

International Committee Meeting Notes

7 November 2018, 12:00 (noon) EST

Participants by phone:

Shana Udvardy (co-chair), Bo Juza (co-chair), David Powers (co-chair), Klaus Piroth, Quentin Comings, Denise Boehning, Jack Krolkowski, Greg Laird, Jay Springer, Phetmano Phannavong, Juan Gonzales, Erin Huang

ACTION ITEMS:

No Action items were assigned at this meeting.

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Roll Call

The participants introduced themselves and provided a few words about their interest in the Committee. Representatives from Germany, Puerto Rico, and across the US were present and expressed interest.

2. Updates from Co-Chair Retreat in Madison

David reviewed the Co-Chair Retreat in Madison and discussed some of ASFPM's strategic discussions. An annotated agenda is attached.

3. Review Workplan for 2019

The 2019 Work Plan was reviewed. Highlights include a series of newsletter articles to be started, which will form the basis of an ASFPM discussion paper. A new development is the creation of regional subcommittees to focus on flood risk management in specific areas of the globe. The workplan is attached.

4. Open Discussion

- Discussed Bill Brown's article in the previous newsletter regarding his recent trip to China on behalf of ASFPM. Article Attached.
- Klaus Piroth is organizing a flood risk symposium in Magdeburg, which he provided a summary of. He committed to write up a summary for a future newsletter.
- David and Phetmano discussed the recent meeting where the Canadian federal government provided a summary of their efforts to address climate change.

5. Set next call

It was decided to hold Committee calls every two months. The next call will be scheduled for the 2nd week in January.



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ASFPM COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS' RETREAT AGENDA, (Version 9-7-2018)

Sept. 11-13, 2018 (Tues noon through Thurs noon)

[The Edgewater](#), Madison, WI

Due to the interactive nature of this year's meeting, we WILL NOT have a conference phone available.

The goal of the Committee Co-chairs' Retreat is to create an achievable annual work plan, educate/train co-chairs on cross cutting issues, and give committee co-chairs tools for a successful year.

*Engage * Run meetings * Organize * Recognize * Recruit*

Tuesday, Sept. 11

12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch provided (Wine Room on site)
1:00-1:15 PM	Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Overview and Logistics (Maria & Ingrid) Update on protocols for nominating new co-chair volunteers (Maria)
1:15-2:45 PM	Session I: Discuss Committee Structure, Tools and Training <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Current committee structure & feedback from ASFPM conference2. Pods/committee expectations, procedure, Circle of Life, and how our vetting process works<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. David Fowler discussed lessons learned on Risk Communication, which was very interesting.3. Resources available<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Merrie Inderfurth and David Conrad were both in attendance and introduced to the group, along with much discussion about what's going on in DC.4. Goals & Objectives as it relates to committee work plan effectiveness<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Committee Call information to be distributed after the retreat (haven't seen this yet). Michele came by and discussed things in some detail. D. Powers agreed to check with CDM Smith regarding "sponsoring" webinars, etc.5. Website review and changes<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The preliminary web site revision was presented at the retreat and suggestions solicited. The Flood Science Center is already using the new web site format.
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Break

3:00 – 5:30 PM	<p>Session II: Policy Issues Report & Discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NFIP reform (ASFPM Policy Team) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. David Conrad suggested that Congress is expected to Kick the Can down the road. b. Jeb Henslerling may push something through just to create a “legacy” before retiring. c. ASFPM’s focus is on affordability – Rather than raising subsidized rates, they should fund mitigation. Larson suggested that ICC is the most cost effective – time effective mitigation approach. 2. NFIP/private insurance comparison (Bruce – TN presentation) 3. DRRRA (ASFPM Policy Team) 4. Urban Stormwater (Jeff Sickles/Siavash/Chad) 5. Floodproofing standards, ANSI 2510 (Chad) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. National Floodproofing Standards (ANSI 2510). b. Working to get into ASCE 24 c. Working on a low-cost gauge system d. Chad is the lead e. FEMA is not funding floodproofing mitigation on perimeter barriers. f. User manual for mitigation g. BSI, and International products should be considered (dpowers suggestion). 6. WRDA, FPM Plans (ASFPM Policy Team) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Language for “floodplain plan” is undefined, but needs to be developed in order to receive funding for Dam Projects. Plan must be preventative/proactive. Barker/Addicks encouraged people to move into harm’s way. There should be a minimum standard such that foreseeable circumstances shouldn’t flood people.
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Group dinner (Red Crown Room on site)
Wednesday, Sept. 12	
7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast provided
8:00-9:30 AM	<p>Session III: Flood Science Center Projects Briefing (Bill, Alan & Jason)</p> <p>Briefing on projects & deliverables completed, ongoing and just starting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All questions and concerns go to Bill Brown b. Information on projects at FSC will be disseminated to the committees to see if there are opportunities for collaboration c. There is a current project underway for FEMA regarding floodways that asks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Are floodways still relevant/desired

	ii. How should we address floodways with <u>2D models</u> .
9:30-10:00 AM	Break
10:00-12:00 PM	<p>Session IV: G&O exercise per committee</p> <p>10–11 Review and commit to G&O objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. This session was just a couple of highlights from what each committee wanted to do this year. I grouped the International Committee into i) engagement with the International Committee, and ii) Information/Knowledge Transfer. These are incorporated into the work plan. b. There is a climate change committee that is under consideration. They are looking for multi-discipline, multi-committee participation. c. The International Committee will participate in the Risk Communication Committee’s discussion paper on “the 100-year storm.” d. The International Committee will post academic papers on international flood topics in conjunction with the higher ed committee. <p>11-12 Reporting out who is taking on what</p>
Noon-1:00 PM	Lunch provided (Wine Room on site)
1:00-3:30 PM	Pod breakouts on committee work plans: Additions, adjustments and collaborative opportunities
3:30-3:45 PM	Break
3:45-5:30 PM	Report out of top two work plan actions of each committee
6:00-8:00PM	Group dinner at University of Wisconsin Terrace (short walk along fraternity row to lakeside terrace for dinner and drinks, Madison-style).
Thursday, Sept. 13	
7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast provided
8:00–8:30 AM	Promoting your committee: activities, conference calls (Michele)
8:30-9:00 AM	<p>Session V: Fall DC Policy Conference 2019</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion (EO/Merrie/David Conrad) 2. Other success examples: APA 3. DC resources – apartment, meetings 4. Attendees and committee retreat 2019?
9:00-10:00 AM	<p>Session VI: 2019 Cleveland Annual Conference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sunday--committee co-chair discussion; 2. Re-marketing Monday—Policy Day! 3. Committee duties at conference, overview: pocket guide, sessions, early birds, survey results. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We need more information on policy/early bird, and other committee obligations and opportunities. There is some concern over participation in early bird activities because a) everybody stays up too late, and b) there are conflicting activities (e.g. 5K run). I believe it was Wednesday evening that there is nothing planned, and it was suggested that committees could get together for an informal/social gathering. This was done in Atlanta for

	the International Committee and it was well received.
10:00-11:20 AM	<p>Session VII: Improving Committee Operations/Best Practices/Needs.</p> <p><i>This session has been an annual favorite. It's an open discussion where committee co-chairs share their best practices and tips on successful committee operations. Be prepared to share your secrets with your colleagues!</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trip reports – note sharing, social media 2. Handling committee conflicts 3. Managing your core group and larger subcommittee 4. Engaging committee members and attracting new blood 5. Making progress on your work plans 6. Success Stories – Best Management Practices 7. Agenda development and minutes 8. Training needs 9. Use of web to enhance committees, updating your web pages 10. Executive office support
11:20-11:30 AM	Wrap up and adjourn

Safe travels!

Don't forget to submit your revised FY18 work plans by Friday, Sept. 21, 2018.

POLICY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

International Committee

2018 – 2019

(last update: 8 September 2018)

1.0 Overview

The primary mission of the International Committee is to provide a platform to exchange knowledge and best practices on the wise-use of floodplains in order to reduce flood losses, manage water resources, and promote sustainability in the built and natural environment.

ASFPM is a valued and effective resource for advising and interfacing with national counterparts and policy leaders in other nations regarding identification and reduction of flood risk, including adaptation to the flood-related impacts of a changing climate. This engagement provides valuable context and helps inform adjustments to US-based policies and practices while providing ASFPM members with risk reduction techniques that are successful and applicable in the US.

Committee co-chairs:

Bo Juza
Shana Udvardy
David Powers (Alternate)

Liaisons:

Jessica Ludy: Committee's Liaison to Risk Communication Committee

Active members:

Name	Email address	Role
Bo Juza	bojuza@aquatrendconsulting.com	Co-chair (Current)
Shana Udvardy	sudvardy@ucsusa.org	Co-chair (Current)
David Powers	david.b.powers@comcast.net	Co-chair (Alternate)
Jessica Ludy	jludy@esassoc.com	Risk Communication Liaison
Anna Serra-Llobet	annaserrallobet@gmail.com	Member
Allan Gear	terraquatics.australia@gmail.com	Member
Jonathan Simm	j.simm@hrwallingford.com	Member
Alex Trahan	atranhan@esassoc.com	Member
Joe Chapman	joe.chapman@aecom.com	Member
Ingrid Wadsworth	ingrid@floods.org	Staff

2.0 Task Outline

Outlines for 2017-2018 to be accomplished by this committee and the list of work tasks.

- 2.1 Continue to build relationships and facilitate exchange of knowledge with floodplain managers in other countries. Based on annual meeting at ASFPM conference in Grand Rapids and Kansas City, the following focus areas and their leading contacts were

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selected. Focus areas are not limited to the following, but the International Committee and all members present at meeting believe that there is a need to have a leading contact:

1. UK – Jonathan Simm
 2. Canada – Flair Feltmate.
 3. France and Spain – Anna Serra-Llobet
 4. The Netherlands – Jessica Ludy
 5. Australia – Allan Gear
 6. Poland – Janusz Zaleski
 7. Czech Republic – Bo Juza
- 2.2 Develop country-specific flood risk management summaries using the points of contact above. Each summary should stand on its own, but a combined set of summaries could provide the basis for a Discussion Paper on International Best Practices for Flood Risk Management. Each summary will be provided to ASFPM for inclusion in the newsletter to help promote the committee and encourage discussion on floodplain management from a global perspective.
- 2.3 Investigate the development of an International, or non-NFIP specific, CFM certification that could be implemented for ASFPM members not working in the US. There has been interest in this concept, and there is an example in Canada where the CFM is being required of local floodplain managers, in lieu of anything better. Larry is interested in advancing this cause and the International Committee could help inform this through other work objectives, such as country-specific flood risk management summary sheets.
- 2.4 Collaborate with the Risk Communications Committee regarding a discussion paper they are leading that discusses the appropriateness of the “100-year” storm standard. Point person for the paper is Jessica Ludy and Jen Marcy.
- 2.5 Collaborate with the Higher Education Committee to bring awareness to academic papers associated with international flood risk management topics. This could be through posting them on a website, social media, or other.

3.0 Ongoing Work Items

Task Name	Task Leader	Approx. Hrs. to complete	Detailed Task Description
ASFPM Coordination	Juza/Udvardy/Powers	10 hours	Collaborate with other ASFPM committees and board to advance the International Committees’ goals and objectives and to serve international needs of all committees.
Annual Conference	Juza/Udvardy/Powers	20 hours	Prepare for the committees retreat and the annual International Committee meeting. Prepare notes of annual meeting for distribution.

POLICY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

International Committee

2018 – 2019

(last update: 8 September 2018)

Committee Conference Calls	Juza/Udvardy/Powers	48 hours	Organize and facilitate regular bi-monthly conference calls with active committee members (hours assume both co-chairs participating, 6 calls per year, and prep/post meeting tasks).
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4.0 2017-2018 Work Items

The International Committee had the following standard work items that were ongoing in nature:

1. Collaborate with other ASFPM committees and board to advance the International Committees' goals and objectives and to serve international needs of all committees.
2. Continue to build relationships and facilitate exchange of knowledge with floodplain managers in other countries. Based on annual meeting at ASFPM conference in Grand Rapids and Kansas City, the following focus areas and their leading contacts were selected. Focus areas are not limited to the following, but the International Committee and all members present at meeting believe that there is a need to have a leading contact
 1. UK - David Powers and Jonathan Simm
 2. Canada - Flair Feltmate
 3. Australia - Allan Gear and Mark Forest
 4. Poland and Czech Republic - Janusz Zaleski and Bo Juza
3. Participate in ASFPM Policy Committee Conference Calls and Retreats: Attend Policy Committee Chair Meeting at National Conference and hold annual committee meeting.
4. Prepare Annual Reports and Develop Work Plans.
5. Increase membership and effectively engage International Committee members.
 - Seek contacts within governmental agencies and embassies in DC to further outreach. (Phannavong Phetmano, Shana Udvardy)
 - Focus on climate issues (Policy, Climate Adaptation)
 - Learn about international flood policies EU, AU, GB and promote sharing and information exchange with ASFPM membership with webinars and social media. (LinkedIn group ...)
 - Contribute technical and nontechnical articles to ASFPM newsletters
6. Maintain and Increase International Committee engagement, collaboration and membership with ASFPM members through social media using the International Committee page on LinkedIn and Twitter.
7. Establish and continue collaboration with other similar organizations. (American Water Resources Association, Floodplain Management Australia, etc.)

**Association of State
Floodplain Managers**



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flood losses & protecting
floodplain resources

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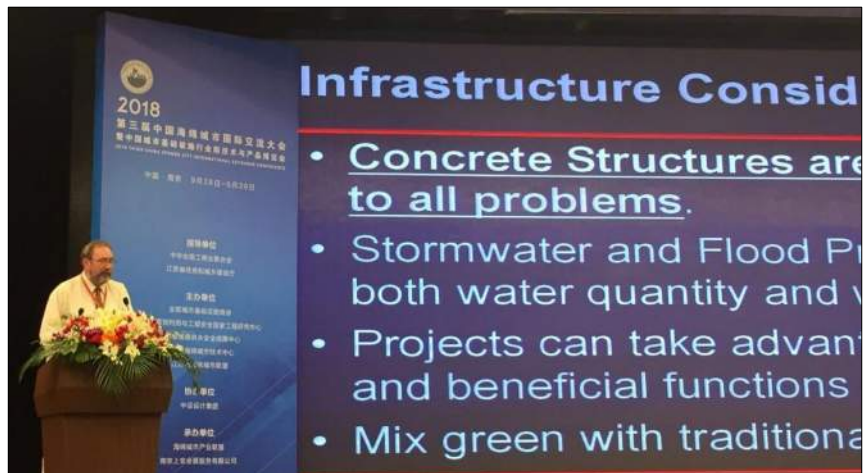
Vol. 31, No. 5

October 2018

ASFPM Shares LID & GI Knowledge, While Soaking in Chinese Sponge City Sites

Written by Bill Brown, P.E., ASFPM's Flood Science Center Director

ASFPM received an invitation from the China Urban Infrastructure Chamber of Commerce to participate in the 2018 Third China Sponge City International Exchange Conference Sept. 27-29, 2018 in Nanjing, China. The conference was an opportunity to convey experiences, information on new technologies and products related to China's "sponge cities" initiative. The effort aims to arrest the impacts of groundwater over-extraction, waterway degradation and urban flooding through the use of permeable surfaces and green infrastructures. The goal is to design urban landscapes as active systems that soak up excess rain to improve waterway health and mitigate flooding. Through permeable green infrastructure replacing impervious grey engineering, a sponge city retains stormwater for reuse within its own boundaries. The retained stormwater can be used to sustainably recharge depleted aquifers, offset potable water demand, supply industry and for urban irrigation.





Of course you can't go to China without visiting some of the sites, like the Great Wall and Forbidden City. Photo by Bill Brown.

The sponge city initiative is similar to low-impact development (LID) or green infrastructure (GI) efforts in the United States. While much of the efforts in China are focused on new urbanization, there is also a focus on retrofits to existing urban areas. The Chinese government has called for existing urban areas to incorporate water management best practices in redesign and retrofitting projects.

During my participation at the conference, four Americans were speakers and invited to meetings with various Chinese representatives.

In one meeting, we met with Ms. **He Junjun**, deputy director, Urban Construction Department, Housing and Construction

Department, Jiangsu Province and her staff to discuss our experiences with LID/GI. The meeting was very informative and engaging. The questions asked by the Jiangsu Province staff were consistent with issues faced by county and municipal governments throughout the United States—project funding, design standards, design challenges, construction and maintenance.

As part of ASFPM's invite, we were asked to present to the conference attendees. Giving the focus on LID/GI and its impact on flood-risk reduction, my presentation focused on infrastructure projects in urban floodplains. My presentation, "*Greening a Grey System: Green Infrastructure Designs in Urban Systems*" promoted the "greening" of existing infrastructure retrofits or redesigns, as well as the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. As is an issue in China, many older communities in the U.S.

experienced rapid urbanization with little regard to flood risk from the stormwater systems. I highlighted how various projects were traditional grey designs, but incorporated green aspects, bioengineered streambank stabilization and floodplain buyouts where the land was turned into and maintained as open space. There was great interest in successes and experience in the United States and other countries.

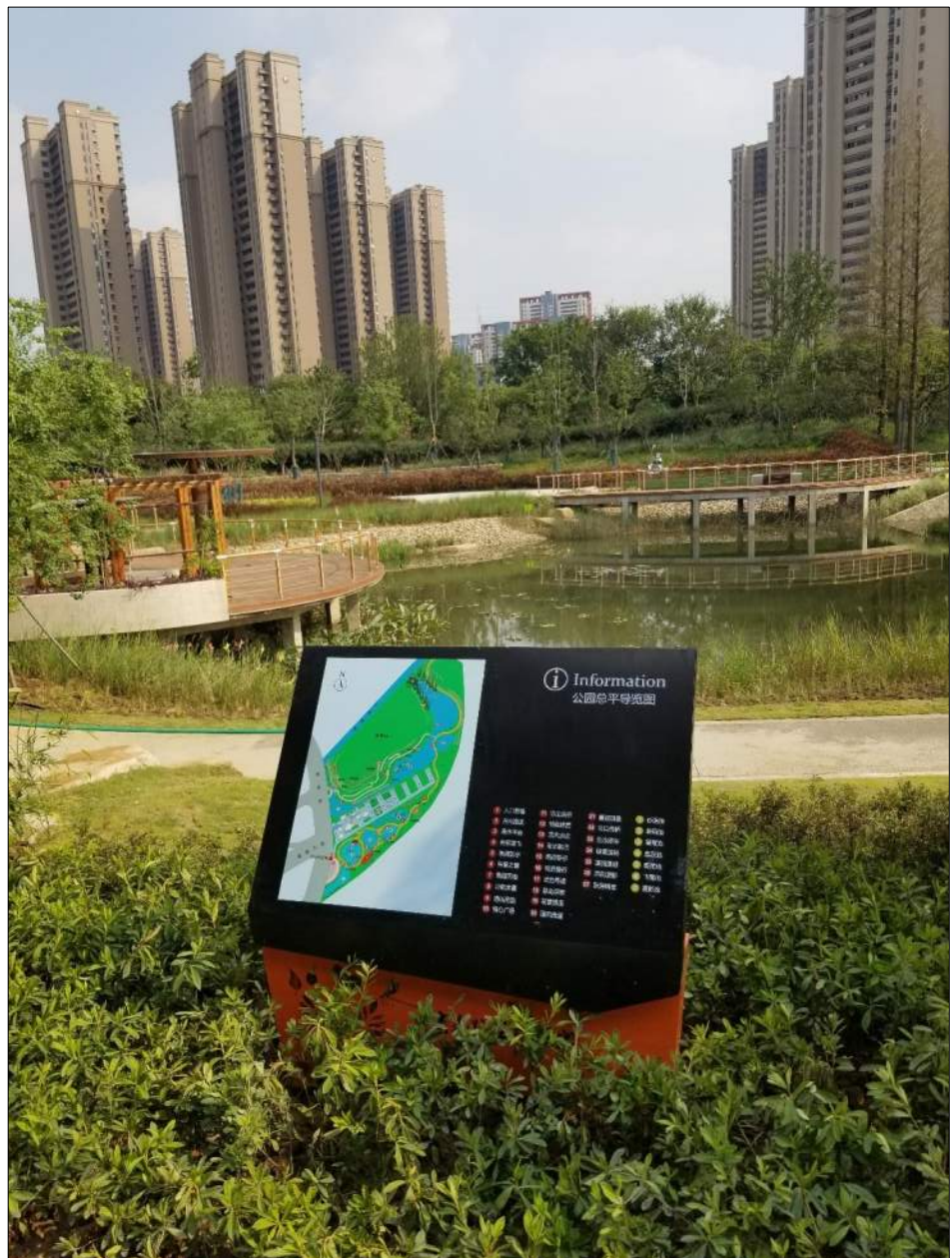
On the final day of the conference, we visited two sponge city project sites in Nanjing. The first was a floodplain restoration site adjacent to a road that repeatedly flooded. A vacant adjacent lot was remediated to expand the



A Nanjing, China "sponge city" site. This floodplain restoration project is adjacent to a road that repeatedly flooded. Photo by Bill Brown.

floodplain storage and was turned into a park amenity that included educational signage to explain floodplain benefits. The project utilized pervious pavement for the trails and parking areas, native vegetation and expanded floodplain storage. The second site was similar to a Complete Streets design in the United States where there was dedicated pavement for cars, a vegetated median separating the street from a bike lane and then the curb and sidewalk draining to a bioswale. Overall, the designs were very similar to projects you might see in the U.S.

This was a very memorable experience on a personal and professional basis. There are many opportunities to share successes in flood and stormwater management. Many in China showed interest in further developing these opportunities.



A Nanjing, China "sponge city" site. This floodplain restoration project is adjacent to a road that repeatedly flooded. Photo by Bill Brown.

Have a story you'd like to share with ASFPM newsletter readers? Email ASFPM PIO Michele Mihalovich at michele@floods.org.