# Know4DRR Workshop

# DRR AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL: THE EU 'FLOODS' DIRECTIVE (FD)



#### **Mark Adamson**

**Co-Chair, Working Group F Office of Public Works, IE** 

10<sup>th</sup> December, 2014



## **OVERVIEW**

- EU 'FLOODS' DIRECTIVE
  - Overview
  - Status of Implementation
- WORKING GROUP F (WG F)
- CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

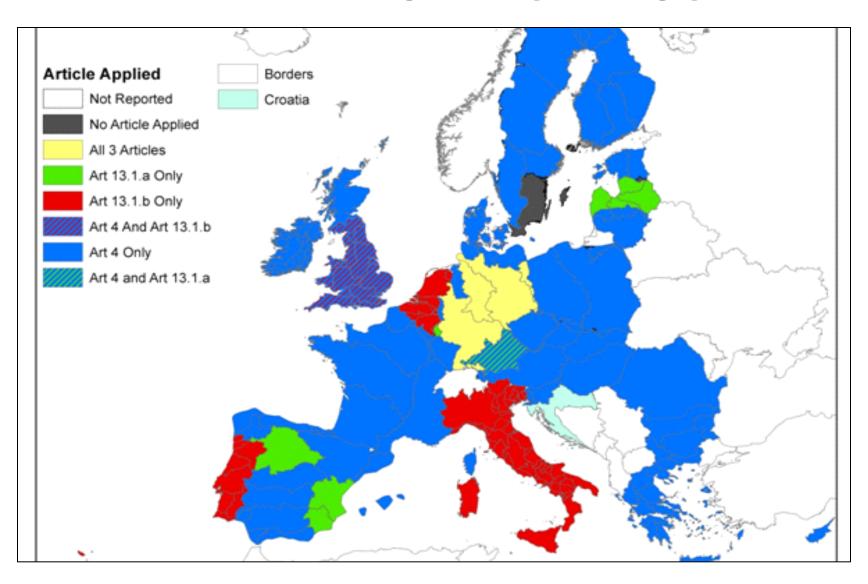
## **EU 'FLOODS' DIRECTIVE — 2007**

- TRANSPOSITION (NOV 2009)
- KEY REQUIREMENTS
  - Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (Dec 2011)
  - Flood maps (Dec 2013)
  - Flood Risk Management Plans (Dec 2015)
- OTHER PROVISIONS
  - Co-ordination with WFD implementation
  - Trans-boundary co-operation
  - Public dissemination / engagement

## **IMPLEMENTATION — STATUS**

- TRANSPOSITION: NOV 2009
  - All MS have transposed Few 'nonconformity' infringement cases were opened
- CAs & UoMs: REPORTING MAY 2010
  - All MS have communicated information
- PFRA: REPORTING MARCH 2012
  - All MS have reported
  - Compliance checking ongoing COM Draft
     Reports to MS and EU Overview: March 2014

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- TRANSPOSITION: REPORTING NOV 2009
- CAs & UoMs: REPORTING MAY 2010
- PFRA: REPORTING MARCH 2012
- FLOOD MAPS: REPORTING MARCH 2014
  - As of 23<sup>rd</sup> March: 17 MS had Reported Information
  - COM Draft Reports to MS and EU Overview:
     Imminent
  - March 23-24 2015: COM FD/WFD Workshop

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- EVOLVED SINCE 2005 ('Expert Group')
- STATUS
  - Working Group within CIS established for WFD
- MEMBERSHIP
  - EU Member States + EEA States
  - International Inter-Governmental Bodies
    - River Commissions, WMO, UN Organisations, etc.
  - Stakeholder Organisations (Under CIS Rules)
    - E.g., WWF, EWA

#### OBJECTIVE

- Forum to Support Implementation of FD
  - Information exchange
  - Feedback on Implementation and Reporting
  - Links with Other CIS / COM Areas

#### ACTIVITIES

- 6-Monthly Meetings
- Preparation of Reporting Sheets / Schema
- Other Activities / Resource Documents
  - Economics, WFD-FD Links, Research Needs
- Thematic Workshops

#### WORKSHOPS – TOPICS:

- Land Use Planning
- PFRA
- Flood Mapping
- Climate Change
- Natural Flood Risk Management
- FRMPs
- Flash Floods & Pluvial Events
- Economics
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Decision-Making under Uncertainty / Climate Change
- Objectives, Measures and Prioritisation
- Transboundary Coordination
- FD-WFD Coordination / NWRM

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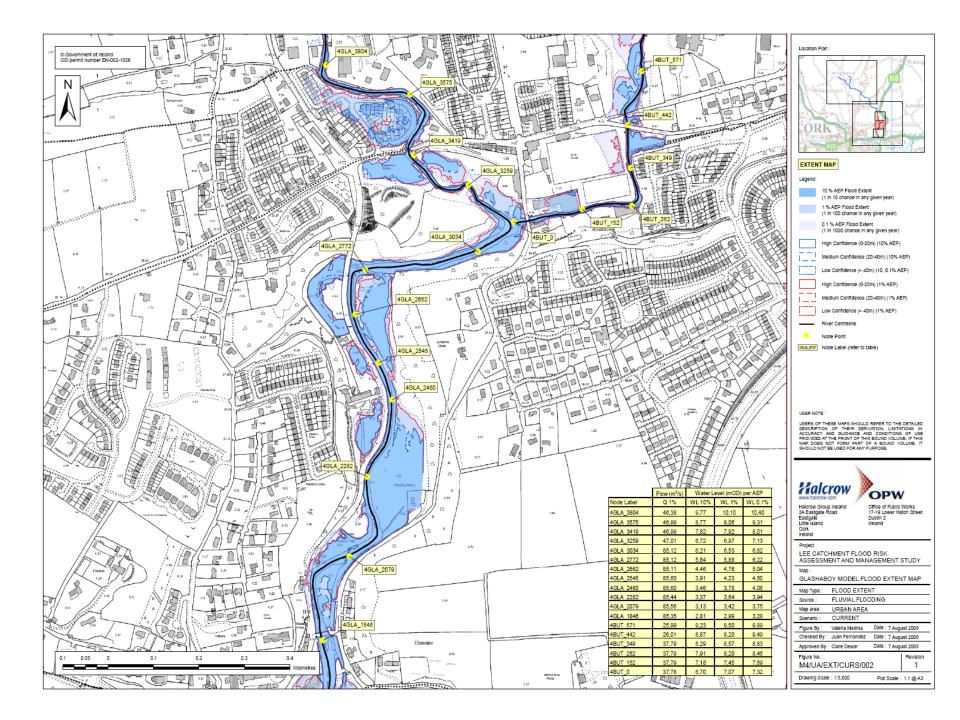
## **OVERVIEW**

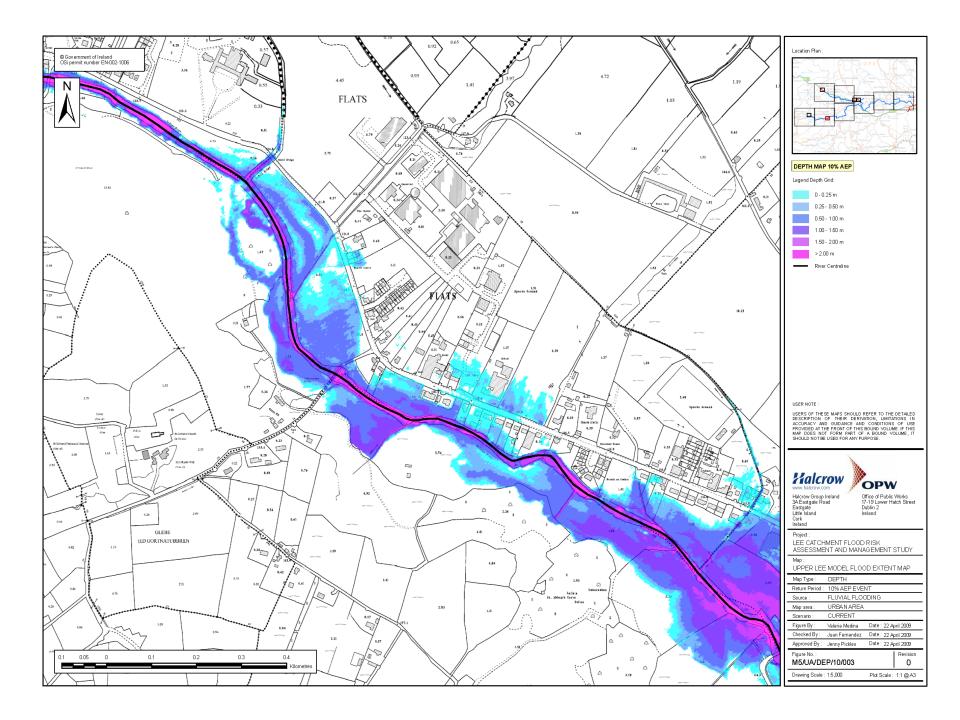
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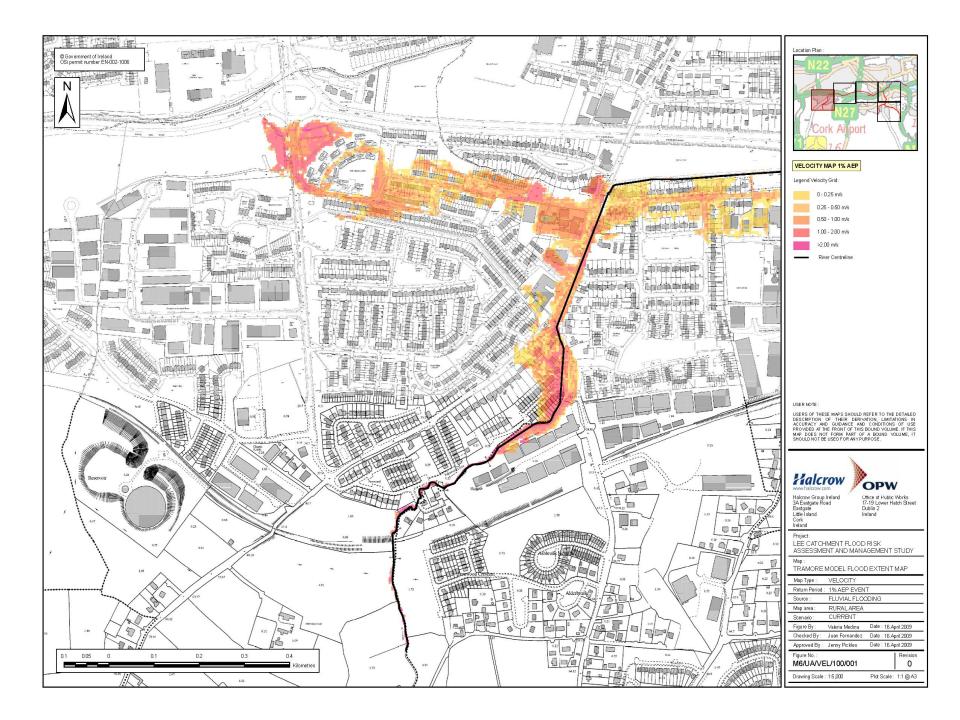
#### PFRA:

- Nature of the Assessment:
  - Broad-Scale (vs. local / detailed) Risk Assessment, e.g., Data availability
  - Risk Assessment for Sources of Flood Water other than Rivers and the Sea
  - Assessment of Risk for Certain Sectors, e.g., Environment, Cultural heritage
- Art. 5: Definition of 'Significant Risk', based on Multi-Sectoral Assessment of Risk

- FLOOD MAPS:
  - Most MS Experienced In Flood Mapping







#### FLOOD MAPS:

- Transboundary Mapping
  - Level of Coordination seems to be Variable
  - Good Cooperation within International River Commissions, and Bi-laterally between some MS
  - Greater difficulties elsewhere
- Publication and Communication of Risk
- Climate Change and Uncertainty
  - Different approaches in different MS
- Scale of Work Invovled!

- FRMPs SETTING OBJECTIVES:
  - Need for Approach that:
    - Addresses Risk to People, Environment, Cultural Heritage and the Economy
    - Link Objectives, Development and Selection of Measures & Prioritisation
  - WG F Workshop 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013
    - Significant Differences in Approach between MS
      - Risk Reduction Target SoP Implementation of Measures
      - National consistency vs local importance / flexibility, reflecting national governance arrangements
    - Report Available on 'CIRCA'

- FRMPs LAND-USE PLANNING:
  - Major component of Flood Risk Prevention
    - Essential for long-term, sustainable flood risk management
  - Varying approach across EU, but trend towards stronger regulation
  - Key Issues:
    - Need for Balance: Sustainability Vs Economic Growth
    - Provision for the Future? (Climate Change)

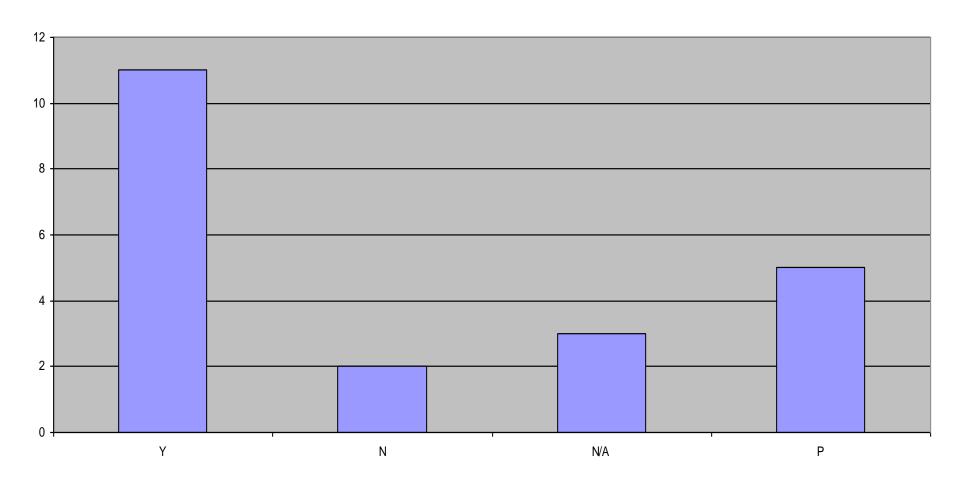
- FRMPs RESILIENCE:
  - Empowering Communities, Businesses and Individuals to Manage Own Risks, e.g.,
    - Raising Awareness & Preparedness
    - Building Resilience & Responsibility
    - Establishing Community Flood Groups
    - Grant Schemes / Incentives for Individual Property Protection
  - Requires Engagement & Resources
  - Can be Very Effective

- FRMPs COORDINATION WITH WFD:
  - Different Paradigms?
  - WG F (CIS) FD-WFD Synergies Document:
    - Approved and Published Dec 2013
    - Information Exchange (e.g., Flood Maps SWMIs)
    - Measures:
      - Achieving mutual benefits
      - Avoiding conflict
  - WG F Workshop 8-9<sup>th</sup> October 2014
    - Report will be available on 'CIRCA'

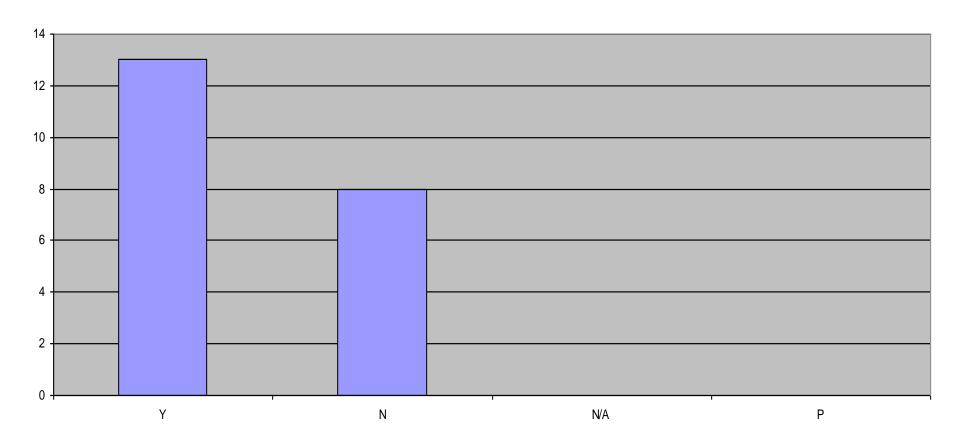
- FRMPs CLIMATE CHANGE:
  - Mean Sea Level Rise
    - Very Strong Evidence of MSL Rise
    - Long-Term Degree Unknown
  - Rainfall Intensities
    - Signal / Evidence Less Strong
    - Significant Uncertainty
  - Future Uncertain, But Needs to be Planned For
    - Consider Potential Futures
    - Assess Vulnerabilities
    - Apply Adaptive Management

- WG F WORKSHOP 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012
  - Questionnaire 21 MS Responses

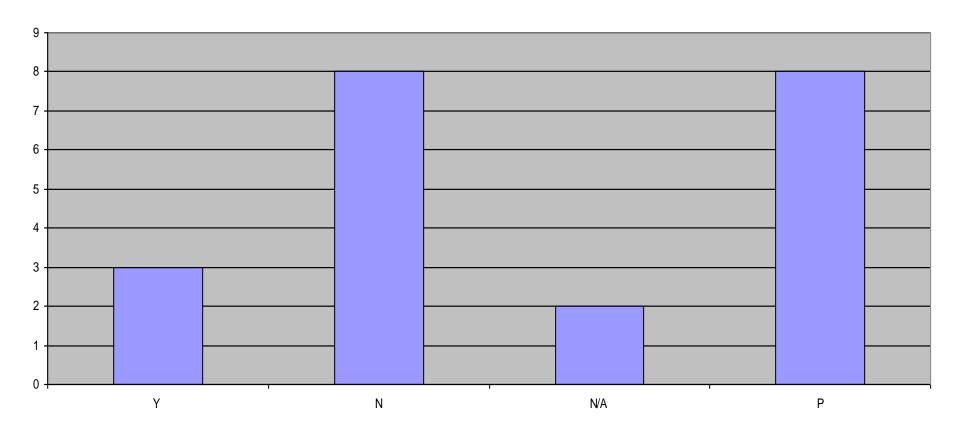
Q2.1 - Did you take Climate Change into account during the PFRA?



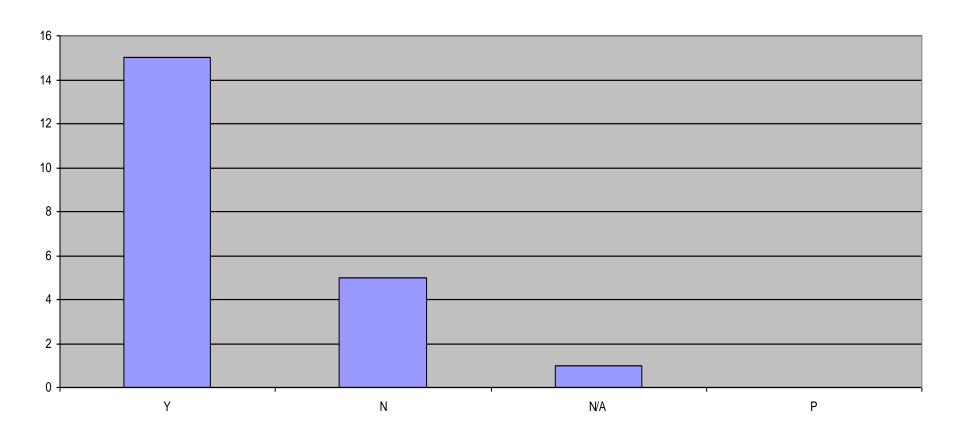
Q3.1 - Will you be producing Flood Maps that indicate potential future scenarios?



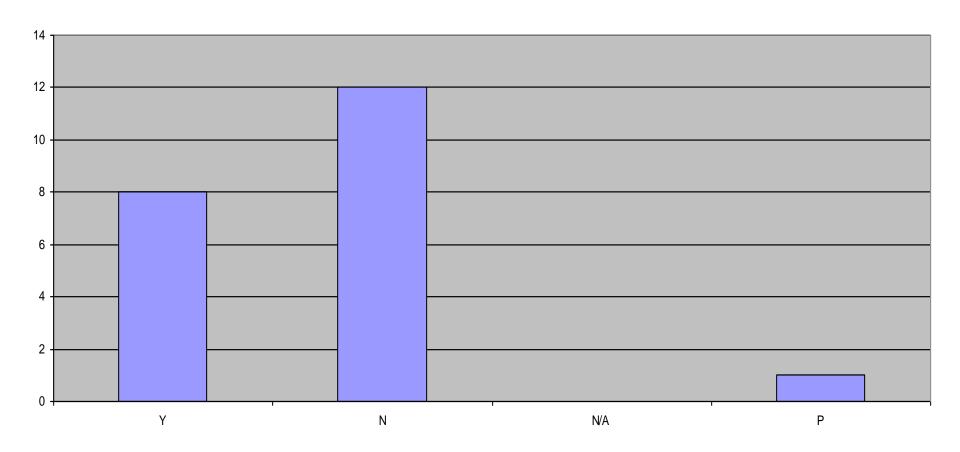
Q3.2 - Do you intend to represent Uncertainty in the presentation of the Flood Maps?



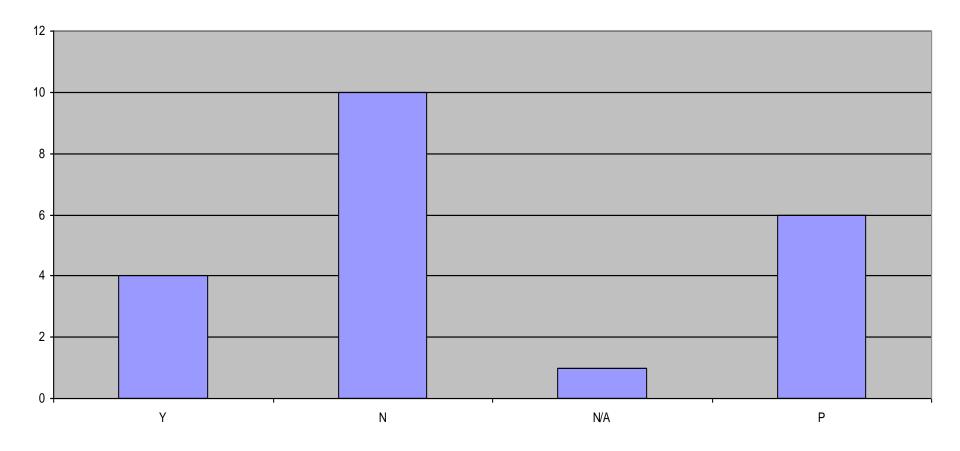
Q4.1 - Do you intend to incorporate Cliamte Change in setting FRM Objectives?



Q4.2 - Do you have Guidance or requirements on Climate Change Adaptation relating to the design and implementation of FRM Strategies and Measures?



Q5.1 - Does the Spatial Planning legislation or guidance in your ccountry / area take into account the potential impacts of Climate Change?



- QUESTIONNAIRE IN 2012
- FIRST CYCLE
  - Consideration of Climate Change not Obligatory
- CONSIDERATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE IS REQUIRED IN SECOND CYCLE

- APPROACH IN IRELAND
  - Past / Ongoing Research on Climatic Changes
    - Issues of Spatial and Temporal Down-Scaling
  - National & Local Vulnerability Assessments
    - FD PFRA / Flood Mapping for Future Scenarios
  - Screening to Determine FRM Approach
    - Low Vulnerability Focus on Current Risk
    - Moderate Vulnerability Measures to Address Current Risk but Adaptable to Future Risk
    - High Vulnerability Detailed Decision-Trees for Managed Adaptation
  - Future Scenarios for Sustainable Planning

## **EU 'FLOODS' DIRECTIVE**

- IMPLEMENTATION IS CHALLENGING
  - Time, Resources, Methodologies, Political Issues, Uncertainties, Communication, Social Responsibility & Governance
- EU 'FLOODS' DIRECTIVE IS FLEXIBLE
- ONLY IN FIRST CYCLE!
- FUTURE CYCLES SHOULD DRIVE ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

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