

## TABLE OF CONTENT

TABLE OF FIGURES.....	9
TABLE OF TABLES .....	11
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	13
SUMMARY.....	17
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	21
PROLOGUE .....	23
1 INTRODUCTION .....	25
2 TOPIC AND RESEARCH QUESTION .....	31
2.1 Phenomena and processes of interest.....	32
2.2 State of the art – flood related research.....	35
2.2.1 Research on hazards, disasters and risk .....	35
2.2.2 Research on floods and climate change with relevance for Mexico .....	38
2.3 Challenges in disaster risk management in Mexico.....	45
2.4 Research question .....	52
3 INTRODUCING THE CASE STUDY REGION – SELECTED SOCIO-SPATIAL DYNAMICS IN A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW .....	55
3.1 Strategic importance of the Usumacinta River in Mayan times .....	57
3.2 Economic exploitation and ecological effects in colonial times and after.....	58
3.3 Population dynamics, fight for land and major political dynamics in the 20th century .....	61
3.4 Recent processes of international economic integration and dynamics of resistance .....	65
4 SOCIAL PRACTICES, RISK AND SPACE – THEORETICAL BASIS .....	68
4.1 Paradigmatic and epistemological basis .....	68
4.2 Social practice theory.....	72

4.3 Theoretical accounts of risk .....	77
4.4 Theoretical accounts of space .....	82
4.5 Integration of practices, risk and space into the <i>riskscapes</i> concept .....	89
<b>5 METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>95</b>
5.1 Positionality, ethical considerations and questions of ownership .....	96
5.2 Grounded Theory and link to two “alternative epistemologies”.....	99
5.3 A collaborative research approach.....	101
5.4 Ethnographic research and social geographical methodology .....	104
5.5 Design of the empirical research process and methods of data generation.....	106
5.6 Audio-visual methods .....	113
5.7 Integration and development of additional methods.....	117
5.8 Methods applied in analysis and interpretation.....	118
5.8.1 Discourse-oriented analysis of text and interpretation.....	119
5.8.2 Qualitative analysis and interpretation of visual data .....	120
<b>6 SOCIAL PRACTICES OF LIVING WITH FLOODS PERFORMED BY VILLAGE INHABITANTS .....</b>	<b>123</b>
6.1 Locally identified topics and concepts .....	123
6.2 Identification of key social practices.....	125
6.3 Flood, flood risk or living with floods .....	128
6.4 LIVELIHOOD, THE “GOOD LIFE” AND DEVELOPMENT.....	153
6.5 Creating and performing collective identities.....	156
6.6 Retelling and re-performing history.....	164
6.7 Fighting for land and the importance of “la tierra” .....	168
6.8 Interacting with government .....	173
<b>7 BODILY-MATERIAL NOTIONS IN FLOOD RELATED PRACTICES OF VILLAGE INHABITANTS .....</b>	<b>179</b>
7.1 Material realities of living with floods.....	179
7.1.1 Changes of distance and proximity.....	181
7.1.2 Changing dynamics on the river and anticipation of floods.....	183
7.1.3 Protecting livelihood .....	184
7.1.4 Finding one’s way in the social network of the village .....	185
7.1.5 Attachment to land and adaptation to floods .....	186
7.1.6 Co-presence of different temporalities.....	187
7.1.7 Living in the water .....	188
7.2 Socio-cultural contexts of flood management .....	191
7.2.1 Taking responsibility in the socio-cultural network .....	192

7.2.2 Waiting for the work to start.....	193
7.2.3 Performing hierarchy in the social network of men.....	194
<b>8 SOCIAL PRACTICES OF FLOOD MANAGEMENT PERFORMED BY EXTERNAL ACTORS .....</b>	<b>197</b>
8.1 Social practices performed by civil protection actors .....	199
8.2 Social practices performed by government actors .....	208
8.3 Social practices of other actors relevant for flood management.....	214
8.4 Synthesis of empirical results concerning social practices of flood management.....	219
<b>9 RISKSCAPES – SOCIAL PRACTICE PATTERNS OF FLOOD MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH OF MEXICO.....</b>	<b>223</b>
9.1 Insights on the main theoretical concepts .....	223
9.2 A <i>riskscape</i> of flood management in the South of Mexico – conflicting social practices and contested spaces .....	231
9.2.1 <i>Riskscape</i> of flood management a) with focus on prevention and preparedness .....	233
9.2.2 <i>Riskscape</i> of flood management b) with focus on development and the “good life”.....	236
9.2.3 <i>Riskscape</i> of flood management c) with focus on territorial organisation and transformation.....	239
9.3 Interrelations of social practices identified through the <i>riskscape</i> approach.....	242
<b>10 CONCLUSION – SOCIAL GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN A CONTEXT OF RISK AND DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>SOFTWARE .....</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>OTHER SOURCES AND SUPPORT .....</b>	<b>281</b>
<b>ANNEX .....</b>	<b>282</b>