

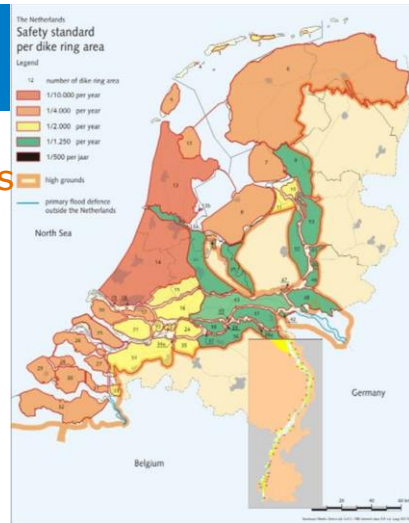
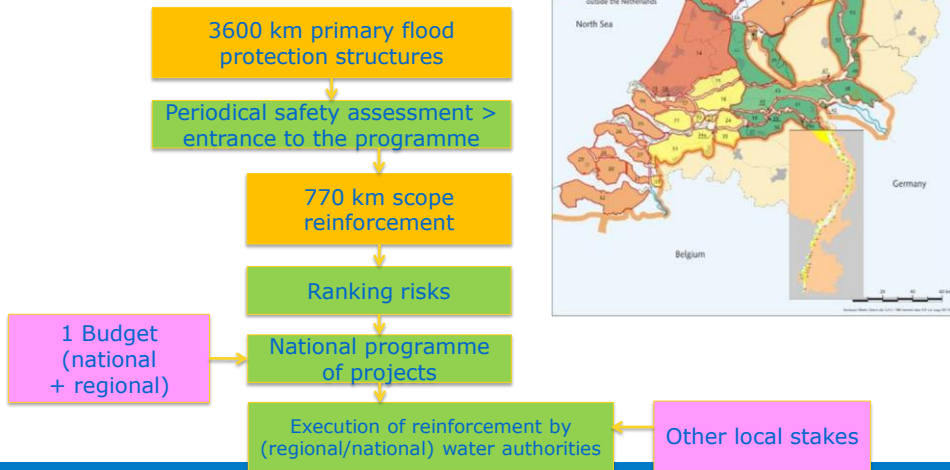


## Hoogwaterbeschermingsprogramma

# Flood protection planning in the Netherlands: fit with OECD governance principles?

Dutch Flood Protection Programme

## Working together on flood protection in the Netherlands



## Principle 9 Mainstream integrity and transparency practices

- Primary flood defences:
  - National standards (law);
  - Mandatory safety assessment
  - Joint funding (government, regional water authorities)
- National flood protection programme:
  - alliance of national and regional water authorities (Governance agreement Water, 2011)
  - Prioritizing projects risk based (objective)
  - Checks and balances: learning from and advising each other, joint fact finding
- No specific tools or action plans to identify and address water integrity and transparency on individual level



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Dutch Flood Protection Programme

## Principle 10 Promote stakeholder engagement for informed and outcome-oriented contributions to water policy design and implementation

Lessons learned from earlier projects:

*Investing in stakeholder participation in an early phase (problem analysis, design of solutions), saves time and money in later phases. And leads to better and shared solutions.*



Not always easy:

- Projects are under pressure of time and budget
- Difficult to involve specific groups, e.g. non-professionals
- Different funding

Good example: camper tour along the dike, 800 interviews

Dutch Flood Protection Programme

## Principle 11 and 12

11: Encourage water governance frameworks that help manage trade-offs across water users, rural and urban areas, and generations

- Trade-offs are already made at time of definition of legal standards
- Projects start with identifying interaction with other stakes (opportunities and threats)
- Difficulties:
  - Projects are under pressure of time and budget
  - Other stakes don't have budget at right time

12. Promote regular monitoring and evaluation of water policy and governance where appropriate, share the results with the public and make adjustments when needed

- Evaluation of national law and water governance agreement
- New: developing an assessment method for OECD principles. Dutch Flood Protection Programme as a case.

## Trust and engagement

- Dutch Water governance agreement is a good base. Agreement on goals, responsibilities and budget.
- Challenge:
  - Make it work in practice. How to keep the trust and engagement, when budgets get tight, time gets scarce and/or decisions have negative impacts on certain stakeholders?
  - The alliance (ministry and regional water authorities) creates trust and engagement between water authorities. How about the rest? (other governmental bodies, NGO's, greater public, private companies, ....)
  - Big focus on institutions. How about individuals?

## Water Governance Principles Assessment

- Development and execution by Deltares, Erasmus University, KWR Watercycle Research Institute, University of Utrecht
- Dutch Flood Protection Programme as a case
- First impression:
  - A useful tool for periodical assessment
  - Objective reflection, involving stakeholders, thus implementing the principles at the same time
- We can learn more from each others through these principles than from only sharing technical solutions

