

Funding of Flood Risk Management in the North Sea Region

An interim output developed by the FAIR Consortium (WP3 – Paul Sayers, paul.sayers@sayersandpartners.co.uk)

Supporting information to Task 3.1 Questionnaire Responses (Funding Question)



England

Put together by: Paul Sayers





Request for funds



Pros and cons

- Pros:
 - Promotes public and private contributions
 - Enables national public money to be prioritised nationally
 - Provides six years of funding agreements on flood defences (for the Agency)
 - Enables additional benefits (higher standards, environmental enhancements etc) to be paid for locally
- Cons:
 - Privative funding can swing the national priority of a scheme: disadvantaging those not able to paid perhaps
 - Long term investment security does not exist: suggesting capital rather than revenue based schemes preferred (funding may not exist in the future for adaptation so build big now – perhaps?)



More ad hoc structures in place to response to emergencies and add recovery

- **Bellwin Scheme:** provides emergency financial assistance which reimburses local authorities for costs incurred on, or in connection with, their immediate actions to safeguard life and property or to prevent suffering or severe inconvenience as a result of a disaster or emergency in their area
- **Government New money for schemes:** ad hoc political processes that bypass the normal structures (see for example money provided to Somerset)
- Various Agency, community and special interest funding: emergency flood relief from Sport England to reinstate pitches etc
- **Private insurance:** This still functions after a near breakdown between Government and ABI a few years ago. Not the not-for-profit Flood Re support the insurance market. But access by renters and low income household much lower than others.



Netherlands

Put together by: Remco (additions by: Manon de Vries)



North Sea Region FAIR





Funding flood protection & water management Annual budget: 2,1 B€ (~50/50 National – Regional)

National:

- Delta fund
- 1,2 B€/yr
 - 0,8 Flood protection
 - 0,4 Water management

Regional:

- Taxes 22 waterboards
- 0,9 B€/yr
 - 0,2 Flood protection
 - 0,7 Water management





Annual costs households and enterprises (regional taxes paid to waterboards and municipalities): 0,2% – 0,6% (depending on interest/risks)

Households without private property

€70,00 (0,2% of taxable income)

Households with private property

€140,00 (0,4% of taxable income)

Farms

€2500,00 (0,6% of average gross production value)



North Service Comment of primary flood defences



North Sea Region FAIR and reinforcement of regional flood defences





Pros and cons

- Pros:
 - Solidarity in payment i.e. those not at risk contribute.
 - Commitment of funds, once committed no competition with other societal demands – health care etc.
 - Financial responsibilities are clearly defined
- Cons:
 - Those at risk do not pay any money directly to the protection they receive, with those not benefiting from a scheme subsidise those that do – so limited/no incentive to reduce costs and prefer 'do now, not later' (as spending 'someone else's money').
 - Limited flexibility of timing once committed so difficult to respond to opportunities as they arise
 - Negative incentive because distinction between reinforcement (financed by dike account) and maintenance (fully financed by waterboard)
 - No project based trade-off to give higher or lower standards



Sweden

Put together by: Frida





Municipalities Agencies at Projects National level (EU etc.) (SGI, MSB, SGU, HaV etc.) Funding



Denmark

Put together by: Ulf









Pros and cons

- Pros:
 - Investors are direct beneficiaries
 - Easy to understand
 - Flexible
- Cons:
 - Prevents holistic solutions (narrow perspective)
 - Impedes innovation (obvious, tried and tested solutions preferred)
 - Investments are reactionary, not preventive



Belgium

Put together by: Niels







Pros and cons

- Pros:
 - Enables additional benefits (higher standards, environmental enhancements etc) to be paid for locally
 - solidarity in payment i.e. those not at risk contribute
- Cons:
 - Projects are realised over time only limited by the available budget
 - Only a limited number of people benefit from the investment paid by the rest of the country



Germany

Put together by: LSBG TUHH



Maintenance



Investments

