



# Risk Management of Extreme River Floods



## Management Aspects

- a "Post/Pre-Event" Perspective of the Mulde Flood 2002 in Eilenburg -



### Preflood activities in Eilenburg 2002

Before Eilenburg was flooded, the only protection measure was the dyke-system which was partly in a bad condition. Plans for evacuation were existent, but the population was hardly informed of these plans and they didn't know what to do.

Melde- und Informationswege der Hochwassernachrichten



source: LfUG Sachsen

By Saxon law the "Landratsamt" is the responsible institution for every disaster situation. It was also the case in Eilenburg though some responsible people were announced to manage possible situations.

The only problem was that no one knows who was responsible for what case.

### Activities to be in need of the flood 2002 / activities to be in need of the next flood

First important thing is to prove that every authority knows who is responsible for what subject in the "Krisenstab".

#### Leader of the "Krisenstab"

- S1: Personal
- S2: Situation/Information
- S3: coordination of measures
- S4: Logistics
- S5: public work and press information
- S6: communication between Krisenstab and safeguards

### Warning

The warning has to be understandable and long-ranged.

To keep the awareness of the

people the warning must be trained and taken seriously. Measures could be:

- household information's about risks and potential damages via Flyer
- official & public risk mapping and disaster planning which can be seen by public
- information with an Internet Portal
- public information with signs near the dyke line and over the city

### Evacuation needs

- Informed authorities (police etc.)
- meeting points (known by busdrivers and concerned persons)
- early information to people (before 6 o'clock, afterwards pupils and workers aren't any longer at home)
- inhabitants have to know what is essential to take with (clothes for three days, most important documents, medicine)
- special evacuation plans for important buildings (hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes, prisons, hotels, city hall)

To manage the whole disaster situation, it is very important to evacuate the city hall and to have necessary stuff (papers, pc's, lamps, mobile phones, radios, emergency power generator, candles, telephone books, ...).

### Unexpected cases

In the complete disaster plan you have to think about possible unexpected happenings. For example the city of Eilenburg was splitted. Maybe former modelling of a flood can prevent such a surprise. Besides alternative flood-safe building with disaster-safe equipment is useful.

### Communication, information and infrastructure

following measures are necessary:

- build up a huge database (private and public telephone numbers include the private and business mobile phone numbers of administrative personal, local business men, ...)
- press spokesman to manage information output and prevent disturbing of the help services by the journalists
- possibility of the press spokesman to print simple newspapers or handouts to inform

In case of an extreme event the typical German bureaucracy like official long communication ways is under circumstances avoidable.

To supply the people it is most important to have a depot of long durable food for at least one week. After one week it's probable that the supply from outer regions had arrived, which the crisis committee has to order.

### Post-flood activities in Eilenburg / Activities to be in need after the flood 2002 in Eilenburg

After the really hard event of the Mulde flood in Eilenburg nothing necessary happened afterwards, it seems that the responsible persons made the false consequences out of this flood.

Problems which are still to solve:

- Installation of a public institution which is able to install working flood warnings (incl. Disaster plan)
- clear structure of responsibilities of the authorities
- fully improved and save dyke system and flood infrastructures



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