Land cover change and flood extent in the Los Baños subwatershed, Philippines

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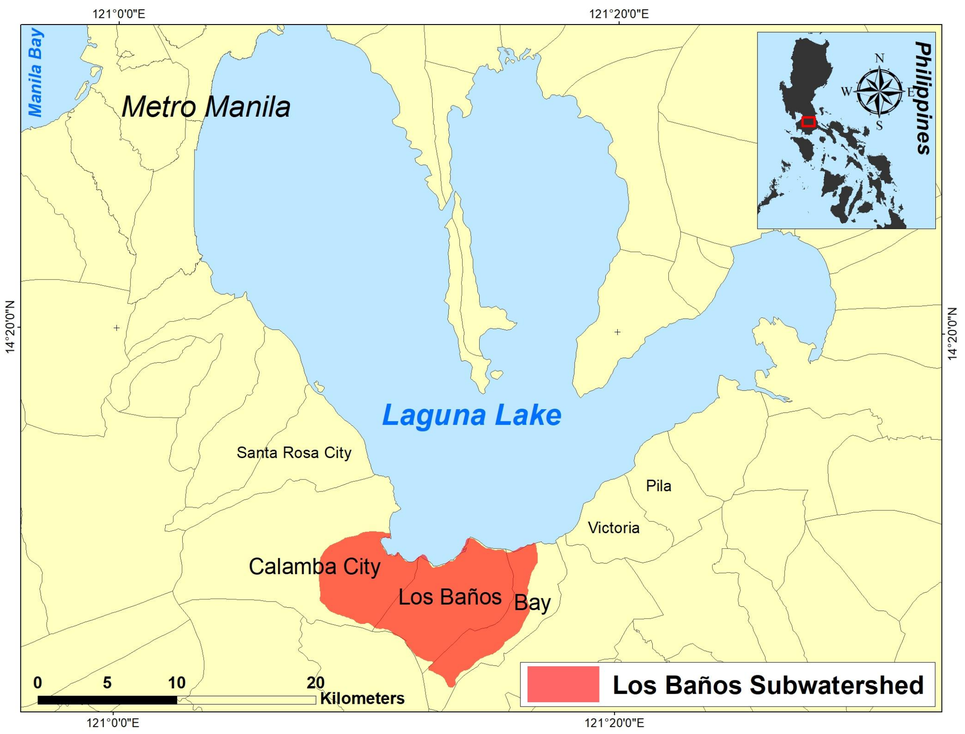
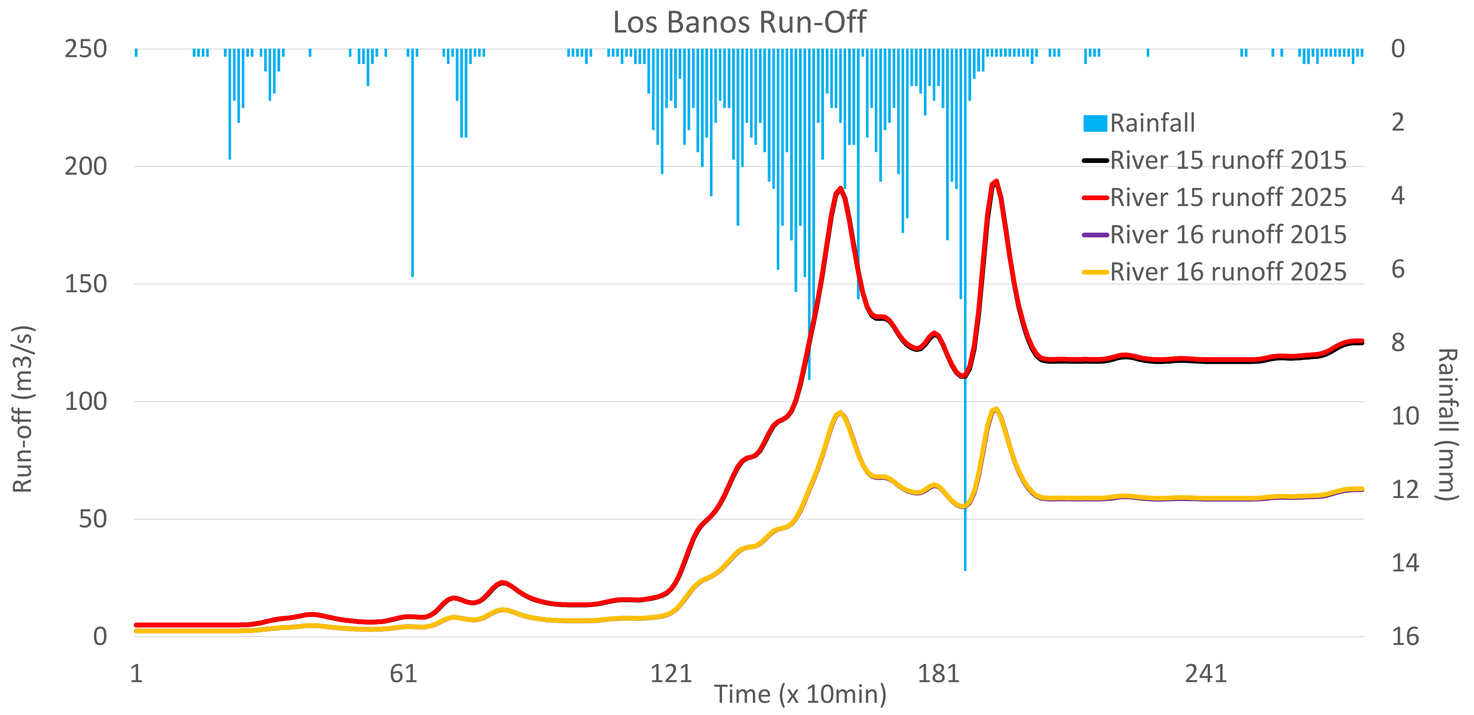
Overview

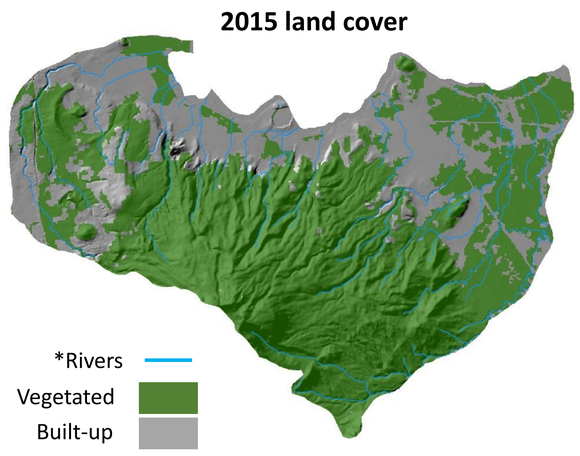
- Current (2015)[1] and future (2025)[2] land cover maps were generated and used as inputs for flood modelling.
- Event-based precipitation[3] with 10-year return period classification and high resolution digital terrain model[4] were used to generate a detailed flood simulation [5].
- Findings from this study will be shared with the local government units in the subwatershed to help make their land-use planning climate sensitive.

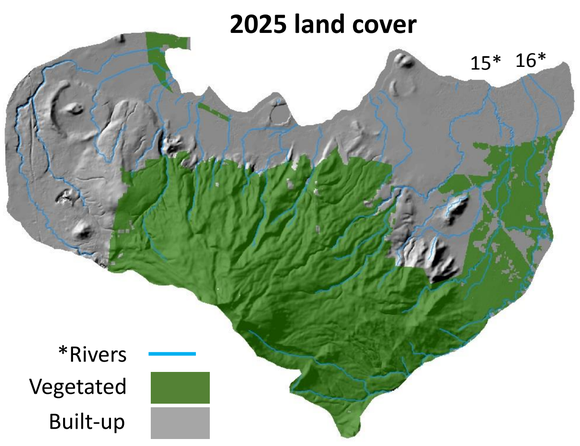


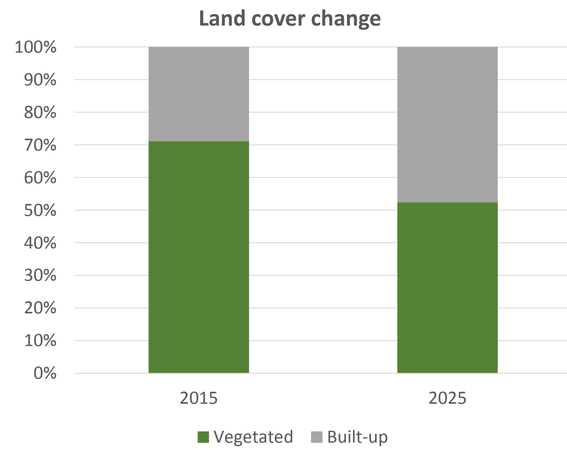


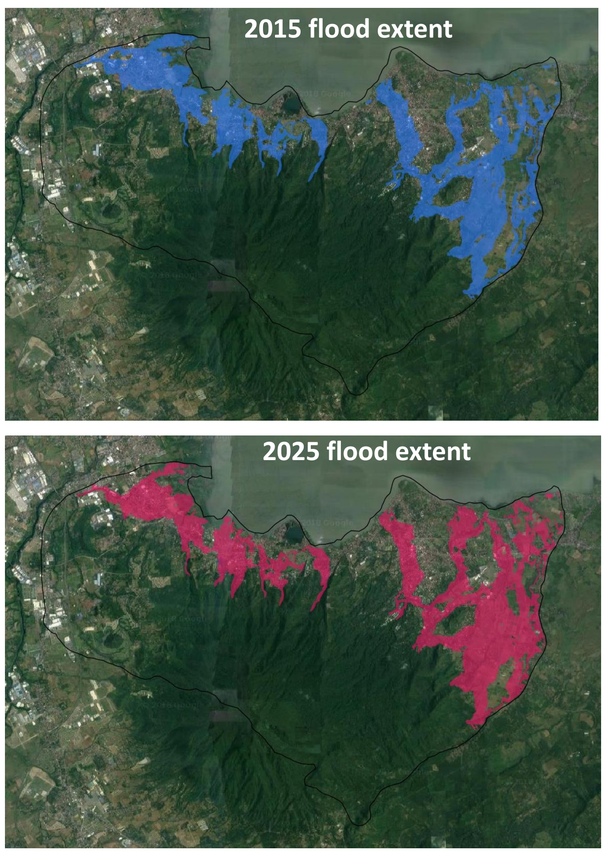
Key Points

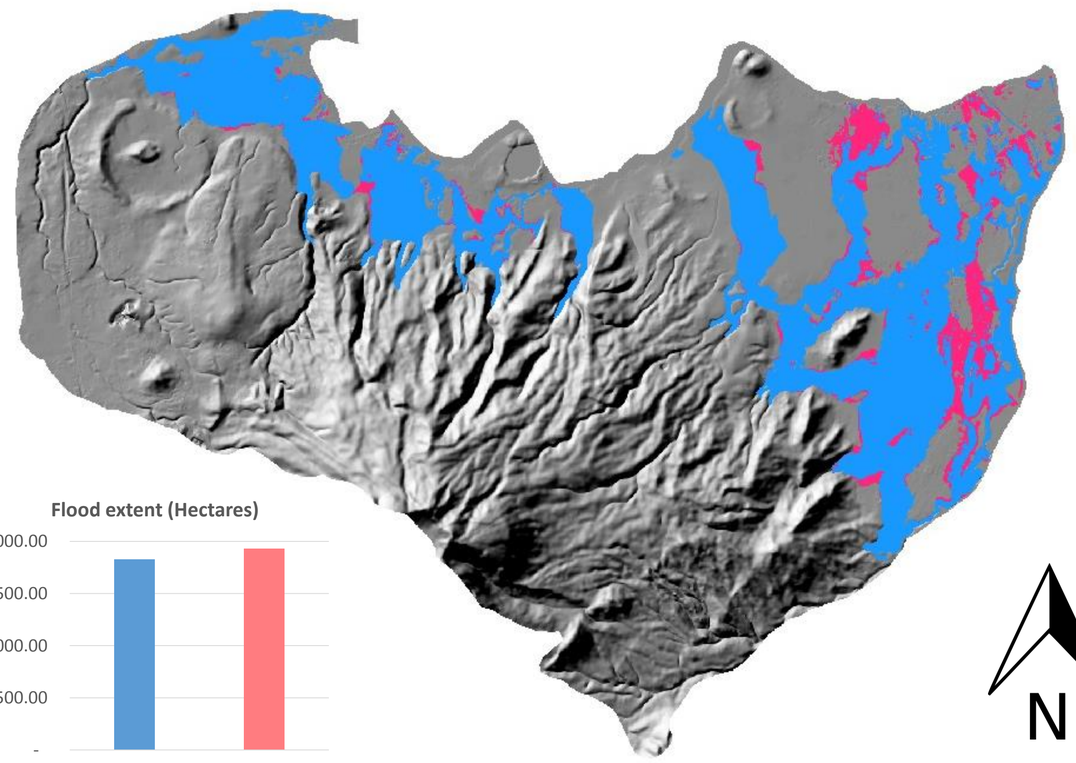
- Land cover change analysis showed that the built-up area will increase by ~65% (from 2,863 ha. to 4,728 ha.) between 2015-2025, based on the participatory mapping results.
- The increase in built-up area is estimated to lead to a 6% increase in flooded area (from 1,828 has. To 1,931 has.) in the case of a 10-year return period storm, due to higher rainfall-runoff from built-up areas than vegetated areas.
- The current flood simulation only accounts for a 10-year return period extreme rainfall event.
- Further calibration and long term simulation should be conducted using down-scaled General Circulation Models (GCMs) to further assess the effects of climate change on flooding .











[1] Land cover classification of Landsat 8 and Palsar-2 satellite images, courtesy of the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

[2] Future land cover (2025) map derived from a participatory mapping activity with three local government units (Municipalities of Los Baños and Bay, and City of Calamba).

[3]Selected extreme rainfall event: Typhoon Ofel (Int. Name: Son-Tinh) Oct. 25, 2012; Duration: 12 hours; Amount: 224.4 mm collected using Tipping Bucket Rain Gauge. Classified as 10 year rain return period based on Ambulong Station RIDF (Rainfall Intensity-Duration Frequency Curve) which has a 54 years record, prepared by Hydrometeorological Data Application Section (HMDAS), Hydro-Meteology Division, PAGASA. This is the same rainfall data used in Silang-Sta. Rosa subwatershed flood modelling since the extreme rainfall data is not available in the Los Baños rain gauges at the moment.

[4] IfSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar) derived DTM with 5m x 5m resolution from the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA).

[5] Flood extent boundaries were generated using the Hydrologic Engineering Center-River Analysis System (HEC-RAS), a freeware designed and coded for the U.S Army Corps of Engineers that allows both one dimensional and two dimensional hydraulic analysis for steady and unsteady flow in rivers.

Acknowledgement: This paper is based on the outputs from the IGES pilot project entitled “Making land-use climate sensitive: Improving local planning for mitigating and adapting to climate impacts”, supported by the Japanese Ministry of the Environment.