



### PHARE 2005 / 017 - 690.01.01

**Project:** « Contributions to the development of the Flood Risk Management Strategy in Romania »

EuropeAid/123064/D/SER/RO

Euro RIOB 2008: « Floods Directive »

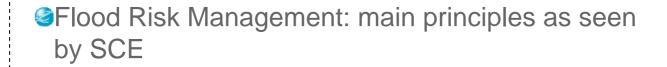
2 October 2008











First step in implementing the European Floods Directive in Romania: the preliminary analysis













Floods occured on an extended scale in Romania in 2005, affecting more than 1,5 million people, 43 000 houses, 590 social facilities and buildings, 4 682 brigdges and 10 334 km of roads. Imeediately after the three big flood events whisch had desastrous consequences in Romania, the Government decided the elaboration of a national short-term flood risk management strategy.

#### The object of the project is to elaborate a medium- and long-term strategy

<u>Contracting authority</u>: Ministry of Economy and Finance of Romania

Implementing Authority and Beneficiary: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Devlopment of Romania, National Administration « Apele Romane »





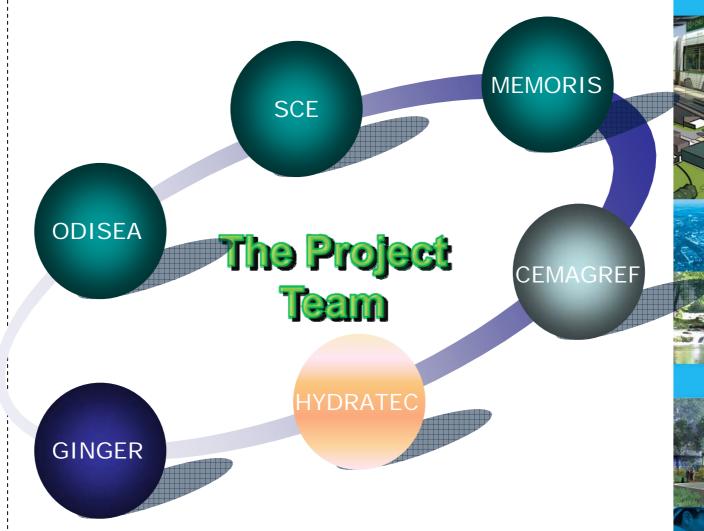






DISEA

# $\odot$ SCE The Consortium



















Social

acceptability of

Information and

education on flood risk





- A new framework: the Floods European Directive, based on best practices in Europe regarding flood mitigation
- **A new context**: the human, environmental, social and economical consequences of floods in Europe are more and more heavy and have reached unacceptable levels
- **A new concept**: mitigate flood risk means both reduce inundation on vulnerable zones and reduce vulnerability of all assets in flood prone areas
- A new approach: any flood risk mitigation project should be carried out through a cost / benefit analysis after analysing different kinds of solutions, based on structural and non-structural measures
- **A new organization**: non-structural measures need involvement of all stakeholders and of the population, to reduce all potential harmful consequences of floods















#### Six main specific project outputs will be brought out:

- An adapted methodology for flood and flood risk maps drawing up
- An adapted methodology for flood-induced direct damage assessment
- An adapted methodology for the determination of social flood risk acceptability
- An adapted Unitary System for public information and education concerning flood risk, aiming to make all concerned populations to learn how to live with flood risk
- An Action Plan for the implementation of the flood management strategy, including public awareness campaign aspects
- Dissemination actions including the preparation of documents, a press conference and a workshop concerning the results of the project













#### II - Flood Risk Management Strategy as seen by SCE

### **International context and feedback:**

Globally speaking, the main ideas developed today over the world regarding flood risk are as follows:

- Flood risk reduction must be a general concern and priority
- The old traditional approach based on flood control must be abandoned: decision-makers should focus on flood risk management
- Flood risk management must be regarded as a subset of the Integrated Water Resources Management, which supposes the respect of its principles and framework
- Balancing development needs and risks is essential: there is inevitably a need to find ways of making life sustainable in flood plains, even if there is a risk to property. This point emphasizes the importance of developing resilience



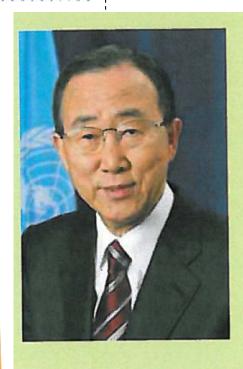












"Climate change is expected to cause more severe and more frequent natural hazards. As our cities and coasts grow more vulnerable, these hazards can lead to disasters that are far worse than those we have seen to date. We have a moral, social and economic obligation to build resilience by 2015. Implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action will also help us reach the Millennium Development Goals."

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

#### Five priorities for action:

- 1. 1) Make disaster risk reduction a priority
- 2. 2) Know the risks and take action
- 3. 3) Build understanding and awareness
- 4. 4) Reduce risk
- 5. 5) Be prepared and ready to act















The "Floods Directive" (2007/60/EC)

Best practices in Europe as detailed in the FLOOD-SITE Project confirm that the most effective approach is the development of flood risk management programmes incorporating the following elements:

- □ Prevention: preventing damage caused by floods by avoiding construction of houses and industries in present and future flood-prone areas, by adapting future developments to the risk of flooding, and by promoting appropriate land-use, agricultural and forestry practices; □ Protection: taking measures, both structural and non-structural, to reduce the likelihood of floods and/or the impact of floods in a specific location;
- □ Preparedness: informing the population about flood risks and what to do in the event of a flood:
- □ Emergency response: developing efficient emergency response plans in the case of a flood:
- □ Recovery and lessons learned: returning to normal conditions as soon as possible and mitigating both the social and economic impacts on the affected population.











# Essential concepts for Flood Risk Management

# Major challenges to be considered:

- no absolute protection
- · avoiding fatalities is the first priority
- a basin approach should be a common rule
- flood risk policy should be integrated in an ecosystem approach
- climate variability and change should be integtrated as an adverse component
- potential changes in decision-making and in the societal context should also be integrated

Flood Risk Management should be regarded as a component of any development process to achieve sustainable development

## **Importance of the context:**

- a dynamic and adaptive approach for an evolving context
- numerous sources of uncertainty
- an existing context and organisation needing arrangements as a basis for any national flood risk management strategy
- a socio-economical context to be assessed

Flood Risk Management aims at reducing all harmful consequences of floods













# General framework for Flood Risk Management

An integrated Flood Risk Management

A dynamic Flood Risk Management

An adaptive and evolving Flood Risk Management

A decentralised Flood Risk Management

**Transparency and participation** 

Effective and Efficient assessment of the societal context

Respect of essential general principles

Duties, responsibilities and decision-making within a multi-dimensionnal framework













# Pre-requisites to implement a Flood Risk Management Strategy

A clear and consistent policy

Legislation and regulation instruments

Control, inciting and coercive tools

Institutional arrangements and appropriate linkages

Decentralisation, a community-based approach

**Exchange and management of information** 

**Management of emergency situations** 

Appropriate assessment tools and methods

Feedback, building of resilience













Data identification and collection

Elaboration of a methodology based on the existing knowledge and data sets

Use of GIS

Data processing at the river basin scale

Dissemination tools and formats adapted regarding the main objectives of the preliminary analysis

Romania might be in advance regarding the Floods Directive!

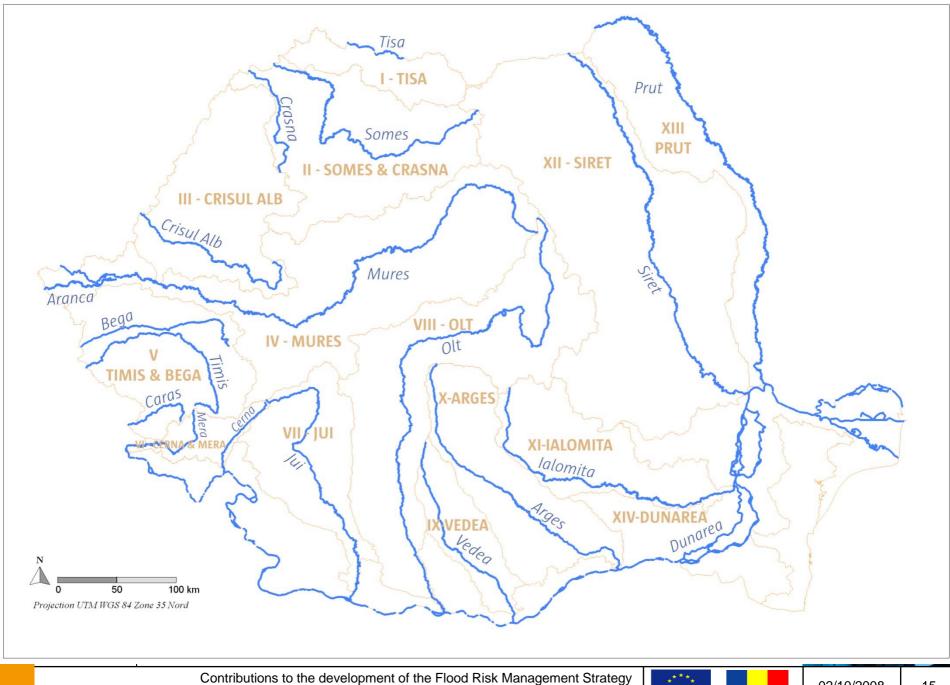












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