

# 1           Open inventories of rainfall-triggered landslides

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13   **Running Title:** Open inventories of rainfall-triggered landslides

14  
15   **Funding information:** This research is supported by the PMM Science Team (NNH21ZDA001N-  
16   PMMST, 21-PMMST21-0046) and the NASA Disasters Program (NNH18ZDA001N-  
17   DISASTERS, 18-DISASTER18-0022).

18  
19   **Data availability statement:** The landslide inventory is available in Figshare  
20   (<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.26972467>)

21  
22   **Dataset Details:**

23   Landslide Inventory

24   Identifier: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.26972467>

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27   Title: Open inventories of rainfall-triggered landslides, new landslide events

28   Publisher: Figshare

29   Publication year: 2025

30   Resource type: Landslide inventory

31   Version: 1

32  
33   **Abstract**

34  
35   Landslide inventories support both post-event response and predictive model evaluation, but it  
36   remains challenging to create public, current, comprehensive, and accurate landslide inventories.  
37   In response to this need, thousands of rainfall-triggered landslides were mapped and organized  
38   within the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Cooperative Open-Online Landslide  
39   Repository (COOLR), which contains over 11,000 landslide reports from the Global Landslide  
40   Catalog. Recently, 22 inventories containing thousands of rainfall-triggered landslides have been  
41   added to COOLR, which was re-organized to better accommodate large landslide inventories. All  
42   the data are available on the "Landslide Viewer" web application, which also shows referenced  
43   and imported landslide inventories from other researchers. The new inventories are each connected  
44   to a landslide-triggering rainfall event, and therefore their date of occurrence was usually known.  
45   Landslide events were found by searching through credible sources or due to an external request  
46   for support during a disaster response. In either case, high-resolution imagery was utilized to

47 digitize the landslides in the region. The resulting data can be used for various purposes, such as  
48 model training and validation. To demonstrate their potential, satellite precipitation was analyzed  
49 with reference to the new inventories. The precipitation analysis highlights the potential of daily  
50 satellite precipitation estimates in areas with limited ground precipitation observations. Some of  
51 the heavy precipitation events were underestimated, but many were captured and could inform  
52 future landslide hazard assessment.

53

54 **Keywords:** Landslides, Landslide Inventory, COOLR, Satellite, Precipitation

55 **1. Introduction**

56  
57 The accuracy and composition of landslide inventories varies widely. Creating a global, up-to-  
58 date, comprehensive, and accurate landslide inventory is a challenge, due to varying collection  
59 methods, numerous types and causes of landslides, and the large effort required to create a global  
60 inventory of any kind. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) recently  
61 updated its Cooperative Open Online Landslide Repository (COOLR) to include a series of  
62 major landslide events.

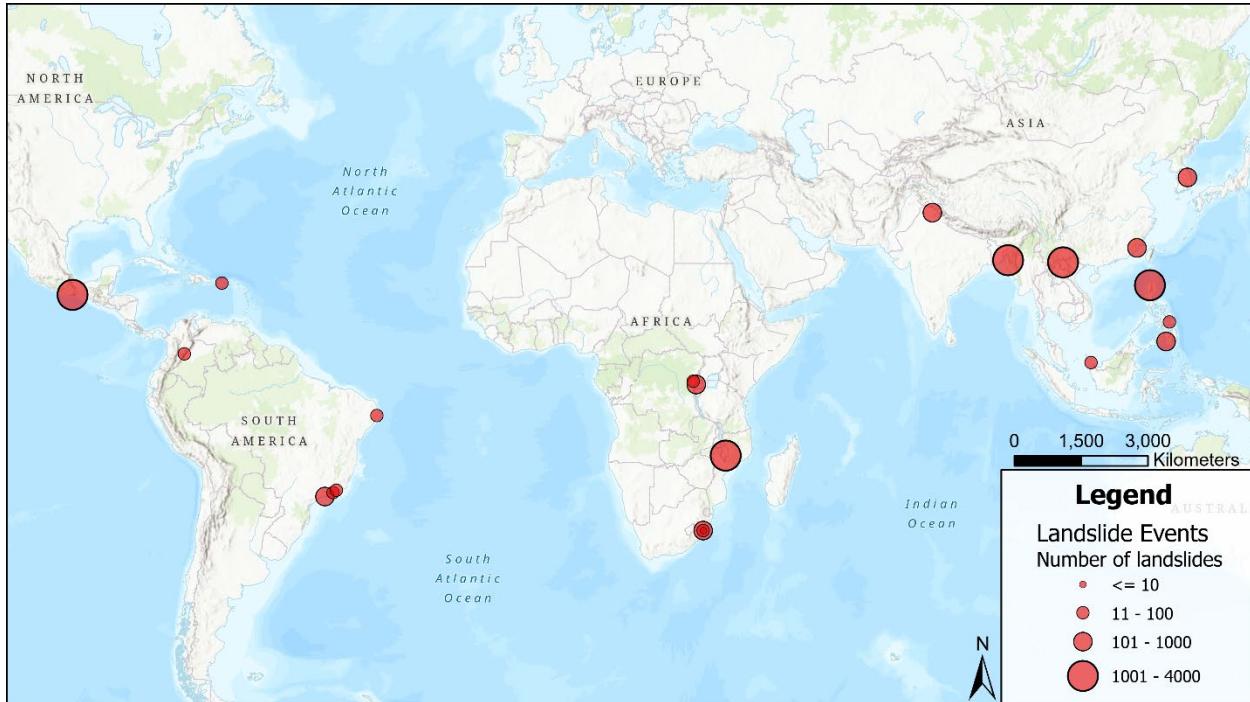
63  
64 Landslide mapping can be accomplished using manual or automated methods. In manual  
65 mapping, a human digitizes landslides via visual interpretation of imagery, which tends to  
66 produce fewer false positives. However, this method can be labor- and time-intensive, and the  
67 quality is variable and dependent on the experience of the human analyst. Automated mapping  
68 involves the use of supervised or unsupervised classification techniques to detect landslides from  
69 satellite imagery. Pixel-based (Nichol and Wong, 2005; Borghuis *et al.*, 2007; Parker *et al.*,  
70 2011; Burrows *et al.*, 2019, 2020; Jung and Yun, 2020), Object-based (Martha *et al.*, 2010,  
71 2016; Lu *et al.*, 2011; Stumpf and Kerle, 2011; Hölbling *et al.*, 2012, 2015; Amatya *et al.*, 2019,  
72 2021a, 2021b; Adriano *et al.*, 2020; Esposito *et al.*, 2020; Comert, 2021) and deep-learning  
73 based (Ghorbanzadeh *et al.*, 2019; Sameen and Pradhan, 2019; Meena *et al.*, 2021; Nava *et al.*,  
74 2022; Bhuyan *et al.*, 2023) methods have been used extensively for landslide mapping. These  
75 methods can quickly map large areas but can produce more false positives, requiring further  
76 corrections (Li *et al.*, 2014). In this paper, we utilized both manual mapping and an automated  
77 landslide mapping approach, called Semi-Automatic Landslide Detection (Amatya *et al.*, 2021a,  
78 2021b).

79  
80 Although many individual landslide inventories have been published, relatively few compilations  
81 of multiple inventories have been made publicly available. Institutional restrictions on data  
82 republication are probably an important limiting factor, but the labor and computing costs  
83 associated with maintaining up-to-date repositories may also be significant. A common challenge  
84 to these efforts is standardization of diverse datasets (Grignon *et al.*, 2004). Due to the challenge  
85 of producing a single landslide inventory at scale, national landslide inventories often represent a  
86 compilation across multiple pre-existing inventories (Devoli *et al.*, 2007; Trigila *et al.*, 2010;  
87 Mirus *et al.*, 2020), and these are sometimes made openly available. Fewer examples are  
88 available at the international level. Sometimes multiple inventories may be compiled to produce  
89 an open landslide susceptibility map or other product (Günther *et al.*, 2014; Wilde *et al.*, 2018),  
90 but without publishing the merged inventory (Herrera *et al.*, 2018). The pre-eminent example of  
91 an open repository of multiple landslide inventories, a collection of earthquake-induced  
92 landslides is redistributed through the U.S. Geological Survey ScienceBase platform (Tanyaş *et*  
93 *al.*, 2017). This database is intended to enhance sharing of information across the research  
94 community, as well as improving the estimation of impacts from future earthquakes. In this  
95 paper, we describe updates to COOLR, another global repository of landslide data, including the  
96 production of dozens of new landslide inventories.

97  
98 The new inventories correspond to 22 rainfall events that occurred in the years 2019-2023 and  
99 contain over 15,000 landslides (**Figure 1**). The new point-based inventories are hosted within  
100 COOLR and can be viewed and downloaded on NASA's Landslide Viewer

101 (<http://www.landslides.nasa.gov/viewer>). COOLR already contains the Global Landslide Catalog  
102 (GLC), a large inventory of rainfall-triggered landslides that have been recorded by news media  
103 or other sources (Li *et al.*, 2014; Kirschbaum *et al.*, 2015). The new inventories can be used for  
104 training or validating landslide predictive models, such as the Landslide Hazard for Situational  
105 Awareness (LHASA) model (Stanley *et al.*, 2021). In addition, these data could be used for  
106 evaluating the connection between landslide events and satellite precipitation datasets, an  
107 example explored in this paper.

108



109  
110 **Figure 1.** Locations of the new landslide inventories.  
111

## 112 **2. Methodology**

113

### 114 **2.1. Landslide Mapping**

115

#### 116 **2.1.1. Information sources**

117 Multiple sources of information fed the digitization of landslide events. Sometimes, the NASA  
118 Disasters Program (<https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/what-we-do/disasters>) notified our team of a  
119 landslide occurrence. The Disasters Program activates the Disasters Response Coordination  
120 System (DRCS) (<https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/what-we-do/disasters/disasters-response-coordination-system>) when there is an external request for Earth observation (EO) data or hazard  
121 products to support a disaster response. When the DRCS activated for a landslide-related event,  
122 the landslide mapping process began. In addition, trustworthy websites such as the International  
123 Disasters Charter (IDC) (<https://disasterscharter.org>) and Floodlist (<https://floodlist.com/>) were  
124 used to find rainfall-triggered landslide events to digitize. Both sources were filtered by hazard  
125 type, location, and date. The overall methodology and decision process for mapping landslide  
126 events is shown in **Figure 2**.

127

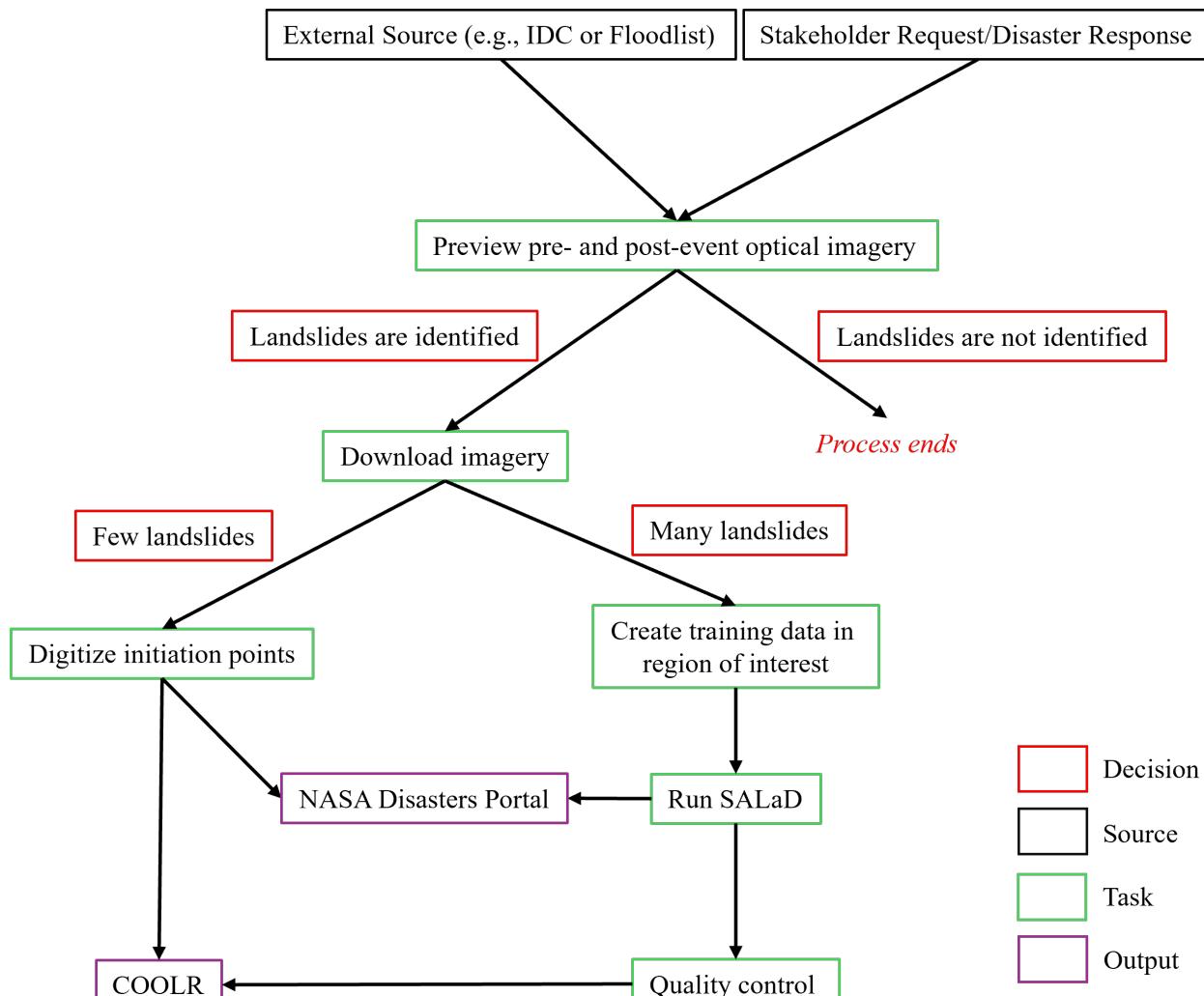


Figure 2. Flowchart showing each step of the landslide inventory creation process.

## 2.1.1. Data

To precisely map individual landslides, a surface-reflectance product with 4-bands (Red, Green, Blue and Near-Infrared) from PlanetScope (Planet Team, 2017) was used. The imagery was available through the NASA Commercial Satellite Data Acquisition (CSDA) Program (<https://earthdata.nasa.gov/esds/csdap>). The PlanetScope imagery had a 3-meter daily resolution. The high temporal frequency gave the greatest chance of finding a cloud-free image from both before and after each rainfall event, which helped attribute each landslide to the rainfall event.

If landslides were mapped for a disaster response, it was often difficult to find a post-event cloud-free image as some areas may remain cloudy for many days. In those cases, imagery sources were checked daily until clear imagery became available. In some regions, it was often hard to find a cloud-free image from within a narrow time window before and after the event. This phenomenon can reduce the overall precision of the product, but the date of the imagery

146 used for digitization was provided in the data attributes to provide context for each mapped  
147 inventory. Errors were possible in both manual and automatic mapping. False negatives might  
148 have occurred if the area of interest excluded nearby landslides or if landslides were overlooked  
149 due to spectral characteristics. False positives could have occurred due to unrelated changes or  
150 damage to the landscape that looked like a landslide. Finally, false positives and false negatives  
151 were manually corrected during the quality assurance/quality control (QAQC) process.

152

### 153 **2.1.2 Manual Mapping**

154

155 When NASA was alerted to a potential landsliding event, the first step was to download clear  
156 pre-event and post-event imagery. The threshold for determining a “clear” image was 30% cloud  
157 cover, but we manually selected the best available image for mapping each landslide event. Once  
158 both were available, the clear pre-event imagery was compared with clear post-event imagery. If  
159 new landslides were identified, the next step was to determine whether manual digitization or  
160 machine learning would be used to map landslides. Most inventories were manually digitized.  
161 The manual process to digitize landslides was comprised of visualizing and comparing the pre-  
162 and post- event imagery in Esri ArcGIS Pro software. The region of interest was visually  
163 inspected to capture as many landslides as possible, with closer attention paid to steeper terrain,  
164 especially near streams and in forested areas. A point was placed at the suspected initiation zone  
165 of each landslide based on the topography of the region. We decided to map the landslides as  
166 points instead of polygons because adding a point at the suspected initiation zone is much faster,  
167 enabling us to map many landslides in a short amount of time. To ensure we captured all the  
168 landslides in the given region, we reviewed the entire administrative district mentioned in the  
169 source for the event (typically a county). If no administrative district was mentioned in the  
170 source, we reviewed the imagery at least 25 kilometers out from the furthest landslide found in  
171 all directions. When each new inventory was completed, it was shared with the requester for the  
172 ongoing disaster response and published within COOLR.

173

### 174 **2.1.3. Semi-Automatic Landslide Detection (SALaD) system**

175

176 When we identified an event that seemed too large to manually map, the Semi-Automatic  
177 Landslide Detection (SALaD) algorithm was utilized (Amatya *et al.*, 2021b). SALaD uses  
178 object-based image analysis and machine learning to automatically map landslides. To ensure  
179 that only landslides induced by that rainfall event were mapped, a change detection-based  
180 version of SALaD called SALaD-CD (Amatya *et al.*, 2021b) was used. First, pre- and post-event  
181 imagery of the area of interest was downloaded. Next, training data was created to represent a  
182 sample of landslides in the region of interest, to improve accuracy. Pre- and post-event imagery  
183 was used to generate metrics that highlight change such as Normalized Difference Vegetation  
184 Index (NDVI) difference, Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Independent Component  
185 Analysis (ICA). The post-event image was segmented to create objects (Comaniciu and Meer,  
186 2002). The mean of NDVI difference, PCA and ICA of each object was used for landslide  
187 classification using a Random Forest (RF) model (Breiman, 2001). Once SALaD-CD finished  
188 running, either the output was posted with only a few corrections (mostly removing clouds) or a  
189 full QAQC was performed before publishing to COOLR. SALaD-CD outputs landslide  
190 polygons. In this case, the polygons were converted to initiation points before QAQC, because  
191 performing corrections was faster on points than on more complex polygons. The initiation point

192 was assumed to be the highest elevation in the landslide polygon boundary, based on the NASA  
193 Digital Elevation Model (NASA JPL, 2020). Missing landslide initiation points due to  
194 amalgamation of landslides while generating polygons were added manually. If the mapping was  
195 performed due to a request from an external organization working a hazard response in real-time,  
196 the output of SALaD-CD was shared as soon as possible. After the immediate response, each  
197 inventory was reviewed before it was ingested into COOLR.

198

## 199 **2.2. COOLR Incorporation**

200

201 All of the newly digitized landslide event inventories were added to COOLR, NASA's landslide  
202 database, which is displayed within NASA's Landslide Viewer. However, the pre-existing  
203 repository structure did not differentiate between event-based and report-based landslide  
204 inventories. Previously, COOLR contained two layers that hosted all the landslide data: a point  
205 layer and a polygon layer. These contained landslides reported by citizen scientists (Juang *et al.*,  
206 2019), landslides recorded in the GLC by NASA staff (Dandridge *et al.*, 2023), and inventories  
207 that were shared by external researchers. The database structure had been developed around the  
208 GLC, a report-based inventory. For this reason, the schema was not ideal for representing event-  
209 based inventories, which can have thousands of spatially precise landslide points per event. To  
210 better represent the new inventories, COOLR was updated to contain four layers: event-based  
211 layers in point and polygon format, and report-based layers in point and polygon format.

212 Both the event- and report-based layers contain external landslide inventories with the attributes  
213 updated to match the COOLR schema. External inventories contained within COOLR will be  
214 identified as such within the "Event Title" or "Imported Event Source Catalog" fields. If an  
215 external inventory was published via an online service, the service was added directly to  
216 Landslide Viewer as a separate layer. These inventories can be viewed in Landslide Viewer  
217 within the "map layers" list under "External Landslide Catalogs (Referenced)". The goal was to  
218 have Landslide Viewer as comprehensive as possible for all public-facing landslide inventories.

219 The attributes within the event- and report-based landslide inventories differ slightly and can be  
220 seen in **Table 1** below.

221

Attribute	Description
Event Title (events, reports)	A title often describing the method for mapping the event, the location, and the date of the event.
Event Date (events, reports)	The date the landslide(s) most likely occurred.
Event Time (approximate) (events, reports)	The approximate time the landslide(s) occurred.
Name of Information Source (events, reports)	The source of information for an event, such as a citation for the landslide inventory, a news article, etc.
Link to Information Source (events, reports)	The link to the information source or the publication referenced.
Event ID (events, reports)	A unique identifier assigned to each landslide that will remain constant over time.

Event Description (events, reports)	Describes the landslide event in more detail. Provides context to the situation, such as more details about the location, trigger, etc.
Landslide Trigger (events, reports)	The cause of the landslide, such as earthquake, rainfall, etc.
Event Location (events, reports)	Describes where the landslides occurred geographically.
Associated Storm Name (events, reports)	The name of the storm that caused the landslide, if applicable.
Country Code (events, reports)	The 2-digit country code defined in ISO 3166-1.
Country Name (events, reports)	The full name of the country the landslide(s) occurred in.
Event Comments (events, reports)	Any additional information about the landslide that wasn't captured in the other attributes, especially information on source reliability or process.
Latitude (events, reports)	Latitude of the landslide.
Longitude (events, reports)	Longitude of the landslide.
Landslide Category (reports)	The type of landslide that occurred, such as rockslide, debris flow, mudslide, etc.
Administrative Division (reports)	The administrative division the landslide report is located in.
Closest Gazetteer Point (reports)	The closest geographical dictionary reference point to the reported landslide event.
Distance to Gazetteer Point (reports)	The distance to the closest gazetteer point.
Estimated Size (reports)	Estimated size of the landslide based on the report.
Imported Event Source Catalog (reports)	An abbreviation identifying the relevant landslide inventory. For example, GLC = Global Landslide Catalog.
Imported Event Source ID (reports)	If the landslide report was imported from another source, the ID of that source is listed here.
Landslide Setting (reports)	The environment where the landslide occurred.
Last Edited Date (reports)	The latest date the landslide report was edited within the attribute table.
Link to Photo (reports)	If there is a photo within the landslide report source, it is linked here.
Location Accuracy (reports)	A radius around the reported location within which the landslide is believed to have occurred.
Number of Fatalities (reports)	Estimated number of fatalities associated with the landslide.
Number of Injuries (reports)	Estimated number of injuries associated with the landslide.
Submitted Date (reports)	The date the landslide report was reviewed by NASA and submitted into the public-facing COOLR database.
Citation (events)	The citation for each landslide inventory. Users should reference this field when utilizing the event-based data within COOLR.

Imagery Type for Digitizing (events)	The type of imagery used to manually or automatically digitize the landslide event. Normally, both pre- and post-event imagery is used and noted here.
Method (events)	The type of process used to digitize the landslides, either “manual” or “automatic”.
Satellite Imagery Date Before Event (events)	The date(s) of the satellite image used for digitization pre-event.
Satellite Imagery Date After Event (events)	The date(s) of the satellite image used for digitization post-event.

224 **Table 1.** Attribute names and definitions for both the event- and report-based landslide layers in  
 225 COOLR.

226

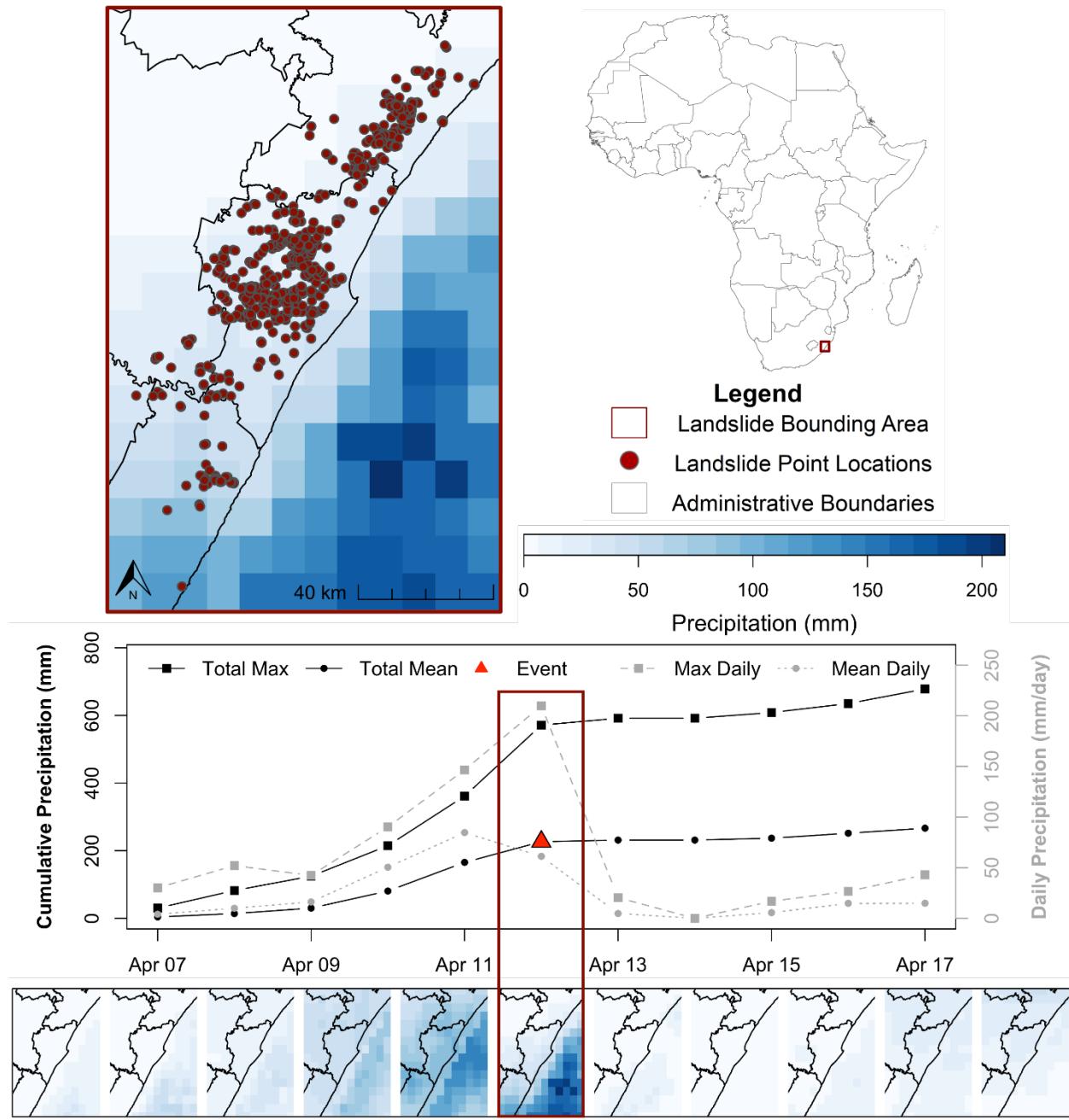
227 **2.3. Satellite Precipitation Analysis**

228

229 Satellite precipitation enables a global view of extreme rainfall that may be the harbinger of  
 230 subsequent major landslide events. To evaluate this connection and examine the potential for  
 231 better detection, the following precipitation analysis was conducted. The analysis used  
 232 precipitation estimates derived from satellite remote sensors to provide context of the  
 233 precipitation in the area for each landslide event. Due to the landslides being located in remote  
 234 areas across the world, precipitation from gauges was sometimes unavailable. Additionally, since  
 235 the time of day the precipitation event occurred was not documented in the landslide inventory,  
 236 the precipitation analysis was conducted using daily estimates instead of sub-daily estimates.

237 Daily cumulative precipitation estimates from the Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM)  
 238 mission were used. Specifically, estimates were from the V07 final run product from the  
 239 Integrated Mult-satellitE Retrievals for GPM (IMERG) were used for the precipitation analysis  
 240 and are available at [https://gpm1.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/data/GPM\\_L3/GPM\\_3IMERGDF.07/](https://gpm1.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/data/GPM_L3/GPM_3IMERGDF.07/)  
 241 (Huffman *et al.*, 2023). The multi-satellite precipitation estimate from the product was the only  
 242 variable used in the analysis. All available daily precipitation estimates at the time of writing,  
 243 June 1, 2000, through March 31, 2024, were used in the analysis. Once data were downloaded,  
 244 the overall extent of the bounding area for each landslide event was used to extract precipitation  
 245 pixels for each day in the study period (**Figure 3**). Each GPM IMERG pixel was  $0.1^\circ$  in spatial  
 246 resolution. Due to the variations in landslide event bounding area, the number of pixels from  
 247 GPM IMERG varied. From the daily precipitation pixels extracted, the maximum daily  
 248 precipitation was determined for each bounding area. This maximum daily cumulative  
 249 precipitation was used in the analysis to determine the mean recurring interval and percentile  
 250 rank.

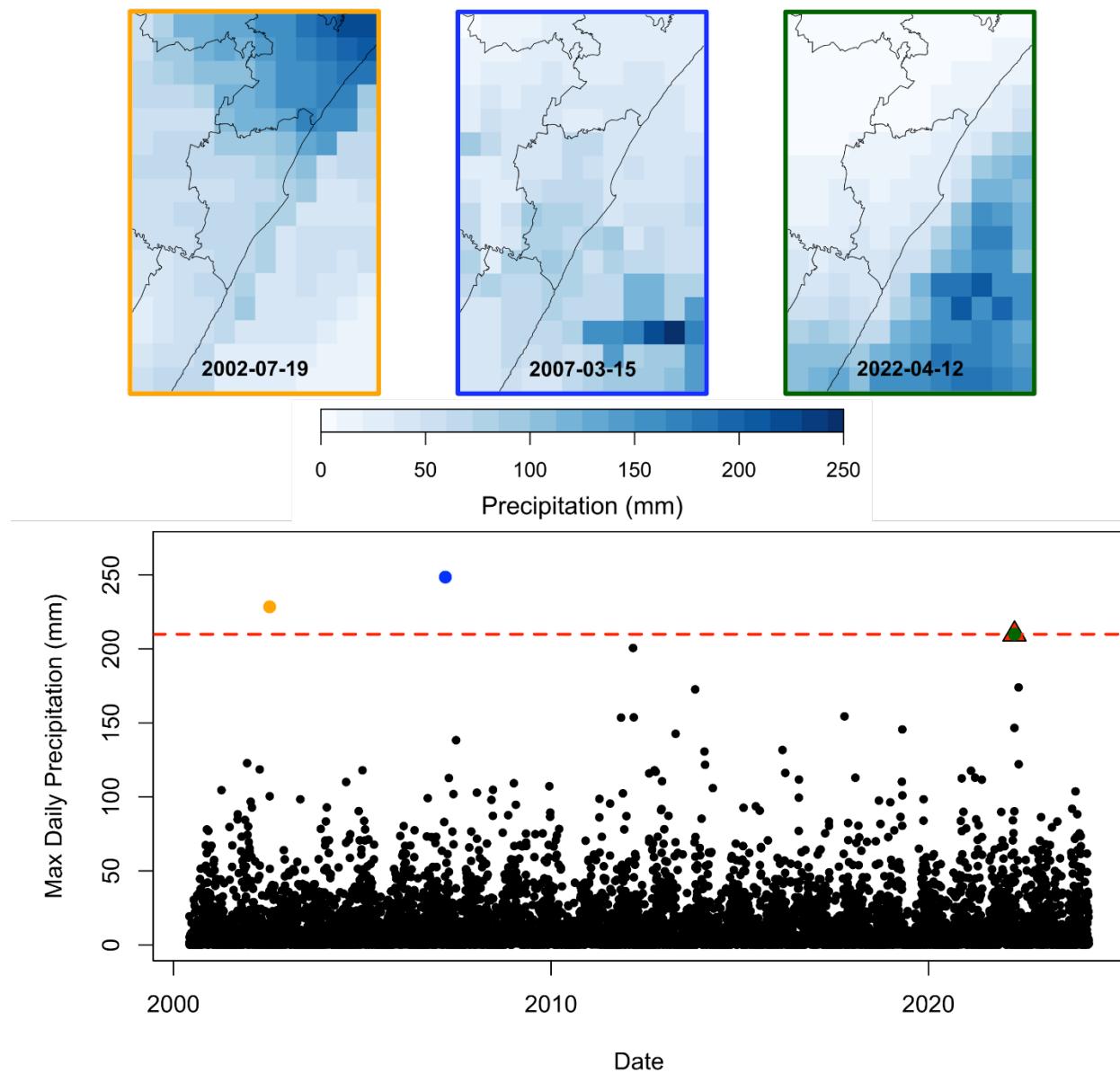
251  
 252 Since the exact date and time of the reported event might not be accurate, and GPM IMERG  
 253 precipitation estimates are in UTC, precipitation within 5 days before and after the reported  
 254 event date were analyzed to ensure the precipitation event was fully captured. The maximum  
 255 daily precipitation value that occurred within 5 days before and after the reported event date was  
 256 used to define the precipitation amount for each event (**Figure 3**).  
 257



258  
259 **Figure 3.** Example of the precipitation analysis completed for each landslide event using the  
260 maximum daily precipitation during the  $\pm 5$  days of the reported event date. The map and time  
261 series shows the analysis for the South Africa (12-April-2022) landslide event. In the map, each  
262 red dot represents a mapped landslide location. In the time series plot, the daily maximum  
263 precipitation, daily mean precipitation, and cumulative precipitation are shown for each day. The  
264 reported landslide event date is highlighted by a red triangle, while the maximum daily  
265 precipitation used for the calculation of the recurring interval is highlighted by the dark red  
266 rectangle. This example highlights the use of the maximum precipitation that occurred on the  
267 reported event date.  
268

269 The precipitation amount was used in the calculation of the recurring interval. The recurring  
270 interval was calculated by averaging the time between precipitation events that had a daily  
271 precipitation equal to or higher than the determined amount (Perica *et al.*, 2018). For example,  
272 the South Africa (12-April-2022) event had a maximum daily precipitation of 209.9 mm that  
273 occurred on the reported event date. The 209.9 mm was the precipitation amount used to  
274 determine the number of events that occurred during the IMERG record. The time difference  
275 between these events was then averaged to determine the recurring interval. For this amount,  
276 there were 3 days that were more than or equal to 209.9 mm within the IMERG record, including  
277 the event (**Figure 4**). The average time between the events was 9.87 years. Additionally, the  
278 percentile rank of the threshold was calculated for each amount to determine the percentage of  
279 days that were less than the event amount. All precipitation analysis was completed using the R  
280 software (“R Core Team,” 2024).

281



282

283      **Figure 4.** Time series of daily maximum precipitation for the South Africa bounding area with  
 284      the red dotted line highlighting the maximum precipitation (green dot) within the  $\pm 5$  days of the  
 285      reported event that occurred on the reported event date, the maximum precipitation on the  
 286      reported event date, 12-Apr-2022. The outline of each map corresponds to the maximum  
 287      precipitation point on the time series plot below each map. Only the event dates that were equal  
 288      to or more than the threshold for the event are shown.  
 289

### 290      3. Results

291      The newly mapped inventories (shown in **Table 2**) included 15,274 landslide points. Each  
 292      landslide point in the new event inventories represented one landslide on the ground, as seen in  
 293      **Figure 5.**

296      Five landslide events were mapped for April and July, while zero landslide events were mapped  
 297      for January, June, November, and December (**Figure 6**). Seven of the 22 events were associated  
 298      with a named storm, but these storms did not necessarily produce more landslides. The  
 299      inventories for both Tropical Storm Megi and Hurricane Fiona contained fewer than 25  
 300      landslides, while some unnamed rainfall events triggered more than 1,000 landslides.  
 301      Nevertheless, Typhoon Egay and Hurricane Agatha each triggered more than 3,000 landslides.  
 302      The most common source reporting major landslide events was the IDC (**Figure 6**). Only one  
 303      new event inventory was automatically digitized, because most landslide events initially seemed  
 304      small enough to map manually. However, a few events had thousands of landslides; in those  
 305      instances, it would have been a better use of resources to have utilized SALaD-CD.

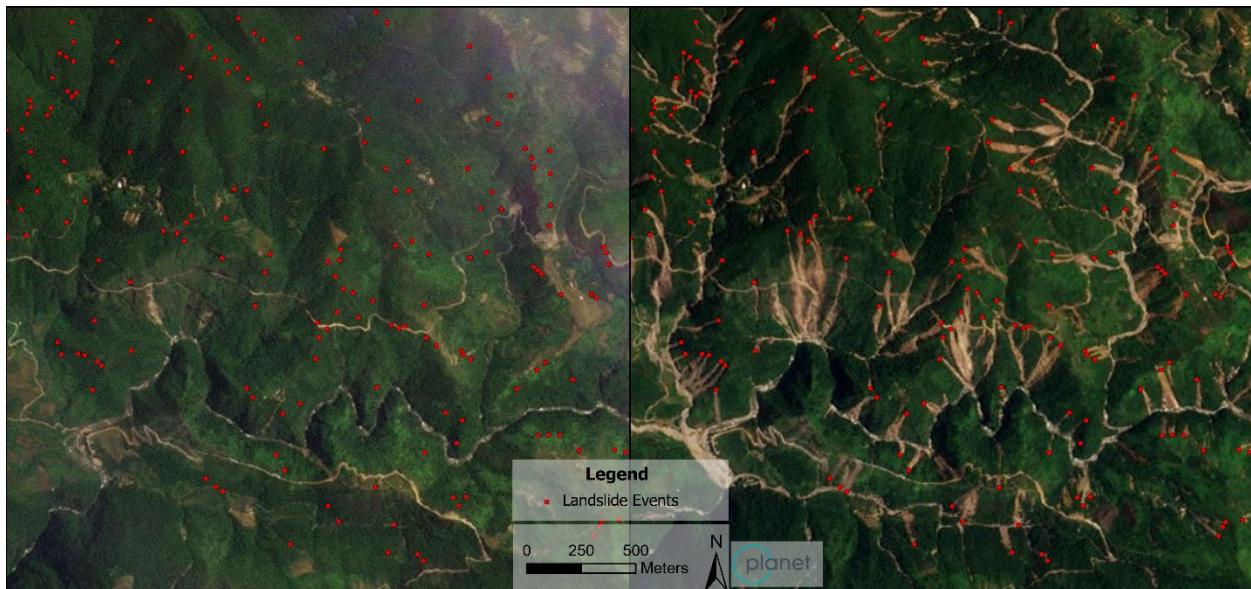
307      **Figure 6** shows the climatic variation between the new landslide events mapped using the  
 308      Koppen-Gieger climate classification (Beck *et al.*, 2023). Most landslides were mapped in the  
 309      tropical monsoon (Am) and tropical savannah (Aw) climate areas, but many were also mapped in  
 310      in temperate climates, including Cwa (dry winter, hot summer), Cwb (dry winter, warm  
 311      summer), and Cfa (no dry season, hot summer).

Event ID	Event Date	# of Landslides Mapped	Province/ Municipality	Country	Associated Storm Name	Mapping Method	Köppen Climate Class
1	23-Apr-2019	57	KwaZulu-Natal	South Africa		Manual	Cfa
2	15-Feb-2022	69	Petrópolis	Brazil		Manual	Cfa, Cfb
3	2-Apr-2022	77	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil		Manual	Af, Am, Cfa, Cfb
4	10-Apr-2022	23	Baybay Village	Philippines	Tropical Storm Megi	Manual	Af

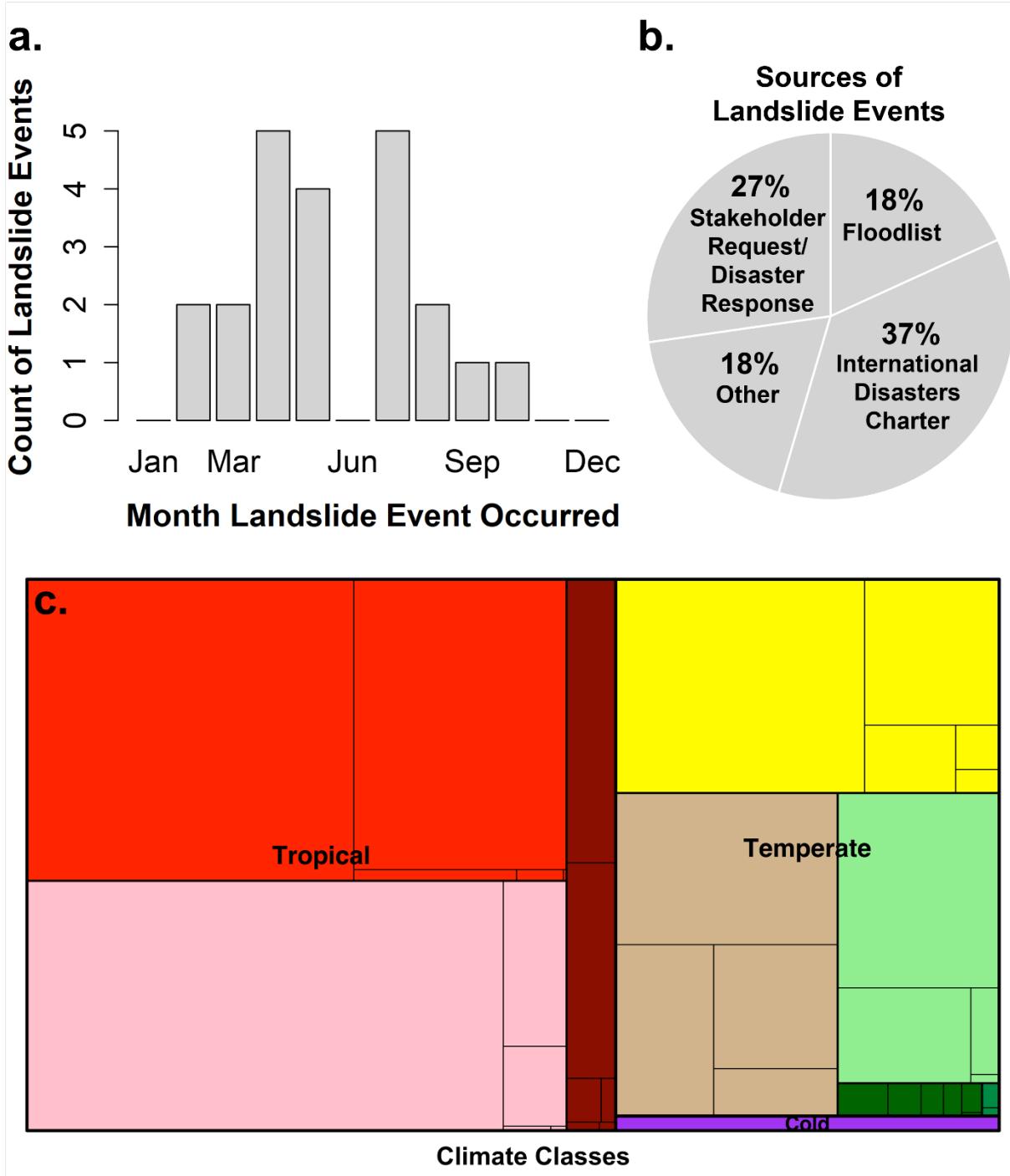
5	12-Apr-2022	870	KwaZulu-Natal	South Africa		Manual	Aw, Cfa
6	22-May-2022	5	KwaZulu-Natal	South Africa		Manual	Cfa
7	28-May-2022	24	Recife	Brazil		Manual	Am, Aw
8	30-May-2022	3,862	Oaxaca	Mexico	Hurricane Agatha	SALaD-CD	Aw, Cwb
9	19-Sep-2022	20	Puerto Rico	United States	Hurricane Fiona	Manual	Af, Cfb
10	28-Oct-2022	213	Maguindanao	Philippines	Tropical Storm Nalgae	Manual	Af
11	19-Feb-2023	330	São Sebastiao, Ubatuba, and Ilhabela	Brazil		Manual	Af, Cfa, Cfb
12	6-Mar-2023	45	Natuna Regency	Indonesia		Manual	Af
13	13-Mar-2023	1,813	Blantyre, Milange	Malawi, Mozambique	Cyclone Freddy	Manual	Aw, Cwa, Cwb
14	3-Apr-2023	22	Nord-Kivu	Democratic Republic of the Congo		Manual	Af, Am, Cfb
15	2-May-2023	156	Western Province	Rwanda		Manual	Aw, Csb
16	9-Jul-2023	176	Himachal Pradesh	India		Manual	Cwa
17	15-Jul-2023	159	Kyeongbuk Province	South Korea		Manual	Dwa
18	17-Jul-2023	48	Quetame	Colombia		Manual	Af, Am, Csb, Cfb
19	26-Jul-2023	3,183	Cordillera Admin Region	Philippines	Typhoon Egay	Manual	Af, Am, Cwa, Cwb, Cfa, Cfb
20	28-Jul-2023	361	Quanzhou	China	Typhoon Doksur	Manual	Cfa

21	5-Aug-2023	1,950	Dien Bien, Lai Chau, Son La, Lao Cai, Yen Bai	Vietnam		Manual	Cwa, Cwb
22	6-Aug-2023	1,811	Chittagong	Bangladesh		Manual	Am, Cwa

**Table 2.** The 22 new landslide events. Dates were reported in the local time zone.



**Figure 5.** PlanetScope imagery from 17-Jul-2023 (left) and 31-Aug-2023 (right) showing landslide event points from a rainfall event in Vietnam (5-Aug-2023). Located at  $21^{\circ} 47' 38.19''$  N  $103^{\circ} 57' 05.05''$  E. Image © 2023 Planet Labs PBC.



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**Figure 6.** Inset A shows landslide event distribution by month. Inset B shows the different types of sources used to identify the presence of a rainfall-induced landslide event, triggering the landslide mapping process. “Other” includes a variety of news articles. Inset C shows a treemap of the number of landslides by inventory and Koppen-Gieger climate classification (Beck *et al.*, 2023). Each subgroup represents the number of landslides within the climate class for each landslide event inventory. Several landslide events that occurred during a single event were geographically located across multiple climate classes.

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331 **Section 2.3.** describes an example use case for these inventories. The recurring interval using the  
332 maximum daily cumulative precipitation varied from 15 days for the Colombia (17-Jul-2023)  
333 landslide event to more than 11 years for the Indonesia (6-Mar-2023) landslide event (**Table 3**)  
334 with the average recurring interval for all events being 3.1 years. All the precipitation events had  
335 percentile ranks more than the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile of all maximum cumulative daily precipitation.  
336 Furthermore, 86% of the precipitation events had percentile ranks of more than the 99<sup>th</sup>  
337 percentile for the location. This means that 19 of 22 landslide events had precipitation higher  
338 than 99% of all maximum cumulative daily precipitation recorded by GPM IMERG for the study  
339 area. According to daily IMERG, eighteen events had the most precipitation fall the day before,  
340 on the reported event date, or the day following the reported event date. Three of the twenty-two  
341 events had the most precipitation fall more than one day before the reported event. Interestingly,  
342 one event had the highest precipitation fall five days following the reported event, Brazil (15-  
343 Feb-2022). This suggests that IMERG underestimated the rainfall for the event. According to  
344 Alcantara et al. (2023), a strong mesoscale convective system produced rainfall of 258 mm  
345 within 3 hours on February 15, 2022, but the maximum daily IMERG precipitation was less than  
346 20 mm on 15-Feb-2022. Additional analysis using the sub-daily precipitation estimates from  
347 IMERG did not yield better results for the Brazil event. While the 30-minute IMERG  
348 precipitation observed the storm event, the estimated precipitation was much lower than the radar  
349 or gauge precipitation presented in Alcantara et al. (2023). The event with the longest recurring  
350 interval, the Indonesia event (6-Mar-2023), is discussed in more detail below.  
351

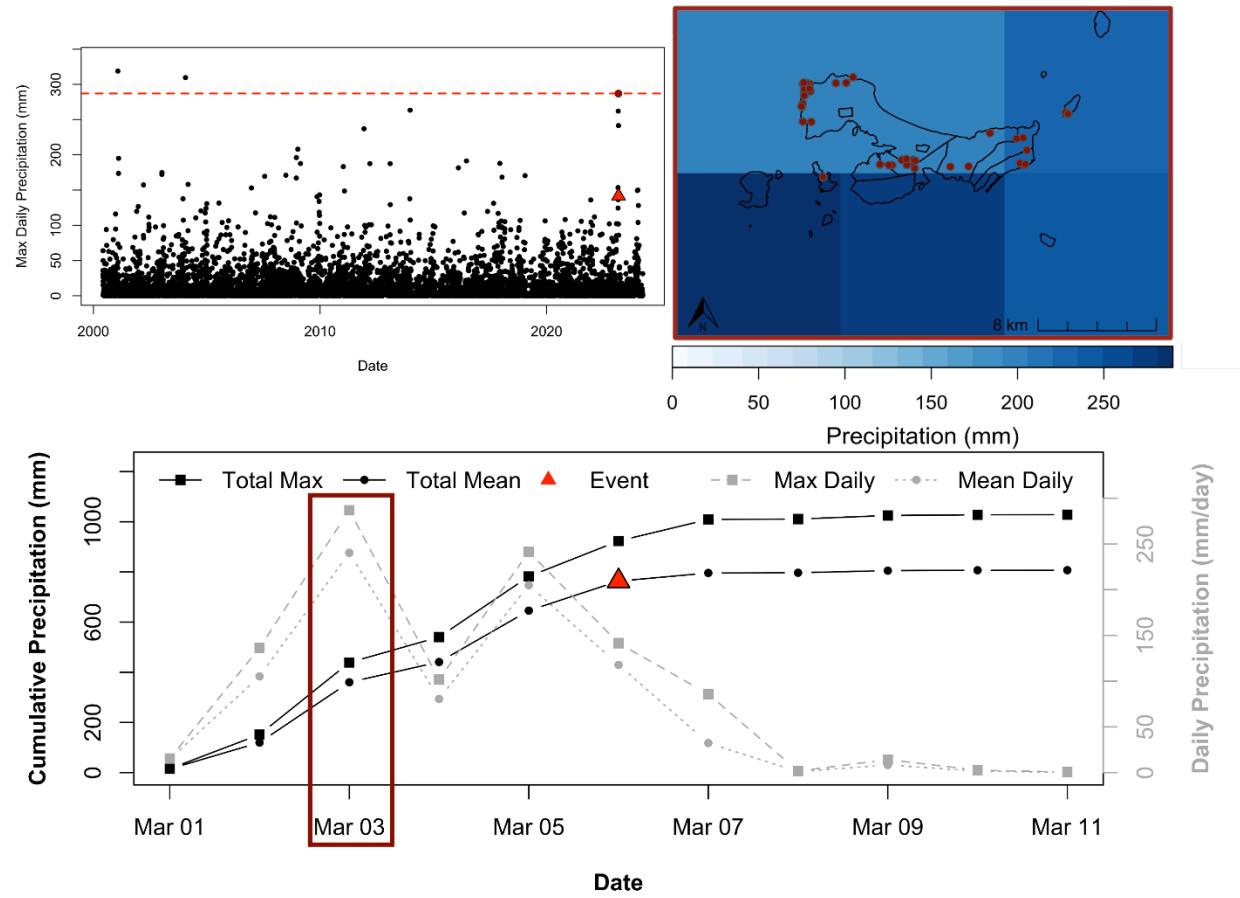
Country	Event Date	Date of Maximum Precipitation (mm/day)	Maximum Precipitation (mm/day)	Number of Days	Recurring Interval (years)
South Africa	23-Apr-2019	22-Apr-2019	73.5	14	1.64
Brazil	15-Feb-2022	20-Feb-2022	22.0	524	0.05
Brazil	02-Apr-2022	1-Apr-2022	133.1	8	3.05
Philippines	10-Apr-2022	10-Apr-2022	186.8	14	1.63
South Africa	12-Apr-2022	12-Apr-2022	209.9	3	9.87
South Africa	22-May-2022	21-May-2022	110.5	5	4.96
Brazil	28-May-2022	25-May-2022	143.6	14	1.69
Mexico	30-May-2022	30-May-2022	148.3	2	5.00
Puerto Rico	19-Sep-2022	18-Sep-2022	188.0	5	4.86
Philippines	28-Oct-2022	27-Oct-2022	119.5	9	2.52

Brazil	19-Feb-2023	19-Feb-2023	97.3	19	1.29
Indonesia	6-Mar-2023	3-Mar-2023	286.9	3	11.05
Malawi, Mozambique	13-Mar-2023	13-Mar-2023	168.3	4	6.68
Congo	3-Apr-2023	31-Mar-2023	26.7	152	0.16
Rwanda	2-May-2023	2-May-2023	62.3	29	0.80
India	9-Jul-2023	8-Jul-2023	155.2	16	1.53
South Korea	15-Jul-2023	14-Jul-2023	105.9	37	0.64
Colombia	17-Jul-2023	17-Jul-2023	32.6	557	0.04
Philippines	26-Jul-2023	26-Jul-2023	317.8	7	3.18
China	28-Jul-2023	28-Jul-2023	89.6	45	0.53
Vietnam	5-Aug-2023	5-Aug-2023	121.5	94	0.25
Bangladesh	6-Aug-2023	6-Aug-2023	336.9	4	7.02

**Table 3.** Precipitation for each landslide event, selected from a ten-day window around the reported date.

### **Indonesia: March 6, 2023**

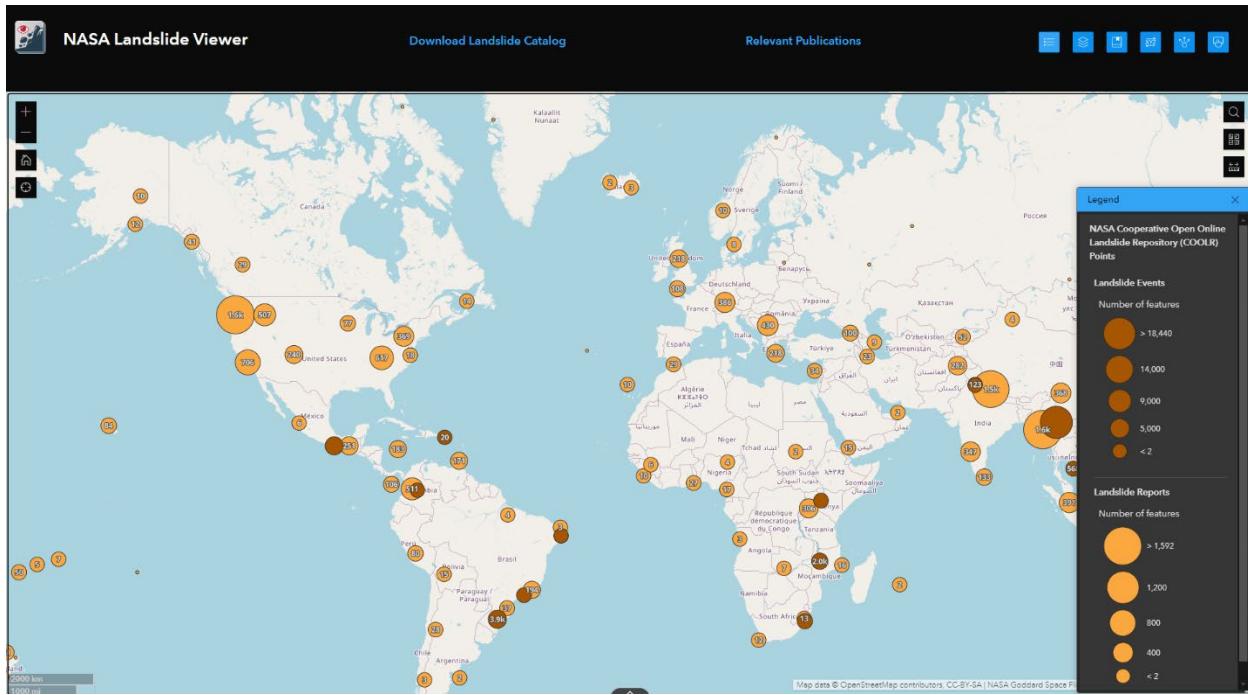
An IDC activation for the 6-Mar-2023 landsliding event stated that at least 15 people died after six days of torrential rains and that seasonal rains and high tides contributed to the flooding and landsliding in the region (*International Disasters Charter*, 2023). This event had the longest recurring interval (**Table 3**). The precipitation that occurred in Indonesia around the 6-Mar-2023 landslide event was the third highest precipitation for the bounding area from 1-Jun-2000 through 31-Mar-2024, according to IMERG V07 (**Figure 7**). On 3-Mar-2023, 286.9 mm of precipitation fell, three days before the reported landslide event date of 6-Mar-2023. The bounding area for the event was limited to six IMERG pixels, all of which contained oceanic and terrestrial areas (**Figure 7**).



365  
366 **Figure 7.** Time series of daily precipitation for the Indonesia event bounding area from 1-Jun-  
367 2000 through 31-Mar-2024 (top left). The maximum precipitation occurred three days before the  
368 event date on March 3, 2023 (bottom) and is highlighted in the red rectangle in the time series  
369 (bottom) and map (top right). Mapped landslides are shown as red dots.  
370

#### 371 4. Data Availability

372 The new landslide inventories are available to download in shapefile, csv, and geodatabase  
373 format from Landslide Viewer or by going directly to this link:  
374 <https://maps.nccs.nasa.gov/arcgis/apps/MapAndAppGallery/index.html?appid=574f26408683485799d02e857e5d9521>. Landslide Viewer (<https://landslides.nasa.gov/viewer>) is a web  
375 application to visualize and download various landslide-related datasets (**Figure 8**). It was  
376 recently updated with Experience Builder, a tool for building geospatial web applications from  
377 Esri. Additional features include aggregation of landslide points, layer reordering, and faster  
378 visualization. In addition to landslide inventories, Landslide Viewer also displays information on  
379 NASA's global landslide nowcast, a global landslide susceptibility map, precipitation, and  
380 infrastructure. To download all the landslide inventories within COOLR, it is recommended to  
381 download the geodatabase which contains four layers. In addition, there is a downloadable table  
382 which contains the citations for each landslide event inventory. The new landslide event  
383 inventories discussed in this paper can also be downloaded from Figshare  
384 (<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.26972467>).



**Figure 8.** NASA's Landslide Viewer. The "Download Landslide Catalog" and "Relevant Publications" links are shown at the top of the page.

## 5. Data Use and Reuse

The new landslide event inventories could be used for a multitude of analyses, but they have some important limitations. For example, they can be used to train and validate machine-learning models like SALaD-CD and LHASA or assess satellite-based precipitation algorithms such as IMERG. Most of these inventories were manually mapped using 3-meter optical imagery, so the inventories will not include the smallest landslides. We used a cloud filter of 30% to remove cloud-covered imagery, but this does not imply that the inventories are significantly incomplete; all images were manually selected to be favorable for mapping landslides and are unlikely to have major omissions. Wind throw, clouds, tree cover, shadows, and human judgment all contribute to uncertainty in these data. Since the type and date of pre- and post- image used for each inventory is provided in the geodatabase attribute table, users can generally look up the image and review its quality. Although the core areas of impact were thoroughly mapped, it is possible more landslides were present far (>25km) outside of the selected administrative district. Therefore, some landslides may have been missed. We have not conducted a field-based assessment of these inventories, but we welcome feedback from the community and commit to correcting known errors.

These events are a small and unrepresentative sample of global landslide activity. For example, the monthly distribution (**Figure 6**) does not match that seen in other global datasets (Froude and Petley, 2018; Dandridge *et al.*, 2023). Therefore, sole reliance on these data is not recommended for many potential uses, such as the analysis of trends in landslide activity or national hazard-level comparisons. But once these inventories have been combined with additional datasets, some topics may become tractable. To show one example of how these data can be used, we

416 calculated a recurring interval for each event, based on the IMERG record. Typically, the  
417 recurring intervals are quite short (<3 years), which suggests that satellite-based precipitation  
418 products may underestimate some important storms.

419

## 420 **6. Conclusion**

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422 We used high-resolution satellite imagery from PlanetScope, manual digitization, and machine  
423 learning to create thousands of event-based landslide points. COOLR was updated to incorporate  
424 both event- and report-based landslide inventories and is displayed within an updated version of  
425 NASA's Landslide Viewer. These point-based inventories are not a representative subset of global  
426 landslide occurrence, so some potential uses are unsuitable, including analysis of trends and  
427 international landslide distribution. Further precipitation analysis could illuminate antecedent  
428 conditions for these landslides. We will continue to update COOLR with new events to maintain  
429 an open global landslide repository.

430

## 431 **Acknowledgements**

432

433 This work utilized data made available through the NASA CSDA Program.

434

## 435 **Conflict of interests**

436

437 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

438

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