‘Here comes the flood!’

Everyday risks in a Jakarta slum

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Large floods

‘Small’ floods
Several times each year, not everywhere.

Consequences
Economic losses
Trauma
Damage and loss of assets
Reproduction of poverty
Illness; injuries
Death
Causes of floods

City mismanagement & urbanization
- Old infrastructure
- Garbage
- Many buildings, little greenery (soil absorption)

Natural factors
Rain, climate changes?

‘Flood- policy’
Old infrastructure
Urbanization dynamics

- 1811: 47,000.
- Early twentieth century: 500,000.
- 2010: 10 million (official city population); metropolitan area of 20 million
- 2015: 17 million?
- Population growth per year 130,000 to 250,000 (World Bank, 2011).

more extensive use of the built environment, more garbage clogging the sewerage system, greater numbers of humans potentially affected (Kadri, 2008).
Economic development vs social housing & greenery
...back to the kampong
Conclusions 1

Heterogeneity: 82 different risk-handling practices
Yong Lama
kr 9,650,000
1/10
kr 9,800,000
Conclusion 2

Risk-practices not used just to cope with floods, but also to cope with the risks of poverty and evictions.

Examples: loans, paying middle man for protection, befriending powerful actors.

‘Normal uncertainty’
Conclusion 3

Risk-handling practices not arbitrarily but patterned: risk-handling styles
Get Ready for the Flood!
Risk-handling styles in Jakarta, Indonesia
Roanne van Voorst
So what?

- Unequal division of wealth, *unequal division of risk*: who may suffer, who cannot?

- Climate changes & urbanization

- Disaster management in practice: *state/citizenship relations* (see also Partha Chatterjee’s ‘politics of the governed’, or Abdoumaliq Simone’s ‘politics of anticipation’).

- Natural hazard & failing states