



Sustainable Water Partnership (SWP)

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THE AMERICAN PEOPLE











The CEO Water Mandate

#### **Bastille Day 1987**













#### **Similar recent events**

Summer 1998 – China

Summer 2007 – UK

Winter 2010 – Queensland (AUS)

Recent hurricanes Harvey and Irma





## **Types of inland floods**

#### Flash floods

- Overbank river flooding
- Pluvial flooding

(may combine)





#### How to mitigate

1) Assess hazard

Qualify past floods, extrapolate

- Identify vulnerabilities (populations & assets)
  Combine exposure and sensitivity
- 3) Quantify damages
  - Immediate/direct
  - Indirect/longer term





#### **Flood mapping**



Проектът се финанскоа от Оперативна програма "ОКОЛНА СРЕДА 2007-2014" и Хокезконен фонд на ЕС

Балтийска височинна система

Дата на изготвяне: октомери 2015 г.

## **Range of solutions**

- Grey infrastructure: dams, embankments, levees, floodwalls
- Green infrastructure: reforestation, wetlands, floodplains
- Policies: urban planning/zoning, buyback/ relocation, upgrade/floodproofing, etc.
- Warning systems





### Flood management: Qs

- What to protect? (urban, semi-urban. rural)
- At what level ?
- What level of risk do we tolerate?

Who pays?





Annual exceedance probability of floods (fp)

#### Future of flood management?

1931 - 1935- 1938 floods in China

Pakistan: At the time: "the rainstorms responsible for the floods are of a type that does not normally occur in this region" Now: Studies saying that more frequent as part of longterm trend in South Asian Monsoon

Act of God?





#### **Exacerbating trends**

 Climate change, communities who have traditional knowledge or resilience to live in food areas - do not have experience and coping capacity to adapt to changes

 Population growth: poor communities settle in hazardous areas in search for a living – (Bangladesh, 2M char dwellers)





#### The Water Security Improvement (WSI) Process



Confirm and initiate



**Define geographic/technical/ institutional/temporal space** (Toolkit #1)



**Assess water risks** (Toolkit #2)



**Prepare water security action plan** (Toolkit #3) **and fund it** (Toolkit #4)



Implement water security actions (Toolkit #5)



**Monitor, evaluate and adapt** (Toolkit #6)

Check out <a href="https://www.swpwater.org/">https://www.swpwater.org/</a>





# **Eight WSI guiding practices**

1.Pragmatic focus on specific water risks	What types of floods, what to protect?
2.Engagement and mobilization of water users	Awareness raising: risk, solutions, costs
3.A "systems thinking" approach	If we dam here, what happens there?
4.Robust decision-making to address uncertainties	What if larger flood?
5.Science-based, negotiated solutions	Trade-offs, what for non-protected areas?
Integrated solutions to produce tandible benefits	Combine infrastructure and other solutions, spread benefits
I/ Adaptive management to improve over time	Monitor & review, beware of false sense of control
8.Sustainability through economic efficiency, environmental soundness, and social equity	CBA, environmental/social impact assessments





#### **Parting words**

"What can be done, what should be done?"

We have made progress, but we save lives not livelihoods









# **THANK YOU**

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