



Rijkswaterstaat  
*Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu*

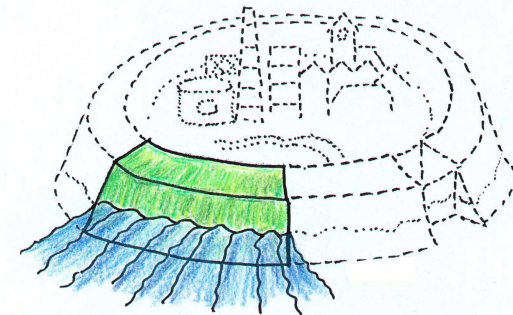
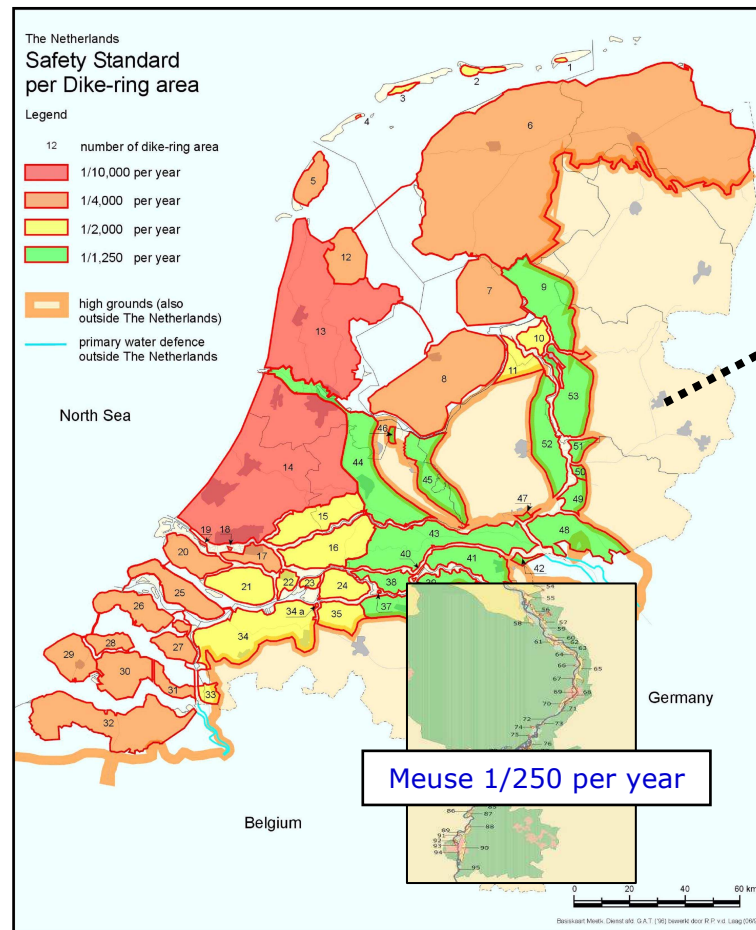
## Advise on the new flood protection standards

Durk Riedstra  
Center for Water Management

April 14th 2011



# Flood protection standards



**Exceedance frequency**  
for a levee section

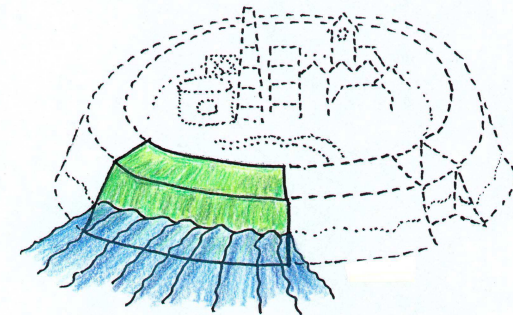
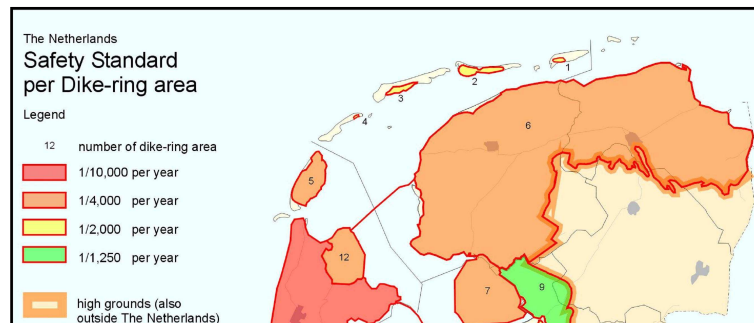
2017 (?)



**Flood probability**  
for a levee system

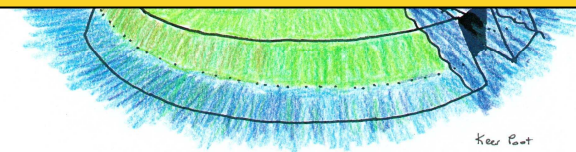
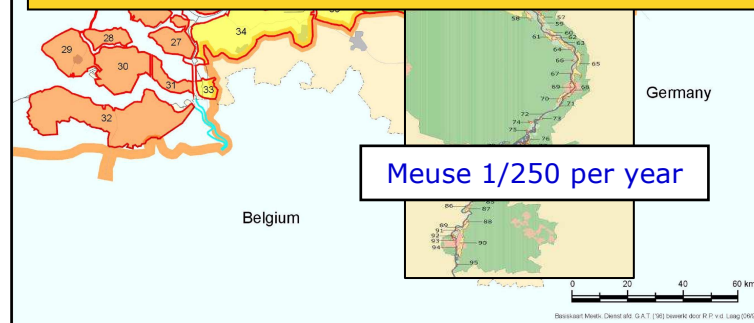


# Flood protection standards



Exceedance frequency

The new risk-based flood protection standards should be based on *cost benefit analyses* and *loss-of-life* calculations

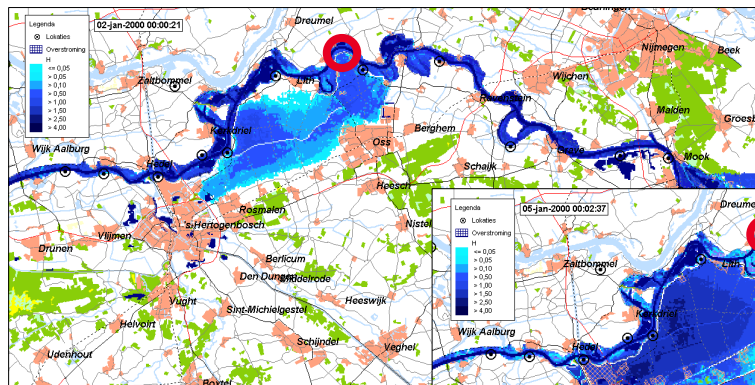


Flood probability  
for a levee system

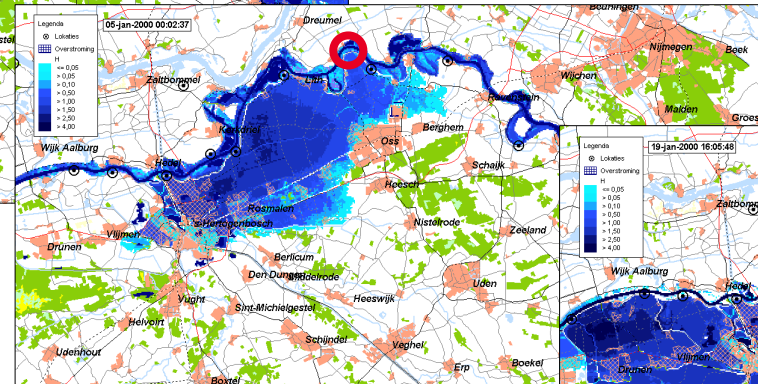
# Method



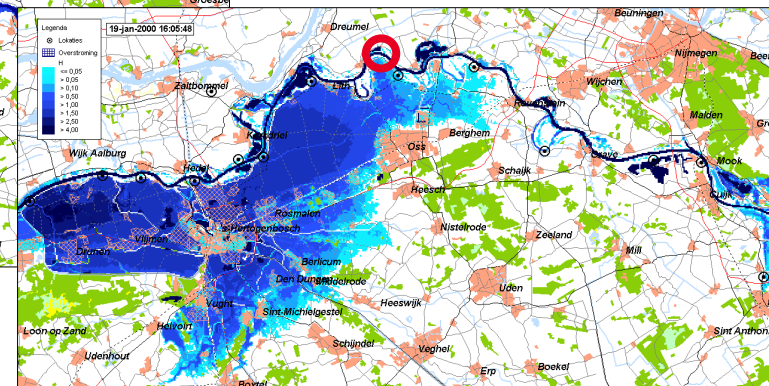
- All levees just comply to the current protection standards
- One failure mechanism considered (overflow and wave overtopping)
  - In the FLORIS research project 9 mechanisms are considered
- Flood simulations: single and multiple breaches



After 24 hours



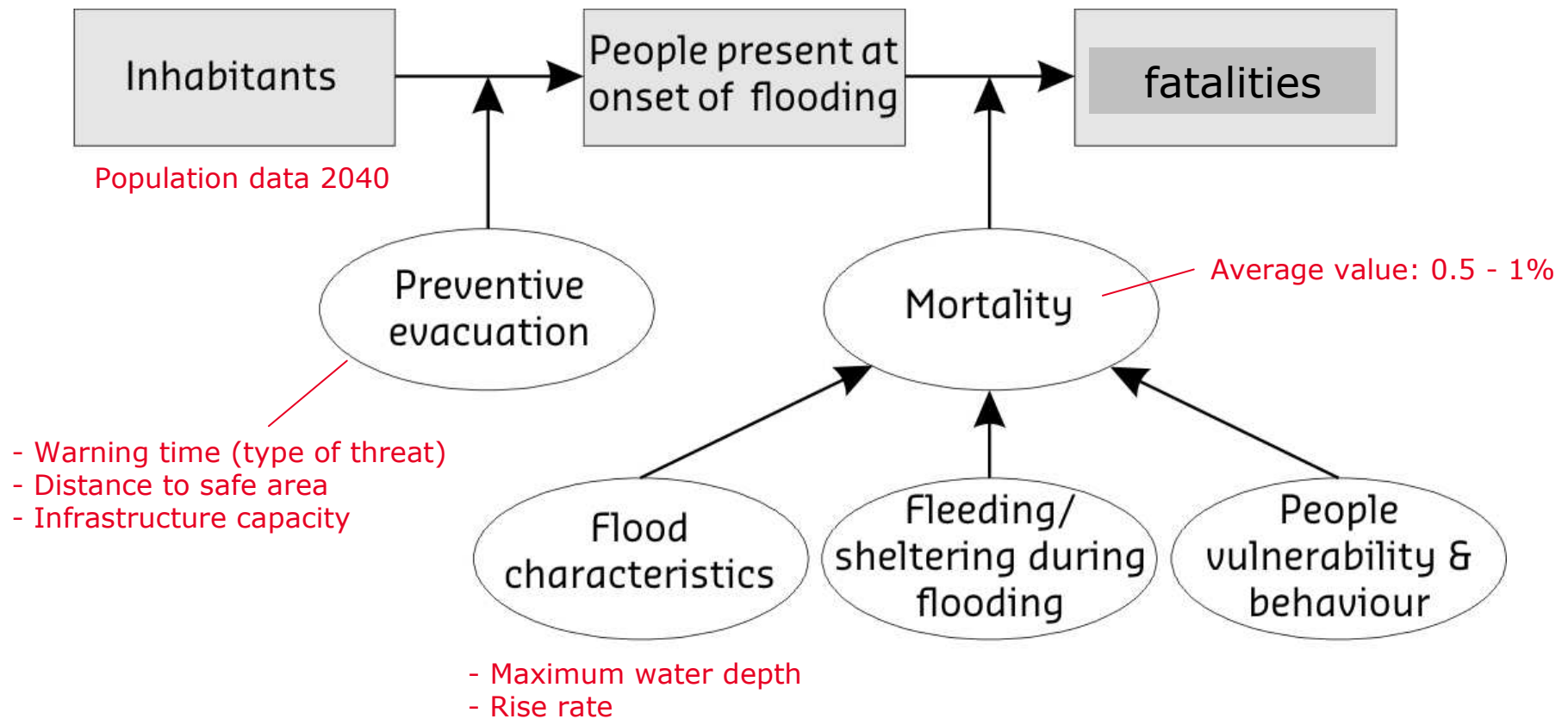
After 4 days



After 2 weeks



## Loss-of-life calculations

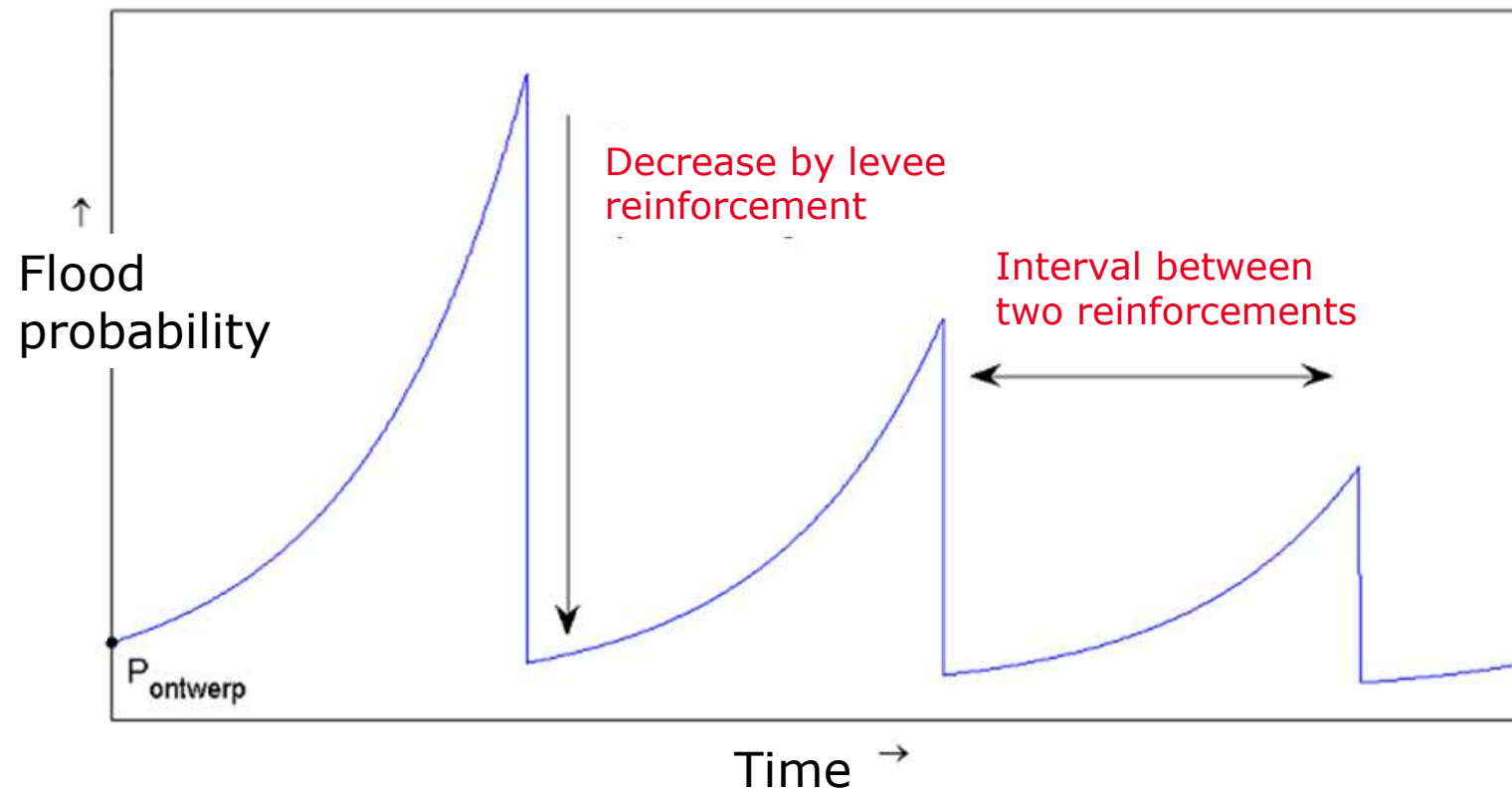


# Cost benefit analysis



- Economic growth rate 1,9%
- Discount rate 5,5%
- Value of a statistical life \$ 10 million (5 persons being hospitalized

included)



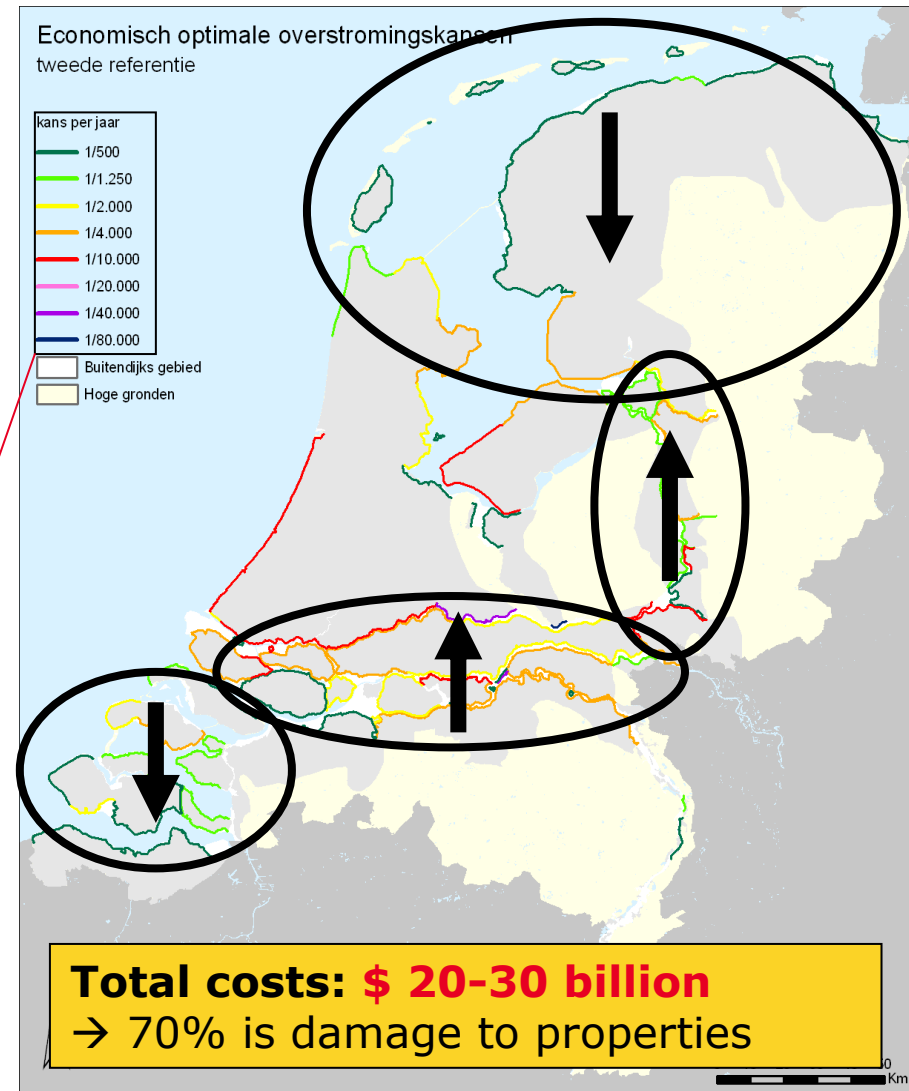


Economical optimal flood probability in 2050 [per year]

**higher** protection standards needed  
- along the upper and tidal rivers

**lower** protection standards are more cost effective  
- in the north part  
- south-west delta

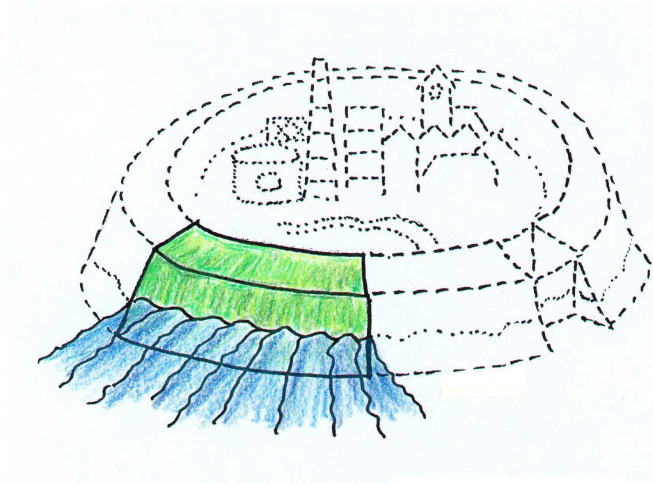
other areas: maintain current protection standards





Exceedance frequencies values do NOT represent the same protection level compared to flood probabilities values !!!

**Exceedance frequency**  
for a levee section



**Flood probability**  
for a levee system



1/1,250 exceedance frequency  $\neq$  1/1,250 flood probability  
but about **1/250** per year





## Loss-of-life considerations

Useful indicators are:

- Individual risk
  - A person's probability to die at a certain location
  - measures a base level of protection for everyone
- Societal risk
  - Is related to many fatalities due to one flood event
  - measures the extent of economic and social disruption

→ These indicators have been used for our industrial safety policy for many years (and have legally bound limit values)



## Individual Risk - considerations

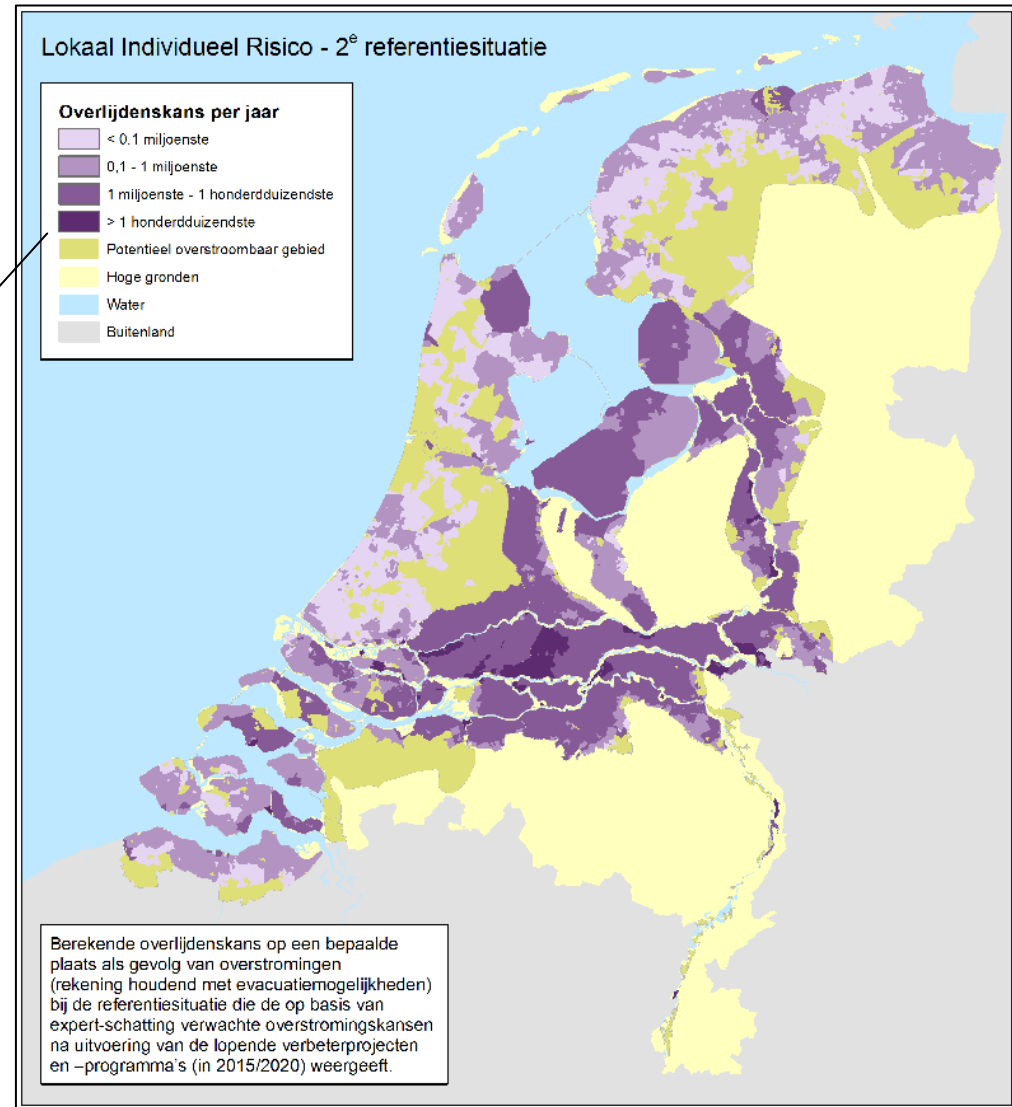
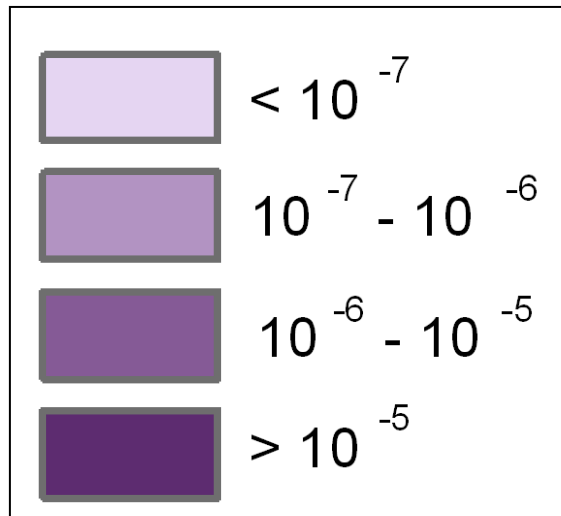
- Based on
  - Maximum of average value (for each levee system)?
  - For populated areas only of complete 'dike ring'-areas?
  - With or without evacuation possibilities taken into account?
- Tolerable limit value
  - 1/100,000 per year?
  - 1/million per year (like legal industrial safety limit value)?
- Proposal
  - Flood probability should depend on the number of people living within a 1/100,000 /year (or  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ ) level area

# Individual Risk results



→ Situation in 2015–2020 after completion of the current levee reinforcement program

Individual Risk [per year]



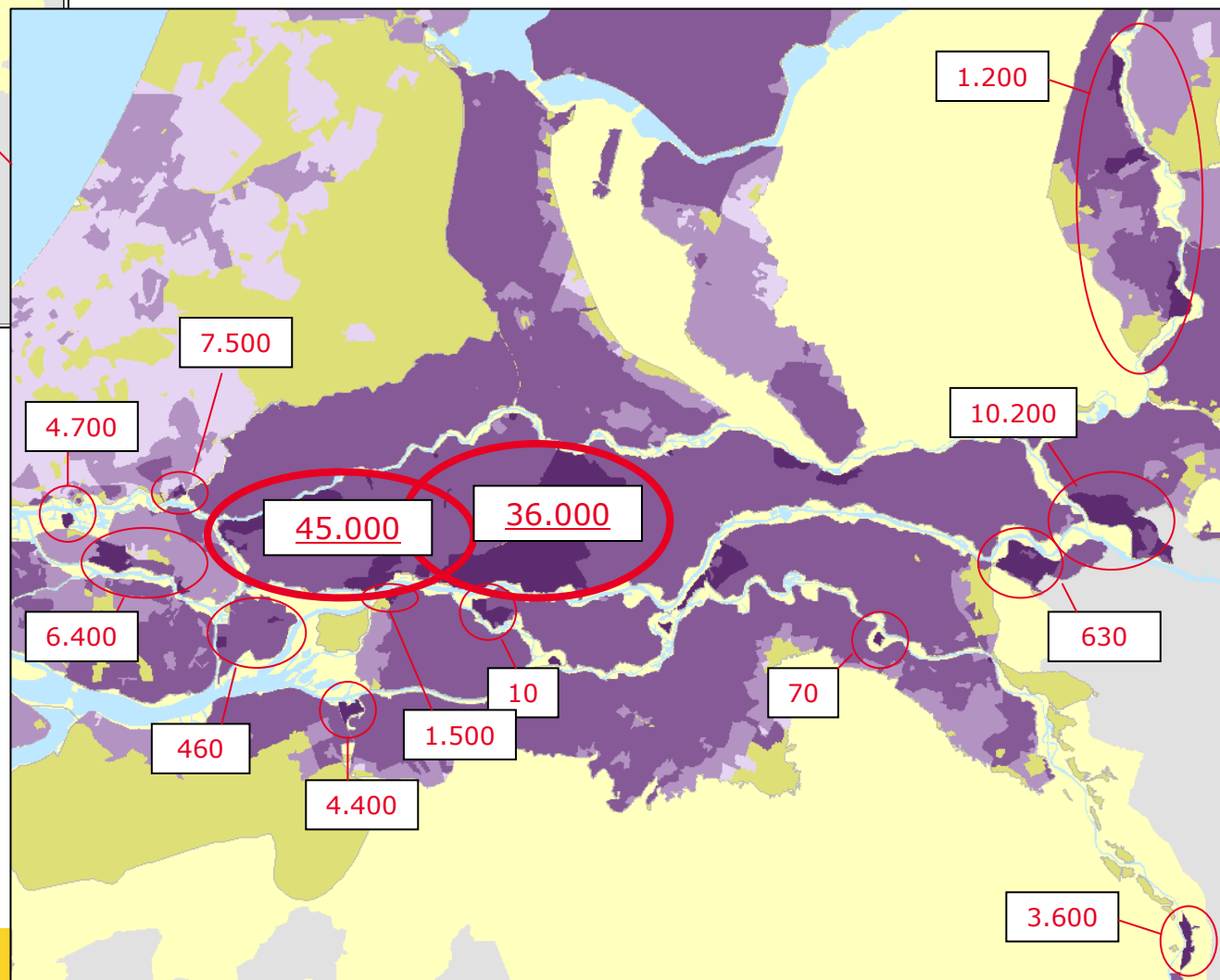
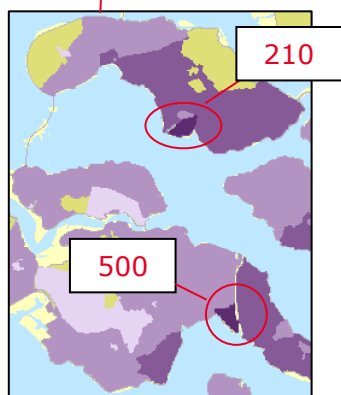


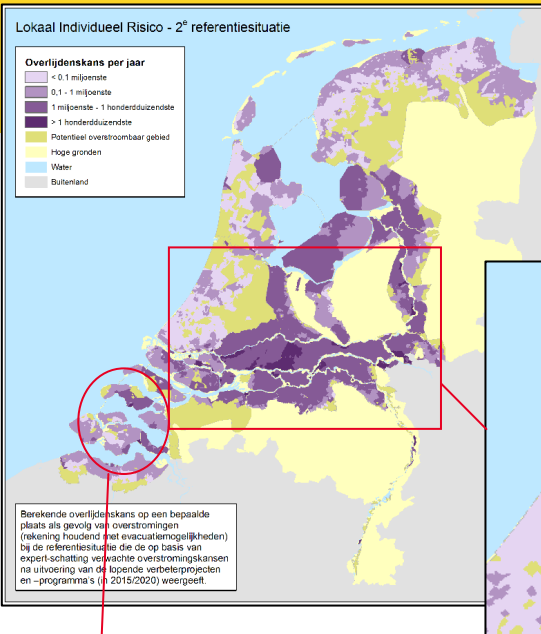
Lokaal Individueel Risico - 2<sup>e</sup> referentiesituatie



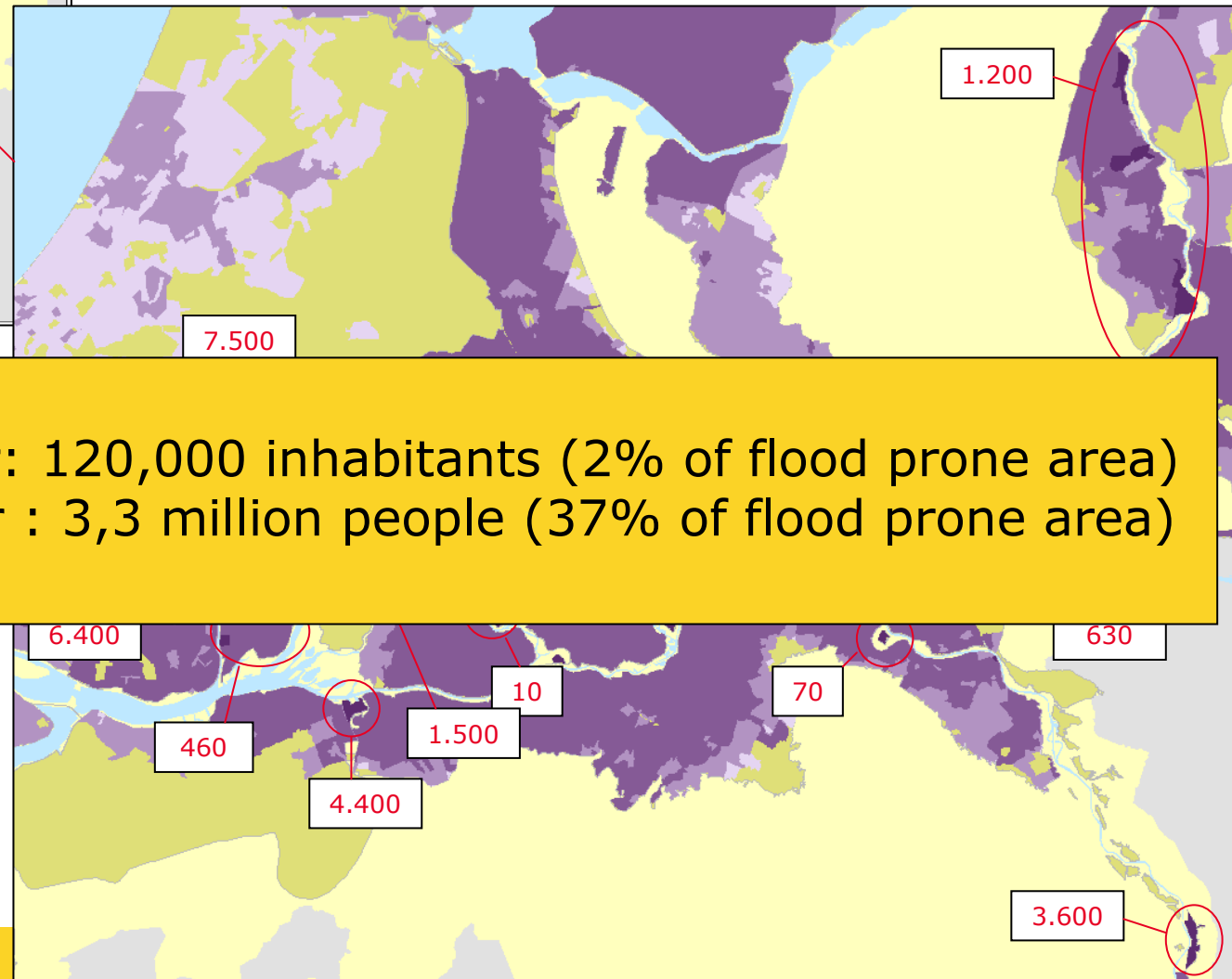
Berekende overlijdenskans op een bepaalde plaats als gevolg van overstromingen (rekening houdend met evacuatiemogelijkheden) bij de referentiesituatie die op basis van expert-schatting verwachte overstromingskansen na uitvoering van de lopende verbeterprojecten en -programma's (in 2015/2020) weergeeft.

120,000 people living in areas with IR > 1/100.000 per year





120,000 people living in areas with IR > 1/100.000 per year



IR >  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ /yr: 120,000 inhabitants (2% of flood prone area)  
IR >  $1 \times 10^{-6}$ /yr : 3,3 million people (37% of flood prone area)

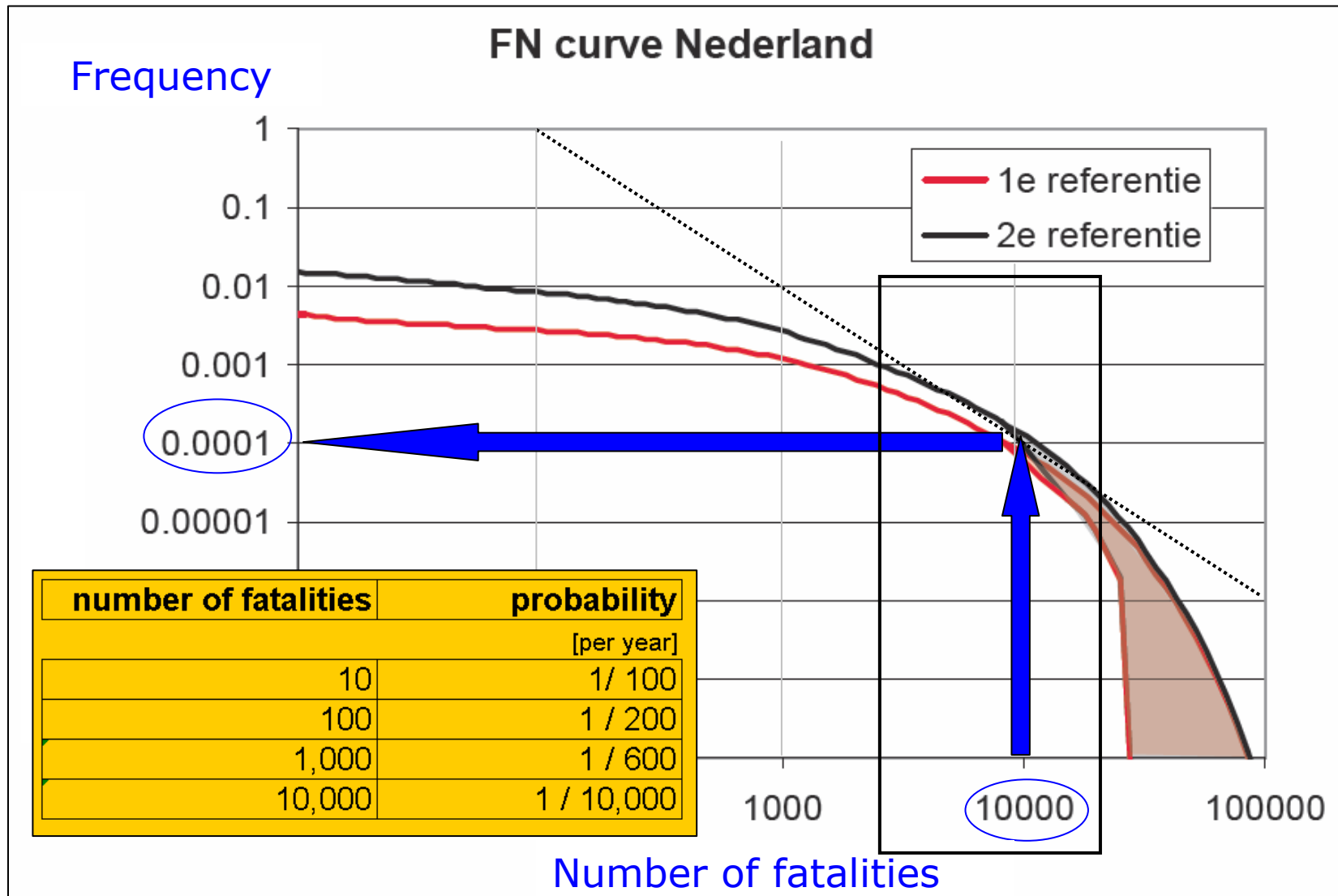




## Societal Risk - considerations

→ "Societal Risk = Individual Risk + population data"

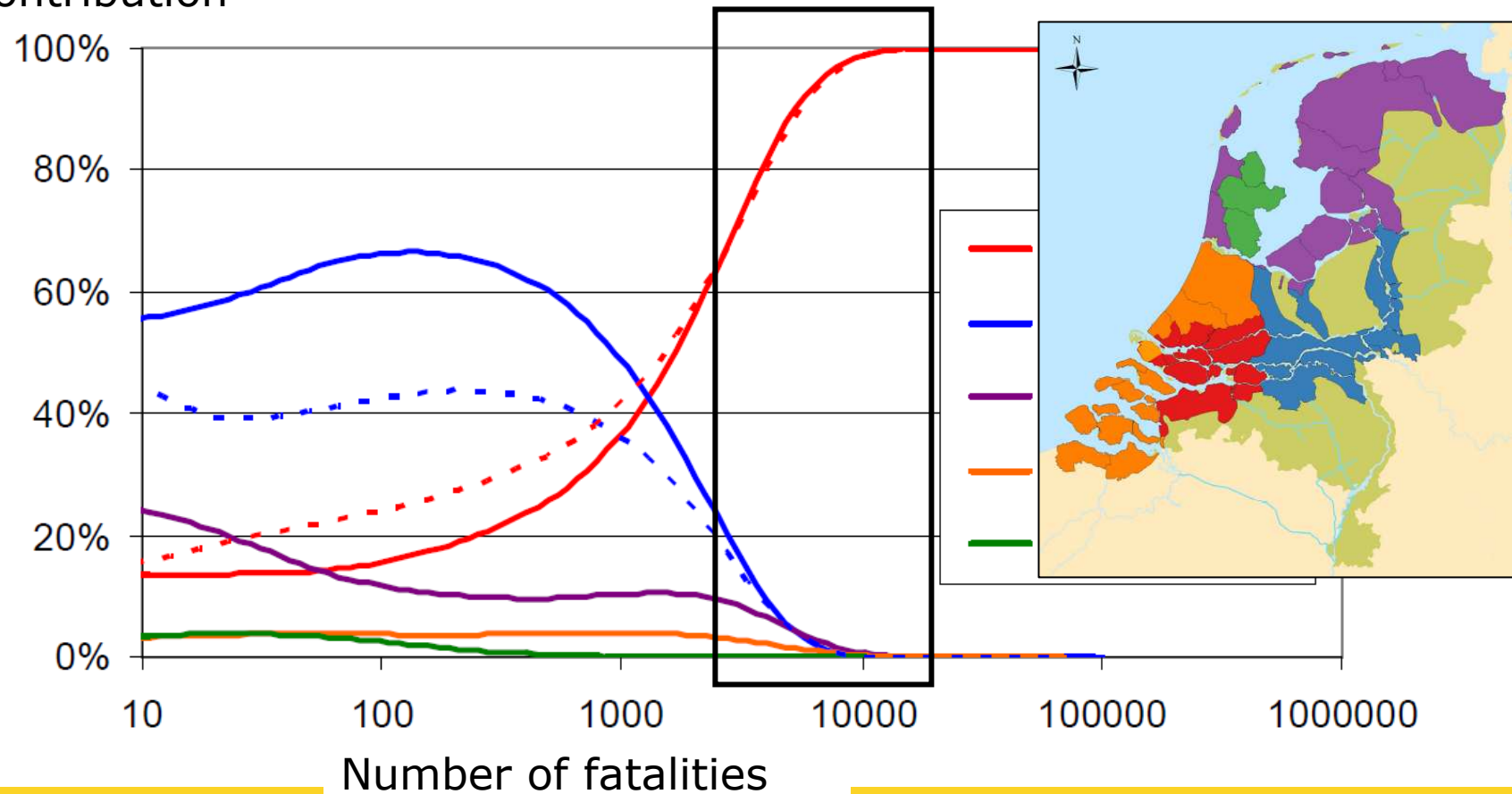
- Based on
  - 'dike ring'-area of a national scale?
  - Risk neutral or risk averse?
  - With or without evacuation possibilities taken into account?
- Tolerable limit value?
  - legal industrial safety limit value not useful ...
  - Based on a general framework of the *Expertise Network on Flood Protection* in which acceptance of risk in terms of voluntariness and direct benefit are key factors?





## 'Dike ring'-areas along the tidal rivers have the largest societal risk contribution

Contribution





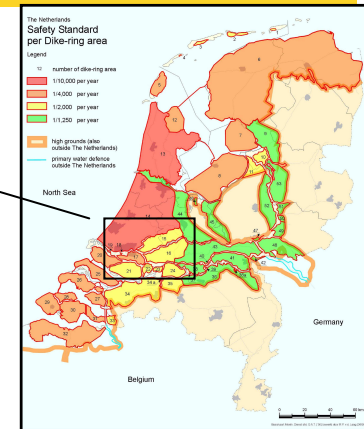
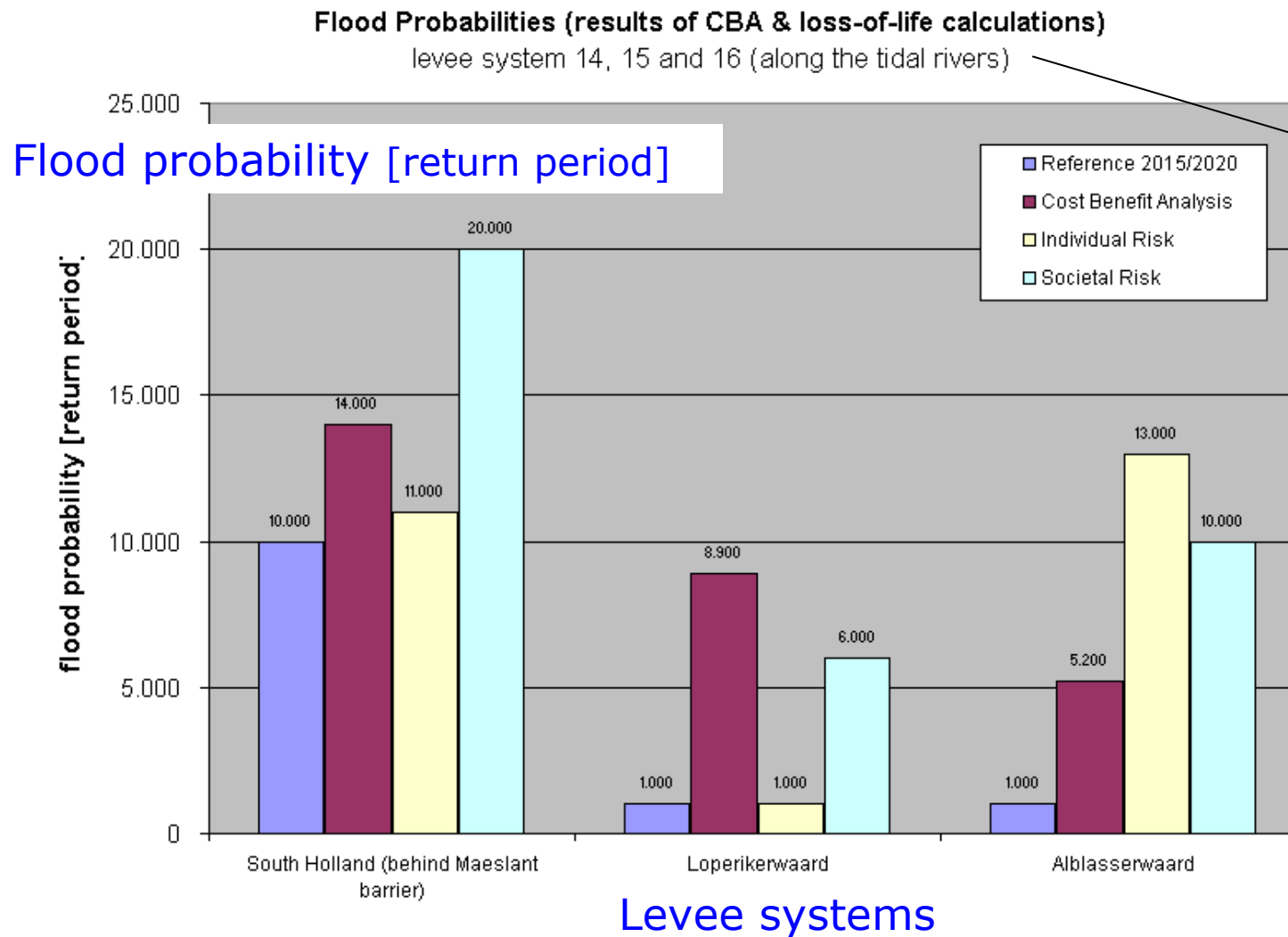
## Possible higher protection standards necessary ...

- Cost Benefit Analysis
  - Dike ring areas along the **upper** and **tidal** rivers
  - Flevoland (south-west)
- Individual Risk
  - **Upper** and **tidal** rivers
  - A few areas in the **south west delta**
- Societal Risk
  - Some 'dike ring'-areas along the **tidal rivers**



→ **example** based on chosen IR and SR limit values ...

## New flood protection standards based on CBA and loss-of-life?







## Flood protection standards 2050 - considerations

→ new classes of protection standards

- Most stringent criterium: CBA, Individual or Societal risk?
- Based largely on cost benefit analysis results?
  - With some minor risk reduction by loss-of-life analysis?
- Based largely on loss-of-life calculations (IR and/or SR)?
  - With some minor risk reduction by CBA analysis?
- Allow large differences between levee systems within a region?

→ Suggestions?

# Planning 2011



- March 31<sup>th</sup> 2011: CBA and loss-of-life analysis finished
- April 2011: proposal Ministry (for each **Delta Program region**)
  - whether higher flood protection standards are recommended?
  - and if: how much more stringent should these become in 2050?





- March 31<sup>th</sup> 2011: CBA and loss-of-life analysis finished
- April 2011: proposal Ministry (for each **Delta Program region**)
  - whether higher flood protection standards are recommended?
  - and if: how much more stringent should these become in 2050?
- May – October 2011: consultation with stakeholders
  - Water Boards, Provinces, Municipalities, other Ministries ..
- End 2011: “Policy statement” of the Secretary of State concerned with Water Affairs
  - for the Delta program (regions)