Interactive comment on “DamaGIS: a multisource geodatabase for collection of flood-related damage data” by Clotilde Saint-Martin et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 27 March 2018

General remarks: The submitted paper consists of the introduction of a new multisource geodatabase for flood related damage data which is called DamaGIS. DamaGIS is based on the ArcGIS-Software. At the actual state of the introduced database, only data from Southern France with 729 damage entries amongst 23 flash flood events are included. The paper describes the data sources and data structure in detail. In addition, the authors introduced a new rating system for flood related damage. In general, the paper is well written and the descriptions are accurate and the conclusions are also well founded. Therefore, from my point of view, the paper needs only a minor revision. However, from my point of view, there are still some questions open.

1. At page 1 line 11: “However, actions to reduce the impact of floods are often hin-
dered by the lack of damage data on past flood events “. Which actions are meant and how can these actions be improved by the introduced data base ?. This should be mentioned short and concise in the paper to demonstrate the usefulness of DamaGIS.

2. Who are the potential users of this database ? Authorities or everybody ?

3. Can this database be taken as a kind of Wikipedia of flood related damage data in France since everybody might have access and can contribute to this database ?

4. If everybody can contribute to this database, how is the data quality checked ?. For that purpose, the authors only suggest to use a direct link to the sources of information (Page 4, line 14-15). Is that really enough for a thorough quality assurance of the data ?. The only criteria, which is addressed in the paper, is an information about the location of the flood damage.

5. At page 14, line 4-5: The authors claimed the suitability of DamaGIS for modeling purposes. These corresponding modeling purposes should be shortly described and the corresponding benefits of the database for such model applications should also be shortly addressed for a further substantiation of the usefulness of DamaGIS. In addition, such a substantiation might be an additional motivation for contributions to DamaGIS.