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National Center for Monitoring and Early Warning of Natural Disasters

New Orleans, LA, USA

American monsoons: progress and future plans
ICTP-SAIFR/UNESP
August 19-24, 2019
São Paulo, SP, Brazil
Disaster Risk Reduction – concepts that underpin Cemaden’s activities

Cemaden – operation during Monsoon

Development and Research
Disasters in Brazil: a snapshot

What are the most recurrent disasters? How they impact the population?

Droughts, flash-floods and floods, and wind-storms cause trouble for more than 90% of the Brazilian ever impacted by natural hazards.

The most lethal are the flash-floods and the landslides (> 70%).
The counts of reported disasters have been increasing since the 1990s.

Not directly related to changes in weather extremes, though not totally unlinked.
HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

>> Creating Early Warning Systems people-centered

SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DRR 2015-2030: Making the difference for poverty, health and resilience

>> Seventh Global Target: Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030.

DOI 10.1007/s13753-015-0050-9
“An early warning system is the set of capabilities needed to
i) generate and disseminate information
ii) in a timely and understandable manner
iii) that enables disaster-prone individuals, communities and organizations to prepare and act appropriately and in a timely manner to reduce possibility of injury and/or loss” (UNISDR, 2012)

Source: SPIEKERMANN et al, 2015
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK: WHAT IS AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM?

RISK KNOWLEDGE
Systematically collect data and undertake risk assessments
- Are the hazards and the vulnerabilities well known?
- What are the patterns and trends in these factors?
- Are risk maps and data widely available?

MONITORING & WARNING SERVICE
Develop hazard monitoring and early warning services
- Are the right parameters being monitored?
- Is there a sound scientific basis for making forecasts?
- Can accurate and timely warnings be generated?

DISSEMINATION & COMMUNICATION
Communicate risk information and early warnings
- Do warnings reach all of those at risk?
- Are the risks and the warnings understood?
- Is the warning information clear and useable?

RESPONSE CAPABILITY
Build national and community response capabilities
- Are response plans up to date and tested?
- Are local capacities and knowledge made use of?
- Are people prepared and ready to react to warnings?


## Conceptual Framework: What is an Early Warning System?

### Last Mile Approach vs. First Mile Approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last mile approach</th>
<th>The first mile approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top-down</td>
<td>Bottom-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defines needs</td>
<td>Identifies needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alert's delivery is the end</td>
<td>Development of the EWS is people-centered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activated by the hazards</td>
<td>Hazards + vulnerabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting for the disaster</td>
<td>DRR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly technical components</td>
<td>Technical + social components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge is “alien” to the communities</td>
<td>Traditional knowledge is incorporated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IS ABOUT REDUCING THE RISK

\[ R = (H \times \left[ \frac{V}{C} \right]) - M \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Hazard</th>
<th>Vulnerabilities</th>
<th>Capacities</th>
<th>Mitigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disaster risk is expressed as the likelihood of loss of life, injury or destruction and damage from a disaster. Hence is the combination of two likelihoods: i) probability of hazards’ occurrence and ii) chance of a negative impact</td>
<td>A hazard is a process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation. Hazards may be natural, anthropogenic or socionatural in origin (UNISDR, 2016).</td>
<td>The characteristics determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.</td>
<td>Physical, social and economics means, knowledge and abilities to anticipate and cope and recover from the impacts.</td>
<td>Policies to create preparedness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disaster Risk Reduction – concepts that underpin Cemaden’s activities

Cemaden – operation during Monsoon

Development and research
January 12, 2011 the greatest climate disaster in our recorded history.

Over 900 fatalities. Non-official data claims for over 10,000.00 people affected.

Led to the establishment of the National Plan for Risk Management and Response to Disasters.
Post-2011 DRR Policy in Brazil: A Paradigm Shift
National Plan for Risk Management and Response to Disasters

Relief and recovery

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Building structural resilience (slope, stabilization, drainage and flood control)

Prevention

MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS

Strengthening of early warning networks

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mapping

BRAZILIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Response

High resolution mapping of risk areas for 1000 municipalities

Monitoring and Alerts
As part of the National Strategy for Natural Disaster Management, CEMADEN was created by the Presidential Decree nº 7513, of July 1st, 2011. The Centre aims to develop, test and implement a system for predicting the occurrence of natural disasters in vulnerable areas throughout Brazil.

CEMADEN’s DUTIES

(i) to **produce early warnings** of relevant natural disasters for protective and civil defense actions across the country, supporting the actions of National Centre of Risk and Disaster Management – CENAD (Ministry of National Integration);
(ii) to **produce and release studies** aiming the production of necessary information for planning and promotion of actions against natural disasters;
(iii) to **develop scientific, technological and innovation capacity**, for continuing improving the natural disasters early warning;
(iv) to develop and **implement observation systems** for monitoring natural disasters;
(v) to develop and **implement computational models**, to operate computational systems needed to the elaboration of alerts;
(vi) to promote capacity building, training and support to research in correlated areas of action.
National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management

CEMADEN

Monitoring and Early Warning

INMET, INPE, DECEA/MD & STATE CENTRES
Hydrometeorology information

MI, MCid e IBGE
Disaster Risk & Vulnerability Analyses

CPRM
Geological Vulnerability Mapping

ANA
Hydrological information

COMMUNITY
Local feedback

UNIVERSITIES & RESEARCH INSTITUTES
Knowledge transfer, methods and hypothesis-testing, applied research databases on natural disasters (vulnerability, exposure, hazards, risks)

CENAD

Alert & Logistics

MS, GSI, MT, Army Force

CIVIL DEFENSE

Contigency & Response Plans

CEMADEN- Centro Nacional de Monitoramento e Alertas de Desastres Naturais
The municipality must have the risk mapping (CPRM)

There must be a registered disaster in the county

Currently, there are 958 municipalities being monitored
Non-stop operations Room

- **7x24, 365-DAY A YEAR MONITORING**
- **BEGAN IN DECEMBER, 2011**
- **MULTIDICIPLINARY TEAM** (GEOLOGISTS, GEOGRAPHERS, ENGINEERS, HYDROLOGISTS, METEOROLOGISTS, IT PROFESSIONALS)
- **EARLY WARNINGS** FOR LANDSLIDES, MUDSLIDES, FLOODS, FLOODINGS, FLASHFLOODS AND SEVERE DROUGHT IMPACTS IN SEMI ARID REGION
Weekly meetings with representatives of the Mining and Energy Ministry, the Water Nacional Agency, states and municipalities and energy sector stakeholders. The purpose is supporting the decision-making process in some of the main hydro-power generation basins (São Francisco, Madeira, Parnaiba and Tocantins).


Monthly Meetings for Assessment and Scenarios of Potential Impacts for Strategic. Given the actual conditions and scenarios for rainfall in the next weeks/months we estimate the impacts on strategic sectors in Brazil. Evaluation of the alerts. Hydrological impacts. Impacts on the vegetation and small holder farmers.
### MATRIX FOR WARNING LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likelihood for occurrence</th>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very high</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Monit./Observ.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTER-MINISTERIAL DECREE Nº 314, OCT-17-2012
Alert issuing process

Risk scenario: area prone to landslides (exposure), dense occupation (vulnerability), previously recorded landslides, etc

35 mm over the last hour
84 mm / 24 h

No NWP, only observed rainfall rates

Cenário de Risco:
As áreas de risco de movimentos de massa no município caracterizam-se pela densa ocupação de encostas de alta declividade por moradias de alta vulnerabilidade, em locais com recorrência de deslizamentos, taludes de corte e aterro e indícios de movimentação do terreno. Também ocorrem afloramentos rochosos sujeitos a quedas e rolamentos. Esta situação associada à precipitação incidente e acumulada, somada à previsão meteorológica indica que podem ocorrer deslizamentos pontuais e induzidos nas áreas de risco mapeadas.

Situação Atual:
Os acumulados de precipitação são de até 35 mm em 1 hora(s) e de 84 mm em 24 hora(s). A estimativa de precipitação instantânea do radar Pico do Couto indica áreas de instabilidade com potencial para chuvas de intensidade moderada.

Considere: chuva fraca < 10 mm/h, chuva moderada de 10 a 40 mm/h, e chuva forte > 40 mm/h.

Tendência:
A previsão meteorológica indica continuidade de chuva com possibilidade de pancadas.

Recomendações:
A atenção às áreas de risco mapeadas pela Geo Rio (2011).

Ações de Proteção e Defesa Civil recomendadas pelo CENAD:
Em caso de alerta de risco de nível MODERADO não se descarta a possibilidade do fenômeno alertado e, caso ocorra, espera-se impacto moderado para a população. Recomendam-se ações previstas no plano de contingência, tais como: sobreaviso das equipes municipais, etc.
Alert’s Life Cycle

Ciclo de Vida do Alerta 268/2019

Localidade: RIO DE JANEIRO/RJ
Estação: SÃO GONÇALO - MARESIAS (A602)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obsorado PCD</th>
<th>Acumulado PCD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abertura</td>
<td>Atualização</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cessar</td>
<td>Ocorrência em Horário Exato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ocorrência em Período Estimado</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moderado</th>
<th>Alto</th>
<th>Muito Alto</th>
<th>Moderado</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abertura</td>
<td>Atualização: 1</td>
<td>Atualização: 2</td>
<td>Atualização: 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/02/2019 05:25</td>
<td>06/02/2019 21:22</td>
<td>08/02/2019 07:36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21:12</td>
<td>Movimentos de Massa</td>
<td>Movimentos de Massa</td>
<td>Movimentos de Massa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rio de Janeiro-RJ
Landslide at the Niemeyer Avenue
Source: José Lucena (Photo) / Futura Press / Estadão
A cold front mostly over the ocean intensified local/regional convection over the Rio de Janeiro state.

**Diurnal Cycle**

**GOES 16 Channel 07 (3.9 μm) 23:45**
Zooming into the living people scale

Radar imagery: an absolutely priceless tool for rainfall rates estimates
Disaster Risk Reduction – concepts that underpin Cemaden’s activities

Cemaden – operation during Monsoon

Development and Research
VSWI anomalies

Vegetation Supply Water Index (VSWI)

Source: NDVI and LST – MODIS/NASA
*Processed by Cemaden

Since 2002

Spatial res. 1km

Municipality area percentage affected by drought according to VSWI anomaly percentage

Support to “Garantia Safra”: agricultural insurance program
Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

Feb/2019
SPI - 3 months

Feb/2019
SPI - 6 meses

As escalas são utilizadas para avaliar seca agrícola/vegetativa (3 a 6 meses) ou seca hidrológica (6 meses ou mais).

Legend
spi_03_201808.tif
Value
High : 2,28088
Low : -3,60806

Source: CPTEC/INPE (data) - Cemaden (maps)
Integrated Drought Index (IIS)
SPI + VHI (Vegetation Health Index)

Moderate to severe drought for Sergipe, Alagoas, Bahia, Pernambuco.
WATCHING: moderate to severe drought remains even though the scenario is above average.
• Monitoring to support the research on agrometeorology

• Measurements of soil moisture, soil temperature, air temperature, rainfall, etc

• 600 locations (rural sites) since 2015
Water available in the soil. Measured at 20 cm.

- Normalization of soil moisture by field capacity and wilting point (from soil samples)

Averaged over regions of interest (micro-regions = clusters of municipalities)

Estimation of chances of crop failure during critical crop periods
Objective: To introduce the culture of risk perception of natural disasters in Brazil

Semiautomatic pluviometers installed in risk areas and they are operated by local community teams, which are trained, aiming to promote the engagement and awareness of local inhabitants that live on areas of risk

1375 rain gauges installed; 286 municipalities; 52 training courses; 750 attendees;
The project aims to engage communities around schools in areas at risk for socio-environmental disasters and increase their perception of the potential risk. Through sharing scientific knowledge to aid their protection, sustainability and resilience, these communities will be able to better practice citizen science. This will be accomplished through two seminars with 200 school in each of the two most vulnerable states.

Recently the Campaign #Learn2prevent was granted among 100 projects over the world (3 in South America) by American Geophysical Union, as an outstanding project in the category Education and Diversity.
The Cantareira System: This reservoir system supplies water for around half of the city’s population. The city of São Paulo depends, among other reservoirs, on this system.

Modelling of the reservoir volume through the incoming precipitation.

Comparison with prior occurrences

Estimation of future volume by using scenarios

First steps investigating the usefulness of S2S predictions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservoir</th>
<th>Basin area (km²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emborcação</td>
<td>29076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paranaíba river</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Três Marias</td>
<td>51576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>São Francisco river</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furnas</td>
<td>52197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grande river</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantareira</td>
<td>2279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaguari-Jacareí, Atibainha and Cachoeira rivers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crowdsourced data applied to support the agricultural drought monitoring in the Brazilian Semiarid

- Picture of crop lands (location)
- Crop type
- Planting date
- Cultivated and harvested area
- Management Information: (soil, Fertilizers and Pesticides use)
- Disease incidence

In loco agricultural drought monitoring!
Anthropogenic climate change has increased the risk of the April-May 2017 extreme rainfall in the Uruguay River basin, which has caused extensive flood and major socioeconomic impacts, by at least two fold.
Fig. 1. (a) 2017 April and May anomalous precipitation in the Uruguay basin as percentage difference from a 1979–2013 climatology, based on the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) Global Unified Precipitation data. The gray borders indicate the geographic boundaries for coastlines, countries and Brazilian states, while black line indicates the boundaries of the Uruguay River basin. (b) Two-month precipitation anomaly related to the period of 1979–2017 as percentage difference from the 1979–2013 climatology, based on the Uruguay catchment average calculated using the CPC data (black line). Red bars in (b) highlight very strong El Niño events, where the Oceanic Niño Index (ONI) was greater than 2°C for more than 3 consecutive months; red dots indicate April–May precipitation anomaly and the red dashed dotted line the 2017 April–May anomaly. (c) Daily streamflow from Uruguayana (black line) and daily precipitation for the average CPC data in the catchment area upstream of Uruguayana (blue line).
Fig. 2. (a) Probability distribution function for fitted gamma distributions of ActualExt and NaturalExt simulations of 2017 April and May accumulated precipitation in the Uruguay basin. (b) Return time for the ActualExt and NaturalExt experiments. Each marker represents an ensemble member and the blue and orange lines are the fitted gamma return period for the ActualExt and NaturalExt, respectively. The errors bars indicate the 95% confidence interval using bootstrap resampling. Black dashed line indicating the 517 mm threshold based on the 1986 event and the 2017 rainfall of 549 mm as dashed dotted line.
The Brazilian Semiarid

**Population:** 23.5 million hab. (IBGE, 2014)

**Nº of municipalities:** 1,135

**Nº of family farming properties:** 1,493,852 (IBGE, 2009)

**Mean area of family farming property in the Brazilian semi-arid:** 16.5 ha

**Mean Annual Precipitation:** Less or equal to 800 mm.
The most severe and prolonged drought occurred in 2011–2016. In a clear contrast to previous droughts in past decades, during these last 5-years period drought were more frequent, severe and affected a larger area with significant impacts for population.

A recent study performed by the National Center for Monitoring and Early Warning of Natural Disasters (Cemaden) showed that the 2012-2016 NEB drought was more intense drought in terms of duration, severity and recurrence in the semiarid region at last 35 years throughout (Brito et al., 2017). The Figure 4 shows that during 2011-2016, unlike all others, the semiarid region presented more than 50% of area impacted by prolonged drought events with duration of over 50 months. The main climatological features of the drought in NEB are detailed in Marengo et al (2017).
Energy and water security: some of the most important reservoirs for generation of electricity are located in this very region.

Also for food security: dry spells are one of the main factor behind crop failure. If they happen during the flowering period of the crop.
S2S predictions of dry spells

Collaboration with the CSSP-Brazil DUBSTEP project

- What is the skill of the S2S forecasts for dry spells (duration, magnitude and intensity) over SEB?
- Assess how the skill beyond day 15 is influenced by large-scale tropical and extra-tropical atmospheric circulations (MJO and PSA)
- How to improve forecast skill beyond day 15? (e.g.: removing bias, calibrating the probabilities, machine learning techniques?)
WORDS TO THINK ABOUT

How to convert the scientific knowledge about the American Monsoon to wisdom (useful information) for the decision makers?

For DRR spatial scale and diurnal cycle matters. The real-world happens in polygons (watersheds, metropolitan-regions, counties)

Attempt to walk on the users’ shoes. Incorporate and promote the “First mile” approach.
Gracias! Thanks!
Questions? Comments?