

Acting in advance of humanitarian crises: Using forecasts effectively

Aims

- Provide useful information to support decision-makers to take humanitarian action before a crisis occurs
- Support implementation of new procedures

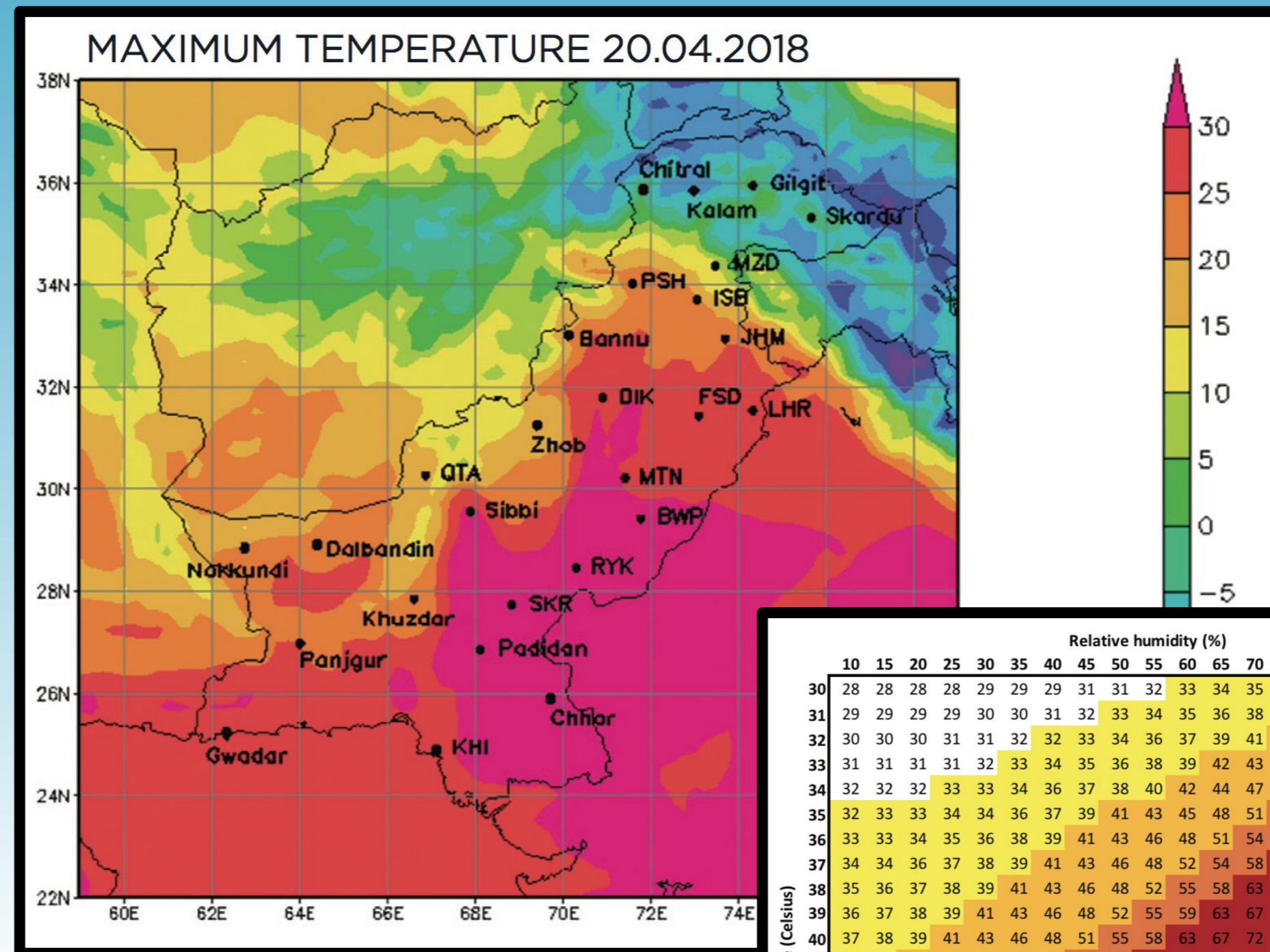
Solutions

- Evaluate forecast performance
- How far in advance is useful information available?
- Where can useful action be taken, on what timescales?
- Co-design the research to target genuinely helpful outputs
- Where information is not available, take forecast off the table

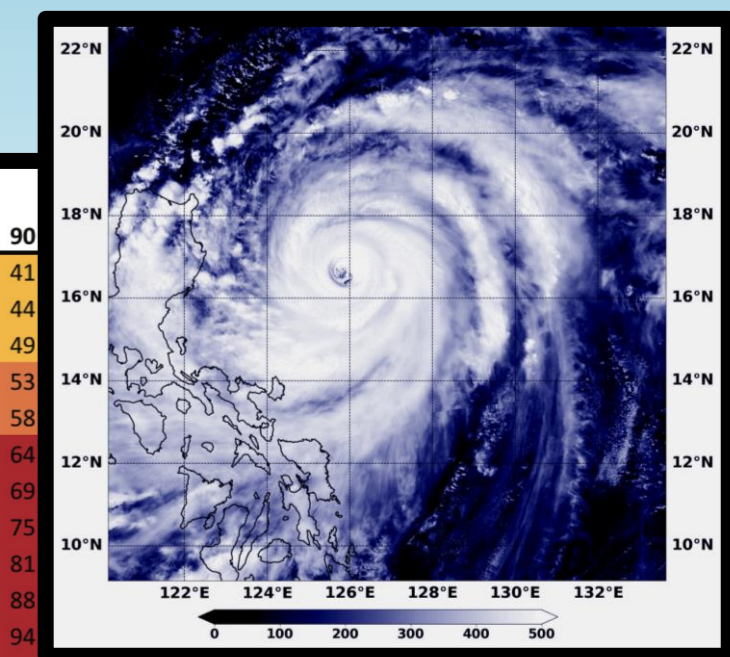
“It’s a delicate balance between being close enough to the spike of the heatwave - when we’ve got a higher level of certainty about the forecast, but far enough away from the heatwave to actually implement anticipatory action. In the past, it’s been difficult to get the balance right.”
 - Sarah Klassen, Start Network Crisis Anticipation Officer

Challenges

- Humanitarian impacts often not directly related to physical hazards
- Communication with local-level representatives needs to be framed and pitched appropriately
- For some events, a good forecast is **not** available on a timescale allowing for action – then decisions must be taken based on other factors



Our case studies:
 Heatwave in Pakistan (above and right)
 Cyclone in the Philippines (far right)



Tell me more
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