

## **Flood risk management plans in Europe: experiences with their preparation and implementation**

**WILLIAM VAN BERKEL<sup>1</sup> & JOS VAN ALPHEN<sup>2</sup>**

*1 Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, Directorat General Spatial Planning and Water Management, PB 20905, 2500 EX The Hague, The Netherlands*

[william.van.berkel@minienm.nl](mailto:william.van.berkel@minienm.nl)

*2 Staff Delta Commissioner, PO Box 90653, 2509 LR, The Hague, The Netherlands.*

**Abstract** The European Floods Directive (FD, 2007/60/EU) requires Member States to define objectives for the management of flood risks in river basins, focusing on the reduction of potential adverse consequences of flooding for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. Flood risk management comprises physical measures to reduce the likelihood and consequences of flooding and, where appropriate, non-structural initiatives. The first generation of these flood risk management plans (FRMPs) will become available in 2015. This paper presents the first experiences with the preparation and implementation of these FRMP's in 20 European countries.

**Key words** flood risk; management plan; implementation; European Floods Directive; water; rivers; groundwater; European commission