In 2006 the Danube River flooded eastern Europe due to heavy rainfall and large amounts of melting snow. The highest water levels ever were recorded for the Danube, the Tisza and Sava, two rivers that connect with the Danube downstream. Several people were killed by the floods and hundreds of people were evacuated from their homes all over eastern Europe. Even in places where there were no casualties, there was extensive farm land damage, rail way damage, and dam collapses. The Danube river reached its highest water level in Serbia at 9.65 m, the highest level ever recorded in Serbia. It was the most damaging flood ever seen in the Danube’s history, and it caused the leaders of these countries to reconsider how important flood prevention measures are. Before the flood, leaders within these countries had been hesitant to spend money on flood prevention, however, after the flood, members of the European Parliament passed an amendment proposing a directive on flood risk management. The Action Programme for Sustainable Flood Protection, which was created before the flood of 2006 to manage flood risks, is now working on creating an international flood warning system based on the soil conditions and meteorology that will be able to warn Europeans of a flood 10 days before it happens. The Action Programme is now working harder than ever and suggests that rivers need to be given more space and flood plains need to be left the way they are in order to protect cities and the public.

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Danube River
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