



Delta Programme Commissioner

From vision to execution the Dutch Delta Programme

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Staff Delta Programme Commissioner

25 September 2014



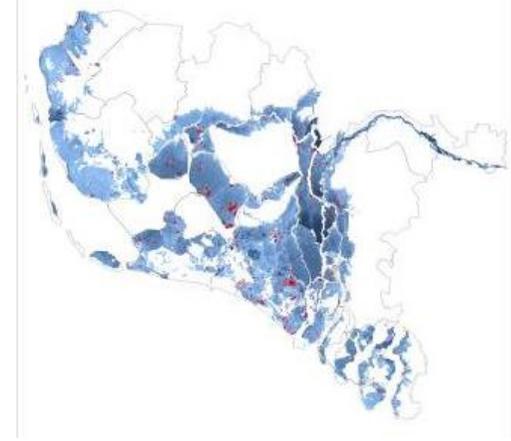
Delta Programme 2015

Working on the delta

The decisions to keep the Netherlands
safe and livable



The Netherlands: floodprone and productive



- About 400 km of Rhine river
- International catchment
- About 350 km coastline
- About 9 million inhabitants below flood level
- Invested value 1800 bln euro
- Protection level: 1:10.000 – 1:1250
- 3500 km of flood defences, hundreds of locks, sluices, pumping stations

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Dutch water management, shared responsibilities

- Ministries : policy guidelines, mngt. national water system
- Provinces : spatial planning, regional coordination of policies
- Municipalities : local planning, water and disaster management
- Waterboards: flood protection, regional water management
- Private sector: water supply and demand, (consultancy)
- Universities: research

Instruments:

- National Water Policyplan (2009)
- Administrative agreements on watermanagement (2011)
- Water Act, Spatial Planning Act → Environment Act

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Delta Committee(2007-2008)

- Al Gore / inconvenient truth
- Independent committee, to advise the government
- 1 year (high pressure)
- Involvement of many stakeholder organisations, politics
- Immediate formalisation in National Water Plan

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An innovative approach: Delta Programme



One Aim:

- keeping NL a good, safe and attractive place to live and work for present and future generations (→ long term perspective)

Two Goals

- Safe, now and in the future (2050-2100)
- Fresh water supply guaranteed, also in dry periods

Three Basic values:

- Solidarity, Flexibility and Sustainability

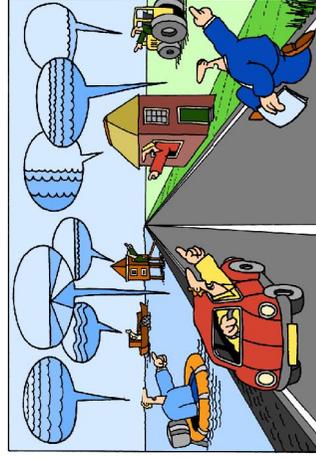
Not in answer to a disaster, but in advance, to be prepared or avoid it

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1. Multi-level governance

Multi-governmental process of decision-making and cooperation and stakeholder management



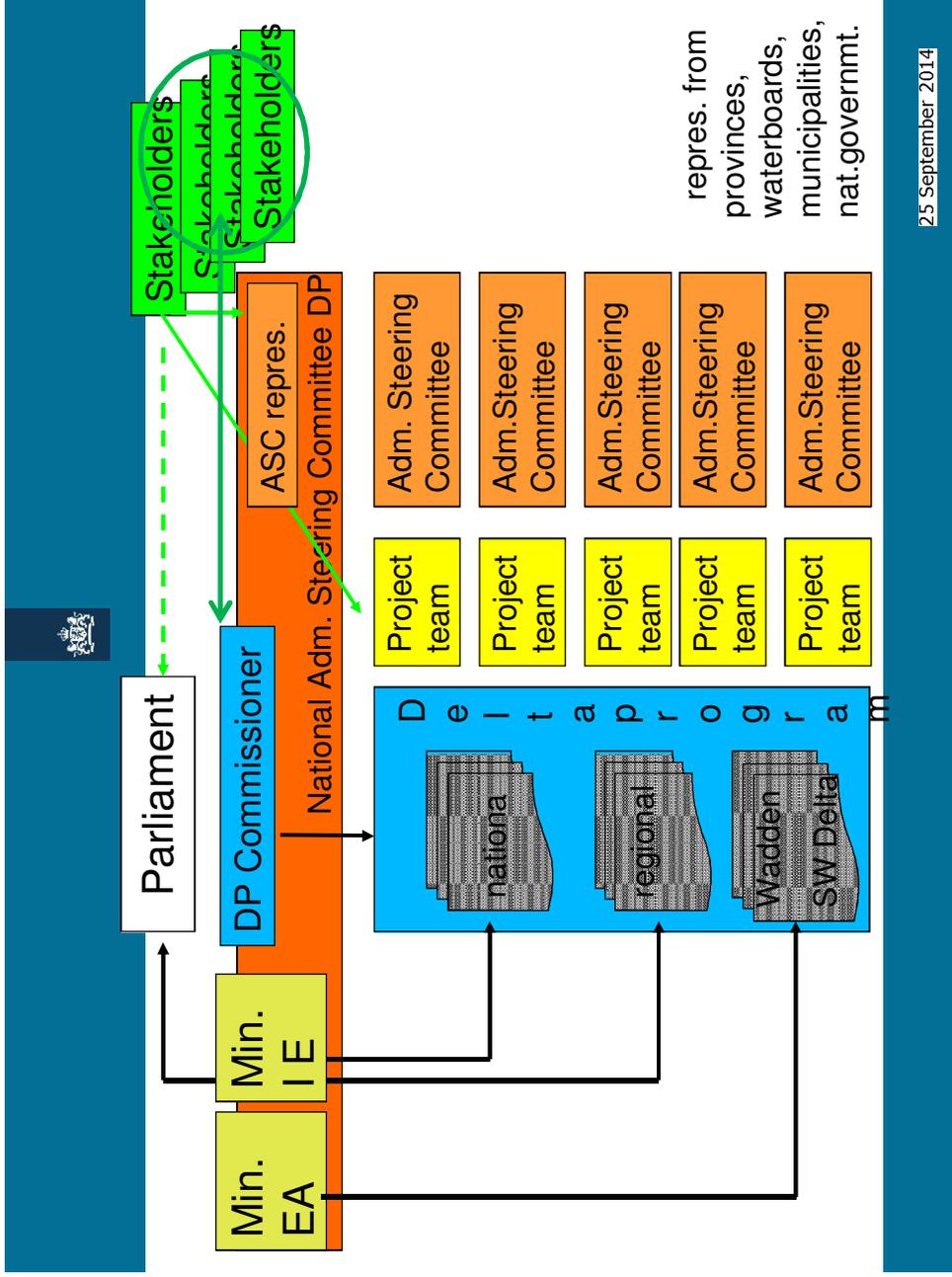
In order to:

- Collect creative and innovative ideas
- Combine with local developments (→ "synergy")
- Involve local stakeholders and built acceptance

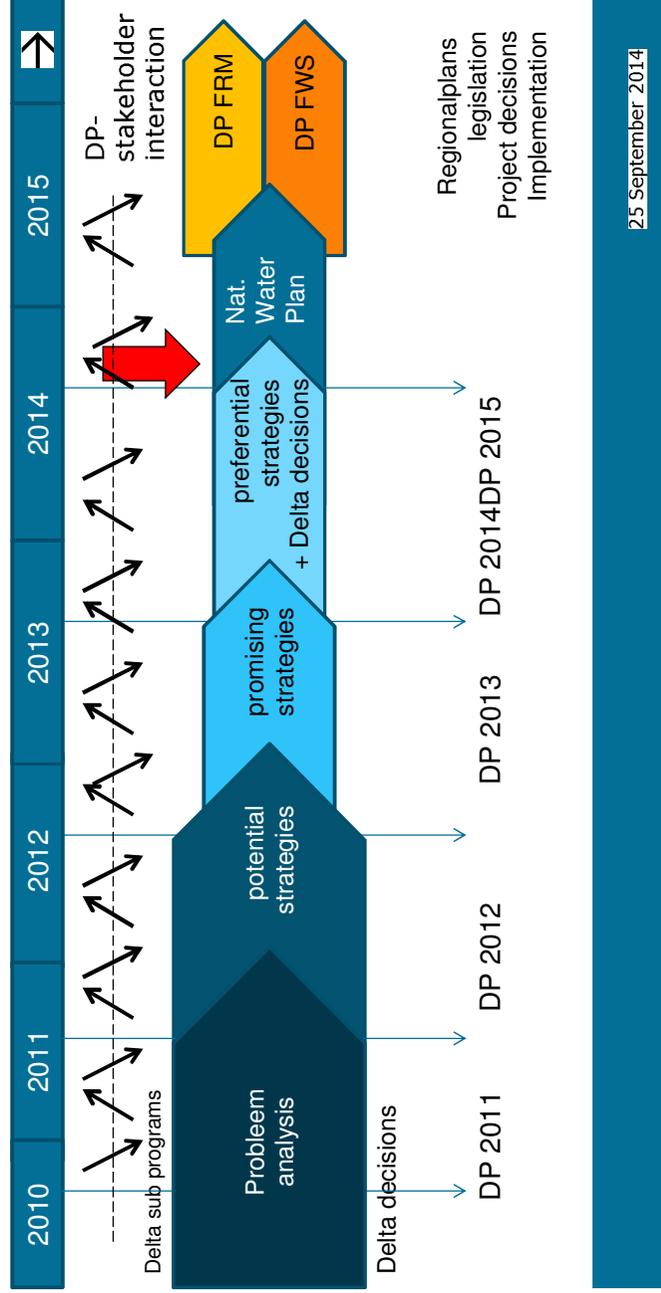
Supervised by Delta Program Commissioner

- progress, uniformity, coherence

Joint fact-finding: deltamodel + common evaluation system and knowledge base → improve quality of information and acceptance



Joint process of strategy development and decision making





2. Institutional arrangements

- Delta Commissioner, supervising adequate (regional) multi-governmental implementation **(2010)**
- Delta Fund : 1 bln €/yr (> 2020) **(2011)**
- Delta Act, “anchoring” Delta-commissioner, program and fund **(2012)**
- Delta Program: measures, yearly update, presented to Parliament **(annually)**
- Delta Decisions (strategic) **(2014)**

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3 DP Floodrisk management (what, who, when, budget?)

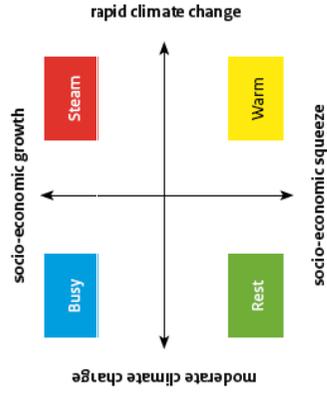
- Maintenance and improvement projects of flood defences (new flood protection standards (2050))
- New assessment tools (2017)
- Studies on “Room for the River” (→ spatial reservations!)
- Pilots flood proof construction build up area
- Improvement disaster management
- Improvement resilience vital services (energy, communications, ICT, healthcare..)
- Pilots “smart combinations”
- Studies on improvement storm surge barriers
- Integrated research programme on coastal sediment dynamics and beach nourishments

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4. Future uncertainty

→ Adaptive strategies



Uncertain future
→ scenario's

Decision making in uncertain future,
→ adaptive strategies

- Clear in objectives,
- Connect short term decisions and LT water challenges
- Flexible in "way to go"
- Linking agenda's
- Able to speed up/slow down

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Adaptive strategies



- Connect short term decisions (in physical domain) with long term water challenges
 - Link with (short term) investment agenda's ("aging infrastructure")
 - Able to speed up or slow down, flexible to change to another strategy ("Building with Nature")
- "No regret", avoid "lock in"
- Co-creation of integrated solutions
- Spatial reservations for
- future levee reinforcements,
 - water discharge and storage
 - sand extraction

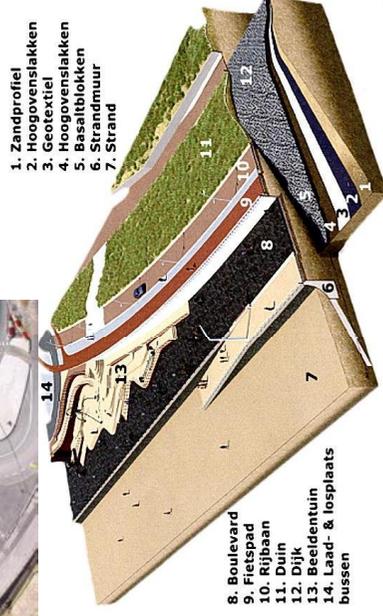
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Linkingagenda's: Scheveningen boulevard



City of The Hague
Waterboard Delfland
Rijkswaterstaat
Province South Holland



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www.deltacommissaris.nl

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5. Tools to support decisionmaking



- Uniformity in data, basic principles and model software
- Accepted by stakeholders
- Explicit and transparent
 - Reproducible

