

Important to record information during events

"If you did not record it, it never happened..." USACE engineer

N°

2019-01



Describe the challenge, the situation and the context:
(Where, Who, What, Why, How, When)

Extreme rainfall in combination with the second highest ever recorded discharge of the Mississippi River. Such a high river discharge last occurred in 1927.

The local experts of the USACE requested the Dutch team to record as much as possible useful information during the flood event. By recording the number and locations of wells (piping) during the event, the Dutch team was able to help the USACE target areas for future dike reinforcements.

What did you learn and why is it important:

The flood defence expert asks the levee patroller to collate information to allow him to assess the situation and arrive at designs during the cold phase. The levee patroller records the relevant information (e.g. the occurrence (or not!) of wells, water depths in meters, etc).

Cold phase:

The flood defence expert jointly with the levee patroller arrives at a monitoring protocol that the levee patroller can use. Both parties practice their co-operation during exercises. They make sure all instruments and tools are ready and in place, such that they are ready for recording.

Warm phase:

The levee patroller carries out the inspections in line with the monitoring protocol. The flood defence expert (randomly) checks the results (or has these checked) and if needed amends any instructions as to what should further be monitored.

Recovery phase:

Not applicable.

Event characteristics

Subject of lesson learned:

Measuring & monitoring, recording of wells and water levels

Contact person:

Anco van den Heuvel

Mission or exercise name:

Flood event Mississippi, Q1 2019; Louisiana, USA

Relevant publication with hyperlink:

1 Actuele sterkte 2019.
2 [POV registratie zandmeevoerende wellen](#)

Cold phase

Warm phase

Recovery phase



Figure 1: use of barrels to contain the wells

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Figure 2: [caption]



Figure 3: [caption]



Figure 4: [caption]