

STAR-FLOOD Conference

4 & 5 February 2016 Brussels

Towards more resilient flood risk governance



Welcome!



Peter Driessen
STAR-FLOOD project
coordinator

We are happy to welcome you at the STAR-FLOOD Conference in Brussels; a place where people from all over Europe come together to share knowledge and discuss ideas.

After 4 years of research by 9 research institutes in 6 countries, much new knowledge has been created on flood risk governance. New knowledge leads to new ideas and practices and that is exactly the reason why we are here in Brussels: to share and discuss these ideas.

The STAR-FLOOD Conference presents an interesting mix of speeches and interactive sessions, offering you the opportunity to share your ideas and opinions within the STAR-FLOOD community. We start with speeches on flood risks, governance and the results of STAR-FLOOD. The first round of sessions cover the five project-strategies: risk prevention, defence, mitigation, preparation and recovery. The following sessions focus on specific aspects of flood risk management including the launch of the STAR-FLOOD Practitioner's Guide. The conference closes with a panel discussion between top players in the field on the future of flood risk management.

For now, we wish you a fruitful conference both on receiving and on sharing knowledge and experiences on how to make Europe more flood resilient.

About STAR-FLOOD

STAR-FLOOD stands for: “STrengthening And Redesigning European FLOOD risk practices: Towards appropriate and resilient flood risk governance arrangements”. The project focused on analysing, explaining, evaluating and designing policies to better deal with flood risks from rivers in urban agglomerations across Europe.

By analysing flood risk governance from a social science (policy analysis and law) perspective instead of an engineering perspective, STAR-FLOOD aimed on providing new approaches to flood risk management. Over the last four years the researchers investigated 18 case studies, conducted interviews with hundreds of stakeholders and analysed many aspects of flood risks. Similarities and differences between countries were demonstrated and explained. The results provided new insights on the local, regional, national, international and European level, even resulting in a framework for improving flood risk governance.

STAR-FLOOD was not only a scientific research project. It also brought people together to exchange knowledge and learn from each other. Experiences with strategies and governance instruments in one place can inspire others. With many publications and reports, this conference and the Practitioner’s Guide, STAR-FLOOD provides new insights that are relevant not only to EU countries and urban regions, but possibly worldwide!

Program

Many aspects of flood risk management are covered at the STAR-FLOOD Conference. You'll find plenary sessions offering broad insight in flood risk management, sessions linked to flood protection, and interactive sessions covering more detailed topics such as public participation. As Chairman, Peter Driessen will guide you through the program.

Many sessions are scheduled simultaneously. Therefore the organisation suggests routes fitting the visitors' professions: Law, Policy implementation and Practitioners. Please check the program for these colors.

Day 1	Mathilde	Fabiola	Brussels	Fabiola II
12.00-13.00	Lunch			
13.00-14.30	Plenary session 1			
Coffeebreak				
15.00-16.00		<i>Session 1:</i> To a definition of flood defense and risk mitigation	<i>Session 2:</i> The role of spatial planning, insurance and compensation in promoting and enabling flood resilience	<i>Session 3:</i> Flood preparations: lessons learned
Coffeebreak				
16.15-17.45		<i>Session 4:</i> Implementation of the Floods Directive in International (or interregional) River Basin Districts	<i>Session 5:</i> Design-oriented framework for Flood Risk Management?	<i>Session 6:</i> The challenge of public participation
18.00-19.00	Drinks			
19.00-21.30	Dinner			

Day 2	Mathilde	Fabiola	Brussels	Fabiola II
8.30-9.45		<i>Session 7:</i> Coordinating different levels of governance	<i>Session 8:</i> Stability and change of arrangements	<i>Session 9:</i> How to work with the Practitioner's Guide
Coffeebreak				
10.00-11.15			<i>Session 10:</i> Balancing between Prevention and Recovery: Dealing with liability and compensation to achieve a fair distribution of burdens.	<i>Session 11:</i> Principles on water governance
Coffeebreak				
11.30-12.30	Plenary session 2			
12.30-14.00	Lunch			

Session overview Day 1

Plenary session 1 - room Fabiola



Zbigniew Kundzewicz
Professor Polish Academy
of Sciences

Key-note speech I:

Flood risks in Europe by Professor Zbigniew Kundzewicz, Polish Academy of Sciences - Resilient flood risk governance becomes more important with the increase of flood risks. Professor Zbigniew Kundzewicz tells about the expected change in flood risks in Europe and the effects of this. As expert on climate change impacts and coordinating lead author of several publications of IPCC, he delivers an up-to-date presentation on flood risks in Europe.



Aziza Akhmouch
Head of OECD's Water
Governance Programme

Key-note speech II:

An exploration of the ideal system of flood risk governance by Aziza Akhmouch, head of OECD's Water Governance Programme - To strengthen government frameworks, the OECD created 'water governance principles'. The principles set standards for governments to achieve effective, efficient and inclusive design and implementation of water policies. Aziza Akhmouch explains how the principles of water governance can be used for flood risk management.

Session overview Day 1



Marleen van Rijswijk
Professor of European and
Dutch Water Law at the
University of Utrecht

Key-note speech III:

Presentation of the legal results of STAR-FLOOD research

by Marleen van Rijswijk, Professor of European and Dutch Water Law at the University of Utrecht - Marleen van Rijswijk presents what we can learn from the current systems of flood risk governance in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the UK. After four years of research within STAR-FLOOD, Marleen shows common challenges and explains the differences.

Session overview Day 1



Session 1 - room Fabiola

To a definition of flood defence and risk mitigation Convened by Mathilde Gralepois of the University of Rabelais de Tours and Julien Jadot of CEPRI - From literature and experience, risk mitigation seems a successful strategy to improve flood resilience. This session focusses on the similarities and differences with the flood defence strategy, and what is needed to implement the risk mitigation strategy.

Session 2 - room Brussels

The role of spatial planning, insurance and compensation in promoting and enabling flood resilience Convened by Sue Tapsell of Middlesex University and Doug Lewis of Grontmij - Drawing from cross-country comparisons, this session examines the relationship between the prevention and recovery strategies. After an introduction to STAR-FLOOD research, invited guest speakers will offer short presentations based on their experiences with different governance arrangements; from private insurance schemes through to state involvement and public compensation. A panel debates questions on the prevention and recovery strategies.

Session overview Day 1

Session 3 - room Fabiola II

Flood preparations: lessons learned Convened by Zbigniew Kundzewicz of the Polish Academy of Sciences and Wojciech Kiewisz of Grontmij - After the dramatic floods in 1997 and 2010, Poland considerably improved flood preparations. Important lessons learned in Poland can be of interest in other countries world. In addition, this session will include a presentation on flood preparation in the health sector by a WHO representative and share information on preparation to floods in France, where killing floods have occurred several times in recent years. This session reports on lessons learned, related to flood preparations.

Session 4 - room Fabiola

Implementation of the Floods Directive in International (or interregional) River Basin Districts Convened by Cathy Suykens and Kurt Deketelaere of Leuven University and Jan van den Bossche of Grontmij - Flood Risk Management is in many places a transboundary issue and cannot be dealt with effectively from the national perspective only. This session will tackle the implementation of the Floods Directive focussing on shared waters between EU Member States. More specifically, the session will focus on the implementation of Flood Risk Management Strategies in International River Basin Districts and which mechanisms for cooperation are and can be used to coordinate these strategies.



Session overview Day 1



Session 5 - room Brussels

A design-oriented framework for flood risk management? Convened by Maria Petterson of Lulea University, Julien Jadot of CEPRI, Nico van der Schuit and Jana Steenbergen of Grontmij - The session is devoted to presentations and discussions on the topic of how flood risk management should be designed: what are good practices and what policy recommendations can be derived from this?

Session 6 - room Fabiola II

The challenge of public participation Convened by Ann Crabbé of the University of Antwerp and Jan van den Bossche of Grontmij - Involving the public in Flood Risk Management (FRM) is a challenge. How to get people involved? Who to involve? What to expect from participation? Organized in roundtable discussions, this session will shed a light on public participation projects in flood emergency management and flood risk mitigation, using examples from all over Europe.

Session overview Day 2

Session 7 - room Fabiola

Co-ordinating different levels of governance Convened by Carel Dieperink of Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University and Nico van der Schuit and Jana Steenbergen of Grontmij - Floods don't respect man-made administrative boundaries. As a result flood risks have to be addressed by a multiplicity of actors whose authorities and competences differ. The development of a resilient and diversified combination of FRMSs however requires coordination between these levels of governance. Coordination asks for top-down as well as bottom-up initiatives. In this session we will discuss key characteristics of such coordination mechanisms. The session is based on Dutch, Flemish, English, French, Polish and Swedish case study findings from the STAR-FLOOD project.

Session 8 - room Brussels

Stability and change of arrangements Convened by Mark Wiering of the Radboud University and Fredrik Ohls of Sweco - Changing FRM-strategies isn't easy. There are many reasons why government arrangements stay as they are. But there are also reasons to change government arrangements. This session focuses on the moments of change in government arrangements. Which factors create the change?



Session overview Day 2



Session 9 - room Fabiola II

How to work with the Practitioner's Guide? Convened by Julien Jadot of CEPRI and Nico van der Schuit and Jana Steenbergen of Grontmij - To successfully face challenges, you need to find the right questions. How to find these questions? This session will use the knowledge and information from STAR-FLOOD to provide the right questions to well-known challenges in flood risk management. Please provide us with your challenges, and we will together try and find the questions and therefore the answers!

Session 10 - room Brussels

Balancing between Prevention and Recovery: dealing with liability and compensation to achieve a fair distribution of burdens Convened by Marleen van Rijswijk of Utrecht University and Doug Lewis of Grontmij - The STAR-FLOOD research made it clear that the focus on one specific strategy influences how questions regarding (no fault) liability and compensation are dealt with. For instance, in the Netherlands, most compensation is granted for damage caused by preventive measures and in France the compensation is ex post (recovery). However, it is clear that these mechanisms all serve to achieve a fair distribution of burdens in the field of flood risk management. This session aims to discuss practices in several EU Member States and to learn from the STAR-FLOOD research findings that might be inspiring for other countries.

Session overview Day 2

Session 11 - room Fabiola II

Principles of water governance Convened by Aziza Akhmouch - The OECD developed the 'water governance principles' to create a framework for water governance. The OECD still works on examples and guidelines for the use of these principles specifically for flood risk management. In this session, we will try to apply them on specific cases and problems. Together with Aziza Akhmouch, we discuss the use of the principles in different situations.

Session on invitation only - room VIP

The future of flood risk governance Convened by Marloes Bakker of Utrecht University and Martijn Steenstra of Grontmij - This session is organised in preparation of the Plenary session 2 and can be attended on invitation only. (This session is in the VIP room next to the room Fabiola).

Plenary session 2 - room Fabiola

Guided by Peter Driessen, experts discuss the necessary next steps to develop more resilient flood risk governance: for European policies, for flood risk management within the countries, and for future research. Panel: Ioannis Kavvadas (European Commission, DG Environment Water Unit), Sandro Nieto Silleras (European Commission, DG Climate Unit), Roland Nussbaum (Management Risques Naturels), Sarah Hendry (University of Dundee), Carina Keskitalo (University of Umea) and Régis Thépot (EPTB Seine Grands Lacs).

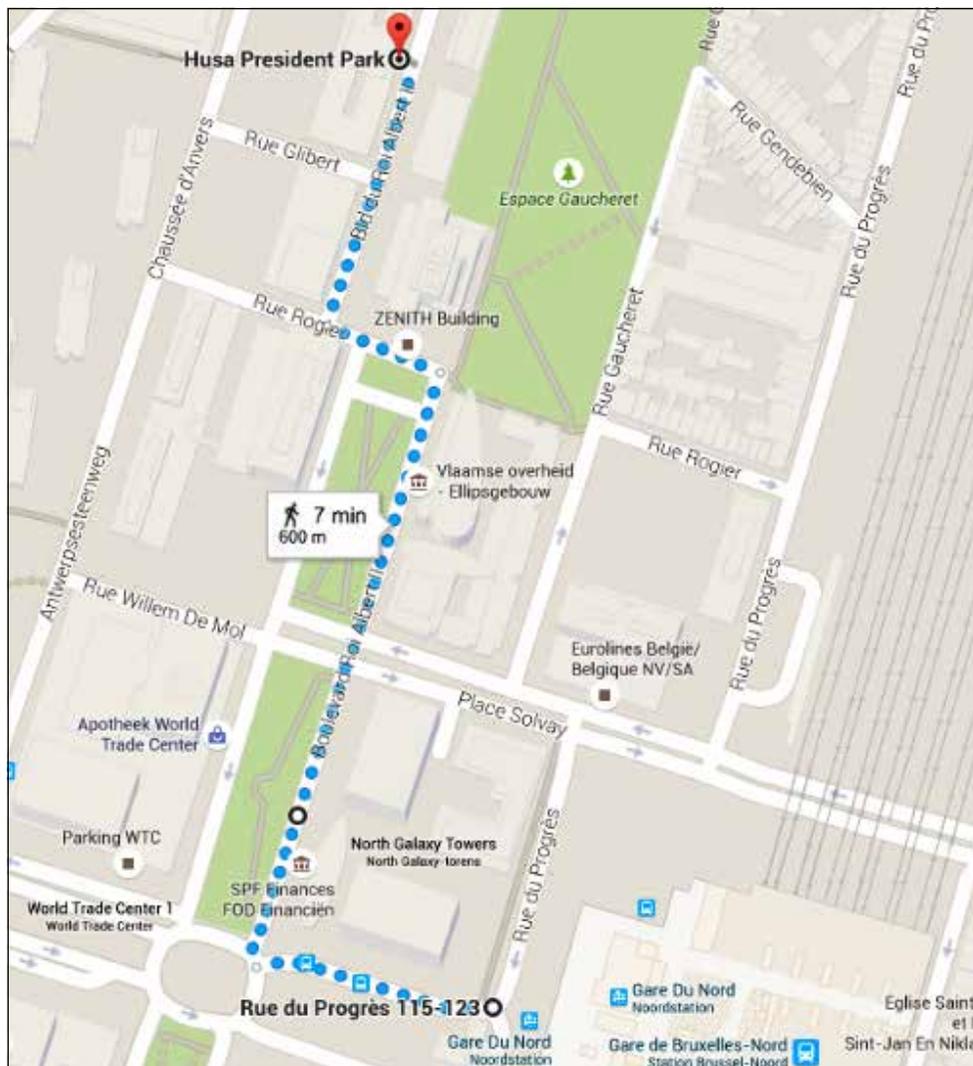
This session reviews the knowledge obtained through the STAR-FLOOD project and considers the future direction of flood risk governance from different angles. Practitioners, policy makers and researchers from a legal and policy analysis background discuss, interact, and formulate recommendations.

Location

Husa President Park Hotel

Bldv du Roi Albert II, 44-1000 Brussels, Belgium,

T +32 (2)-203 20 20, E info.president@husa.es



Directions to the hotel

We recommend to use public transport. HUSA President Park hotel is located on walking distance from station Brussels North.

Public transport from the airport to station Brussels North

After entering the passenger terminal, follow the signs towards the train station. You can buy an 'Airport City Express' train ticket at one of the machines. Take one of the trains towards Brussels, they normally leave from platform 2 or 3. Leave the train at station Brussels North.

Public transport from station Brussels South (Midi/Zuid) to station Brussels North

Thalys, TGV and Eurostar trains arrive at station Brussels South (also named 'Midi/Zuid'). From this station, many trains and tramline 4 leave towards station Brussels North. Tickets for the connection between station Brussels South and station Brussels North can be bought at the machine.

From station Brussels North to HUSA President Park hotel

It's a 7 minute walk from the station to the hotel. An explanation is given below. After arriving at the station Brussels North:

1. Follow the signs towards 'Simon Bolivar'.
2. After exiting the station, cross the square towards the first traffic lights. The street is named Boulevard Simon Bolivar/ Simon Bolivarlaan.
3. Go right at the traffic lights, on to the Boulevard Roi Albert II/ Koning Albert 2 laan. Follow this straat until it ends.
4. Go left at the Rue Rogier. Follow this street for about 40 meters.
5. Go right at the first crossing, on to the Boulevard Roi Albert II/ Koning Albert 2 laan. You see the HUSA President Park hotel at your left.

Directions to the hotel

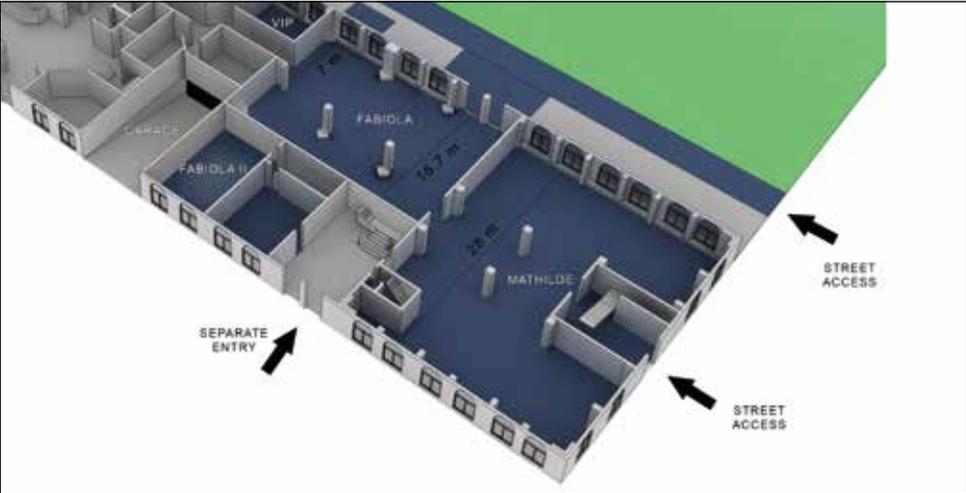
By car to HUSA President Park hotel

HUSA President Park hotel is located in the center of Brussels. There are many options to reach Brussels, via the highways A1 and A12 from the north, A3 from the east, A4 and A7 from the south and A10 from the West. You will first get on the Ring highway around Brussels. We advise to use a navigation system, because the route can be complex. Use the address: Boulevard du Roi Albert II 44, 1000 Bruxelles or Koning Albert II laan, 44-1000 Brussel (the names can be either French or Dutch).

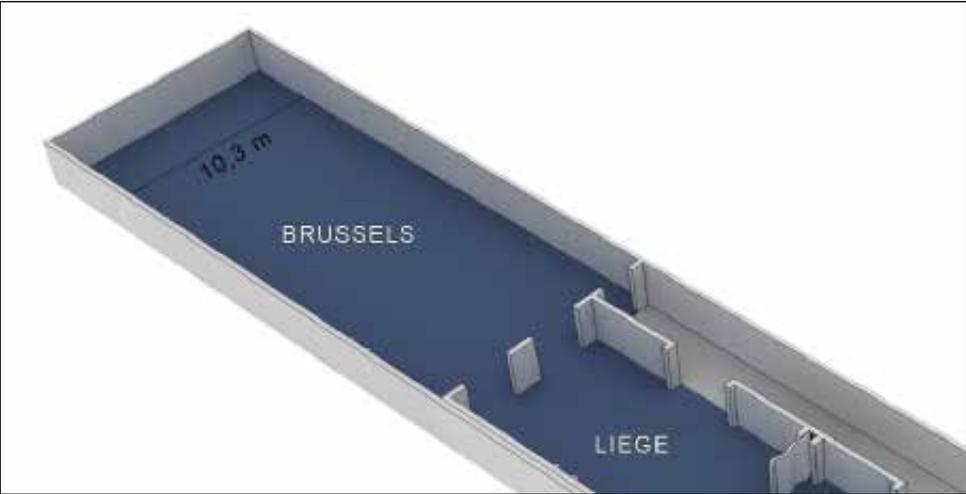
There is a parking at HUSA President Park hotel. This costs €20,- for every 24 hours of parking. There is a limited number of parking spaces. If full, you can go to the Interparking at the nearby WTC. The address is blvd Roi Albert II 30, 1210 Brussels in the WTC-building. You reach the entrance via the Simon Bolivar Boulevard just around the corner.

Floor plan

Mathilde, Fabiola and Fabiola II ground level



Brussels level -1





Special thanks to STAR-FLOOD and its partners.



Acknowledgement

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