

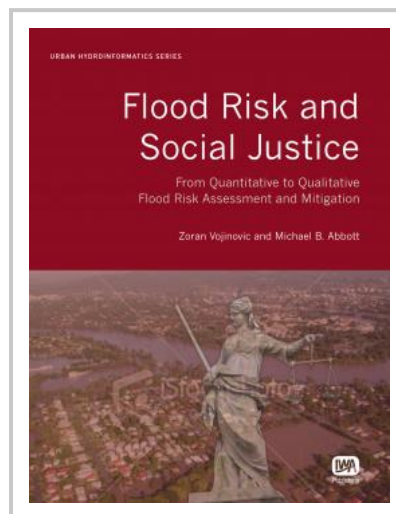
Flood Risk and Social Justice

Flood Risk and Social Justice is a response to the rising significance of floods and flood-related disasters worldwide, as an initiative to promote a *socially just approach* to the problems of flood risk. It integrates the human-social and the technological components to provide a holistic view.

This book treats flooding as a multi-dimensional human and natural world tragedy that must be accommodated using all the social and technological means that can be mobilised before, during and after the flooding event. It covers *socially just flood risk mitigation practices* which necessitate a wide range of multidisciplinary approaches, starting from social and wider environmental needs, including feedback cycles between human needs and technological means.

This book looks at how to judge whether a risk is acceptable or not by addressing an understanding of social and *phenomenological* considerations rather than simple calculations of probabilities multiplied by unwanted outcomes and their balancing between costs and benefits. It is argued that the present 'flood management' practice should be largely replaced by the social justice approach where particular attention is given to deciding *what is the right thing to do* within a much wider context. Thus it insists upon the validity of modes of human understanding which cannot be addressed within the limited context of modern science.

Flood Risk and Social Justice is written to support a wide range of audiences and seeks to improve the dialogue between researchers and practitioners from different disciplines (including post-graduate engineering, environmental and social science students, industry practitioners, academics, planners, environmental advocacy groups and environmental law professionals) who have a strong interest in a new kind of social justice work that can act as a continuous counter-balance to the various mechanisms that unceasingly give rise to profound injustices.



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