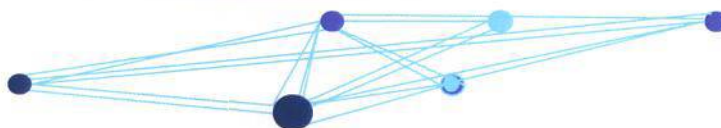


# CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	V
Acknowledgements	VI
Executive summary	VII
1. Introduction and methods	1
1.1 Qualitative survey	1
1.2 Literature review	3
1.3 Methods used to assess interventions	5
2. Current and projected trends in flooding in Europe	5
2.1 Definitions of flooding	6
2.2 Types of flood	7
2.3 Data on flood events	9
2.4 Current flood risk and number of floods	11
2.5 Temporal trends in the severity of flooding	13
2.6 Costs of flooding	15
2.7 Results of the survey of Member States	15
2.8 Future flood risk	16
3. Effects of flooding on health and health services	19
3.1 Mortality	20
3.2 Injury and exposure to chemical hazards	21
3.3 Infections and risk for epidemics	24
3.4 Health effects associated with buildings that have been flooded	28
3.5 Psychological distress	29
3.6 Vulnerable populations	33
3.7 Results of the survey of Member States	37
3.8 Impact of floods on health services	40
4. Effective interventions and recommended approaches	43
4.1 Primary prevention	43
4.2 Secondary prevention	61
4.3 Tertiary measures	71
5. Discussion and conclusions from the questionnaire survey	91
5.1 Discussion of results	91
5.2 Conclusions	93
6. Further developments	93



6.1	Research on the health effects of floods and on health services and facilities	94
6.2	Development of flood health action plans	96
6.3	Surveillance, monitoring and evaluation	96
6.4	Structural resilience and individual preparedness	97
References		98
Annex 1. Questionnaire for survey of WHO Member States in the European Region		117
Annex 2. Results of literature searches on associations between flooding, mortality, disease, exposure to chemicals and acute health effects, 2004–2010		122
Annex 3. WHO weekly morbidity monitoring and reporting forms		129
Annex 4. United States Natural disaster morbidity surveillance tally sheet		131
Annex 5. WHO recommendations for routine immunization		133