



# FLOOD INSURANCE

## Future Availability of Consumer Flood Insurance in the United Kingdom

Floods cause great loss of property, not to mention human misery when they destroy homes and infrastructure. As if that were not enough, unless radical measures are taken, another heavy rain or rapid melting of snow will cause the exact same situation again as the flood waters take the path that physics dictates. Unfortunately, we should expect the situation to get worse as the climate continues to change.

The UK is far from alone in this predicament. The project is designed to explore the legal aspects of how other jurisdictions have managed. New Zealand's earthquakes, Australia's floods and wildfires and natural disasters experienced in other parts of the world have forced other countries to find comprehensive solutions. The project aims to find out how they could be transposed into the UK.

There is currently a provisional solution in place, an agreement between the insurance industry and the government called the Statement of Principles. However, a permanent solution needs to be found. There is no simple solution to this problem, but the project will produce a report that will help those involved, including the government, the insurance industry and consumer advocates move forward based on the best information and analysis. The report will be presented at an event this summer, timed to coincide with the expiry of the Statement of Principles on 30 June 2013.

**NEW ZEALAND'S  
EARTHQUAKE  
COMMISSION ACT**

**AUSTRALIAN  
INSURANCE  
CONTRACTS ACT**

**US NATIONAL FLOOD  
INSURANCE  
PROGRAM**

**TURKISH  
CATASTROPHE  
INSURANCE POOL**

**...AND MUCH MORE!**

**INSURANCE LAW  
RESEARCH GROUP**

contact person:  
JOHANNA HJALMARSSON  
Southampton Law School  
[jhh@soton.ac.uk](mailto:jhh@soton.ac.uk)

PROJECT SPONSORED BY

[Public Policy@Southampton](mailto:PublicPolicy@Southampton)  
<http://publicpolicy.southampton.ac.uk/>