Flanders Hydraulics Research is a center of expertise which carries out scientific research on the effects of water dynamics.

We research the impact of human activity and nature on water systems and the consequences for navigation.

We primarily work with the Flemish Government, but also support private institutions and international organizations who turn to us for expertise.

Flanders Hydraulics Research is a division of the Technical Support Services of the Department of Mobility and Public Works of the Flemish Government.

Our team consists of more than 130 employees. Together we perform 3 types of key assignments:
- optimization of hydraulic constructions (harbours, locks, dams, dikes, weirs...);
- safe and smooth manoeuvrability of ships in Flemish harbours and on Flemish inland waterways;
- efficient management of the water levels of the Flemish watercourses and effective measures to combat the consequences of water shortage or flooding.

Our mission is to develop, optimize and share expertise on water systems. We do so through specific research projects which are based upon scientifically supported evidence.

We analyse the results of different field measurements and laboratory tests. We simulate different situations which enable us to forecast future situations.

Our research is targeted at:
- guarding a safe navigation;
- designing effective hydraulic constructions;
- developing efficient measures to control exceptional water levels in rivers.

Flanders Hydraulics Research (FHR) disposes of four test halls and several permanent experimental facilities for basic and applied research. FHR also has well equipped workshops, two full mission bridge simulators, inland simulator and a sedimentological laboratory.

Very sophisticated hydraulic and hydrological software and an extensive data management system are also available to FHR.