

Deltares

Integrated Flood Resilience

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Nature-based solutions for flood management

Sense of urgency in urban environments

- Ongoing developments and lack of space in urban areas: less storage / infiltration and more surface run-off;
- Accelerated sealevel rise and storm surges, affecting coastal communities through floods and erosion, but also
- Pollution, droughts, water quality issues, heat stress, land subsidence, etc.
- Paradigm shift: from civil engineering to more nature-based solutions
 - A more sustainable and resilient environment
 - Cost-effective solutions with added value for multiple beneficiaries
 - -> dealing with uncertainty and need for adaptation
- Need for an improved system understanding





Conceptual model of the sponge

Dynamic Water Balance Model



Integrated Flood Resilience Strategy for Yangon City



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IFRS for Yangon City

The World Bank IFRS project was part of a larger initiative towards a multi-annual flood resilience investment program for Yangon City (2020 – 2040), which should result in the implementation of an Integrated Flood Resilience Strategy (IFRS).



Resilience strategies for flood risk management not only aim to **resist** floods risks, but also to **relieve** and **recover** from their impacts as well as **adapt** themselves to next floods.

IFRS for Yangon City







"A Flood Resilient Yangon City has appropriate standards of flood protection..... and the ability to relieve and recover from flooding, in a way that minimizes social and economic disruption to an acceptable level..... so that all people have equal opportunities for a prosperous future in a safe, healthy and attractive living environment."

IFRS for Yangon City



Reconstruction of tropical cyclone Nargis (2008)



Resilient City Toolbox (RCT)

CHOOSE

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Urban wetland

Pluvial flooding Heatstress Drought

Wetlands are water-rich natural areas that occur chiefly along rivers and in deltas. By their very nature, wetlands are overflow areas for rivers and as such are natural rainwater buffers. However, the urban expansions and the correspondingly lower groundwater levels put pressure on wetlands and wet nature around the world. In some cities, London for example, wetlands serve a function by developing greater biodiversity and natural and pleasant recreation areas for city dwellers.



For more information click here



Nature-based Solutions





- Nature-based Solutions, making optimal use of ecosystem functions and services
- Multiple smaller Nature-based Solutions can collectively contribute to meeting flood resilience objectives!
- The solutions can provide additional benefits by improving air quality, water quality, living quality and human health.

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Blue-green / nature-based solutions preferred



What is the RCT?

- RCT is a tool to support **dialogue** with all stakeholders on which adaptation measures can be implemented, where, and how.
- RCT provides estimates on the effect of a proposed package of measures on resilience against extreme rainfall, drought, and heat stress, and on stormwater quality
- The results of the dialogue become input for a detailed design conducted by landscape architects and urban planners.



What can the RCT do?

- The RCT can be used during **program formulation** and **conceptual design** to co-create packages of adaptation measures for a more water-robust and climate-resilient urban environment.
- Planners, water managers and other stakeholders (local representatives, experts, constructors, financers, etc.) are supported by the RCT in **their dialogue about options and alternatives**;
- The RCT provides them with an overview of different measures and a first estimate of hydrological effectiveness and costs, so that alternative choices can be discussed and evaluated.





Resilient City Toolbox (Hlaing townshop)



Flood map (maximum inundation): design rainfall with return period of 10 years (no surge, spring tide and low river discharge.

Opportunity map for possible implementation of local structural measures towards a Blue-Green Hlaing Township



Hlaing RCT

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Program of Measures



Structural Measures (Nature-based Solutions) **at local scale** (Townships):

- Focus on pluvial flood hazards
- Maximum 10-20% problem solving capacity

Structural Measures at City Scale:

 Focus on Coastal (and Fluvial) Flood Hazards

Non-structural Measures:

- Support structural measures



Guiding principles for IFRS

- **Create** Acceptable Level of Flood Safety;
- **Maximize** Flood Resilience;
- Align with Urban Planning;
- Synergize with Planned Developments;
- Adopt Location-specific Approach;
- Start both Big and Small;
- **Prioritize** No or Low-regret Measures;
- **Optimize** Planning Horizon.

Maximize co-benefits for people, economy, environment and/or cultural heritage!



Program of Measures



Key take-aways

- Data and urban system understanding is essential
- Blue-green where possible, grey where needed!
- Consider the uncertainties
- Plan for the future and be adaptive



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Realize that floods disproportionately affect vulnerable communities through **direct impact**, **increasing morbidity** and **economic impacts**.

 Floods
 Droughts

 Water quality
 Urban heat effect

 Urban heat effect
 Urban heat effect

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climate resilient city toolbox (kbstoolbox.nl)

