

Interactive comment on “Exploring drought vulnerability in Africa: an indicator based analysis to inform early warning systems” by G. Naumann et al.

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Detailed comments and suggested changes, indication of need for more clarity:

Title: You do not inform early warning systems. rather replace "to inform" by "...to be used /or applied/ in..."

Abstract Page 12218 Line 26 till Page 12219 line 3: three main different geographical regions: then a list 7 regions follow. Synchronize number and list!

Page 12221 Line 11 Nations Line 17: I believe vulnerability is not so much controversial as difficult. May change the word!

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Page 12222 Line 6 "hazard aspect of vulnerability" Not clear: one may be vulnerable to a certain hazard but is it the same?

Lines 24 - 28 It reads as the aim would be to "early warn" vulnerability. It is certainly to early warn about droughts (the hazard).

Page 12223 Line 15 Vörösmarty is written without "h" Line 26 unclear what does "African level" mean? African context?

Page 12225 Line 14 add "line" after the word poverty!

Page 12226 Line 23 Vörösmarty see above!

Page 12227 Lines 16 - 17 coping is a very low level "response" thus coping and responding capacity are not automatically the same.

Page 12228 Lines 8 - 9 I disagree that life expectancy at birth is an indicator of a population's vulnerability to extreme events such as drought. This is too "global" statement.

Lines 19 and 21 "water infrastructure" term is too general. Do you mean storage facilities? And else?

Page 12229 Line 15 the use of equal weights can be questionable if several indicators measure more or less the same feature. Thus with equal weights these overwhelm the assessment.

Page 12231 General comment: while discussing the uncertainty of the choice do not forget the uncertainty of vulnerability itself.

Page 12232 Between lines 10 and 20 the text is not clear. Quite sudden change of thought in line 15.

Page 12234 Line 15 - 19 These are normally expected phenomena (refers to the frequently trivial results of vulnerability assessments).

Page 12237 Lines 4-5 dichotomized number of persons strange formulation.

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Page 12246 Fig 1. central box Vörösmarty is without "h"!

I hope that this assessment and suggested corrections/clarifications are helpful. Please let me know if something would be unclear.

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