EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS FOR RAINFALL-INDUCED LANDSLIDES. NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM? | NVE | OSLO | 26-28 OCTOBER 2016

TOWARDS AN OPERATIONAL EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR RAINFALL-INDUCED LANDSLIDES IN ITALY

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OPERATIONAL LANDSLIDE FORECASTING

- Predicting where and when landslides will occur
- Delivering the forecast in time to relevant end users



OPERATIONAL LANDSLIDE FORECASTING

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OPERATIONAL LANDSLIDE FORECASTING

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OPERATIONAL LANDSLIDE FORECASTING





OPERATIONAL LANDSLIDE FORECASTING

NATIONAL LANDSLIDE WARNING SYSTEM





FORECASTING SCHEME



Nonexceedance probability of landslide occurrence given ED rainfall conditions



FORECAST WITH MEASURED RAIN





$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{w}} = \frac{96\,\mathsf{P}_{-24} + 72\,\mathsf{P}_{-48} + 48\,\mathsf{P}_{-72} + 24\,\mathsf{P}_{-96}}{96 + 72 + 48 + 24}$$



FORECAST WITH FORECASTED RAIN





$$P_{w} = \frac{24 P_{+24}}{24}$$





COMBINED ("OPTIMAL") FORECAST



 $P_{w} = \frac{120P_{+24} + 96P_{-24} + 72P_{-48} + 48P_{-72} + 24P_{-96}}{120 + 96 + 72 + 48 + 24} \times S$



SYSTEM INTERFACE



Measured Rainfall

Forecasted Rainfall

"Combined" measured & forecasted rainfall & susceptibility





HOURLY RAINFALL FORECASTS

Hourly landslide forecasts from 8 September to 16 October 2015





REGIONAL EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

- Uses regional thresholds
- Uses regional rainfall measurements
- Uses regional weather forecasts
- Uses regional susceptibility assessment
- Exploits national data & forecasts



REGIONAL EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Regional landslide forecast of 5 Jan. 2014 @ 24:00





Forecasted Rainfall

0% 5% 20% 50% 99%

"Combined" measured & forecasted rainfall & susceptibility

0% 5% 20% 50% 99%





LOCAL EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Rainfall history

Probability of landslide occurrence (quantiles)

Rainfall duration for largest probability



LOCAL LANDSLIDE FORECAST

FORECAST EVALUATION ISSUES





STATISTICAL METRICS ISSUES

Standard metrics used for forecast evaluation are problematic for the evaluation of landslide forecasts.







FORECAST EVALUATION IN ITALY



All 52 fatal landslide events between 2002 and 2012 in ltaly were predicted



FORECAST EVALUATION IN ITALY

Forecast 2/5/14 | 23:30



Hindcast 3/5/14 | 23:30







LIMITATIONS

- Relies on accurate rainfall measurements and forecasts
- Does not consider all landslide triggers (snowmelt, rain-on-snow)
- May not work for deep-seated landslides





WHAT'S NEXT?

- Better landslide susceptibility models
- New quantitative rainfall forecasts
- Use of radar rainfall estimates
- Include "physically-based" forecasting models





WHAT'S NEXT?

- Scopes of the evaluation
- Feedback from users
- Different metrics
- Optimal warning levels
- Collect information on landslide occurrence





LANDSLIDE FORECASTING IS POSSIBLE

Operational forecasting of populations of rainfall induced landslides is possible, and it can contribute to mitigate landslide risk.





... WITH A FEW WORDS OF CAUTION

"Trying to predict the future is like trying to drive down a country road at night with no lights while looking out the back window."



Peter F. Drucker Economist and writer





... THANK YOU!



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