

United Nations/Germany Expert Meeting on Space Technologies for Flood and Drought Risk Reduction

Bonn, Germany, 5-6 June 2014

**Assessment of coping capacities
relating to the 2013 floods in Germany**

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- Reconstructing the 2013 flood
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Overview - Project Data

Source: Administrative District of Stendal

- Duration: Oct. 2013 until Sept. 2014
- Head of Project: Prof. Dr. Annegret Thieken, University of Potsdam
- Part 1: Potential and actual damage reduction through prevention and early warning
- Part 2: Coping Capacity of German federal states and aid agencies in comparison to the flood of 2002

Flood in Germany 2013...



Source: Berufsfeuerwehr Bremen

...water as far as the eye can reach...



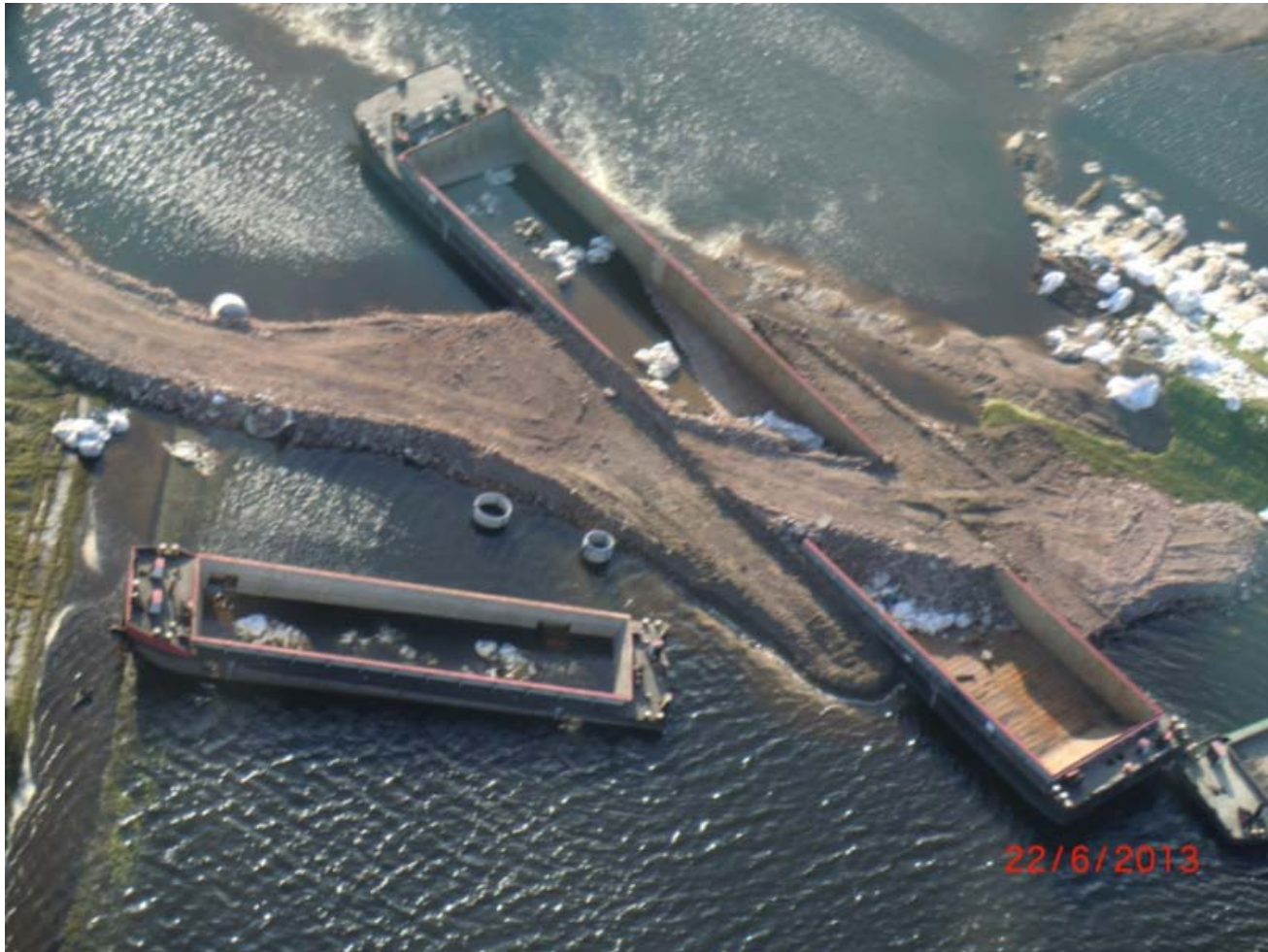
Source: Bundespolizei Flugdienst

...at least not alone...



Source: Berufsfeuerwehr Bremen

...and imaginative!



Source: Administrative District of Stendal

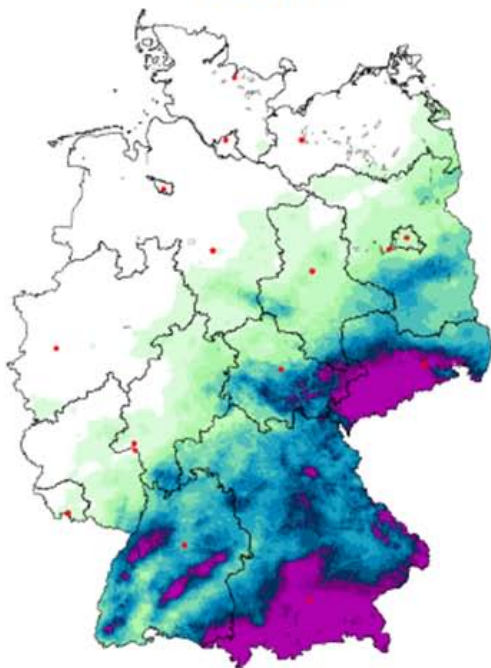
Methodology

- Reconstruction of Flood Event
- Questionnaire
- Expert Interviews
- Mission Reports
- Workshops

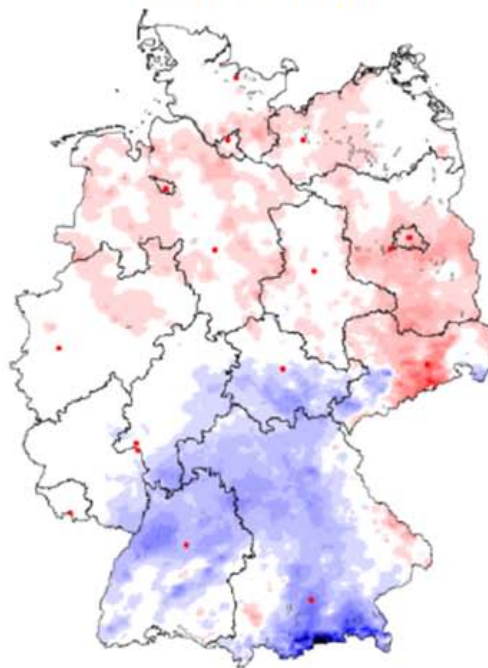


...but why...? Precipitation Events Causing Floods:

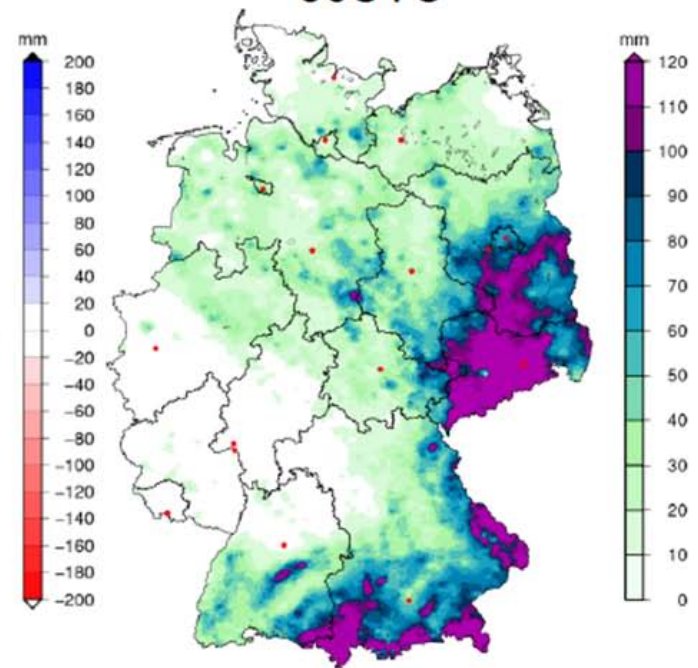
30.05-02.06.2013
06UTC



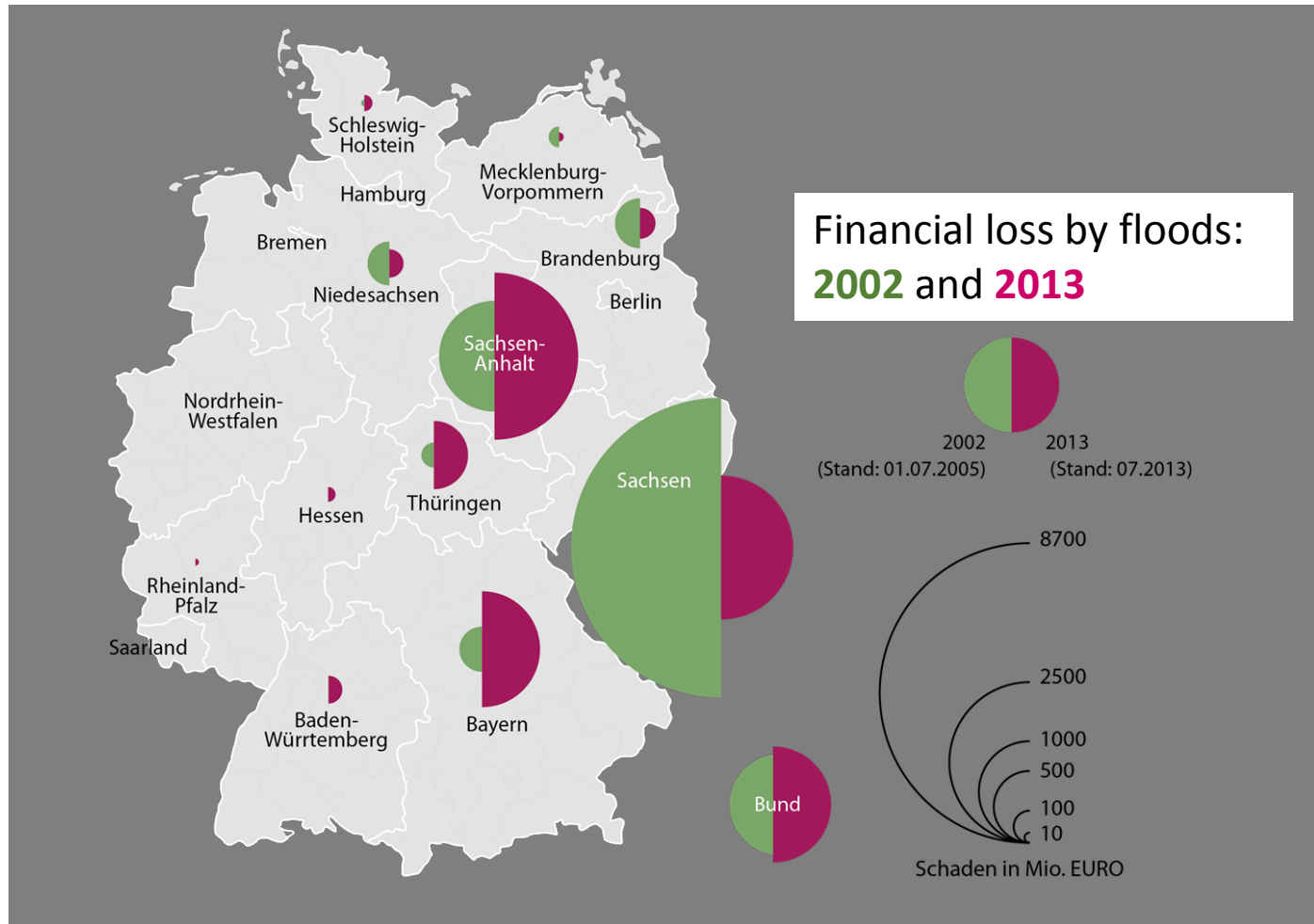
Differences [mm]
2013 - 2002



10.08-14.08.2002
06UTC



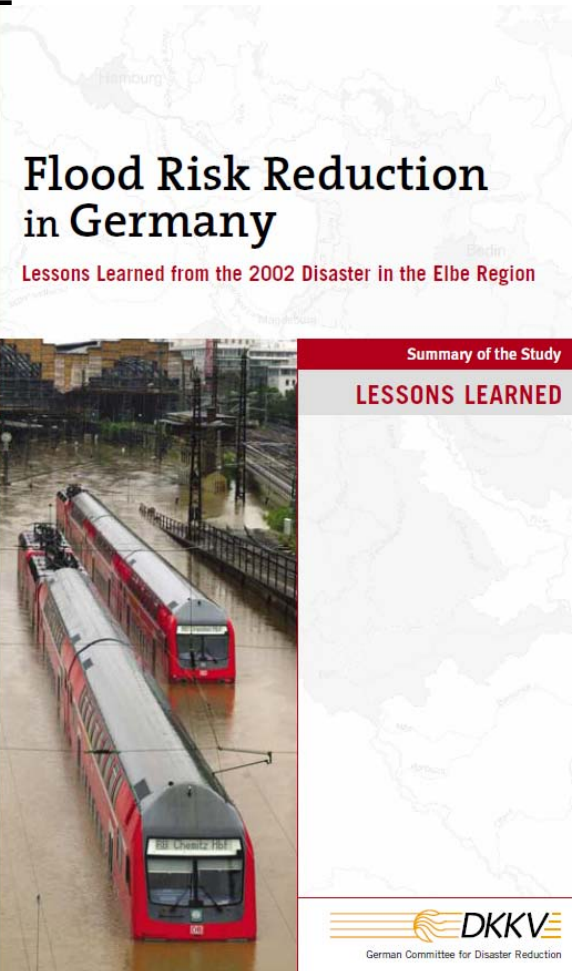
Total damage compared



Source: edited to own draft of Annegret Thieken

DKKV 2003 – Aftermath of 2002

- Extensive Case Study Analysis
- Identification of Deficits
- ...Recommendations
- Revisions of a Statute
 - Flood Protection
 - EU-Flood Action Programme
- Research Programme
 - Horizon 2020



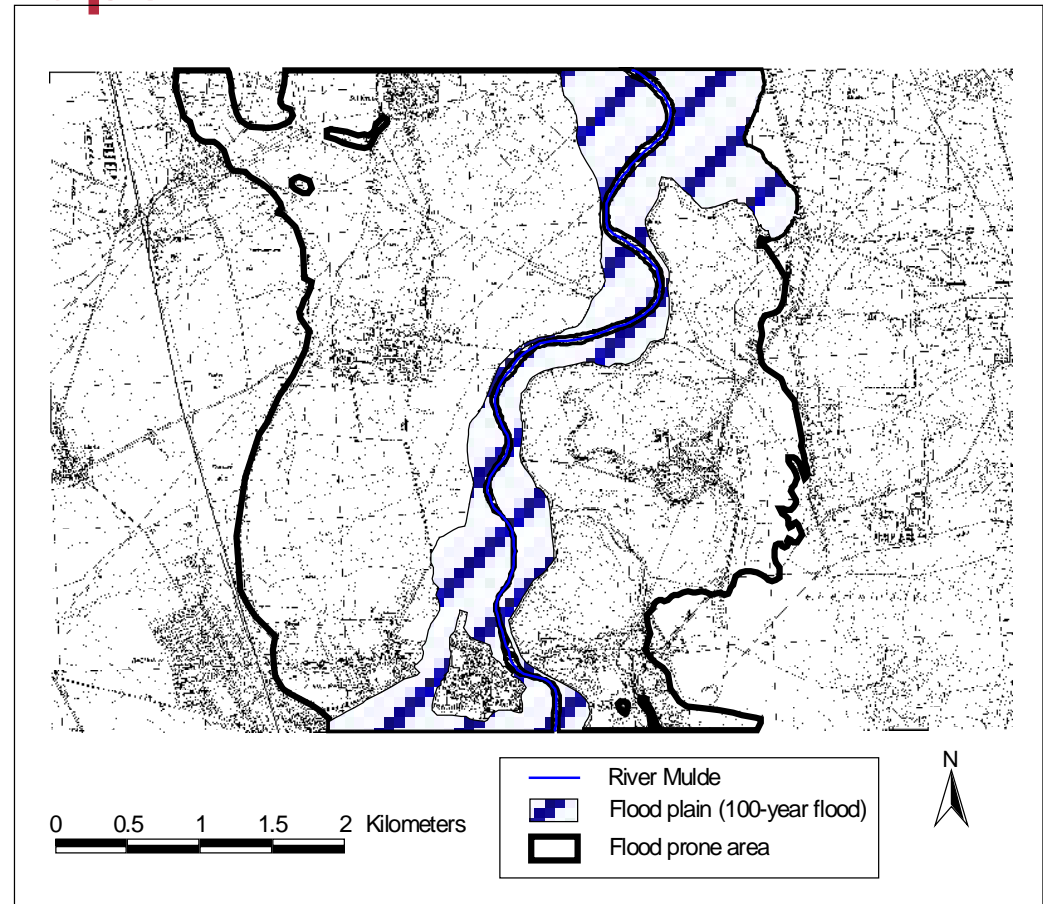
State of the Art 2002:

- Few Szenarios (“HQ100“)
- Data not accessible
- **Good One:**
IKSR-Rheinatlas



<http://www.rheinatlas.de/>

Flood Area Management: Risk Maps



Quelle: Petrow et al. (2006). Environmental Management 38: 717-732

EU-Flood Action Programme (2007/60/EC)

Goal:

Framework for assessment and management of floods in order to limitate negative aspects of human health, environment, cultural heritage and economic activities

Progress:

- 22 Dec. 2011: Identification of areas with high risk potential
- 22 Dec. 2013: Risk and Hazard Maps
- 22 Dec. 2015: Flood Management Plans
- **Update every 6 years**

Transfer to national law: **Federal Water Act**

Map Requirements

Probability of Occurrence

- Flood with low probability (extreme)
- Flood with moderate probability (HQ100)
- Flood with high probability (HQ10/20)

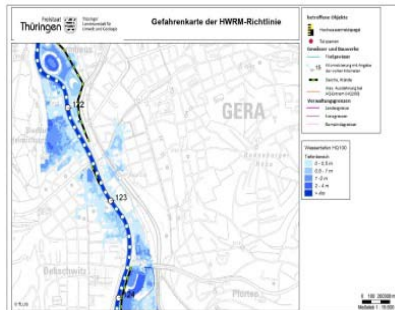
Specific Data

- Flood plain
- Water depth
- Velocity

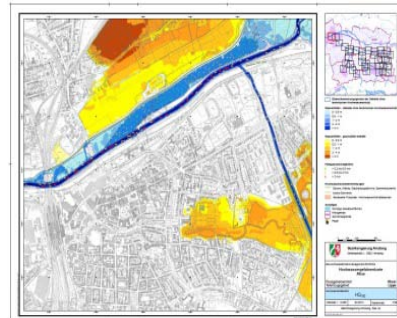
Potential negative results shown on risk maps

Analysis of Current Hazard Maps

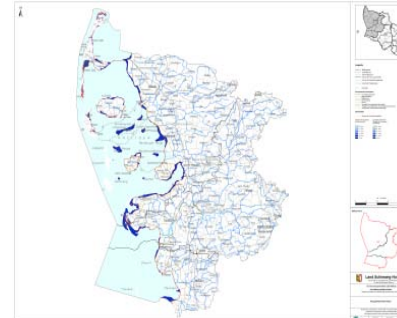
- Hazard Maps in all federal states for HQ100 and HQ200
- No consistency in representation of frequent floods
- Variety of research options for WebGIS applications – or not



Thüringen



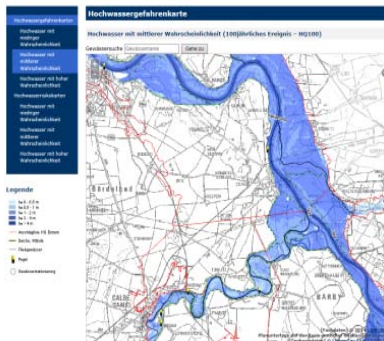
Nordrhein-Westfalen



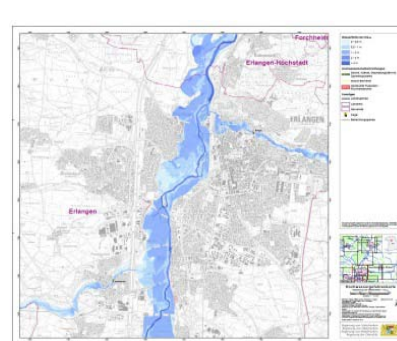
Schleswig-Holstein



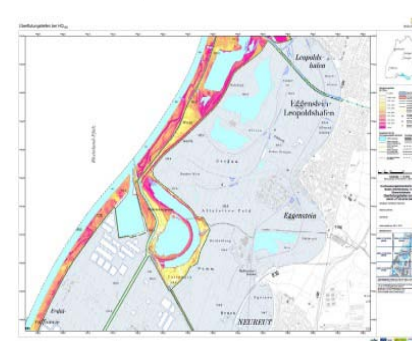
Sachsen



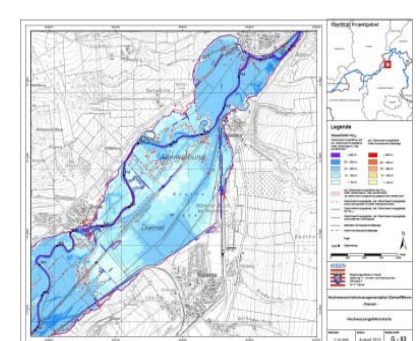
Sachsen-Anhalt



Bayern



Baden-Württemberg



Hessen

Key Recommendations – end user needs

- Public hazard maps in all federal states available
- Comprehensibility for private households to be explored
- Comprehensive and consistent structure of data required
- Remote sensing and WebGIS-applications for public purposes to be promoted
- Biggest threat in emergency is uncertainty
- Importance of early warning systems to be emphasised
- Reduction of potential damage has top priority
- Transnational cooperation
- Encourage sensitivity

Thank you very much!

Don't hesitate to contact me:

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