Flood risk in urban areas - data analysis, communication and mitigation

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Increase in heavy rainfall and infrastructure failure
Flood prevention as an impulse for a water sensitive urban development

- Enlargement and remediation of sewage systems and the construction of underground storm water retention basins alone cannot solve the problem efficiently.

- The overall goal is to establish integrated planning processes between urban and drainage planners in order to develop adaptive, flexible and cost-effective measures for the retention of rainwater on the surface.

Picture credit: ILPÖ, based on „DE Urbanisten“
A 5-step methodology to use findings from urban flood prevention to support development and planning processes in urban areas

**work step 1**

Definition of the spatial frame of referenz and way of understanding water system in an urban context

drainage basin

municipal administrativ boundaries of Wuppertal

picture credit: ILPÖ
A 5-step methodology to use findings from urban flood prevention to support development and planning processes in urban areas

**work step 1**
Definition of the spatial frame of referenz and way of understanding water system in an urban context

**work step 2**
Risk analysis – urban flooding

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(Figure showing a map with water level and risk analysis)
A 5-step methodology to use findings from urban flood prevention to support development and planning processes in urban areas

**work step 1**
Definition of the spatial frame of referenz and way of understanding water system in an urban context

**work step 2**
Risk analysis – urban flooding

**work step 3**
Development of a water-related urban planning model

- overall urban development plans
- development scenarios for the project area
- flow paths (step 2)

- areas to retain rainwater
- areas to shift floodings
- interlink and upgrade green spaces for a multi-used purpose
A 5-step methodology to use findings from urban flood prevention to support development and planning processes in urban areas

work step 4

Risk analysis

Water-related urban planning model

Identification of focus areas by revealing any possible links between the necessity for flood prevention and strategic urban development projects and measures

superposition of risks and urban planning concepts

focus areas with high synergy effects to implement specific measures

picture credit: ILPÖ
A 5 step methodology to use findings from urban flood prevention to support development and planning processes in urban areas

work step 4
Risk analysis

Water-related urban planning model

Establishment and prioritization of focus areas

work step 5
Development of integrated action and design-related concepts

focus area 5: near-natural retention of rainwater by using existing topological structures

displacement of the water by throttling the drainage

picture credit: ILPÖ, TU Berlin
Development of an information system to support urban flood prevention

The main goals of the information system:

• central management of data, ensuring that data are up-to-date,
• the user-specific provision of data
• access to data independently of the user’s workspace and software
Risk management for transformer stations

Site visits together with the employees of the energy supplier to determine the flood risk for transformer stations
Information on flood risk for property owners

…to sensitize people generally to the topic of heavy rainfall

…to increase their self-precaution (protection measures for their buildings, backflow traps)

Steps of information

1) Overview map for sensitizing the public

2) Detailed information on flood risks for own property on request

3) Personal on-site consultation on the part of the local drainage company
Thank you for your attention!
Kiitos mielenkiinnosta!

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