KU LEUVEN

Climate change & water resources: call for smart climate adaptation strategies & innovations



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Climate change & urbanization

bring additional challenges to water management



Global warming -> more hydrological extremes

Temperature rise at Brussels since 1830:

Increase of saturation concentration air vapour:



Higher frequency of drought events

Such as drought of spring – summer 2017 Flanders:

Waterkwaliteit in West-Vlaanderen levensbedreigend door droogte



🕐 di 25/07/2017 - 16:50 🙎 Denny Baert, Belga

In West-Vlaanderen is het water in sommige waterlopen zo zout geworden, dat er een gevaar is voor de dieren. Daarom verlengt gouverneur Carl Decaluwé het oppompverbod in het IJzerbekken, het bekken van de Brugse Polders en het Leiebekken tot 18 augustus.

Ondanks de regen van de afgelopen dagen is het waterpeil nog altijd veel te laag. De recente regenval heeft de aanhoudende droogte van de afgelopen maanden bij lange nog niet gecompenseerd.

Bovendien wordt al het zoete water in die waterlopen alsmaar zouter. "Wij zien dat de verzilting de voorbije 14 dagen in verschillende waterlopen sterk is gestegen", stelt gouverneur Carl Decaluwé vast.

Levensbedreigend

Het zoutgehalte in het oppervlaktewater zou op sommige plaatsen zo hoog zijn, dat dieren mogelijks kunnen sterven door ervan te drinken.

Zoutwaarden hoger dan 4.000 milligram per liter water vormen een risico voor de volksgezondheid. "Er is een risico, zelfs levensbedreigend als de zoutwaarden boven de 10.000 milligram per liter gaan. Op verschillende plaatsen is die op verschillende plaatsen overschreden", zegt Decaluwé. In het kanaal Plassendale-Nieuwpoort ter hoogte van Middelkerke bedroeg het zoutgehalte zelfs 14.000 milligram per liter.





Higher frequency of pluvial floods

Such as extreme rainfall events & pluvial flooding 27 May – 6 June 2016 Belgium:



Urbanization -> Soil sealing

Increase in build-up areas and pavements:



Poelmans, L., Van Rompaey, A., Ntegeka, V., Willems, P. (2011), 'The relative impact of climate change and urban expansion on river flows: a case study in central Belgium', **Hydrological Processes**, 25(18), 2846-2858

"Stop the soil sealing" plan



Flanders' new White Book Spatial Planning (BRV):

Two types of actions:

- Preserve the open spaces / urban expansion as an exception
- Increasing the spatial efficiency (densification in urban areas, but with attention for "liveability")



"Stop the soil sealing" plan

Impact on urban water planning (recent study for **VLARIO**):









Economic benefits for urban drainage management: **urban water planning cost in Flanders** <u>reduces from 3,4 to 1,8 billion €</u> (non-private investments)

Future climate change ?



Willems, P., Olsson, J., Arnbjerg-Nielsen, K., Beecham, S., Pathirana, A., Bülow Gregersen, I., Madsen, H., Nguyen, V-T-V. (2012), 'Impacts of climate change on rainfall extremes and urban drainage', IWA Publishing, 252p., Paperback Print ISBN 9781780401256; Ebook ISBN 9781780401263



Higher resolution climate modelling



Tabari, H., De Troch, R., Giot, O., Hamdi, R., Termonia, P., Saeed, S., Brisson, E., Van Lipzig, N., Willems, P. (2016), 'Local impact analysis of climate change on precipitation extremes: are high-resolution climate models needed for realistic simulations?', Hydrology and Earth System Sciences, 20, 3843–3857



Climate change tools for impact analysis

Impact analysis on urban drainage



Willems, P. (2013). 'Revision of urban drainage design rules after assessment of climate change impacts on precipitation extremes at Uccle, Belgium', **Journal of Hydrology**, 496, 166–177

Climate change tools for impact analysis

Impact analysis on urban drainage



High resolution 1m DEM:





1.5 -> 30 m² meshes:

Bermúdez Pita, M., Ntegeka, V., Wolfs, V., Willems, P. (2018), 'Development and comparison of two fast surrogate models for urban pluvial flood simulations', Water Resources Management, 32(8), 2801-2815



Climate change impacts

Example: city of Antwerp

Current climate:

T10

T25

T100



Current climate

Rainfall source: Uccle composite storms

Boundary condition: Water levels at outfalls

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Km

Future climate, high climate 2050 scenario:



Climate Experience the benefits of climate services







Climate adaptation & improving disaster resilience



BRIDGING THE GAP FOR INNOVATIONS IN DISASTER RESILIENCE



FROM PROTOTYPE TO MARKET READY INNOVATION ADAPTING TO: FLOODS, DROUGHTS & EXTREME WEATHER



VALLEY OF DEATH

Climate adaptation & improving disaster resilience







Workshop February '17: How to make our district climate proof?









Integrated water planning tools





Aim? Optimize hydraulic designs through simulations. Quantify the impact of climate change.

Designed for cities & industry

- Design SUDS & quantify their effect
- Simulate 100 years in seconds
- See the impact of climate change
- Created with VLARIO & industry

https://www.sumaqua.be/sirio



Forecasting & real-time control



Other promising innovations??

Prototype available (TRL 4-5-6-7-8)

- (Support for) further testing needed
- Support on market analysis & business development needed
- EU support welcomed

Submit your innovation to : climate-innovation@brigaid.eu

More info : http://brigaid.eu/



Climate innovation window

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INNOVATIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

EU reference marketplace where end-users and innovators can meet



111 Disasters and ICT Smart Rainfall System



Nature Based Solutions Futureproof peat meadow polder



-Agriculture Holistic soil restoration by means of organic regenerative



Agriculture



AguaTag Remote





Water Safety **FLUTSCHUTZ** Alignment

Protection

Share your innovation

Climate adaptation needs

Different types of solutions: smart technology

- well-thought (multi-functional, creative) use of available space robust infrastructure behaviour (<- sensitization, self-coping capacity, shared
- responsibilities)



LAAG 1

PREVENTIE

LAAG 2 RUIMTELIJKE ORDENING & INRICHTING

LAAG 3 RAMPENRESTRUDING

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