

A Study on Citizens' Awareness of Flood Risk and Infrastructure Development in Zagreb, Croatia

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This study will explore the relation between awareness of flood risk and infrastructure development in urban area, Zagreb, Croatia. Zagreb used to be suffered from several flood damages. The flood occurred in 1964 from the Sava River is one of the largest in its modern history. Having had this bitter experience, the government led extensive development plan of infrastructure on the Sava River and the mountain rivers. Zagreb City is located between the Sava River, a tributary of the Danube River, and Medvednica Mountain. The banks, retention dams, and a drainage canal (Sava-Odra Canal) were constructed after the severe flood, and thanks to them, the city has not longer had any major floods since then. Thus, they succeeded in protecting the city and its citizens from floods. On the other hand, people's awareness of floods is toward downward tendency though they have recognized the rainfall is getting more unpredictable and it is harder than expected. From the questionnaire survey, about the 70% thanks that there will be a flood in Zagreb city in 10 years, nevertheless many of them think they have good infrastructure protection in the city. This research will try to find a meaning of studying awareness of people toward flood risks in the area with fewer floods through exploring some findings from questionnaire survey and infrastructure site visits.

Keywords: flood, awareness, infrastructure development, Croatia