

Review of flood risk management in Tunisia: Current State and Challenges

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Abstract

Economic losses from flood disasters have been increasing in recent decades in Tunisia. The future flood losses are expected to increase due to a continued increase in economic exposure and climate change. This highlights the importance of designing policies that can mitigate the impacts of these floods on the economy and society. A review is presented to highlight the importance of flood damage assessments practice and gives an overview of flood damage assessments in Tunisia. The information regarding the Tunisian context have been collected from several sources such as the technical studies reports, general articles, and internet web sites. The damages were classified into 4 categories direct/indirect damages and tangible/intangible damages, the focus in this paper was the direct tangible flood damage estimation approaches. It was observed for the Tunisian context the absence of recognized damage functions and generally the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) led up the studies on flood damage estimation for Tunisia. As a result, in Tunisia flood damages need to be quantified as accurately as possible since it is a crucial step for the flood risk assessment and so for the flood the risk management.

Key Words : climate change, flood damage assessments ,direct tangible flood damage , flood risk assessment