

Session DP FE 1.3: Economic concepts for socio-economic vitality and biodiversity

Date and Time of Session: Thursday, 30 September 2010, 13.00-14.45

Short description of the session topic and the objective of the session

Topic: Finance and Economy

Objective: Climate change will impact the physical and socio-economic characteristics of delta's worldwide. Valuing ecosystem services is one of the possibilities to deal with this impact integrally, by tackling biodiversity loss and also improve socio-economic liveability. A study on 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)' was launched by Germany and the European Commission in response to a proposal by the G8+5 Environment Ministers (Potsdam, Germany 2007) to develop a global study on the economics of biodiversity loss. At the conference the final results of the end-user reports will be presented, offering tailored insights and advice for national and international policy makers, local and regional administrators, businesses and consumers and citizens. The results will also be translated into possible actions for climate change adaptation in the world's deltas. Tidal Economy will be presented as a concept, using the power of the tide to introduce a new and sustainable way of living in delta's.

Session Agenda and Main Speakers

Session chair: Arcadis NL

Main speakers:

- Patrick ten Brink, IEEP.
- CEO or representative Task Force Biodiversity, tbc.
- Business opportunities, ecosystem services and tidal economy as a new concept.
- Eric Schellekens ARCADIS, the Netherlands.

Most exciting insight, moment or outcome

- Investment in ecological infrastructure is highly important.
- Biodiversity and climate should be a win-win situation. It is impossible to address climate without biodiversity. Both Mitigation & adaptation are necessary.
- We are moving to a low-carbon economy.
- Move to resource efficient economy & work with natural resource and ecosystem.

Main conclusions, themes, insights or messages

- "Avoid partial solutions".
- "A tidal economy vision is needed" - "A tidal way of life is a tidal economy.
- Challenges: Safety, sustainable water & agriculture.

SESSION OUTCOME REPORT

Key phrases or quotes

- “Systematic use of window of opportunities at global to local levels and realize policy synergies. Avoid policy disconnection’.
- “ Are we really spending the money in the right place or project?”

Main recommendations, commitments, proposals, new initiatives or key follow-up actions agreed in the session

- Arcadis is working on an innovative concept for Delta development: Tidal terrace : Nature, agriculture, recreation, wellness and other economic activities are involved