



Winter Newsletter 2015

Welcome to the RiskScape
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New Zealand is leading the way as international policy
makers' call for national disaster risk modelling tools

RiskScape is one of only a handful of national risk loss and impact modelling tools available to government for natural hazards management.

Featured articles:

- Early winter flooding
- RiskScape for Indonesia
- The Sendai Effect: What will a new agreement on disaster risk reduction mean for New Zealand?

Call for Testers!

We are working towards releasing
version 1.0 of RiskScape

This version will have a significant
number of changes and enhancements.

We would like to put out a test release
for volunteers to test and report back
on. If you are interested you will need to
be committed to filing reports on bugs
and other issues

If you would like to be a member of our
test volunteers team, please send email
to Gaby Turek: g.turk@niwa.co.nz



Flood damage after heavy June rainfall

Post-event surveys build our flood knowledge and
improve risk models.

Rainfall in June was more 200% above normal in Whanganui, Palmerston North, Central Otago and Dunedin leading to devastating flooding.

Riverside properties in Wanganui City and nearby surrounding towns such as Waitotara were particularly affected, with silt ridden contaminated flood waters reaching depths of over 1m within homes.

The NIWA RiskScape team travelled to Wanganui and Dunedin in June 2015 to carry out a post-event building damage survey. Collecting this information is vital for improving flood risk, impact and loss modelling. The relationship between flood water depth with the type of damage, the extent and duration of evacuation and subsequent cost of repair can be calculated. With this information emergency managers and planners can use RiskScape to plan for future flood events.

For further information about the RiskScape post-flood-event surveys please contact;
Ryan.Paulik@niwa.co.nz

RiskScape set to Help Reduce Risk from Natural Hazards in Indonesia



In June the RiskScape team facilitated a training session as part of the StIRRRD project (<http://stirrrd.org/>), a New Zealand Aid project to help local governments in Indonesia better understand and manage natural hazards and risks.

A great opportunity to share and learn from Indonesian colleagues to strengthen the RiskScape project.

As part of a two week visit to New Zealand representatives from Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) and partner universities, Universitas Andalas, Universitas Bengkulu, Universitas Tadulako, and Universitas Mataram, were able to get 'hand on' with RiskScape. One of the elements of the StIRRRD project is a series of New Zealand-based and in-country workshops that will include case studies from both countries. In October the RiskScape team will be visiting Indonesia to support the collection of both hazard and exposure data and collaboration for piloting RiskScape.

The StIRRRD project will draw on New Zealand's expertise in disaster risk reduction, preparedness and risk management and will provide a forum to share the countries' knowledge to reduce risks and increase preparedness internationally.



Training update...

The RiskScape team have facilitated introductory trainings for 7 councils since March 2015. Thank you to all those who helped organize, fund and contribute to make these events so successful!

If you're are interested in hosting or attending a training get in touch via the contact us page on the RiskScape website.

<https://riskscape.niwa.co.nz/contact>

The Sendai Effect

In March 2015 the UN Members States agreed and signed the new international framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. This framework is the guiding policy on natural hazards management and resilience building. New Zealand's scientists, policy makers and government have played a significant role in developing this new document.

The first priority is called 'Understanding Risk' and has a strong emphasis on national disaster risk modelling tools.

'enhance the development and dissemination of **science-based methodologies and tools** to record and share disaster losses and relevant disaggregated data and statistics, as well as to strengthen **disaster risk modelling, assessment, mapping, monitoring** and multi-hazard early-warning systems' Page 25: The Sendai Framework 2015-2030.



http://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

In response to the Sendai Framework MCDEM organized a Symposium for DRR held at Te Papa, Wellington. RiskScape's Nick Horspool (GNS), Rob Bell (NIWA) and Graeme Smart (NIWA) all presented at the event. Core messages from their presentations were:

- New Zealand needs a comprehensive approach to disaster data collection, management and use.

How to...get started with RiskScape?

Ensure your computer meet the system requirements <https://riskscape.niwa.co.nz/get-started/system-requirements>

Download RiskScape:

Simple steps to getting up and running with RiskScape:

1. Register as a RiskScape user via the website
2. Download the demo and follow the start-up wizard
3. Request a full license for free when prompted (free only for non-for-profit).
4. Use the quick-start guides and tutorials in the RiskScape wiki to learn more. <https://wiki-riskscape.niwa.co.nz>

Technical assistance:

Register with the RiskScape helpdesk and log a ticket: <https://support-riskscape.niwa.co.nz>

Meet the team

We would like to introduce you to our RiskScape team. Each member of our team plays an important and unique role within the project.



Nick Horspool is a risk scientist at GNS and is the GNS RiskScape project lead for hazards and vulnerability. His area of expertise include risk modelling, earthquake and tsunami hazards, and software development. In his spare time Nick loves marathon running!

Looking forwards...

Emergency management ...

RiskScape is evolving to meet users' needs. This year we are focusing on refining RiskScape for use by emergency managers. For more information email Kate.Crowley@niwa.co.nz

Australia calling ...

The RiskScape team will be going to Perth to run a special workshop at the 8th Australian Natural Hazards Management Conference in October <http://anhmc.org/>. The workshop will allow participants to get hands on with two risk tools: RiskScape and InaSafe, following which there will be a discussion on the future of risk tools under the Sendai Framework.