

The results and findings of this study, to the larger part, confirm and reflect previous national research projects. As a response to national and regional findings, comprehensive efforts are being undertaken by the respective administrations to overcome the information deficits and lack of active involvement that are experienced by the public. For example, in the United Kingdom extensive information campaigns have been or are being conducted to increase the awareness and preparedness, such as the distribution of a leaflet to all households in flood-prone areas, the maintenance of a comprehensive internet-presentation including a flood-warning system, and a national flood-phone. Investigations are underway to assess and communicate the risk of flooding, e.g. the national program “Veiligheid Nederland in Kaart - VNK” in The Netherlands, the RASP and Foresight-programmes in the UK, and the projects PRODEICH, MERK and KRIM in Germany. In the Netherlands, school material for different class levels and schools has been assembled in 2003 to commemorate the 1953 national storm flood catastrophe.

The added value of this study may be the conclusion that the observed deficits in all the North Sea countries and regions are highly comparable despite major differences in the physical, social, economic and cultural context (see contribution Kiezebrink, this volume). Every country and region has developed and implemented strategies to counteract the shortcomings. In consequence, the countries and regions can learn from each other.

5. Literature

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