**Floods**  By Freddy Vinet

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This book is broken down into four parts:

**Part 1. Strategic and Technical Aspects of Flood Prevention**

**Part 2. Territories and Individuals at the Heart**

**of Prevention**

**Part 3. Anticipating and Managing Flood Events**

**Part 4. Post-disaster Recovery and Adaptation**

The flood risk management system is made more complex by the addition of risk mitigation measures *a posteriori*: reduction of vulnerability, resilience, safeguarding plan, emergency plan, business continuity plan, etc. In parallel, accountability in prevention is highly diluted between several parties: international bodies, national policies (or absence thereof), insurers, local communities, basin authorities, etc. For the philosopher Michel Serres, the increasing complexity of a system is a sign of its operational deterioration and its unsuitability for dealing with the problems posed. “In the history of science, this complexity appears to be a sign that we are not using the right method and that we need a paradigm shift. When Ptolemy's model had accumulated dozens of epicycles, making the movement of the heavenly bodies illegible and complicated, the template had to be changed: we moved towards the sun being at the center of the system and everything became clear again”

*This is a very good tool for any one in Emergency management or Government that is involved in the day to day operation of Flood or Water Management.*

You don’t see a book like to to often that has such a wealth of information for the reader. For example: “Obstacles and failures in flood risk reduction are not technical, but cultural or psycho-sociological. We are therefore suspicious of ready-made technical solutions, deployed without dialogue, and without assessment of the social feasibility. How many technical solutions that seemed ideal on paper have failed before they even became operational”?

The editor of this fine book has brought together a group of experts, who have addressed topics based on their expertise, which more than compliments the concept of this text. Based on this I would be happy to give it Three Stars on a scale of one to five.

Reviewers: Lawrence J. Fennelly CPOI, CSSM and Marianna Perry, CPP, CPOI