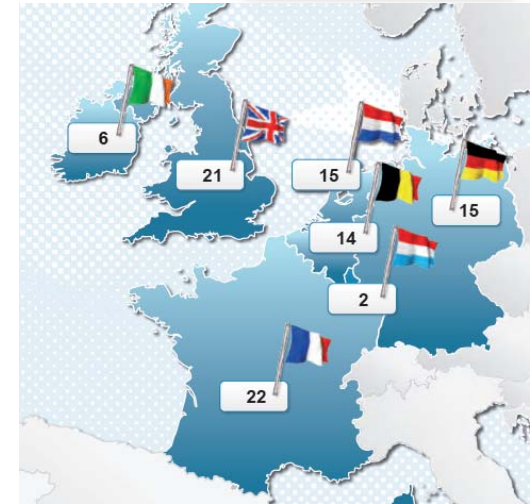


## Presentation of theme III:

Adaptation requires  
adequate river basin management



Maïté 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

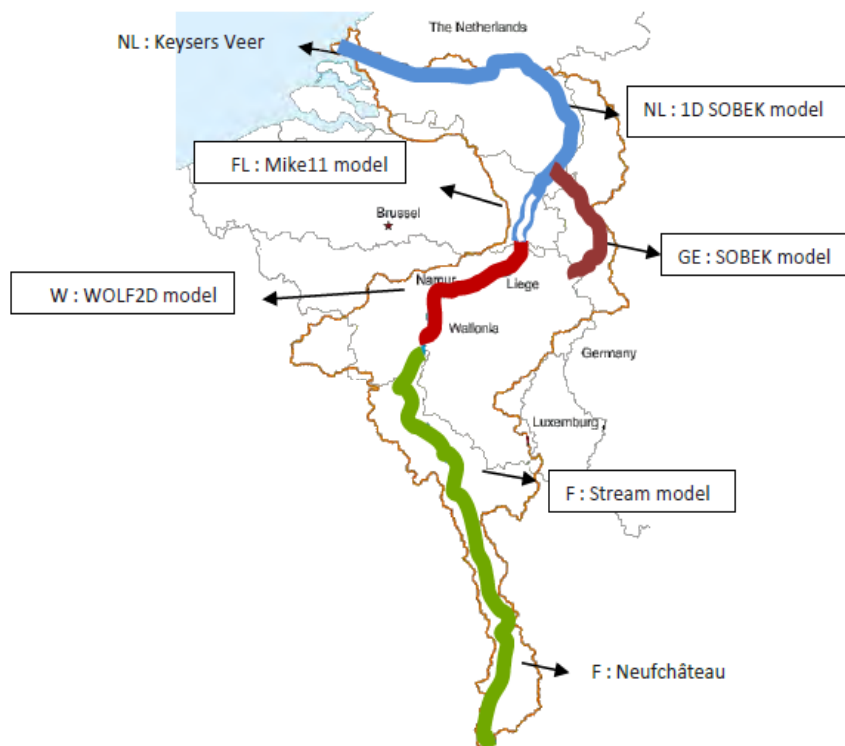


IIIa

# Improve international cooperation in flood risk management



## Our experiences – good practice example



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

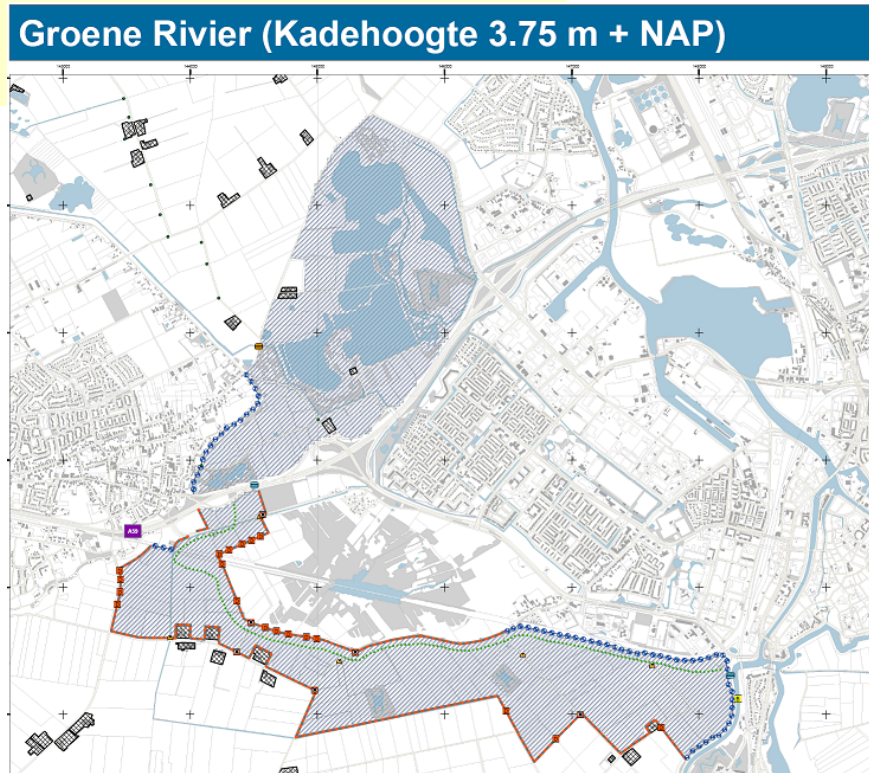


IIIc

## 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



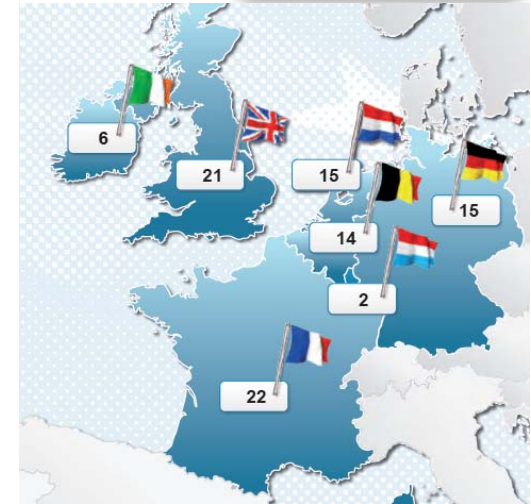
### Recommendation

- 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

## ***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

