

Workshop: **Decision making in disaster risk reduction across different levels**  
Bonn, 10 – 11 December 2014

# **Flood Risk Management Strategies**

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# Strengthening and Redesigning European Flood Risk Practices Towards Appropriate and Resilient Flood Risk Governance Arrangements



Anatomy of flood risk

Floods on the rise

Flood risk management and EU Floods Directive implementation

Flood risk management strategies

Flood risk governance arrangements



# Anatomy of flood risk

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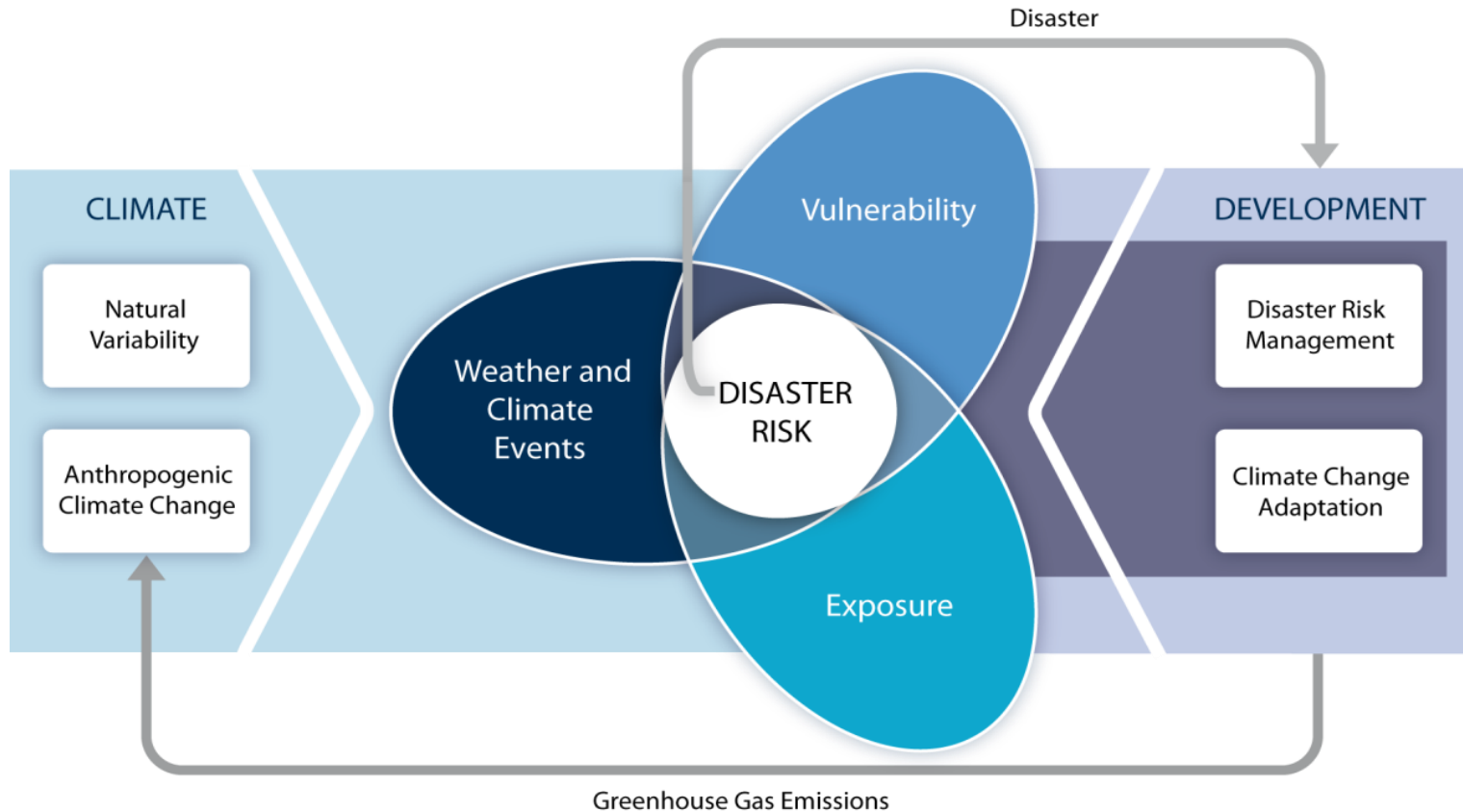


# Abundance of water

## Blessing                      Curse

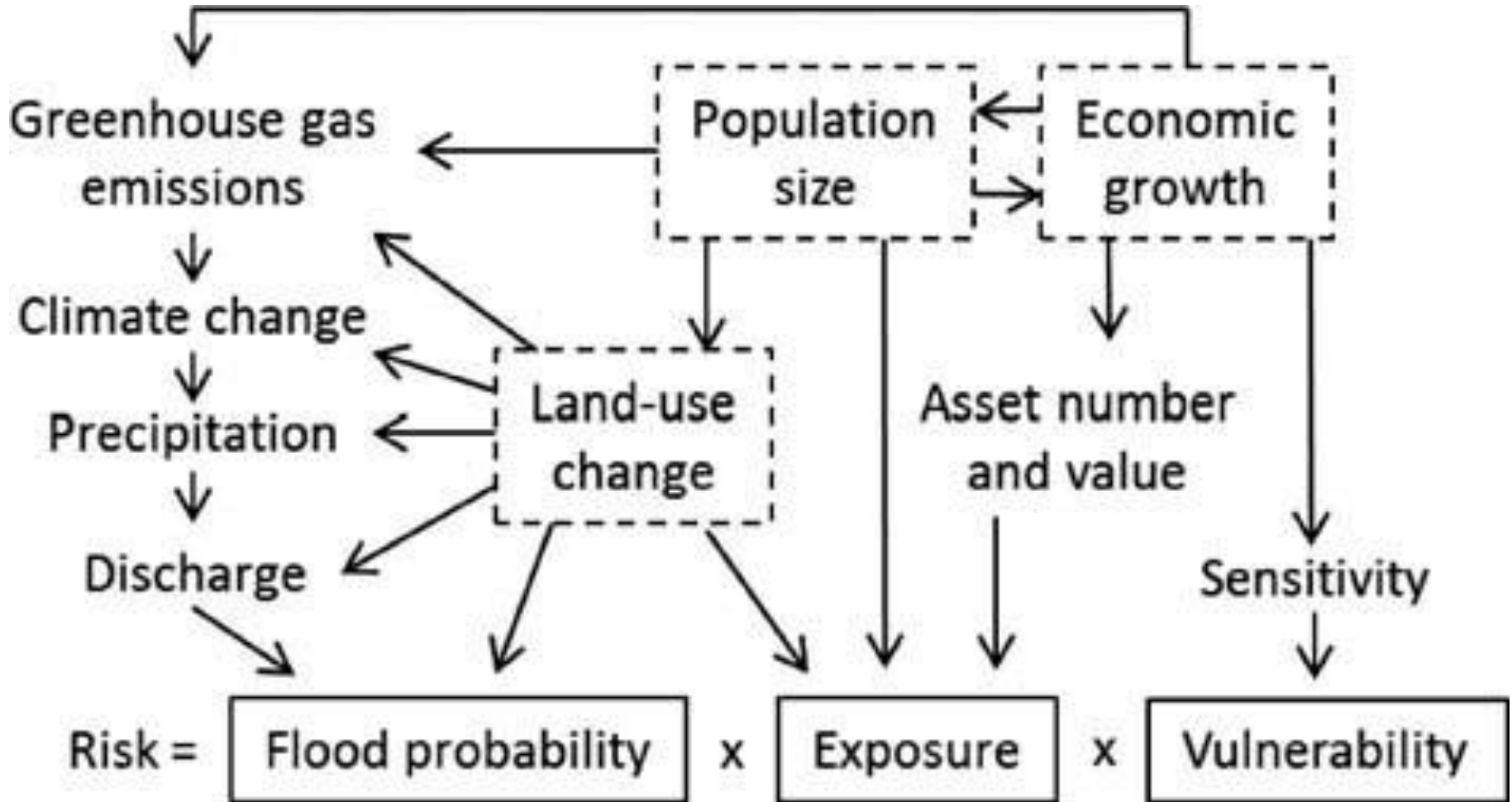


# Increasing vulnerability, exposure, or severity and frequency of climate events increases disaster risk



*Disaster risk management and climate change adaptation can influence the degree to which **extreme events translate into impacts and disasters***  
**(IPCC SREX, 2012 [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch))**

Source: Kundzewicz, Z. W.; Kanae, S.; Seneviratne, S. I.; et al., (2014) Flood risk and climate change: global and regional perspectives. Hydrol. Sci. J. 59(1), 1-28.

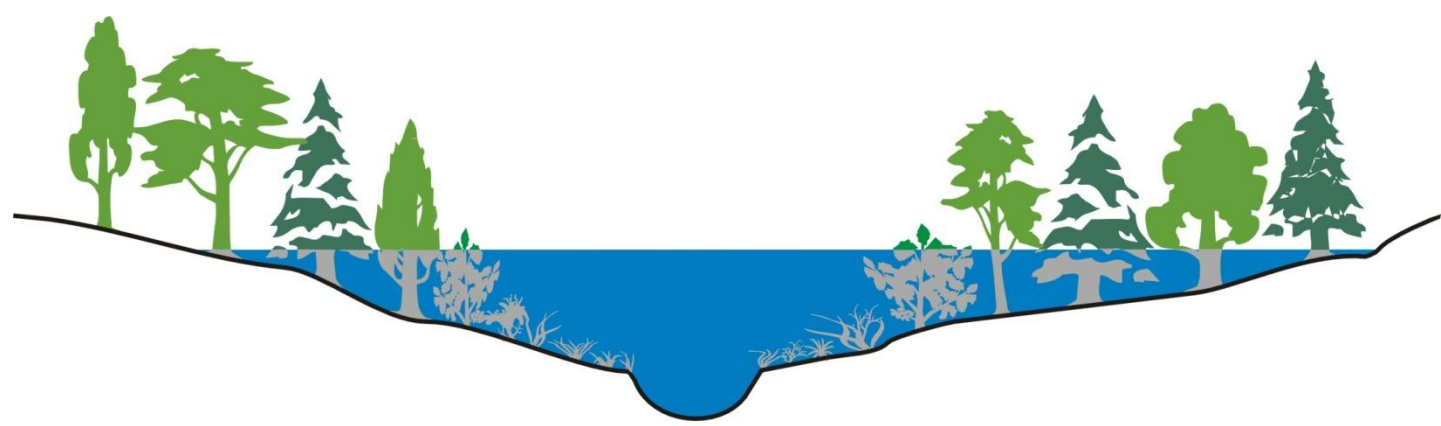


# Changes in flood risk

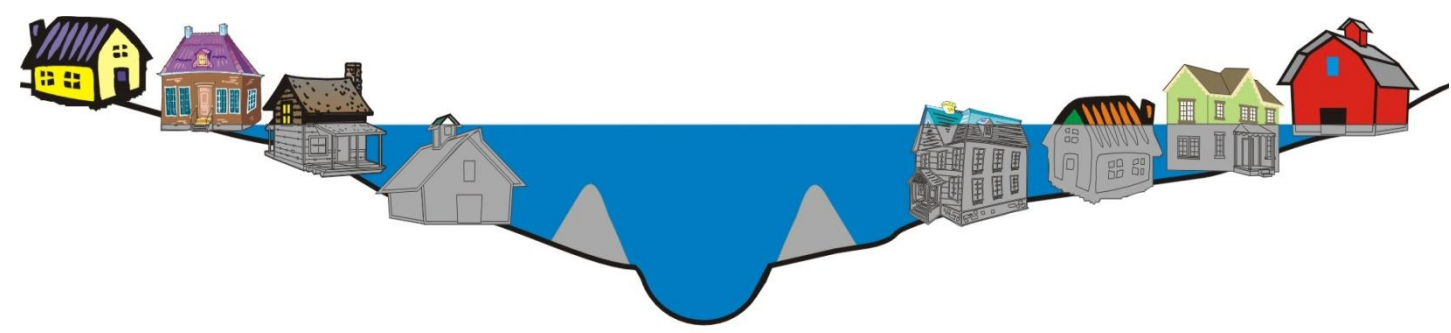
- Changes in **climate and hydrological systems** (heavy precipitation, land-use change, urbanization, deforestation, river regulation – channel straightening, embankments)
- Changes in **socio-economic** systems: (increasing exposure – flood plain development, growing wealth in flood-prone areas)





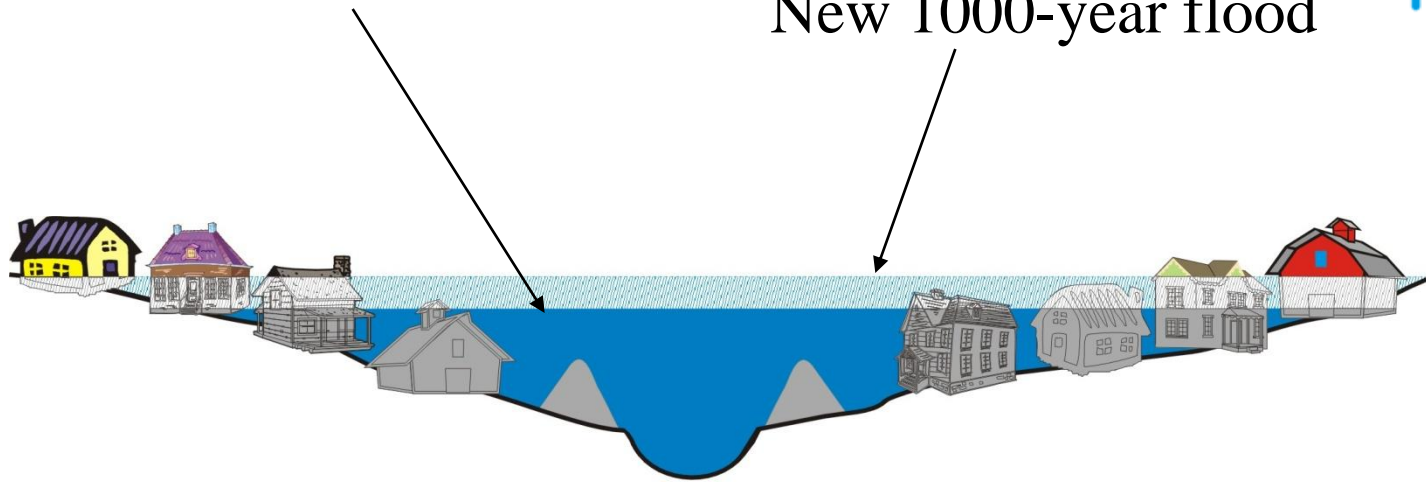


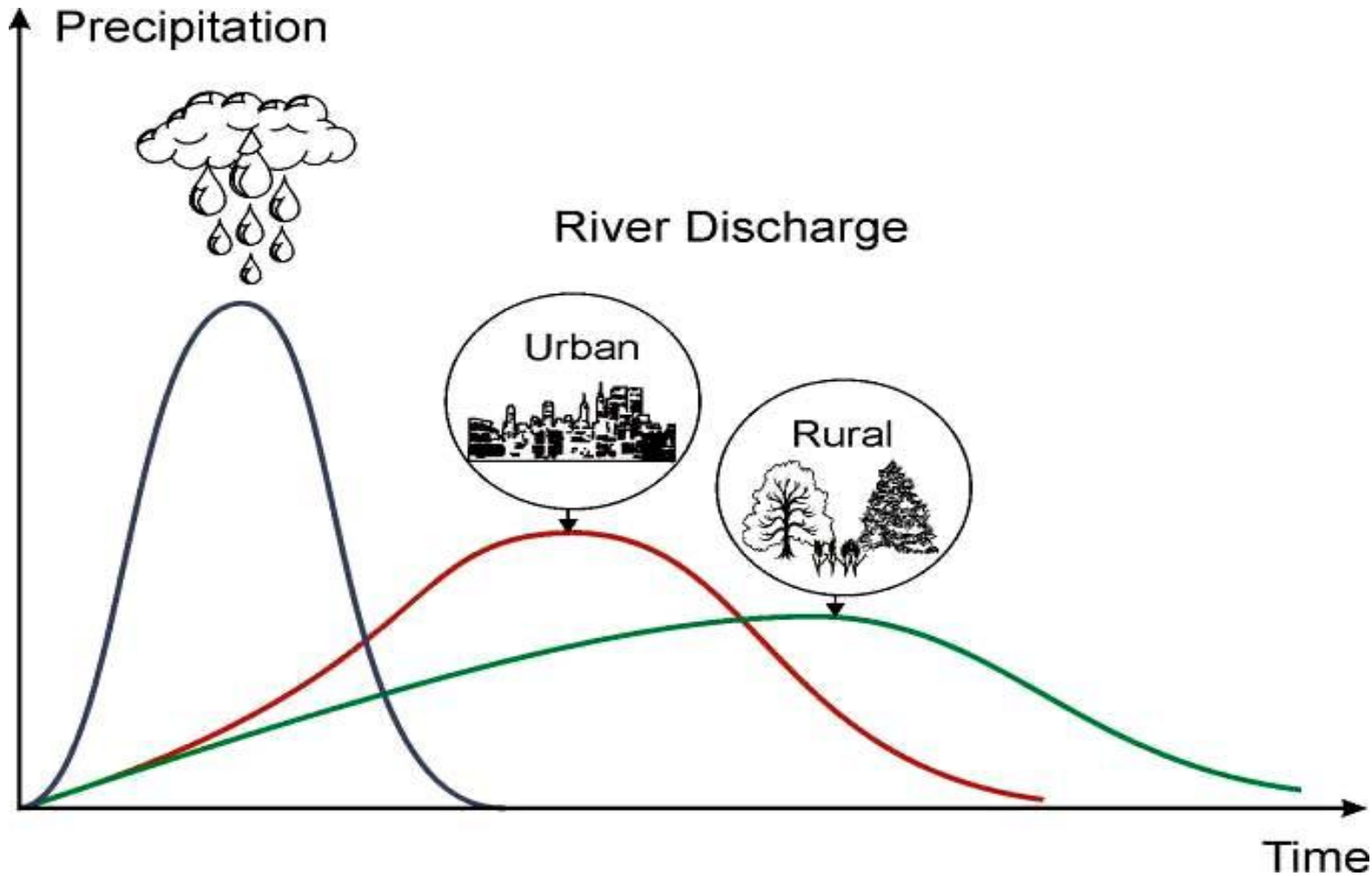
1000-year flood



Old 1000-year flood

New 1000-year flood





*In comparison to rural areas, the peak flow corresponding to a given precipitation is higher and faster in urban areas.*

# Water holding capacity of the atmosphere

## Clausius–Clapeyron equation

$$de_s(T) / e_s(T) = L dT / R T^2$$

where  $e_s(T)$  is the saturation vapor pressure at temperature  $T$ ,

$L$  is the latent heat of vaporization,  
and  $R$  is the gas constant.

$T$  grows       $e_s(T)$  grows

1°C

6-7%





# Changes in Flood Risk in Europe

*Edited by Z. W. Kundzewicz*



IAHS Press / CRC Press  
(Taylor & Francis)

IAHS Special  
Publication 10

*(April 2012)*

516 + xvi pages



Anatomy of flood risk

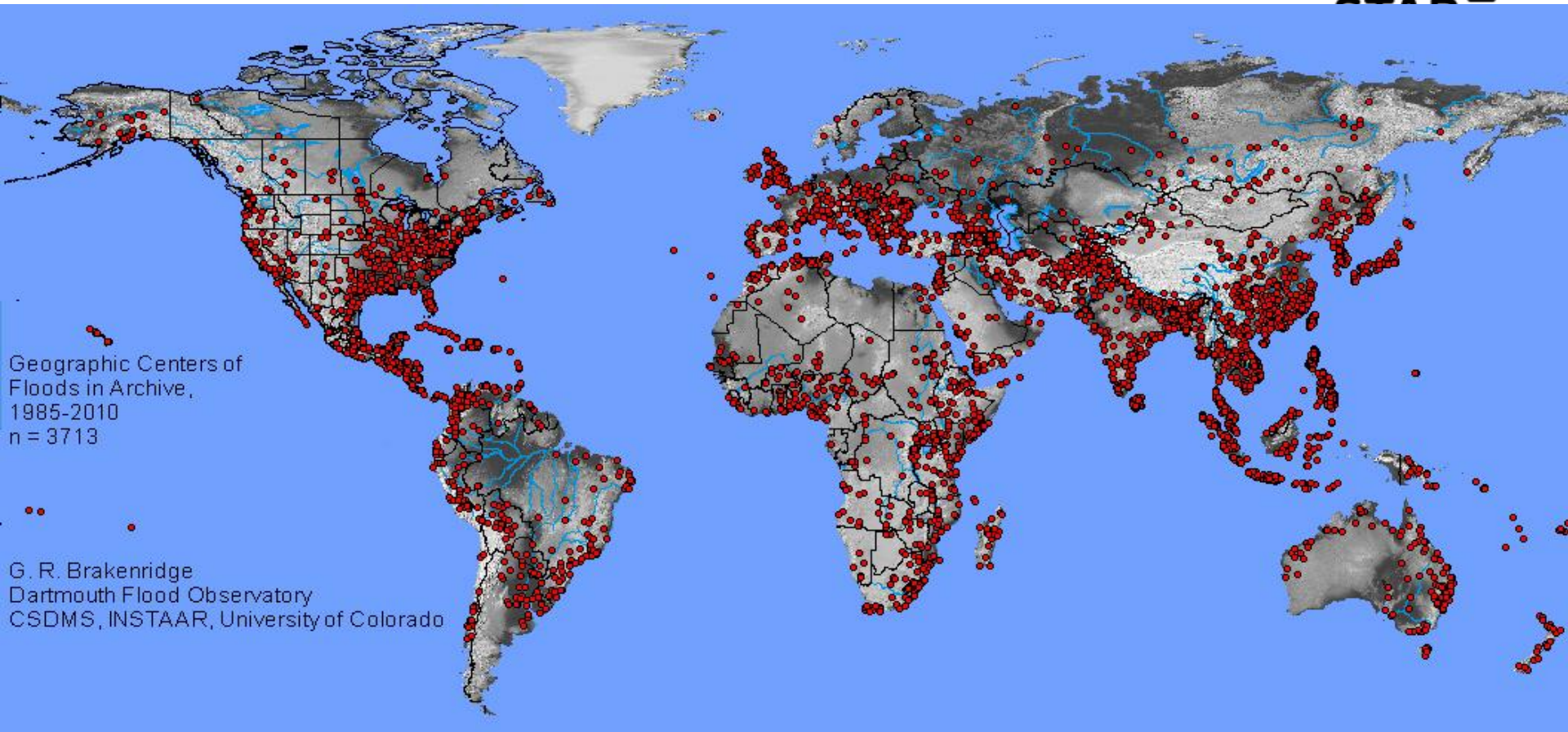
## **Floods on the rise**

Flood risk projections and EU Floods Directive implementation

Flood risk management strategies

Flood risk governance arrangements





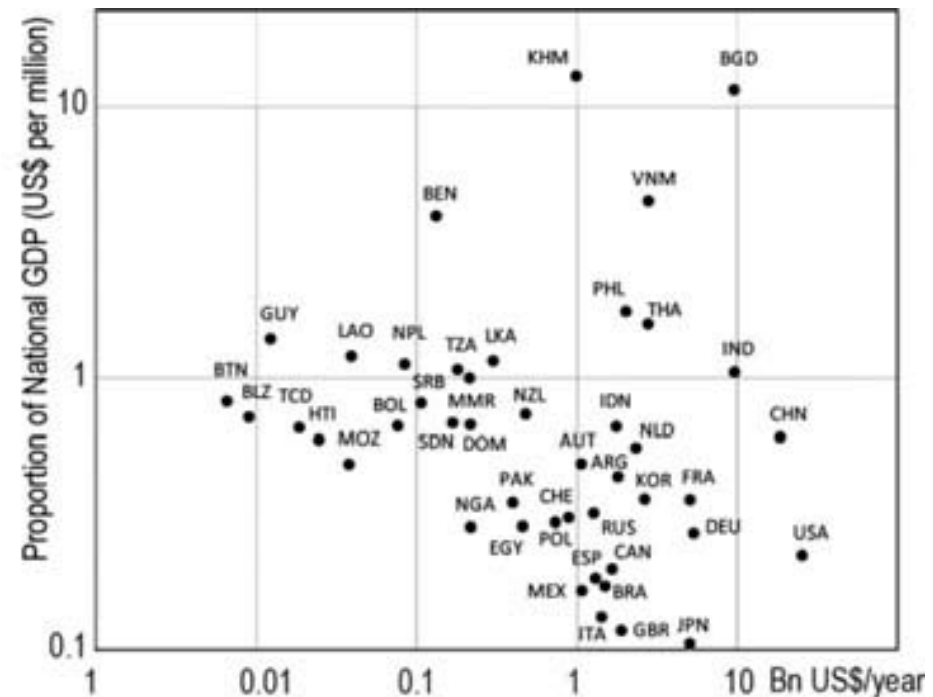
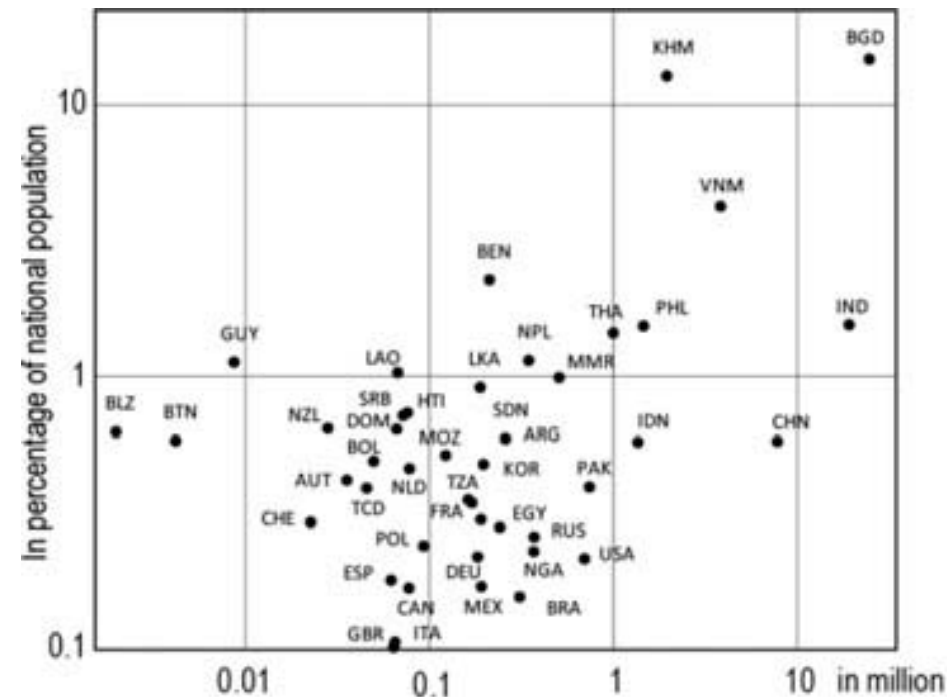
Geographic Centers of  
Floods in Archive,  
1985-2010  
n = 3713

G. R. Brakenridge  
Dartmouth Flood Observatory  
CSDMS, INSTAAR, University of Colorado



# Exposure to floods

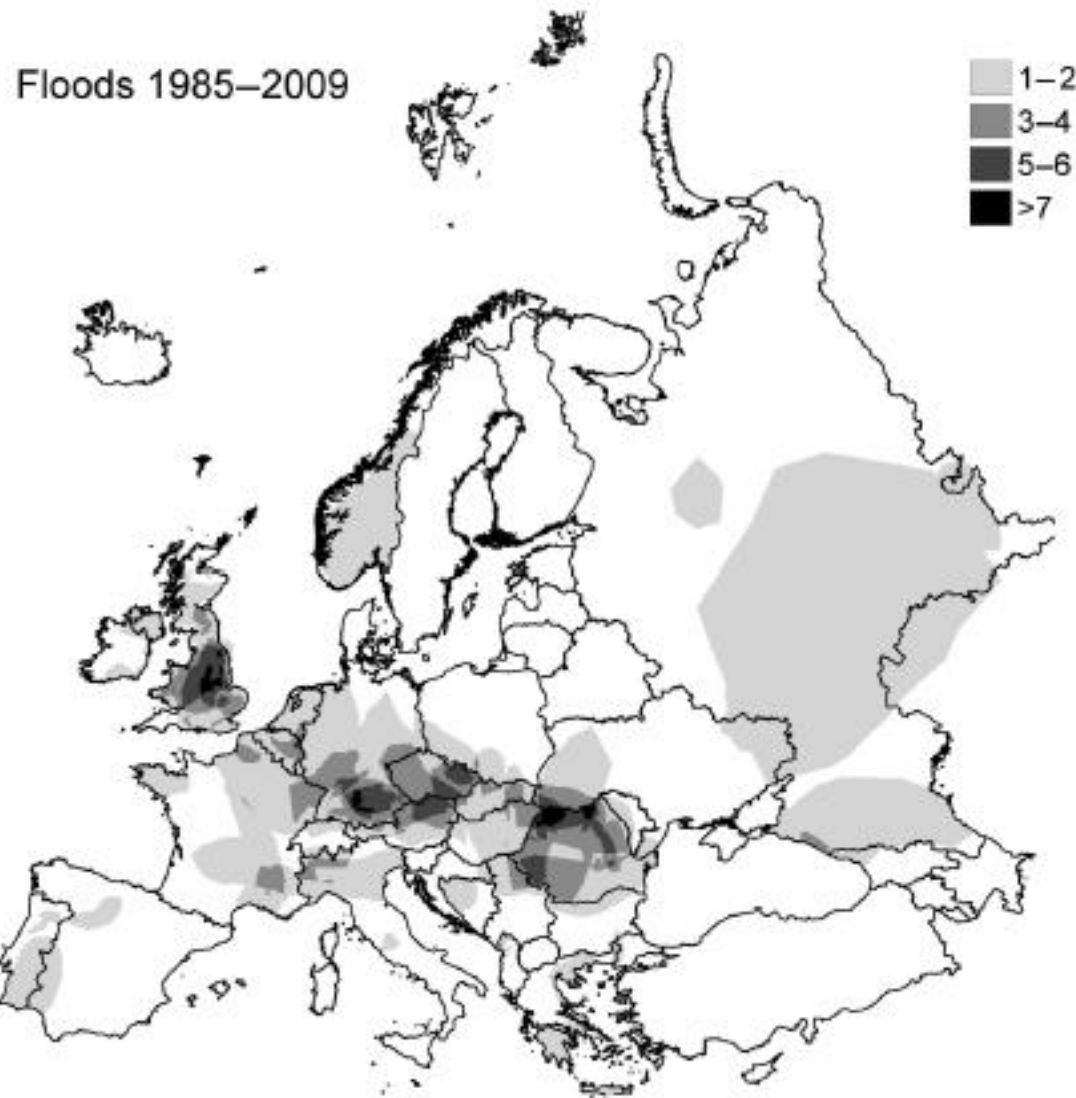
Source: Kundzewicz, Z. W.; Kanae, S.; Seneviratne, S. I.; et al., (2014) Flood risk and climate change: global and regional perspectives. *Hydrol. Sci. J.* 59(1), 1-28.



ISO3	Country	BEN	Benin	DOM	Dominican Republic	HTI	Haiti	MOZ	Mozambique	NGA	Nigeria	RUS	Russian Federation	CHE	Switzerland
ARG	Argentina	BTN	Bhutan	EGY	Egypt	IND	India	MMR	Myanmar	PAK	Pakistan	SRB	Serbia	THA	Thailand
AUT	Austria	BOL	Bolivia	FRA	France	IDN	Indonesia	NPL	Nepal	PHL	Philippines	ESP	Spain	GBR	U.K.
BGD	Bangladesh	BRA	Brazil	DEU	Germany	ITA	Italy	NLD	Netherlands	LKA	Sri Lanka	LKA	Sri Lanka	TZA	United Rep. of Tanzania
BLZ	Belize	KHM	Cambodia	GUY	Guyana	MEX	Mexico	NZL	New Zealand	KOR	Republic of Korea	SDN	Sudan	USA	United States of America
														VNM	Viet Nam

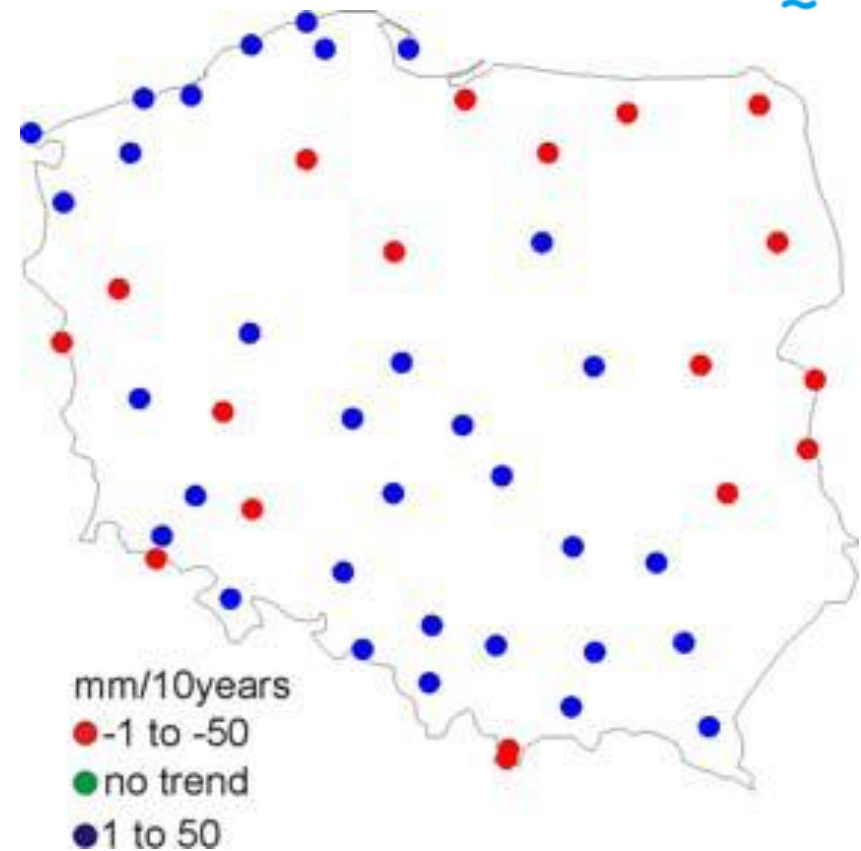
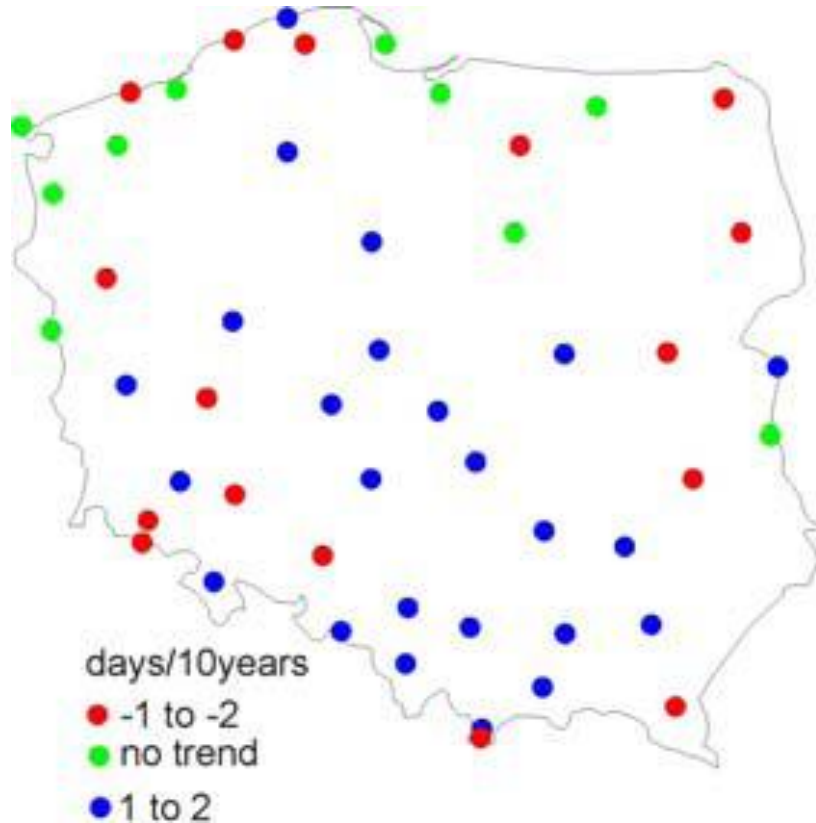


Source: Kundzewicz, Z.; Pińskwar, I; Brakenridge, R. (2013) Large floods in Europe, 1985-2009. HYDROL. SCI. J. 58(3), 736-736.



## 17 Floods in Poland

ZBIGNIEW W. KUNDZEWICZ<sup>1,2</sup>, ANDRZEJ DOBROWOLSKI<sup>3</sup>,  
HALINA LORENC<sup>4</sup>, TADEUSZ NIEDŹWIEDŹ<sup>5</sup>, IWONA PIŃSKWAR<sup>1</sup> &  
PIOTR KOWALCZAK<sup>1</sup>



*Trend in number of days with precipitation in excess of 30 mm, and (b) trend in maximum 5-day precipitation, 1971–2002 (after Lorenc & Olecka, 2006).*

1946-1970

1971-1990



1991-2010

1946-2010

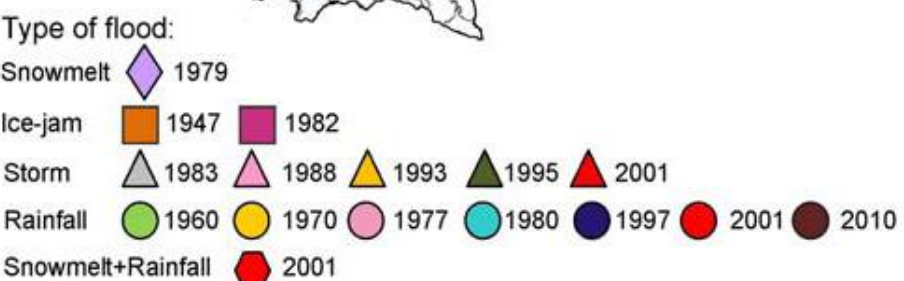
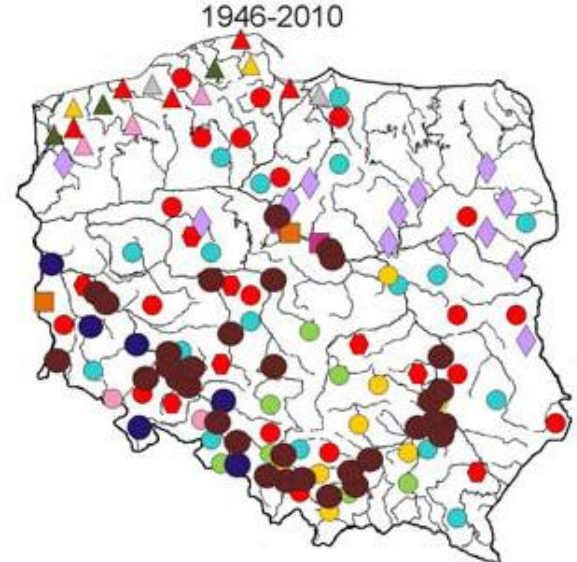
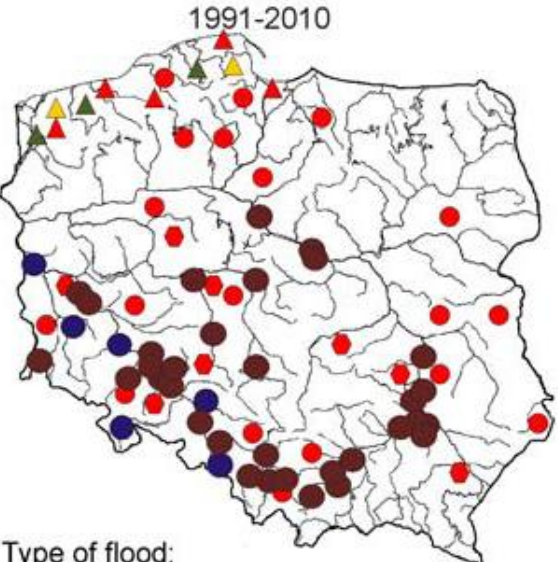
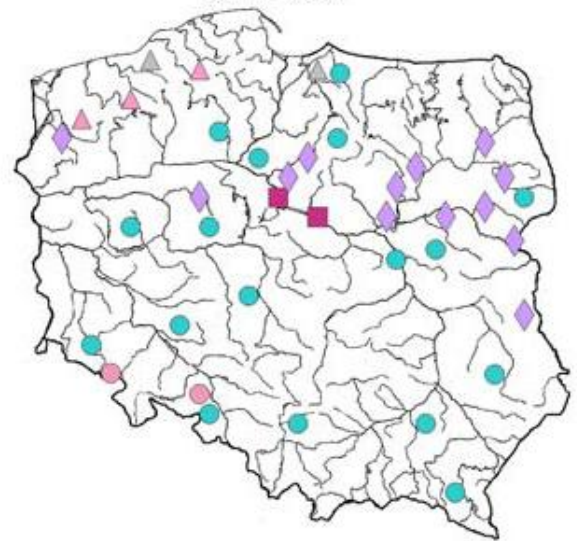
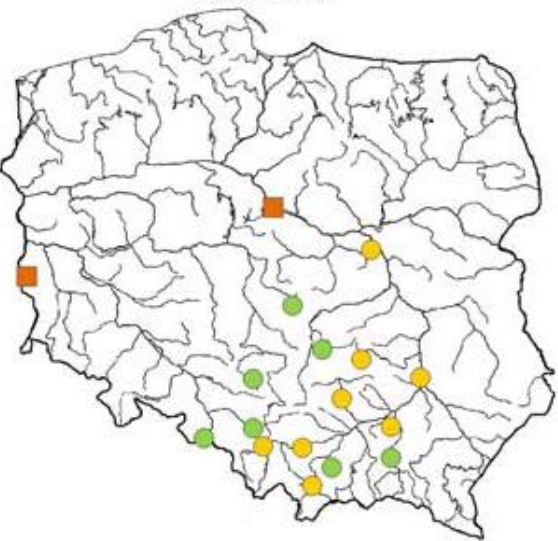
*Catastrophic floods of regional extent in Poland:*

*from 1946 to 1970; from 1971 to 1990; from 1991 to 2010;*

*from 1946 to 2010.*

*Source:*

*Kundzewicz et al. (2012)*



## Central Europe (July 1997)

Czech Republic, Poland, Germany  
 Regions: Hradec Králové, Moravian-Silesian (Cze), Malopolska, Silesia, Opole, Lower Silesia, Lubuskie (Pol), West Pomerania, Brandenburg (Ger). Rivers: Odra/Oder and its tributaries, Vistula and its tributaries



Mechanism: Heavy rain  
 Material damage: 5.9 B US\$ (MR)  
 5.597 B US\$ (EM-DAT)

Infl. adj. damage: 2.758 – 8.340 B US\$

Fatalities: 118 (MR)  
 113 (EM-DAT) 100 (NOAA/NCDC)

The heavy and long-lasting rain in the period 4–10 July caused destructive flooding. precipitation between 5 and 9 July was recorded in Lysa Hora, Czech Republic (585 mm). The highest precipitation amounts were recorded in the Polish drainage basin of the Odra, the highest precipitation amounts were recorded in and Międzygórze (455 mm). Then, a few days later, from 15 to 23 July, another series occurred. The highest precipitation from 17 to 22 July was recorded in the drainage basins of Bystrzyca and Kaczawa (tributaries to the Odra; up to 120–300 mm) and of the river to 150–200 mm), while in the Klodzko valley the precipitation totals reached 100–200 mm). The spell in July 1997 took place basically in the drainage basin of the River Vistula (Ku

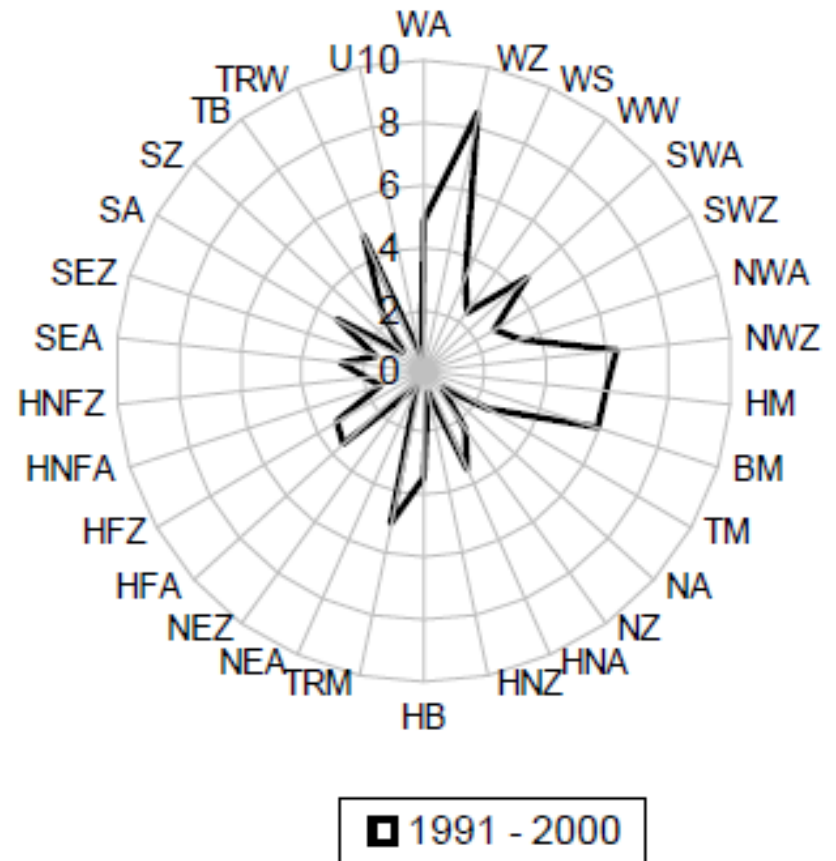
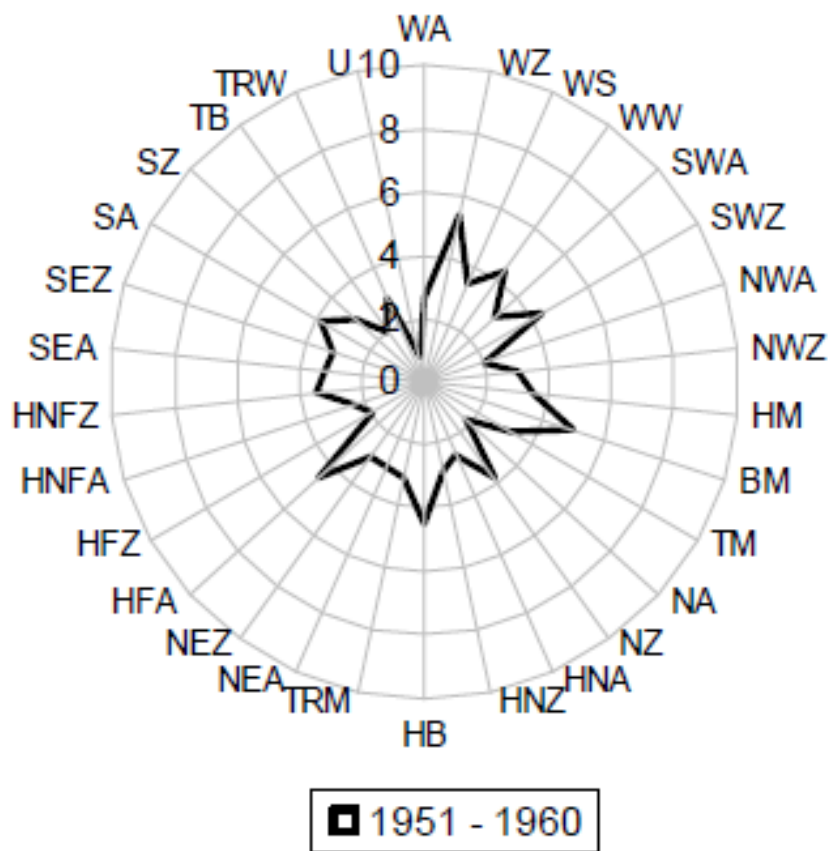


Source	Country	River	Station	Date	Max. disch. (m <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
IAHS	Poland	Skawa	Wadowice	08.07.1997	725
		Nysa Klodzka	Skorogoszcz	10.07.1997	1200
		Odra	Gozdowice	31.07.1997	3180
	Germany	Odra	Hohensaaten Finow	31.07.1997	3000



In summer 1997, the flood was the theme of cover stories of many issues of weekly magazines in Poland.

Mean duration (in days) of circulation patterns for the winter season of the decades 1951–1960 (left) and 1991–2000 (right). (Hattermann et al., 2012; based on Merz)

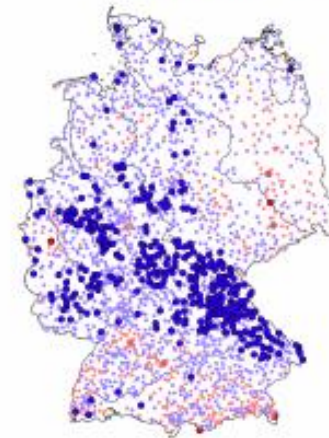
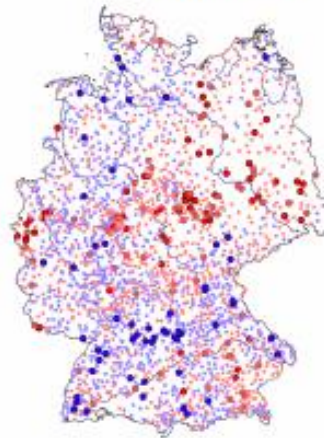
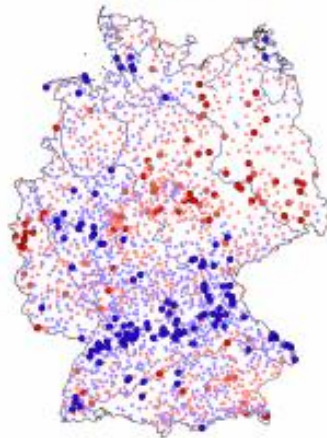


(a) 24-h

Annual

Warm season

Cold season

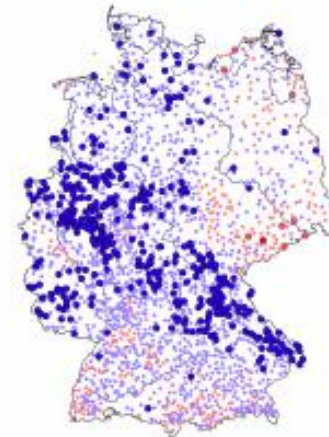
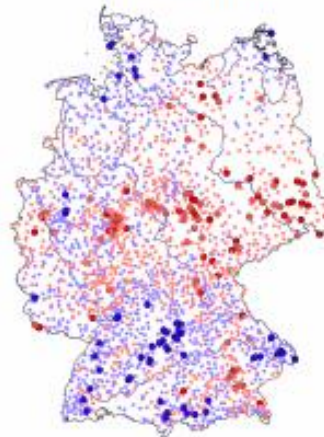
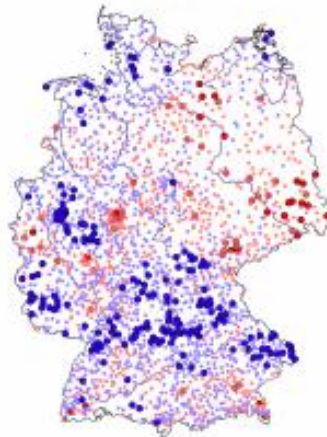


(b) 5-d

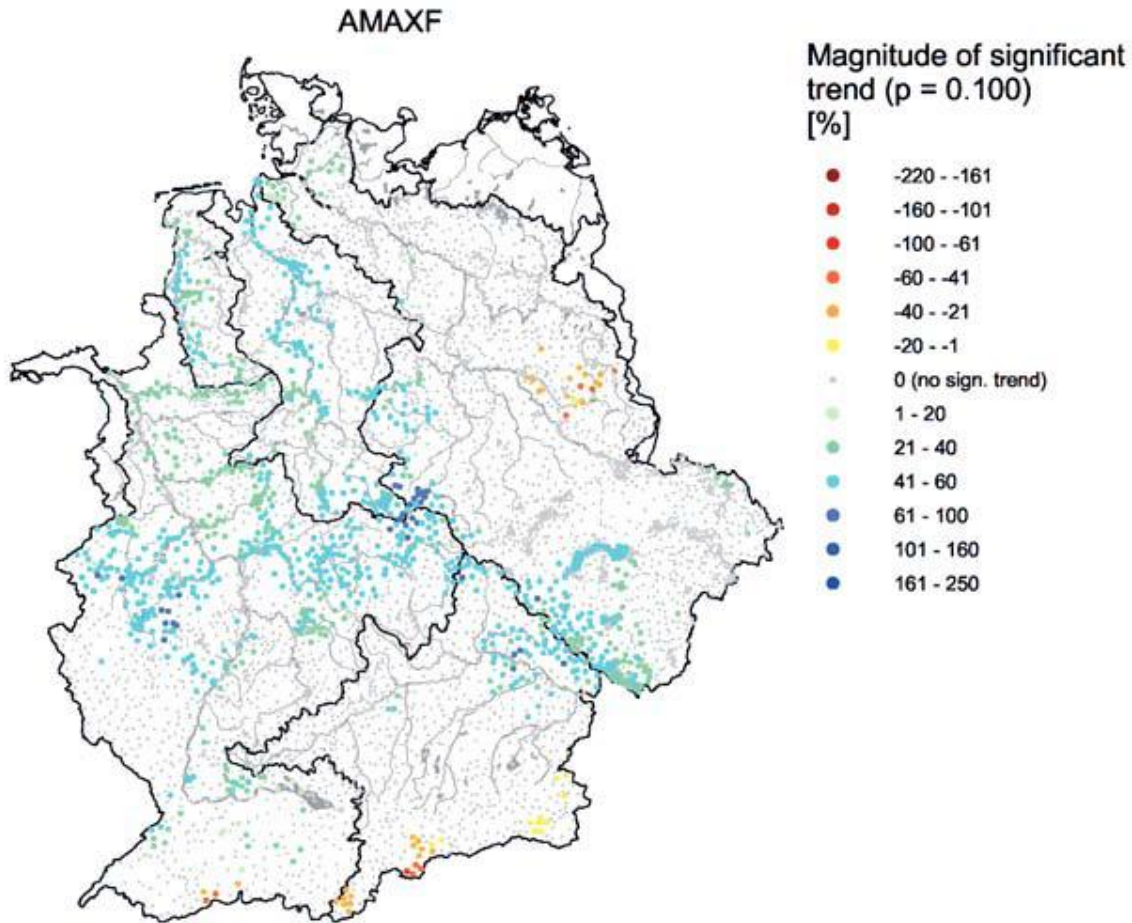
Annual

Warm season

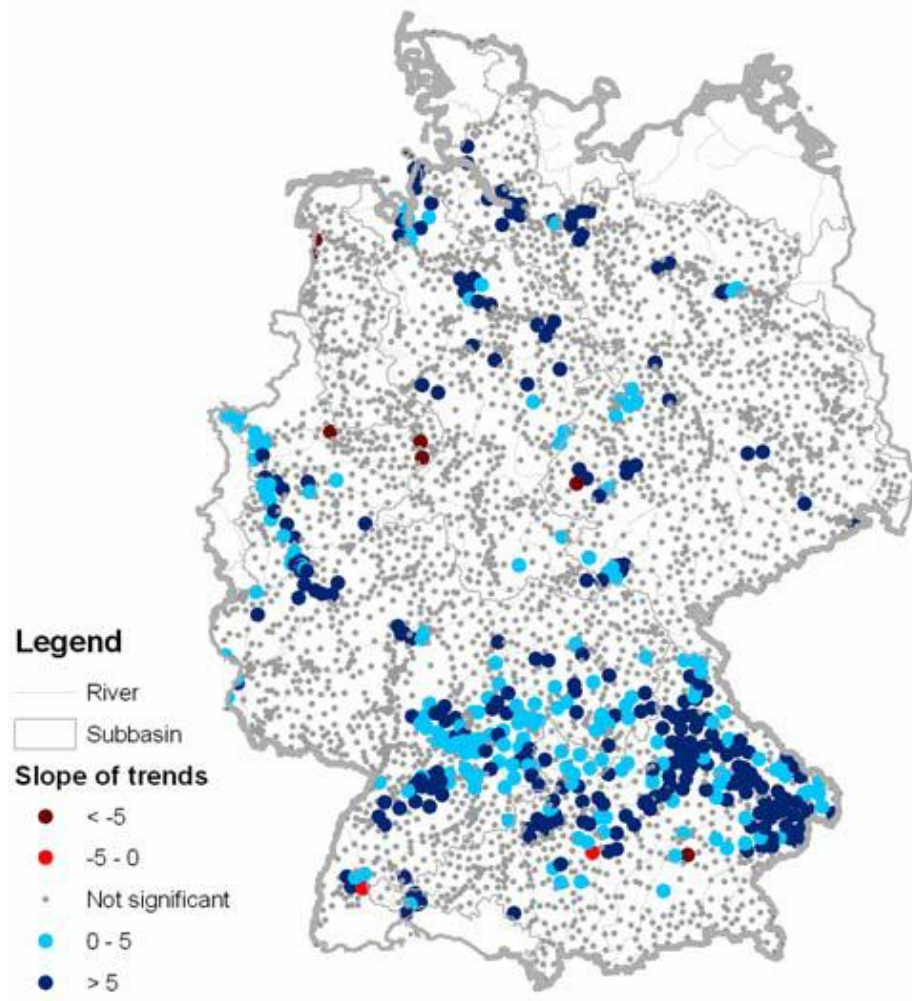
Cold season



*Trends in (a) 24-hour maximum and (b) 5-day maximum precipitation.  
(Hattermann et al., 2012)*



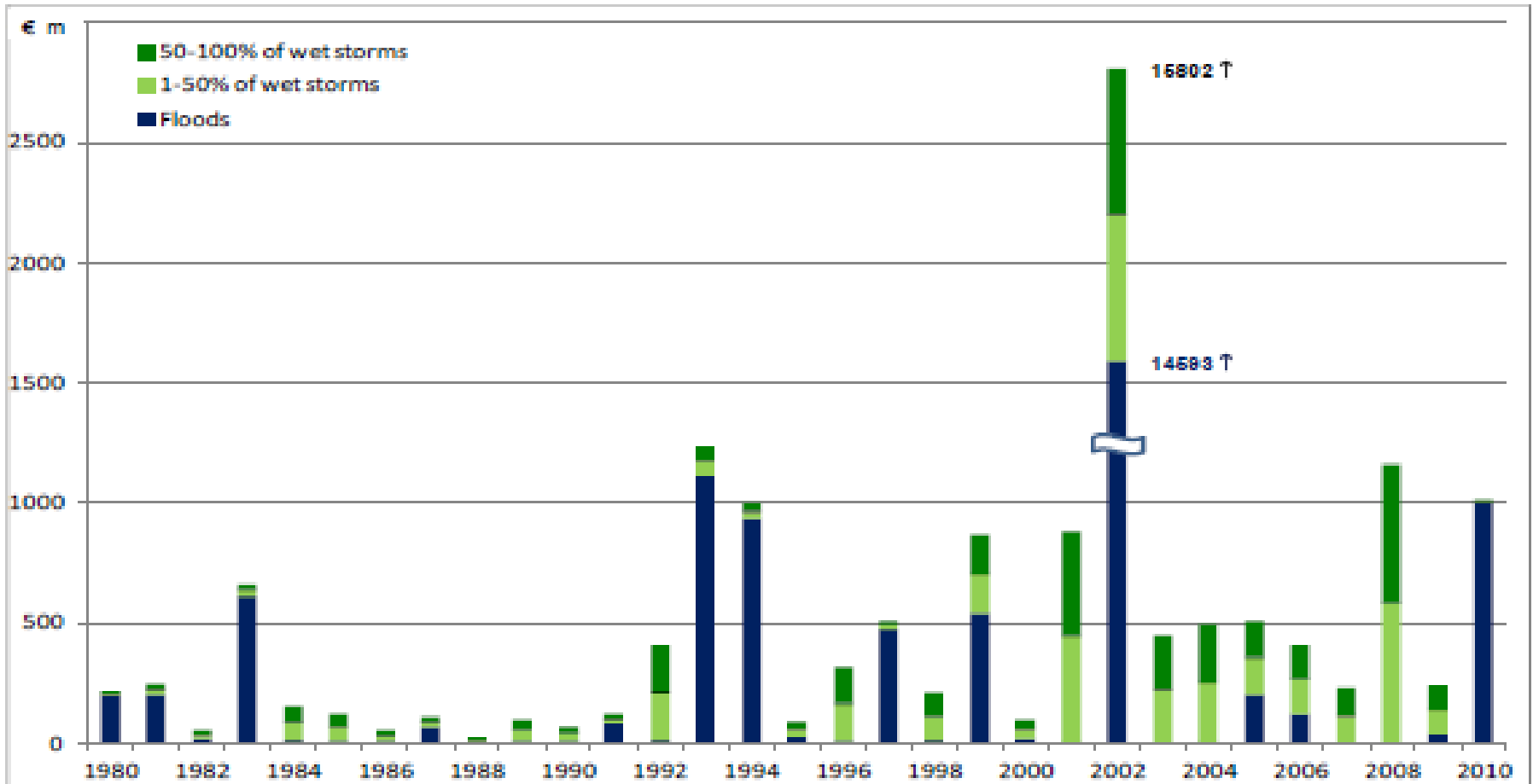
*Trends in annual maxima of river discharges in the five big German river basins, including their upstream parts in neighbouring countries in the period 1951–2003, estimated with the help of the SWIM model (based on Huang et al., 2010).*



*Trend slope of the material damages over Germany, adjusted for inflation, in the period 1951–2003 (Hattermann et al., 2012).*







*Losses from floods and wet storms for 1980–2010 in Germany (in 2010 values). It is assumed, for simplicity, that water component is responsible for half of in damage caused by wet storms (the other half being wind, hail, etc.) – Note: the height of the bar for 2002 is not consistent with the axis (Source: Kron et al., 2012).*

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Kundzewicz, Z. W. (2013) Floods: lessons about early warning systems. In: European Environment Agency (EEA) Late lessons from early warnings: science, precaution, innovation. Vol. II. Part B Emerging lessons from ecosystems. Ch. 15, 347-368, EEA Report, Copenhagen, No. 1/2013.

Two interpretations of the notion of early warning:

1) Notion referring to a **short-term** flood preparedness system - 'flood warning' is specific timely information, based on a reliable forecast, that a **high water level is expected to occur at a particular location at a particular time**.

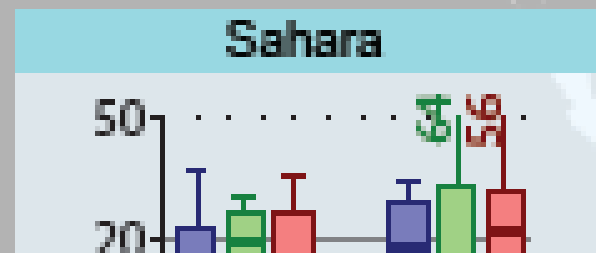
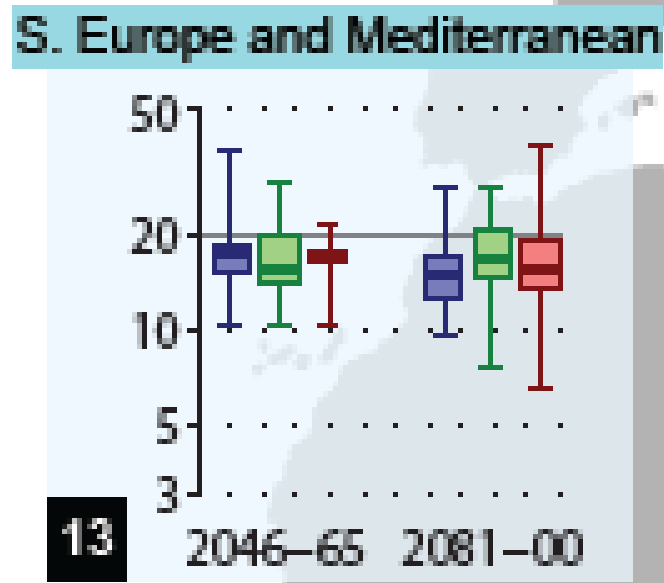
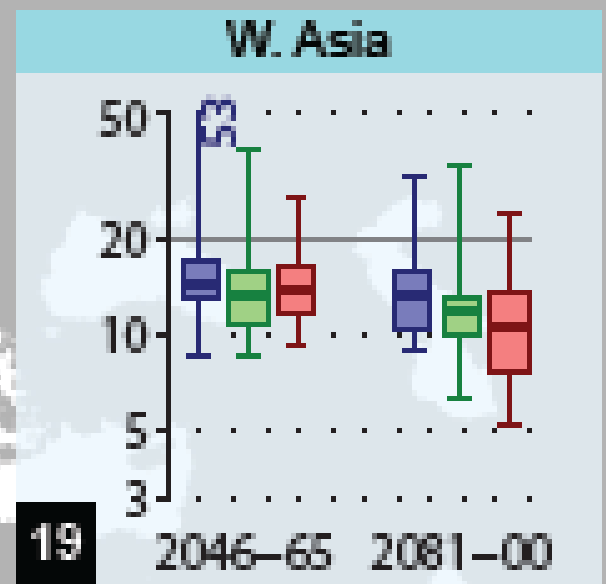
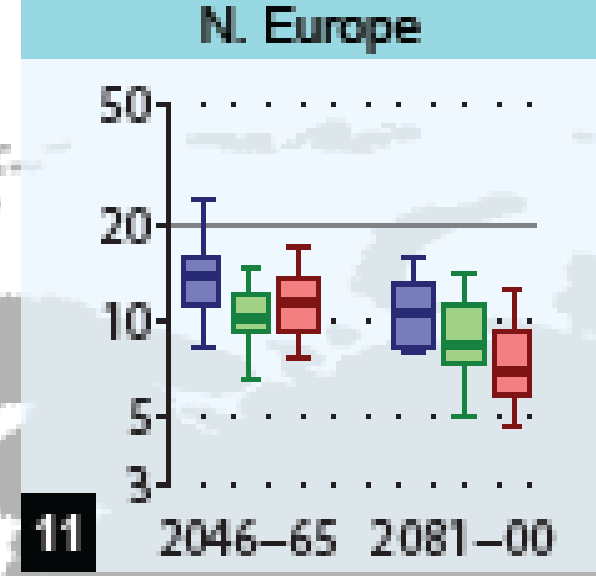
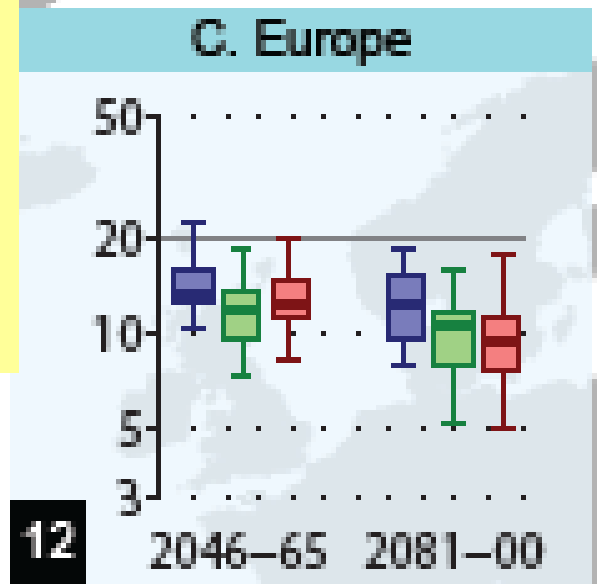
2) Notion referring to a **long-term** flood preparedness system - 'early warning' is a **'prediction' of change in flood frequency**, e.g. statement that the present (i.e. corresponding to some reference period, such as the climate standard normal, 1961-1990) 100-year flood (river flow exceeded once in 100 years; on average) may occur more frequently, e.g. becoming a 50-year flood in some defined future time horizon.

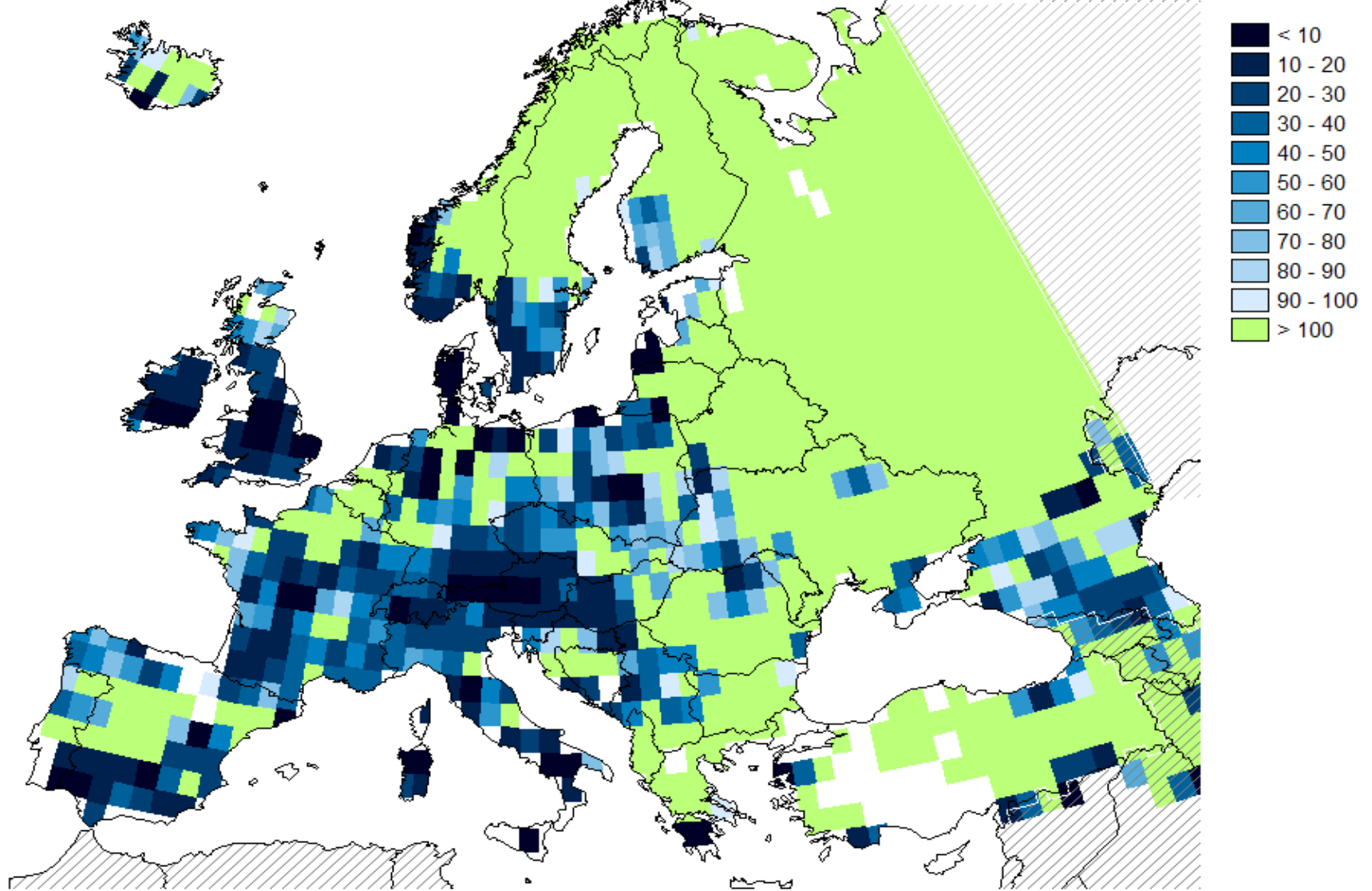


# Projections of intense precipitation

Source:  
**IPCC SREX**

-00





**Projections of changes in 100-year flood.** Kundzewicz, Z. W., Luger, N., Dankers, R., Hirabayashi, Y., Döll, P., Pińskwar, I., Dysarz, T., Hochrainer, S., Matczak, P. (2010) Assessing river flood risk and adaptation in Europe—review of projections for the future. *Mitig. Adapt. Strategies for Global Change* 15(7), 641 – 656.

Feyen et al. (2009)

Assumption: Future flood protection level depends on the country's GDP (protection up to **100-year, 75-year, and 50-year flood** for countries with **GDP above 110%**; in the range from **55% to 110%**; and below **55% of the average EU 27 GDP level**, respectively).



Present **expected annual damage of 6.5 billion Euro** may rise to **18 billion Euro** in 2071–2100 under SRES A2 scenario

In five countries the expected annual damage in the future horizon was projected to exceed **1 billion Euro**, with highest value being **4 billion Euro**. Among 27 countries of the EU in 25 there were non-zero flood damages in the control period. Out of these 25 countries, **increase (up to 80%) is projected in 20** and **decrease (even by 85%) is projected in five countries**.

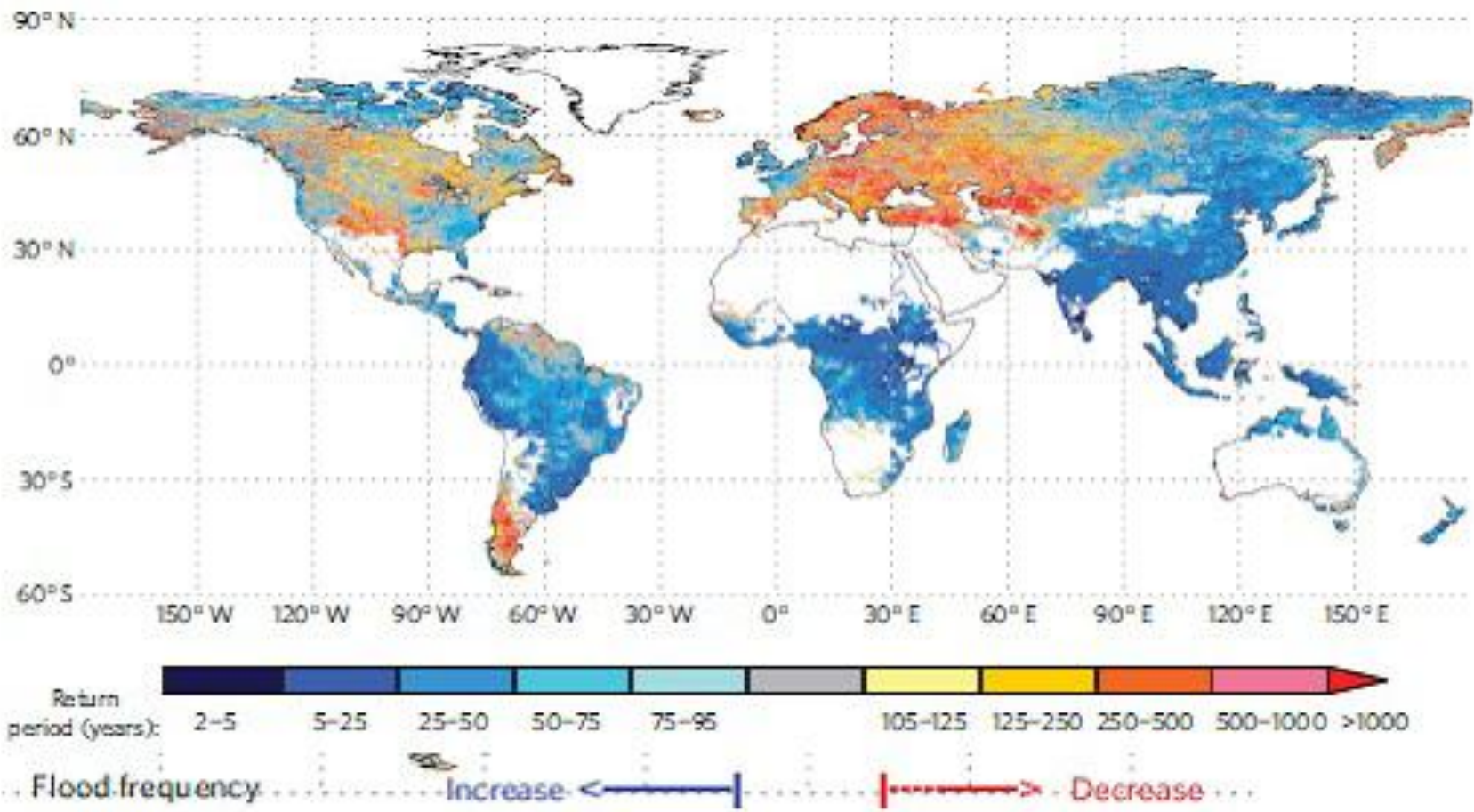


# European Union Floods Directive



„Firstly, the **scale and frequency of floods** are **likely to increase in the future** as a result of **climate change, inappropriate river management and construction in flood risk areas.**

Second, there has been a marked **increase in vulnerability** due to the **number of people and economic assets located in flood risk zones.**”



Changes in frequency of 100-year river discharge  
(Hirabayashi et al., 2013)



**Better accommodation of extremes of present climate variability augurs better for the future climate, subject to change.**

Since uncertainty in projections for the future is large, precautionary attitude should be taken when planning adaptation.



Despite the uncertainty, water managers in a few countries have begun to consider the implications of climate change explicitly in flood management.

In the **UK** and in some German federal states (e.g. **Bavaria**) design flood magnitudes have been increased by **20%** and **15%**, respectively, to reflect the possible effects of climate change.

Measures to cope with the increase of the design discharge for the Rhine in the Netherlands from **15 000 to 16 000 m<sup>3</sup>/s** must be implemented by **2015** and it is planned to increase the design discharge to **18 000 m<sup>3</sup>/s** in the longer term due to climate change.



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Flood protection and management strategies modify either flood waters, or susceptibility to flood damage and impact of flooding.



## Protect

[Absolute protection does not exist]

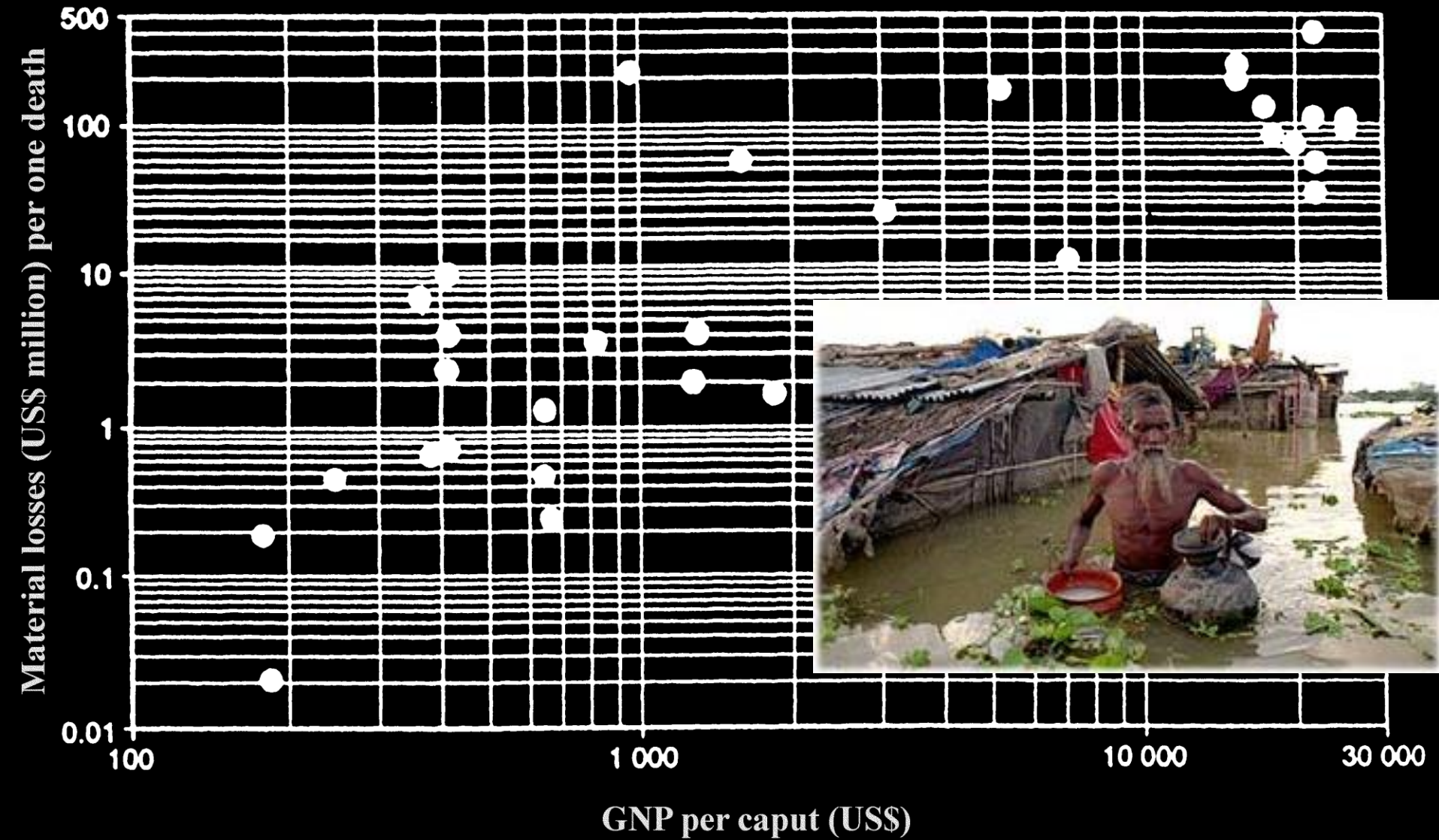
## Accommodate

[Living with floods, learning from them]

## Retreat

[The state/province purchases land and property in flood-prone areas]





Flood protection depends depends on wealth Kundzewicz, Z. W. & Takeuchi, K. (1999) *Flood protection and management: quo vadimus?* *Hydrol. Sci. J.* **44**(3) 417-432.

## I. Keeping water away from people

- Flood defence
- Flood flow improvement and retention

## II. Keeping people and wealth away from water

- Flood risk prevention

## III. Being prepared to a flood occurrence

- Flood risk mitigation
- Flood preparation
- Flood recovery



Strategies do not have to be inclusive. Usually they come together: If DEFENCE is a sole strategy, this means ignorance of the residual risk. Diversification of Flood Risk Management Strategies: multiple strategies are applied simultaneously and linked together. **Multi-layer strategy.**

Be prepared for coincidence of abundant water and damage potential in the same place and time.

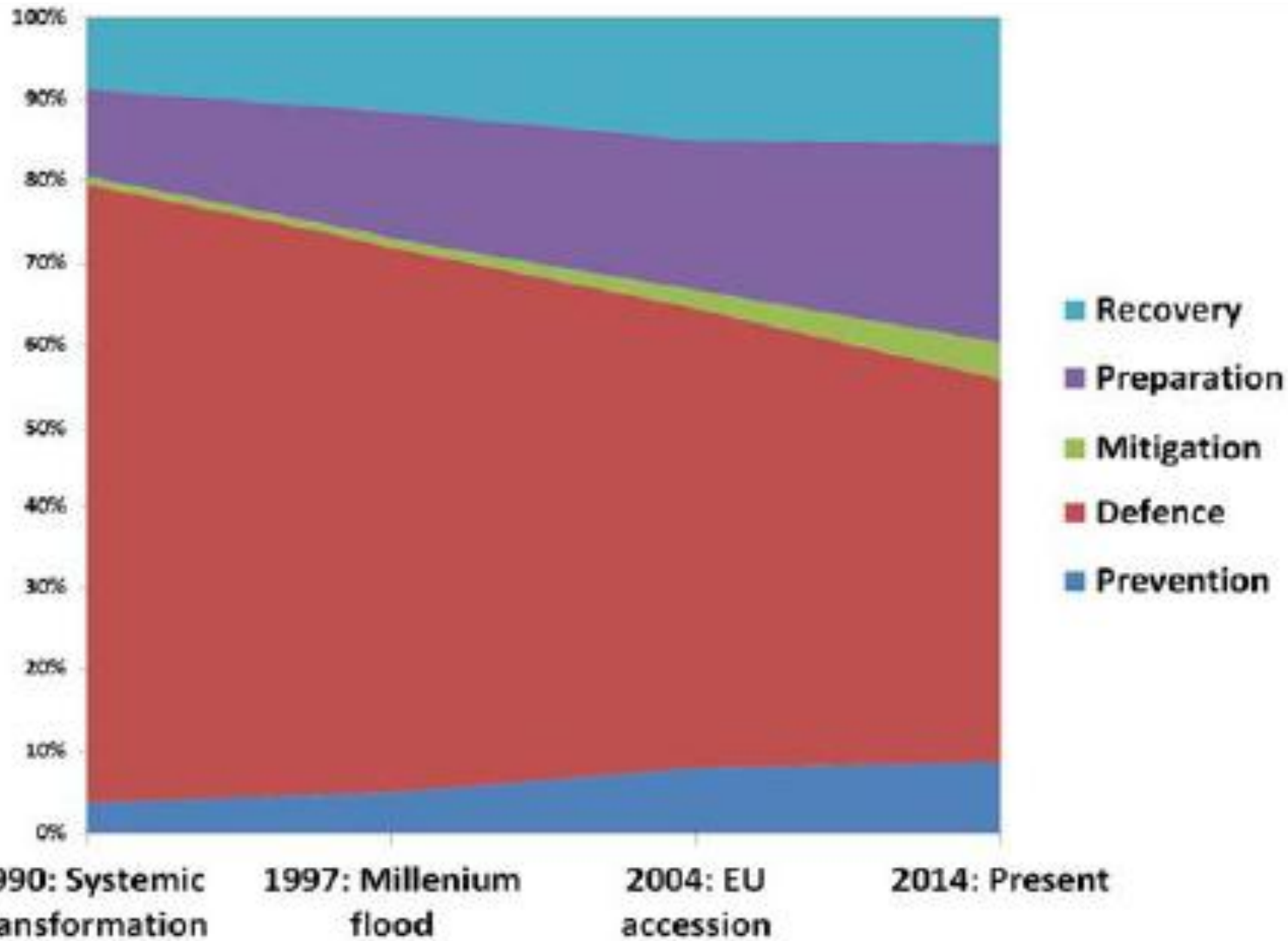
Instead of limiting consideration to a **fail-safe** system that never fails, we should strive to build a **safe-fail** system that fails in a safe way and recovers after failure.

This is the essence of the notion of resilience.



# Flood risk management strategies in Poland – experts' assessment

Source: Polish report for STAR-FLOOD





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**Table 2** Operationalization of the Flood Risks Governance Arrangements concept (based a.o upon Wiering and Arts 2006). The italic sub-dimensions have been added to the original framework

Actors	Discourses	Rules	Power & Resources
Public actors	Relevant scientific paradigms and uncertainties	Legislation (including jurisprudence/case law)	Legal authority, including the right to regulate property (regulation, compensation and expropriation)
Private actors	Policy programmes, policy objectives and policy concepts	Constitutional, procedural and substantive norms	Financial power
Coalitions and oppositions	Historical metaphors/ narratives	Legal instruments	Knowledge
	Policy and legal values and principles	Legal traditions Informal rules	Interaction skills

**Resilience and appropriateness**  
(legitimacy, effectiveness, efficiency)

## Marleen Van Rijswick:

The governance arrangements differ in:

- the division of responsibilities among the actors involved (collective/public vs individual/private),
- how priorities are set,
- how Flood Risk Management Strategies are integrated with other societal ambitions,
- the standards of protection that are in place,
- financing structures,
- the distribution of costs and benefits,
- how risks are communicated.



# Actors in Poland

Source: Polish report for STAR-FLOOD WP3



Risk Prevention	Flood Defence	Flood Mitigation	Flood Preparation	Flood Recovery
National Water Management Board (KZGW)	Provincial Authorities of Drainage, Irrigation and Infrastructure (WZMiUWs)	State Forest Holding (PGLP)	Fire brigades (KG PSP)	
Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (IMGW)				
Regional Water Management Boards (RZGWs)				
	Water companies			
NGO's within river basins				
Consultative and scientific bodies				
			Government Centre for Security	
			Crisis management departments	
	National Environmental Protection and Water Management Fund			
	Insurance companies			
	Municipalities			
	Office of Inland Waterways			



Table 4: Expected link between Flood Risk Strategies (FRSs) and Flood Risk Governance Arrangements

Basic direction	Prevention		Response		
FRSs	1.Risk Prevention	2.Flood defence	3.Flood mitigation	4.Flood preparation	5.Flood recovery
Typical measures	Proactive spatial planning /allocation politics/ location of building areas	Dikes, dams, embankment, sand banks	Urban green infrastructure, flood retention, urban design taking into account flood risks	Warning systems, plans for disaster management/ evacuation	Rebuilding areas, insurance systems
Flood Risk Governance Arrangements (FRGAs)					
Dominant actors and coalitions	Spatial planning authorities	Public authorities, water managers	Authorities, private parties, NGOs, citizens	Public authorities and citizens	Citizens, NGOs, public authorities or private (insurance) companies
Dominant Discourses	"Precautionary principle"	"Technology may protect you"	"Risk Integration (culture of risk) will minimize flood impacts"	"Early warning will prevent calamities and loss of life"	"Public or private solidarity will ease the burden"
Rules of the game	Public hierarchical steering	Public hierarchical steering	Public and private forms of governance are possible	Public and private forms of governance are possible	Public and private forms of governance are possible
Division of resources	Legal power of public authorities	Legal, cognitive and financial resources of public authorities	Legal, cognitive and financial resources can be concentrated or diffuse	Centralization of control and resources	Legal, cognitive and financial resources can be concentrated or diffuse



4 czerwca 2010 r., Świnoujście. Żołnierze i strażacy budują tzw. opaskę w mieście, gdzie Wisła przetrwała wał. Opaska ma położyć w zasypaniu wyrywy w wałach oraz chronić pobliskie miejscowości przed ponownym zalaniem

Wzmocnić  
zabezpieczenia,  
dostosować się  
do „życia  
z powodzią”  
lub na trwałe opuścić  
tereny zagrożone  
– oto sposoby  
na nękające  
nas powodzie

# Po powodzi, przed powodzią

PROF. ZBIGNIEW W. KUŃDZEWICZ\*

**D**awno opadły wielkie wody polskich rzek. Tamtędy przelotnie, intensywnie, ale nie

kluczowe. Wprawdzie ryzyko powodzi rzekopowych zmniejsza się wraz z opadkami, grubość osi pokrywy śnieżnej, jednak różni czynniki nie spowodowane deszczem i topniejącą śniegami mogą wywołać

towne waz branie w górnach spowodowane ulewą, bo strumień wzbiera bardzo szybko. Zupełnie inna jest skala czasowa ruchu wielkich mas wodnych w dolinach. Wówczas niebezpieczeństwo

trama procesów losowych mogą wystąpić częściej lub rzadziej, a jeśli już zdarzy się powódź, prawdopodobieństwo szybkiego nawrotu znacznie rośnie. Nękanie i odciążenie dolin spowoduje

rzeczne odpowiadające określonej intensywności opadów. Wraz z ociepleniem intensywne opady stają się częstsze i silniejsze, więc wysokie stawy rzek powiększają objętość wody w dolinach, co może

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**Thank you**