



# The Urban Water Cycle and the Water System

The man made urban water cycle operates within the natural water system. The interaction between the two is managed by the use of indicators and measures to ensure that appropriate levels of service and risk are maintained. This theme looks at the current position on the use of performance indicators and how they need to be adapted to maintain their relevance in face of the future pressures resulting from climate change and urbanisation.

By using appropriate indicators and measures the robustness and/or adaptive capacity of different responses can be assessed and given the degree of uncertainty in the future scenarios that we use in developing solutions we can choose the most effective response to a particular problem.

The indicators, measures and methods of assessment of robustness and adaptive capacity are applicable to the management of both flood risk and water quality.

These are applied to each of the partners' pilot projects in turn to show how they can be used to best effect.

The theme is closely related to the urban flows and purification themes which consider the technical tools and analytical processes used in the assessments

