




 Delta Programme Commissioner

the Delta Programme: design of adaptive strategies

“lessons learned”

Jos van Alphen
 Staff Delta Programme Commissioner

12 May 2016



1 the 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





2. Process: Multilevel Governance

- Regional approach, in order to:
 - Dedicated strategies to regional water challenges
 - Collect creative and innovative ideas
 - Combine with local agenda's and developments
 - Involve local characteristics, knowledge, stakeholders and built acceptance
- Joint fact-finding
 - Common knowledge base → improve quality of information and acceptance
 - Structured, stepwise process of strategy development
- Supervised by Delta Program Commissioner
 - coherence between regions, uniformity, progress,

12 May 2016



6 regional programmes ("hot spots")

3 national policy frameworks:

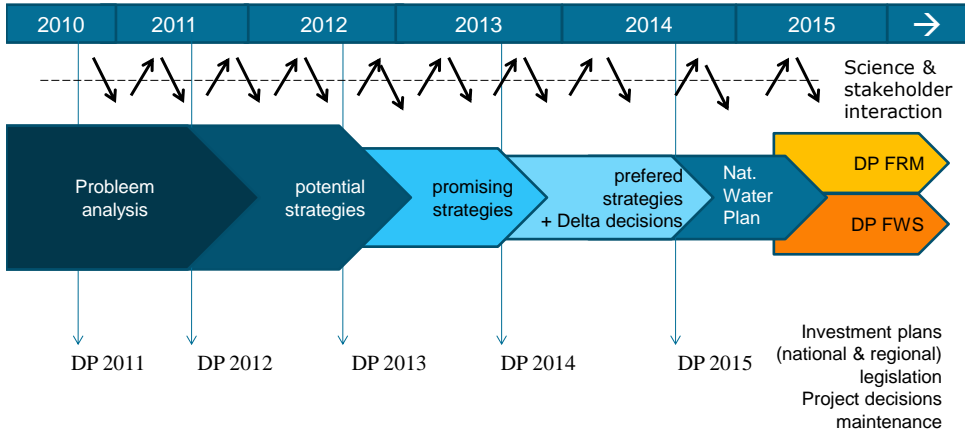
- Flood risk management
- Freshwater supply
- Spatial adaptation



12 May 2016



Structured decision making



12 May 2016

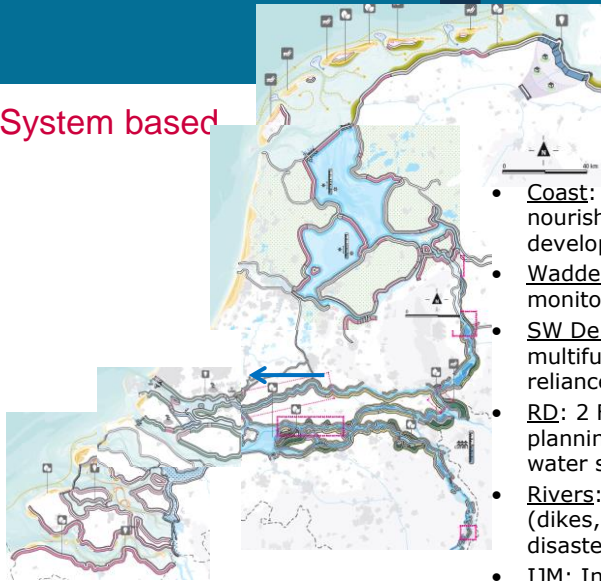


3. Strategies and measures



12 May 2016

System based



- Coast: maintain coastline (Sand nourishment), combine spatial development
- Wadden: uncertain future → monitoring
- SW Delta: Peak storage, multifunctional flood defences, self reliance fresh water
- RD: 2 FRM strategies (dikes, spatial planning), improved emergency fresh water supply
- Rivers: Tailormade FRM strategies (dikes, RftR, physical planning, disaster mngt), discharge distribution
- IJM: Increase discharge capacity (pumps) Maintain flexible lake level, reduce fresh water demand

12 May 2016



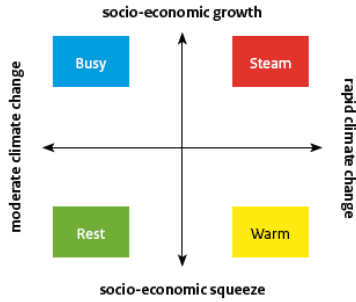
Risk based

- Probability and consequences (damage, casualties, disruption)
- Define an (political) acceptable level of consequences (e.g. individual risk)
- Define role and responsibilities in risk chain: protection, prevention of damage, preparedness, response, recover)
 - flood defence standards, flood proofing buildings and vital services, disaster management plans
 - fresh water supply levels main water system, regional system/local storage, demand reduction
- Implement improvement and maintenance plans
- Invest in awareness and innovations, support with knowledge and tools
- Periodic evaluation of standards/levels

12 May 2016



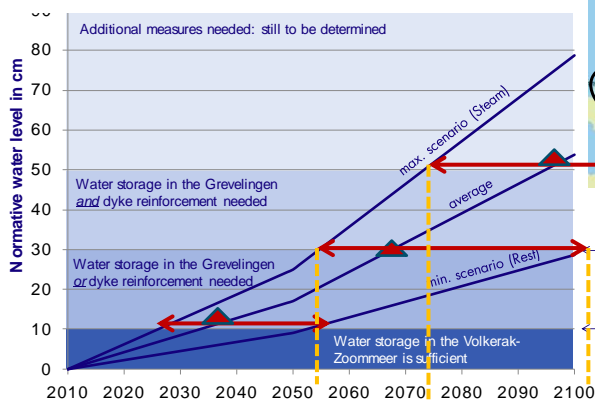
Uncertain future → scenario's



- Climate change
 - sea level rise,
 - discharge,
 - rainfall,
 - precipitation)
- Socio-economic developments
 - population,
 - economy,
 - land use/urban development
 - fresh water demand



→ .. And adaptive strategies





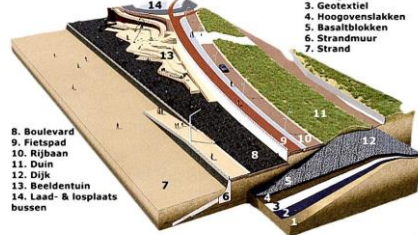
Integrated



Multifunctional measures → Linking agenda's! → added value



De dijk-in-boulevard



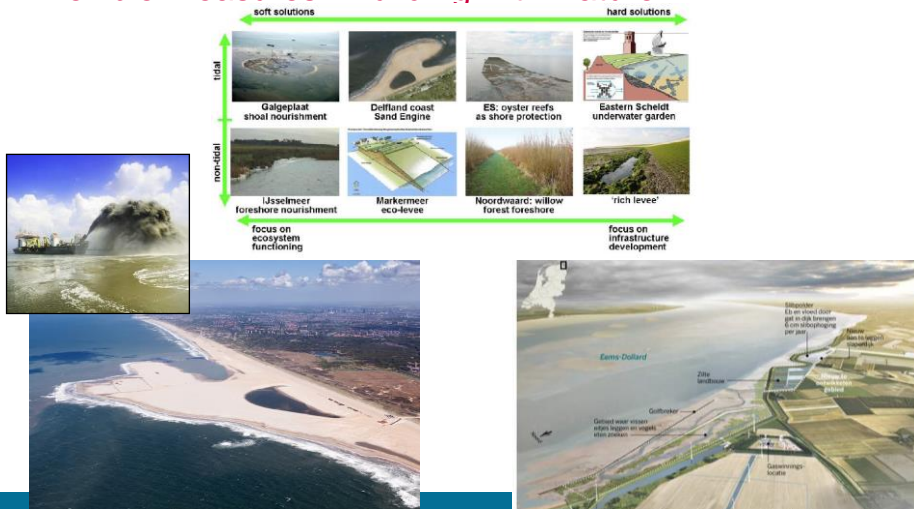
- 8. Boulevard
- 9. Fietspad
- 10. Rijbaan
- 11. Duin
- 12. Dijk
- 13. Beeldentuin
- 14. Laad- & losplaats bussen

- 1. Zandprofiel
- 2. Hoogovenslakken
- 3. Geotextiel
- 4. Hoogovenslakken
- 5. Basaltblokken
- 6. Strandmuur
- 7. Strand





Flexible measures? Building with Nature!



12 May 2016



4. Prerequisites for future-proof implementation



Institutional arrangements:

- Delta-program: measures, every year to Parliament
- Delta Commissioner
- Delta Fund (1 bln euro/yr)
- Delta Act

+

- Strong implementing agencies
- Involvement of innovating private parties
- Monitoring & Evaluation

dreamstime.com

12 May 2016



5. The Dutch Delta Program: lessons learned

- A holistic long term vision, and related policy objectives, as a common compass
- National policy frameworks + regional strategies
- Proces:
 - Joint, structured, multi-governance, stakeholders, science-policy interface
 - supervised by independent senior official (progress, uniformity, coherence)
- Strategies: risk and system based, integrated and adaptive
- Measures: multifunctional, flexible (“building with nature”)
- Continuity:
 - Annual report to Parliament (→ urgency in decision making)
 - Act and Fund for legal base and long term stability
- Strategy development and implementation: paper vs action

12 May 2016



www.deltacommissaris.nl

12 May 2016