



A multi-model ensemble forecasting approach: application to Bangladesh for operational flood forecasting

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Our group, Climate Forecast Applications for Bangladesh, has been disseminating multi-model operational ensemble forecasts of the Ganges and Brahmaputra river basins based on the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecast's ensemble weather forecasts as part of humanitarian relief efforts for the country of Bangladesh. Our first year of operation (2003), our forecasts were based on a catchment-lumped model because of ease of implementation. We shortly implemented a distributed model, but retained both models to generate a combined multi-model forecast by the following operational year (2004). This allowed us to capitalize on the strengths of each model during different periods of the monsoon season. We would like to compare and contrast the multi-model results for both basins, and in particular, discuss the scheme we use to combine the two models under a reliable multi-model ensemble forecast framework that accounts for all aspects of forecast uncertainty.