

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

North-West Europe



**Climate and
environment**

FlashFloodBreaker

Programme

4 - 5 June 2024



Samina Verhoeven © Beigo tage

Launch conference of **FlashFloodBreaker Project (INTERREG NWE)**

Make North-West Europe resilient against
increasing extreme flash flood events

4 - 5 June 2024 at Hotel Mercure Liège City Centre



Supported by:



Programme Tuesday 4th June 2024

Moderation: Colin Glesner, Public Service of Wallonia

9:00 Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 TERRITORIAL APPROACHES OF FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

Flood recovery process in Wallonia

Simon Riguelle, President of the Regional Working Group on Floods (GTI)

Roadmap crisis flood in the Emscher-Lippe area

Frank Obenaus, CTO Emschergenossenschaft

After the recent flood disaster in Région Hauts-de-France

Florence Bariseau, vice-president of the council of the Région Hauts-de-France

10:45 INTRODUCTION TO THE FLASHFLOODBREAKER PROJECT

Marie-Edith Ploteau, Emschergenossenschaft

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 DYNAMIC LINKAGES OF THE PROJECT WITH EXISTING INITIATIVES

Upscale of modelling initiated in EMR- Flood Resilience project

Daniela Rodriguez Castro, University of Liège

Roll-out of outcomes from BMBF- KAHR and HoWas projects

Jens Reinert, IWW at RWTH Aachen

Validation of the International Handbook on Emergency Response for Flood Defences (INTERREG 2 Seas - Polder2´C)

Bart Vonk, Rijkswaterstaat

Flash flooding in Ireland

Thomas Cooney, Office of Public Works

12:10 PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW TO BECOME MORE RESILIENT TO EXTREME FLASH FLOOD EVENTS IN NORTH-WEST EUROPE?

- *Jacques Teller, University of Liège*
- *Claude Meisch, Administration de la gestion de l´eau du Luxembourg*
- *Shane McMonagle, Donegal County Council*
- *Guido Schipper, Veiligheidsregio Noord-Holland Noord*
- *Oliver Hauner, Gesamtverband der Deutschen Versicherungswirtschaft e.V.*
- *Georg Johann, HochwasserKompetenzCentrum e.V.*

13:15 Lunch

Programme Tuesday 4th June 2024

14:15 EXCURSION TO THE VESDRE VALLEY, FLOODED IN JULY 2021

The excursion will lead the participants through the Vesdre valley, a site strongly devastated by the floods in July 2021. This will be followed by a visit to the “Barrage de la Gileppe” at Jalhay. The panoramic tower and belvedere offer an remarkable view of the site and its famous “Lion de la Gileppe”. This dam plays an essential role in flood regulation on the Vesdre and is one of the four major reservoirs in Wallonia.



The touring coaches for the excursion are ready to go in front of the Mercure Hotel Liège City Centre. The excursion finished approximately at 17:30. The number of participants is limited.

19:00 JOINT NETWORKING DINNER

All participants of the conference are invited by the FlashFloodBreaker partnership to join the networking dinner after the excursion, that will take place at the venue location in Liège.

Programme Wednesday 5th June 2024

The programme on Wednesday 5th June is open to the partners and associated organisations of the project. This working group meeting aims to jointly progress on the project activities.

8:30 Registration and welcome coffee

9:00 PLENARY SESSION

Introduction to the project working groups meeting

Marie-Edith Ploteau, EG

9:30 PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 1ST ROUND

Training activities of flood crisis units at a transnational level

*Oscar van Dam, STOWA
Christian van Spiczak,
FW_Duisburg*

AI-based flood and impact forecast tool

*Georg Johann, LV
Sylvain Kübler, Uni.lu*

Drones and real-time data processing activities

*Atal Kumar, Uni.lu
Sean Carroll, MTU*

11:30 WRAP-UP OF THE BREAKOUT SESSIONS IN THE PLENARY

12:30 Lunch

13:30 PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 2ND ROUND

Flash flood responsive communities at local levels

*Maren van der Meer, EG
Raymond de Landmeter,
HHNK*

Flood & flood impact/Pluvial & fluvial modelling activities

*Benjamin Dewals, ULiège
Jens Reinert, IWW*

Raising awareness of residents

*Simon Riguelle, SPW
John Tobben, WRL*

15:30 PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 3RD ROUND

App2C – Further development and uptake

Oscar van Dam, STOWA

Community of practices of flood-fighters based on IHERFD principles

Bart Vonk, RWS

Training of flood crisis units at local levels

Maren van der Meer, EG

16:30 WRAP-UP OF BREAKOUT SESSIONS IN THE PLENARY AND FOLLOW-UP

17:30 END OF THE MEETING

Programme Thursday 6th June 2024

The programme on Thursday 6th June is open to the members of the steering group of the FlashFloodBreaker project.

8:30 Registration and welcome coffee

9:00 PLENARY SESSION

A separate agenda will be shared by e-mail to the PSG members in due time

12:00 END OF THE MEETING

Information of the conference

VENUE	Hotel Mercure Liège City Centre <i>Rue St Leonard 182, 4000 Liège</i>
HOTEL	LIST OF HOTELS CLOSE TO THE CONFERENCE VENUE Self-booking and self-payment apply. Hotel Mercure Liège City Centre <i>Rue St Leonard 182, 4000 Liège; Location of the launch event; Private parking: Room contingent accessible with the code "Seminar Flashfloodbreaker 04/06/24" - booking only via janique.moyaerts@accor.com</i> Hotel Hors-Château <i>Rue Hors-Château 62, 4000 Liège; 10' walk from conference centre – 5' walk from the train station « Liège Saint-Lambert »; Public parking near the Hotel</i> Hotel Ibis Liège Centre Opéra <i>Pl. de la République Française 41, 4000 Liège; 15' walk from conference centre – 8' walk from the train station « Liège Saint-Lambert »; Private parking</i> Hotel van der Valk Sélys <i>Rue du Mont St Martin 9/11, 4000 Liège; 20' walk from conference centre – 4' walk from the train station « Liège Saint-Lambert »; Private parking on site</i> Daynight Sauvenière apartment <i>Bd de la Sauvenière 122, 4000 Liège; 10' walk from conference centre – 10' walk from the train station « Liège Saint-Lambert »; Private parking</i>
LANGUAGE	English - Simultaneous FR/EN translation provided on 4 th June 2024
PROJECT PAGE	flashfloodbreaker.nweurope.eu
REGISTRATION	Please register to the conference via this link: FlashFloodBreaker launch conference registration link Registration and has been extended until the 21 May 2024. The event is free of charge. The number of places is limited.
CONTACT	For organisational issue , please contact Aude-Emmanuelle Detongre at audeemmanuelle.detongre(at)spw.wallonie.be For content-wise issue , please contact Marie-Edith Ploteau at ploteau.marie-edith(at)eglv.de

Information of the conference

WHY FLASHFLOOD- BREAKER?

North-West Europe faces an increasing number of **flash flood disasters** due to climate change. Such extreme events, such as in July 2021 in DE, BE, NL, LU, FR, IE and CH, are linked with fatalities, huge losses and damages.

A flash flood is a **rapid rise of water in low-lying areas** that occurs within only 3-6 hours of a heavy rainfall. Risk-affected areas are **urban, polder and steep valley** areas. Because existing landuse constraints restrict the use of conventional flood protection measures, **new approaches to manage pluvial and fluvial flash floods-related risks are needed**. FlashFloodBreaker aims at making North-West Europe more resilient to extreme flash flood events.

7 risk-affected areas start now their joint cooperation: **Emscher-Lippe** area in Germany, **Limburg** and North-Holland in the Netherlands, **Wallonia** and **Flanders** in Belgium, **Moselle** in France and Ireland work together to become empowered to assess their vulnerability, to strengthen their resilience and to collectively and individually reduce the hazards and better act in case of extreme flash floods. The launch event will give an insight into the project.

THE FLASHFLOOD- BREAKER PARTNERS

- Emschergenossenschaft (DE)
- Provincie Limburg (NL)
- Hoogheemraadschap Hollands Noorderkwartier (NL)
- Service Départemental d'Incendie et de Secours de la Moselle (FR)
- Université de Liège (BE)
- Stichting Toegepast Onderzoek Waterbeheer (NL)
- RWTH Aachen University Institut für Wasserbau und Wasserwirtschaft (DE)
- Lippeverband (DE)
- Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij (BE)
- Service public de Wallonie (BE)
- Université du Luxembourg (LU)
- Stadt Duisburg - Feuerwehr Duisburg (DE)
- Munster Technological University (IE)