

Adaptation Mainstreaming

Berry Gersonius, PhD

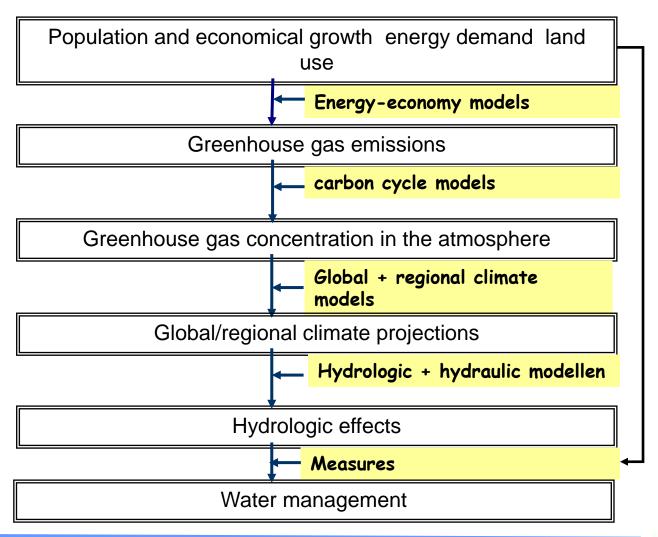




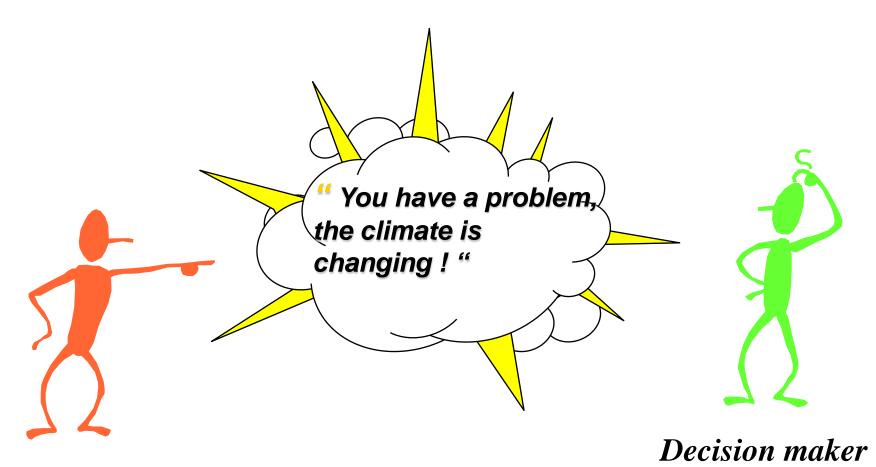
Learning objectives

- Explain the concept of Adaptation Tipping Points (ATPs) and its use in flood and drought risk management
- 2. Analyse critical ATPs for a specific case study

Exc. 1: Explain this figure

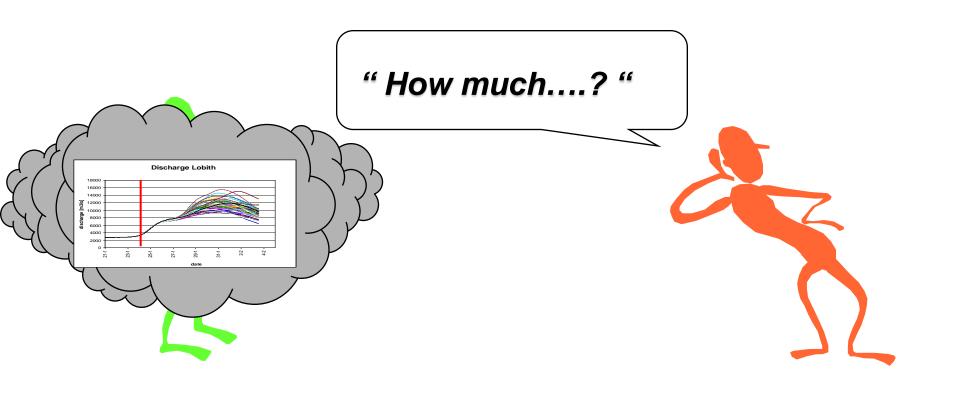


Exc. 2: Explain difficulty in communication



Hydrologist

Exc. 2: Explain difficulty in communication



Hydrologist

Decision maker

Status of climate change projections

- Reasonable agreement on trends
- Much less agreement on rate and magnitude
- Certainly too little agreement to design urban water systems according to standard method

Key points

- Adaptation to climate change has no value in itself. We do this because we want to live, work etc. in an area
- We ask the question, how much should the climate change before we are in trouble (climate change = change in natural boundary conditions)
- This is an ATP (= a boundary condition where acceptable standards may be compromised)

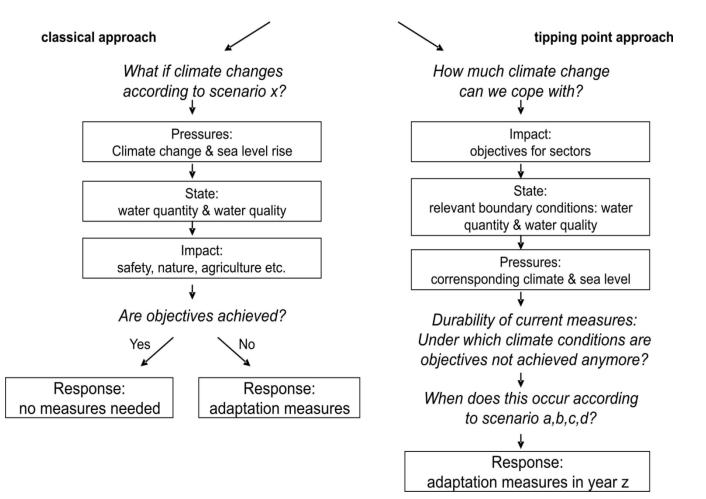
Short term (policy maker) perspective

- Question for a policy maker's time frame
 - Is there a risk that policy goals and requirements (acceptable standards) will not be achieved?
 - Is there a risk that additional measures will be needed soon (extra money needed)?
 - Is there a risk that too much measures are taken (too much money is spend)?
- Strategic questions
 - How long will the strategy be efficient over the time horizion (robustness)?
 - How easy is it to change in time to an alternative strategy (flexibility/no regret)?



Adaptation tipping point method

How vulnerable are we for climate change and sea level rise and what adaptation measures should we take?

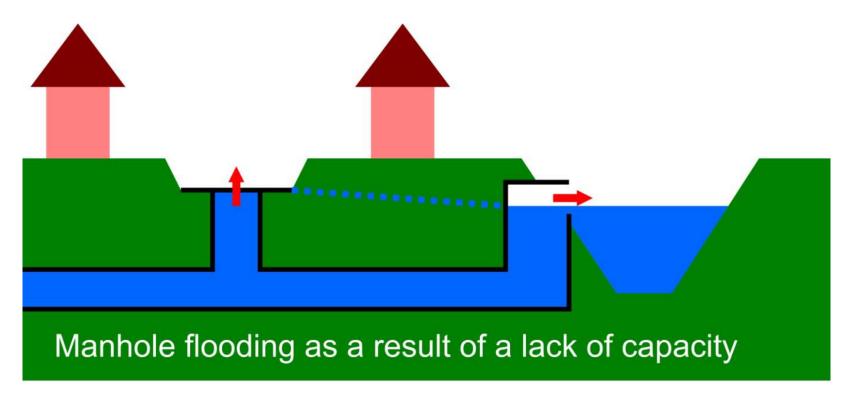






Objective for stormwater management

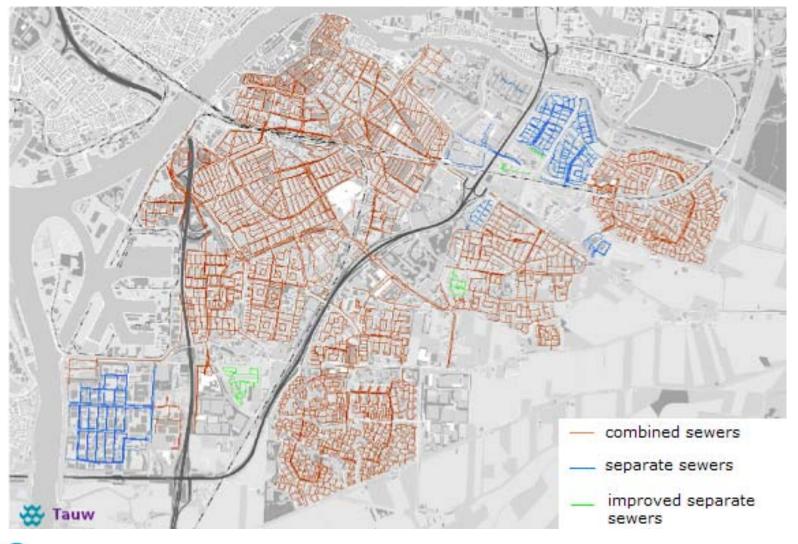
1 in 2 years event (20 mm / 2 hr)







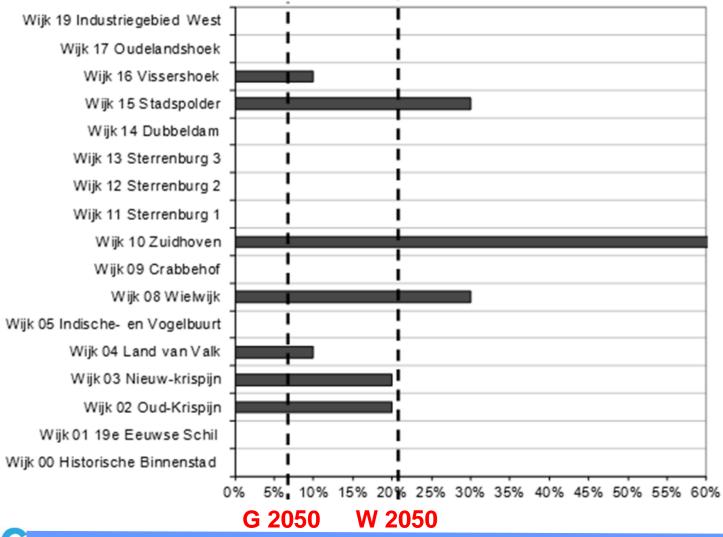
Sewer system Dordrecht







ATPs for current situation







Current management strategy

 Current strategy involves disconnecting 40% of the publicly-owned buildings and paved areas from sewers







Example: Urban Vision Wielwijk





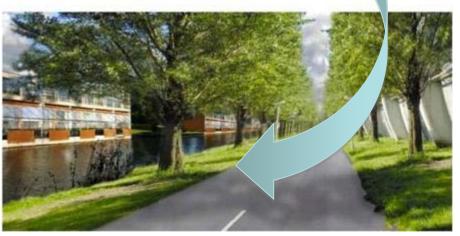


Mainstreaming disconnection from sewers













Shift in ATPs by disconnection from sewers





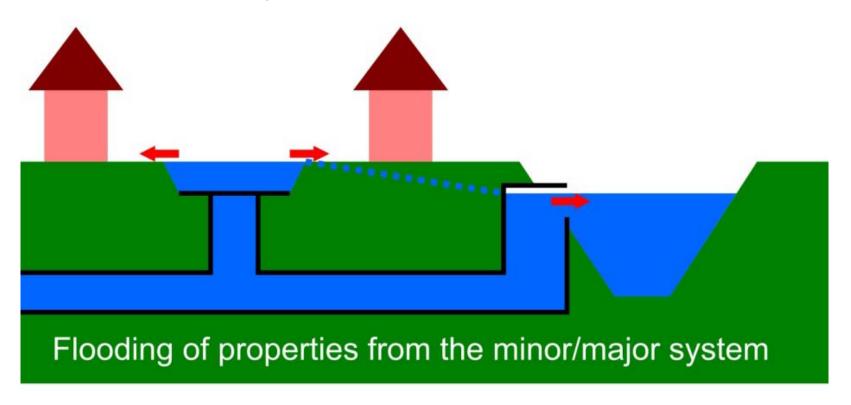


Need for alternative management strategy

- The current strategy is effective in postponing ATPs (until 2050) in 76% of the districts
- 4 Out of 17 (24%) districts fail to meet the objective with the current strategy
- An alternative strategy aimed at the use of the overland drainage system was developed and analysed with ATP

ATPs for overland drainage system

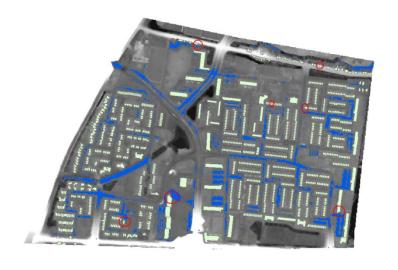
1 in 50 years event (41 mm / 2 hr)







Identifying and designing flood pathways





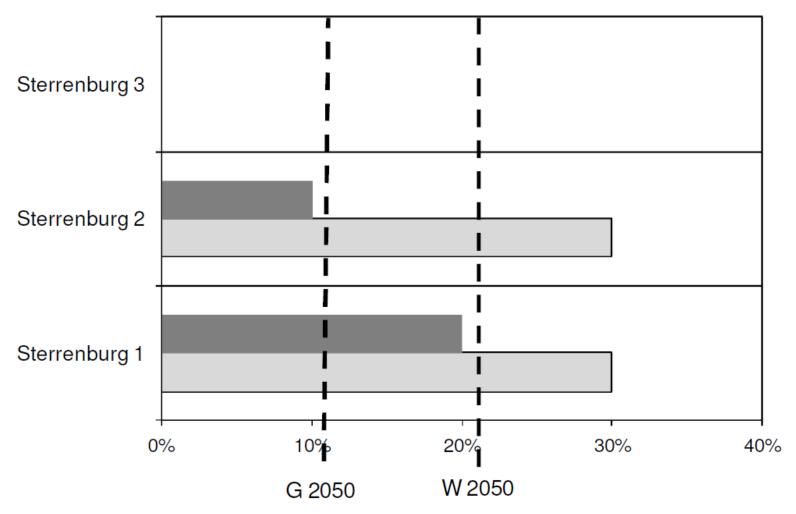
Sterrenburg 1

Sterrenburg 2





Shift in ATPs by using overland pathways







Findings about Dordrecht case study

- Disconnection strategy is effective 76% of the districts
- The use of the overland drainage system is effective in postponing ATPs where the disconnection strategy fails to meet its objective
- Both strategies can be timed with normal projects to keep costs low



Findings about ATP method

- It gives insight in most urgent problems and in opportunities
- It gives insight in the earliest and latest date that a strategy is no longer effective
- It stimulates discussion between public and private stakeholders on performance objectives, policy development, investment strategies, risk management and urban development





Exc. 3: Apply ATPs for other themes

- Explain how the ATP method can be applied to another theme than flooding (e.g. water security, water quality)
 - Describe policy goal
 - Identify requirement (acceptable standard)
 - Describe possible impacts of climate change on state variables
 - 4. Identify possible adaptation measures to postpone ATPs, and opportunities for mainstreaming

