



Invitation to the Special session on:
INTEGRATED FLOOD MANAGEMENT

At the 2nd International Yellow River Forum (IYRF)

Zhengzhou, China, 18-21 October 2005

Special session: **Integrated Flood Management**
Time: **AM 08:00 – 12:20, Thursday 20 October 2005**
Venue: **Room E1408 on 14th Floor, Yellow River Conservancy Commission (YRCC)**
Session organized by: **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**
under the WMO/GWP Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)

Background

For many years, the concept of **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)** has been recognised to be the key to achieving water security and water resources sustainability in the face of the many competing demands for water and threats to its quality and availability. The recognition that flood disasters have been adversely affecting the sustainability of development and that the flood issues needed to be addressed in the context of IWRM led to the development and promotion of the concept of **Integrated Flood Management (IFM)**.

Increased population pressure has contributed to an increase in loss of human life and economic loss due to flooding. Traditionally, flood management has focused on reactive practices and it is widely recognised that a paradigm shift is required from defensive to proactive action towards a culture of prevention through the management of risk and living with floods. There is a need for a proactive approach to account for the growing trend in economic losses due to flooding by adopting a culture of prevention. In many cases flood management issues are dealt with in an ad-hoc manner and in isolation without considering the impact of interventions on the upstream or downstream parts of the water system. This need for a paradigm shift is the inspiration behind the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM).



Programme of the session on Integrated Flood Management

AM 08:00 to 10:00: Proposed presentations

- 1. A paradigm shift from flood control to flood management through an integrated approach**
Avinash Tyagi, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2. Integrating the ecosystem approach with flood management**
Ania Grobicki, Consultant, World Meteorological Organization
- 3. Building resilience in flood prone communities through participation**
Kamta Prasad, Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development, New Delhi, India
- 4. Comparison of Yellow River Floods to the other Floods in China, Asia and the World**
Wang Guo'an, Yellow River Engineering Consulting Co., Ltd, YRCC, Zhengzhou, China
- 5. Flood Disaster Response Mechanisms in China**
Weimin Zhao, Bureau of Hydrology, YRCC, Ministry of Water Resources, China

AM 10:20 to 12:20: Panel Discussion on “Sustainable Development through Integrated Flood Management (IFM)”

Panelists

Avinash Tyagi, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
Ania Grobicki, Consultant, World Meteorological Organization
Kamta Prasad, Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development, New Delhi, India
Jian Zhang, Bureau of Hydrology, Ministry of Water Resources, Beijing, China



Integrated Flood Management

Integrated Flood Management (IFM) is a process promoting an integrated rather than fragmented approach to flood management, which seeks to integrate land and water resources development in a river basin, within the context of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), and aims at maximising the net benefits from flood plains while minimising the loss of life from flooding.

The long term objectives of adopting an Integrated approach to Flood Management are to ensure livelihood security for poverty alleviation through use of flood plains, and balance development needs and flood risks. These objectives are being met through adopting basin approach to flood management; ensuring multi-disciplinarity in flood management; reducing vulnerability of the flood affected; and encouraging community participation in various phases of flood management.

Therefore IFM addresses the following:

- Managing the water cycle as a whole
- Integration of land and water management
- Adopting a best mix of strategies
- Ensuring a participatory approach
- Adopting integrated hazard management approaches



Associated Programme on Flood Management

The Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) is a joint initiative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP). It promotes the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM) as a new approach to flood management. The programme is financially supported by the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands.

The mission of the APFM is to "support countries in the integrated management of floods" within the overall framework of integrated water resources management.

The APFM's objectives are to:

- Establish the principles of Integrated Flood Management,
- Help assimilate principles of Integrated Flood Management within the overall Integrated Water Resources Management,
- Identify gaps in present flood management practices and IFM approach to stimulate partners to meet critical needs within their available human and financial resources,
- Support actions at all levels, local, national, regional or river basin that follows principles of Integrated Flood Management,
- Provide a platform for a common strategic vision on integrated flood management issues, and to promote the implementation of effective policies and strategies worldwide,
- Promote awareness about flood management issues, build political commitment and trigger action at all levels, and
- Provide advice and relevant information to institutions and decision-makers on flood management issues.

Fore more information

Please visit the APFM website: <http://www.apfm.info> or contact Technical Support Unit (TSU) at apfm@wmo.int.

WMO/GWP Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
7 bis, avenue de la Paix, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

