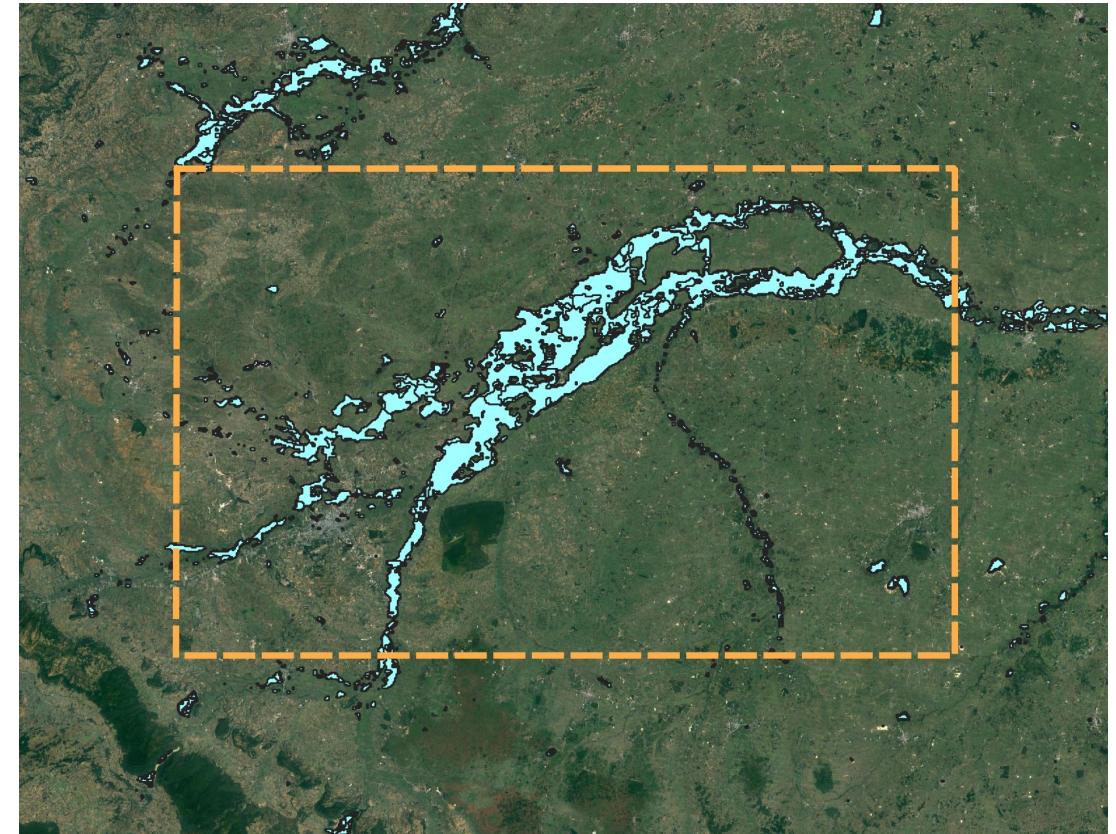
Example:

Flooding in the Mun River Basin

Phimai in Thailand (2010)

turquoise = flooded area

yellow = area of interest



Satellite Data:

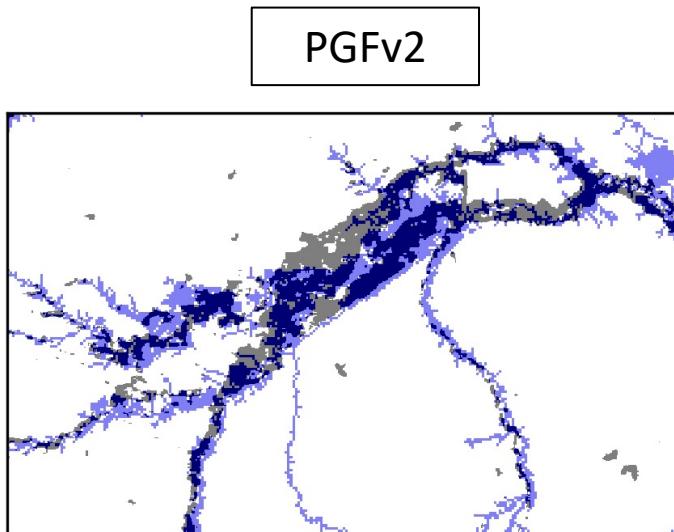
Dartmouth Flood Observatory (DFO) (<https://floodobservatory.colorado.edu/>) (Brakenridge 2006)  
UNOSAT Flood Portal (UFP) (<http://floods.unosat.org/geoportal/catalog/main/home.page>)



### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

#### Results – Model Agreement Maps

Thailand (Mun River, 2010) – Model agreement of 1 x hydrological model with „PGFv2“ forcing:



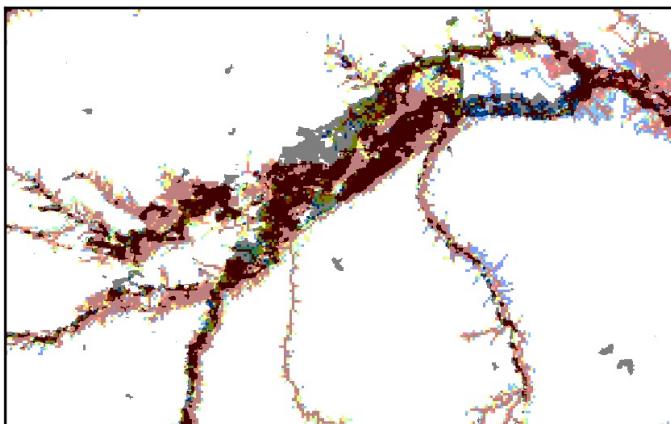
Mester et al., 2021 under review

### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

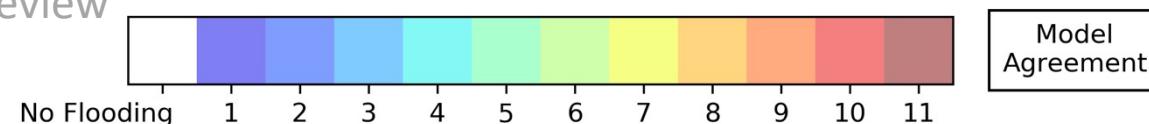
#### Results – Model Agreement Maps

Thailand (Mun River, 2010) – Model agreement of 11 x hydrological models with „PGFv2“ forcing :

PGFv2



Mester et al., 2021 under review

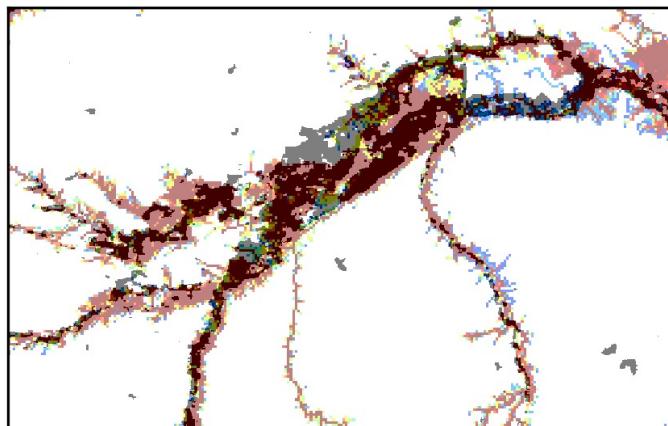


### 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

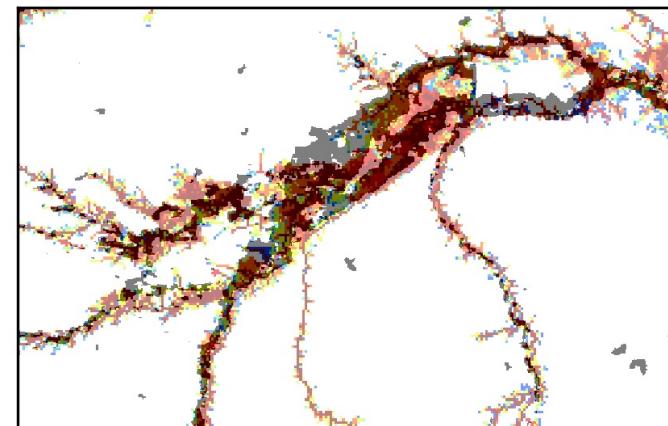
#### Results – Model Agreement Maps

Thailand (Mun River, 2010) – Model agreement of 11 x hydrological models with three forcings:

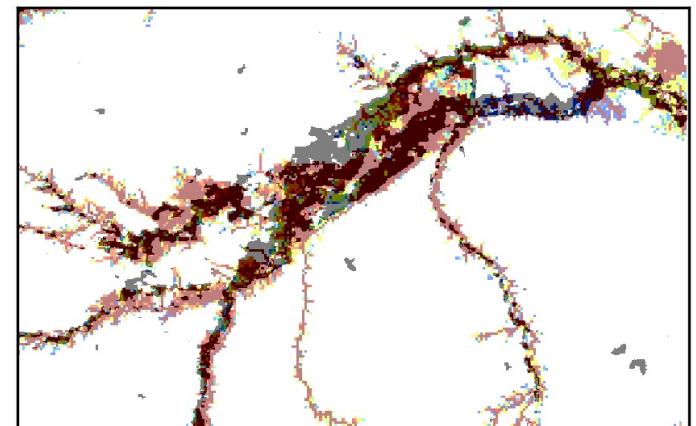
PGFv2



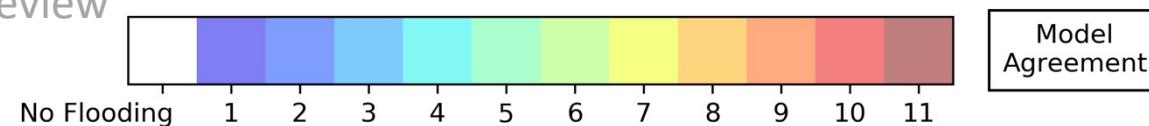
GSWP3



WFDEI



Mester et al., 2021 under review



# 3. Evaluation of the Global Flood Modeling Chain

## Results – Spatial Performance Metrics

Critical Success Index (CSI)

$$CSI = \frac{F_m \cap F_o}{F_m \cup F_o}$$

$F_m$  = modelled flooded area

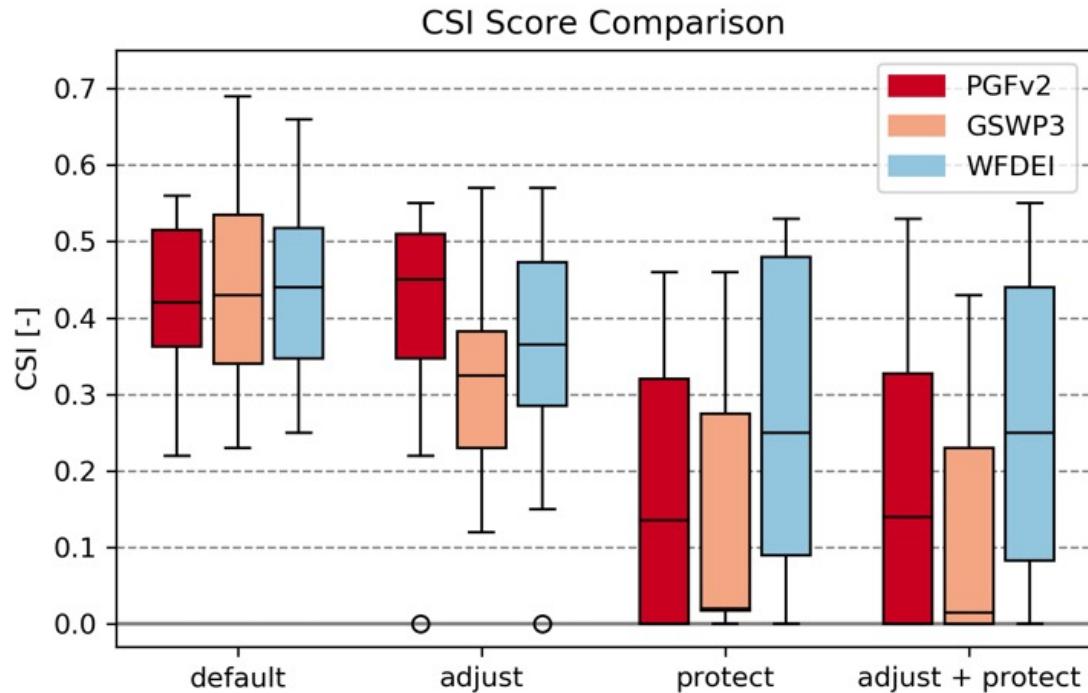
$F_o$  = observed flooded area (MODIS)

GSWP3	CLM	DBH	H08	JULES-W1	LPJmL	MATSIRO	MPI-HM	ORCHIDEE	PCR-GLOBWB	VIC	WaterGAP2	Median GHMs	Min. GHMs	Max. GHMs	Spread GHMs
Sayaxché (GTM)	0.53	0.56	0.54	0.56	0.55	0.58	0.54	0.54	0.56	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.53	0.58	0.05
Trinidad (BOL)	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.54	0.49	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.46	0.53	0.53	0.46	0.54	0.08
Chemba (MOZ)	0.69	0.71	0.70	0.60	0.71	0.53	0.70	0.62	0.71	0.00	0.53	0.69	0.00	0.71	0.71
Alipur (PAK)	0.32	0.33	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.37	0.35	0.32	0.37	0.05
Ghotki (PAK)	0.34	0.40	0.44	0.35	0.35	0.42	0.43	0.34	0.42	0.40	0.34	0.40	0.34	0.44	0.10
Phimai (THA)	0.46	0.45	0.42	0.50	0.47	0.41	0.47	0.46	0.45	0.43	0.46	0.46	0.41	0.50	0.09
Huainan (CHN)	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.33	0.30	0.38	0.31	0.31	0.28	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.28	0.38	0.10
Dalby (AUS)	0.23	0.18	0.24	0.18	0.20	0.23	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.26	0.25	0.23	0.18	0.26	0.08
Median Region	0.40	0.43	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.45	0.40	0.44	0.38	0.42	0.43	0.33	0.47	0.09



Mester et al., 2021 under review

### 3. Results – Spatial Performance Metrics



→ A multi-model, multi-forcing ensemble approach (such as ours) is recommended when there is no prior knowledge about a certain combination's performance for the specific type of region



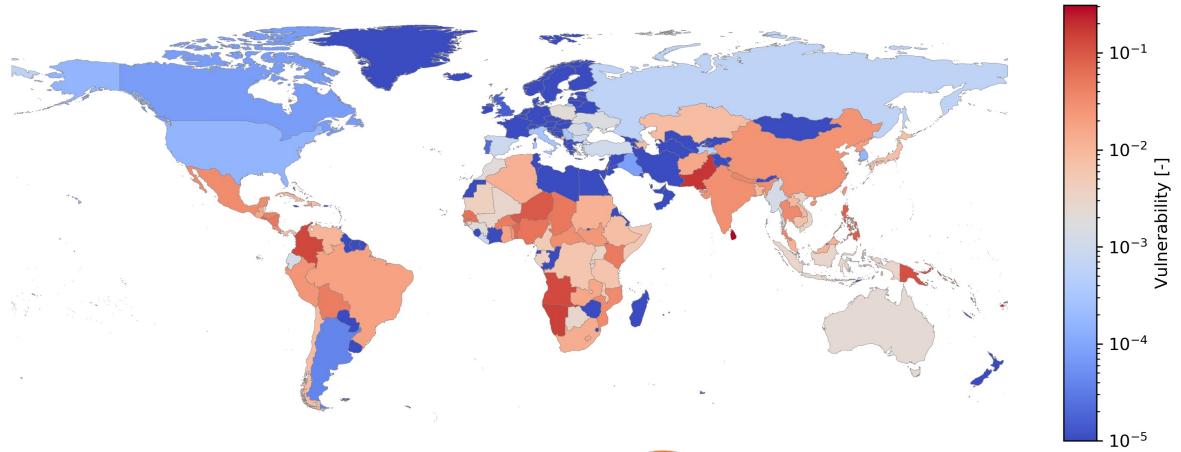
# Outlook

## 4. Displacement Vulnerability



## 4. Displacement Vulnerability

- Determine global flood displacement vulnerability
- Establish a vulnerability function and find patterns in data using (non-)linear multivariate analysis and Machine Learning algorithms
- Using on a set of predictors of different categories:
  - **Economy:** GDP, government debt, ..
  - **Politics and Legislation:** democracy index, ..
  - **Demography:** age cohorts, population growth, ..
  - **Society:** social equality, poverty, education, ..
  - ..



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Photo by Gideon Mendel <http://gideonmendel.com/submerged-portraits/>

Photo by Justin McManus/The Age/Fairfax Media via Getty Images [https://medias.libération.fr/photo/1283544-australian-bushfire-coverage.jpg?modified\\_at=1578335061&width=960](https://medias.libération.fr/photo/1283544-australian-bushfire-coverage.jpg?modified_at=1578335061&width=960)

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# Questions & Answers

Email: benedikt.mester@pik-potsdam.de

