

## Rejection by Nature

decisions@nature.com

07/12/2010 10:14 PM

To g.dibaldassarre@unesco-ihe.org

Subject Decision on Nature manuscript 2010-07-08742

12th July 2010

Dear Dr Di Baldassarre

Thank you for submitting your manuscript entitled "Deadly floods batter Africa: from diagnosis to mitigation", for consideration. I regret that we are unable to publish it in Nature.

As you may know, we decline a substantial proportion of manuscripts without sending them to referees, so that they may be sent elsewhere without delay. In such cases, even if referees were to certify the manuscript as technically correct, we do not believe that it represents a development of sufficient scientific impact to warrant publication in Nature. These editorial judgements are based on such considerations as the degree of advance provided, the breadth of potential interest to researchers and timeliness.

In this case, while we have no doubt that your findings will be of inherent interest to fellow specialists and to those involved with efforts to mitigate the societal impacts of floods, we do not feel that your paper has matched our criteria for further consideration. We therefore feel that the paper would find a more suitable outlet in another journal.

Please be assured that this editorial decision does not represent a criticism of the quality of your work, and neither are we questioning its value to others working in this area. We hope that you will rapidly receive a more favourable response elsewhere.

I am sorry that we cannot respond more positively on this occasion.

Yours sincerely

Dr Michael White  
Senior Editor  
Nature  
San Francisco

## Rejection by Nature Geoscience

geoscience@nature.com  
07/20/2010 12:34 PM

To g.dibaldassarre@unesco-ihe.org

Subject Decision on Nature Geoscience manuscript NGS-2010-07-00985-T

19th Jul 2010

Dear Dr Di Baldassarre

Thank you for submitting your manuscript entitled "Deadly floods batter Africa: from diagnosis to mitigation". However, we regret that we are unable to offer to publish it in Nature Geoscience.

Because we receive many more papers than we can publish, we must decline a substantial proportion of manuscripts without sending them to referees, so that they may be sent elsewhere without delay. Decisions of this kind are made by the editorial staff when it appears that papers, even when technically correct, are unlikely to succeed in the competition for limited space.

Among the considerations that arise at this stage are the likely interest of a manuscript to a broad readership of geoscientists, the pressure on space in the various fields of interest covered by Nature Geoscience and the likelihood that a manuscript would seem of great topical interest to those working in the same or related areas of the Earth sciences.

In the present case, we have no doubt that your findings on the relationship between urbanization and flood risk in Africa will be of inherent interest to fellow specialists, and to decision makers in a position to make use of the results. But we are unable to conclude that your paper contains the sort of new and important scientific insight that would be likely to excite the immediate interest of researchers in a broad range of the geosciences. We therefore feel that the present paper would find a more appropriate outlet in another journal, rather than Nature Geoscience.

I am sorry that we cannot respond more positively, and I hope that you will understand that our decision in no way reflects any doubts about the quality of the work reported. The unfortunate fact is that we receive many more papers than we can undertake to publish, and we must attempt to select those that will be of the greatest interest to a wide audience. I hope that you will rapidly receive a more favourable response elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

Heike Langenberg

Chief Editor  
Nature Geoscience