

Extratropical Cyclone is approaching Baltimar

You all are stakeholders in launching early warnings in case of extreme weather events in the country of Baltimar. Forecasts show an upcoming Extratropical Cyclone what might cause heavy disruptions in the whole country of Baltimar, especially in coastal areas.

Together, and based on the roles assigned to you, you need to mitigate it's impact. Your discussion will be structured into the following steps:

1. Understanding the Value Chain – as stakeholders in early warnings (~30 min)
 - You discuss obstacles before issuing warnings
 - You identify tools and resources needed to issue efficient early warnings
 - You discuss possible needs and misunderstandings in each role, taking into account language issues, complexity of scientific language, social and traditional beliefs, risk of misinformation.
2. Supporting the delivery of early warning (~30 min)
 - Discuss what can help to enhance public acceptance and engagement
 - You imagine actions before, during and after issuing specific early warning.

Situation in Baltimar

Baltimar is developed country along the shores of the Marenostum Sea. The country has a highly developed social market economy and a cornerstone of Baltimar economy is a tourism. The global temperature increase affects Baltimar, the country observes higher number of extreme weather events, what affect different sectors of economy and people livelihood. It's becoming urgent in Baltimar to adapt its agriculture practices, water managment and the regulations related to tourism, as well as to improve the resilience of infrastructure.

Status Of Meteorological Services

Baltimore has a very efficient and well-developed National Weather Service – Baltimore Weather Service (BWS), what offers a full range of services. BWS forecast office has been issuing impact-based warnings since 2004. The public responds well to the colour-coded warnings from Yellow for less intense or less certain weather events, to Orange and then Red for those weather events that are both intense and certain. Recently, meteorologists of Baltimore faced unprecedented harassment from conspiracy theorists, challenging their work and the validity of their warnings.

Media Landscape

In Baltimore the media landscape is diverse yet characterised by significant concentration in the hands of a few influential owners at the national level. The rise of digital and social media adds up to this challenge, with 93% of the population using social media, where fake news and misinformation spread more easily. This trend favours climate conspiracies, undermining the dissemination of the much-needed accurate information on the situation.

Expected weather situation

It is early November. NWP models indicate high probability of cyclone formation, what will bring stormy weather to Baltimore country, its coastal areas may be affected the most. Very strong winds with gusts up to 25–30 m/s are expected.

As well as strong winds, there will be heavy rain across many parts of the Baltimore. 20–30 mm of rain is likely to fall quite widely, coastal areas may see 60 mm of rain. This rain will fall on already saturated ground, bringing the risk of flooding.

Large waves and onshore gales brought by storm could see significant flooding along parts of the coast.