

# South Africa's coastal climate risk: a national assessment

Melanie Lück-Vogel<sup>1,2</sup>, Andre Theron<sup>2</sup>, Lauren Williams<sup>3</sup>, Alize Le Roux<sup>1</sup>, Elsona van Huyssteen<sup>1</sup>, Christiaan Theron<sup>2</sup>, Lara van Niekerk<sup>1</sup>, Ryan Peter<sup>3</sup>, Potlako Khati<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> CSIR, South Africa; <sup>2</sup> Stellenbosch University, South Africa

<sup>3</sup> Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries, South Africa



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany

# Background

- > **600 million** people (ca. **10%** of the world's population) live in coastal areas that are less than **10 meters** above sea level.
- Nearly **2.4 billion** people (ca. **40%** of the world's population) live within **100 km** of the coast.
- Ca. **40%** of South Africans are living within **60km** of the Oceans' coasts
- Ca. **10 million** people (about **20%**) of South African live in coastal areas
- Approximately **60%** of the South African economy depends on coastal natural resources and trade infrastructure such as ports.



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



# Massive population pressure in SA coastal flood risk zones

2011

Hazard risk	total	%	NC	WC	EC_urb	EC_trad	KZN_urb	KZN_trad
very high	15	0.002	2	13	-	-	-	-
high	738	0.1	102	585	33	4	14	-
medium	17 044	2.8	467	14 377	1 155	30	989	26
low	106 278	17.2	1 259	73 460	15 700	456	13 464	1 939
very low	494 308	79.9	1 476	353 103	52 343	758	58 116	28 512
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>618 383</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3 306</b>	<b>441 538</b>	<b>69 231</b>	<b>1 248</b>	<b>72 583</b>	<b>30 477</b>

Very high risk zone =  
Directly affected by  
SLR

2016

Hazard risk	TOTAL	%	NC	WC	EC_urb	EC_trad	KZN_urb	KZN_trad
Very high	55	0.01	1	52	1	-	1	-
high	1 158	0.1	100	983	60	4	11	-
medium	23 184	2.2	479	19 230	1 969	87	1 401	18
low	161 998	15.3	1 294	114 539	26 524	759	16 298	2 584
very low	873 550	82.4	1 511	655 959	103 347	1 466	69 435	41 832
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 059 945</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3 385</b>	<b>790 763</b>	<b>131 901</b>	<b>2 316</b>	<b>87 146</b>	<b>44 434</b>

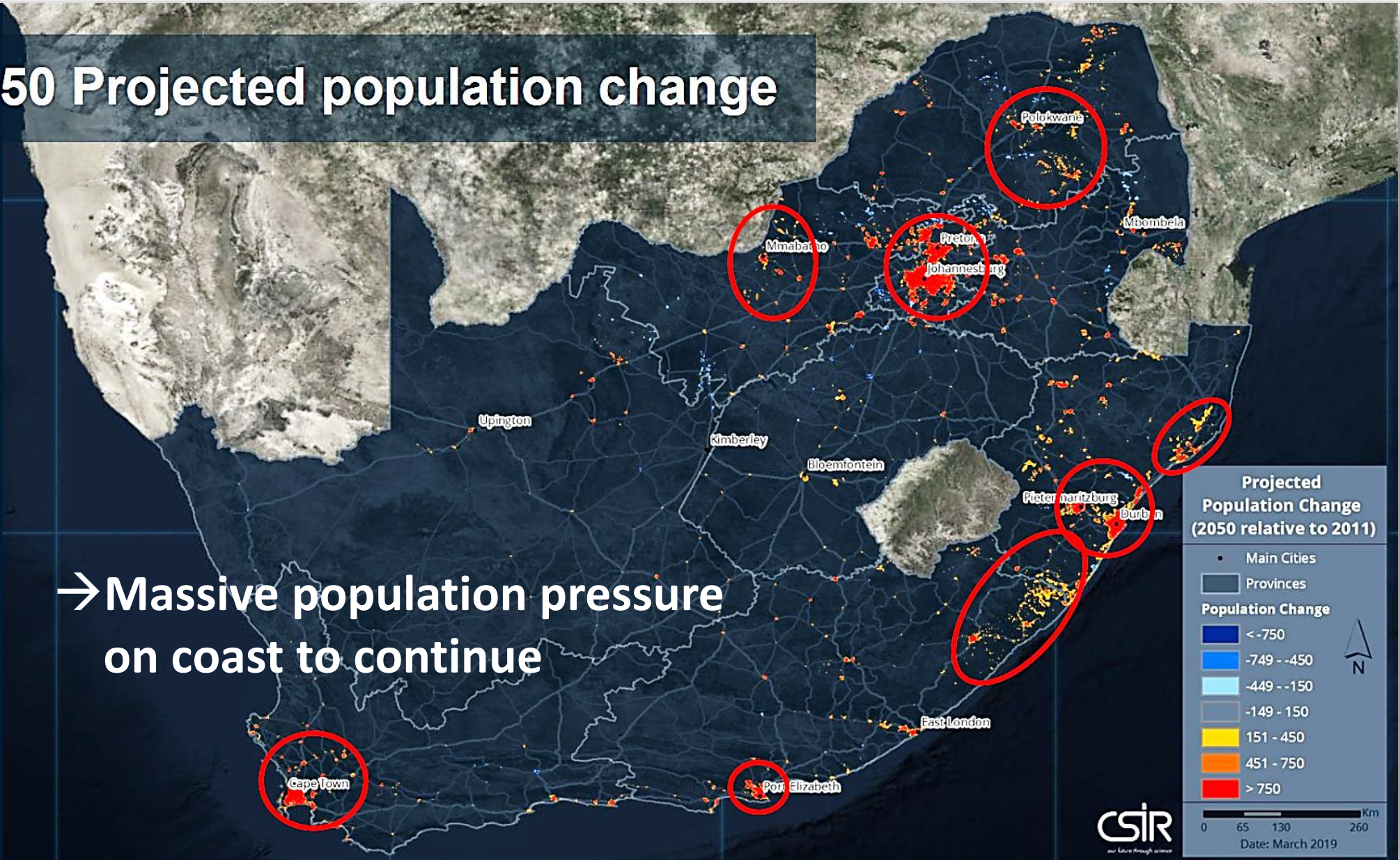
Source:  
M. Luck-Vogel et al. 2020:  
National Coastal Assessment for  
South Africa: Situational  
Assessment Report.



# 2050 Projected population change

Source: <https://greenbook.co.za>

→ Massive population pressure on coast to continue



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



# 2050 Projected changes in South Africa's climate (RCP 8.5)

Source: <https://greenbook.co.za>

SLR, but unclear storminess

More coastal storms and cyclones & SLR



Plausible 2050: Projected change in SA's Climate (RCP 8.5)	
	Likely decrease in rainfall
	Likely increase in extreme rainfall events
	Likely increase in significant rainfall
	Like increase in temperature > 3°C
	Like increase in temperature 2.5- 3°C
	Like increase in temperature 2- 2.5°C
	Like increase in temperature < 2°C



# National Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment

For SA's 3,000 km of open coast and 300 estuaries assess:

- Future flood risk
  - 1 : 10 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1 : 50 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1:100 yrs + 1.0m SLR
- Future erosion risk
  - Long term (Bruun, SLR)
  - Short term (Storm events)



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



# National Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment

For SA's 3,000 km of open coast and 300 estuaries assess:

- Future flood risk
  - 1 : 10 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1 : 50 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1:100 yrs + 1.0m SLR
- Future erosion risk
  - Long term (Bruun, SLR)
  - Short term (Storm events)



Package in  
Decision Support Tool  
(Offline Map Viewer)



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany

# National Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment

For SA's 3,000 km of open coast and 300 estuaries assess:

- Future flood risk
  - 1 : 10 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 0.3m SLR
  - 1 : 30 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1 : 50 yrs + 1.0m SLR
  - 1:100 yrs + 1.0m SLR
- Future erosion risk
  - Long term (Bruun, SLR)
  - Short term (Storm events)

Package in  
Decision Support Tool  
(Offline Map Viewer)

Provide training



environment, forestry  
& fisheries  
Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety  
of the Federal Republic of Germany



# Preview of results

## Flood Risk

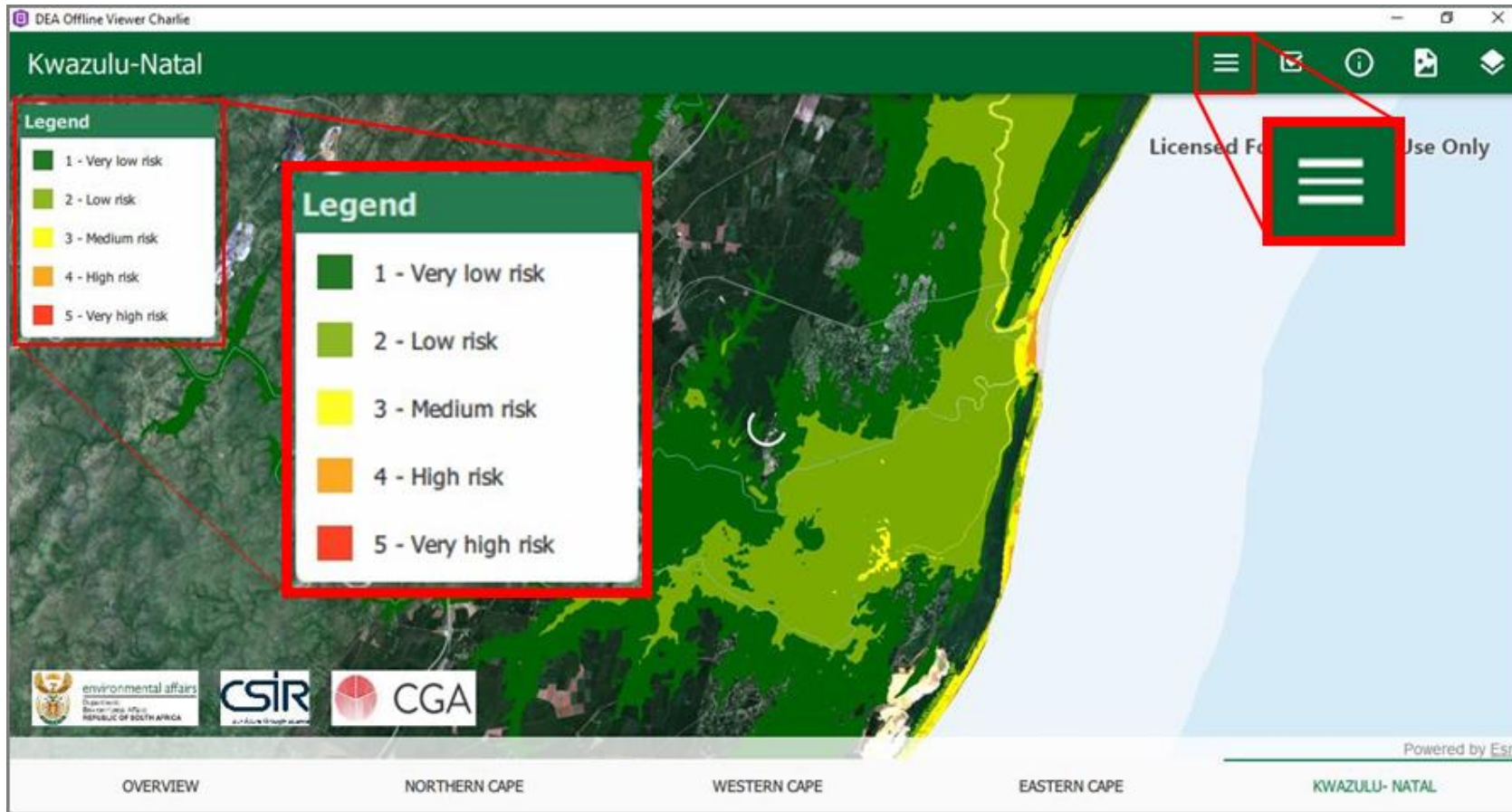


## Erosion Risk



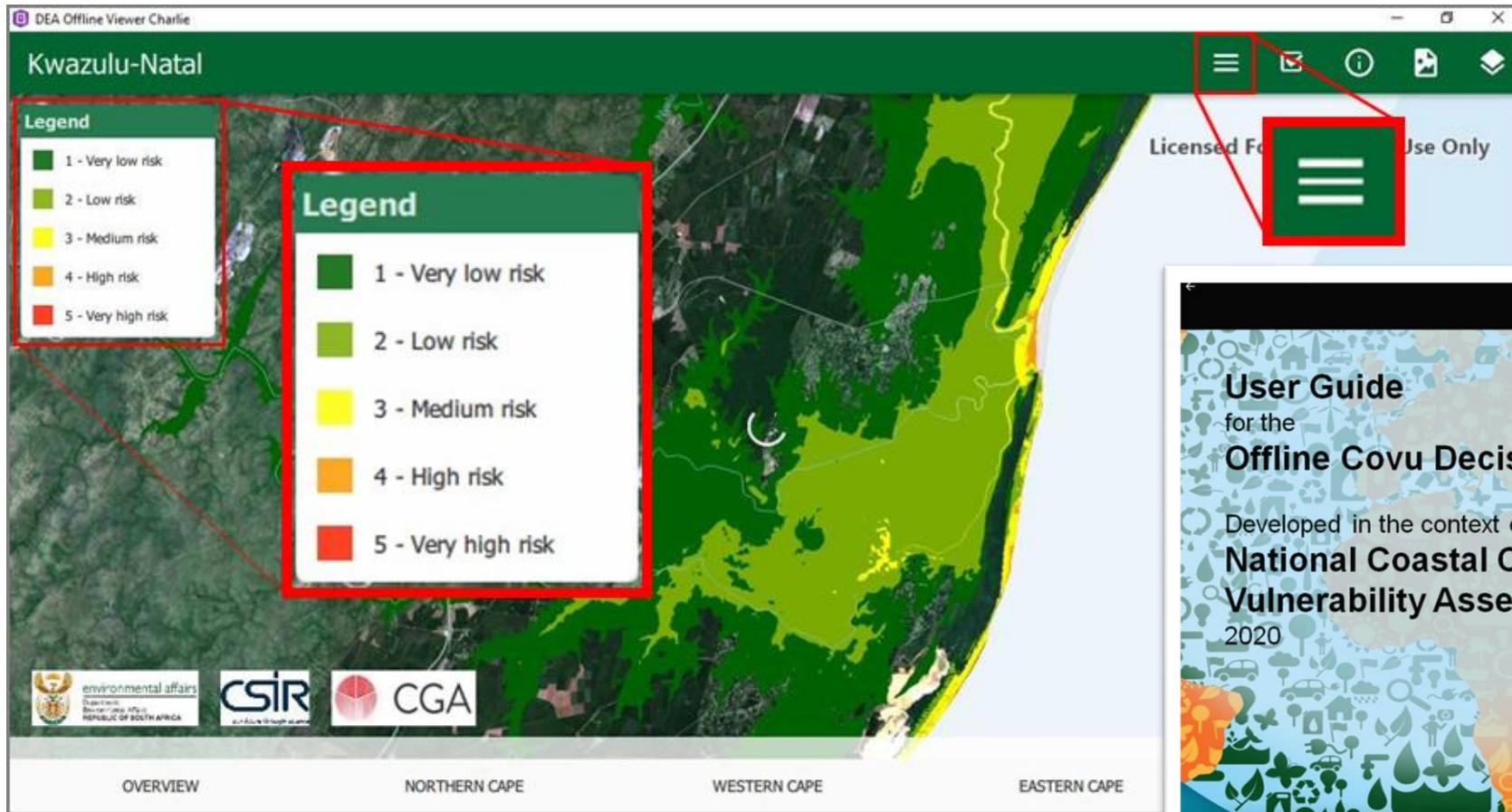


# Offline Map Viewer for Decision Support

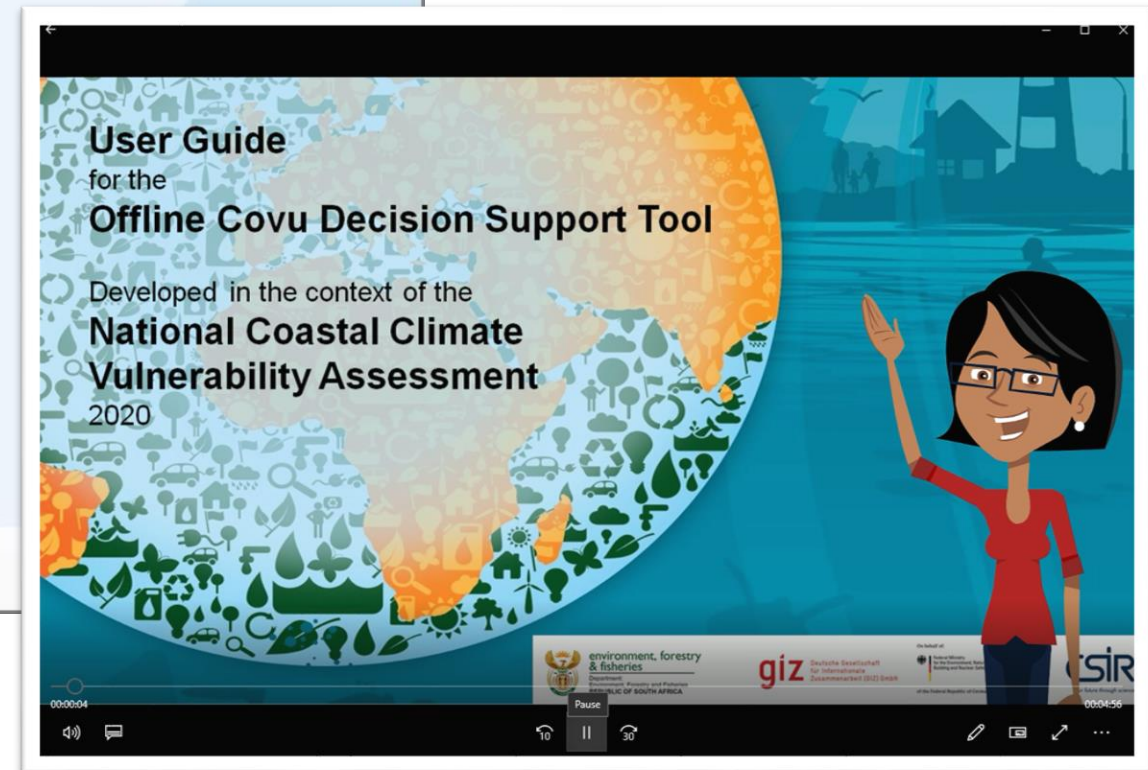




# Offline Map Viewer for Decision Support

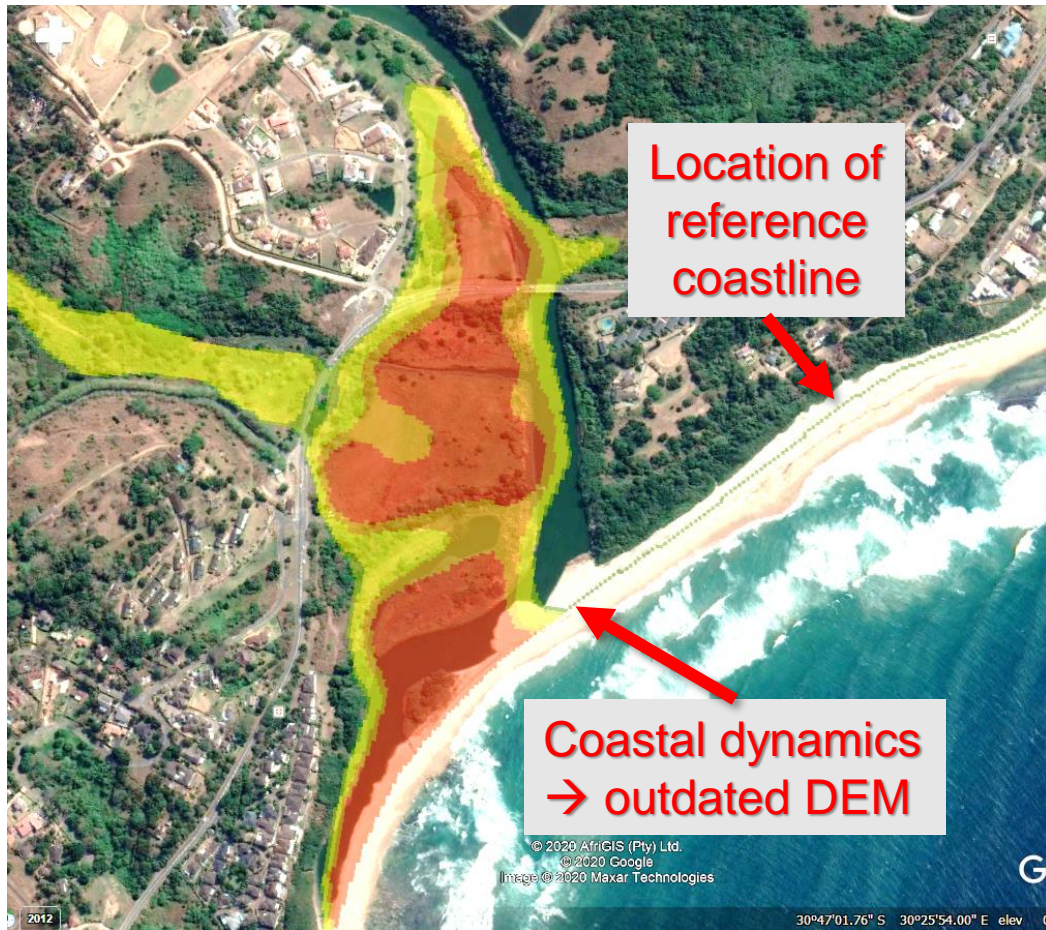


Including Video manual





# Limitations – largely due to input data constraints





# Data release and user training: end November 2020\*

- Offline Viewer & Risk layers for download  
at MIMS Data Portal: <http://beta.data.ocean.gov.za/>
- Risk layers for online viewing  
at DEFF's Coastal Viewer: <https://mapservice.environment.gov.za/Coastal%20Viewer/>
- ½ day Online Training Workshops for layers and Viewer  
26/27 Nov 2020\*, register with [NJukuda@environment.gov.za](mailto:NJukuda@environment.gov.za)

\* Preliminary date



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

# Thank you

**Melanie Lück-Vogel**

[mluckvogel@csir.co.za](mailto:mluckvogel@csir.co.za)

Coastal Systems Research Group

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Stellenbosch, South Africa

[www.csir.co.za](http://www.csir.co.za)



environment, forestry  
& fisheries

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

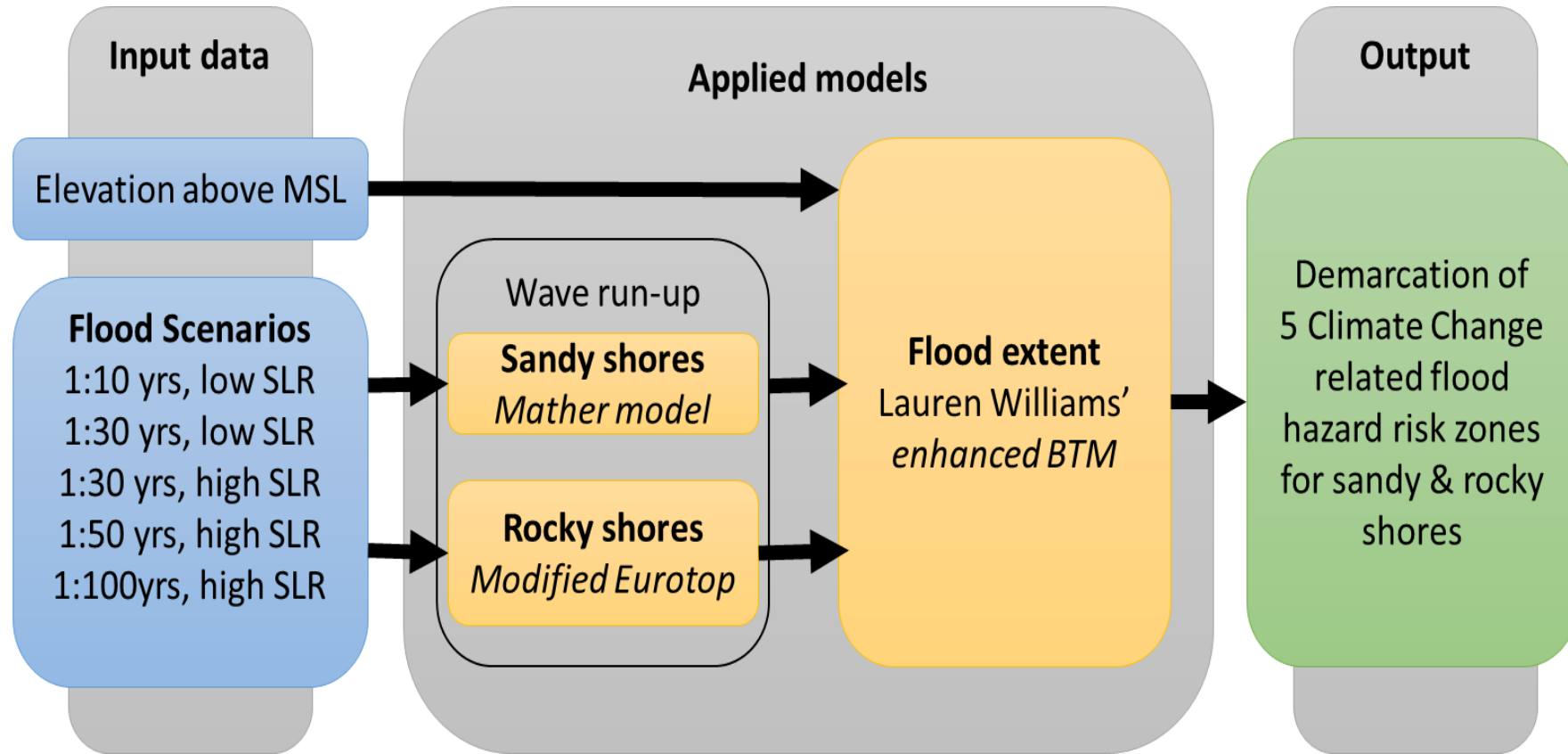


On behalf of:  
 Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

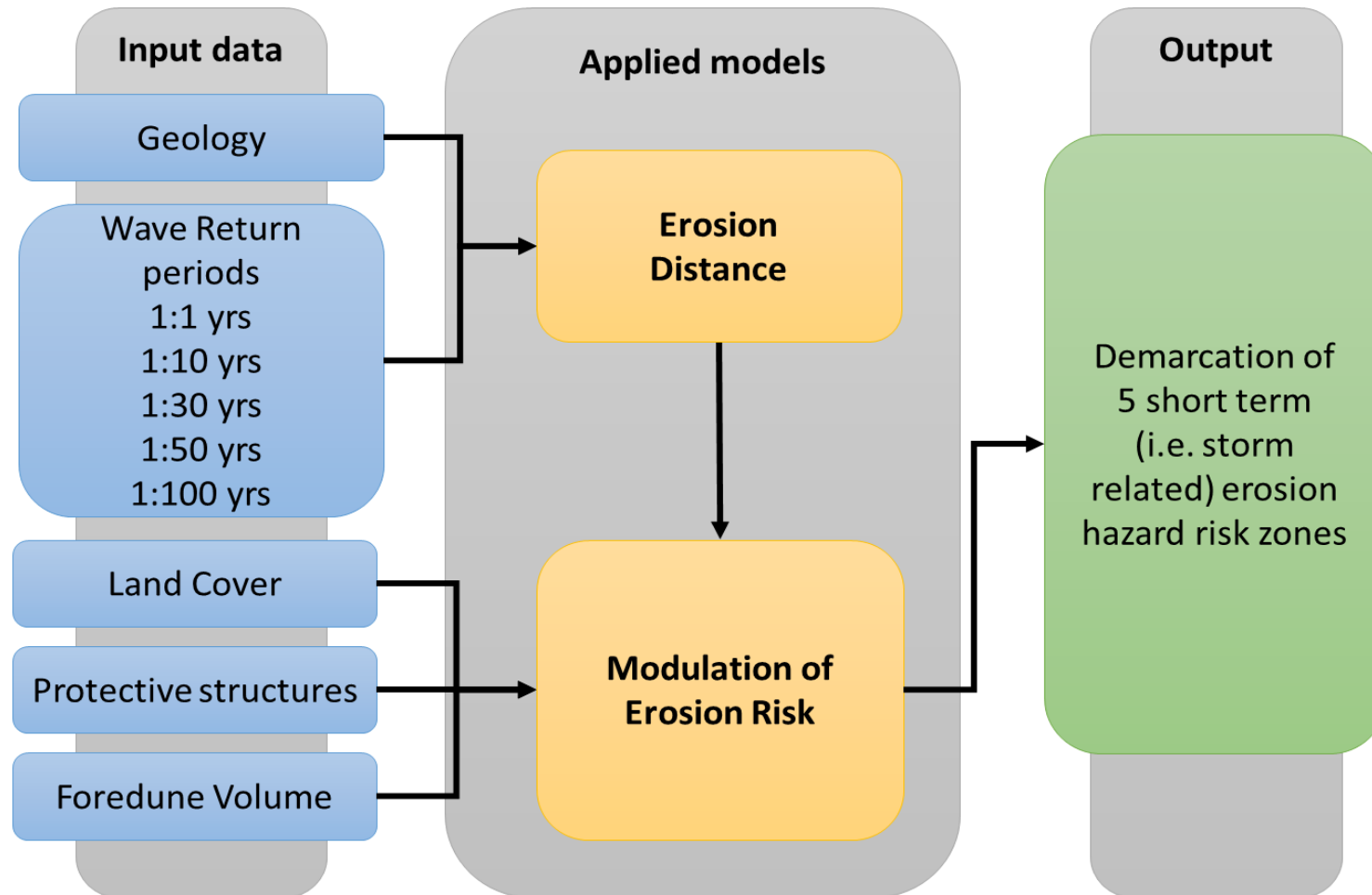
of the Federal Republic of Germany



# Open Coast Flood modelling approach

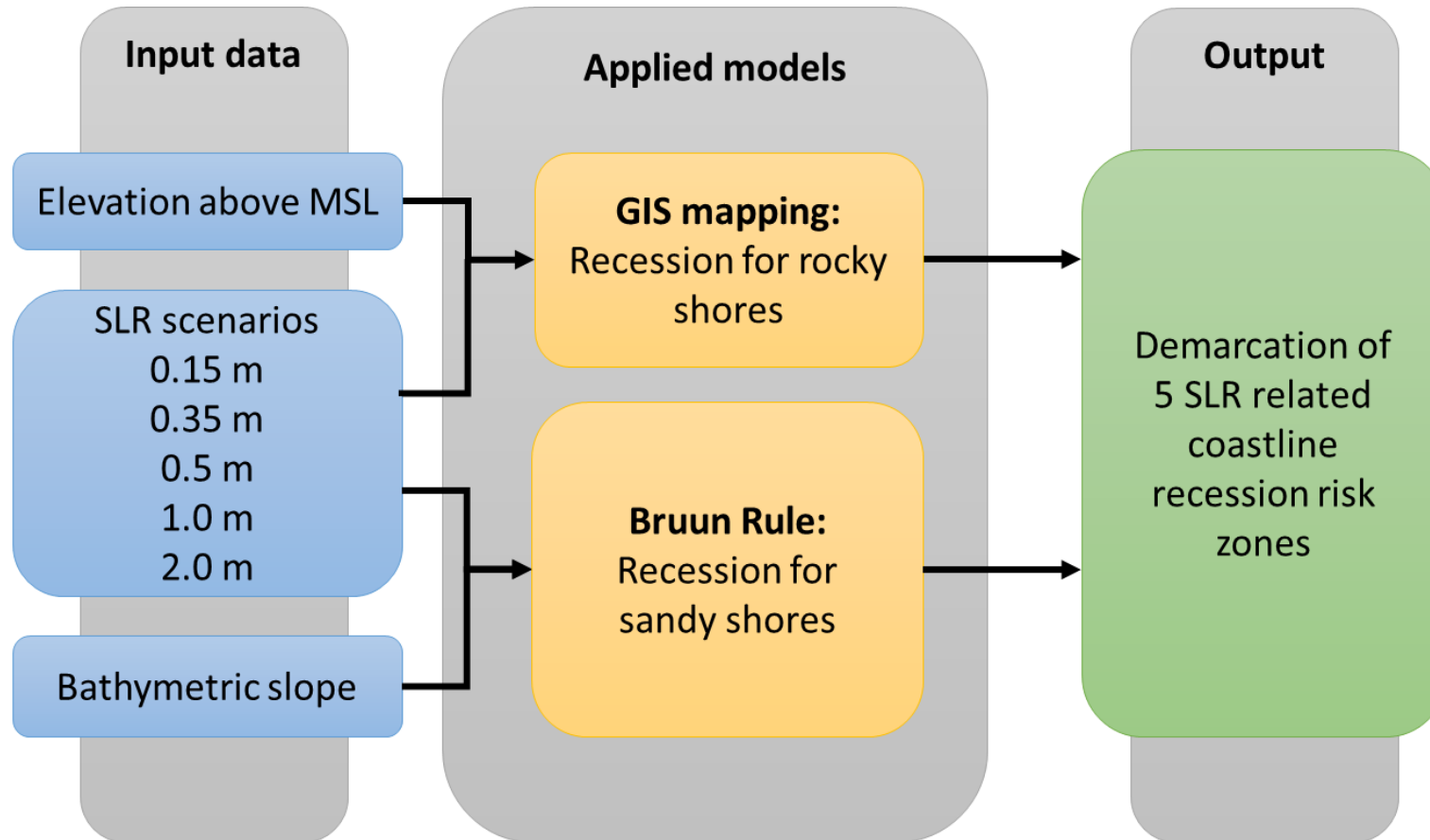


# Open Coast Short term erosion approach

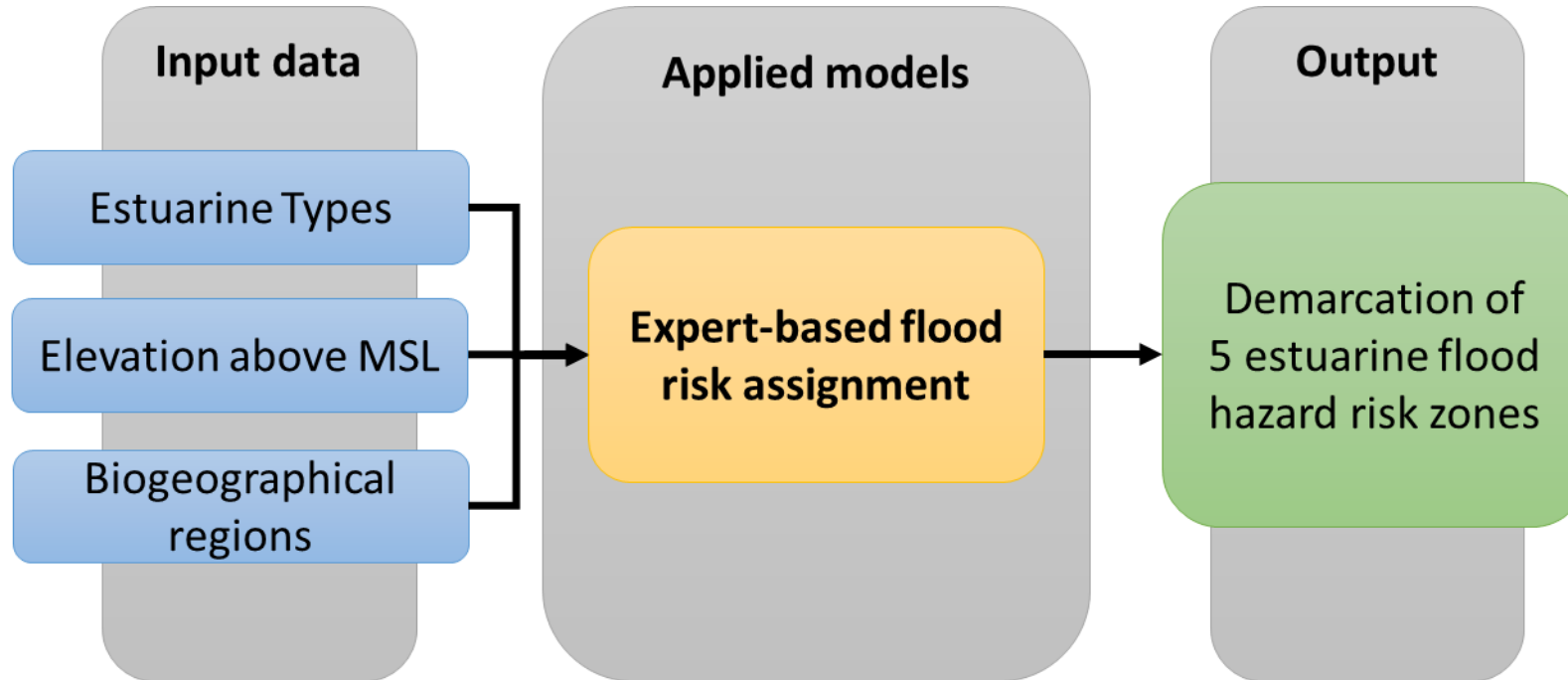




# Open Coast Long Term Erosion Approach



# Estuarine Flood Risk approach





# Estuarine Erosion Approach

