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## Statements of the *regional* hydrological service*s* of Belgium

Collected by Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital
- Wallonia

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
  - Navigable waterways: Flanders Hydraulics-Hydrological Information Centre (HIC)
  - Non-navigable waterways: Flemish Environmental Agency (VMM)
- Brussels-Capital
- Wallonia

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
  - Navigable waterways: Flanders Hydraulics-Hydrological Information Centre (HIC)
    - Measurements (water level, flow, sediment concentration, rainfall)
    - Flood forecasting and tidal predictions
    - Hydrological research
  - Non-navigable waterways: Flemish Environmental Agency (VMM)

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
  - Navigable waterways: Flanders Hydraulics-Hydrological Information Centre (HIC)
  - Non-navigable waterways: Flemish Environmental Agency (VMM)
    - Operational Flood (Crisis) Management
    - Flood Risk Management (cf EU Floods Directive)
    - Support of R&D

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital 
  - Brussels Water Management Society (SBGE/BMWB)
- Wallonia

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital

  - Brussels Water Management Society (SBGE/BMWB)
    - Mainly urban hydrology (storm basins, sewer network, treatment plans)
    - But also measurement network (precipitation, surface water)
- Wallonia

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital
- Wallonia:
  - DG03 (General Direction of Mobility and Navigable Waterways)
  - DG02 (Agriculture and Environment): non-navigable waterways (rivers with area > 50 km^2)

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital
- Wallonia:


  - DG03 (General Direction of Mobility and Navigable Waterways)
    - Hydrological monitoring (measurement network, flood forecasting, control, flood warnings)
    - Hydrological studies (river basin, EU Directives)

# Organization, role and main tasks

Regionalized hydrological services:

- Flanders
- Brussels-Capital
- Wallonia:
  - DG03
  - DG02 (Agriculture and Environment): non-navigable waterways (rivers with area > 50 km^2)
    - AQUALIM streamgauge network (160 sites), database and statistical tools for hydrological studies
    - Monitoring of floods and low flows

# Biggest success

- HIC: Available flood forecasting system for all navigable waterways in Flanders to be used as decision support system for water managers
- VMM: issued in November 2010 a first official national flood warning 48 hours before a damaging flooding started over wide areas in Flanders.

What makes you happy at work?

- HIC: achieving goals

# Biggest failure

- HIC: staff reduction
- VMM: not being able to communicate towards the general public with one voice and slower speed when working together with more organisations.
- VMM(2): late access to the NWP and now-casting products from neighbouring countries

What makes you unhappy at work?

- HIC: staff reduction

# Expectations

- At the regional level
  - VMM: integrated web-publishing of all content with regard to flooding (geo-portal).
- At the national level
  - HIC: free, high quality and quickly validated meteorological data from Royal Meteorological Institute
  - VMM: balanced agreement on «data-costs» when meteorological and hydrological services make use of each others data and products

# Expectations

- At international level
  - HIC: availability of realtime and validated data for transnational catchments in France (Météo-France) and the Netherlands (KNMI); easy access to weather forecasts of several European models
  - VMM: access to real-time observed rainfall intensities (mm/10') in neighbouring areas of Flanders with a time-delay less then 4 minutes