



Spatial and temporal incidence of disastrous floods and landslides in Portugal during the last 150 years

José Luís Zêzere
Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning
University of Lisbon

(zezere@igot.ulisboa.pt)

Analysis and Mitigation
of Risks in Infrastructures
INFRARISK-

5th Summer School Workshop

University of Minho, Guimarães, 15th July 2019

Outline:

1. Rationale for the Disaster database
2. Disaster events in mainland Portugal according to the EM-DAT
3. Entry criteria, data sources and key concepts of the Disaster database
4. Method for data collection and storage
5. Results
 - a) Geographical distribution of disasters
 - b) Temporal trends of disasters
 - c) Seasonal distribution
 - d) Mortality patterns
 - e) Completeness of the Disaster database
 - f) Comparison between the Disaster database and the EM-DAT
6. A step forward: the FORLAND project
7. Take-home message

1. Rationale

In the last 150 years Portugal was affected by several natural disasters of hydro-geomorphologic origin that often caused high levels of destruction.

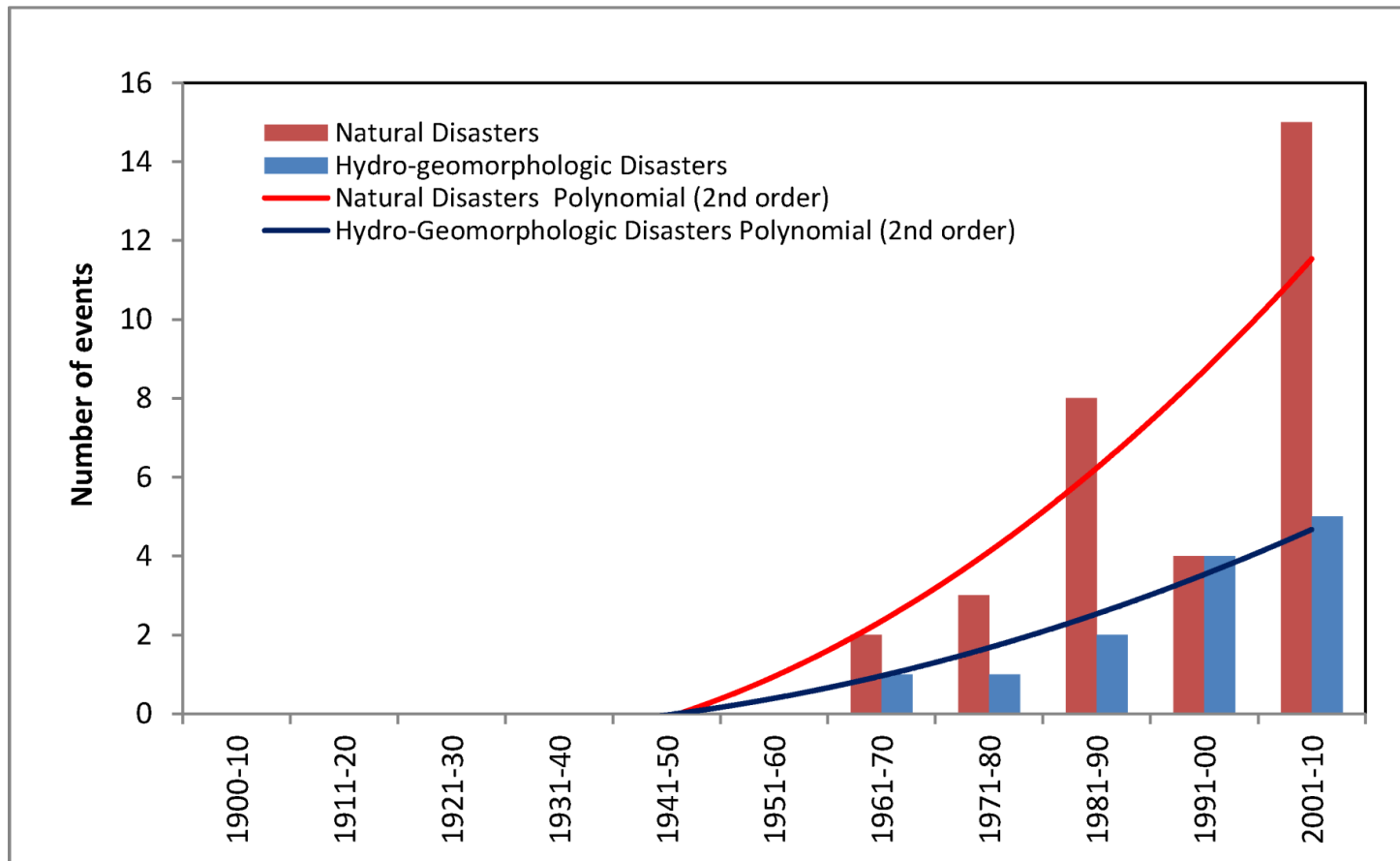
However, data on past events related to floods and landslides which occurred in the country was scattered and incomplete.

The DISASTER project [FCT funded] aimed to bridge this gap by creating, disseminating and exploiting a GIS database on disastrous floods and landslides occurred in mainland Portugal since 1865.

<http://riskam.ul.pt/disaster/>



2. Disaster events in Portugal according to the EM-DAT (1900-2010)



EM-DAT entry criteria:

- (i) 10 or more people reported dead;
- (ii) 100 or more people reported affected;
- (iii) declaration of state of emergency;
- (iv) call for international assistance.

3. Entry Criteria, Data Sources and Key Concepts of the DISASTER Database

Entry criteria: any flood or landslide that, independently of the number of affected people, caused either casualties, injuries, or missing, evacuated or displaced people.

We assume that such consequences are relevant enough to be reported by the press, namely **daily newspapers**, which were the **source for data collection** in the DISASTER Project.

KEY CONCEPTS

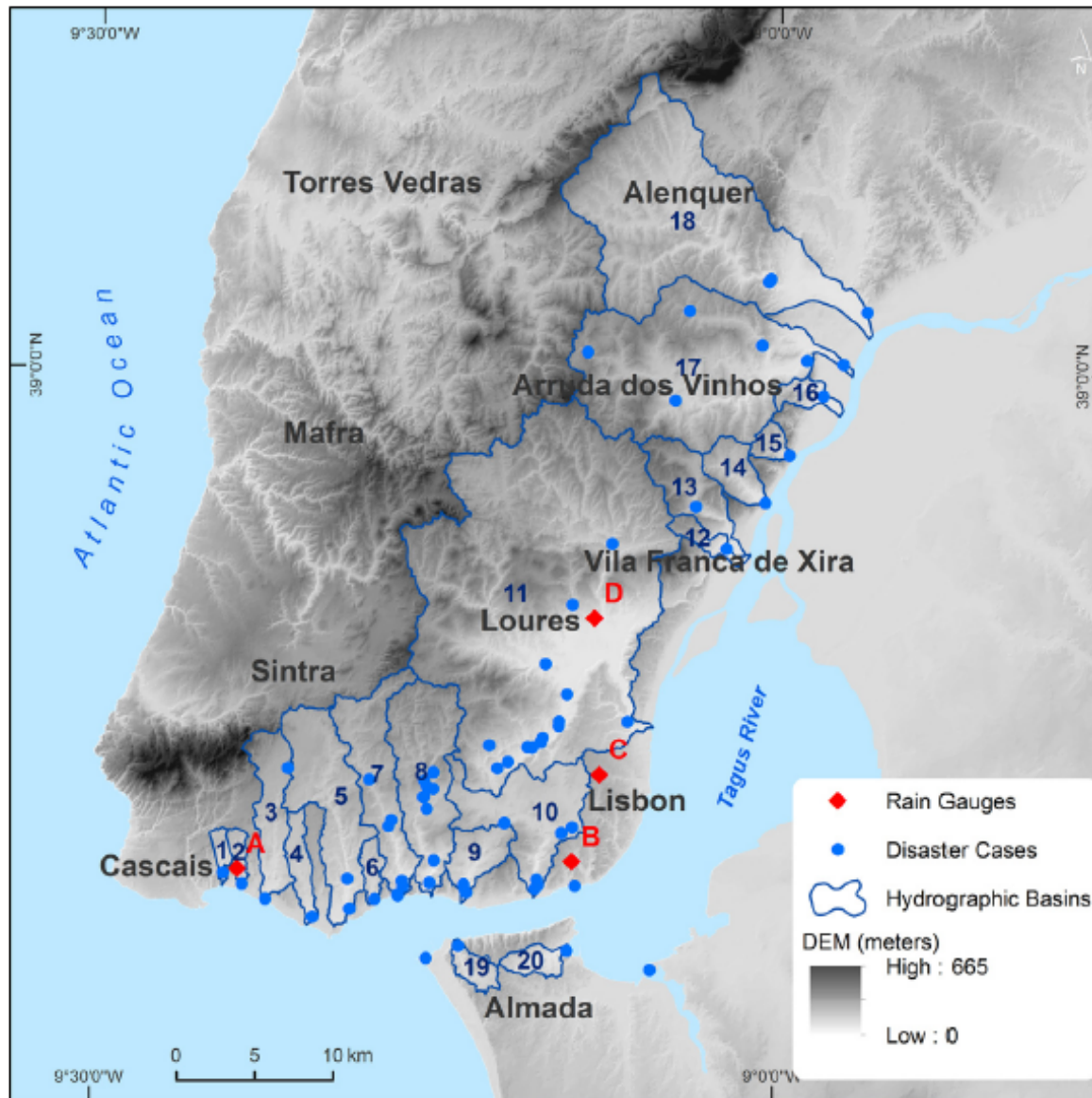
DISASTER Case: unique hydro-geomorphologic occurrence that fulfills the DISASTER Project database criteria, and is related to a unique space location and a specific period of time (i.e. the place where the flood or landslide harmful consequences occurred in a specific date).

DISASTER Event: set of DISASTER cases sharing the same trigger which can have a widespread spatial extension and a certain magnitude.

November 1967 Disaster Event



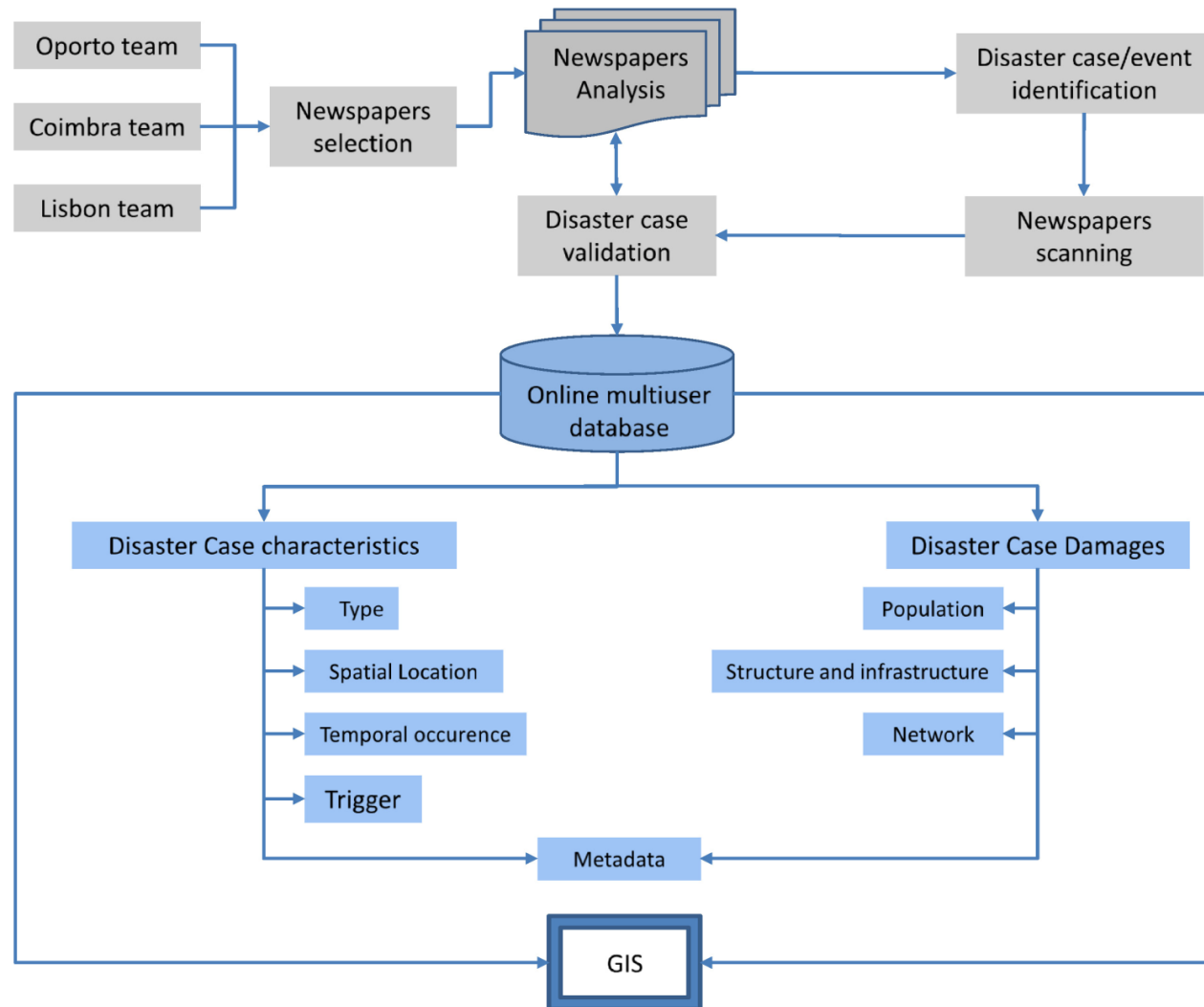
riskam.ul.pt



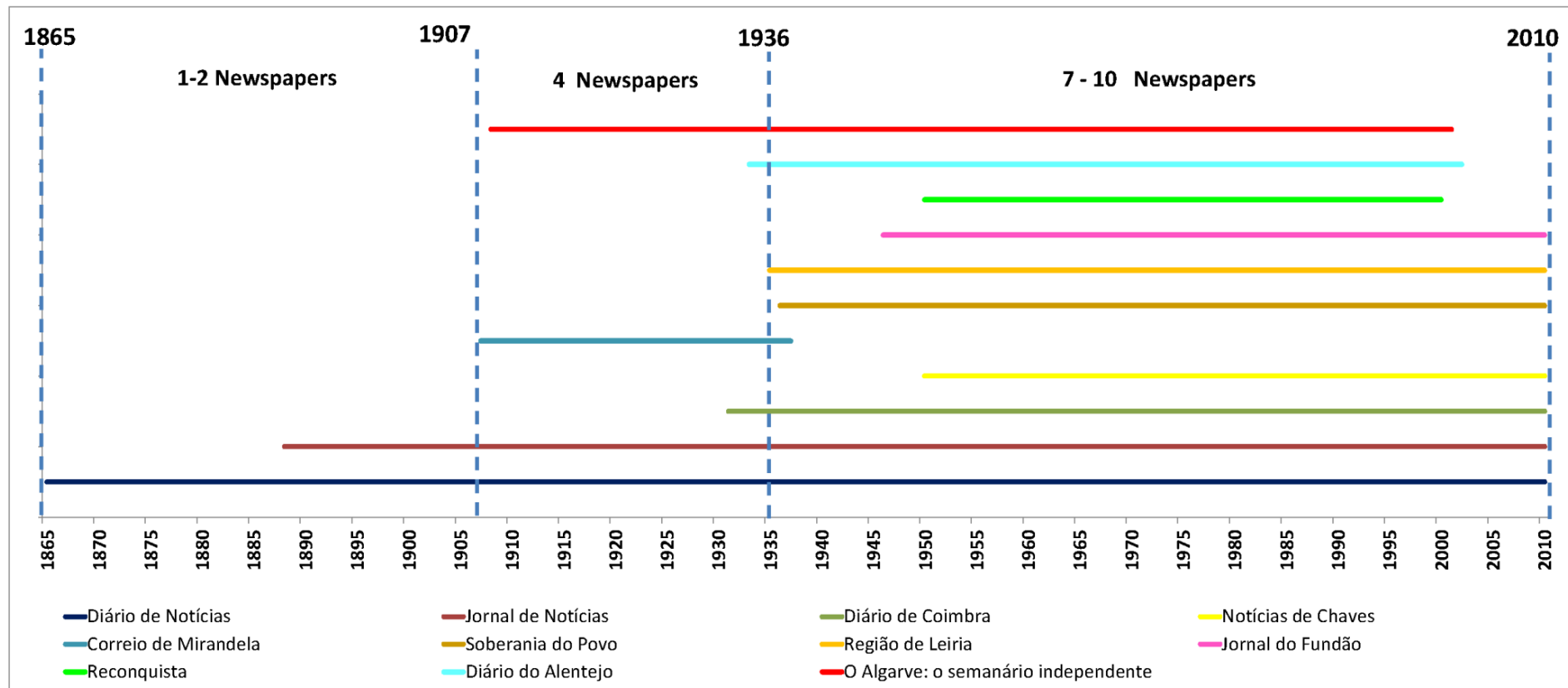
Hydrographic basins:

- 1 – Monte Estoril
- 2 – São João do Estoril
- 3 – Caparide
- 4 – Marianas
- 5 – Laje
- 6 – Porto Salvo
- 7 – Barcarena
- 8 – Jamor
- 9 – Algés
- 10 – Alcântara
- 11 – Trancão
- 12 – Crós Cós
- 13 – Silveira
- 14 – Santo António
- 15 – Santa Sofia
- 16 – Castanheira
- 17 – Grande da Pipa
- 18 – Alenquer
- 19 – Caneira
- 20 – Caramujo

4. Method for data collection and storage



Temporal coverage of newspapers used in the data collection for the DISASTER database

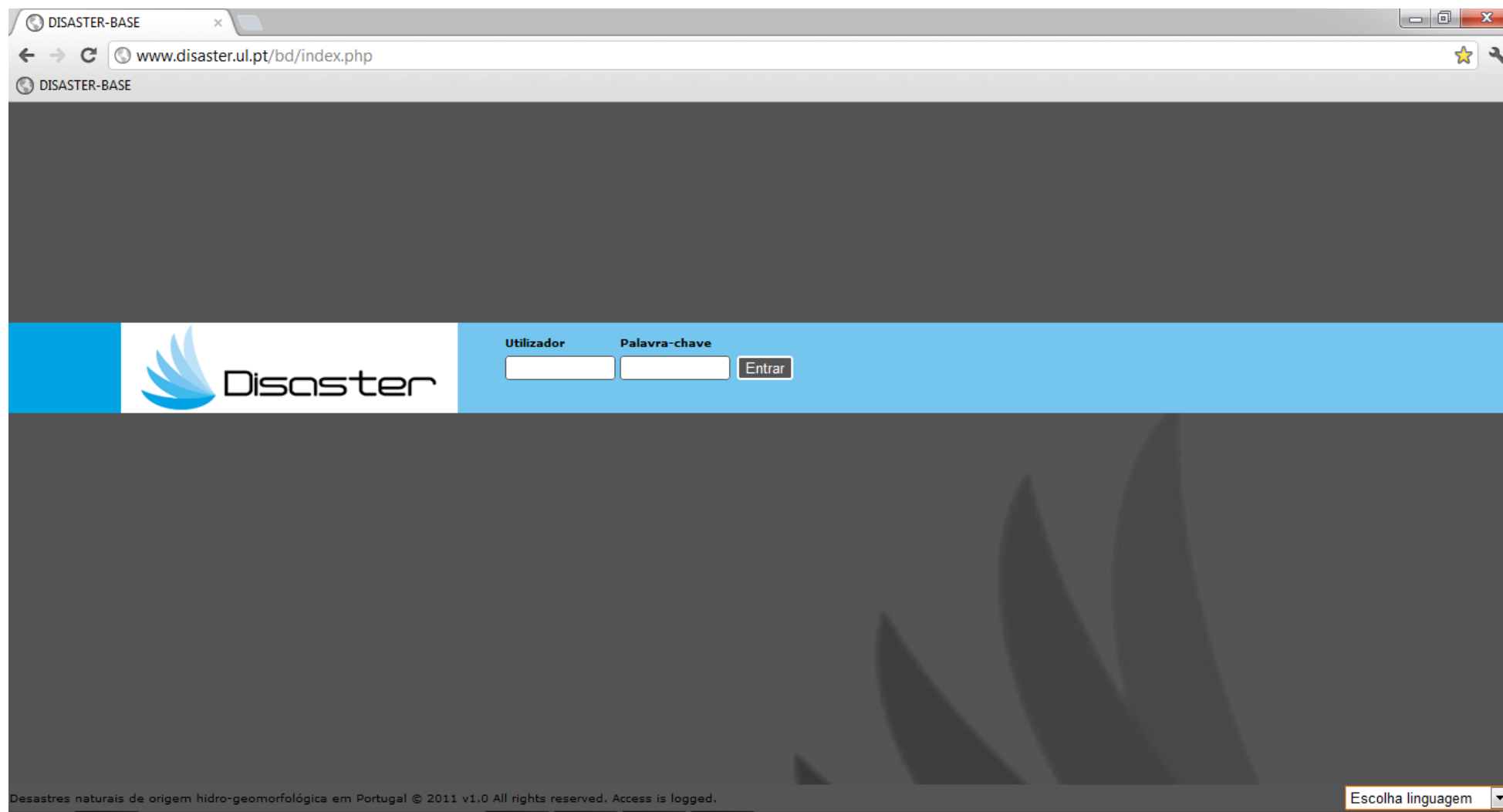


11 newspaper systematically surveyed; 5 additional newspapers used for cross checking; around 148,000 newspapers specimens analysed

The DISASTER database



riskam.ul.pt



The DISASTER database



riskam.ul.pt

www.disaster.ul.pt/bd/index.php?op=view_incident&incod=201203271129456

Ocorrências | **Modificar ocorrência** | Ver ocorrência | Exportar | Utilizadores | Definições

Está a editar um registo existente com o código 201203271129456.
Clique aqui para limpar e iniciar um novo registo (não altera o anterior).

Caracterização da Ocorrência

Tipo de Ocorrência: Cheia

Subtipo de Ocorrência: Cheia rápida

Concelho: LOURES

Freguesia: LOURES

Coordenada X (HGM): 107552.02

Coordenada Y (HGM): 208880.01

X ETRS89 (coord. decimal): 0.00000

Y ETRS89 (coord. decimal): 0.00000

Tipo de Georreferenciação: Centróide da freguesia

Observações relativas à georreferenciação: Rio Trancão

Fonte: Diário de Notícias

Data da fonte: 1983-11-20

Tipo de fonte: Jornal Diário

Fiabilidade da notícia: Referência breve

Entidades envolvidas: bombeiros voluntários; junta de freguesia

www.disaster.ul.pt/bd/index.php?op=view_incident&incod=201203271129456

Ocorrências | **Modificar ocorrência** | Ver ocorrência | Exportar | Utilizadores | Definições

Está a editar um registo existente com o código 201203271129456.
Clique aqui para limpar e iniciar um novo registo (não altera o anterior).

Caracterização da Ocorrência

Tipo de Ocorrência: Cheia

Subtipo de Ocorrência: Cheia rápida

Concelho: LOURES

Freguesia: LOURES

Coordenada X (HGM): 107552.02

Coordenada Y (HGM): 208880.01

X ETRS89 (coord. decimal): 0.00000

Y ETRS89 (coord. decimal): 0.00000

Tipo de Georreferenciação: Centróide da freguesia

Observações relativas à georreferenciação: Rio Trancão

Fonte: Diário de Notícias

Data da fonte: 1983-11-20

Tipo de fonte: Jornal Diário

Fiabilidade da notícia: Referência breve

Entidades envolvidas: bombeiros voluntários; junta de freguesia

Data de início: 1983-11-19

Hora da Ocorrência:

Observações relativas à data da ocorrência:

Factor desencadeante: Precipitação intensa e de curta duração

Observações relativas ao factor desencadeante:

Observações relativas à fonte: número de desalojados actualizado no Diário de Notícias de 22/11/1983 página 9 - 25% notícia disaster

Número de Página na fonte: 12

Tamanho da notícia (%): 745

Tamanho da notícia desastre (%): 5

The DISASTER database



riskam.ul.pt

www.disaster.ul.pt/bd/index.php?op=view_incident&incod=201203271129456

Registo de Danos

Efeitos na População

Núm. de Mortos

Núm. de Feridos

Núm. de Evacuados

Núm. de Desalojados

Núm. de Desaparecidos

Danos em Vias de comunicação

☐ Superficiais ☐ Funcionais

☒ Estruturais

☐ Corte de circulação rodoviária ☐ Corte de circulação ferroviária

Duração da interrupção (horas)

Observações

Observações relativas a Danos na população

Danos em infraestruturas e estruturas

☐ Superficiais ☐ Funcionais

☒ Estruturais

Núm. de edifícios afectados

Observações

Ficheiros anexos

Ficheiro PDF com o conteúdo digitalizado

Procurar...

Registrar ocorrência

☐ Esta ocorrência carece de crosscheck

5. Results

Hydrogeomorphological disaster cases and their human consequences in
mainland Portugal in the period 1865–2015

| | Floods | Landslides | Total |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| Number of cases | 1658 | 292 | 1950 |
| Number of deaths | 1015 | 241 | 1256 |
| Number of missing people | 71 | 23 | 94 |
| Number of injured people | 479 | 433 | 912 |
| Number of evacuated people | 14061 | 823 | 14884 |
| Number of displaced people | 40365 | 1612 | 41977 |

5. Results

Top 10 hydrogeomorphological disaster events occurred in mainland Portugal in the period 1865–2015

| Rank | Event type | Date | Affected districts | Event duration (days) | # disaster cases | Fatalities | Injured people | Evacuated people | Displaced people |
|------|--------------|----------------|--|-----------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | FF; UF | 25 Nov 1967 | 11, 15 | 2 | 67 | 522 | 330 | 304 | 885 |
| 2 | F; FF; UF; L | 20-28 Dec 1909 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 | 9 | 83 | 37 | 4 | 679 | 478 |
| 3 | F; FF | 15-17 Feb 1941 | 11, 15 | 3 | 6 | 33 | 0 | 109 | 0 |
| 4 | F; L | 9-12 Feb 1904 | 1, 3, 13, 17 | 4 | 4 | 27 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 5 | F; FF | 25-26 Nov 1865 | 11 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | FF; UF; L | 18-19 Nov 1983 | 11, 14 | 2 | 37 | 18 | 0 | 255 | 3239 |
| 7 | FF; UF | 2-9 Nov 1997 | 2, 8, 14, 15 | 8 | 16 | 11 | 22 | 141 | 134 |
| 8 | F; FF; L | 5-16 Feb 1979 | 5, 6, 11, 13, 14, 17 | 12 | 67 | 8 | 3 | 4244 | 14322 |
| 9 | F; UF; L | 2-6 Jan 1940 | 4, 7, 11, 14, 15, 17 | 5 | 26 | 7 | 3 | 35 | 1043 |
| 10 | F; L | 26-27 Jan 2001 | 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 13, 17, 18 | 2 | 28 | 6 | 5 | 402 | 570 |

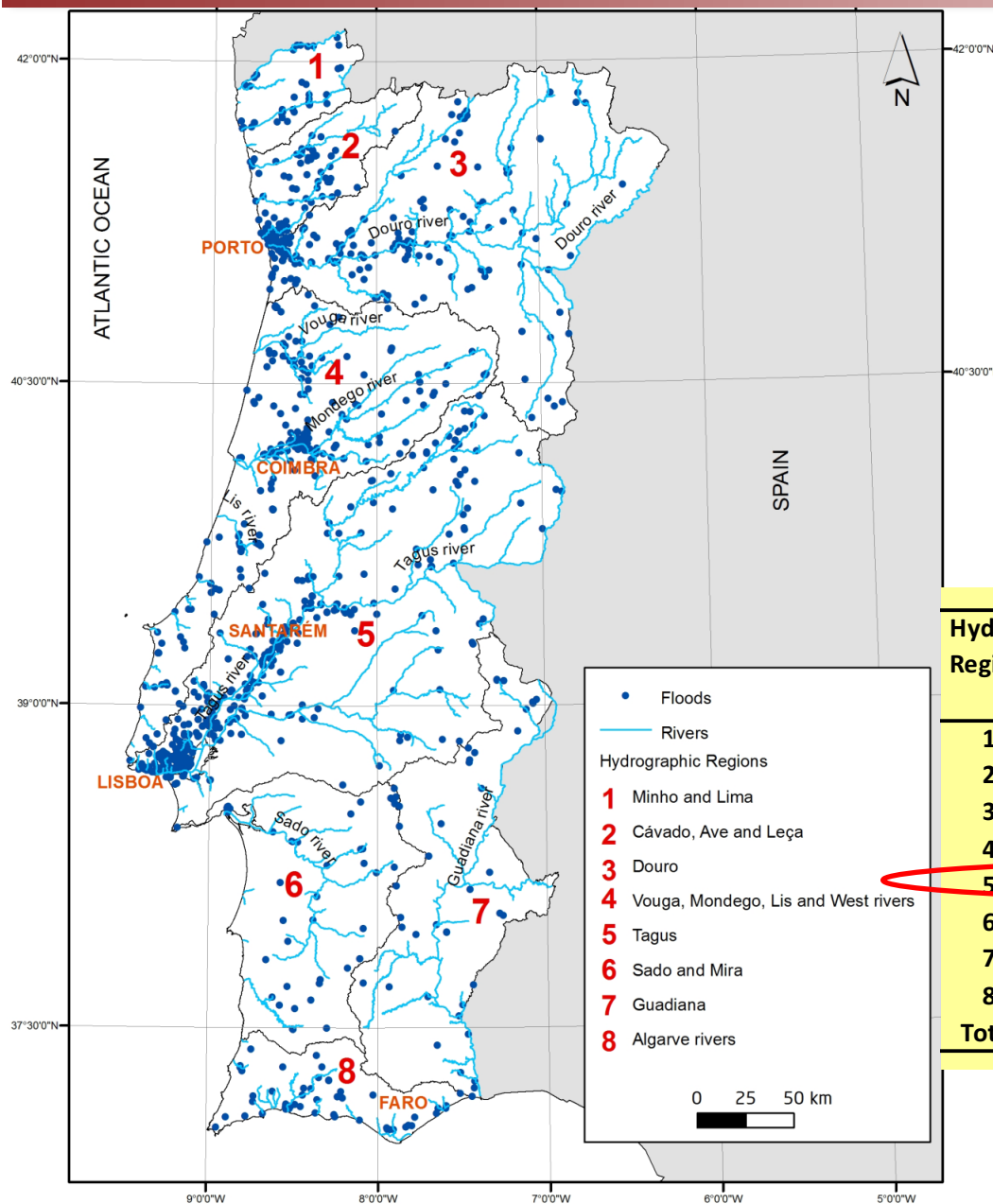
Event type: F (flood); FF (flash flood); UF (urban flood); L (landslide)

Districts: 1 - Aveiro; 2 – Beja; 3 – Braga; 4 – Bragança; 5 - Castelo Branco; 6 – Coimbra; 7 – Évora; 8 – Faro; 9 – Guarda; 10 – Leiria; 11 – Lisboa; 12 – Portalegre; 13 – Porto; 14 – Santarém; 15 – Setúbal; 16 - Viana do Castelo; 17 - Vila Real; 18 – Viseu

Geographical distribution of disastrous floods

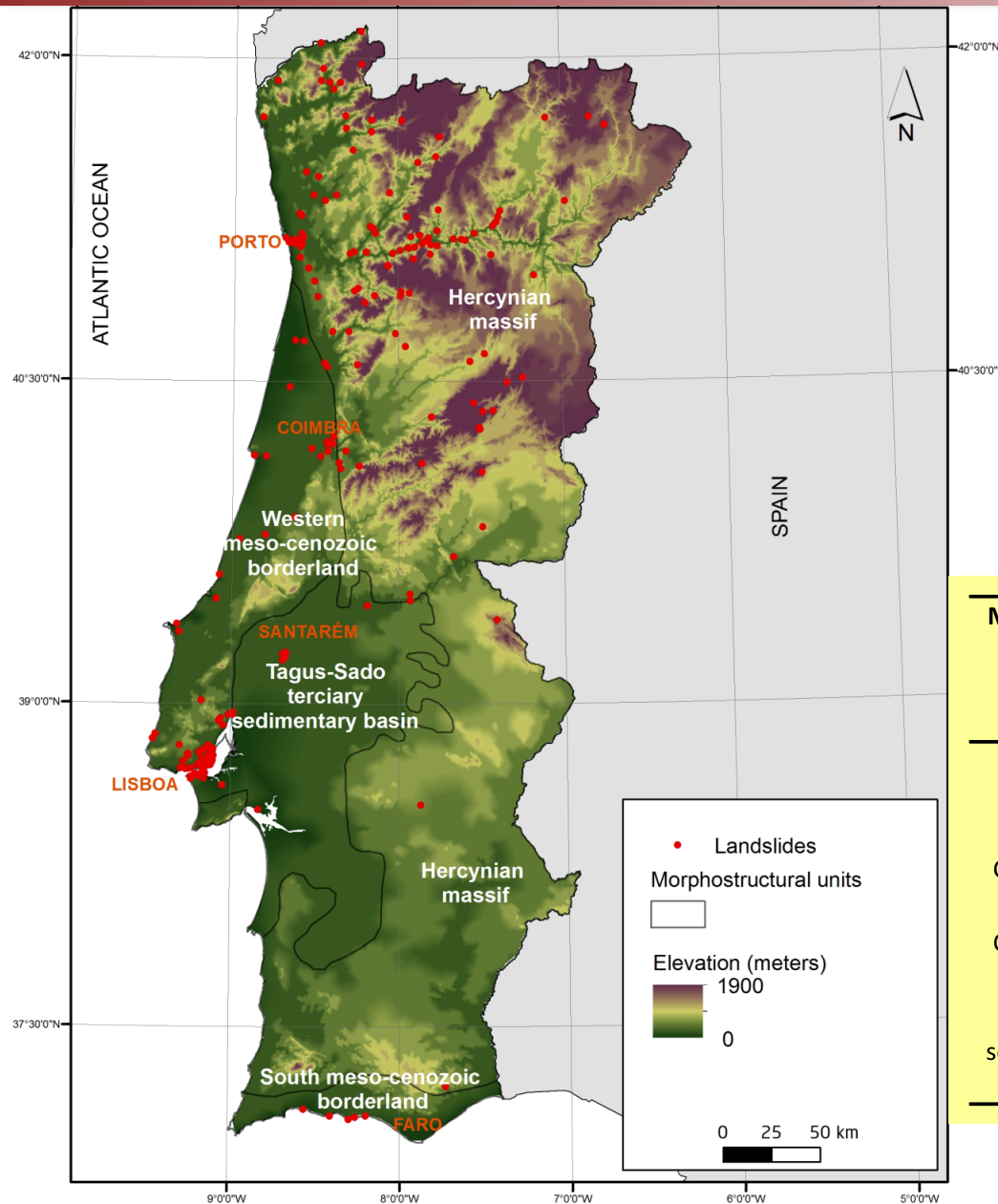
Main flood disaster clusters:

- Lisbon region and the Tagus valley
- Oporto region and the Douro valley
- Coimbra region and the Mondego valley
- Vouga valley



| Hydro. Region | Area (%) | DISASTER Cases density (#/10 ³ km ²) | Death and missing people (%) | Evacuated people (%) | Displaced people (%) |
|---------------|--------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2.7 | 18.7 | 2.6 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| 2 | 3.8 | 29.5 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 0.7 |
| 3 | 21.2 | 18.8 | 9.5 | 11.1 | 35.6 |
| 4 | 15.6 | 22.3 | 8.3 | 14.5 | 2.7 |
| 5 | 28.2 | 26.3 | 67.5 | 60.0 | 59.0 |
| 6 | 11.2 | 5.1 | 2.8 | 1.9 | 0.6 |
| 7 | 13.0 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| 8 | 4.3 | 16.2 | 1.8 | 7.4 | 1.1 |
| Total | 100.0 | 18.2 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Geographical distribution of disastrous landslides



Main landslide disaster clusters:

- Lisbon region
- Porto city
- Douro valley

| Morphostructural unit | Area (%) | DISASTER Cases density (#/10 ³ km ²) | Death and missing people (%) | Evacuated people (%) | Displaced people (%) |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Hercynian massif | 84.0 | 2.3 | 72.9 | 21.1 | 39.7 |
| Western Meso-Cenozoic border. | 13.1 | 10.3 | 21.0 | 69.2 | 37.0 |
| South Meso-Cenozoic border. | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Tagus-Sado Tertiary sedimentary basin | 17.2 | 1.9 | 3.8 | 9.6 | 23.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 3.4 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

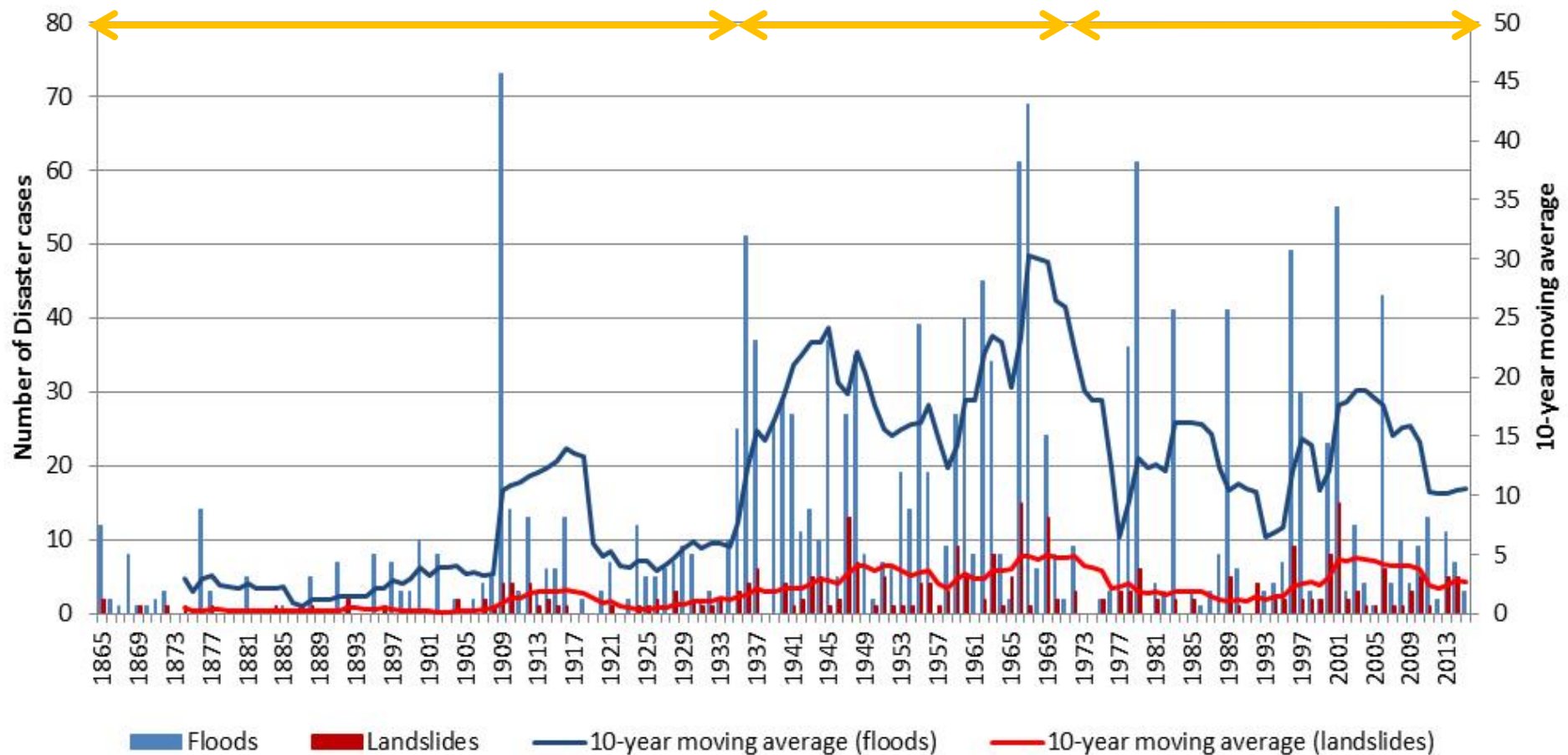
Temporal trends of disasters

Total series: 10.9 disastrous floods per year; 1.9 disastrous landslides per year

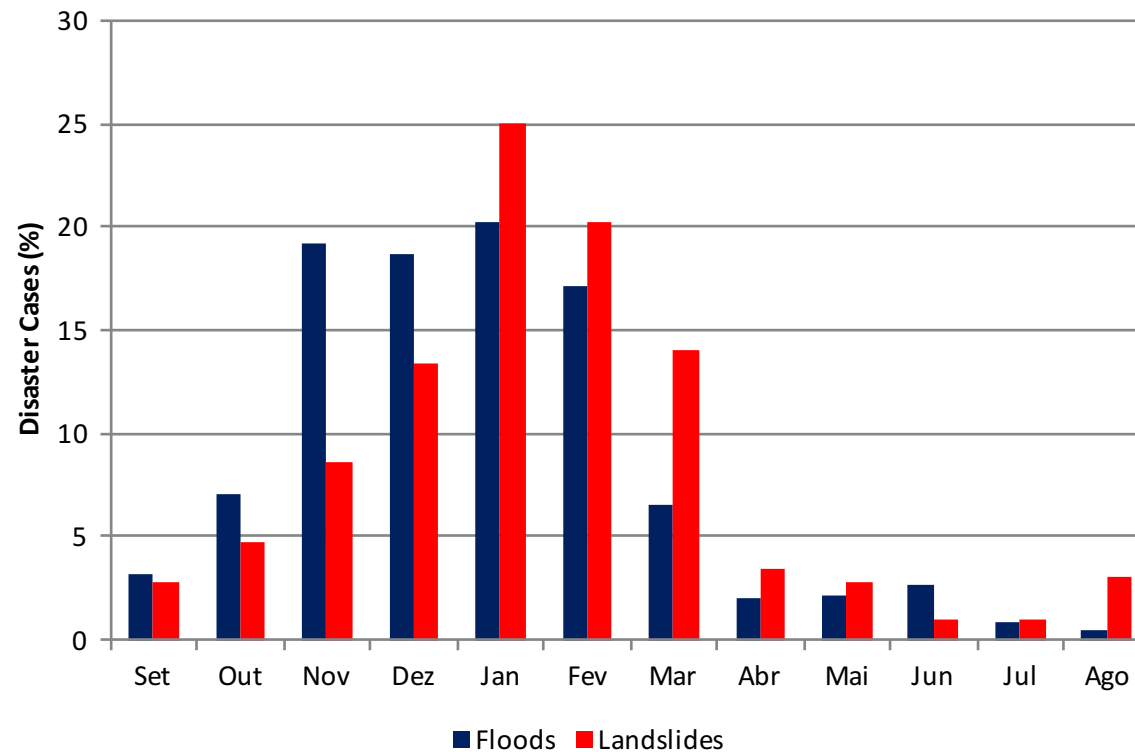
Time period 1 (1865-1934)
4.8 floods; 0.7 landslides/year

Time period 2 (1935-1969)
22.3 floods; 3.8 landslides/year

Time period 3 (1970-2015)
11.8 floods; 2.4 landslides/year



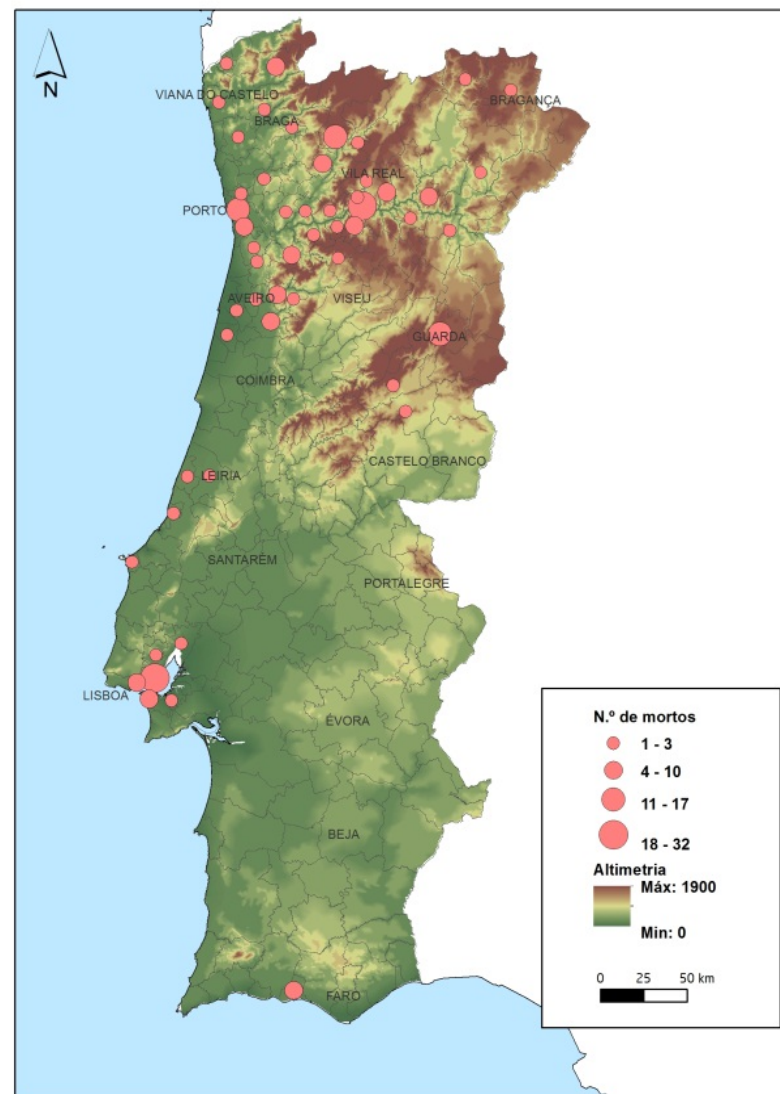
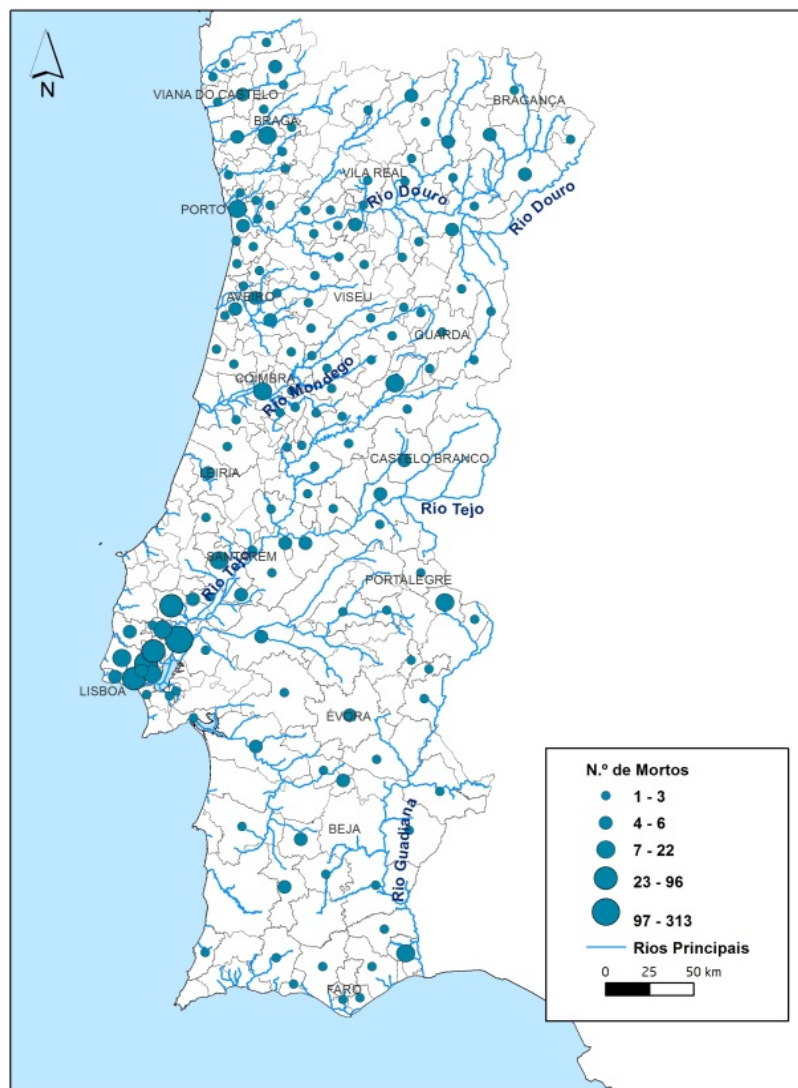
Seasonal distribution

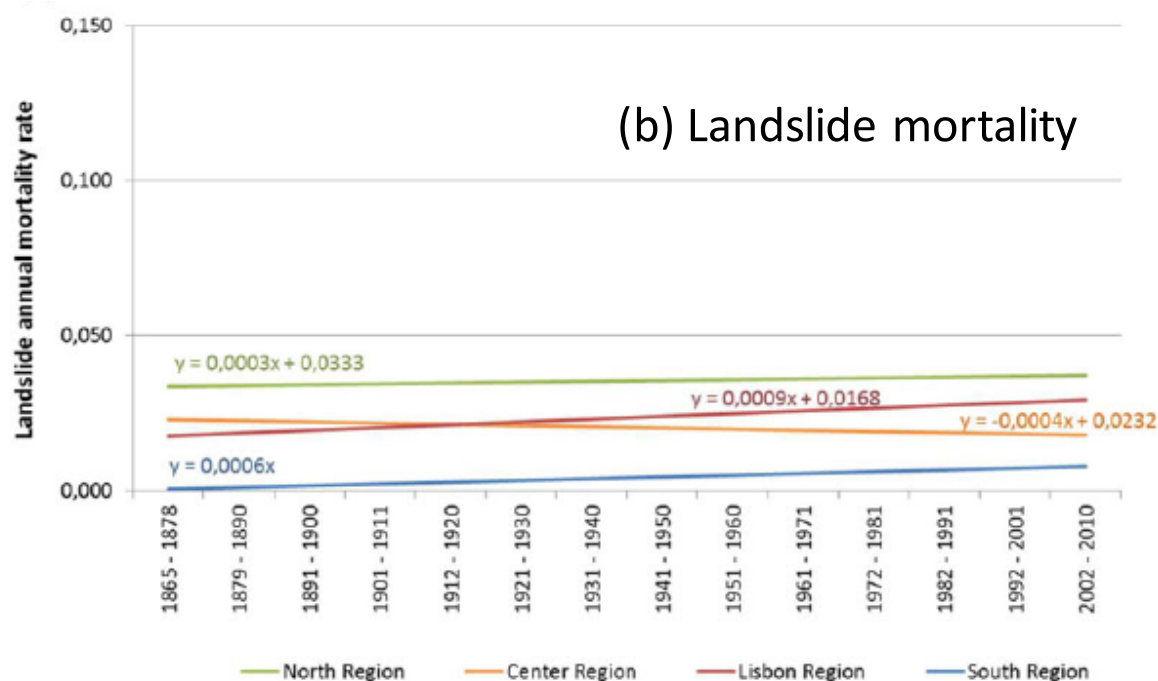
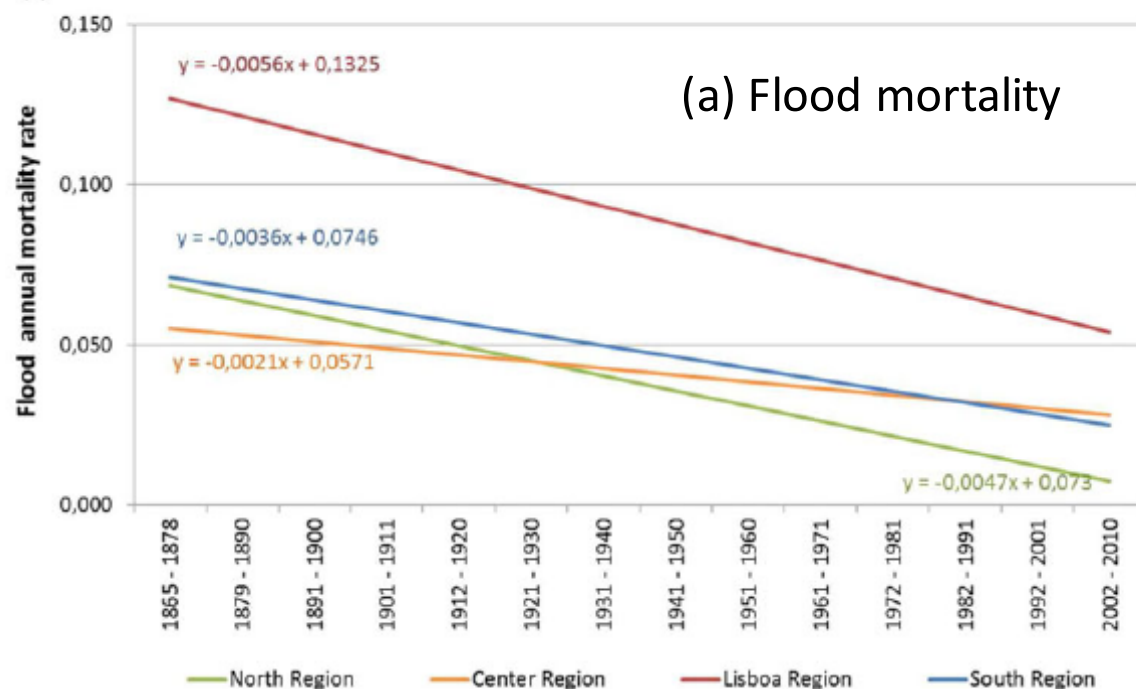


Floods - more frequent from November to February (75% of cases)

Landslides – more frequent from December to March (73 % of cases)

Mortality patterns of hydrogeomorphological disasters





Linear regression of flood (a) and landslide (b) mortality rates per decade for each Portuguese region

Mortality patterns of hydrogeomorphological disasters

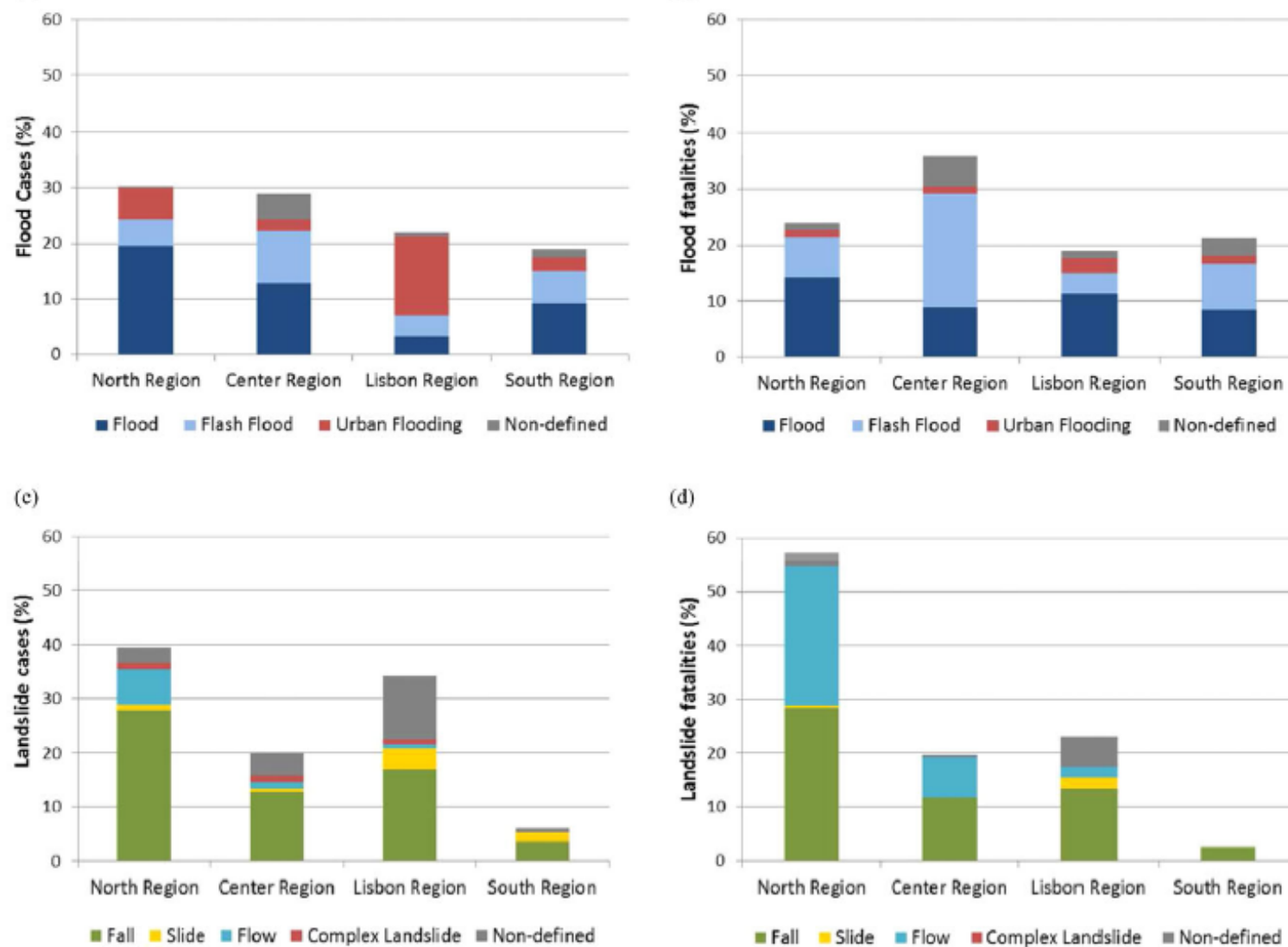


Fig. 9. Frequency of flood DISASTER cases (a) and flood mortality (b) by flood type and frequency of landslide DISASTER cases (c) and landslide mortality (d) by landslide type for each Portuguese region in the period of 1865–2010. The flash flood event of November 1967 was not considered.

Mortality patterns of hydrogeomorphological disasters

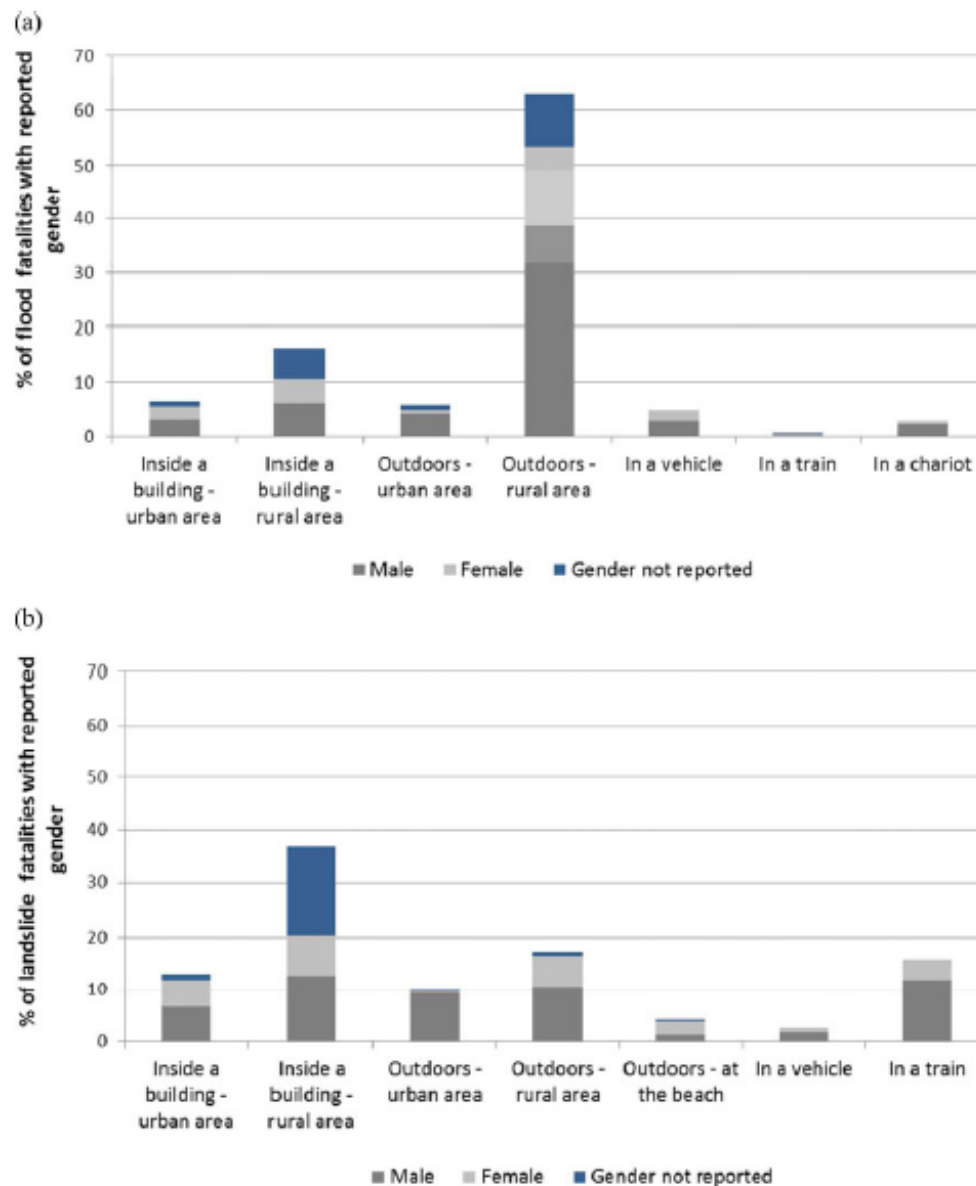
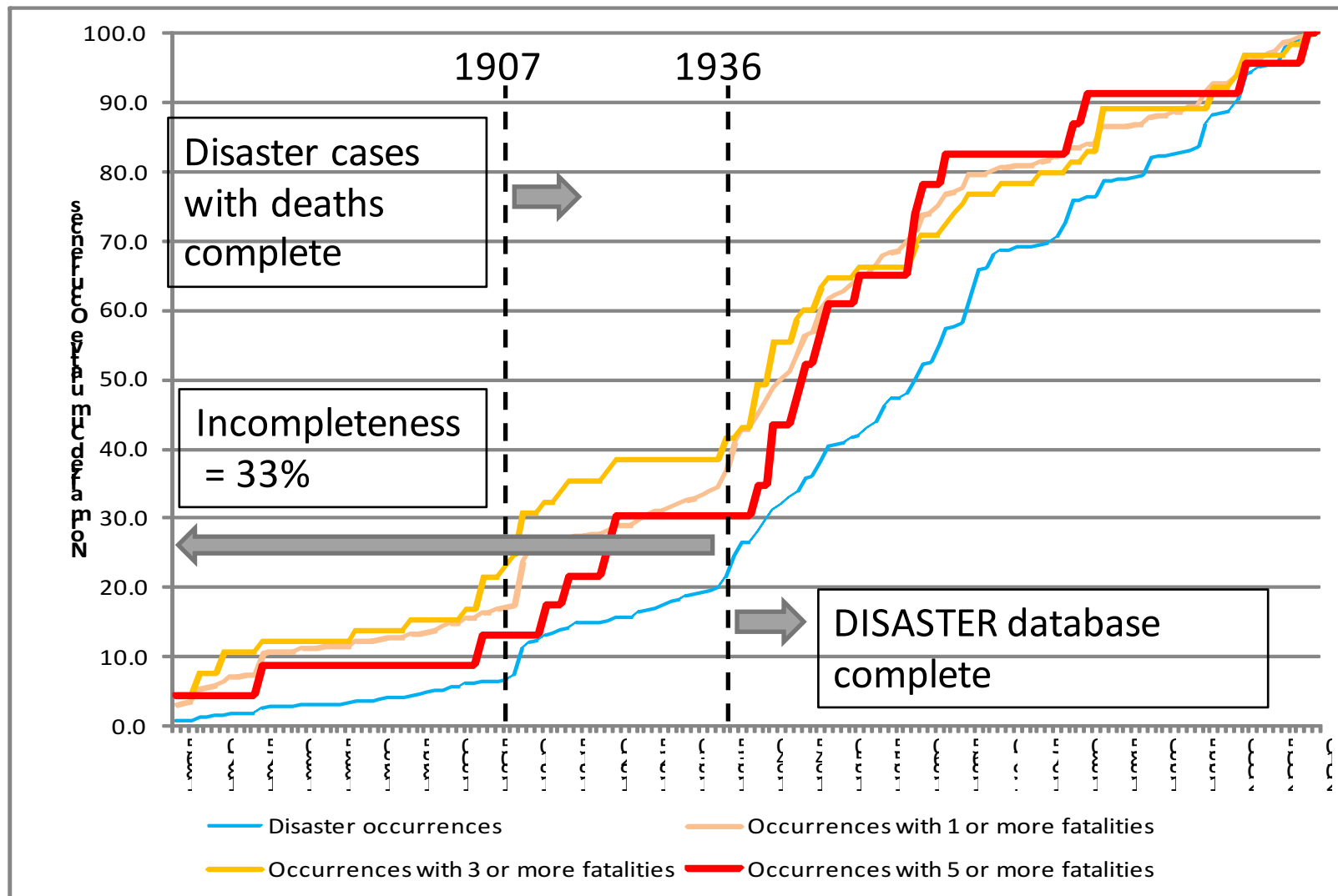
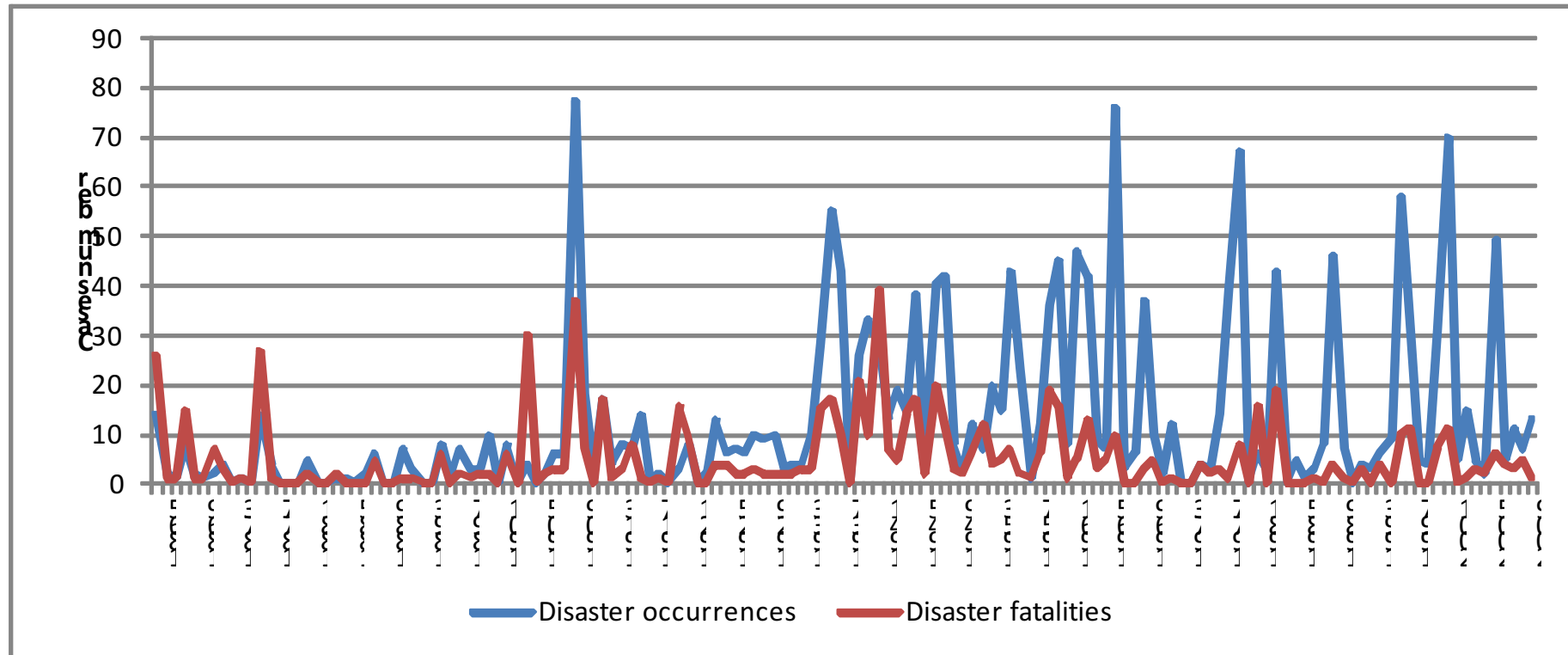


Fig. 12. Circumstances surrounding the flood (a) and landslide (b) fatalities per gender.

Completeness of the Disaster database



Completeness of the Disaster database

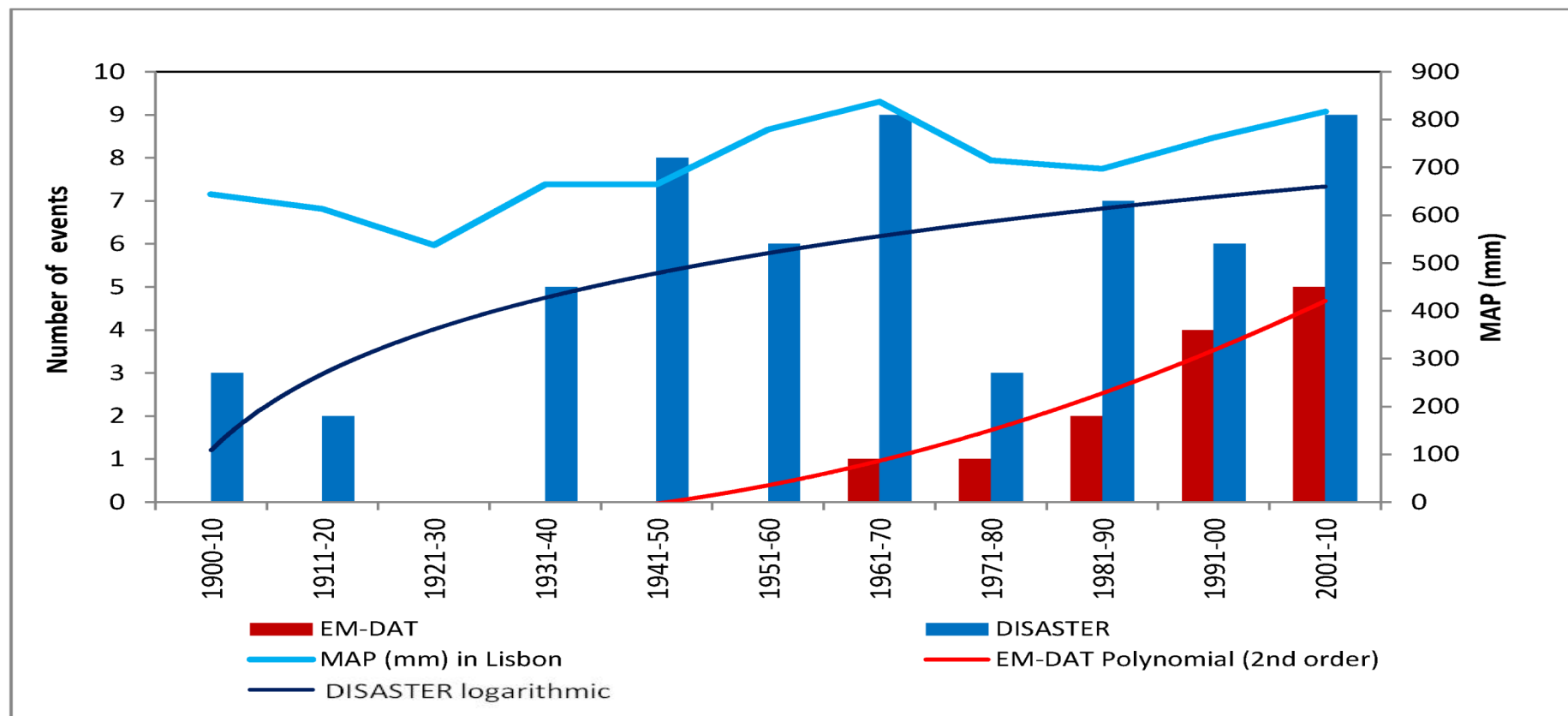


Incompleteness of the Disaster Database:

- The database is incomplete at about **33% in the period prior to 1936** (170 to 180 missing occurrences).
- The missing occurrences are mostly **cases without mortality** (mainly in the period 1907-1936).
- In relative terms, the incompleteness is higher in country **zones located more than 100 km away from Lisbon and Porto**.

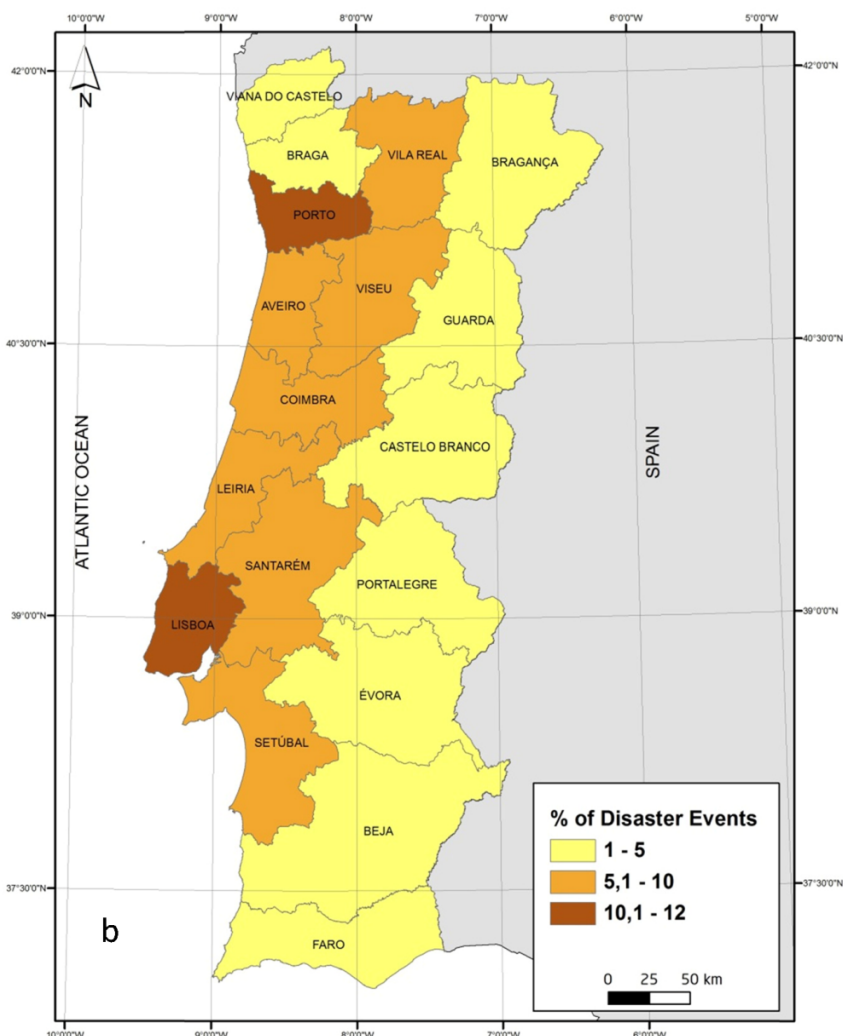
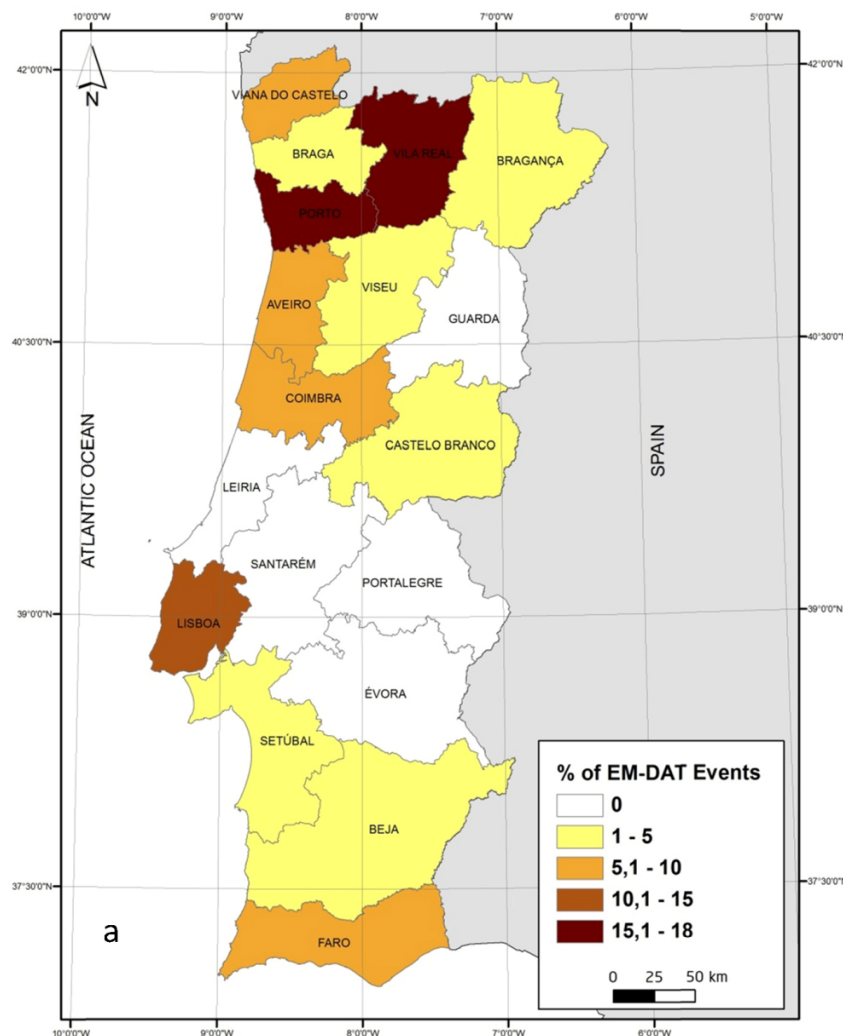
Comparison between the Disaster Database and the EM-DAT

(The DISASTER events fulfill the EM-DAT entry criteria)



| | EM-DAT | DISASTER | Difference |
|----------------|--------|----------|------------|
| Events (N) | 13 | 58 | 446% |
| Fatalities (N) | 567 | 865 | 153% |

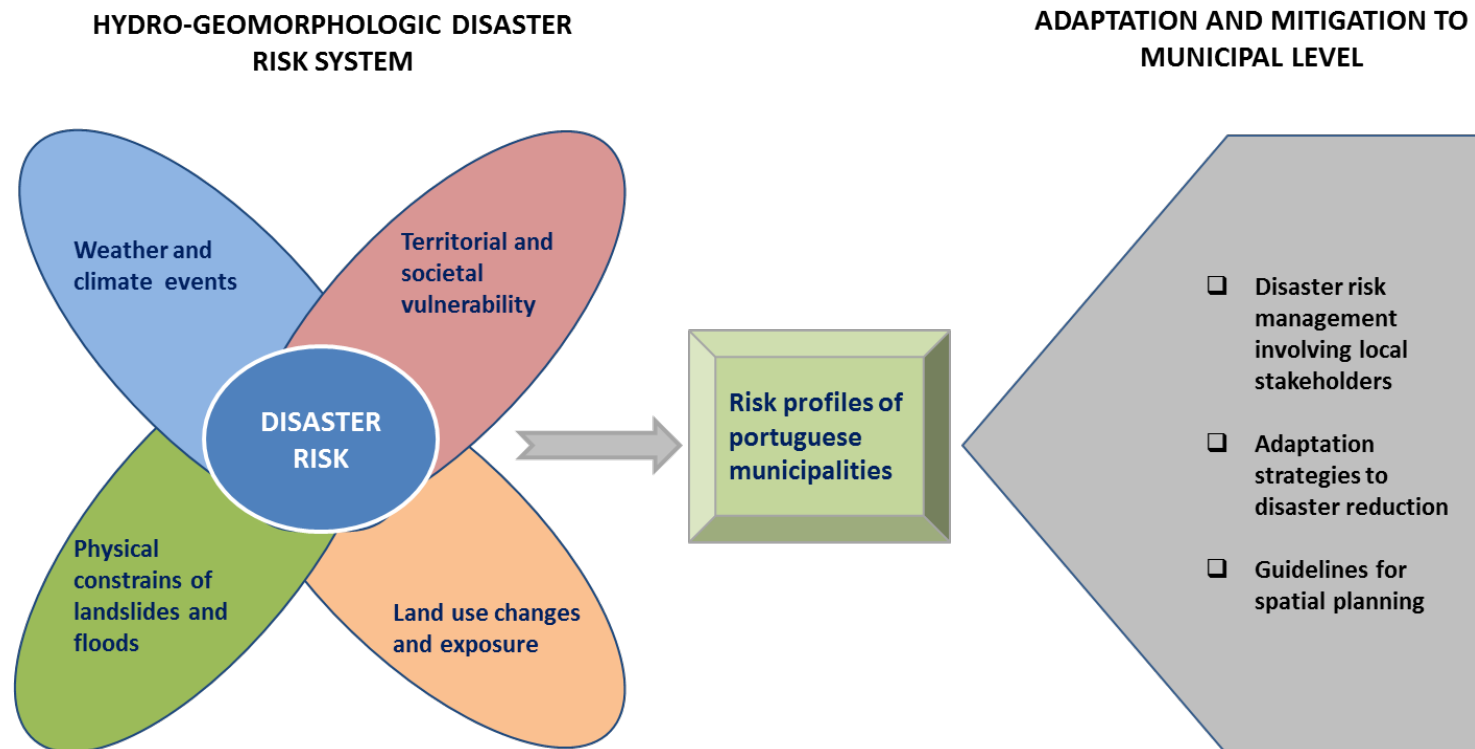
Distribution of hydro-geomorphologic disastrous events (percentage) on Portuguese districts according to the EM-DAT (a) and the DISASTER (b) databases (period: 1900-2010).
(the DISASTER events fulfill the EM-DAT entry criteria)

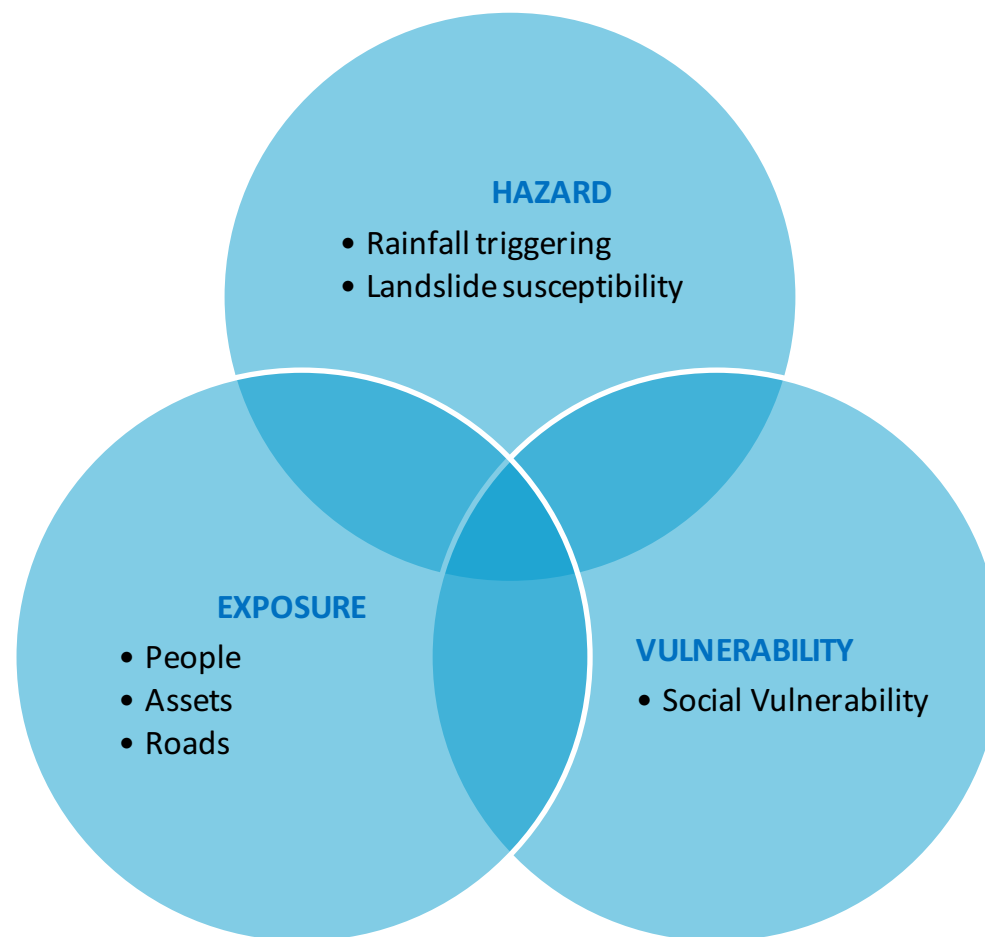


6. A step forward

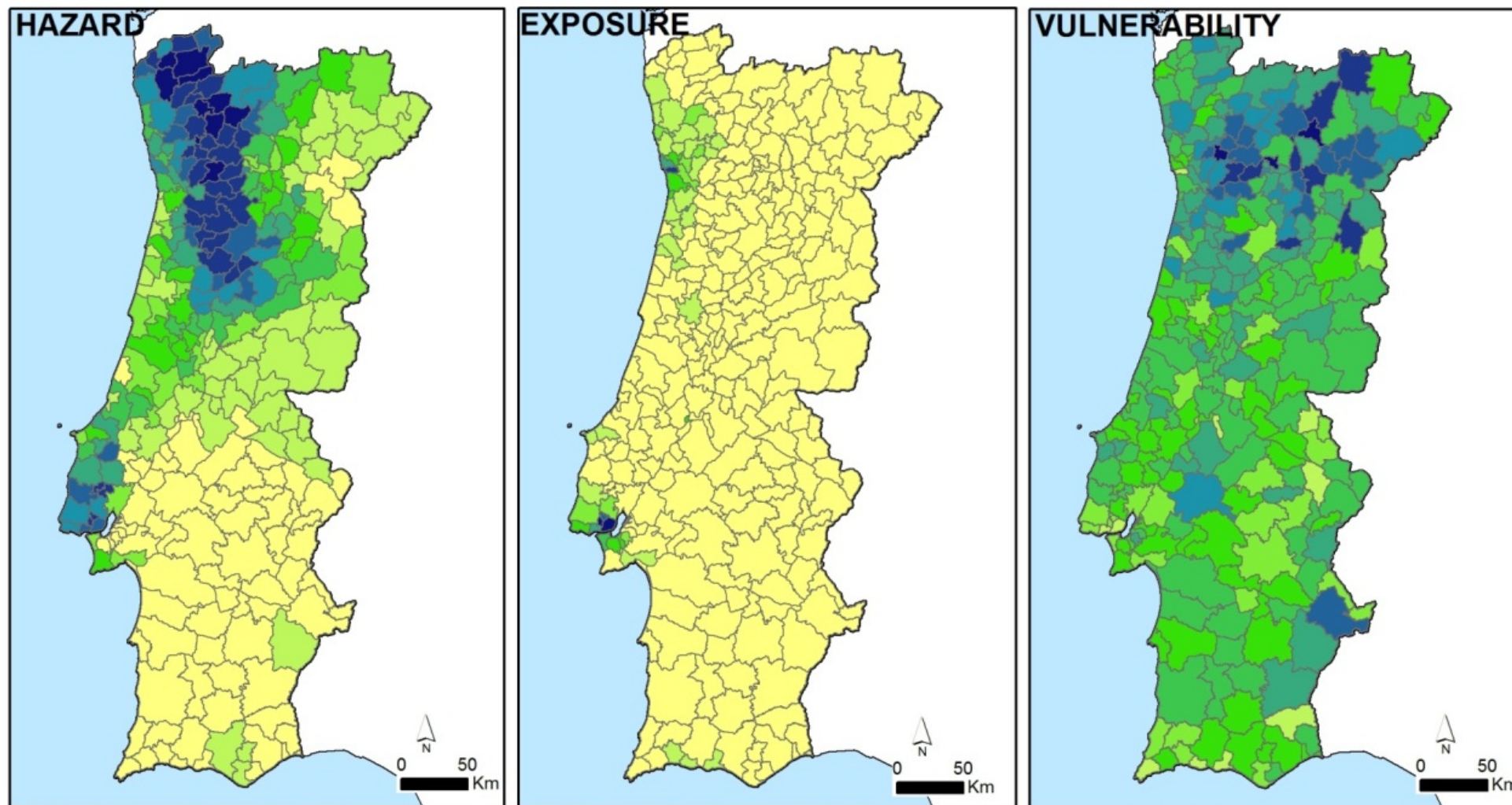


FORLAND - Hydro-geomorphologic risk in Portugal: driving forces and application for land use planning (2016-2019)



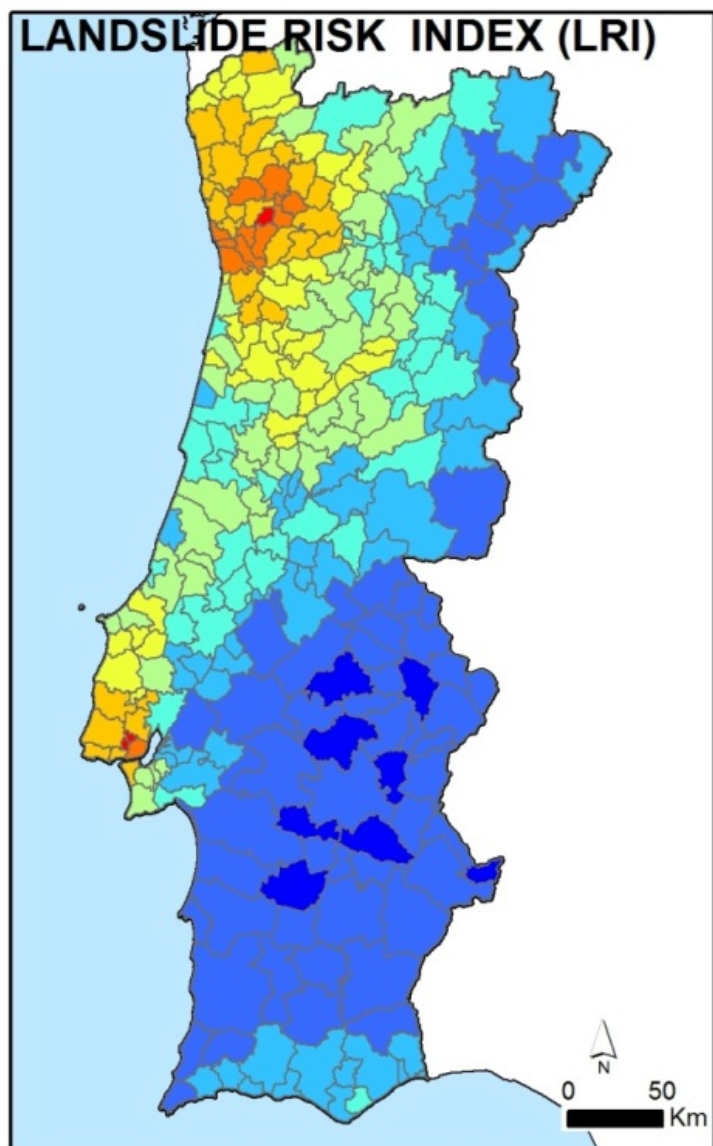


$$\text{LANDSLIDE RISK INDEX} = (\text{HAZARD}^{\frac{1}{3}}) * (\text{EXPOSURE}^{\frac{1}{3}}) * (\text{VULNERABILITY}^{\frac{1}{3}})$$



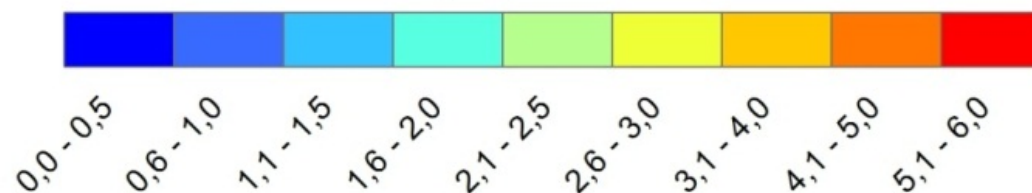
Normalized values (0-10)





$$\text{LRI} = (\text{HAZARD}^{1/3}) * (\text{EXPOSURE}^{1/3}) * (\text{VULNERABILITY}^{1/3})$$

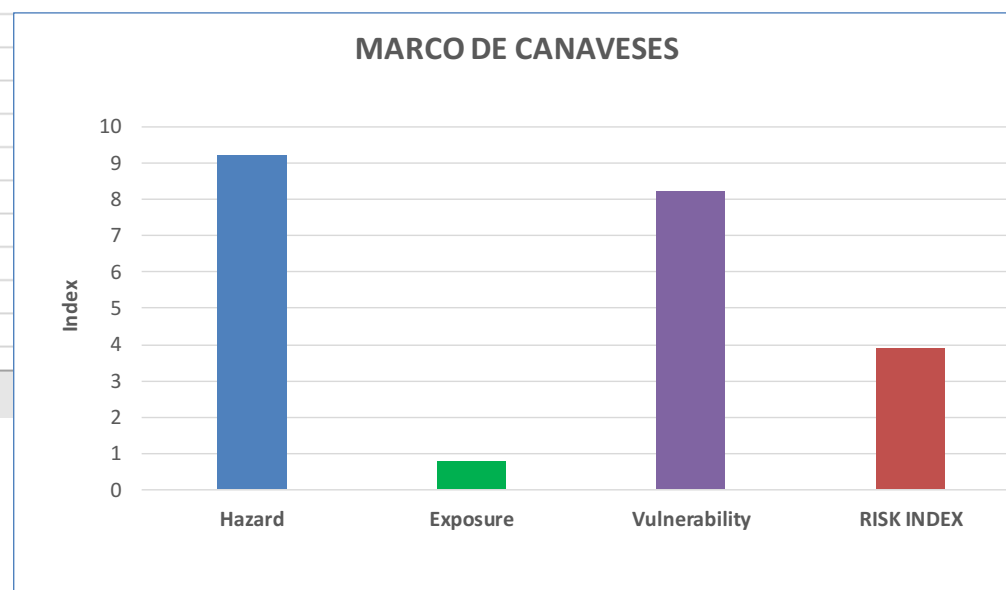
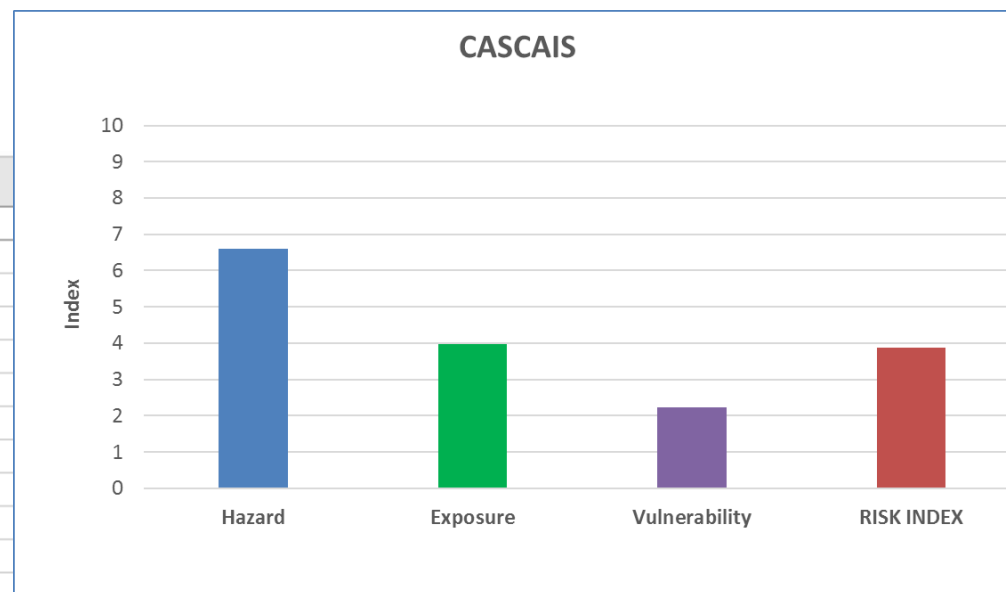
Landslide Risk Index (LRI)



Landslide Risk Profile of Portuguese municipalities

| B | C | D | E | F |
|--------------------|--------|----------|---------------|------------|
| cod_conc | Hazard | Exposure | Vulnerability | RISK INDEX |
| AMADORA | 8.29 | 9.37 | 2.85 | 6.05 |
| ODIVELAS | 8.25 | 7.60 | 2.71 | 5.54 |
| PAÇOS DE FERREIRA | 8.21 | 2.02 | 7.63 | 5.02 |
| MATOSINHOS | 6.16 | 5.37 | 3.42 | 4.84 |
| VIZELA | 9.14 | 1.81 | 6.51 | 4.75 |
| PORTO | 6.92 | 8.89 | 1.65 | 4.67 |
| LOUSADA | 8.63 | 1.29 | 9.04 | 4.65 |
| VALONGO | 6.78 | 2.85 | 5.16 | 4.64 |
| VILA NOVA DE FAMAL | 7.44 | 1.99 | 5.74 | 4.39 |
| PAREDES | 7.31 | 1.86 | 6.20 | 4.39 |
| VILA NOVA DE GAIA | 4.83 | 3.44 | 4.68 | 4.27 |
| LISBOA | 7.24 | 9.33 | 1.14 | 4.26 |
| FELGUEIRAS | 8.85 | 1.17 | 7.18 | 4.21 |
| GONDOMAR | 5.05 | 2.41 | 5.87 | 4.15 |
| GUIMARÃES | 8.20 | 1.61 | 5.18 | 4.09 |
| CASCAIS | 6.61 | 3.97 | 2.23 | 3.88 |
| MARCO DE CANAVESES | 9.23 | 0.77 | 8.20 | 3.87 |
| FAFE | 9.48 | 0.79 | 7.74 | 3.87 |
| SANTO TIRSO | 6.44 | 1.48 | 6.05 | 3.86 |
| BRAGA | 7.10 | 2.27 | 3.55 | 3.85 |
| PENAFIEL | 8.60 | 0.94 | 6.77 | 3.80 |
| LOURES | 6.51 | 2.63 | 3.13 | 3.77 |
| CELORICO DE BASTO | 8.99 | 0.76 | 7.74 | 3.75 |

TABELA COMPLETA
LDR
LDI



7. Take-home message

- For the first time in Portugal, the DISASTER project created a comprehensive GIS database on disastrous floods and landslides.
- The spatial and temporal trends observed on disastrous floods and landslides reflect the distribution of predisposing factors, the temporal incidence of triggering factors, but also the evolution of the exposure and the vulnerability of people, structures and infrastructures.
- It is not evident any exponential growth tendency of the hydro-geomorphologic events with time, although the increasing number of disaster events consisting of several disaster cases after the late 1970's may be related with the increasing occurrence of rainfall extreme events related with climate change.
- This database allows for the knowledge of the disaster drivers and their distinct incidence both in time and in space, which should be considered by stakeholders responsible for civil protection and spatial planning in order to manage and reduce disaster risk.

8. References

- Pereira, S., Diakakis, M., Deligiannakis, G., & Zêzere, J. L. (2017). Comparing flood mortality in Portugal and Greece (Western and eastern Mediterranean). *International journal of disaster risk reduction*, 22, 147-157.
- Pereira, S., Ramos, A. M., Rebelo, L., Trigo, R. M., & Zezere, J. L. (2018). A centennial catalogue of hydro-geomorphological events and their atmospheric forcing. *Advances in Water Resources*, 122, 98-112.
- Pereira, S., Ramos, A. M., Zêzere, J., Trigo, R. M., & Vaquero, J. M. (2016). Spatial impact and triggering conditions of the exceptional hydro-geomorphological event of December 1909 in Iberia. *Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences*, 16(2), 371-390.
- Pereira, S., Zêzere, J. L., Quaresma, I. D., & Bateira, C. (2014). Landslide incidence in the North of Portugal: Analysis of a historical landslide database based on press releases and technical reports. *Geomorphology*, 214, 514-525.
- Pereira, S., Zêzere, J. L., Quaresma, I., Santos, P. P., & Santos, M. (2016). Mortality patterns of hydro-geomorphologic disasters. *Risk Analysis*, 36(6), 1188-1210.
- Rebelo, L., Ramos, A., Pereira, S., & Trigo, R. (2018). Meteorological Driving Mechanisms and Human Impacts of the February 1979 Extreme Hydro-Geomorphological Event in Western Iberia. *Water*, 10(4), 454.MDPI.
- Santos, M., Fragoso, M., & Santos, J. A. (2017). Regionalization and susceptibility assessment to daily precipitation extremes in mainland Portugal. *Applied Geography*, 86, 128-138.
- Santos, M., Fragoso, M., & Santos, J. A. (2018). Damaging flood severity assessment in Northern Portugal over more than 150 years (1865–2016). *Natural Hazards*, 91(3), 983-1002.
- Santos, M., Santos, J. A., & Fragoso, M. (2017). Atmospheric driving mechanisms of flash floods in Portugal. *International Journal of Climatology*, 37, 671-680.
- Trigo, R. M., Ramos, C., Pereira, S. S., Ramos, A. M., Zêzere, J. L., & Liberato, M. L. (2016). The deadliest storm of the 20th century striking Portugal: Flood impacts and atmospheric circulation. *Journal of Hydrology*, 541, 597-610.
- Vaz, T., Zêzere, J. L., Pereira, S., Oliveira, S. C., Garcia, R. A., & Quaresma, I. (2018). Regional rainfall thresholds for landslide occurrence using a centenary database. *Natural Hazards and Earth System Science*, 18(4), 1037-1054.
- Zêzere, J. L., Pereira, S., Tavares, A. O., Bateira, C., Trigo, R. M., Quaresma, I., ... & Verde, J. (2014). DISASTER: a GIS database on hydro-geomorphologic disasters in Portugal. *Natural hazards*, 72(2), 503-532.



Thank you for your attention!
(zezere@igot.ulisboa.pt)