



14-17 NOVEMBER 2023

P2.58

DEVELOPING A SPATIOTEMPORAL MODEL TO INTEGRATE LANDSLIDE SUSCEPTIBILITY AND CRITICAL RAINFALL CONDITIONS. A PRACTICAL MODEL APPLIED TO RIO DE JANEIRO MUNICIPALITY

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Despite being a landscape evolution element, landslides pose a significant threat to infrastructure, property, and human life around the globe. In Brazil, this has been a major source of concern for many years. Over the last decades, especially in the humid areas of Brazil, landslide occurrences have become more frequent and catastrophic (Pelech et al., 2019). Especially in large and medium-sized cities, poorly-regulated living conditions and a progressing global warming scenario will likely increase the frequency, magnitude, and possibly damage caused by landslides (Marengo et al., 2021). On the other hand, despite the efforts of local authorities to forecast and mitigate the phenomena, not enough is currently being done in terms of preparedness for future events, especially concerning research (Dias et al., 2021).

Due to the geomorphological and climatic settings, the municipality of Rio de Janeiro (~1,200 km²) is often affected by landslides (Coelho Netto et al., 2007; 2009). According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE, 2021), the municipality has 6.7 million inhabitants, of which circa 20-25% lives in the favelas. These communities, usually located on hill slopes, face diverse challenges such as poor basic infrastructure, lack of sanitation systems, and high criminality, which tend to diminish the inhabitants' awareness of potential landslide hazards. On the other hand, the municipality of Rio de Janeiro has systematically tracked rainfall data for the last decades. Such data comprises 33 stations, recording measurements every 15 minutes. Rainfall data is available for a few decades and comprise 33 stations recording measurements every 15 minutes. Also, the availability of high-resolution DTM and DEM (obtained through LiDAR with a 15 cm resolution), orthoimagery updated quasi-yearly, and a suitable landslide inventory, turns Rio de Janeiro into a promising real-life laboratory for suggesting and enhancing modeling solutions that may provide valuable tools for landslide emergency preparedness, management, and response.

Building upon the findings of Steger et al, 2022, the present research represents a joint effort to suggest a methodological framework to develop a dynamic landslide model that integrates static predisposing factors with dynamic rainfall conditions. Data-driven methods (e.g., Generalized Additive Models) will be used to establish statistical relationships between the static factors, the dynamic rainfall conditions prior to a potential landslide, and the landslide occurrence in space and time. The outcomes may be used by stakeholders to strategically prepare for potential rainfall events leading to landslides and possibly to improve early warning systems. Data collection and preparation are currently happening, and the analysis will follow. Partial results will be presented at the 6th World Landslide Forum.

References

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Developing a spatiotemporal model to integrate landslide susceptibility and critical rainfall conditions. A practical model applied to Rio de Janeiro municipality.

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I Introduction & Study area

Rio de Janeiro municipality & landslides

- Circa 1,200 Km² and is often affected by landslides (Coelho Netto et al., 2007; 2009).
- **6.2 million inhabitants, of which 22.7% reside in favelas.** These communities are usually located at the hillslopes and often have a poor infrastructure.
- 583 of the 1664 landslides occur in Favelas.
- The city is highly susceptible to the occurrence of landslides due to complex geomorphological and climatic settings.
- The city is closely monitored through rainfall records (**33 stations, recording measurements every 15 minutes**). Rainfall data is freely available for a few decades.
- There is an urgent need to increase awareness and preparedness for future events (Dias et al., 2021).
- Especially when considering climate change scenarios, which are expected to increase the frequency and magnitude of catastrophic events (Pelech et al., 2019; Marengo et al., 2021).

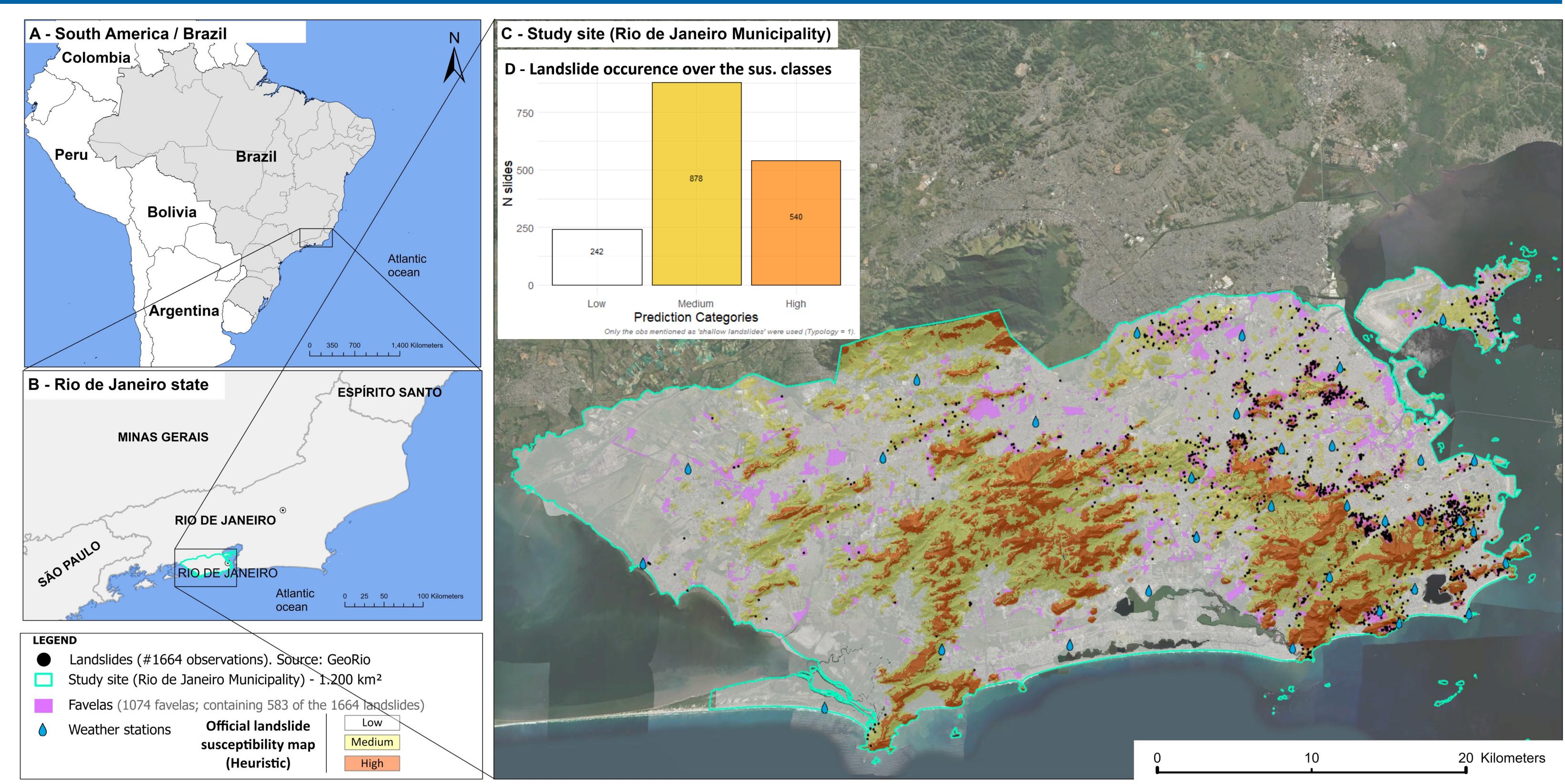


Fig. 1: Study site and official Landslide Susceptibility for Rio de Janeiro Municipality. A) Showcases the location of Brazil within South America, with a focus on the Rio de Janeiro state. B) Zooms in on the state of Rio de Janeiro, highlighting its capital. C) Detailed satellite image of Rio de Janeiro Municipality, overlaid with data points indicating recorded landslide occurrences and the heuristic landslide susceptibility map. The pink areas shows the distribution of informal settlements known as favelas. D) Landslide occurrence over the susceptibility classes (<https://www.data.rio/apps/PCRJ/susceptibilidade-a-deslizamentos/explore>).

II Data & Methods

Landslide inventory

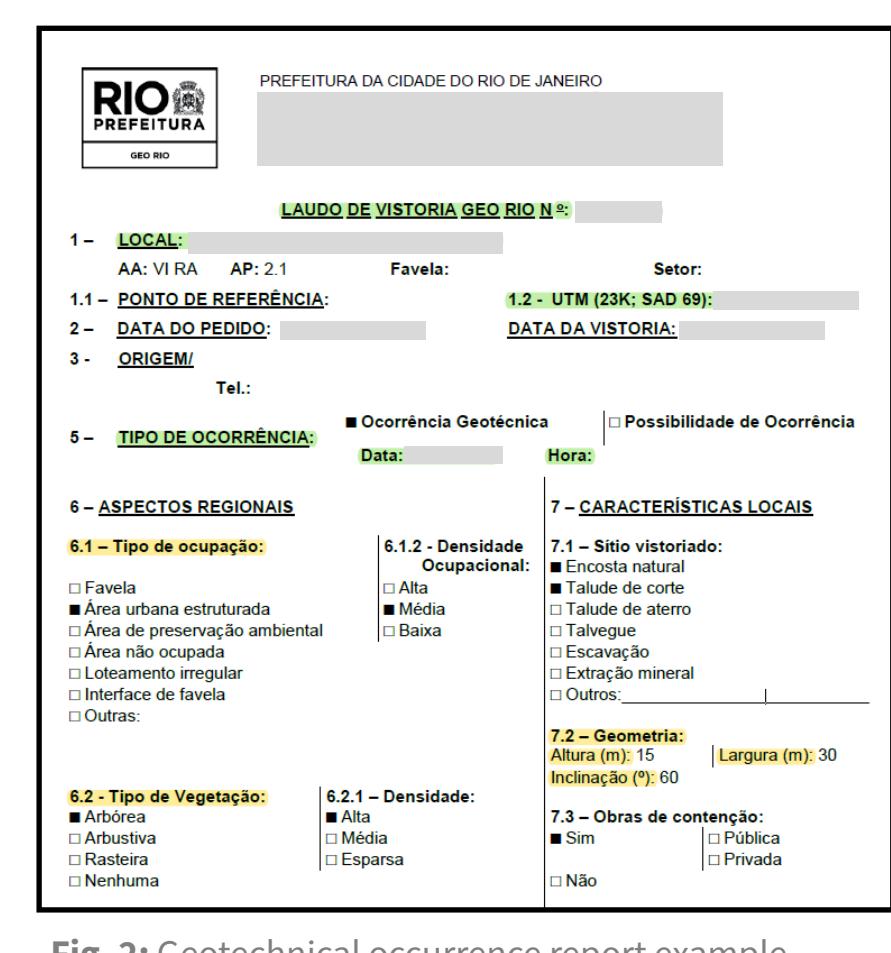


Fig. 2: Geotechnical occurrence report example.
Source: Rio de Janeiro Geological Survey (Geo-Rio).

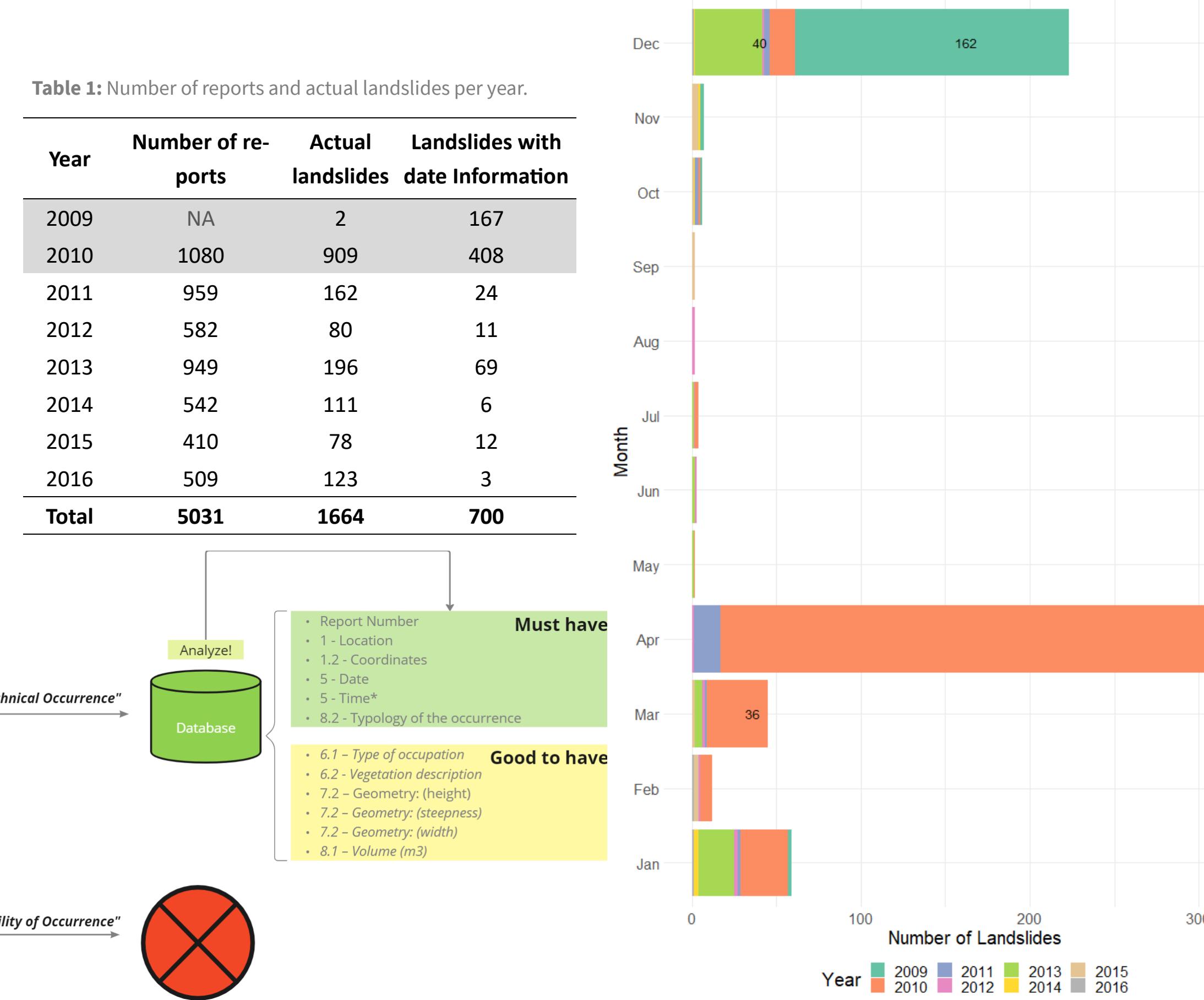


Fig. 3: Workflow assessing the geotechnical report analysis criteria. This diagram illustrates the decision-making process for the analysis of geotechnical reports based on predefined criteria.

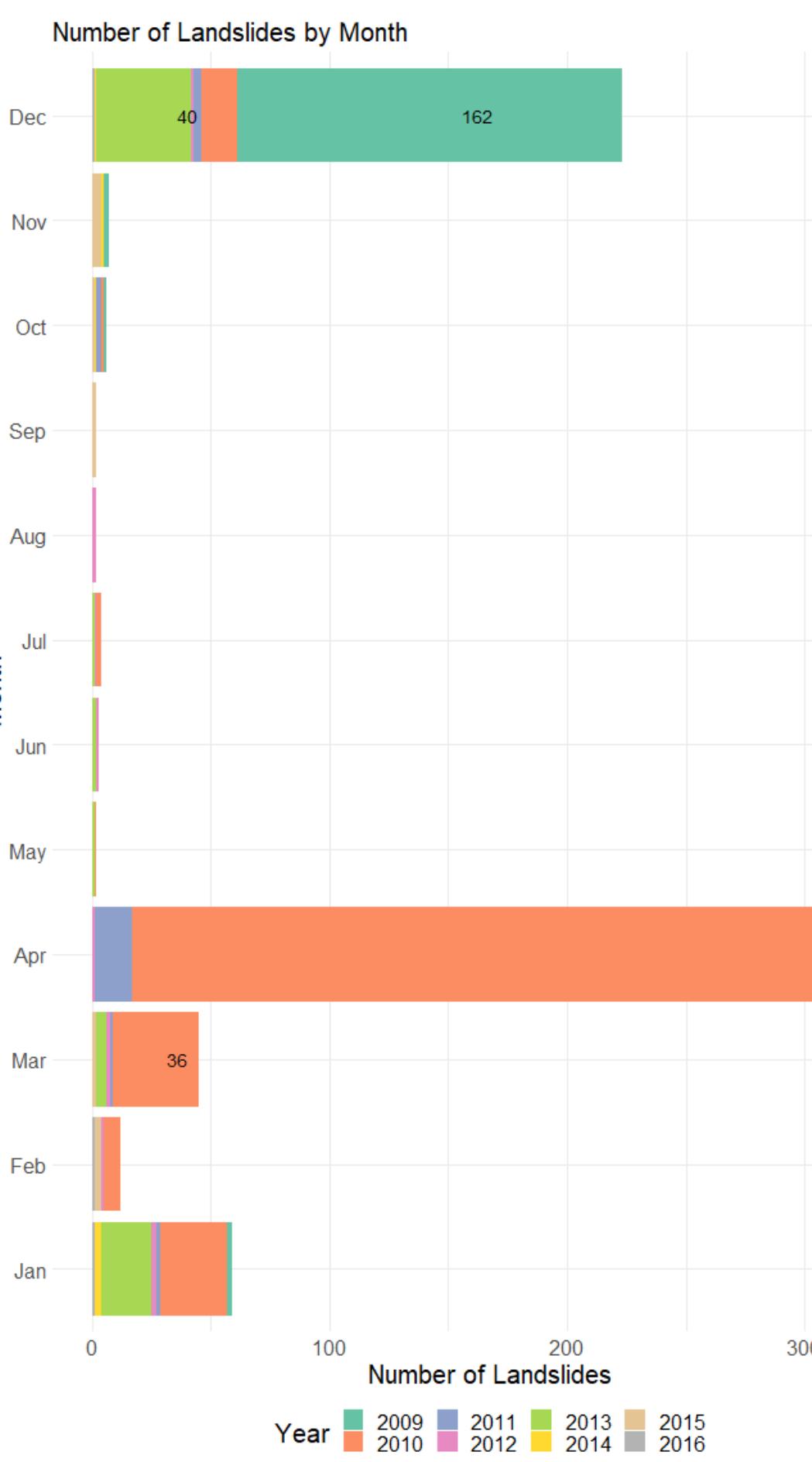


Fig. 4: Temporal (monthly) distribution of the landslides.

III Preliminary results & perspectives

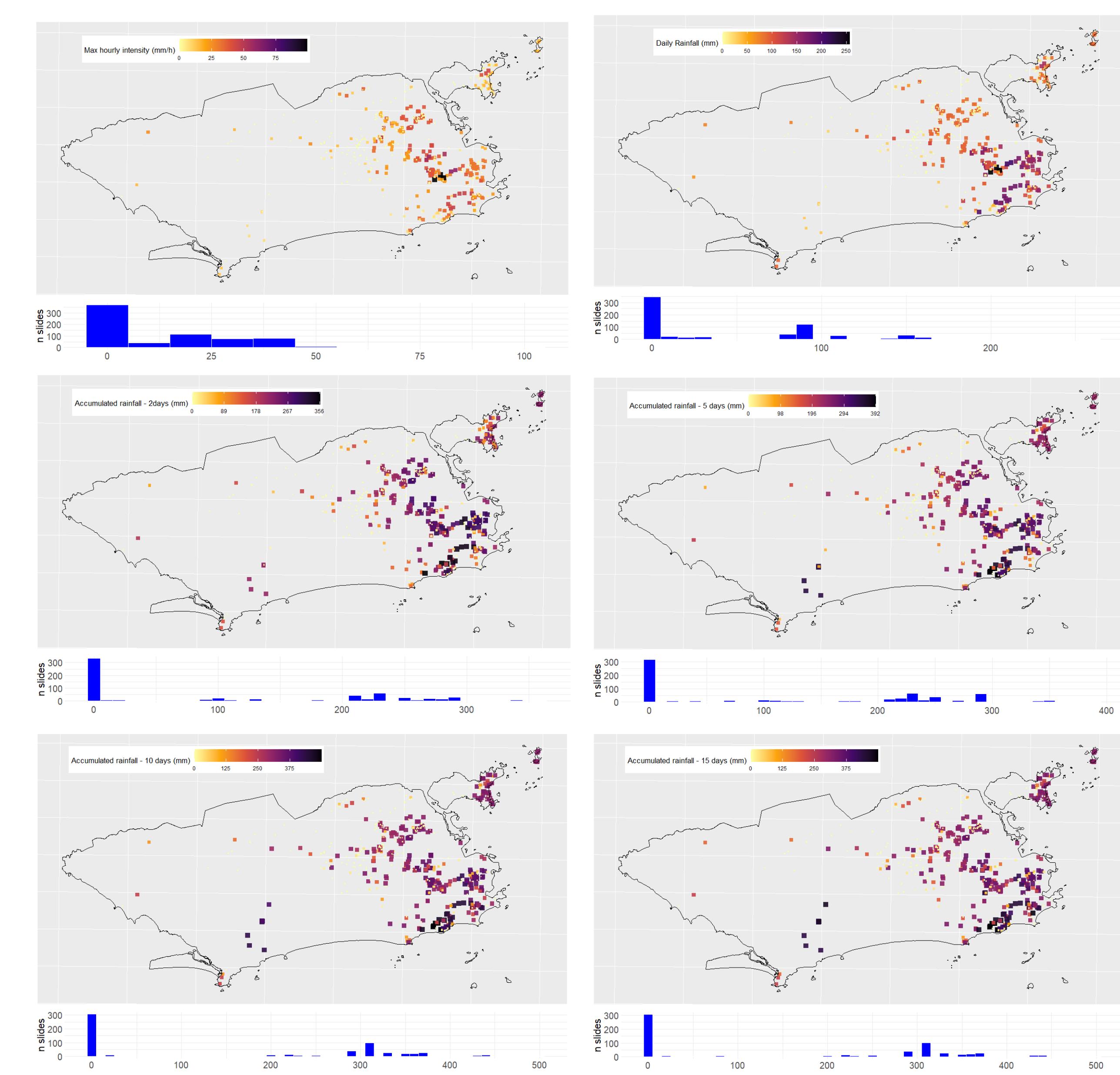


Fig. 6: Distribution and precipitation patterns related to landslides occurrences (max hourly intensity, daily totals, and accumulated rainfall over 3-, 5-, and 10-day periods).

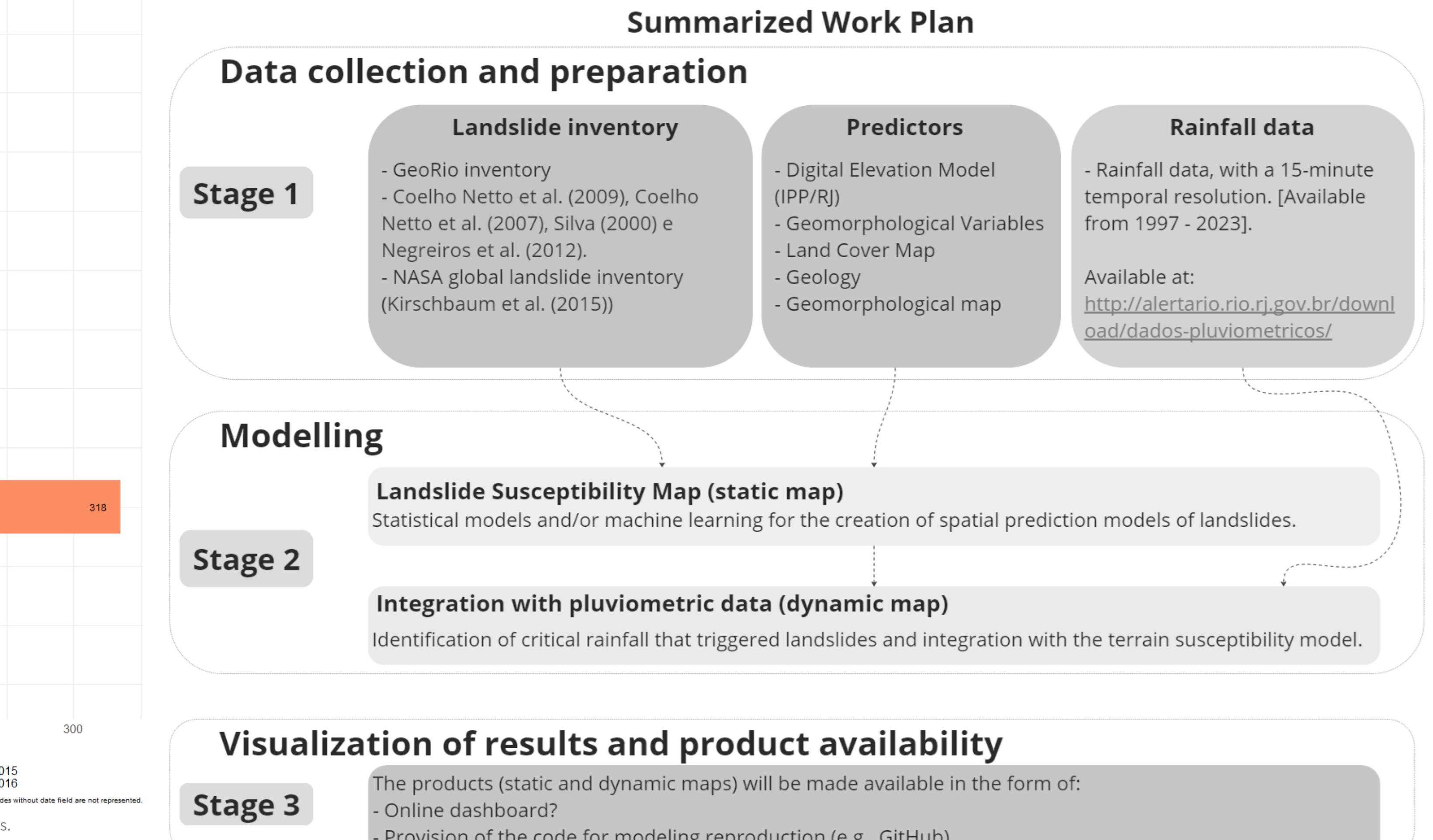


Fig. 5: Three-stage workflow, detailing data collection, modeling techniques, and dissemination methods. Current stage: Stage 2.

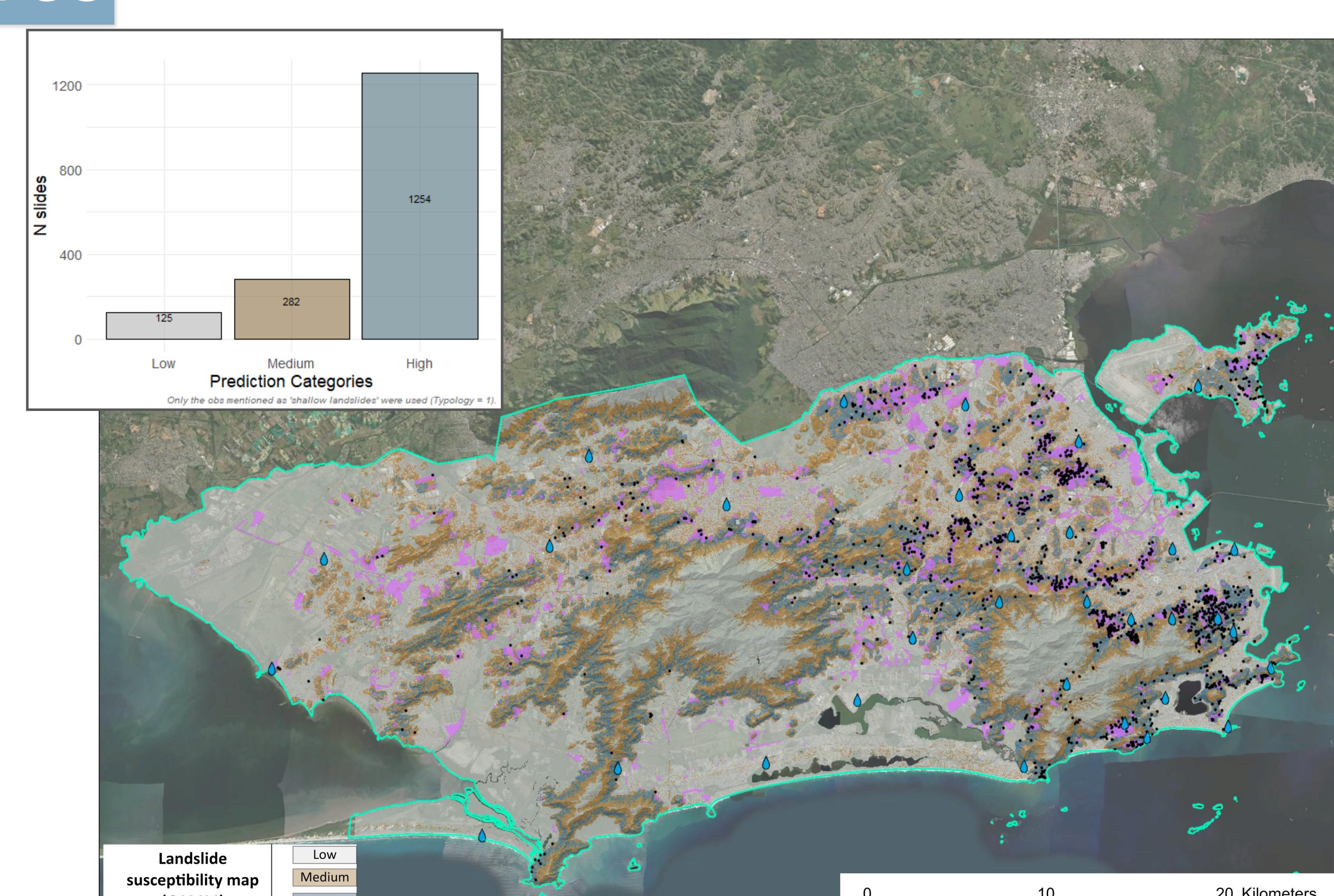


Fig. 7: Data-driven landslide susceptibility map. Model created using GAMM: fo1 <- slide ~ s(dtm) + s(prof_curv) + s(slope) + geomorph_rec + geo_rec + fav_res. The "fav_res" was introduced as a random intercept.

Moving towards...

Alternative mapping unit → Slope unit.

Sampling strategy adaptation → In terms of time balance and excluding non-landslide observations in trivial terrain.

Bias handling → Mixed effects. Given the high number of occurrences (reports) in the favelas, these were added (together with the residential areas) as random intercept.

Landslide occurrences x Rainfall patterns → Still needs to be better comprehended.

Space-time prediction → Similar as performed in Steger et al., 2023 and Moreno et al., 2023.

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