# Case study of the 2013 Danube flood Test of the HAREN products by the Lower Austrian Civil Protection

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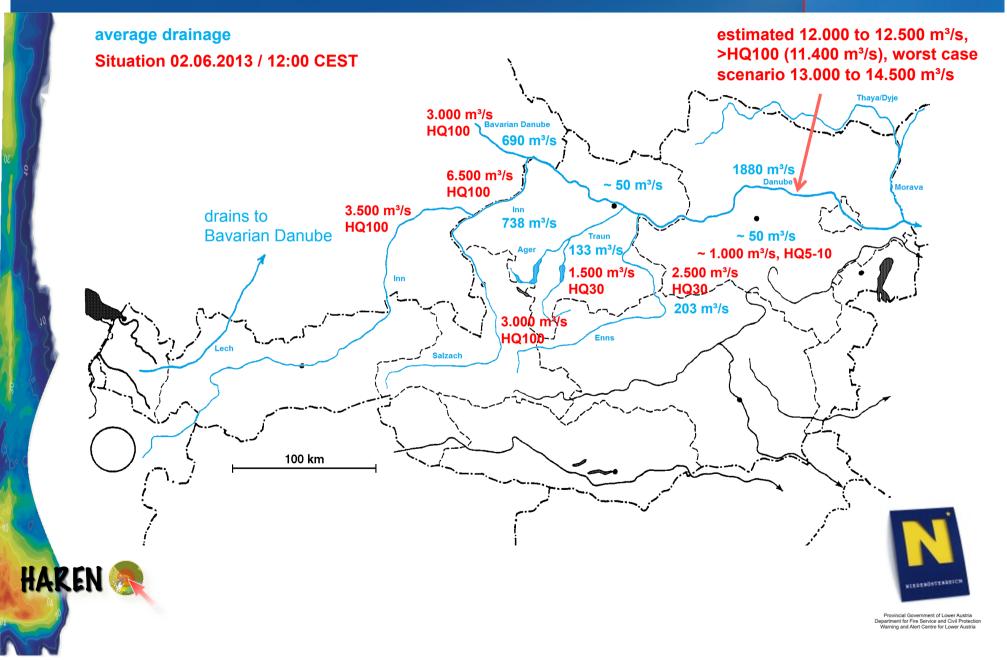
Provincial Government of Lower Austria Department for Fire Service and Civil Protection Warning and Alert Centre for Lower Austria

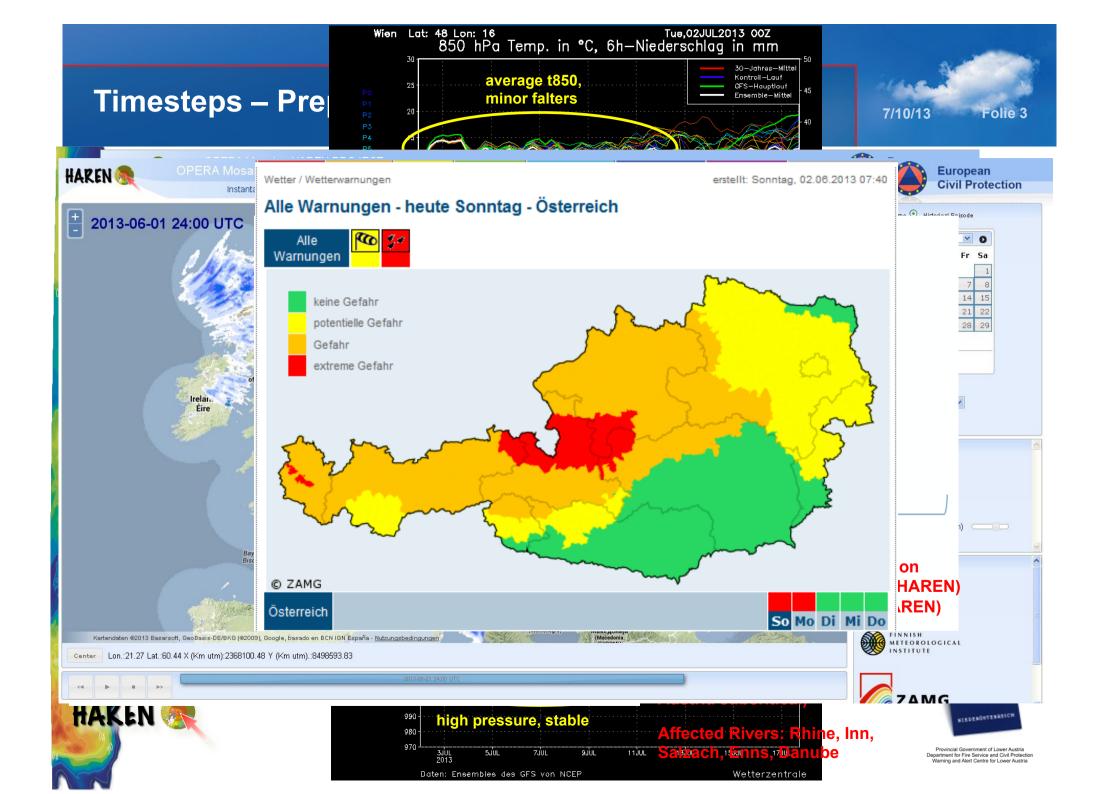
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#### The River Danube in Austria

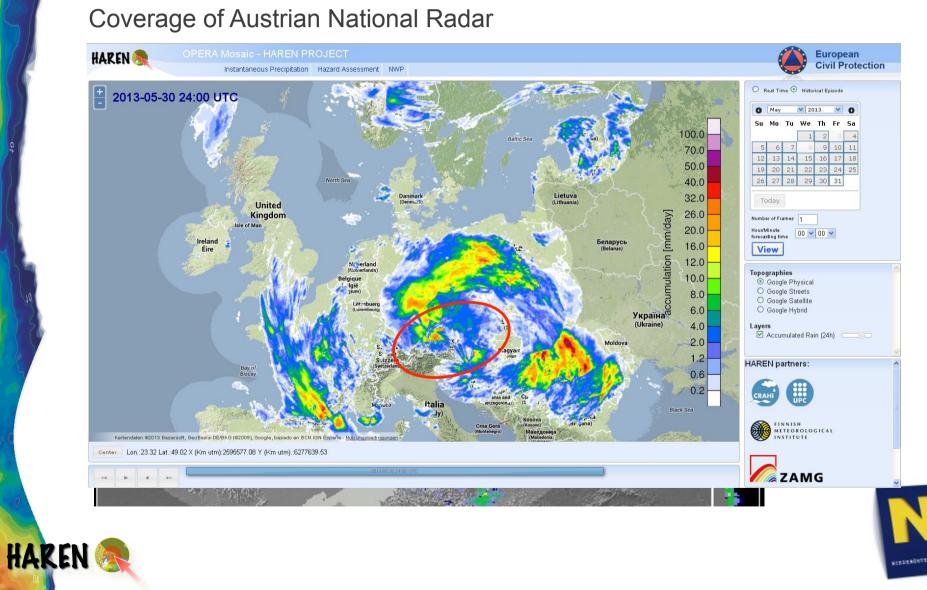






## Radar images – HAREN vs. national Radars

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## HAREN – transnational radar composites

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- If only national radars are used you need radar images of following countries for full coverage:
- Germany
- Czech Republic
- Poland
- Slowakia
- Hungary
- Slowenia

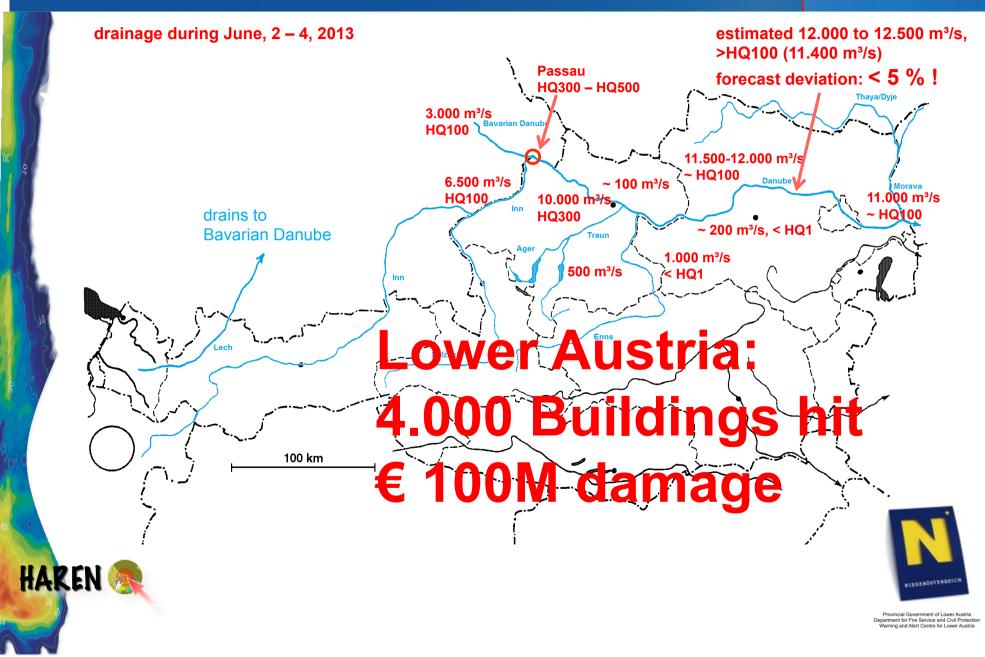
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- But: National radars fail at outer coverage areas
- Handling of more radar image websites not useable
- Benefits of HAREN-Radar composites:
- Early detection of "Vb"-cyclones or antlantic systems with radar composites
- One website for overall view of a precipitation system, details can be visualisized on the national image
- Seamless transistion between the single national radars compensation of deadspots, clutters and other misleading distortions



### Facts of 2013 Danube Flood in Austria





### **2013 Danube Flood – Internal evaluations**

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- Analysis and forecast worked very well "lightyears from the 2002flood", numerous benefits from first tests and pilot applications used in the 2009 flood
- Strategy of "Timesteps Preparing for Disaster" was developed at storm "Kyrill" in 2007, steady emprovements till now, but the general guideline is still actual
- Frequently contact to meteorologist first contact 72 to 96 hours in advance to the impact, then once to twice a day
- Hydrologist should be "at the spot", integrated to disaster staff common interpretation of precipitation graphics (actual radar data, precipitation sums)
- At close time before and during the impact all available data sources will be needed instant comparison and plausibility checks
- Availableness, handling and performance of data sources are very important parameters for usage and acceptance – viewing of many sources and crosschecks within a short time!



## HAREN – experiences during disaster staff service

- HAREN-webportal gave a good overview about the cyclone system
  and the **overall** precipitation situation.
  - The webportal is widely self-explaining and relatively easy to handle Recommendation: Basic knowledges in meteorology and/or hydrology are beneficial.
  - Data availableness was satisfying during the flood period no missing radar data or dropouts.
  - Forecast motion vectors work quite adequate. Development of further precipitation focal points worked well.
  - Server performance was and is rather poor at the moment (like in old analog or ISDN connections) - loading period is rather long.
  - Display menu is difficult to handle at poor performance priority to choose settings before loading images (toggle button)
  - Functions were generally checked with zoom-step "Europe". Detail zoom was not used because of poor performance.

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## HAREN – emprovements and future targets

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- Sufficient internet connection is a basic requirement for high application

  AKEN acceptance.
  - User defined thresholds for reflectivity and precipitation sums.
  - Forecast: Layer for probability to exceed user defined thresholds for reflectivity and precipitation sums.
  - Precipitation form (solid/liquid) and snow/rain transistion level.
  - Convective cell model cell identification, lifecycle, celltracking.
  - Convective cell development probabilities (in-/decreasing)
  - Convective cell development potential (index, percentage) for extending warning times.
  - Optimizing function menus for quick access (user-defined / ressource saving settings).



## **2013 Danube Flood Impressions**

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