



# Flood Awareness and Prevention Policy in border areas

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INBO 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, 7 June 2007

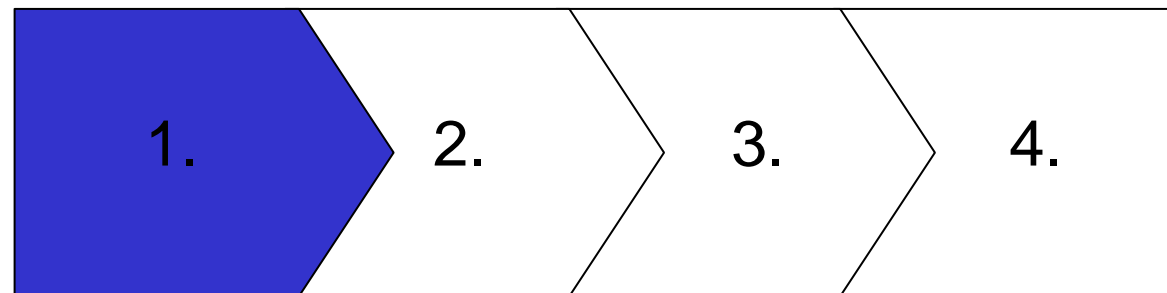




# Agenda

1. What is FLAPP?
2. Thematic observations
3. Results and impact
4. Next steps

# 1. WHAT IS FLAPP?



# Background



- Many transboundary river basins exist in Europe
- Various EU projects deal with floods
- Great potential to exchange local / regional experiences
- Start of exchange network by Euregio Meuse-Rhine



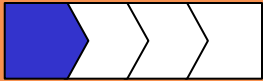


- FLAPP Border Region
- Partner Organisation

# Partners



# Aim of the network



## Products

1. Good practice book with examples
2. Joint approach with best practice elements
3. Recommendations

## Preferred outcome

1. More effective European regional flood policies
2. Increased cross border cooperation in European regions
3. Strengthened exchange of practices between European regions

# Focus on borders



- River basin approach = starting point
- Water naturally crosses borders
- Barriers: political, technical, legal, economical, organizational, social, cultural etc.





# Thematic components

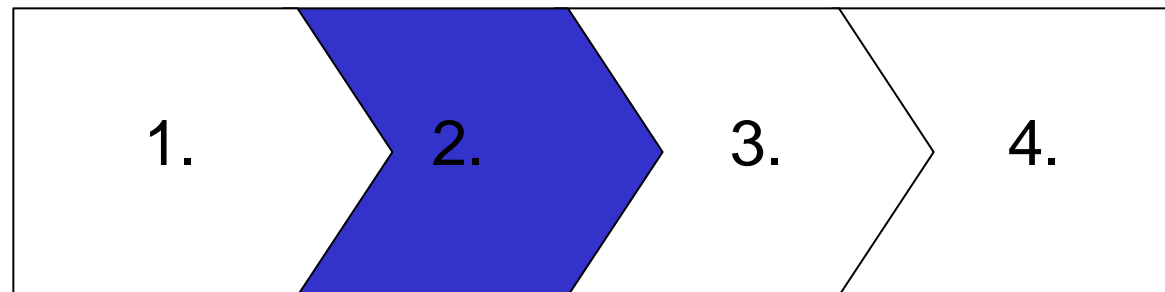


Working groups:

- Flood awareness
- Flood prevention
- Ecologically sustainable flood management
- Flood forecasting and calamity management



## 2. THEMATIC OBSERVATIONS



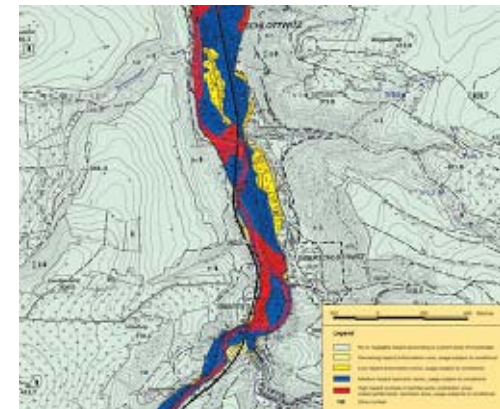
# Water information management

- How to raise public awareness across borders?
- Good practice example in N-Ireland:
  - Primary school children
  - Field research with palm tops
  - Discussions across borders



# Flood prevention

- How to create cross border flood maps?
- Expert workshop on flood mapping in Berlin:
  - Involve local and regional stakeholders
  - Give extra attention to terminology
  - Provide free access to data across the border
  - Harmonize relevant input data and parameters



# Ecological sustainable flood management

- How can nature development and flood risk management go hand in hand?
- Research report:
  - Role of wetlands for sustainable flood management in cross-border areas
  - Values of and threats to cross border rivers and wetlands in Europe

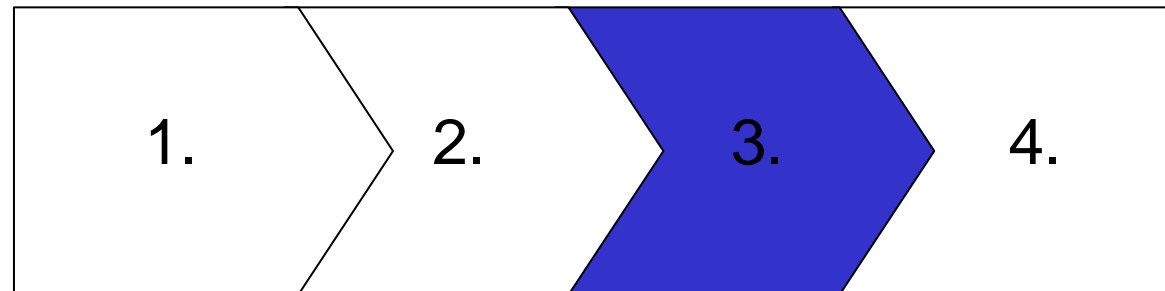




# Flood forecasting and calamity management

- How to exchange data between experts across borders?
- Inventory of existing flood information systems:
  - uninterrupted data flow between countries in trans-boundary catchment areas is vital
  - systems currently in use in Europe show a wide diversity
  - full integration of systems of bordering countries does not seem feasible
  - compatibility of systems is a realistic option

## 3. RESULTS AND IMPACT





# FLAPP 'message'

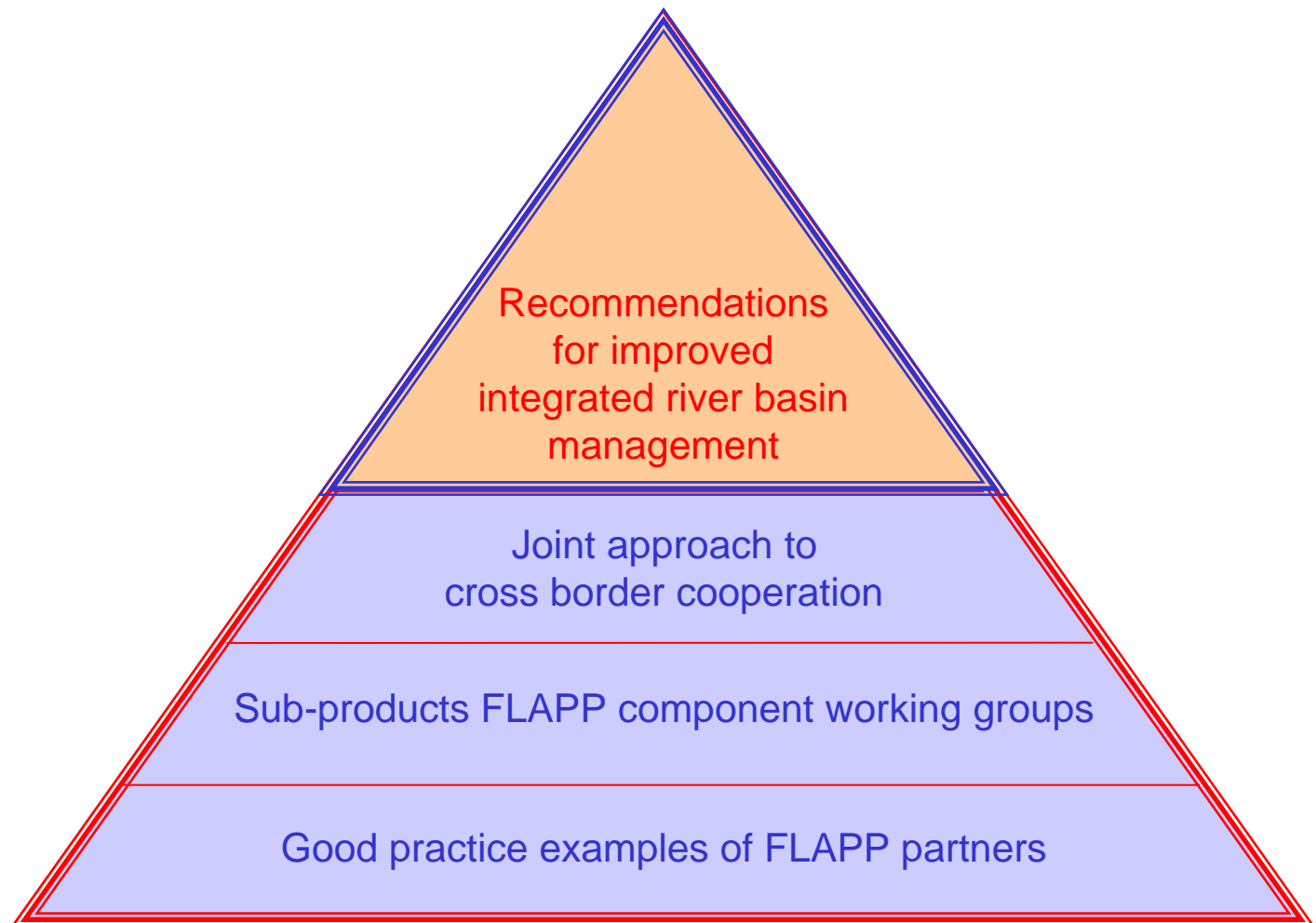
- Integrated river basin management is generally accepted as leading policy principle in Europe
- However, implementation in practice can be improved, especially across borders
- FLAPP shows the potential opportunities of better cross border cooperation and regional 'dealing' in river basins based on practical examples
- FLAPP also made recommendations for different levels of government on how to improve integrated river basin management

# FLAPP 'message'

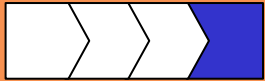
- Integrated river basin management is generally accepted as leading principle in Europe  
**THEORETICAL AGREEMENT**
- However, implementation in practice can be improved, especially across borders  
**CHALLENGES IN DAILY PRACTICE**
- FLAPP shows the potential opportunities of better cross border cooperation and regional 'dealing' in river basins based on practical examples  
**POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**
- FLAPP also makes recommendations for different levels of implementation on how to improve integrated river basin management  
**PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS**



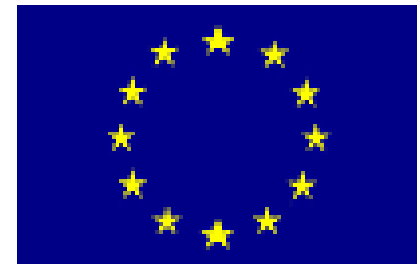
# Final products



# Letters to EU parliament



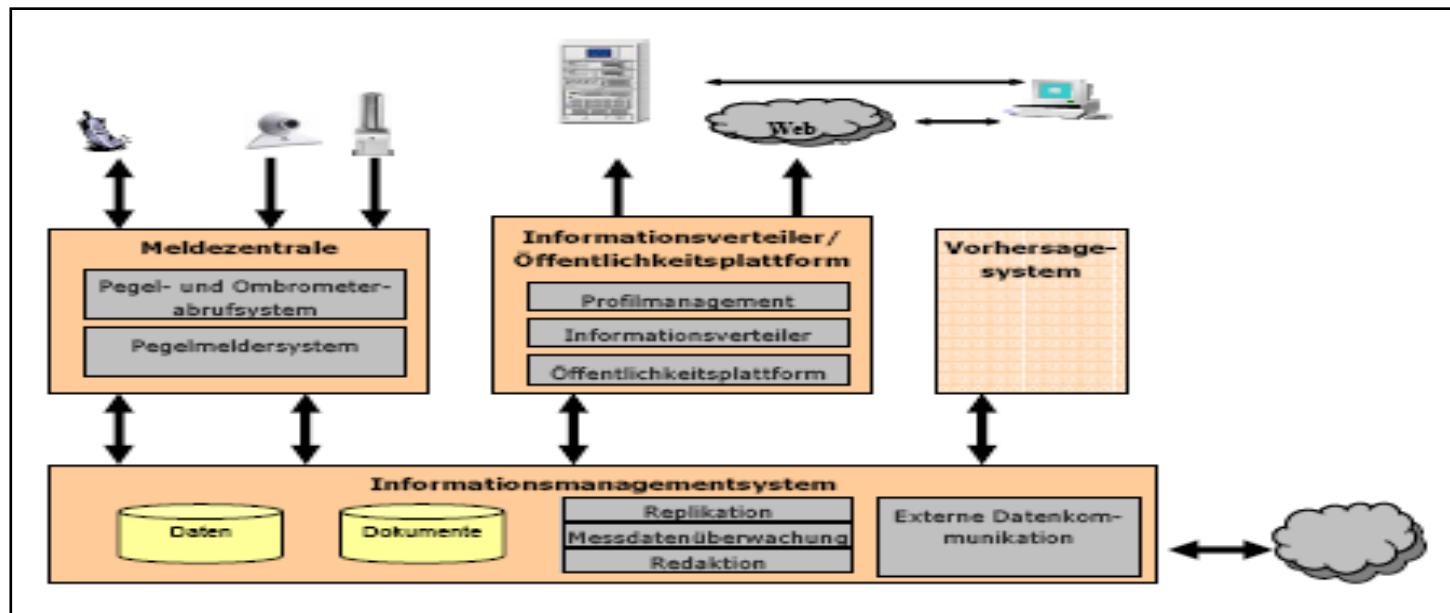
- Amendment on flood directive in letter to 'rapporteur' EU parliament:
  - More attention needed for cross border cooperation in transboundary catchments
  - Stimulate measures which create positive 'upstream-downstream' effects



# Inspiring each other...



# Inspiring each other...



**Initiative for Tisza River Basin Flood Information Centre analogous to Saxony Flood Centre**

# Inspiring each other...



The image shows the cover of a guide titled 'flooding.ie'. The cover has a dark red background with a white diagonal section in the top left corner. In the top left corner, there is the OPW logo (Office of Public Works) with the text 'OPW The Office of Public Works' and 'Only an authorised Public'. Below the logo, the text 'Irish guidelines for citizens will be translated into Greek and used in Evros delta' is written in yellow. In the bottom left corner, the website 'www.flooding.ie' is printed. On the right side, the word 'flooding' is written in a light grey font, followed by the slogan 'Plan, prepare, protect' where 'protect' is in red. Below the slogan is an illustration of a white and orange striped traffic barrier with a yellow diamond-shaped sign that says 'FLOODED' and a red flashing light on top. In the bottom right corner, there is another OPW logo with the text 'OPW The Office of Public Works' and 'Only an authorised Public'.

**Irish guidelines for citizens  
will be translated into Greek  
and used in Evros delta**

www.flooding.ie

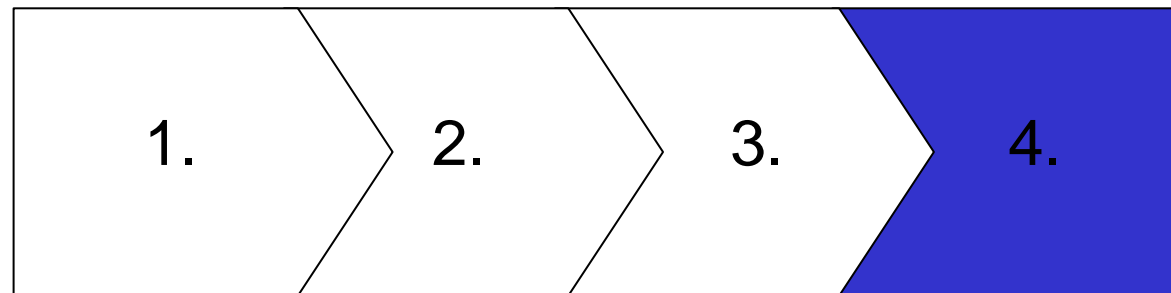
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# Inspiring each other...

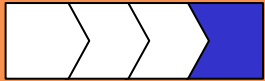


## 4. NEXT STEPS





# Final conference 14-15 June '07



- Presentation FLAPP results
- Reactions by politicians and decision makers
- European project market
- Developing future projects to continue exchange

