



# BOK - The **BIG** Picture

1. Fundamentals -- math, science, and engr science.
2. Technical breadth.
3. Breadth in the humanities & social sciences.
4. Professional practice breadth.
5. Technical depth (specialization).

# Climate Change and America's Infrastructure Engineering, Social and Policy Challenges

## ***CLIMATE CHANGE, ENGINEERING, DISASTERS AND RISK: It is Time to Do Something!***

Tempe, Arizona  
January 28, 2013



**Gerald E. Galloway, Jr., PE, PhD**  
Glenn L. Martin Institute Professor of Engineering  
Affiliate Professor of Public Policy  
University of Maryland



**Fear the Turtle**

1

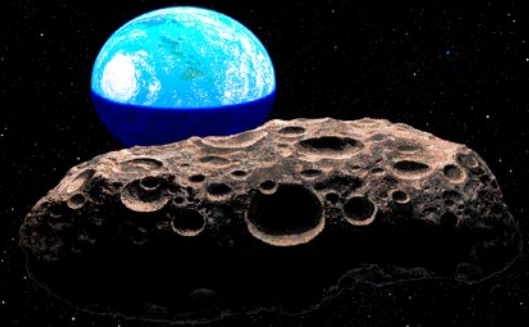
# 21<sup>st</sup> Century $\neq$ 20<sup>th</sup> Century



**"Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore"**

# The 21st Century

- **Population Explosion**
- **Pressures for Development**
- **Water Demand Rise**
- **Fiscal Austerity**
- **Climate and Other Change**
- **Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous National and World Situations**



# Planning for a Murky Future

- Traditional Planning

- Assumed little change – climate and human
- Operated within a narrow future
- Stayed inside disciplinary stovepipes



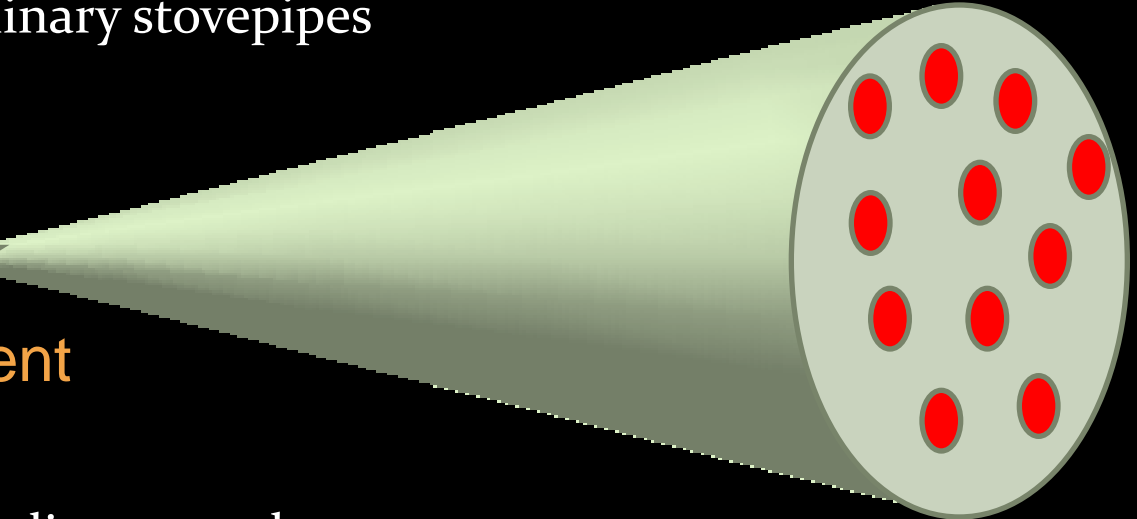
# Dealing with a Murky Future

- Traditional Approach

- Assumed little change – climate and human
- Operated within a narrow future
- Stayed inside disciplinary stovepipes



Present



Future

- New Approach

- Hundreds of possible climate and anthropogenic-driven scenarios
- Shared responsibilities
- Adaptive, complimentary efforts

Adapted from Marc Waage , Denver Water

# KATRINA!



WINDS [KT] AT 13 Z  
OBSERVED WEATHER AT 13 Z TEMPERATURE 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 deg C

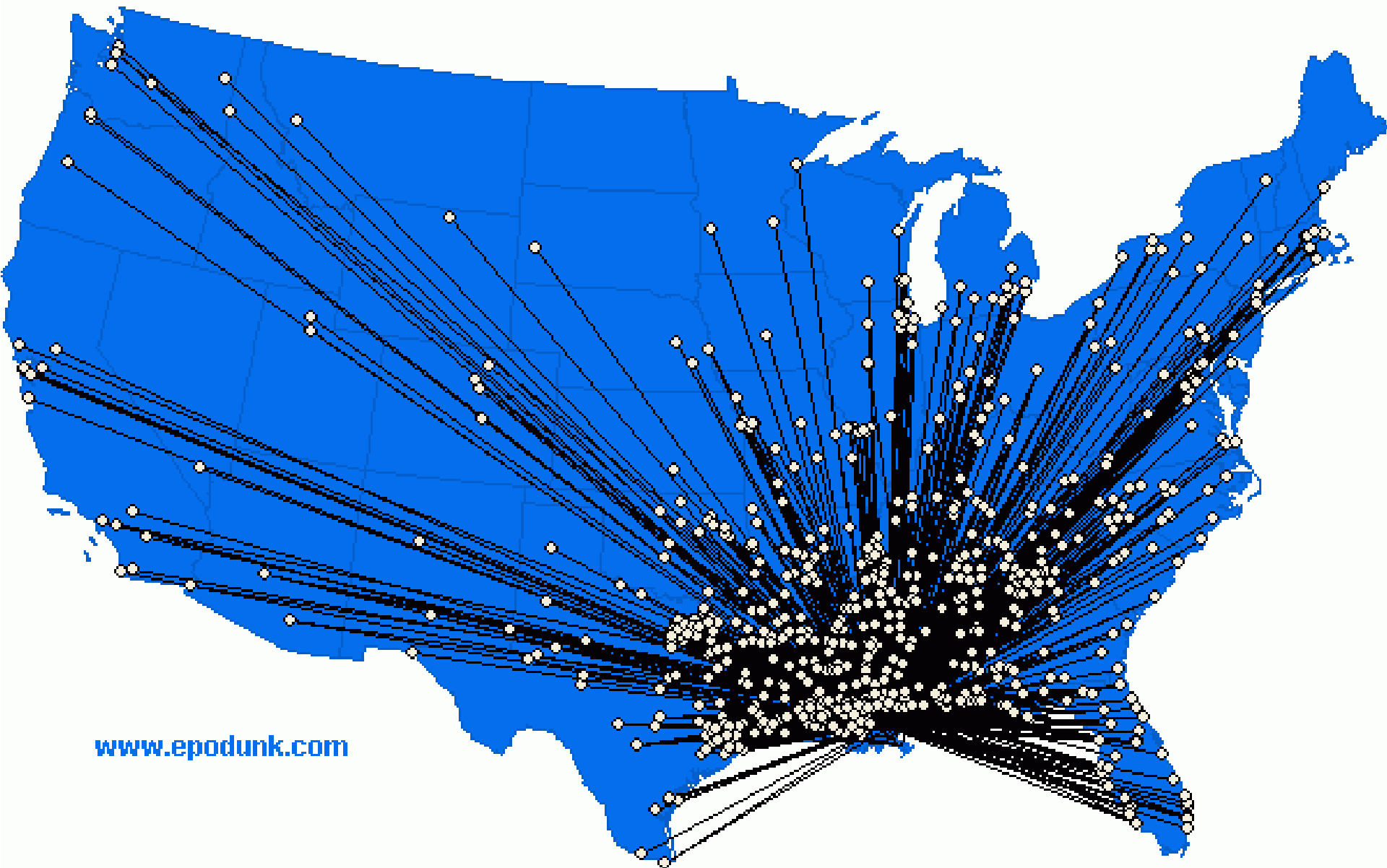
HURRICANE IR SECTOR FROM GOES-12 ON 22 SEP 2005 AT 14 Z











[www.epodunk.com](http://www.epodunk.com)





# 2008 Midwest Flood





EMERGENCY  
ENTRANCE

WHEELCHAIR  
ACCESSIBLE

MERCY  
MEDICAL CENTER



EMERGENCY





# Mississippi/Missouri Rivers 2011



# NEW YORK

The City and the Storm

Starting on p.17



\$5.99 USA/CANADA



NYMAG.COM

# SANDY!





© Veronica De Souza/Twitter









Disaster Risk is on the  
Rise

2

# We Need to Understand Risk

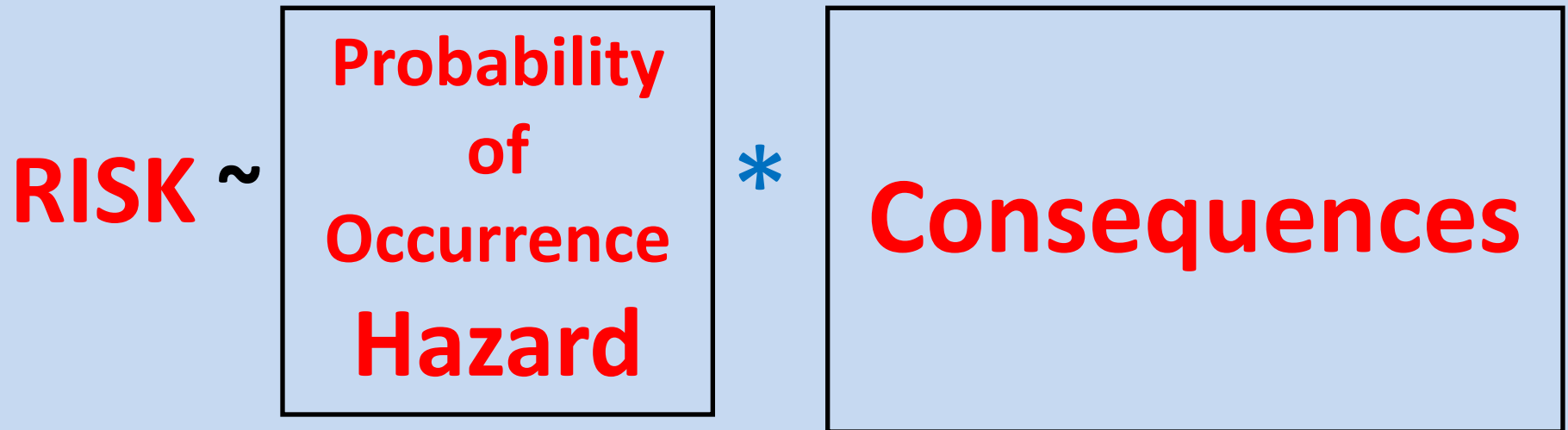


# Risk

A Threat to that which We Value

Covello

# Risk



**100-Year Flood**

# Determining Risk

Probability of Flooding

**RISK** ~

Probability of Occurrence  
**Hazard**

\*

Probability of Performance  
**System**

\*

**Consequences**

Vulnerability

Development,  
geomorphology,  
climate change,  
etc

Race, gender, economic  
status, language, etc

**Minimization**

**Mitigation**

Levees, dams,  
floodwalls, evacuation,  
floodproofing, codes,  
policy

Insurance, education,  
communication, policy

Economic  
Direct  
Secondary  
Life and Health (mental  
and physical)  
Social-Cultural  
Environmental

**Managing Flood Risk**



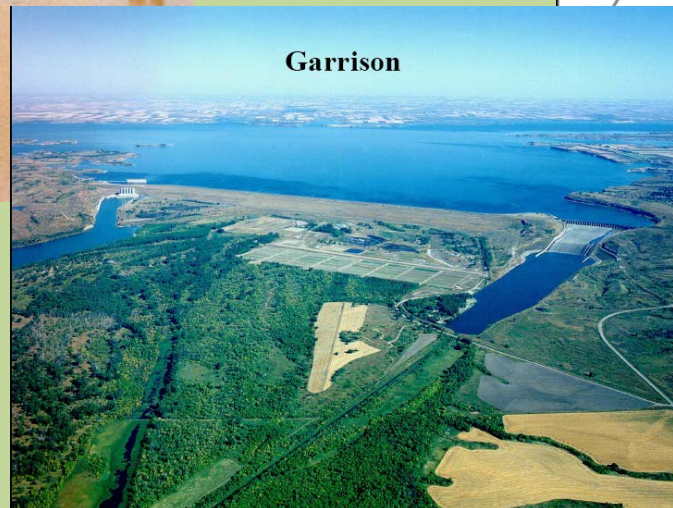
3

# We Need to Know Our Risk

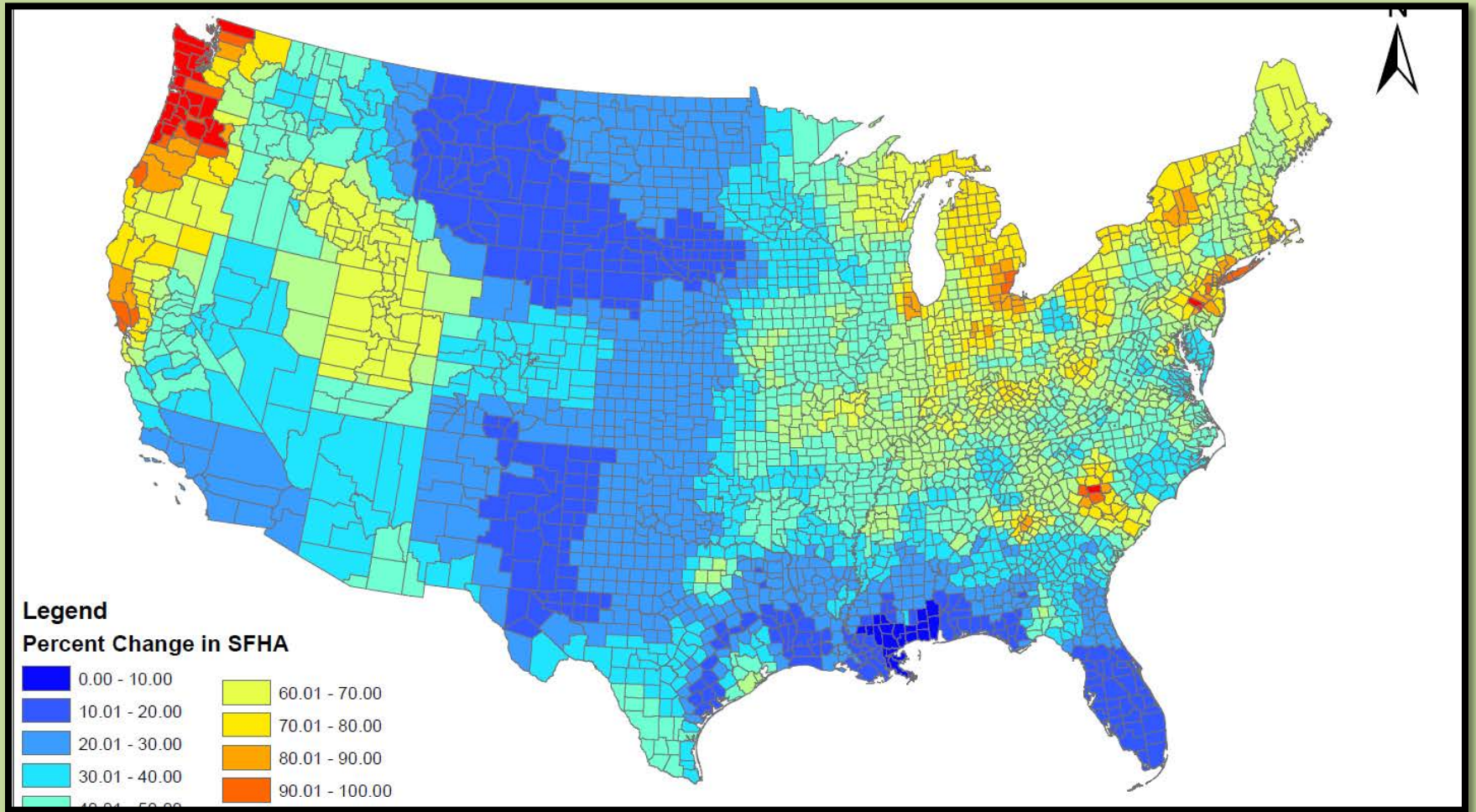


# People Don't Know They Are at Risk

- Maps Tell Wrong Story
- Assume Protection



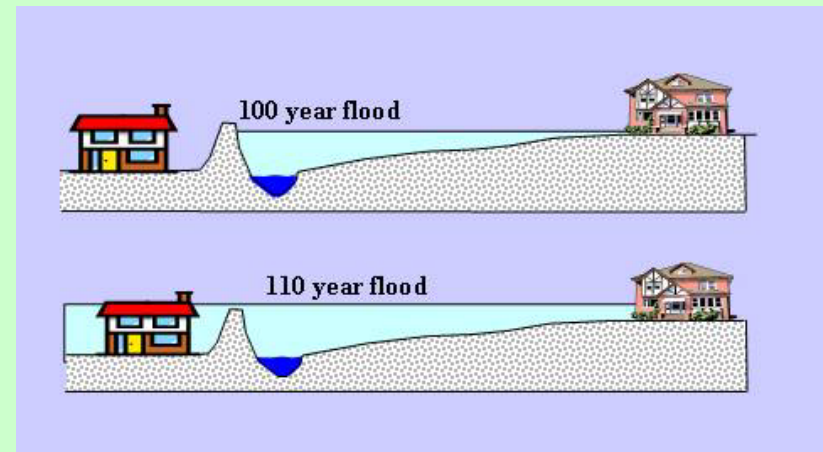
# Or Know It Changes Over Time





# And We Are Not Communicating Risk

- People don't understand
  - Their responsibility
  - What is "protection"
  - Insurance (25% penetration)
- Need to:
  - Recognize communication is a primarily a local responsibility - not all Feds
  - Tell it like it is (FEMA Note)
  - Communicate in Non-Technical Terms
    - Time to change – 100year/1% Nomenclature



4

# We Need to Deal with Risk

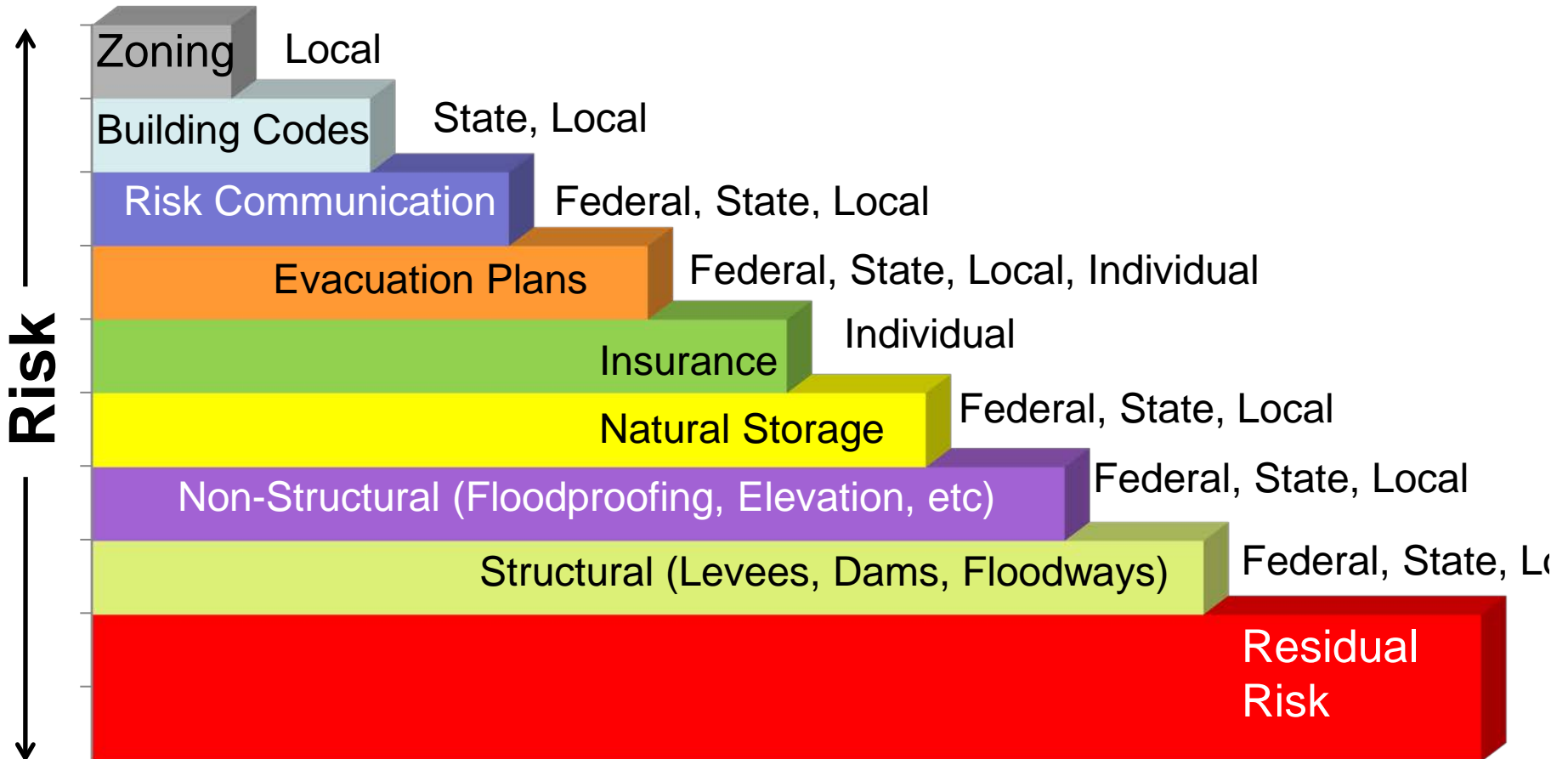


# Katrina Vulnerability, Mitigation and Preparedness

- **Hydrologic Reality** - **the risks** of inundation and flooding **never can be fully eliminated** by protective structures no matter how large or sturdy those structures may be.
- **Protective Structures** - Structural measures such as levees and floodwalls should **not be viewed** as substitutes or replacements for nonstructural measures, but rather as complementary
- **Relocations and Floodproofing:** The voluntary relocation of people and neighborhoods out of particularly vulnerable **should be considered** as a viable public policy option...  
[Nonstructural] measures should be an essential complement to protective structures

# Reducing Risk and Increasing Resilience

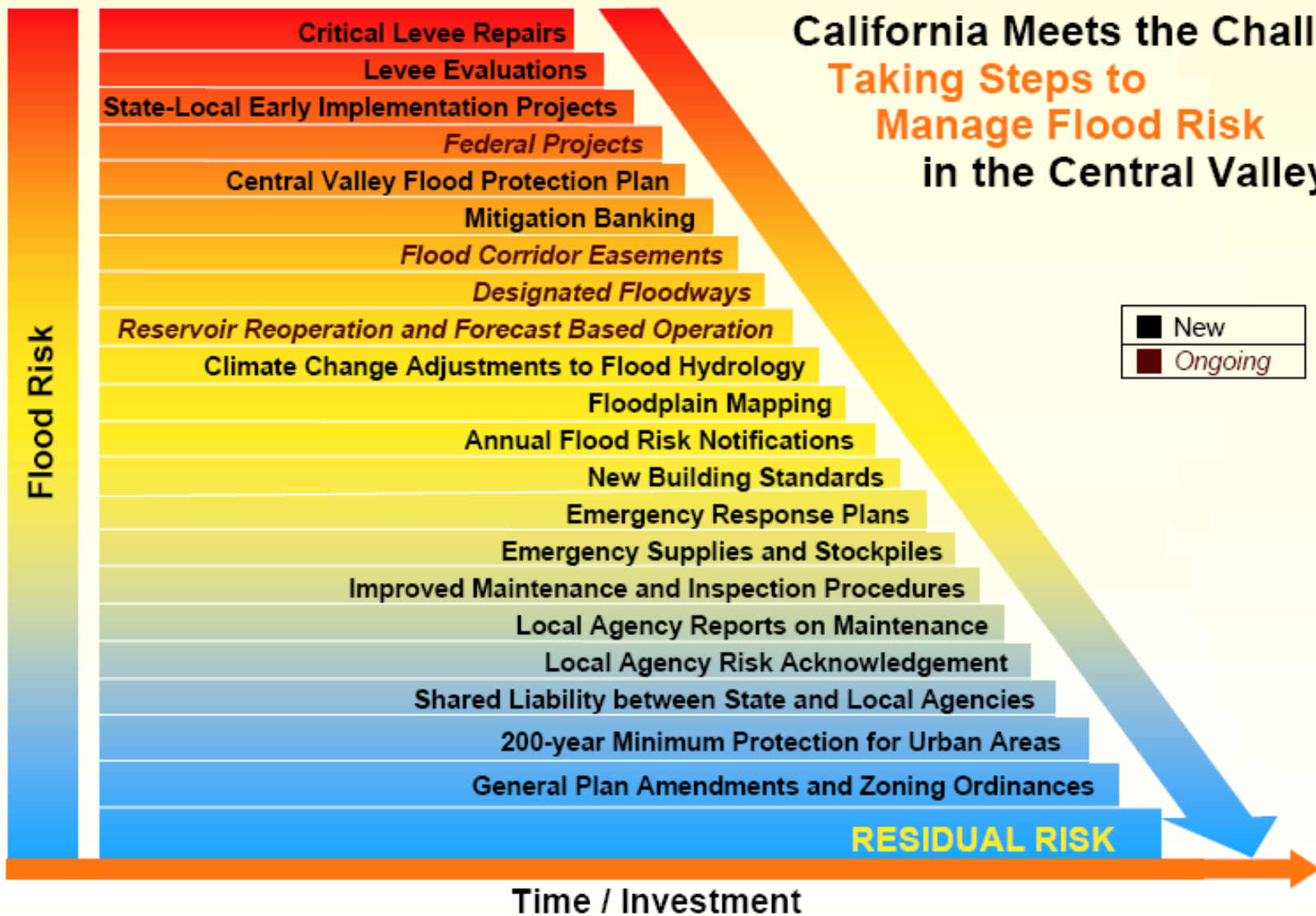
## Initial Risk



Illustrative Risk Reduction Tools  
(Cumulative) Effects

**INITIAL RISK**

**California Meets the Challenge:  
Taking Steps to  
Manage Flood Risk  
in the Central Valley**



5

# We Need Policy

Why Do  
We Let  
People  
Live  
Here?



Or Here –without Mitigation?



# *Missing?*

## *National Vision, Objectives, and Policy*

Unless you consider the jumble of laws, regulations and procedures that deal with the water as policy or vision, the United States is operating without a national flood vision or objectives or policy.



**And they do not seem to be coming!**



# Public Policy - UK

- **Government will act proportionately and consistently in dealing with risks to the public**

Government will base all decisions about risks on what best serves the public interest. Action taken to tackle risks to the public will be proportionate to the level of protection needed and targeted to the risk.

Managing risks to the public: appraisal guidance  
HM Treasury 2005

# The Royal Netherlands Embassy - Washington DC

September 16, 2008

The Government of the Netherlands requested an independent Committee of State (the Delta Committee) to give its advice on flood protection and flood risk management in the Netherlands for the next century,..Large parts of the Netherlands lie below sea level and are even now experiencing the effects of climate change and sea level rise. The Netherlands delta is safe, but preserving this safety over the long term involves action now..

**Before 2050:**

**The present flood protection levels of all diked areas must be improved by a factor of 10.**

The Bottom Line?

- **21<sup>st</sup> Century  $\neq$  20<sup>th</sup> Century**
- **We Need to Understand Risk**
- **We Need to Know Our Risk**
- **We Need to Deal with Risk**
- **We Need Policy**



# As We Move Forward, Engineers and Scientists Need to be Involved in More than Engineering and Science

Technically – Understanding the Complexities

Educationally – Explaining the Message to  
Others

Ethically – Speaking When King Has No  
Clothes; Speaking for those who can't or  
don't know

*Politically/Institutionally - Becoming  
Involved in the Decision Process*





We cry out desperately for time to pause in her passage, but time is deaf to every plea and rushes on... over the bleached bones and jumbled residues of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: “Too Late”

Jane Lubchenko, NOAA Administrator

quoting Rev M.L. King

National Academies Climate Change Response Meeting

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb in the upper center of the frame, with its light reflecting on the water below. The sky is a gradient of orange, red, and purple. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and sand dunes. The text "Thank You" is overlaid in the center in a glowing blue font.

Thank You