WMO Project on Twinning SARFFG & SWFDP-SA

Eugene Poolman South African Weather Service



SWFDP vs SARFFG





- SWFDP since 2007
 - Backbone is the cascading of EPS, NWP, Sat Nowcasting forecasting products on internet
 - From Global to RSMC to NMSs to DMAs
 - Forecast for next 5 days, every day
- SARFFG since 2014
 - Model server at RSMC, flash flood guidance products to NMHSs via internet
 - Nowcast for next 6 hours



1. WMO Twinning Project: Integrated SWFDP-SARFFG Forecasting System



Twinning Project Developments

- SARFFG Forecaster Interface enhancements
 - providing Google type detail including vulnerability detail (roads, cities, etc.)
 - On-demand FFG-grams at any basin
- Multiple NWP streams for 5 models
 - Compare rainfall fcasts with FFG "ensemble" flash flood threat
 - Combining SWFDP rainfall guidance fields as a "model stream" to provide forecaster-interpreted
- Extending forecast period to 12 and 24 hours using NWP in planning
- River flooding to be tested in the region



Moving from "What weather will be" to "What weather will do"



Testing Impact-based EWS linked with flooding



- NOT weather threshold based (50mm in 24hrs), but impact level based
- Impacts developed by Disaster
 Management based on
 vulnerability
- Impacts from rain include roads flooded, bridges damaged, villages flooded evacuation, etc.
- Forecaster coordination with disaster management tested
- Different warnings require a different response from disaster management depending on its *impact* and *likelihood* levels
- FFGS systems ideally suited for providing guidance

20-23 Feb 2017 Gauteng Heavy Rain Event

Date Issued:	20-Feb-17
Date Valid:	20 Feb 2017 to 22 Feb 2017
Time Valid:	08h00 20 Feb to 23h00 22 Feb
Warning (SMS)	ORANGE WARNING OF RAIN
	5. Be prepared for some moderate level disruption to normal daily life in Gauteng.
Discussion (Email and Website)	Rainfall already occurring across Gauteng with decent rainfall amounts already measured in places, however models are indicating rainfall to subside slightly for the remainder of the today with the bulk of rain coming in overnight and especially tomorrow during peak hour morning traffic. There is an indication that more than 100 mm is possible in places tomorrow (Tue). Heavy rainfall could persist over Gauteng on Wednesday, especially over the northern parts (COT). Areas that are prone to flooding need to be closely monitored over this period.
	Please be aware that flooding of roads and settlements (formal and informal) are possible, disruption of municipal services, major traffic flow problems (disruptions) because of flooded roads and significant reduced visibility due to rainfall, possible damages to roads and bridges due to flooding, possible danger to life (due to fast flowing streams and rivers), some communities could be displaced.

Likelihood	High				
	Medium		(5)
	Low				
	Very Low				
		Minimal	Minor	Significant	Severe
		Impacts			

Date Issued:	22-Feb-17			
Date Valid:	22 Feb 2017 to 23 Feb 2017			
Time Valid:	11h00 22 Feb to 23h00 23 Feb			
Warning (SMS)	YELLOW WARNING OF RAIN			
	1. Be aware that some low level disruption looks likely to occur over Gauteng			
Discussion (Email and Website)	High rainfall amounts have already been recorded across Gauteng and therefore the ground should be saturated due to these high amounts. The areas that are prone to flooding have already reported flooding and any further rainfall (even amounts that are not particularly high) could cause those same areas to flood again. There is a higher likelihood of minor impacts occurring over the City of Tshwane due to the bulk of the rain expected to occur over this area.			
	Please be aware that localised flooding of susceptible roads and settlements, low- lying areas and bridges is possible. Major roads will be affected, but can still be used with an increase in travel times. Roads crossing low water bridges could possibly need to be closed.			



- A heavy rain event linked to Ex-TC Dineo caused heavy rain over central SA.
- Flooding widely reported, also Gauteng
- This event raised the Vaal dam from 65% to 85% in 3 days

Road	Area	Vaal Dam Storage vs Inflow		
Witkoppen Road	Douglasdale, Paulshof	90	250	
Roosevelt Road	Alexandra	85	225	
John Voster, Rabie	Centurion	80	200	
Low bridge over Apies River	Capital Park	75	17	
Atteridgeville flooded		8 70	15	
Brook Ave, River Club and River Road	Bryanston	\$\$ 65	12	
Old Pretoria and Olifants	Midrand	60 20	10	
Smit Street	Braamfontein	55	75	
R24	Eastrand	50	50	
Town road closed Barrage	Vanderbijlpark, Emfuleni		250	
Frikkie Meyer	Vanderbijlpark, Emfuleni	03/0 22/0 22/0 13/0 01/0 01/0 01/0 22/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 11/0 22/0 22	0	
Golf road	Vereeniging, Emfuleni	2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 2,2,2017 1,2017	- Invest	
Union road	Vereeniging, Emfuleni	Dam Storage Vivi Dum Storage Bergethon		
Pierneef road	Midvaal	Watter & Samitation Watter &		
	5			

Rain impacts Gauteng 20-23 Feb 2017