



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI SALERNO  
Dipartimento di  
Ingegneria Civile



CORSO DI  
DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN  
Ingegneria Civile per  
l'Ambiente ed il Territorio

*Risk and Sustainability in Civil Engineering, Environmental and Construction*

# Early warning systems for rainfall-induced landslides: a multi-scale approach

**PhD candidate:**

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**Tutor:**

Prof. Michele CALVELLO

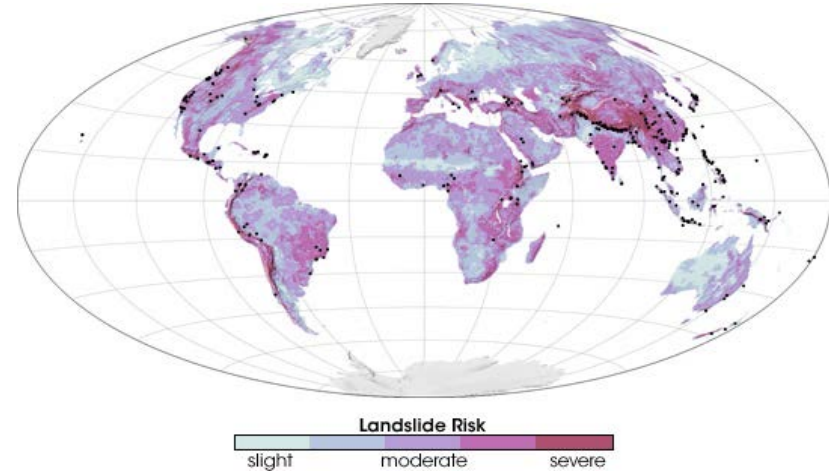
XXXI Cycle - Coordinator: Prof. **Ciro FAELLA**

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**Fisciano, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

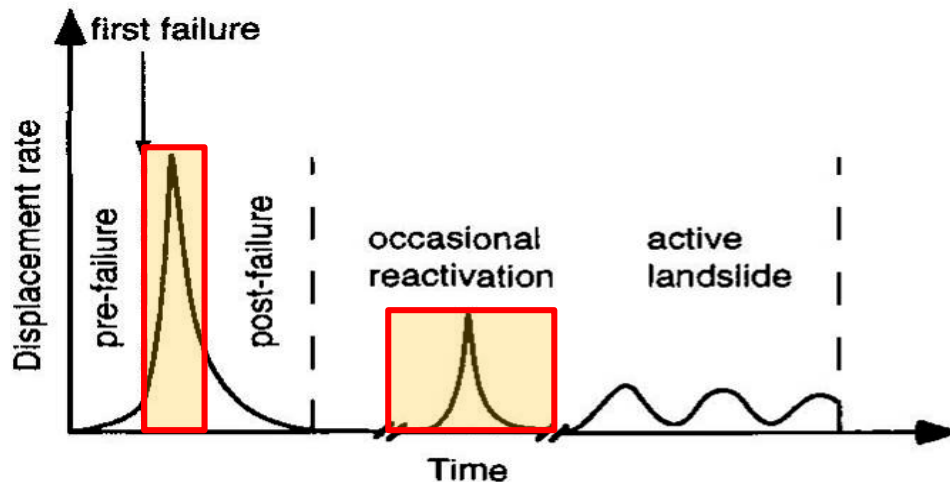
# Introduction

**Landslides** are **natural phenomena** related to **landscape evolution** and represent one of the most important and significant **geomorphological processes**. **Slope stability** is based on the equilibrium between two types of forces, **driving forces** and **resisting forces**. When **driving forces** overcome **resisting forces**, the slope is unstable and results in mass wasting



Source: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=7783>

LEROUEIL ET AL. (1996)



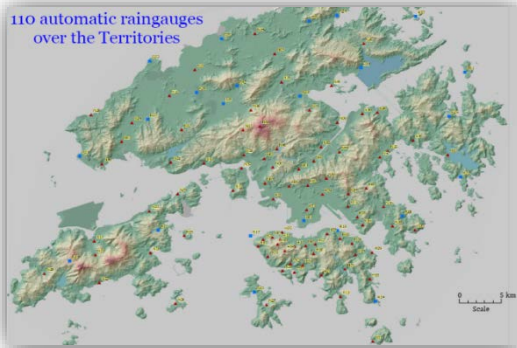
**TRIGGERING FACTORS – SCHUSTER ET AL. (2002)**

- Human activities
- Vibrations caused by earthquakes
- Erosion
- Volcanic eruptions
- Failure of natural dams
- Change in surface levels of water bodies
- Rainfall

# Landslide Early Warning Systems

- ☐ Large regions (**REGIONAL scale**)

## HONG KONG



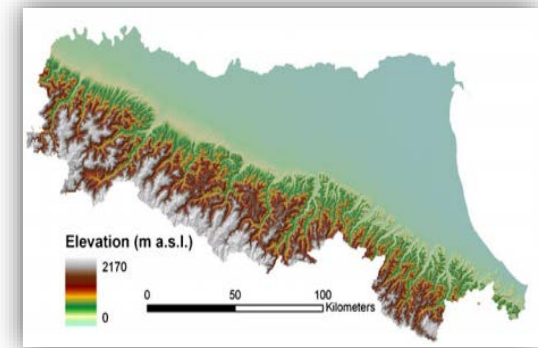
Cheung (LARAM 2013)

## BRAZIL – Rio de Janeiro



Source: Geo-RIO

## ITALY – Emilia-Romagna



Martelloni et al. (2012)

- ☐ Single slopes (**LOCAL scale**)

## NORWAY – Åknes rockslide



Blikra (2008)

## Central ITALY



Intrieri et al. (2012)

## CANADA – Turtle Mountain



Moreno and Froese (2009)

# Open issues at regional and local scale



Modified by UNISDR, 2006

1. How to improve **landslide data collection, storage and distribution?**

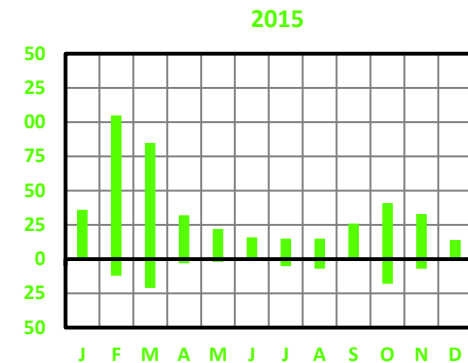
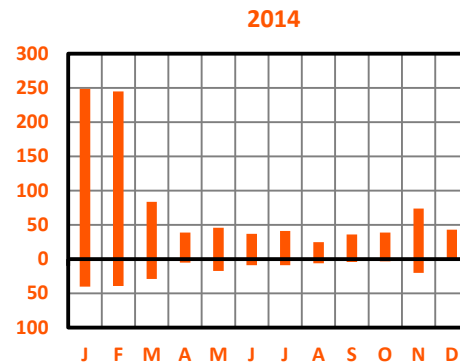
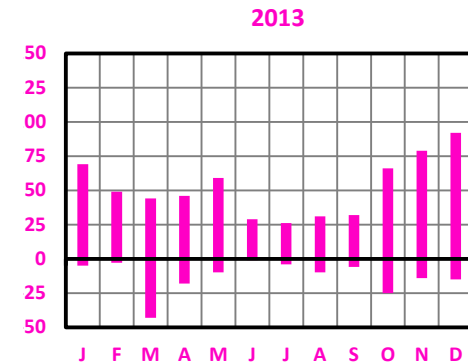
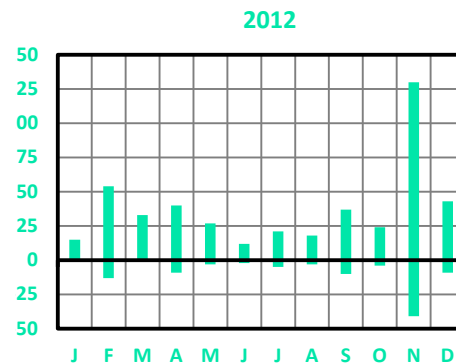
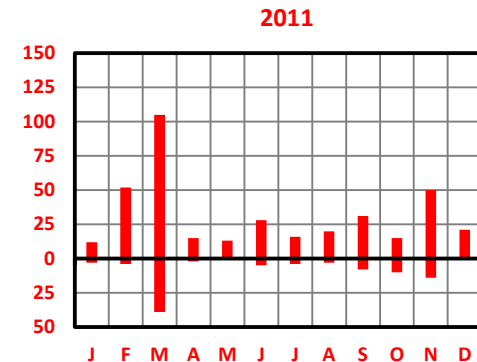
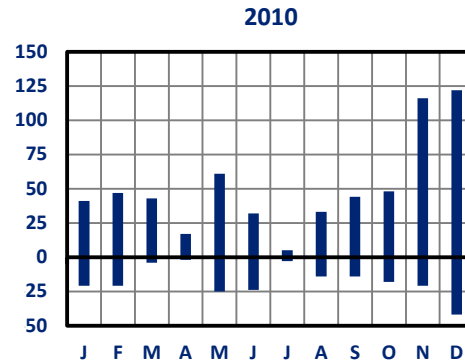
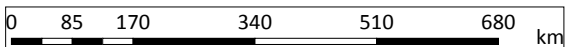
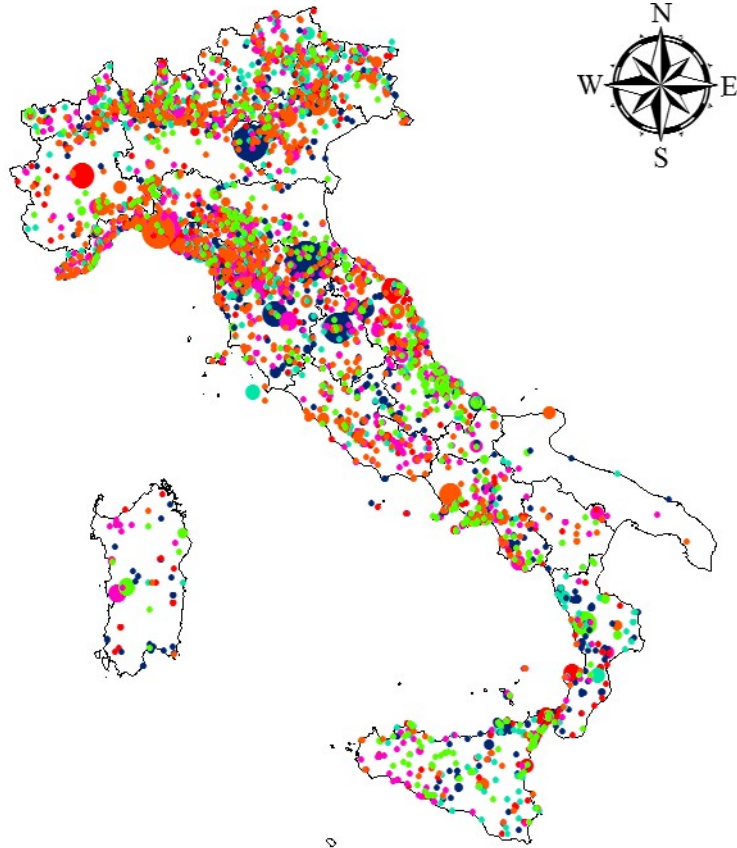
2. What are **the most relevant variables** to forecast the activity of different landslide types?

3. How to best incorporate **remote sensing data** into current land-based monitoring networks?

4. How does the accuracy of **regional and local landslide models** change according to lead-time and spatial scale?

5. How can monitoring data coming from **local LEWSs** be profitably used within warning models at **regional scale** and **vice versa?**

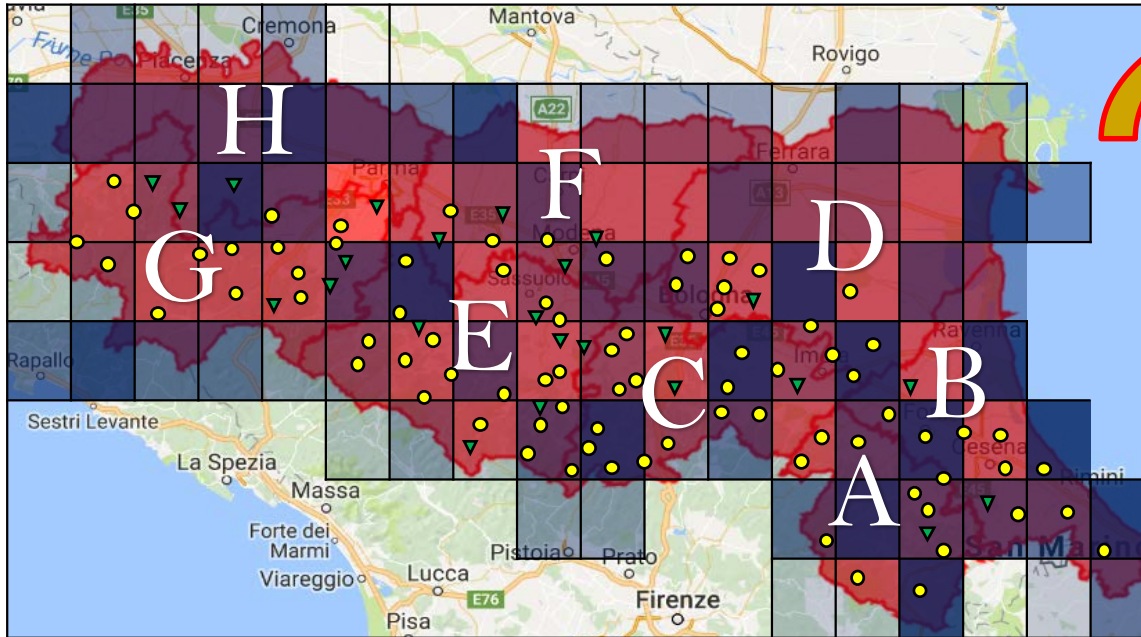
# The "Franeltalia" database



TOTAL EVENTS	C1	C2	C3
Single Landslide Events	65	445	2955
Areal Landslide Events	14	163	638



# Case study at regional scale: “Emilia-Romagna”



EMILIA-ROMAGNA region



Legend:

● Single landslides    ▼ Areal landslides    Rainfall [mm]    □ 0    □ 0 - 1    □ 1 - 2    □ 2 - 3    □ > 3

- GPM rainfall dataset managed using Google Earth Engine (*Huffman et al., 2017*)
- Rainfall-induced landslides from FranelItalia database
- Spatial discretization: 8 weather alert zones defined by Regional Law 1427/2005
- Period of analysis: March 2014 – December 2015

# Correlation between landslides and rainfall

(March 2014 – December 2015)

■ 1029 rainfall events

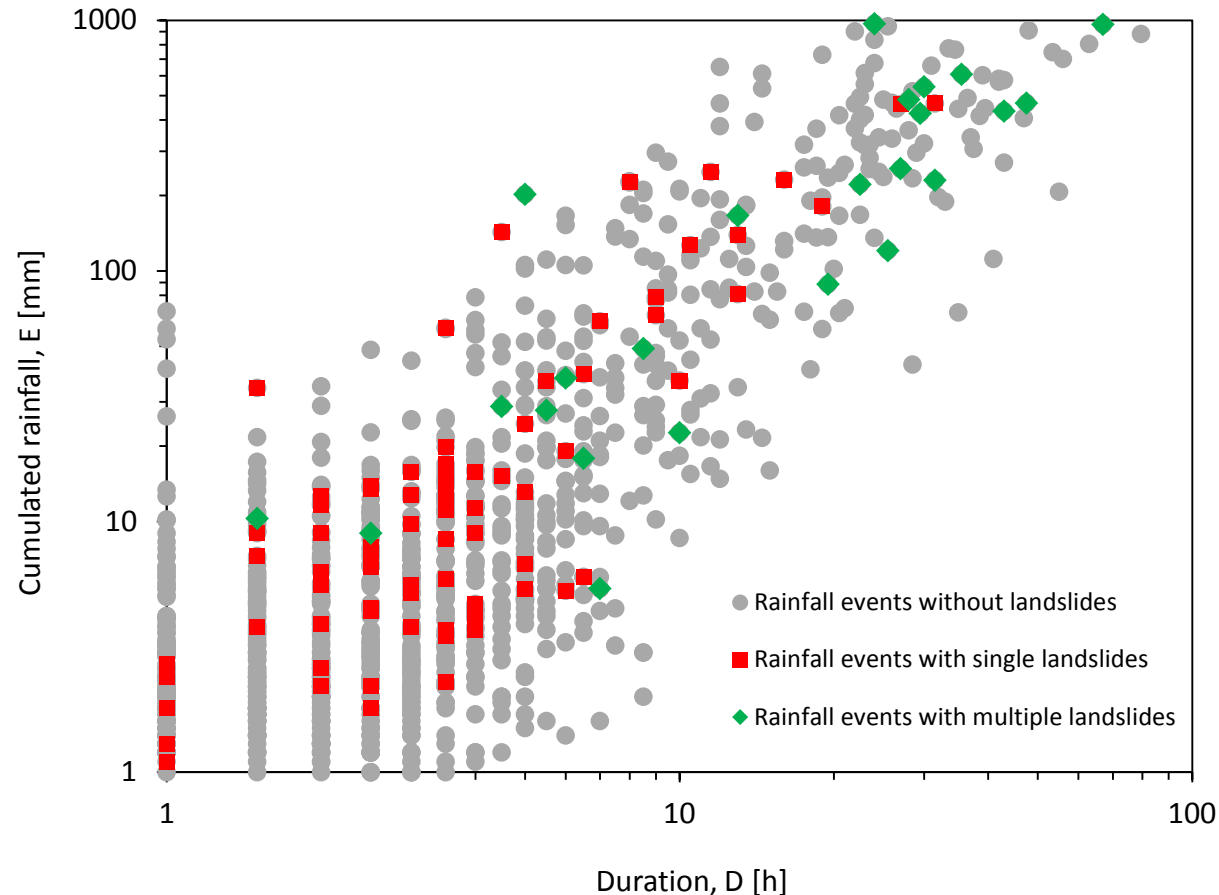
(a set of hourly rainfall in a row exceeding a pre-defined threshold: 1 mm/hour)

■ 78 single landslide events

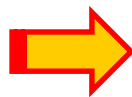
(one landslide)

■ 24 areal landslide events

(more than one landslide)



*There is no clear difference  
between critical and  
non-critical rainfall*



*It is not possible to draw any line of distinction  
between triggering and non-triggering rainfall*

# Two-dimensional Bayesian probability

## Posterior landslide probability

$$P(A | E, D) = \frac{P(E, D | A) \cdot P(A)}{P(E | D)}$$

(Modified from Berti et al., 2012)

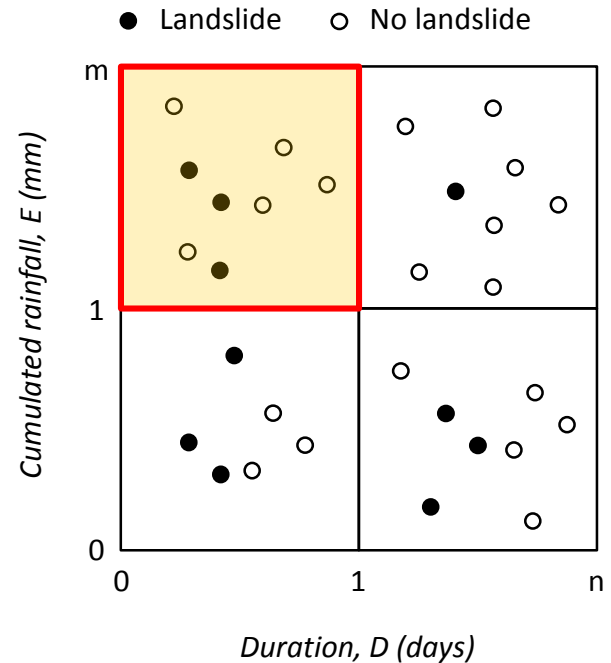
In the upper-left cell:

$P(A)$  = prior landslide probability  $\Rightarrow \frac{10}{30} = 0.33$

$P(E, D | A)$  = probability of having a cumulated rainfall  $E$  with duration  $D$ , given the occurrence of a certain number of landslides  $\Rightarrow \frac{3}{10} = 0.33$

$P(E | D)$  = probability of observing a cumulated rainfall  $E$ , given the duration  $D$   $\Rightarrow \frac{8}{30} = 0.27$

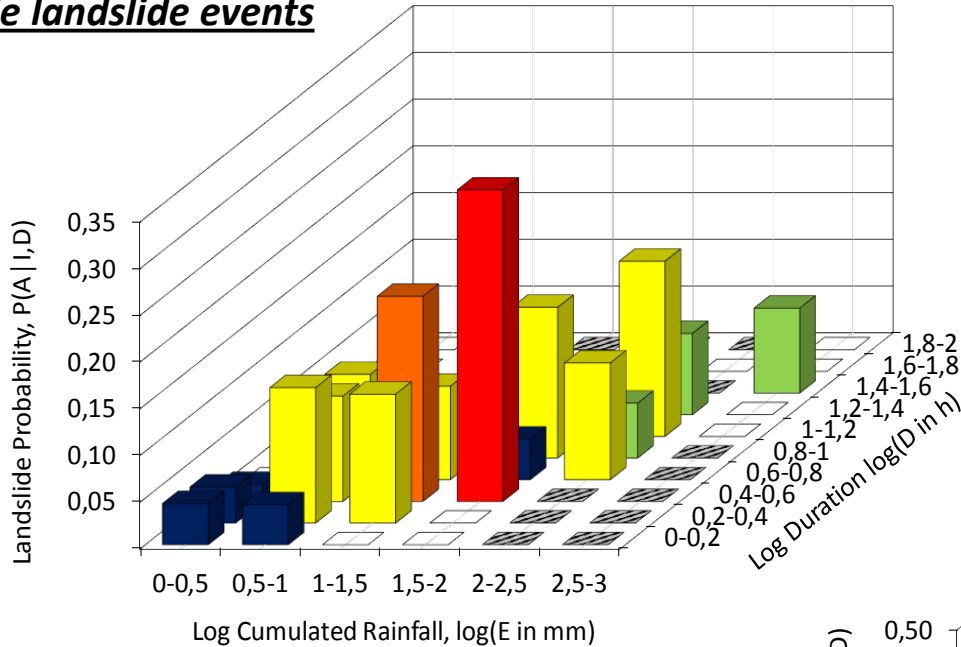
$P(A | E, D)$  = posterior landslide probability  $\Rightarrow \frac{0.33 \times 0.33}{0.27} = 0.40$





# Two-dimensional Bayesian probability

## Single landslide events

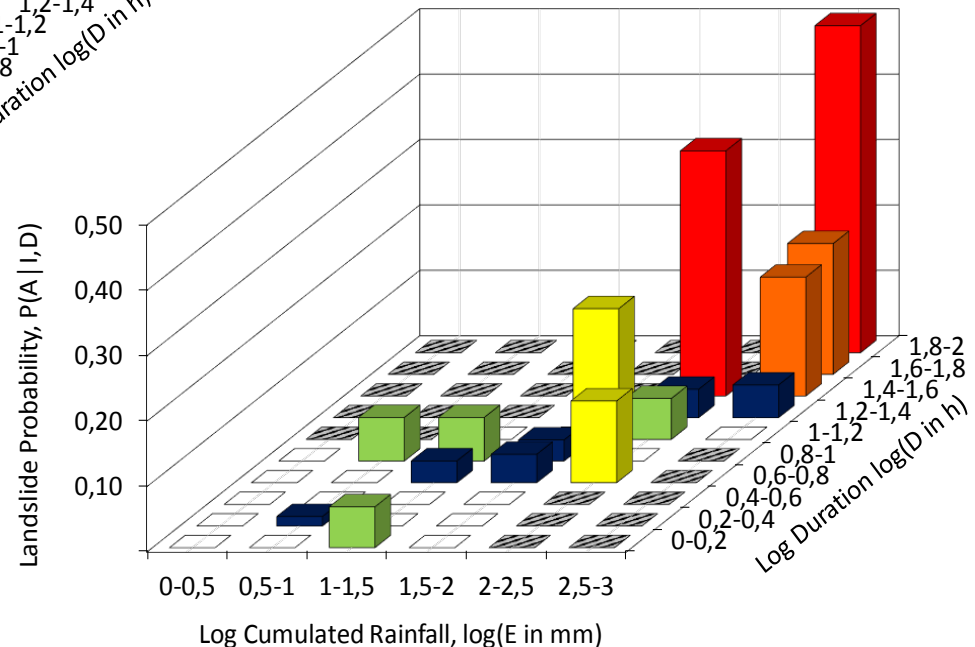


Before Bayesian analysis:

$P(A)$  = prior landslide probability

- Single events: 0.076
- Areal events: 0.023

## Areal landslide events



*Two-dimensional Bayesian analysis* clearly showed the **critical levels of rainfall** beyond which we observe a **radical change of state of the system**, in order to define the **rainfall thresholds**

No data  
  No landslides  
  0 – 0.05  
  0.05 - 0.1  
  0.1 - 0.2  
  0.2 - 0.3  
  > 0.3

# Research working plan at NGI (Oslo, NORWAY)



## RISK REDUCTION THROUGH CLIMATE ADAPTION OF BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURES

*Supervisor: Dr. José Mauricio Cepeda*

### WORK PACKAGE 3 – Landslides triggered by hydro-meteorological processes

#### RESEARCH TASK WP3.4 – Early warning systems (EWS)

#### Scheduled activities:

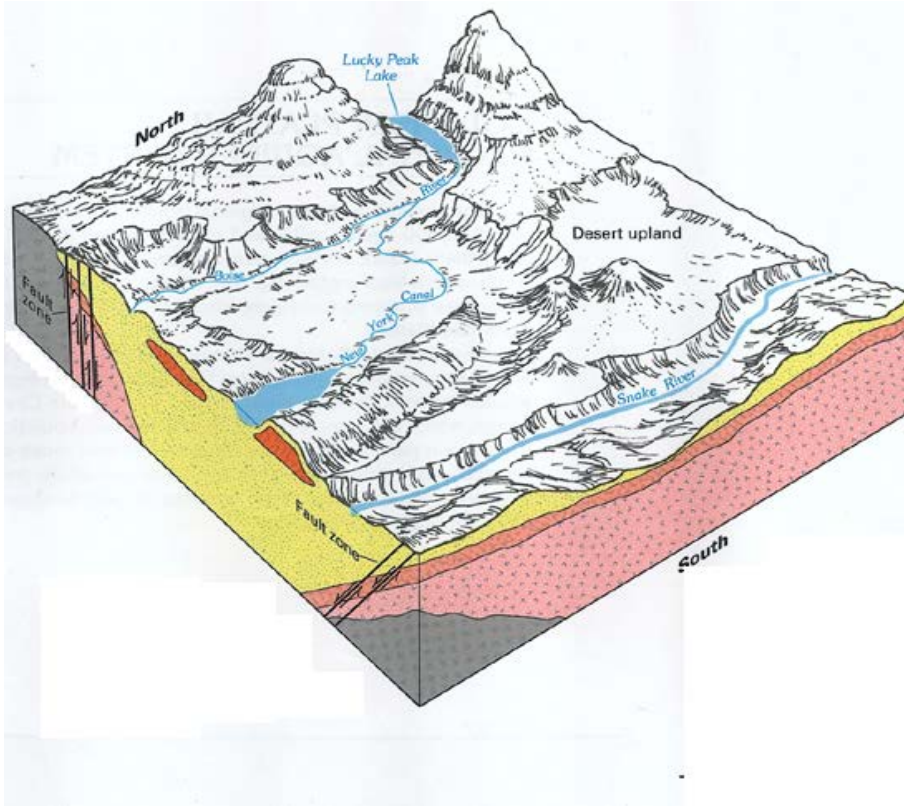
- Calibration and validation of warning models at through back-analysis of early-warning scenarios in Norway using different spatial and time scales and input datasets

#### Working phases:

- Data collection
  - Definition of a methodology
  - Results and Analyses



# Landslides in soils in Norway



Debris avalanche



Debris flow



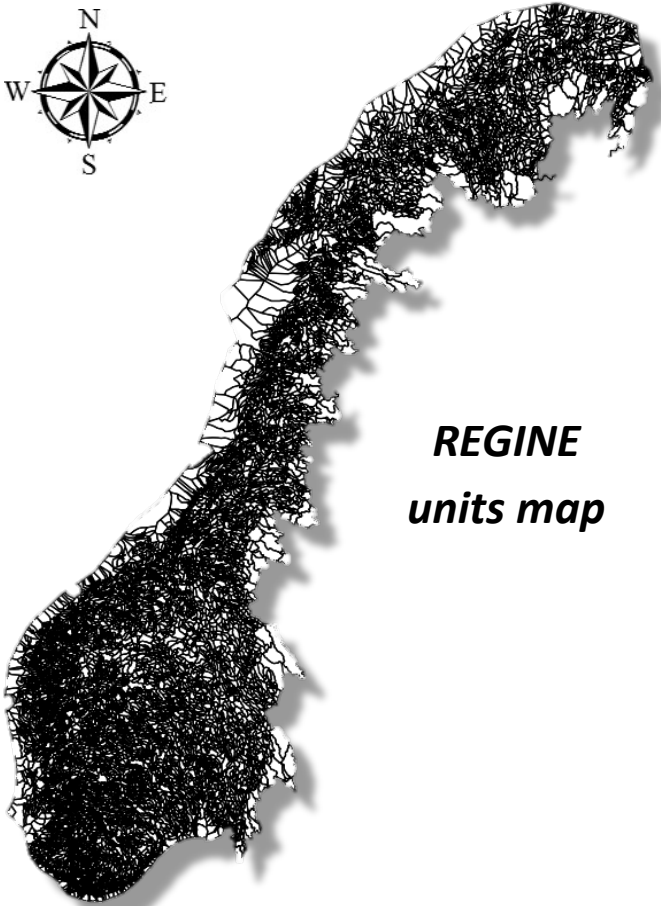
Soil slide

- Many **shallow soil slides**, **debris slides/avalanches** and **debris flows** in recent years (e.g. 2000, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)
- Triggered by rain, rapid snowmelt or a combination
- Steep slopes where loose deposits (tills deposit, alluvial and colluvial deposits, marine clay, weathered rocks) are in contact with bedrock materials

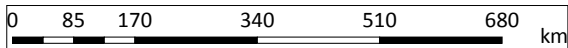


# Datasets for analyses- 1

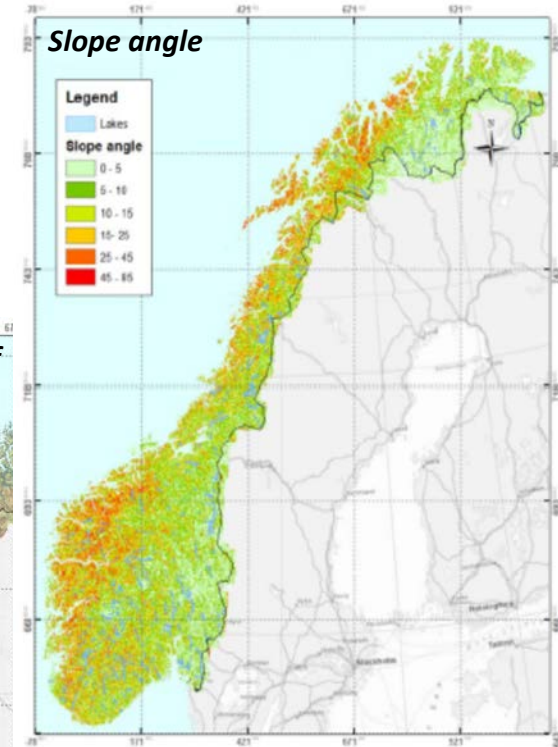
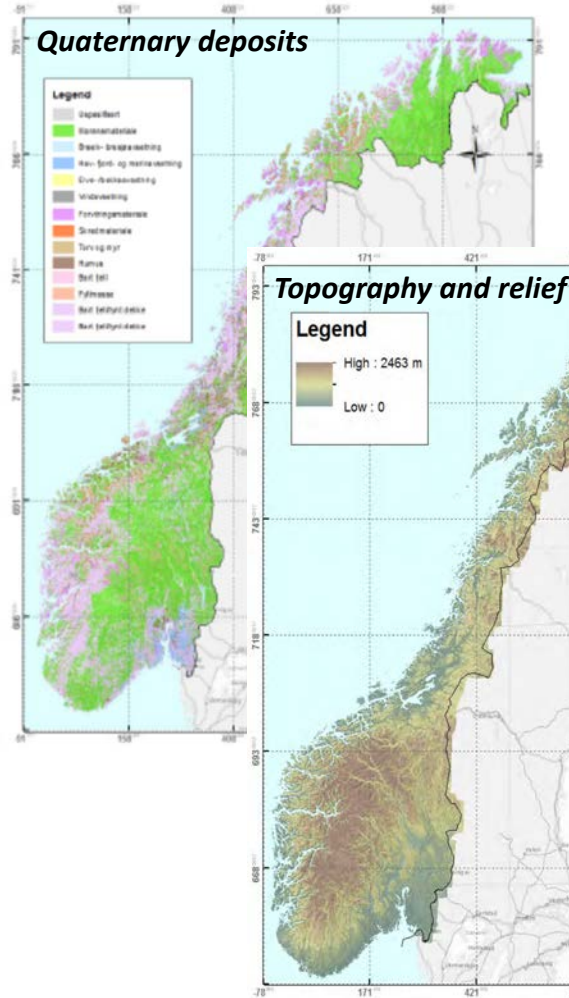
Scale of analysis:  
CATCHMENT SCALE



**REGINE**  
*units map*



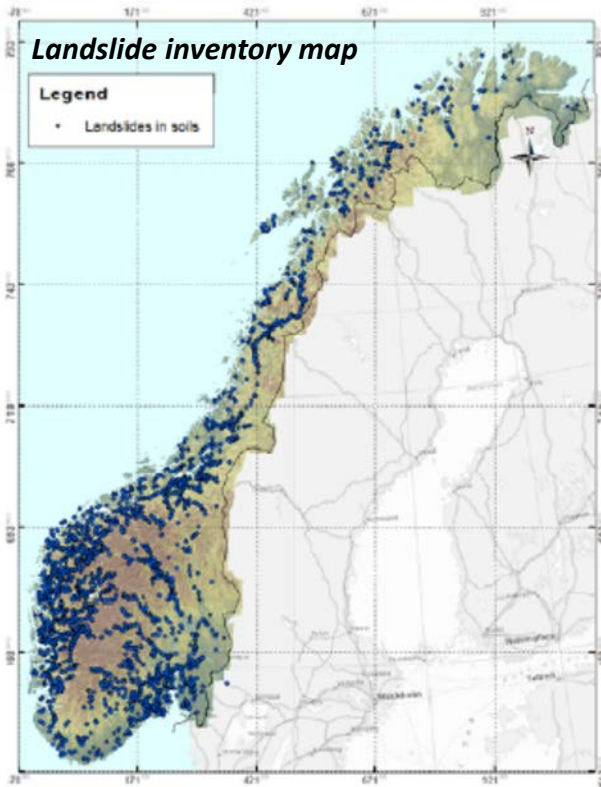
## THEMATIC MAPS



Source of data:  
<https://www.nve.no/map-services/>

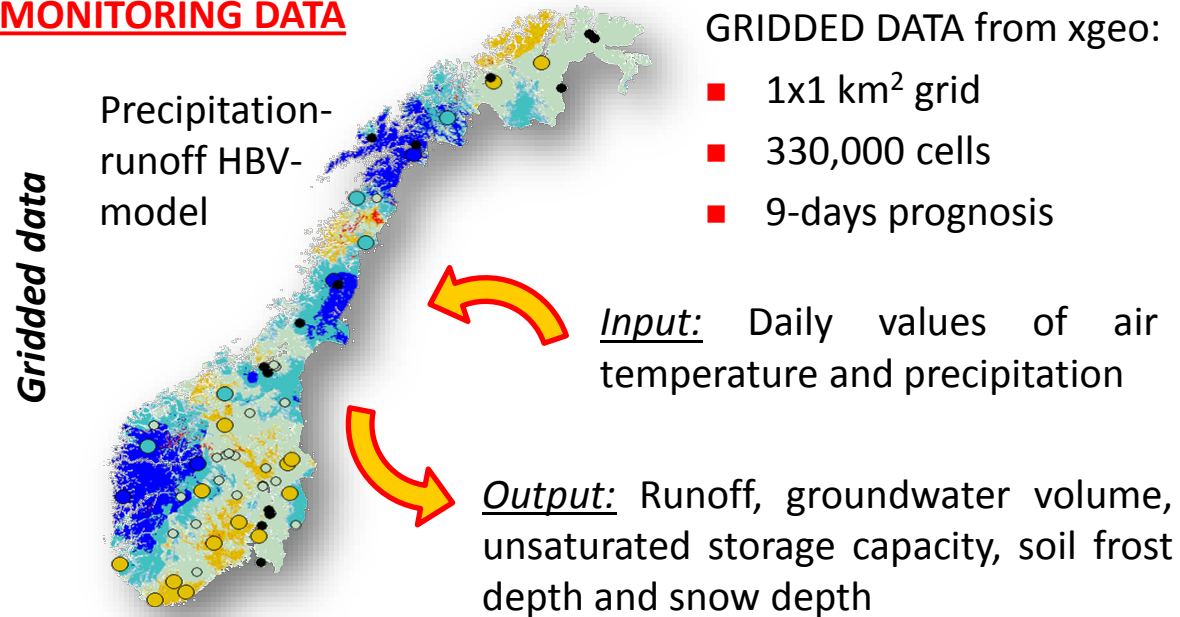
# Datasets for analyses - 2

## LANDSLIDE INVENTORY



- > 60,000 landslide events
- Time period: 1100 - 2017
- Developed by: NGI, NVE, NGU, SVV, and regional observations

## MONITORING DATA



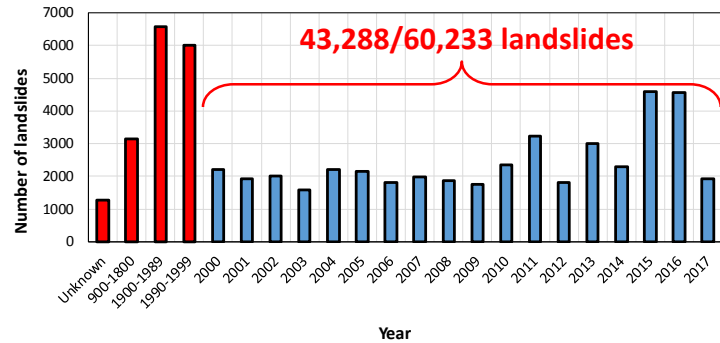
**Local data**

**Pore water pressure** measurements from NGI projects in Norway



# Methodology: Data selection

## SELECTION CRITERIA



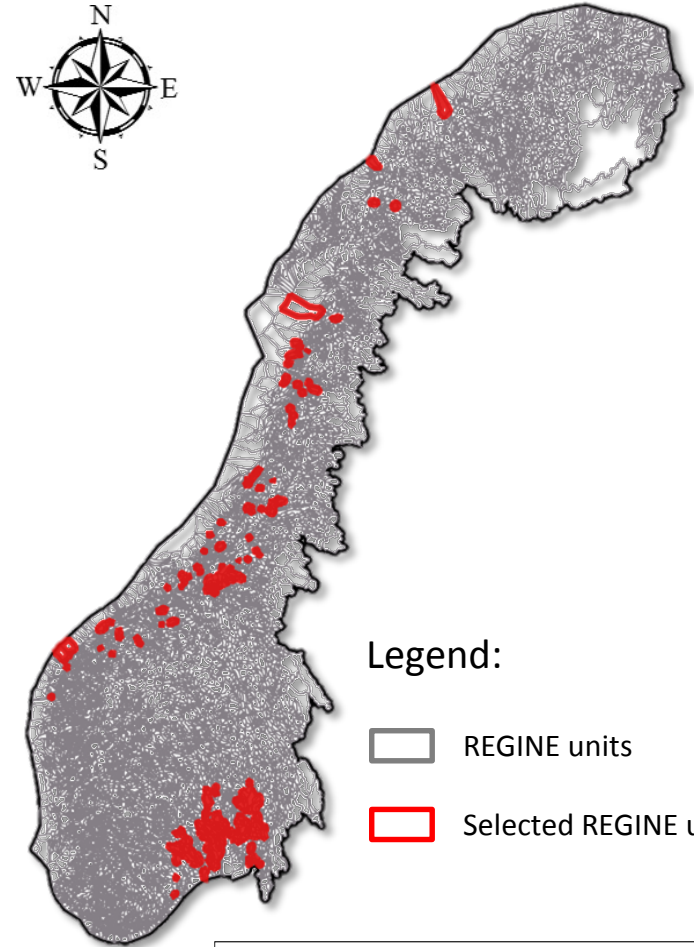
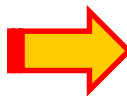
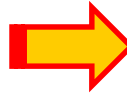
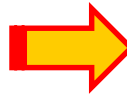
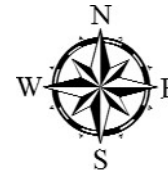
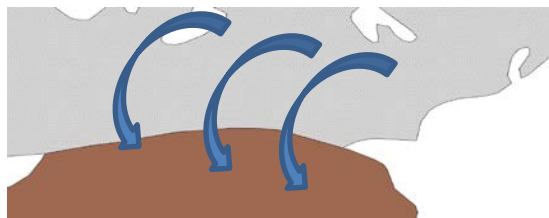
## WEATHER-INDUCED LANDSLIDES

- Debris flows
- Debris slides
- Shallow slides
- ...



## CONTACT BEDROCK-SOIL

- Bedrock
- Loose soil



Legend:

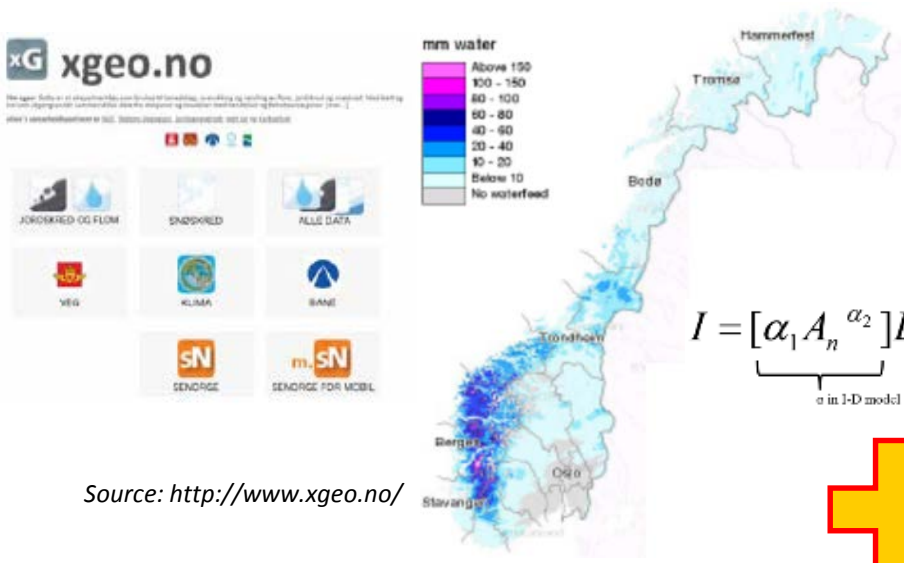
■ REGINE units

■ Selected REGINE units

**> 200 catchments** affected by weather-induced landslides in loose soils in direct contact with bedrock in Norway



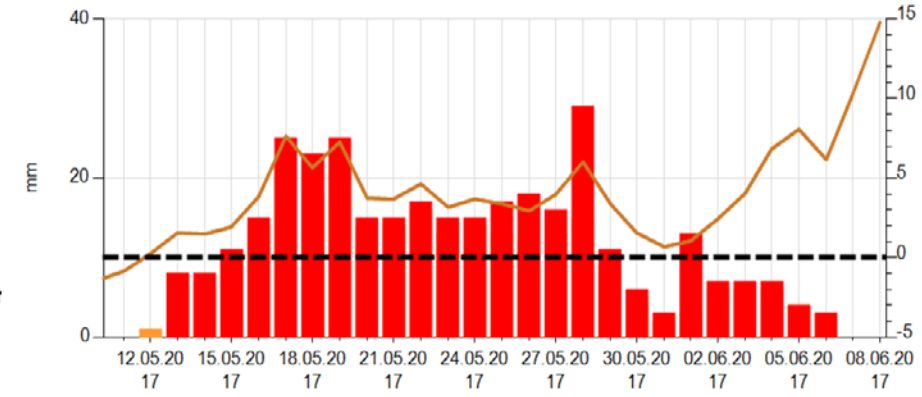
# Methodology: Correlation between gridded and local data



Source: <http://www.xgeo.no/>

$$I = [\alpha_1 A_n^{\alpha_2}] D^\beta$$

σ in 1-D model



## Critical pore water pressure:

$$u_{w,c} = z \times \gamma_t \times \left( 1 - \frac{\tan\theta}{\tan\phi} \right)$$

Modified from Keller et al. (1987)

## Simplified hypotheses:

- Cohesionless material (c=0)
- Slip surface parallel to ground surface
- Piezometric surface parallel to ground surface



**MULTIPARAMETRIC EW THRESHOLDS based on gridded data and pore water pressure data**

# 1<sup>st</sup> case study: the “Namsen basin”

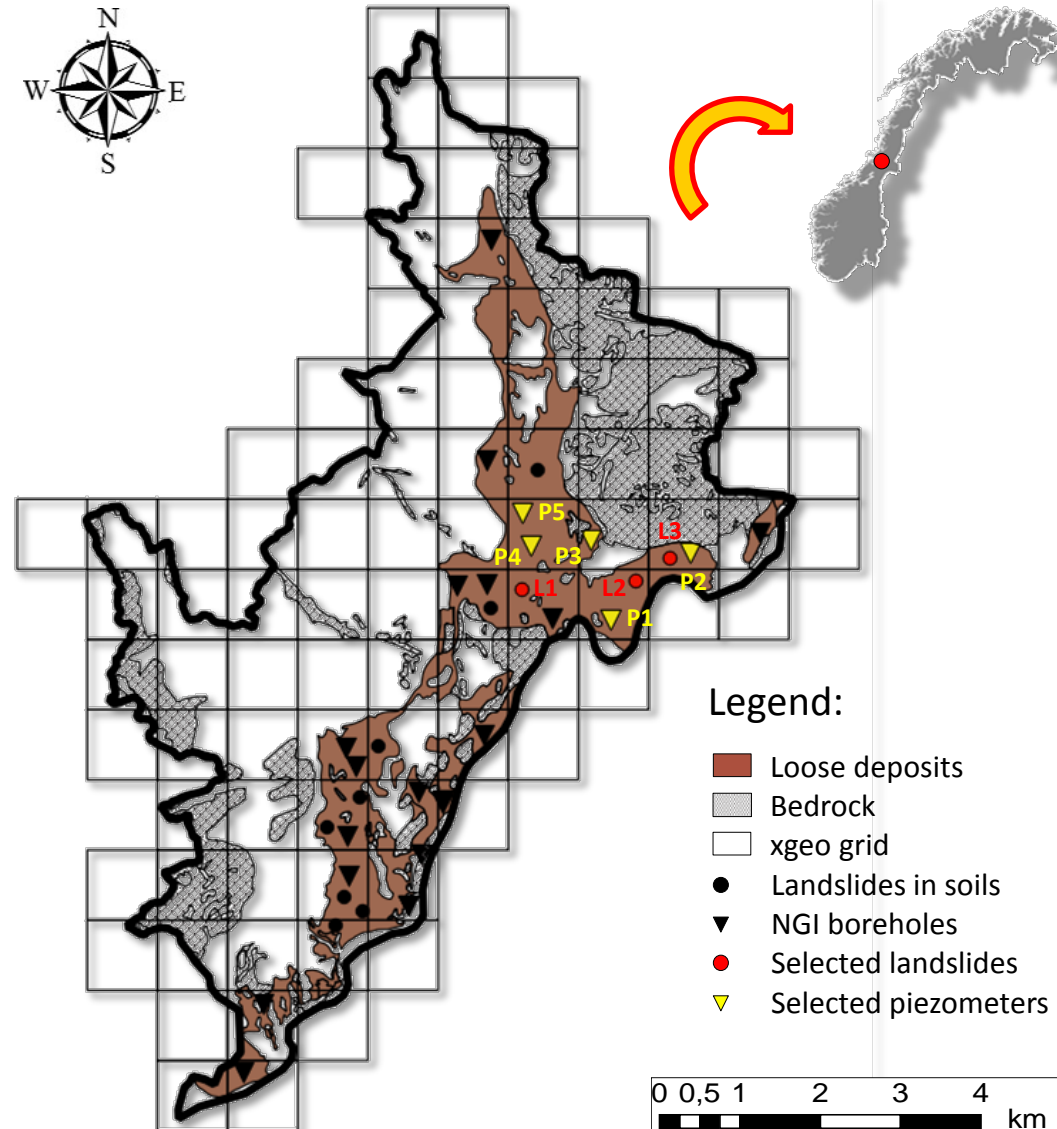
## “NAMSEN basin” – Summary sheet

ID (Identification Code)	6460
Total Area [km <sup>2</sup> ]	56.512
Number of landslides	11
LI (Landslide Index)	56.238
Loose deposits [km <sup>2</sup> ]	12.712
Bedrock [km <sup>2</sup> ]	12.649
Selected landslides	L1 – 2013/12/30 L2 – 2014/10/28 L3 – 2015/09/19
Available piezometers	5

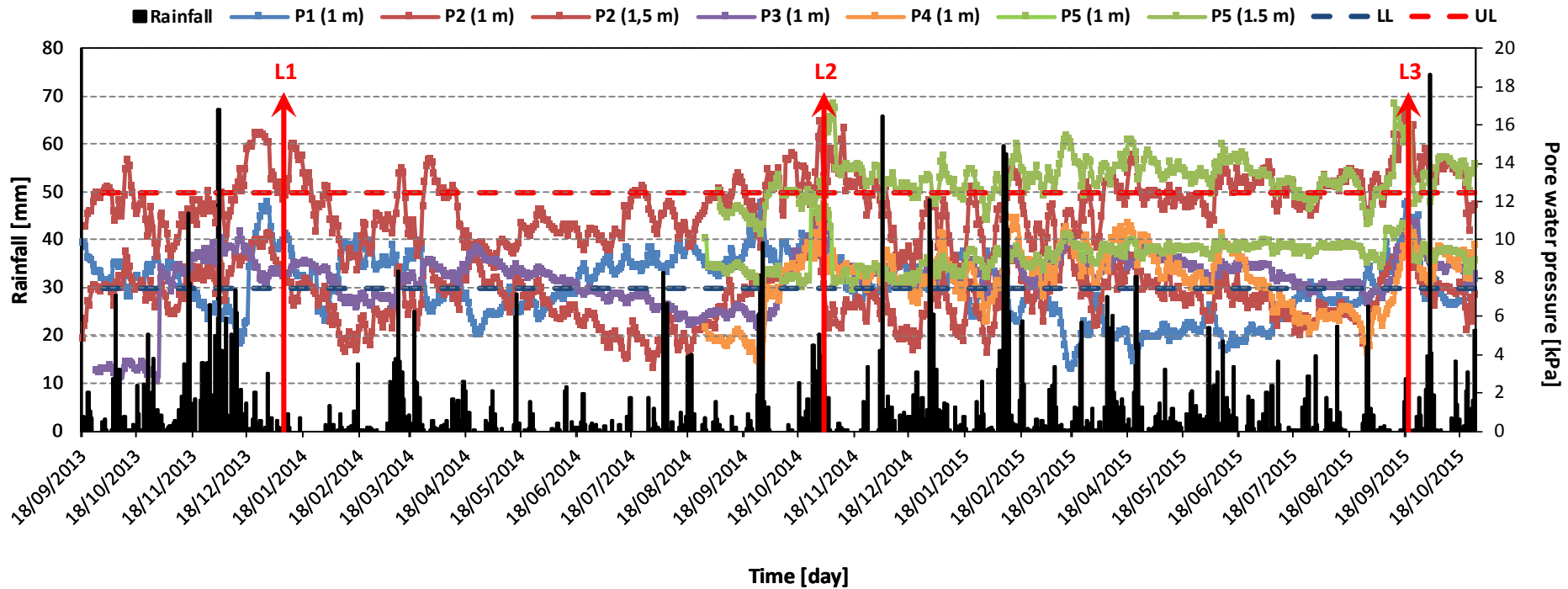
## Geotechnical parameters

Loose material	Silty sand	
Layer thickness (z)	1 – 1.5	m
Total unit weight ( $\gamma_t$ )	16.92 – 18.14	Kn/m <sup>3</sup>
Friction angle ( $\phi$ )	34.55 – 40.53	°
Slope angle ( $\theta$ )	18.35	°

Data from NGI in-situ tests



# Preliminary results and Analyses



$$u_{w,c} = z \times \gamma_t \times \left(1 - \frac{\tan\theta}{\tan\phi}\right)$$



$$u_{w,c} = 9.96 \text{ kPa}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_w(\text{Lower limit}) = 7.47 \text{ kPa} \\ u_w(\text{Upper limit}) = 12.45 \text{ kPa} \end{array} \right.$$

(± 25%  $U_{w,c}$  to take into account uncertainties about the depth of slope failure surface)

Time [day]

WARNING LEVEL	CONDITION
ORDINARY	I/D equation not satisfied AND $U_w \leq 7.47 \text{ kPa}$
ATTENTION	I/D equation satisfied AND $7.47 \text{ kPa} < U_w < 12.45 \text{ kPa}$
ALARM	I/D equation satisfied AND $U_w \geq 12.45 \text{ kPa}$

# Future developments

- **Further applications to case studies in Norway**

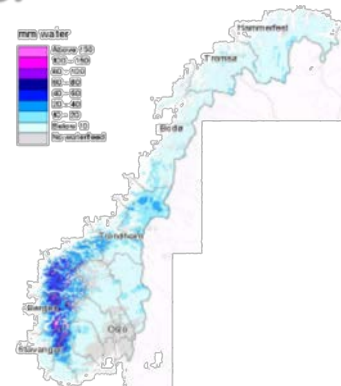


- **Identification of the most relevant variables for each type of landslide**



- **Different monitoring variables within EW models:**

- **Water supply**
- **Soil water content**
- ...



# Time schedule

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Months</b>					
	<b>0-6</b>	<b>6-12</b>	<b>12-18</b>	<b>18-24</b>	<b>24-30</b>	<b>30-36</b>
<i>Literature review</i>	■			■		
<i>Regional scale</i>	■					
<i>Local scale</i>		■		■		
<i>Case studies</i>		■		■		
<i>Thesis</i>						■

*Thank you for your  
kind attention*



**Gaetano Pecoraro**

**PhD course in Risk and Sustainability in Civil  
Engineering, Environmental and Construction**

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