



Review on the risk of flood from the Seine river in Paris

UN HELP WAND

Washington, 17 October 2014



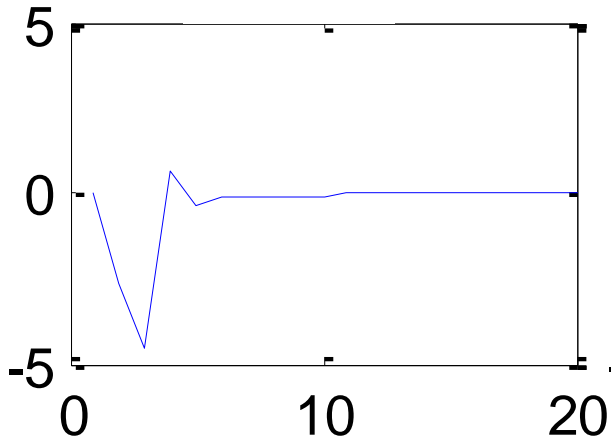
Paris floods : risk amplification in megacities

- Impact on critical infrastructures
- Impact on national economy

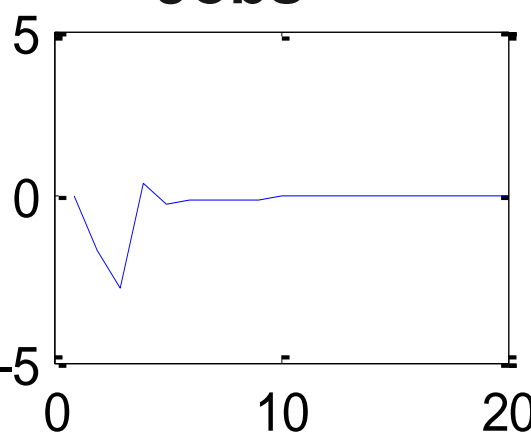


* Impacts are measured in % compared to the initial state on a quarterly basis

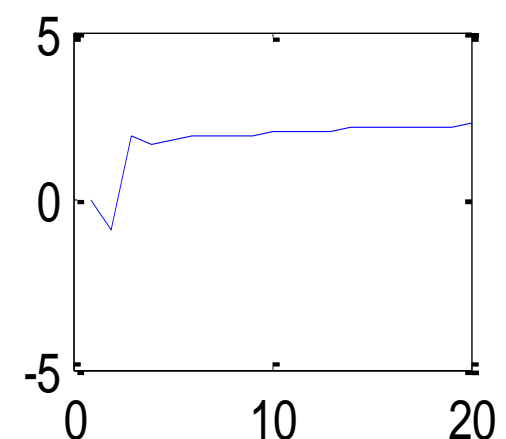
GDP*



Jobs*



Public debt*



Source: OECD (2014), Seine Basin, Ile-de-France: Resilience to Major Floods, <http://www.oecd.org/gov/risk/oecdandiledefrancestudytherisksfmajorfloods.htm>

→ Developing comprehensive risk assessment



Key messages

Policy

1. An effort to recalibrate, better coordinate and adjust public policies could reduce the level of risks
2. Many opportunities are converging to engage an ambitious resilience strategy

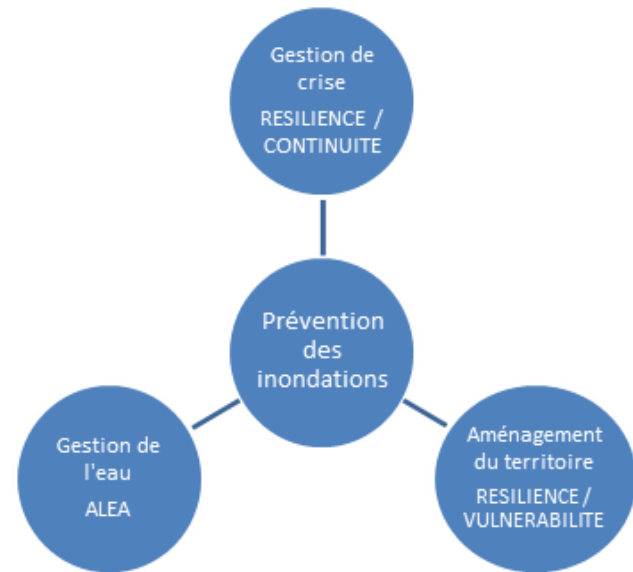
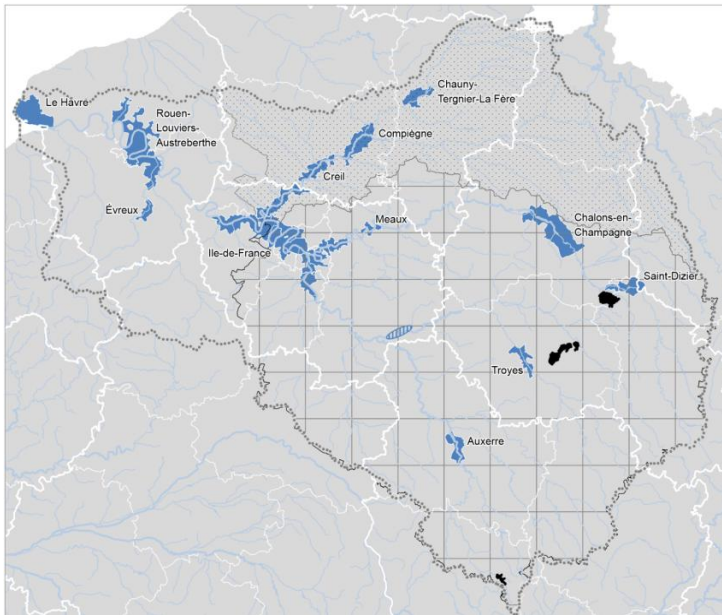
Few areas to further develop :

- ✓ Inventing a **new governance** approach for prevention
- ✓ Reinforcing **whole-of-society resilience** efforts
- ✓ Developing a long term **strategy for financing prevention**



Inventing **a new governance** approach for prevention

- ✓ Coherence of the legal and regulatory framework
- ✓ Roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders
- ✓ Coordination mechanisms (different scales & policy areas)



Development of a shared vision and precise objectives based on existing opportunities (EU FD) ⁴



Reinforcing prevention through **whole-of-society resilience** efforts

- Knowledge
 - Risk culture
 - Urban planning
 - Critical infrastructures
 - Business continuity
 - Green infrastructures
 - Protection infrastructures
 - Storage infrastructures
- NON-STRUCTURAL**
- STRUCTURAL**

Principles of coherence, prioritisation, international comparison, innovation



Non structural measures for resilience

Urban planning and business continuity

- ✓ Regulatory aspects for urban planning
- ✓ Resilience of critical infrastructures
- ✓ Need to incentivise resilience in existing buildings and in the private sector

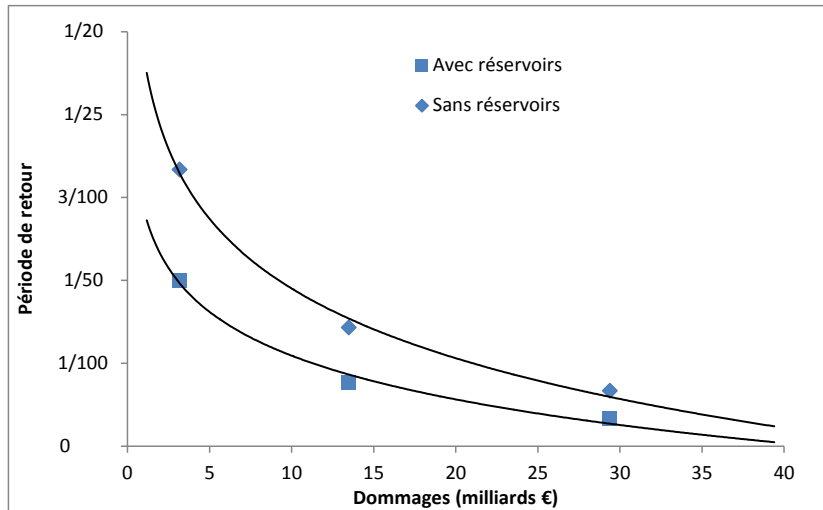




Financing prevention

An important risk: « tail » event & large share

- ✓ Seine flood : a significant part of mean economic damages



- ✓ Existing resources and innovative financing tools for prevention → 300-450 Mio € investments per year
 - Low contribution to Seine flood prevention
 - What is the acceptable level of risk, how to prioritise ?

→ Long term financing strategy, cost effectiveness, equity maximising coherence and synergies across policies



CONCLUSION

- ✓ Comprehensive risk assessment can be a powerful tool for risk awareness
- ✓ Governance mechanisms need to properly articulate scales: river basin and megacities
- ✓ A good mix of structural and non-structural measures needs to be based on cost-benefit comparative analysis
- ✓ Whole-of-society approach to prevention with a specific attention to critical infrastructures and innovation
- ✓ Long term financing strategies to improve resilience over time and allocate funding strategically (national gov)



The OECD Recommendation on the governance of critical risks

- **Objective**: Ensure that governments develop robust frameworks for the governance of critical risks and their resilience to major shocks
 1. **A holistic approach to risk management**
 2. **Risk assessment, foresight, financing framework**
 3. **Whole-of-society approach to prevention**
 4. **Strategic crisis management**
 5. **Transparency & accountability**

