

Flood Protection in Thailand; A costly attempt against nature, the case of Ayutthaya.



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Discussion on

- What happened in Thailand in 2011?
- How the great flood in 2011 has become disaster?
- Why a historical town such Ayutthaya is one of the most interesting case?
- Why the government considers structural measures as primary policy?
- Will the huge budget of 11 billion US\$ solve the flood problem completely?
- How the adaptation concept is being applied as urban climate resilience?

Five storms hit Thailand in 2011 causing great flood on a half of the country. More than 30,000 m.c.m. fluxed in to Ayutthaya province.



Source; Bangkok business news

Ayutthaya, historical town 80 km. north of Bangkok, was flooded heavily in August and October 2011.



For 2 months, Thai society learned an unforgettable experience and meaning of ‘disaster’.



Source; Ripple news

Urban areas were not the first flood protection priority.
Which area did the government want to protect most?



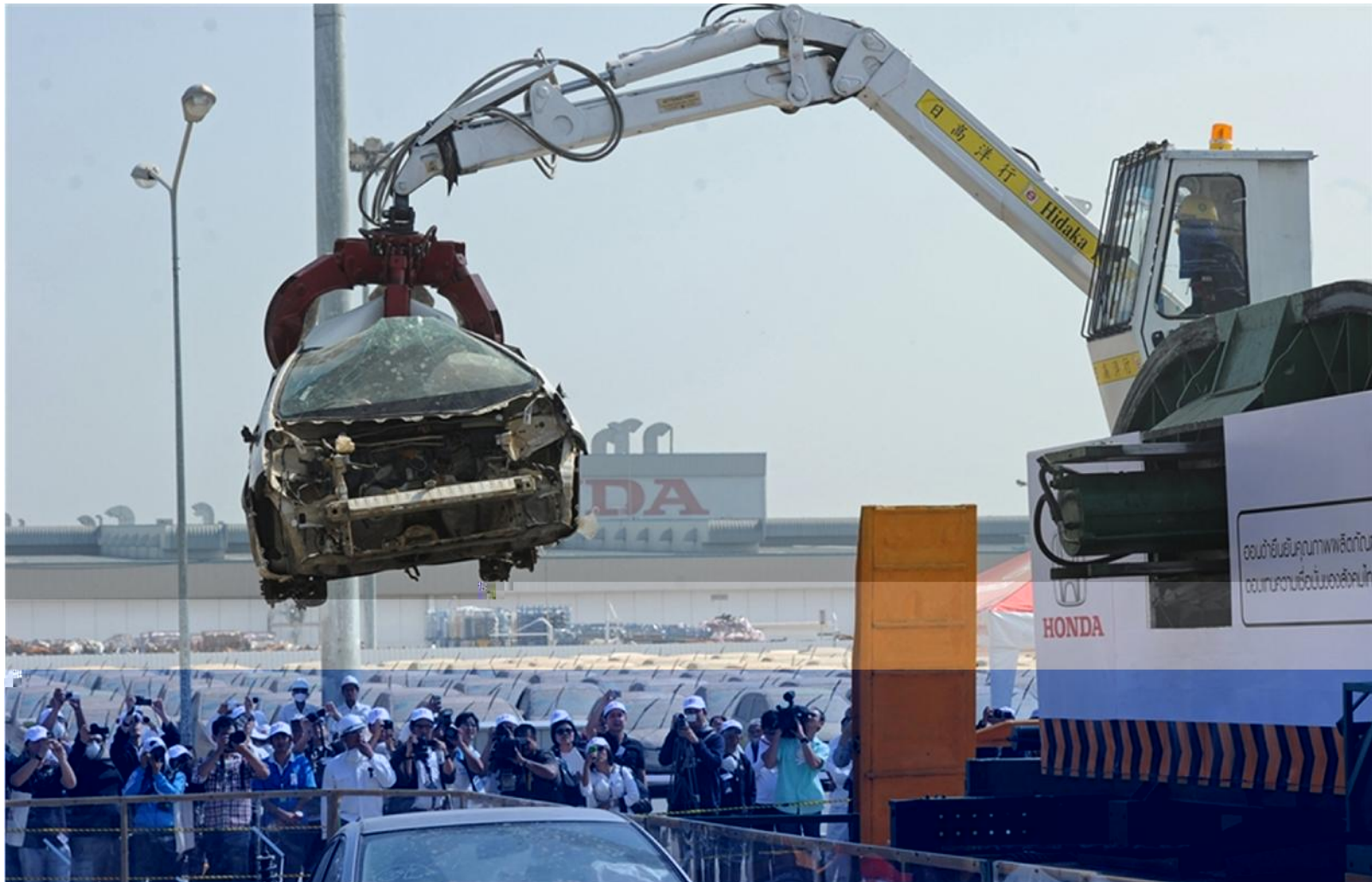
Source; astv, local news

The Japanese automobile industry in Ayutthaya was damaged heavily and production stopped for months.



Source; astv, local news

What must be done first is to protect industrial sector in Ayutthaya to bring back investors' confidence.



Concrete flood walls were built immediately after the ground was dry; 7 m. high and 80 km. long



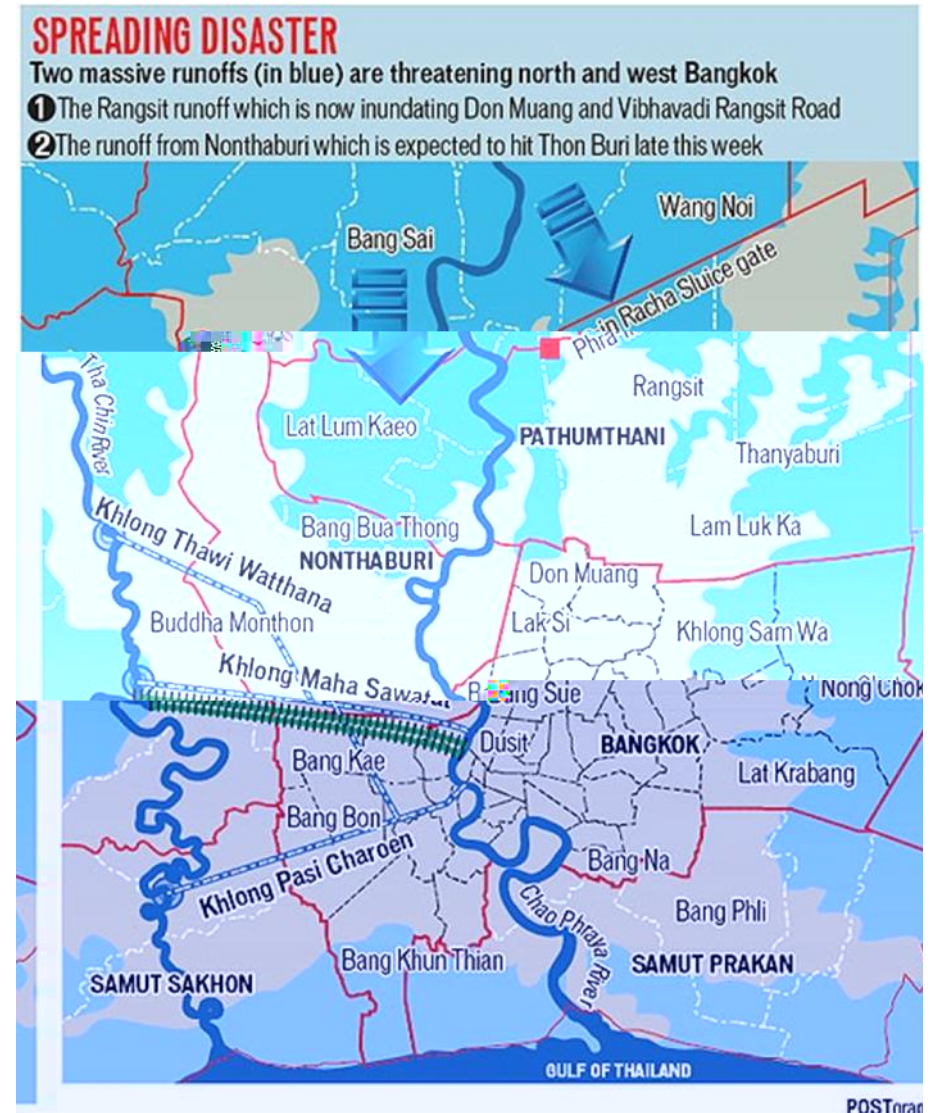
Nearby towns along the river developed higher concrete walls against the flood.



The government never explains what happened in 2011 and says nothing about climate change, why?



Photo; Thai travel news



Why it is costly flood protection programme;
11 billion US\$? How sustainable it is?



Meanwhile, Thai society is seeking for something as resilient and adaptive options living with water.



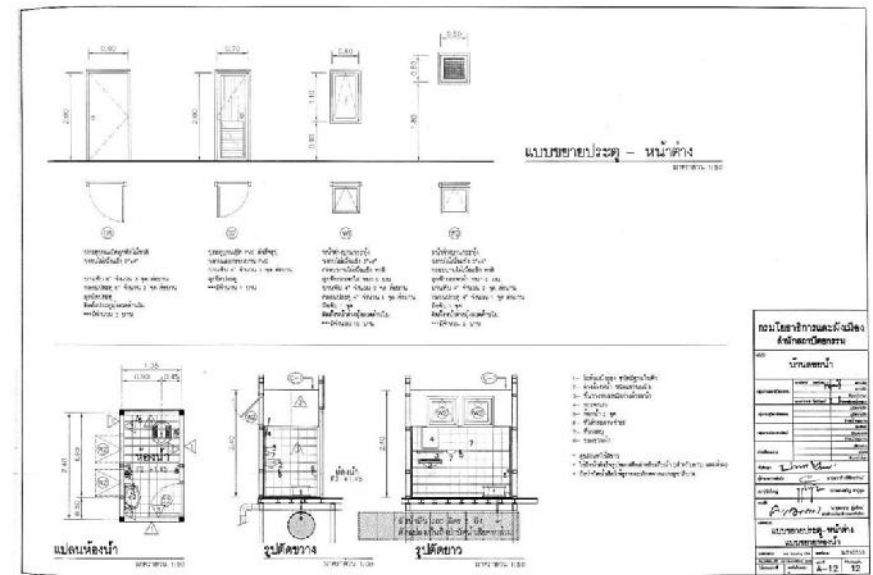
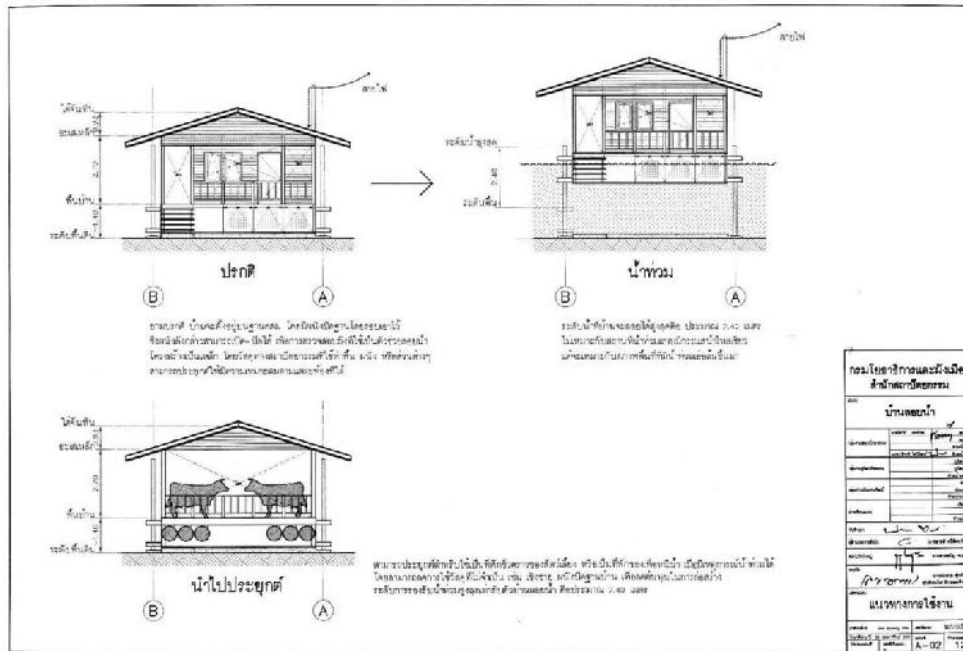
Thai traditional house on stilts is a good typical form of adaptive settlements.



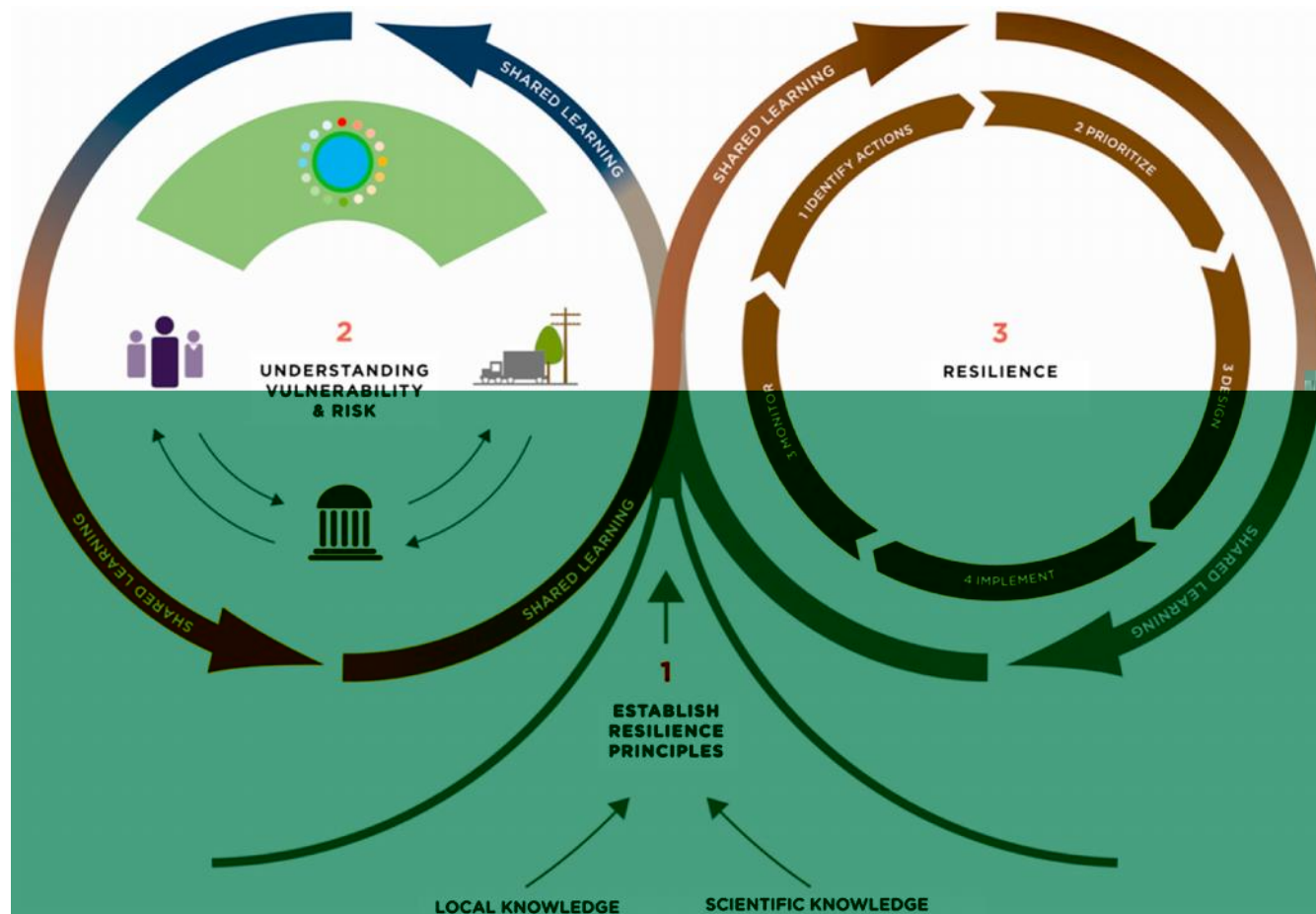
Traditionally floating house is another form of adaption.



Floating house designed for people



The government does not mention key words such climate change, vulnerable, exposure and resilience.



Despite strong arguments, the costly flood programme against the nature continues without considering consequences.



Frustration is not about 'sustainable solutions' but coming corruption attempt after approval.

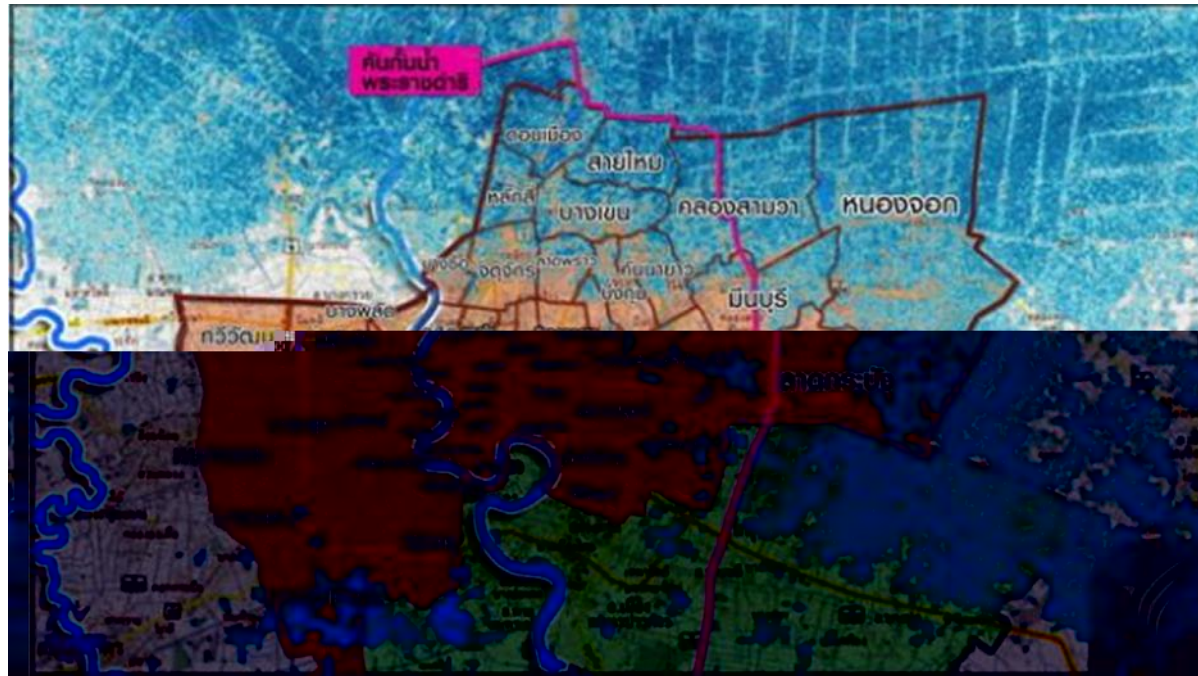


Photo; Post Today



Source; Bangkokpost

Thank you



Source; TPBS, local news