



ADAPTATION FUND



**Volta Flood and  
Drought Management**

# Introduction to Probabilistic Risk Assessment



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



Global Water  
Partnership  
West Africa



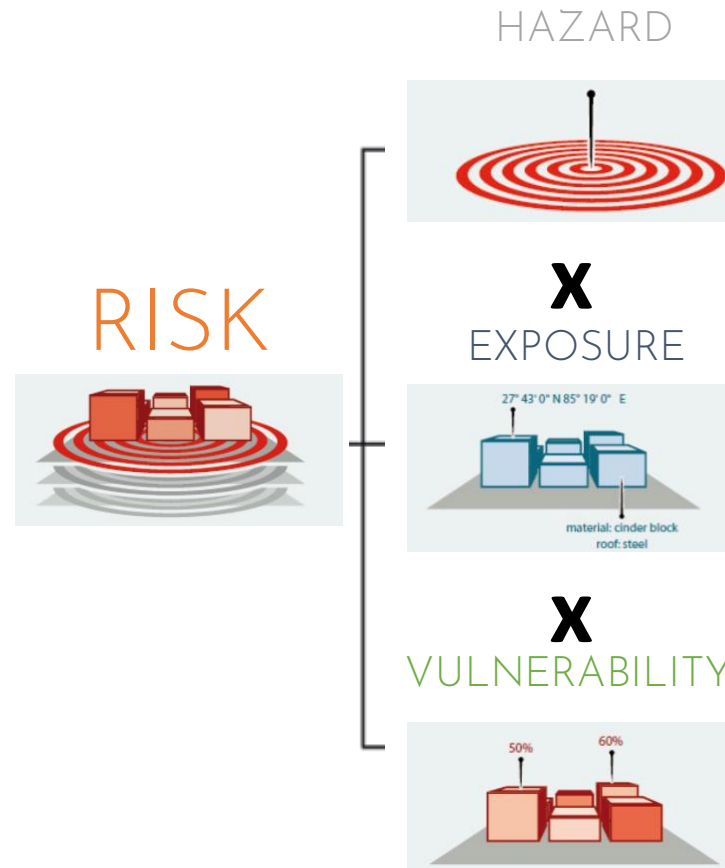
In collaboration with



IVM Institute for  
Environmental Studies



# Risk Definition

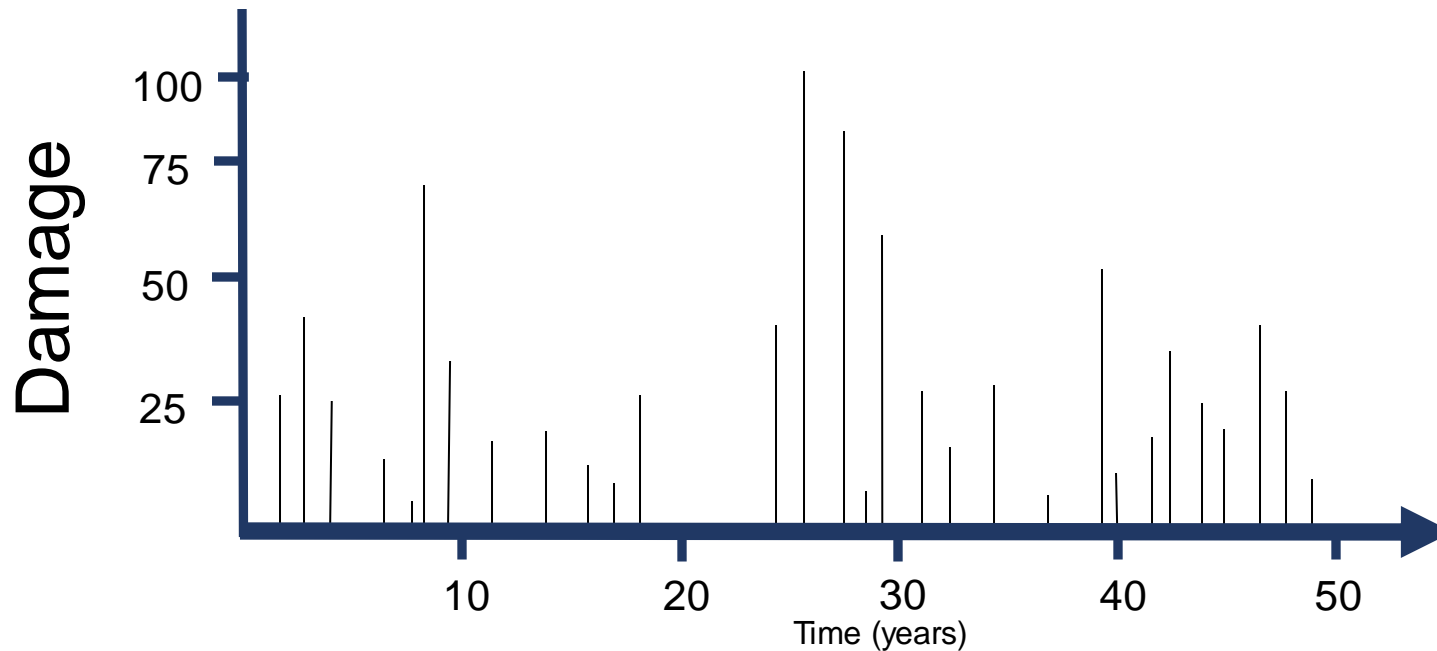


# Risk Assessment methodologies

1. Historical analysis
2. Scenario analysis (The exercise of session 1)
  - geographical distribution of the severity of loss due to the occurrence of a postulated event (i.e., Scenario)
3. Probabilistic analysis
  - Risk is defined as the likelihood (i.e., probability) of sustaining a certain level of loss during a given time period.
  - Risk = Probability of an event occurring x impact of the event

Considers a large number of possible scenarios, their likelihood and associated impacts

# Probabilistic Flood Risk Assessment



# Risk Metrics

- **Average Annual Loss (AAL)** is the expected loss per year, averaged over many years.
- **Probable Maximum Loss (PML)** describes the loss that could be expected corresponding to a given likelihood, expressed in terms of annual probability of exceedance or its reciprocal, the return period.

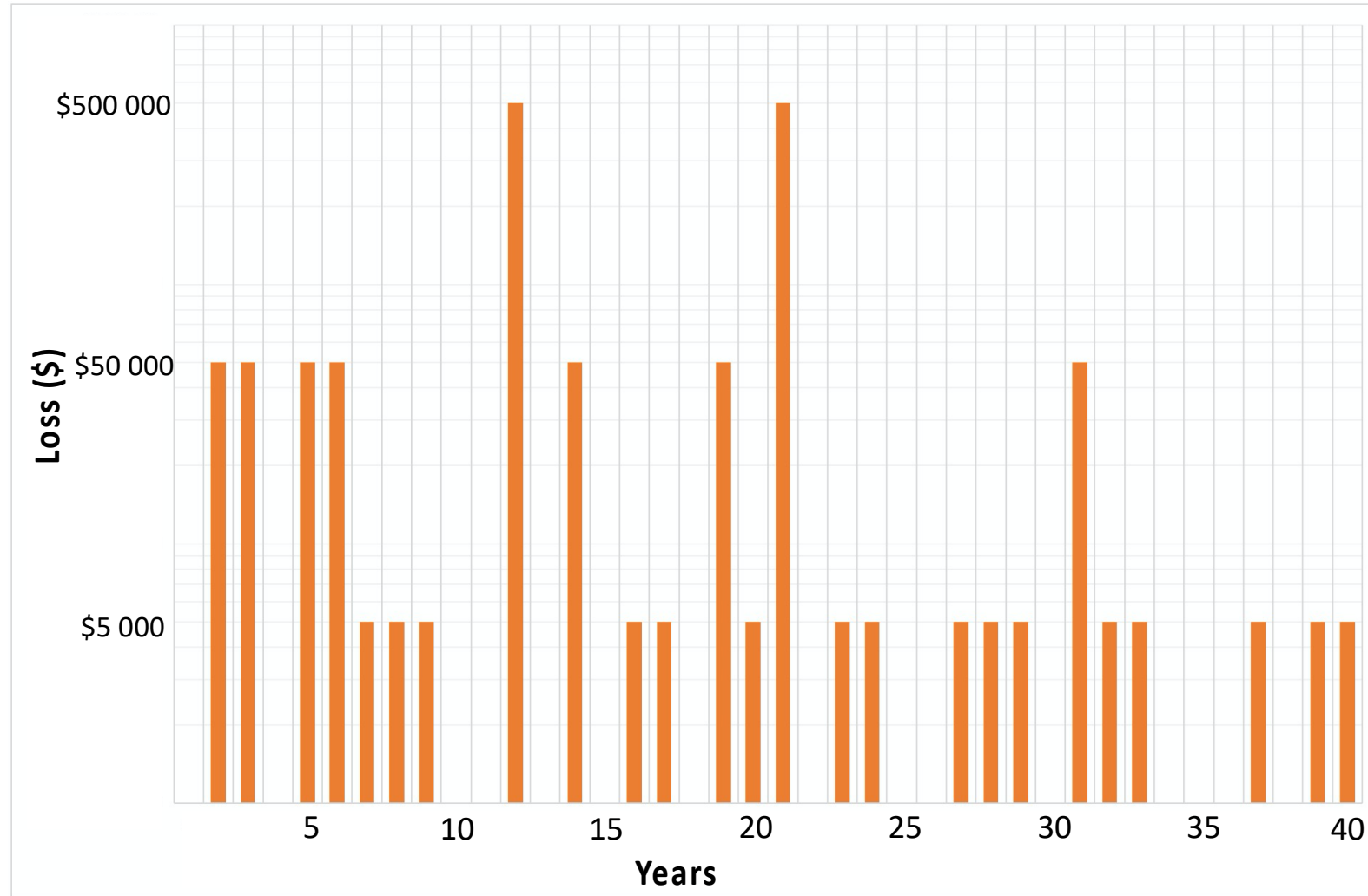
# Task 1:

AAAL= is the expected loss per year, averaged over many years.

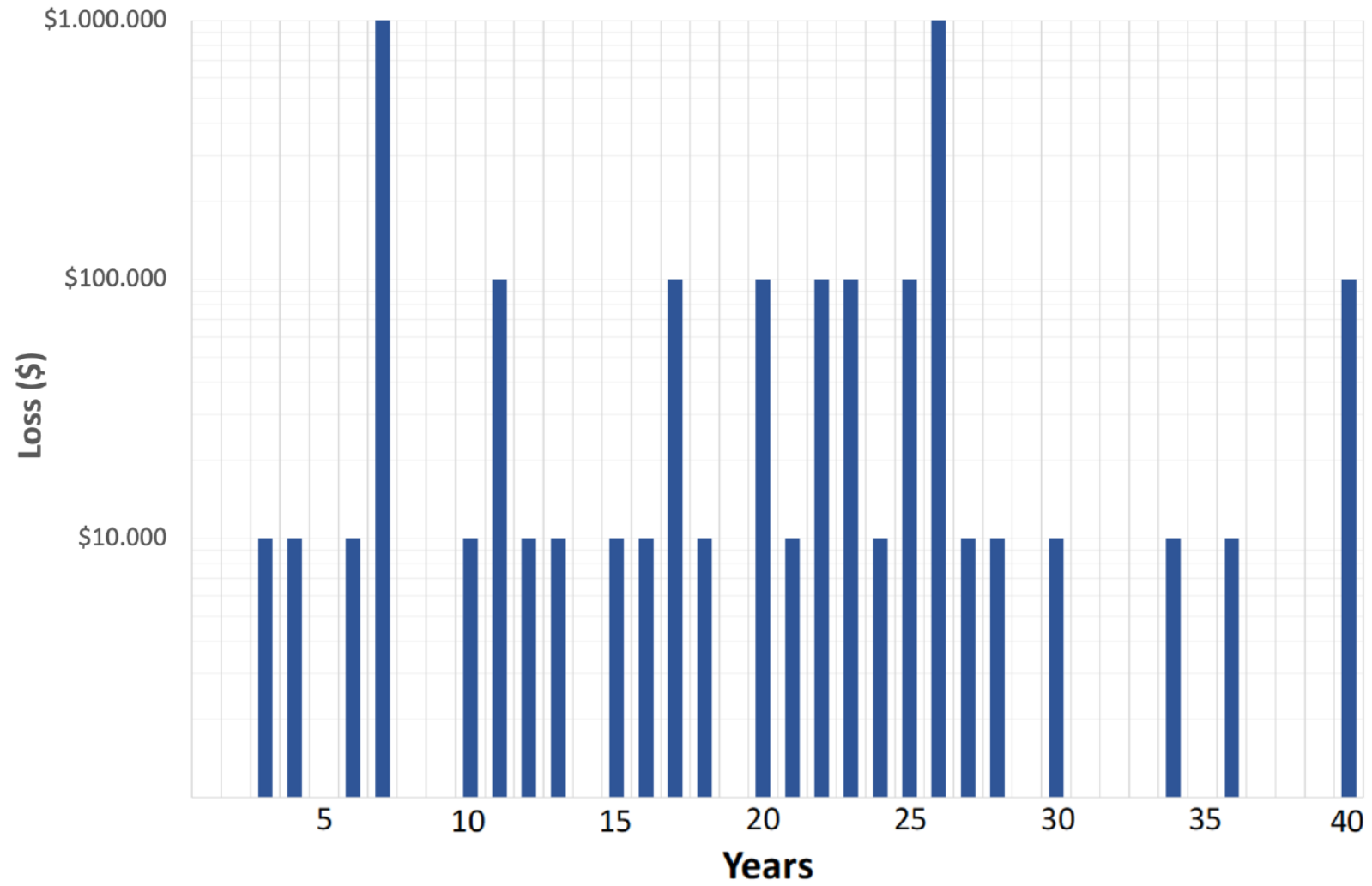
Suppose to have the time-series of the damages in two Region of the country

- Compute the Average Annual Loss, very likely events, medium likely and unlikely for the two time-series
- Derive 3 key messages and compare the results, what difference do you notice among the two time-series?
- Time: 15 min

### Disaster Loss time series n. 1



Disaster Loss time series n. 2





**TASK 1**

**Question 1: Extract the following information from the graph:**

**AAL:** is the expected loss per year, averaged over many years

	Series 1	Series 2
AAL		
Most frequent/Very likely damage (once every 2-3 years)		
Frequent/Medium likely damage (once every 5-10 years)		
Less frequent/unlikely damage (once every 20-30 years)		

**Question 2:** Observe the damage time series and derive 3 key messages and comment on the comparison between AAL of series 1 and series 2

1. Key message 1

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2. Key message 2

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3. Key message 3

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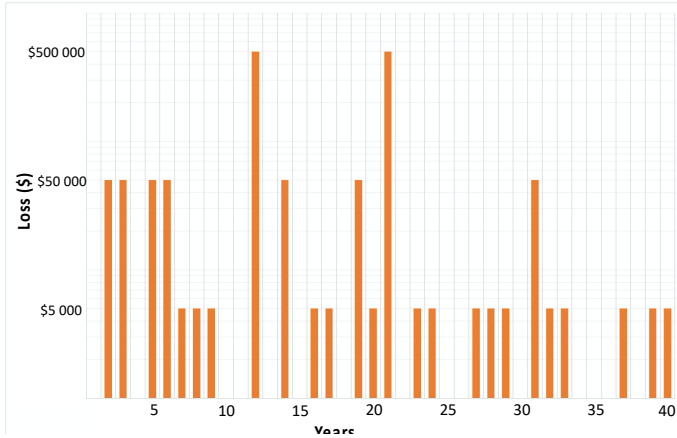
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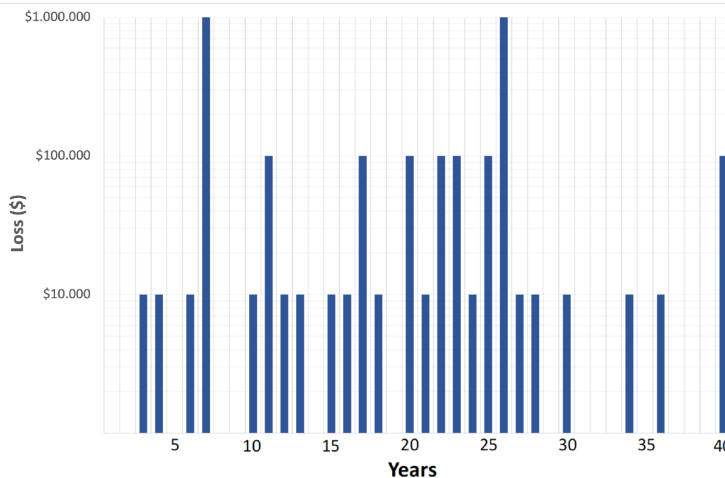
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AAAL series 1 = 35,750 \$  
AAAL series 2 = 71,500 \$

Disaster Loss time series n. 1



Disaster Loss time series n. 2



	Loss	
	Series 1	Series 2
Very likely	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000
Likely	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000
Unlikely	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,000,000

# Task 2:

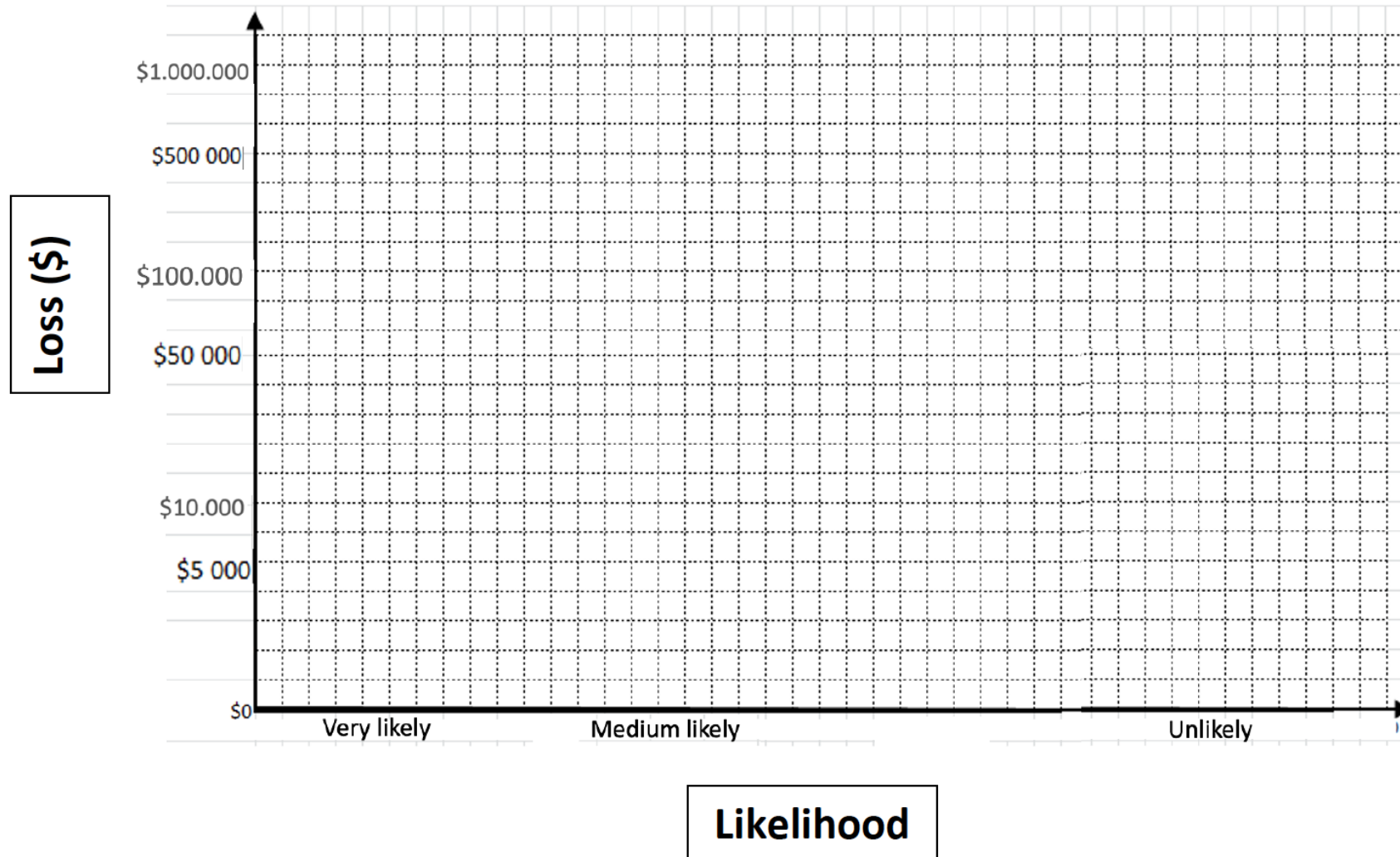
(PML) describes the loss that could be expected corresponding to a given likelihood

Suppose to have the time-series of the damages in two Regions of the country

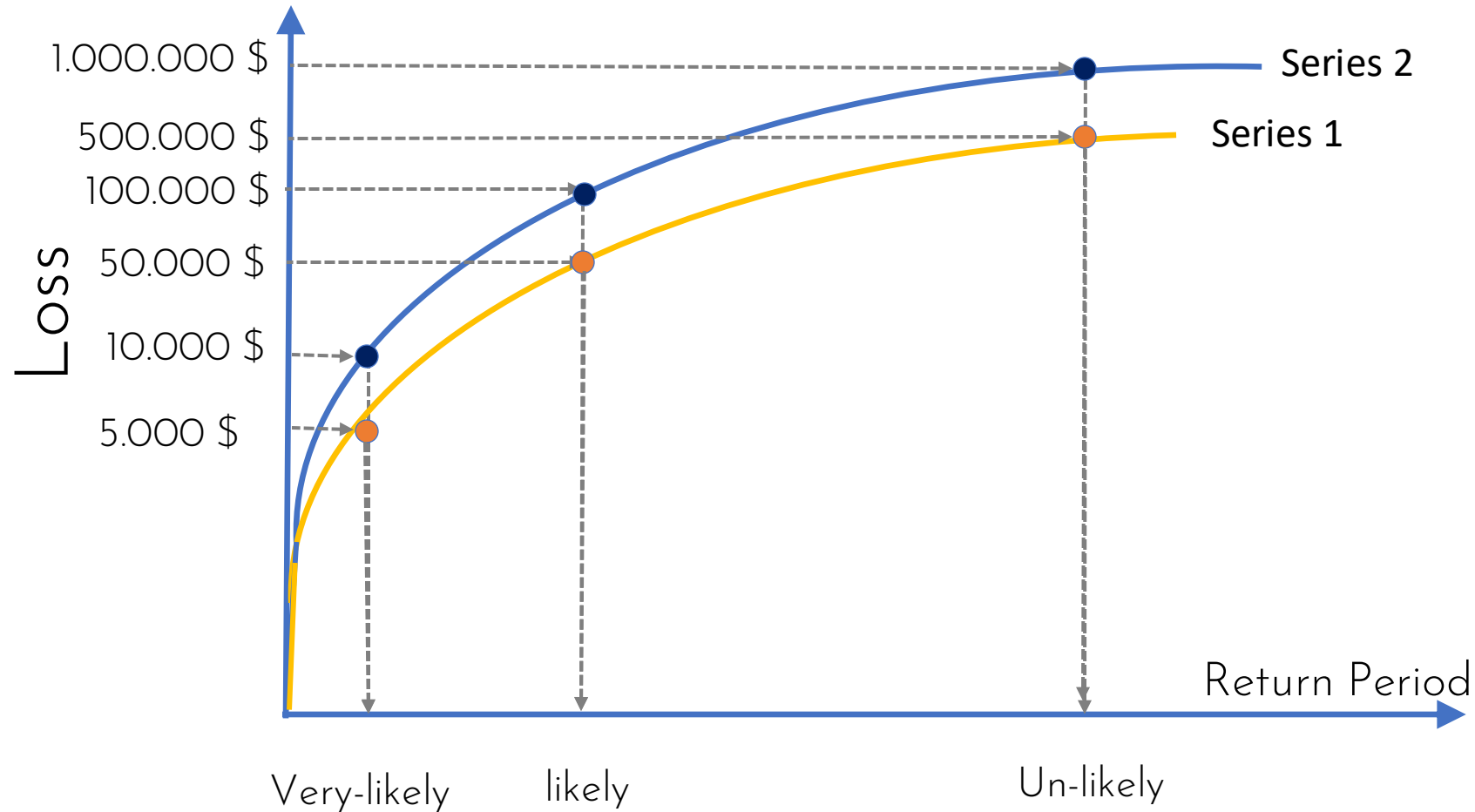
- Plot over the curve the expected losses and the likelihood for the two time-series
- Comment the results
- Time: 10 min

	Series 1	Series 2
AAL		
Most frequent/Very likely damage (once every 2-3 years)		
Frequent/Medium likely damage (once every 5-10 years)		
Less frequent/unlikely damage (once every 20-30 years)		

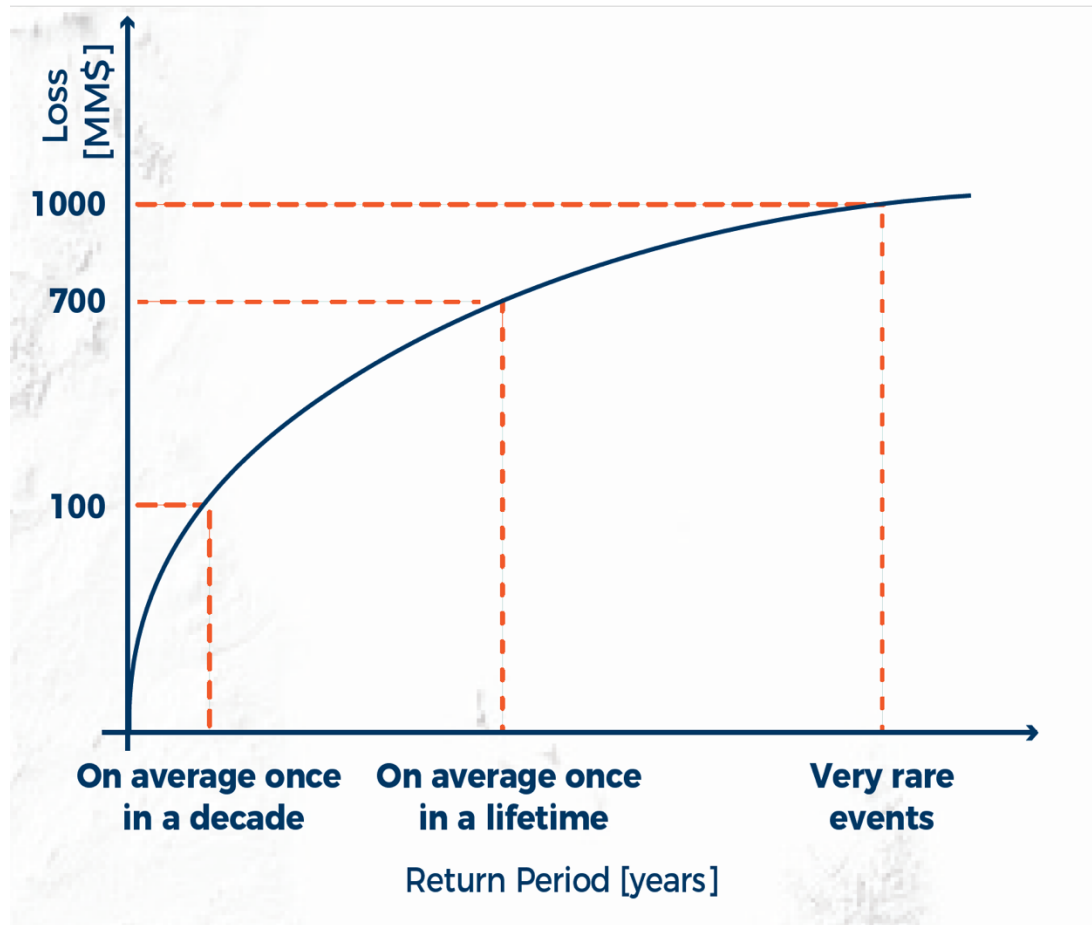
**TASK 2: PML:** describes the loss which could be expected corresponding to a given likelihood for the 2 loss time series.



# Probable Maximum Loss Curve



# Probable Maximum Loss curve

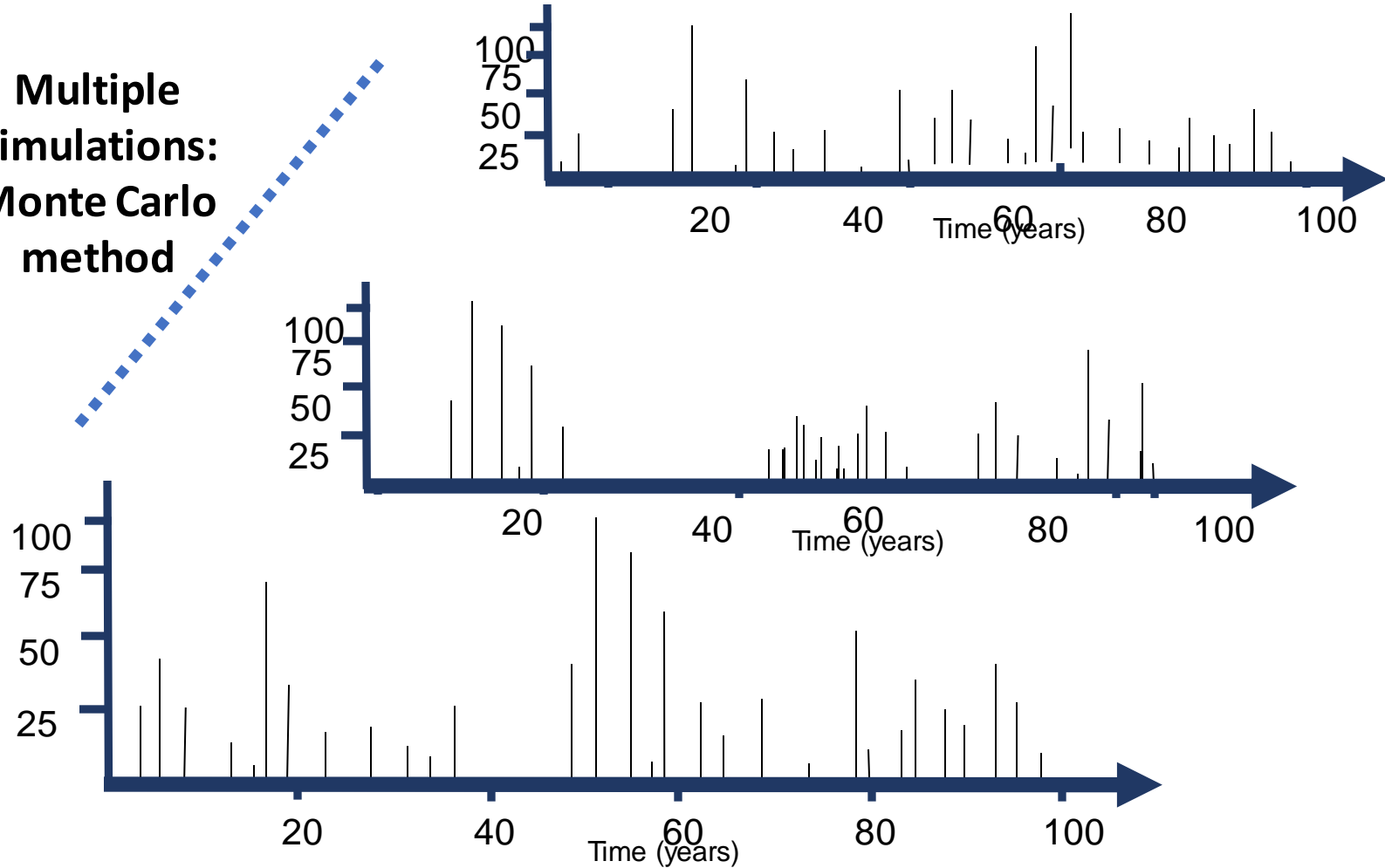


- the likelihood of a \$US 100 million loss occurs, on average, once in a decade
- loss of \$US 1 billion occurs is a very rare event.

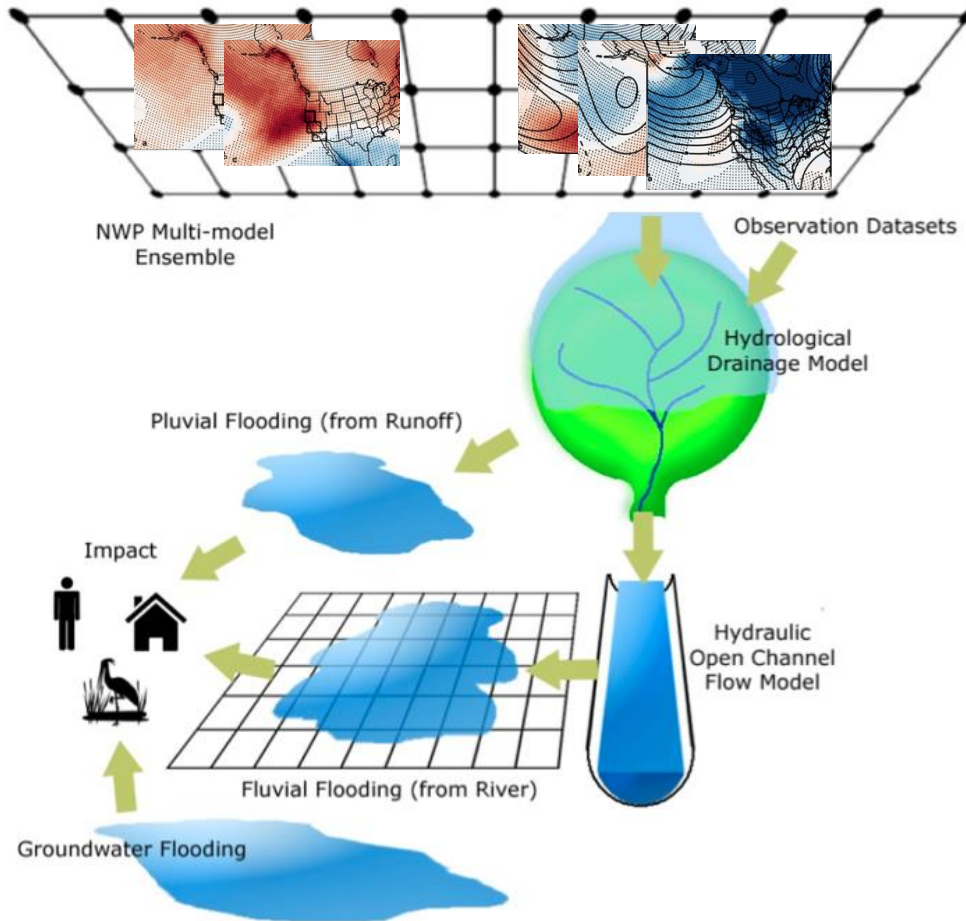
# Probabilistic Risk Assessment

Multiple Simulations:  
Monte Carlo method

Potential Damage



# Conceptual Framework: key components

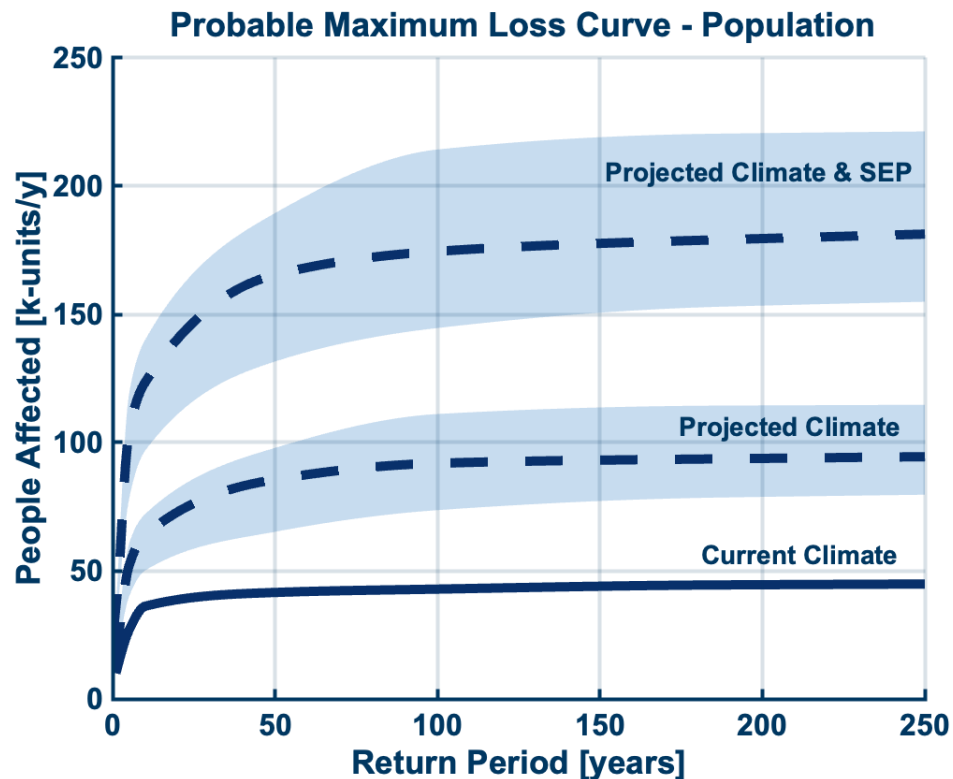


1. Weather “Generator”
2. Water Cycle simulation
3. Hazard Mapping
4. Exposure Mapping
5. Impact Assessment



# Reading the risk profiles

- PML for People Affected



- AAL for People affected

