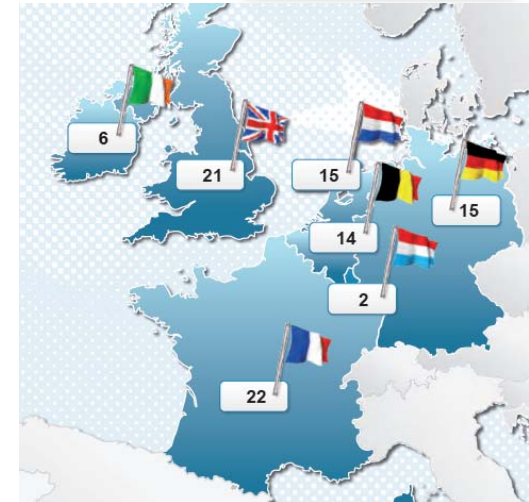


Presentation of theme III:

Adaptation requires adequate river basin management



Maité Fournier

Etablissement Public d'Aménagement de la Meuse
et de ses Affluents, France

Adaptation requires ...



III ... adequate river basin management

IIIa	Improve international cooperation in flood risk management
IIIb	Strengthen agriculture aspects in River Basin Management and FRM
IIIc	Foster importance of non-structural measures in flood risk management



IIIa

Improve international cooperation in flood risk management



Our experiences - background / deficits

- Sharing of information within the international Commissions instead of joint implementation
- Rules too general in terms of coordination of processes or harmonised approaches
- Climate change context calls for ambitious and unified action

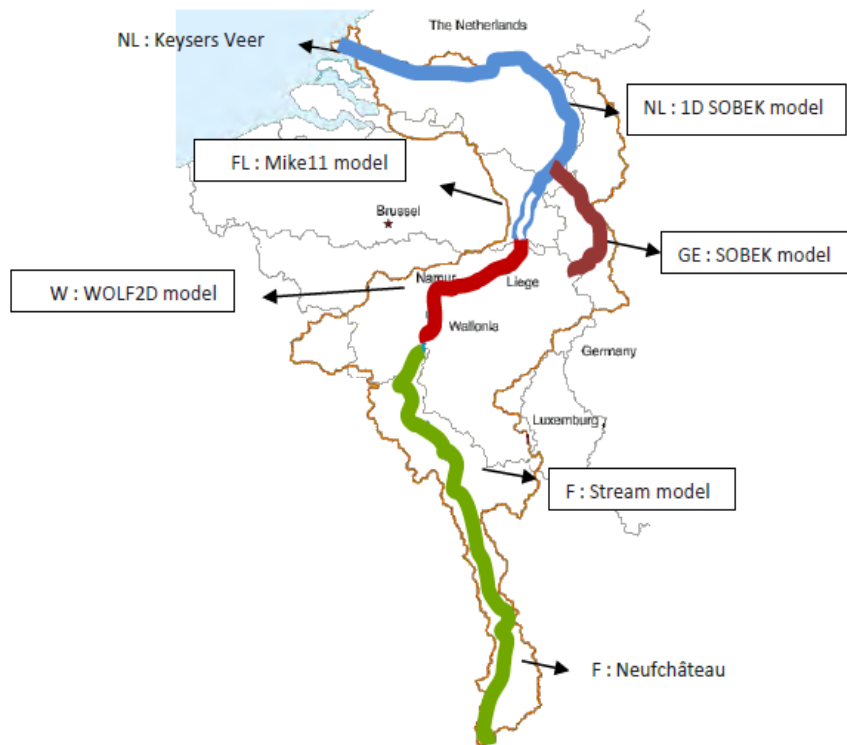


IIIa

Improve international cooperation in flood risk management



Our experiences – good practice example



AMICE site visit

IIIa

Improve international cooperation in flood risk management



Recommendation

- More (supranational) power and financial resources for the International River Basin Commissions

and/or

- INTERREG funds available for basin wide initiatives, supporting the International Commissions
- More ambition for RBM, especially emergency management



IIIb

Strengthen agriculture aspects in River Basin Management and FRM



Our experiences - background / deficits

- Agriculture has a significant impact on water management: quality and quantity
- Adaptation in agriculture too often restricted to increasing resilience of production and sectors
- Examples of successful cooperation are not enough promoted; water pollution, shortages from irrigation and damage from floods on crops are much more visible



IIIb Strengthen agriculture aspects in River Basin Management and FRM



Our experiences – good practice example



IIIb

Strengthen agriculture aspects in River Basin Management and FRM



Recommendation

- Link more closely Water and Agriculture in policies, regulations and management plans
- Catchment strategies to allocate funds
- Use good practices from the WFD cooperation between farmers and water managers
- As well for nature conservation, landscape and spatial planning



IIIc

Foster importance of non-structural measures in flood risk management



Our experiences - background / deficits

- Not enough focus and implementation of non-structural measures
- Protective measures are often the only solution proposed for flood risk areas and flood action plans
- Non-structural measures are cost-effective

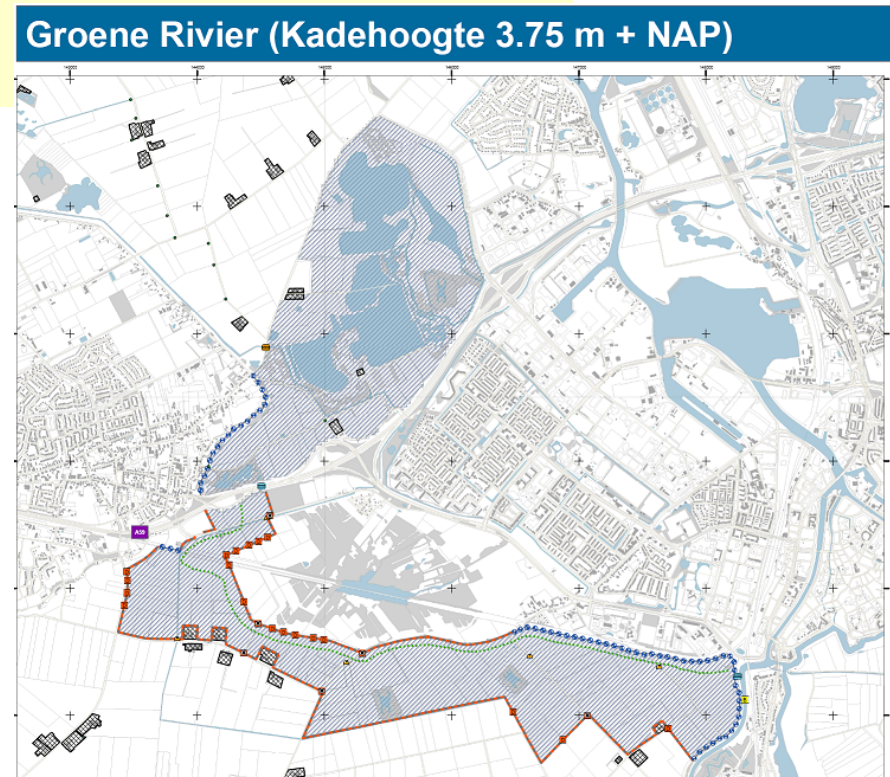


IIIc

Foster importance of non-structural measures in flood risk management



Our experiences – good practice example



IIIc

Foster importance of non-structural measures in flood risk management



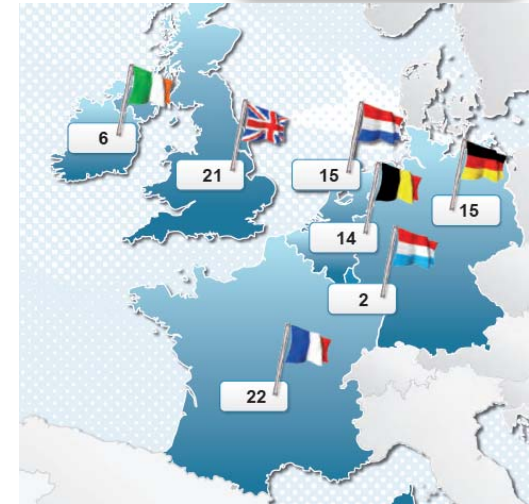
Recommendation

- Consider non-structural measures first
- Structural measures should only be taken if other measures are not adequate to reduce risk
- Non-structural measures included in the evaluation process of the FRM plans



Comments on theme III:

Adaptation requires
adequate river basin management



by Maria Fuentes-Merino
–EC-DG for Agriculture and RD,
policy officer climate change

Comments on theme III:
Adequate river basin management
by Maria Fuentes, EC-DG for Agriculture and RD



About the project

- Bringing together different experiences and good practice contribute to finding ways to engage into adaptation

Do you agree/disagree?

- Yes, agriculture and forests can play an important role for managing floods but depends on local context
- Sector-oriented approaches will not help achieving objectives, need multi-sectoral approach and analysis at territorial scale – need to overcome traditional opposition “water” and “agriculture” world
- Need involve farmers from the early stages of planning – strengthening processes, technical support and extension in the perspective of rising risk of water stress



• *What would you change / add?*

- Change – The WD “Adapting to climate change: the challenge for European agriculture and rural areas” (Annex to White Paper) is **broader** than ensuring resilience of agriculture. The objective is help agriculture to prepare and ensure its contribution to resilience of natural resources (water, soils, biodiversity) by providing wider ecosystem services dependent on land management
- Add – socio-economic factors need always to be considered when setting measures, success usually depends on market prices (beyond influence of farmers)
- Add – some examples would be useful

EU activities that are in line with this recommendation?

- Since 2009 - increased conditionality of support (e.g., protection of watercourses, fulfilment national requirements for water abstraction)

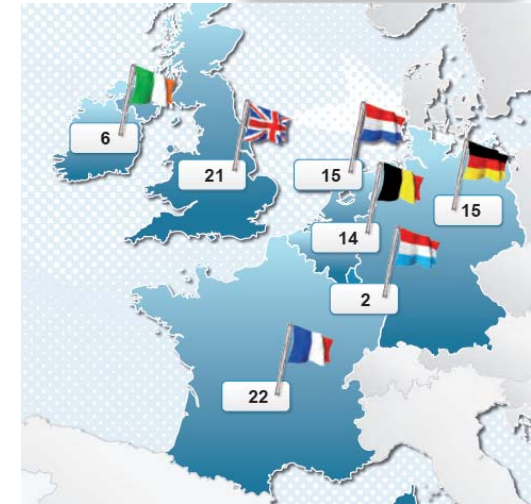
- Preparation of CAP 2020
- Rural development – funding support for a wide range of water-related and adaptation actions (e.g., afforestation, conversion of arable land to grassland as an „environmental“ LUC, payments within WFD, agro-forestry), further conditions for supporting irrigation projects,
- New support offered for co-operation actions (e.g., co-operatives approaches to water management) - greater emphasis given to flexibility and co-operation and the need to promote delivery of actions beyond the farm holding to broader landscape level
- Farm Advisory service – strengthened to include climate change issues
- MS, regions need to put into motion the new framework

Bottlenecks for successful implementation?

- Link RBMP and RD programming seems low (according to first assessment of current RBMP) – is challenging, resource consuming
- Co-ordination between policies might also need to be more evident at EU level

Comments on theme III:

Adaptation requires adequate river basin management



by Mark Adamson

– Office of Public Works, Ireland

Comments on theme III:

Adaptation requires adequate river basin management

by Mark Adamson – Office of Public Works - Ireland



Theme IIIa: International Cooperation

- International coordination is required for effective management in trans-boundary river basins
 - Required as a minimum by Floods Directive
 - Scope for greater integration
- Good working relationship is essential for effective coordination
- Coordination may be preferable to harmonisation



Comments on theme III:

Adaptation requires adequate river basin management

by Mark Adamson – Office of Public Works - Ireland



Theme IIIb: Agriculture in FRM

- Land use management can reduce flood risk as well as providing environmental benefits
- Evidence required on benefit for flood risk management in large catchments and extreme events



Comments on theme III:

Adaptation requires adequate river basin management

by Mark Adamson – Office of Public Works - Ireland



Theme IIIc: Non-Structural Measures

- Potential future vs. existing risk
 - Policies for future development / land use management
 - Requirement to manage / reduce existing risk
- Holistic approach required to FRM, taking into account local context
- Use of both structural and non-structural FRM measures may be required

