



## GOOD PRACTICE



### Title of the practice

Recommendation for flood risk assessment, and making of flood maps using the LAWA recommendations and using the upstream rule.

### Detailed description of the practice

Upstream rule: Cross border rivers at risk are analyzed up to the river mouth, across the border. Risk / hazard maps: The layout of the risk maps stays as far as possible the same across the border. The LAWA documents provide a methodology for data acquisition, analysis and gives specifications for the generation of flood hazard and flood risk maps (contents and layouts). The aim is to ensure that the content and design of the maps are standardised as far as possible, thus ensuring that the set of maps produced has nationwide coherence

In the so-called Sieg-study (a document preceding the official LAWA documents) the upstream rule is mentioned and actually applied in Northrhine-Westphalia. This 'upstream rule' was identified as relevant for the transboundary maps: if an area situated in an upper part of a catchment area is classified as being at risk, all areas downstream in this catchment also have to be classified as being at risk.

Maps for these areas have to be made. Reason: if measures against floods in the upstream part are taken they will also have effects on the downstream part. This rule is also valid for cross border rivers, since the effect of measures does not stop at the border. Communication about LAWA-method took place with the Dutch Waterdienst (part of Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment). Depending on the availability of data in each country, the LAWA work documents provide good guidelines and references (contents, symbology, layout) for the processing of hazard and risk maps according to the Flood Risk Management Directive; details and layouts for the transnational maps are harmonized but do not necessarily have to have the same contents. Donor region is North-Rhein-Westphalia/Eifel-Rur (via P6). Benefiting region is The Netherlands/Limburg (via P2, P3 and P5).

### Evidence of success

The German LAWA-method can be applied in NL.

The upstream principle has been implemented in the Dutch approach of classifying the tributaries of the Meuse originated in Wallonia and Germany.

### Location of the practice

Country: *Germany, Nordrhein-Westfalen*  
City:

### Contact details to obtain further information on the practice

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