

Interactive comment on “Flood modeling can make a difference: Disaster risk-reduction and resilience-building in urban areas” by Jorge A. Ramirez et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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Urban flood modelling in Surat is performed by using a standard flood model and widely used topographic data. The study is overall technically sound, but some choices (e.g. parameterisation strategy) are not justified. Also, previous scientific work on calibration, validation and uncertainty analysis (e.g. effective roughness coefficients) in flood modelling (chichis huge) has been not recognised. Nor did the paper refer to the tons of research papers that have assess the pros and cons in using SRTM data to build hydraulic models. For this reason, the paper did not convince me about the novelty of this study. In fact, I don't see any progress beyond the state of the art. It looks to me as a standard model application. Link to disaster management cycle could have been potentially interested, but has not been sufficiently developed. What is stated

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with this respect can be said for any modelling exercise around the world. The introduction also mentions that an "important part of this research... motivated changes in the way local authorities...". This has triggered my curiosity, but I could not find any scientifically-sound work about the way in which flood modelling leads to e.g. changes in risk reduction policy. In summary, this paper does not provide any substantial new concepts, ideas, methods, or data, and I do not recommend its publication.

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