

Project manager	dr. Marianne Kuijpers-Linde, Eric Koomen		
Institute	Geodan Next, VU University Amsterdam, FEWEB		
Email	marianne.kuijpers-linde@geodan.nl, ekoomen@feweb.vu.nl		
Consortium	VU University Amsterdam, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences, Institute of Environmental Studies VU University Amsterdam, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (FEWEB) Wageningen UR, Alterra MNP		
Project website	www.spinlab.vu.nl/lands		
Starting date	1 July 2004	Completion date	30 June 2009

Context / Social problem

A core idea behind the Climate changes Spatial Planning programme is that climate change will lead to changes in land use. For the Netherlands this is a question of considerable public interest, given its low elevation in relation to the sea and the high pressures on land in many parts of the country.

What do we know/not know?

The Climate changes Spatial Planning programme investigates what the consequences of climate change could be for various sectors, such as water management, transport, agriculture and nature, and their impacts on the land use of these sectors. Because these are sectoral projects, the various outcomes from the projects will not yet be correlated in any way with each other. The spatial mitigation and adaptation measures from these projects will be integrated in the LANDS project.

What is being studied?

Central to the LANDS project is the spatial dimension of climate change. It involves question such as:

- What changes in land use may be expected in the Netherlands over the next few decades as a consequence of climate change?
- What adaptation and mitigation measures could prepare us for these changes?
- Do the ways different sectors respond to the changes in the climate provoke conflict or open up opportunities?

To integrate knowledge from the various projects, and therefore answer the above questions, work is progressing on the following elements:

- A scenario framework that describes assumptions about the climate, population, economy and society in a consistent manner as a basis for the various adaptation and mitigation studies
- A detailed, calibrated and validated land use model capable of making integrated simulations of future land use
- A set of indicators and visualisation applications useful in tracing opportunities and conflicts in (combinations of) land use developments
- A definition in spatial terms of areas suitable for water storage in combination with other land uses
- Adjustments in the spatial definition of the current NEN to create a coherent, climate-proof network of nature conservation areas

What are the results, and who are they for?

One of the objectives of this project is to deliver integrated land use images that demonstrate how the Netherlands is contemplating dealing with the expected changes in the climate. The project output will also consist of a large number of methodological publications in various national and international journals.