Flood Management Strategies

Flood management aims to reduce the frequency and magnitude of flooding in order to limit the damage. Protection can be achieved by **HARD** or **SOFT-ENGINEERING** methods

HARD ENGINEERING INCLUDES:

- Levees, artificially raised and strengthened embankments
- Dams and weirs
- Diversion channels
- Retention basins and balancing lakes
- Artificially raised floodplains

Costs: expensive to build and to maintain; likely to cause environmental damage; may displace people

Benefits: generally effective - water supply, economic growth and stability assured in the short and medium term

SOFT APPROACHES TO THE MANAGEMENT OF FLOODING INCLUDE:

- Afforestation
- Floodplain zoning
- River restoration schemes
- Contour ploughing and strip farming along valley sides
- Improving flood forecasting

Costs: less effective than hard engineering, particularly in the short term

Benefits: less costly than hard engineering, environmentally sustainable in the long term