Lessons Learnt in Coastal Adaptation

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Qcoast₂₁₀₀ Project Tasks

- Task 1. Plan for life-of-project stakeholder communication and engagement
- Task 2. Scope coastal hazard issues for the area of interest
- Task 3. Identify areas exposed to current and future coastal hazards
- Task 4. Identify key assets potentially impacted
- Task 5. Risk assessment of key assets in coastal hazard areas
- Task 6. Identify potential adaptation options
- Task 7. Socio-economic appraisal of adaptation options
- Task 8. Strategy development, implementation and review



Project scoping and engagement planning

Scoping by geography: Region? City? Community?

Scoping by Hazard: Inundation/sea level rise/flooding, erosion

Scoping by Asset: Public infrastructure?, housing?.....

Why is this important?



Why is this important

Different stakeholders,

Different methods,

Different ownership of assets



What problem are we trying to solve?



Project scoping and engagement planning

- Wanting to demonstrate that we are thinking about climate risks? (plan & forget approach?)
- Wanting to decide on specific adaptation options now? (plan, implement & forget approach?)
- Wanting to send signals to stakeholders & property market? (cautious approach?)
- Wanting only to protect people, buildings? (misguided approach?)
- Wanting to reduce our organisational liability? (realistic approach?)
- Combination of the above?



Project scoping and engagement planning

- Determines the key stakeholders
- Determines the methodology
- Determines the expectations



Many key stakeholders are not yet alive



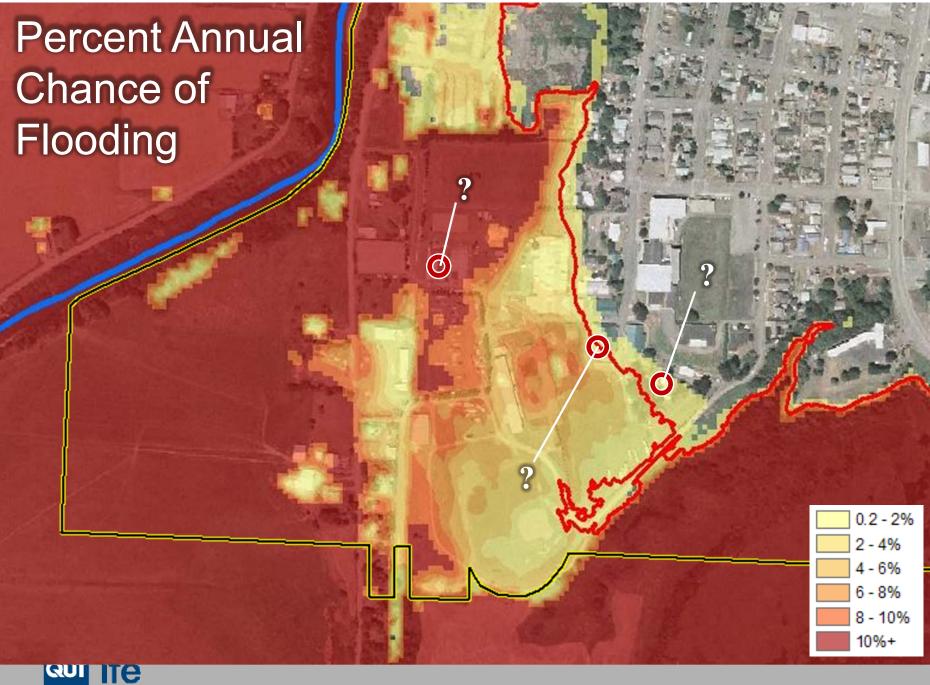
Hazard maps

Highly technical, but well-understood by consultants

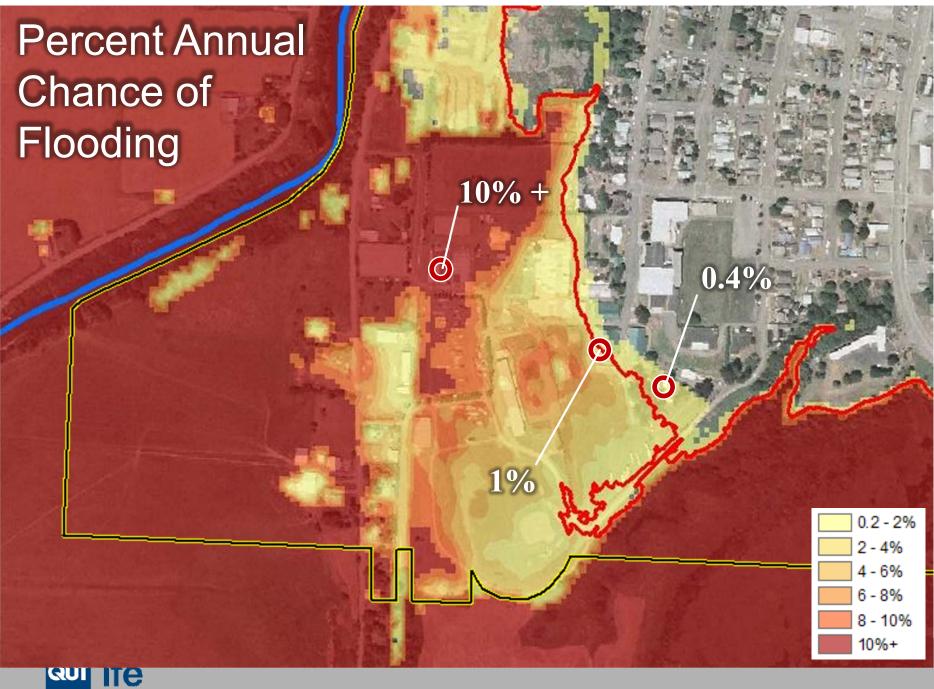


easily mis-understood by stakeholders

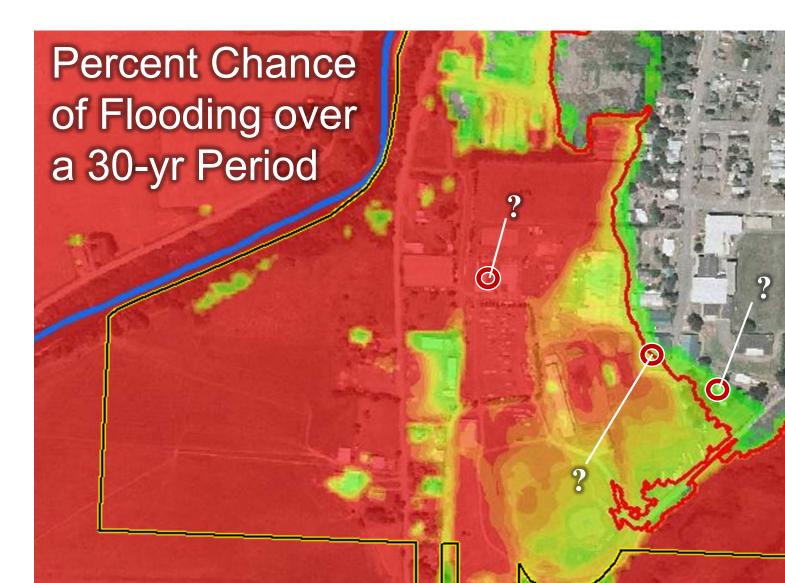




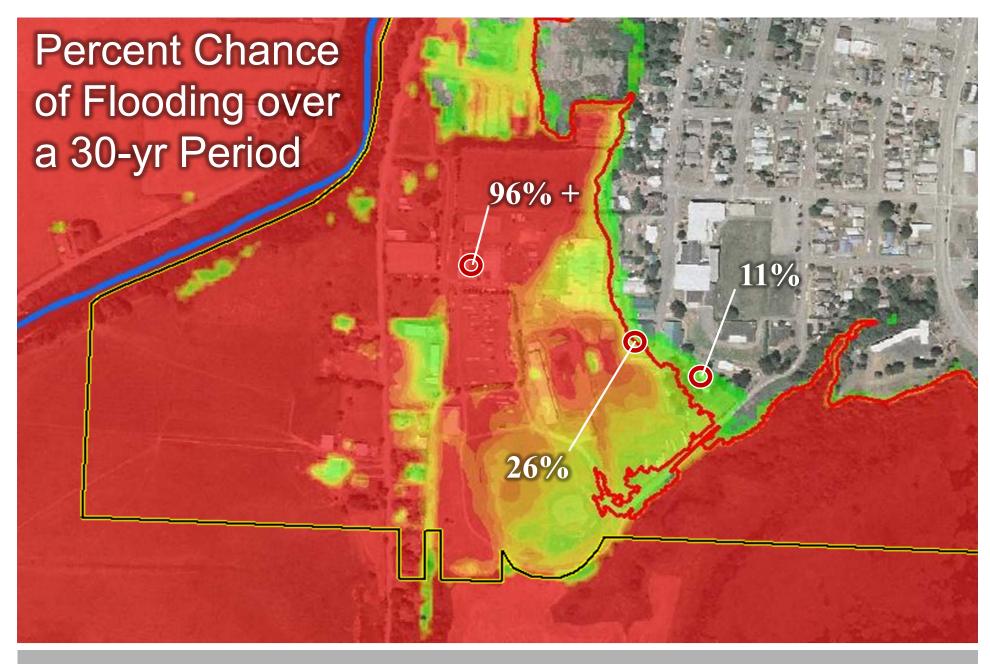
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Risk Assessment

Can be confusing, but need not be.

Use existing organizational risk frameworks



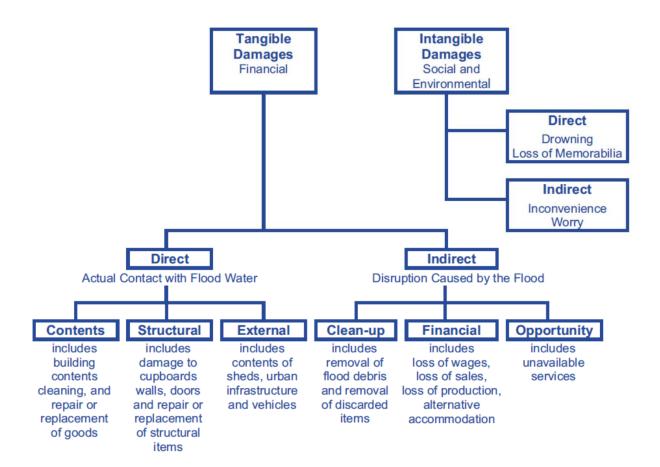
- perception of multiple definitions of risk.....,

- multiple ways to assess consequence



Consequences: Valuing assets

Need to be careful. But a number of existing resources





Consequences: Valuing assets



- using 'fair' value of houses can be problematic
- Consider separating hazard mapping from optioneering



Options selection

- Generally categorised into: retreat, protect, manage
- Consider staging (different adaptation pathways approach)



- Beware of perverse incentives.....
- Overlapping adaptation plans



Narrowing the options: MCA vs CBA

- MCA often appealing, engages stakeholders etc.
- Results in a values map of stakeholders in the room.
- Exposed to special interest groups



MCA's are not repeatable, exposed to bias from special interest groups



Narrowing the options: MCA vs CBA

Dealing with cost in MCA's can be problematic



CBA issues

- CBA is transparent, repeatable, defensible.....
- Generally involves little stakeholder engagement



non-market values can be problematic



Key points

- Be very clear on the scope and problem to be solved, stakeholders...
- Be aware of hazard map communication problems
- Where possible, align analysis to existing risk frameworks and approaches (i.e. flood management methods)
- For larger projects, use MCA to reduce long list of options, but apply CBA
- Be prepared to manage special interest groups



Good Luck!

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