

Kennis voor Klimaat

Knowledge for Climate



Center of Excellence “Governance of adaptation to climate change”

WP3. (Re)Allocating responsibilities and risks

Overview

While natural science research plays an important role in informing us what kind of climate adaptation measures need to be implemented, it cannot answer *who* has to plan, realize and pay for them, *what* kind of policy instruments need to be used and *what* kind of governance arrangements are effective, legitimate and fair.

The goal of this work package is to develop and test (new) governance arrangements and policy instruments that increase adaptive capacity.

The central question is: What kind of (re)allocations of responsibilities, costs, and benefits are useful to increase adaptive capacity? In particular, we will focus on the question of allocating responsibilities to private organizations.

Our methodology will include tools and insights from policy science, law, psychology and economics.

Work package leaders

Prof. dr. Daan van Soest (VU)
Dr. Hens Runhaar (UU)

Project 3.1 Allocating private responsibilities for climate adaptation

Prof. dr. Peter Driessen (UU), Heleen Mees (PhD at UU)

Given the fact that some responsibilities for the governance of adaptation are and will remain within the public domain, this project aims to identify the scope of private involvement in the governance of adaptation, as well as the conditions under which the resulting governance arrangements could be effective, efficient, legitimate and fair.

The first phase of this project will entail the development of an analytical framework, which can assist in making decisions in the allocation of roles and responsibilities to public and/or private parties. The analytical framework will draw on insights and theories from public administration, law, political science and economics, and will be refined and validated through interviews with experts in the field of adaptation to climate change.

This framework will then be applied in a comparative case study research, consisting of case studies of hotspots and (international) reference cases varying in adaptation theme, potential scope for private involvement, and the context of urban versus rural environment. The main method used will be that of collaborative action research (focus groups and/or workshops with key stakeholders and experts). The ultimate goal is the design of effective, legitimate and fair governance arrangements for these cases.



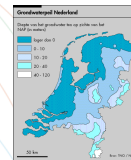
Governance



Incentives



Water management



Project 3.2 Implementing climate adaptation policies: public policies and private initiatives

Prof. dr. Daan van Soest (VU), Justin Dijk (PhD at VU University)

This project focuses on how policy instruments (such as taxes, water markets, compensation schemes, and auctioning contracts) should be designed to stimulate the supply of climate adaptation services by private parties in an efficient, flexible (or resilient), legitimate, and fair way. Here, efficiency and flexibility pertain to the extent to which policies are able to induce a certain provision level at least societal cost in a world characterized by uncertainties. Furthermore, the perceived legitimacy and fairness of policies determine whether stakeholders are willing to support and comply with them.

Our methodology involves an ex-ante assessment of the acceptability of the various policy instrument by assessing their distributional consequences, the differences with respect to the uncertainties remaining (for instance regarding the likelihood of draughts and floods), and the timing of cost and benefit flows using behavioral and experimental economics. In a final step, we combine the insights from theory and our economic laboratory experiments and propose to test our designated policy instrument, in close corporation with the interested hotspots, by setting up a small scale application of the policy in the real world.



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