Securing Water for All

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Urban Flood Management: Towards A Holistic Approach

Social dimensions: Have they been considered adequately?

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Social Dimensions in Urban Flood Management

- **How well** are social aspects reflected in the analysis

- **What is the meaningful** involvement of society in decision making processes

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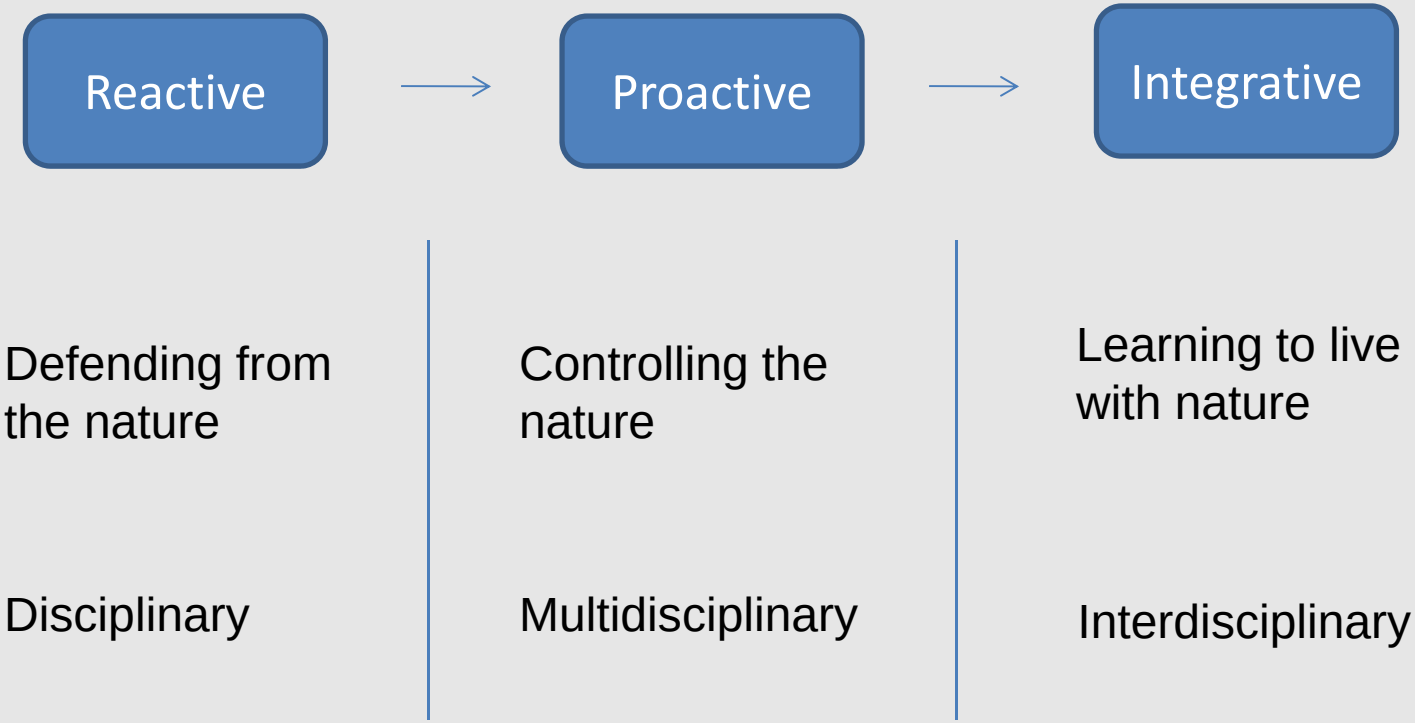
Social Dimensions in Urban Flood Management



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Urban Flood Management – Current Practice

- Still fragmented views and organisational structures
- Most of floods can be managed by technical measures alone
- The method of inquiry rooted in the modern science
- Reductionist: taking something apart in order to understand it

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Urban Flood Management – Current Practice

- Obsession with quantification (ordering, numbering, counting, measuring)

- Qualities are left out - they cannot be measured/counted (e.g., perceptions, feelings, emotions, ethics, social justice, etc.)

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Urban Flood Management – Current Practice

R = Probability x Consequence

R = f(H, V, R, E, CC, etc.) = f(H,V)

Impacts = Benefits - Losses

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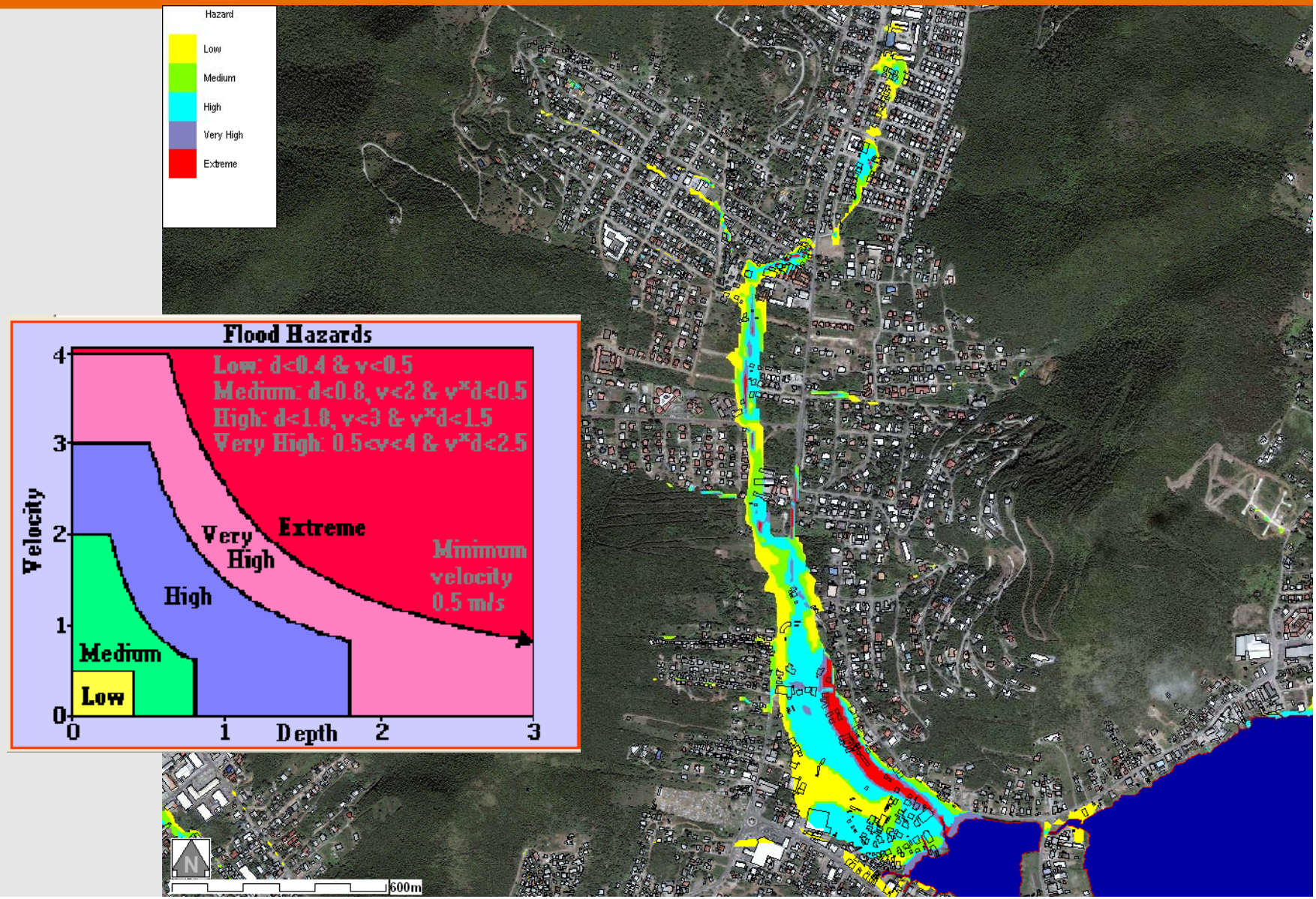
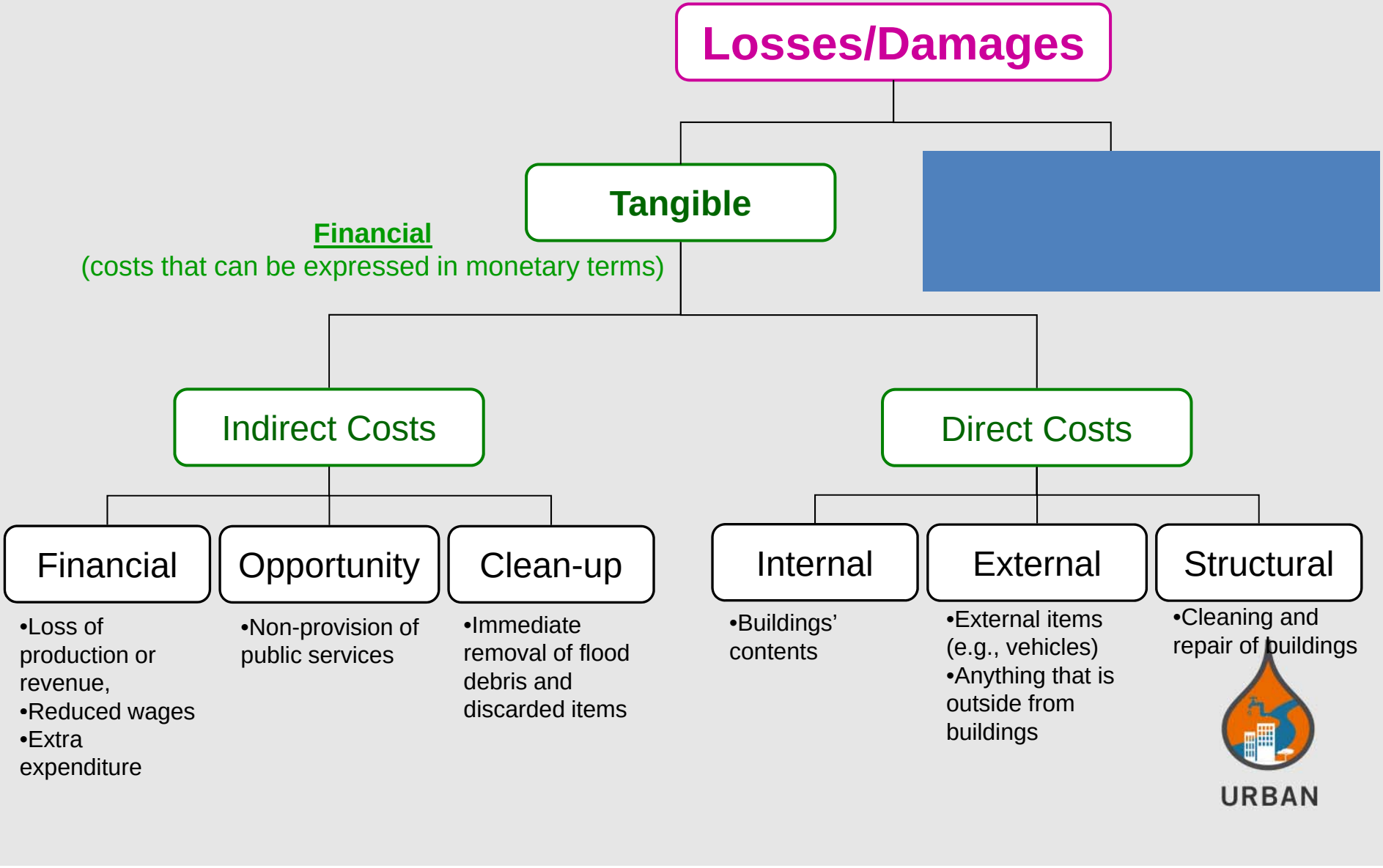
Urban Flood Management – Current Practice



Flood Damages



Flood Damages

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Flood Damages

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Flood Damages

- 900 Million people live in slum areas;
- Hazardous, congested and concentrated areas;
- Lack of drainage infrastructure and other basic services;
- Often not seen as an equal partner in the city;

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Urban Flood Management – Stakeholder Participation

- Who should be involved?
- How should they be involved?
- How often?
- Empowerment?
- What should be the prevailing criteria for decision making?

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Social Dimensions – Current Practice

- Flooding: “an engineer’s problem”
- Quantitative risk assessment
- Focus on economic costs and benefits
- Inadequate stakeholder participation

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Social dimensions - from an engineer's point of view

Social dimensions: Have they been considered adequately?

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Thank You

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