

Adaption and Resilience Conference
Brussels, April 23-24 2024

INTRODUCTION FIER

Interreg
North Sea



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FIER

AGENDA

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Introduction

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**FIER is more
than being Proud**

03
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SYMSAGEB

- **Local Public Authority**, in charge of plan & management of local water policy, **flood prevention**, management of natural aquatic environments, management of wetlands.
- **Competence** relevant to FIER: **flood prevention**
- **Location:**



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Missions

**FLOOD RISK
AWARENESS**



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**SELF-EFFICACY
PROMOTION**

COMMUNICATION



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November 2023



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FIER = PROUD



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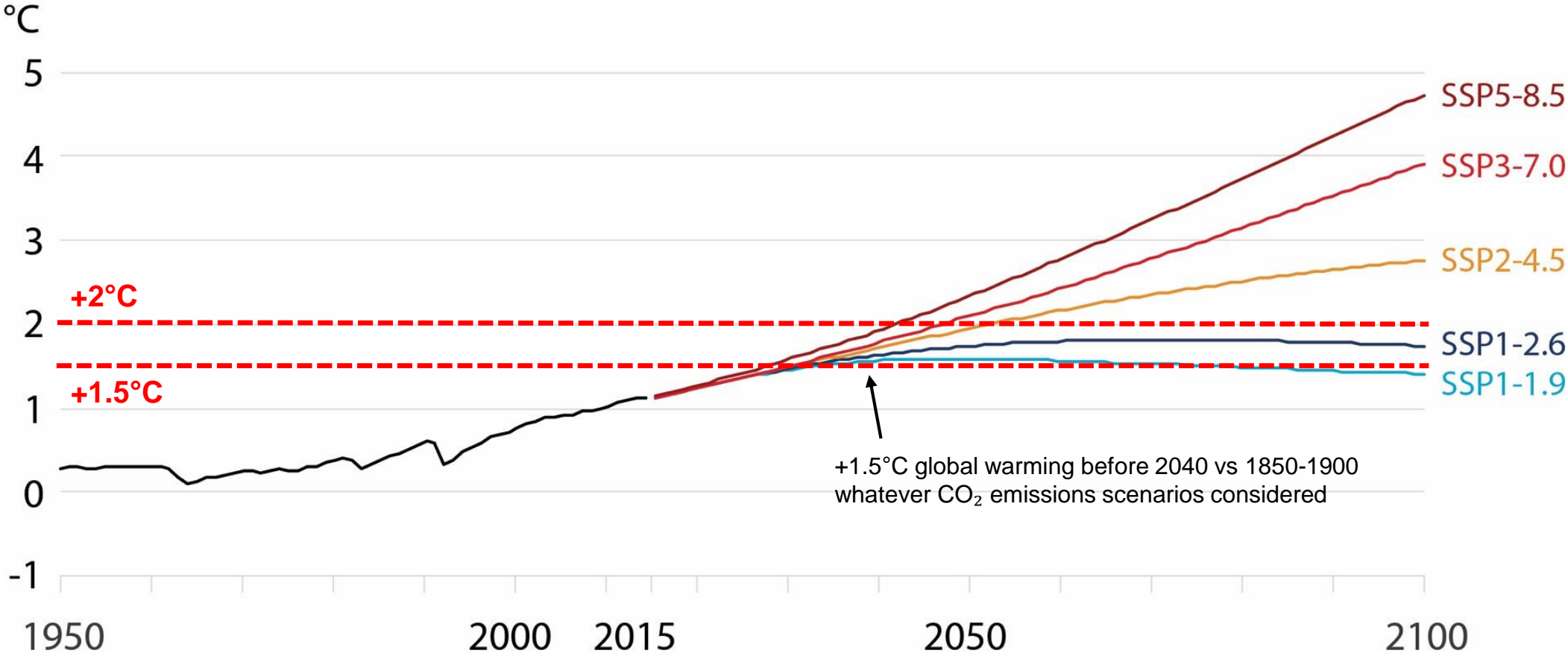


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FIER IS MORE THAN BEING PROUD

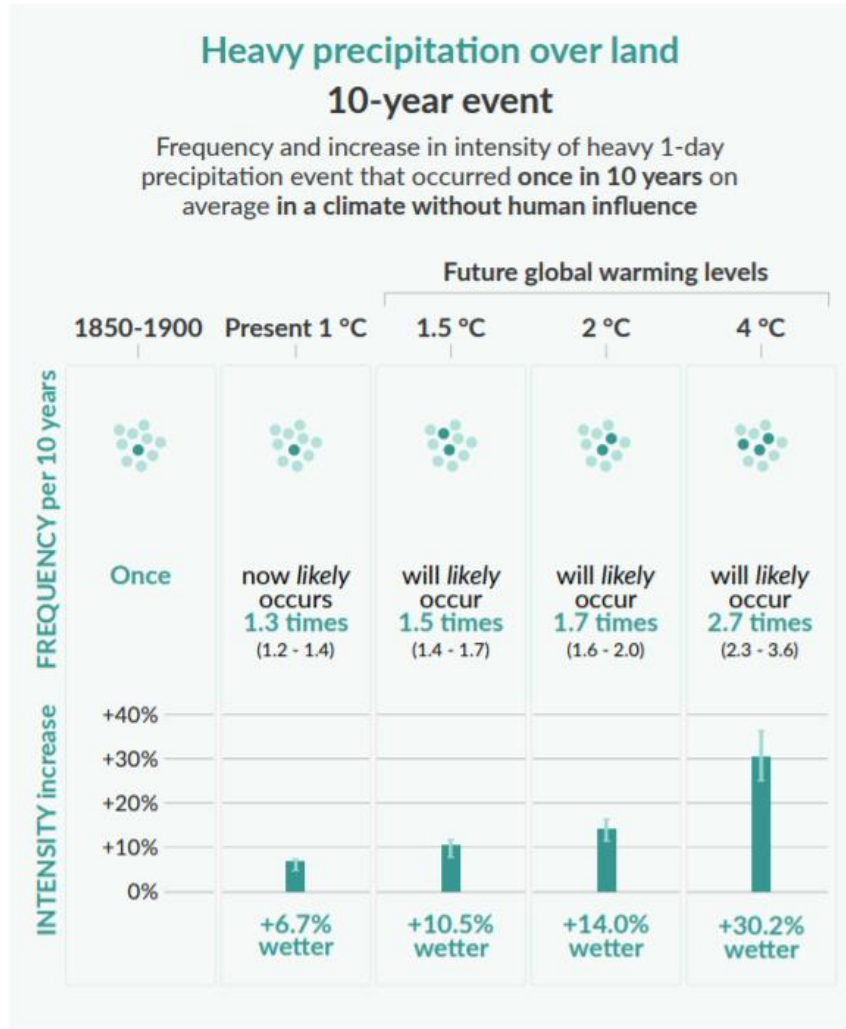


GLOBAL WARMING WILL CONTINUE



+1.5°C global warming before 2040 vs 1850-1900 whatever CO₂ emissions scenarios considered

HEAVY IMPACTS ON PRECIPITATIONS



**Every
increment of warming**



**more frequent
& more intense
extremes**

INCREASED FLOOD RISK



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INCREASED FLOOD RISK



Germany, July 2021



*Belgium/France,
November 2023*



*Netherlands/
Belgium
July 2021*



*Norway,
August 2023*

FIER IS MORE THAN BEING PROUD

The Interreg North Sea project FIER aims to **enhance societal resilience for and limit the impact of climate-induced floods.**

This will be achieved by **fostering behavioural change** and **bolstering crisis management infrastructure**. Crucial ingredients in developing a more complete Multi-Layer Safety Approach.

Drawing from past EU projects and recent crises, FIER will develop new and innovative action plans and robust frameworks tailored to the North-Sea region. By the project end, participating regions aim to see a **significant boost in societal resilience** and **enhanced flood management capability.**



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3 WORK PACKAGES

Work package 1

Awareness raising and promoting **self-efficacy** for climate-induced flood crises

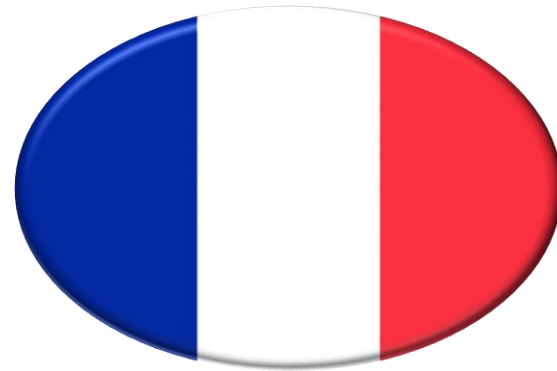
Work package 2

Improved **emergency response** during climate-induced flood crises

Work package 3

Enhancing capacities for **resilient recovery** after climate-induced flood

STRONG PARTNERSHIP



5 COUNTRIES



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STRONG PARTNERSHIP



10 PARTNERS

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CASE - City of Dordrecht

Situation

Dordrecht is the oldest city of Holland, rich in history and culture, **located in the Rhine-Meuse-Scheldt delta** (Western Netherlands) in the Dutch province of South Holland. Due to its location, the city has always had a strong relation to water, also explaining its important **focus on water safety**.

Challenges

- **Raise** climate induced flood **awareness** & develop **self-efficacy**
- Improve crises **preparedness** & **evacuation plans**

Impact FIER

- Improve all areas for **water safety resilience**
- **Communication**
- **Evacuation** strategies

Already Happening

- **Water safety Festival** 'For the Flooding', 'High and dry' route
- **Educate children** to educate parents



CASE – Province of Zeeland

Situation

The province of Zeeland is situated in the southwest of the Netherlands and is effectively a number of **peninsulas** and **islands**. In **1953** they faced a **disastrous flood**, which has led to the development of the Dutch Delta works. People feel safe now and the **perception of risks** is **low**. However, due to climate change, the **risk of flooding is increasing** again.

Challenges

- Improve **risk perceptions** and **self-efficacy**
- Develop better **emergency response** considering **road infrastructures**

Impact FIER

- Design requirements for **road infrastructures**
- **Improve cooperation** within national organizations & cross-borders organizations (Flanders & Zeeland)
- **Recovery plan** for non and slightly flooded areas

Already Happening

- **Examination flood risks** for critical infrastructures



CASE – SYMSAGEB

Situation

The Boulonnais territory is located in the North of France, close to the sea. It has **faced many floods** over years. It's composed with a **dense network of small streams and rivers**. During heavy rains, **water rises suddenly causing floods** over several hundred hectares. In November 2023, Boulonnais territory faced extremes rainfalls with huge impacts.

Challenges

- **Raise climate induced flood awareness & develop self-efficacy**
- Improve **flooding crisis management**
- Increase **resilience**

Impact FIER

- Better **awareness & self-efficacy**
- Municipalities **emergency response plans**
- **Reduced** citizens & companies **vulnerability**

Already Happening

- Raise **flood awareness among children** to also reach parents
- Work with municipalities on **emergency response plans**



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CASE – FDG West-Vlaanderen Dienst Noodplanning

Situation

West-Flanders is the westernmost province of Belgium, and the only province bordering the North Sea. The area is therefore **subject to multiple flood risks**: fluvial, pluvial & North Sea related. Due to climate change, there is a **clear rise in the occurrence and severity of floods**, with the flood crisis of November 2023 as a stark reminder.

Challenges

- Multiple **flood risks & increased probability**
- Low **awareness, self-efficacy**
- **Transnational cooperation**

Impact FIER

- Increased **risk awareness & preparedness**
- Emergency plans for **better crisis management**
- Improved flood **data exchange** with **cross-border** organizations (first Zeeland, later extending to France)

Already Happening

- Long lasting **cooperation** between **Flanders & Zeeland**
- National **cooperation of water actors** during Nov 2023 crisis



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CASE – Torsby municipality

Situation

Torsby is located in the north of the province of Värmland **in a valley**. It's a **wide municipality** covering 4 162,2 km² with population spread over the area. There is a **dam** with risks of breakthrough.

One challenge is to **reach out all the population** to share information. **Crisis management** is also key, to make sure people adopt right behavior at the right time.

Challenges

- **Communicate** & inform on **flood risks**
- Improve **crises preparedness** & **evacuation plans**

Impact FIER

- **Get the right info** in the right way to citizens with the right communication tool
- Design **evacuation scenarios** and **strategies**
- Share **good practices** of floods management

Already Happening

- **Book bus** delivering library & other public services in the countryside which can be efficient **to reach out people**



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FIER = CONFIDENT



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FIRST DELIVERABLES EXPECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

- **Stakeholder** and **governance analyses** of the targeted areas
- **Stakeholder engagement plans**
- Inventory of (good) **practices** in Europe that can serve as inspiration
- Analysis of **risk perceptions** among **citizens** and **stakeholders**

If you are a stakeholder in this area,
if you want to share ideas or best practices
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Thank you



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