

Koninklijk Meteorologisch Instituut
Institut Royal Météorologique
Königliches Meteorologisches Institut
Royal Meteorological Institute

Empowering weather watchers: the impact of citizen meteorology on weather observation and crisis response

Maarten Reyniers

Inspiration day - Community engagement in citizen science



Small country, difficult to forecast

Snow episode 17.01.2024





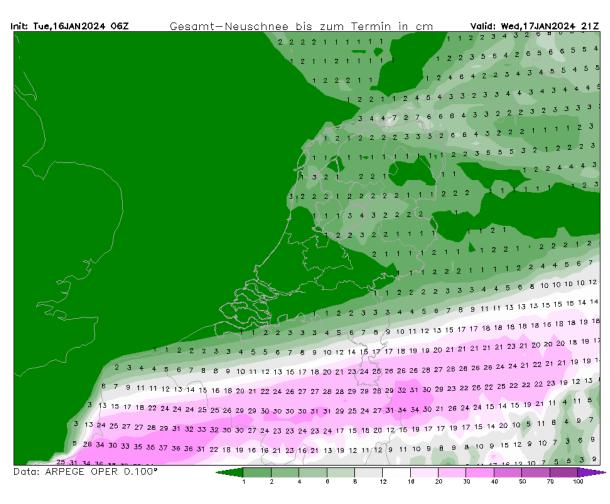
Sint-Agatha-Berchem (Brussels) 17/01/2024 17:17

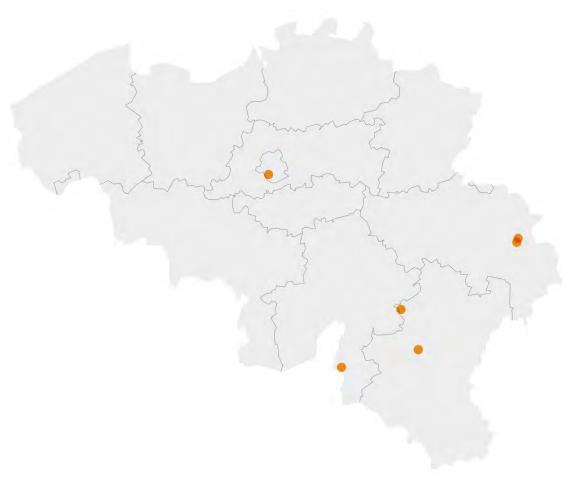
Antwerpen 17/01/2024 16:59



Small country, difficult to forecast

Snow episode 17.01.2024





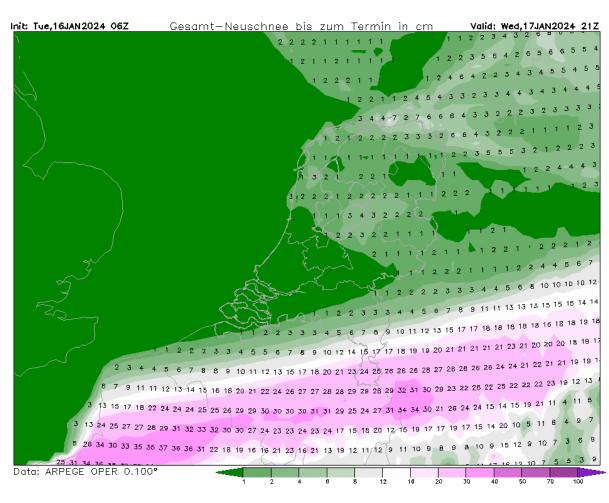
Snow height model forecast

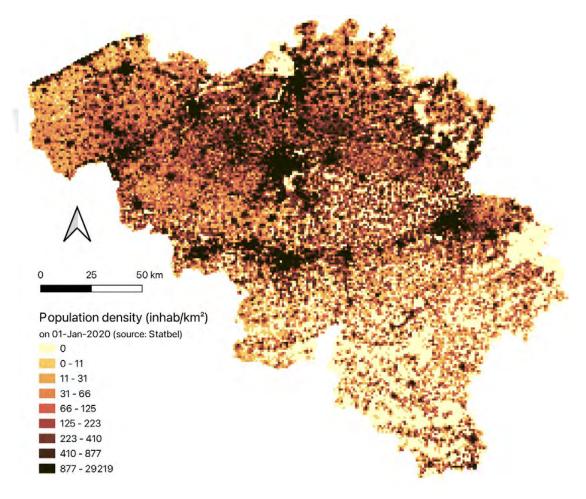
Automatic snow sensors



Small country, 11 mio potential observers

Snow episode 17.01.2024





Snow height model forecast

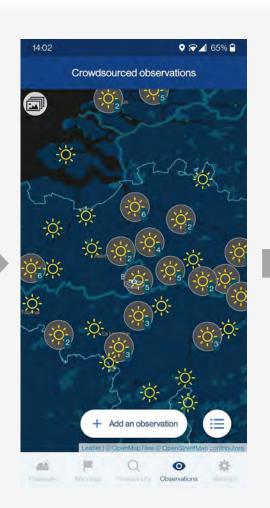
Population density

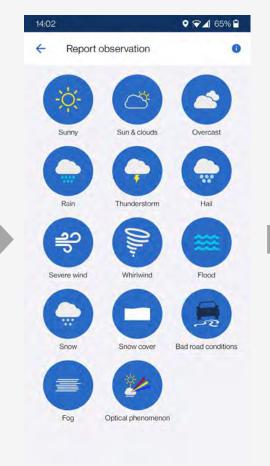


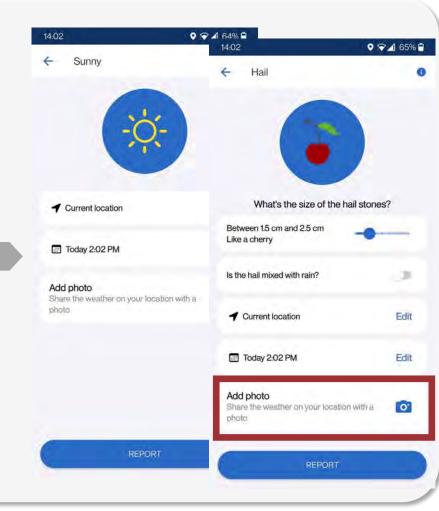
Smartphone app RMI

Reporting feature added to the RMI app in August 2019



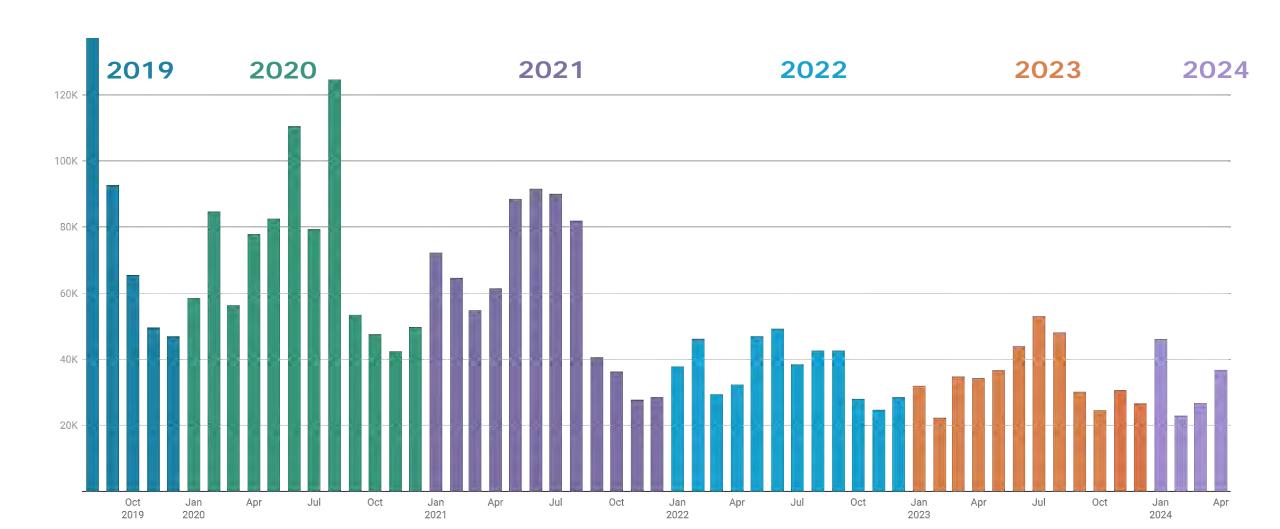






Total number of observations per month

More than 3 million observations received!

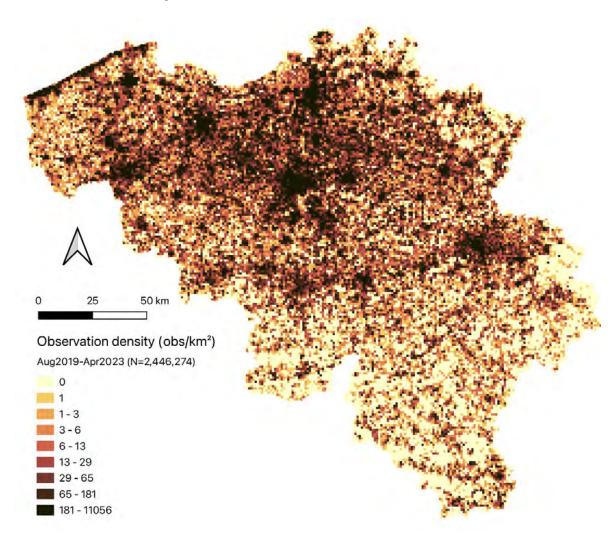




Spatial distribution of observations

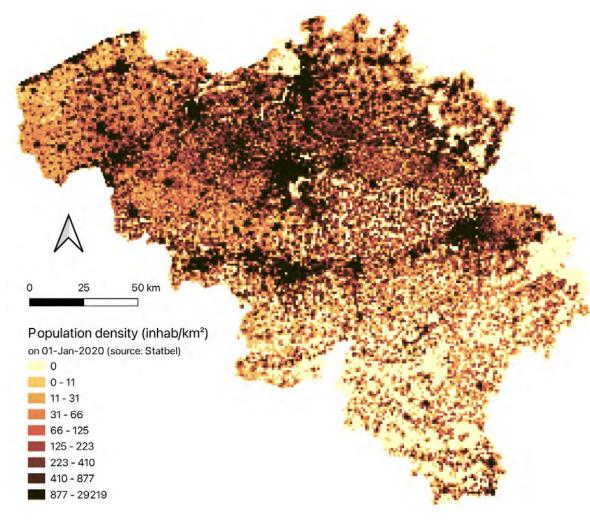
Observations density

Observations per km²



Population density

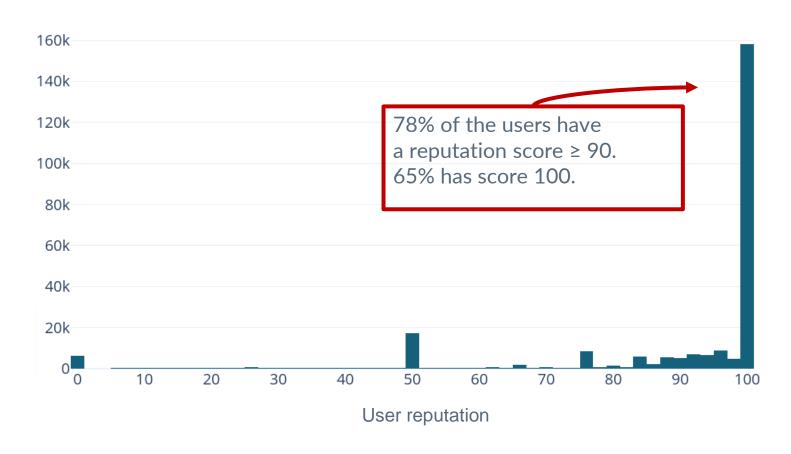
Inhabitants per km²





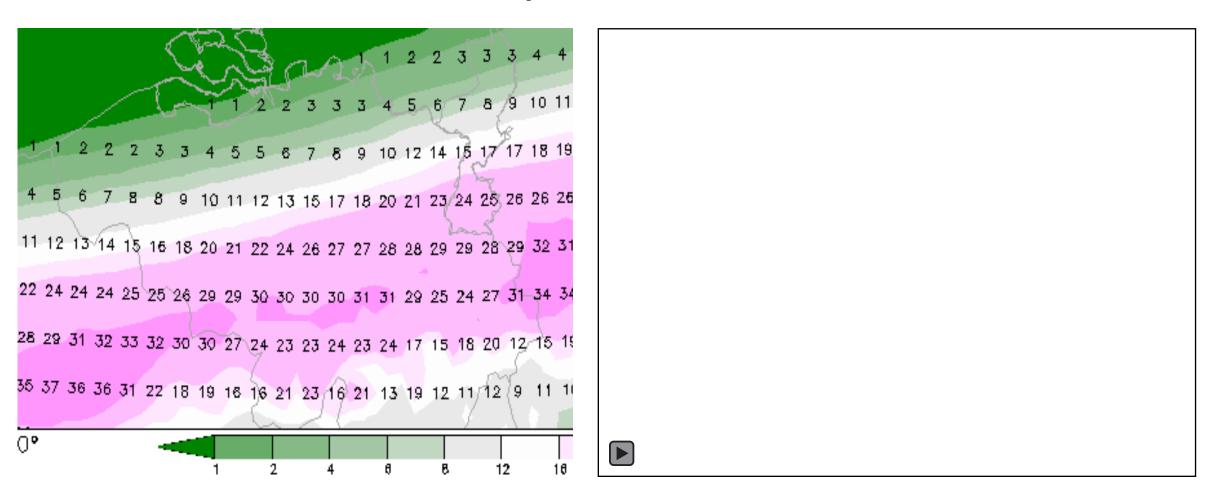
For every user we keep an (anonymous) user reputation $\in [0,100]$

Histogram of user reputation scores





Snow episode 17.01.2024



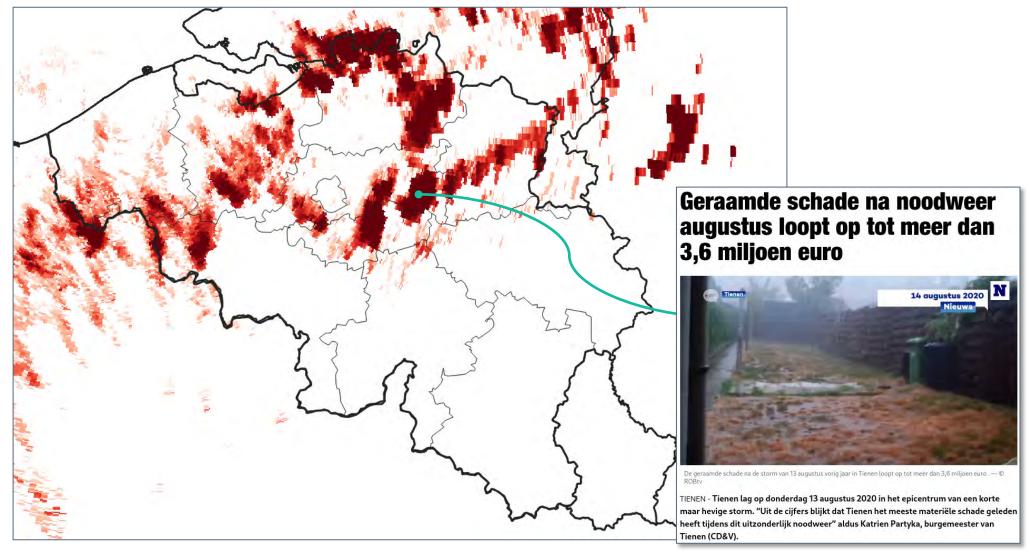
Snow height model forecast

Citizen observations



Hail with weather radar

13/08/2020



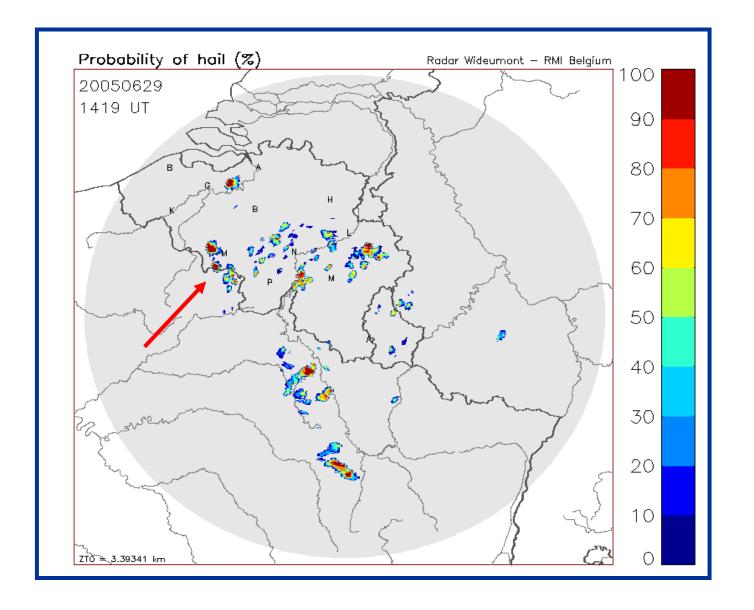
Weather radar: indirect measurement of hail



Hail verification in the past

BULLETIN "GRÊLE"

Expéditeur: Thustian Titort Sation de: Jung Je Telet
CODE:H.2.
Date de la grêle :27/.6/.20n S
Heure de début : 16 20 Heure de fin : 16 6.27
Chute de grêle pendant un orage? OUI ● NON O
Heure de début de l'orage : 16.h Heure de fin de l'orage : 20.h. 20.
Chute de fortes précipitations pendant l'orage ? OUI • NON O
Dans quelle direction s'est déplacé l'orage ?SSwl
L'orage était-il violent ? OUI @ NON O
Quelle était la taille des grêlons ? (diamètre en cm ou code)
Avez-vous connaissance de dégâts causés par cette chute de grêle dans la région ? OUI • NON O
Si pui, quel type de dégâts?
Remarques éventuelles: Se doing de la company de la compa
CONTACTS: M. Luc Debontridder, Services opérationnels et aux usagers, Tél.: 02/373 05 21, Fax: 02/373 05 28, e-mail: <u>luc.debontridder@oma.be</u>

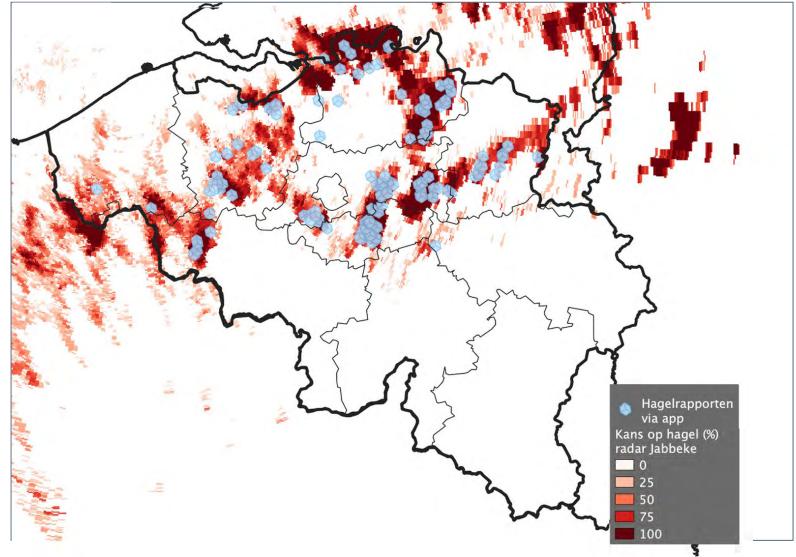


83 reports



Hail verification with app reports

13/08/2020



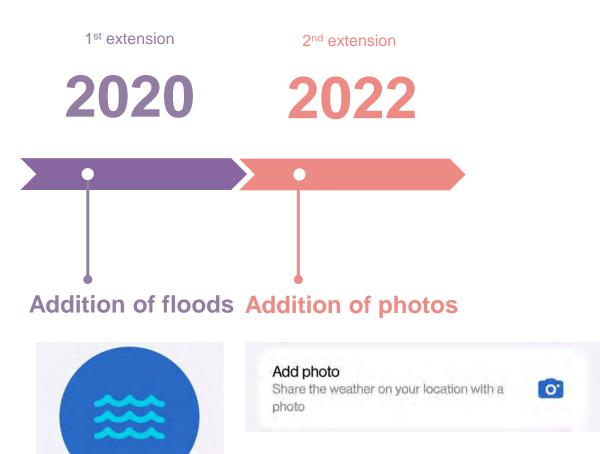
Weather radar: indirect measurement of hail



Flood

What about crisis response?

(1) Floods and photos per request of regional authorities for flood monitoring





Herve 17/05/2024 21:15



What about crisis response?

(1) Floods and photos per request of regional authorities for flood monitoring

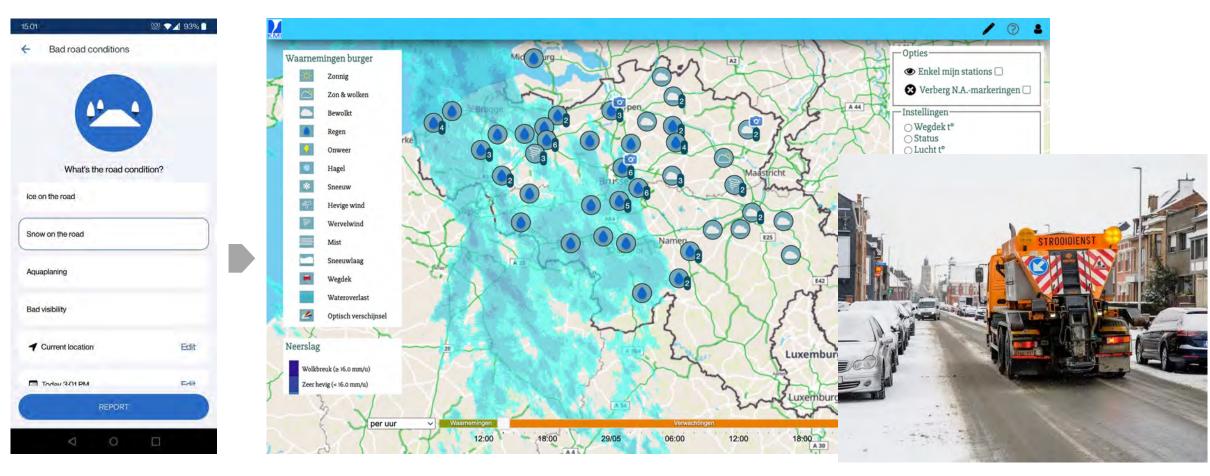


Transferred to regional hydrological authorities for real-time consulation (here: VMM)



What about crisis response?

(2) Observations of dangerous road conditions & snow for road management

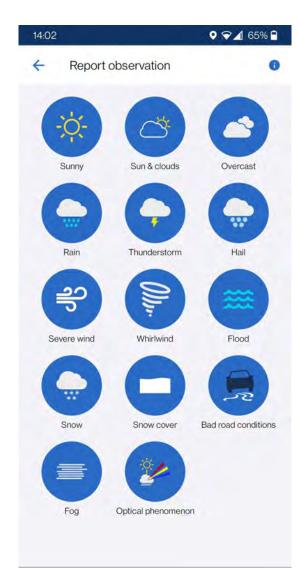


Transferred to regional road authorities for road management, e.g. road salt planning.

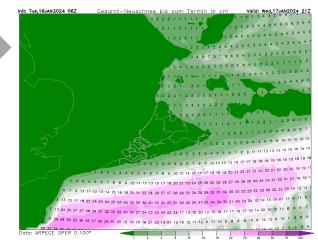


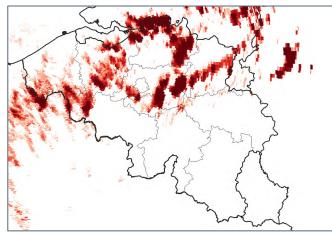


"Empowering" weather watchers



BETTER MODELS





RESPONSE HAZARDOUS WEATHER





THANK YOU

The Royal Meteorological Institute

Het Koninklijk Meteorologisch Instituut

L'Institut Royal Météorologique

Das Königliche Meteorologische Institut



The RMI provides reliable public service realized by empowered staff and based on research, innovation and continuity.

Het KMI verleent een betrouwbare dienstverlening aan het publiek en de overheid gebaseerd op onderzoek, innovatie en continuïteit.

L'IRM fournit un service fiable basé sur la recherche, l'innovation et la continuité au public et aux autorités.

Vertrauenswürdige Dienstleistungen für Öffentlichkeit und Behörden begründet auf Forschung, Innovation und Kontinuität.