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Floods are natural events, but when they impact on human environments, they turn into disasters which disrupt society. The last decades have seen an alarming increase in the number of major floods and associated damage on every continent. The impact is more severe due to population growth and settlement in flood prone areas, climate change and disrupted hydrological cycles. There is now an urgency regarding the exchange of information on developments and experiences in research, policy and management. The 3rd International Symposium on Flood Defence presented new developments in Sciences (hydrology, ecology, flood modelling and forecasting, information management and GIS-based decision support systems); Frameworks (institutional and organisational, basin-wide flood management); Policy-making and implementation (government strategies and approaches, public awareness and participation, new concepts such as risk management in relation to climate change); and Measures and solutions (structural and nonstructural measures, spatial planning). Case studies illustrate specific experiences and practices in flood control situations, for example, flooding in urban areas. These Symposium Proceedings include about 165 selected papers, presentations, keynotes and theme reports as presented during the ISFD3. As a whole this publication reflects a worldwide change in strategy: from flood defence towards flood management. Floods, from Defence to Management is of special interest to researchers, scientists, consultants, managers, donor agencies and government bodies involved in policy making and flood management.



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