



Governance of Adaptation



Knowledge for Climate

Knowledge for Climate is a research programme for the development of knowledge and services that makes it possible to climate proof the Netherlands. Governmental organisations (central government, provinces, municipalities and water boards) and businesses actively participate in the research programme. Knowledge for Climate focuses on eight areas, called hotspots: Mainport Schiphol, Haaglanden region, Rotterdam region, Major rivers, South-West Netherlands Delta, Shallow waters and peat meadow areas, Dry rural areas and the Wadden Sea region. An important part of the programme is the Knowledge Transfer. We cooperate with Universities in other parts of the world and stimulate Knowledge transfer within Delta areas through the Delta Alliance.

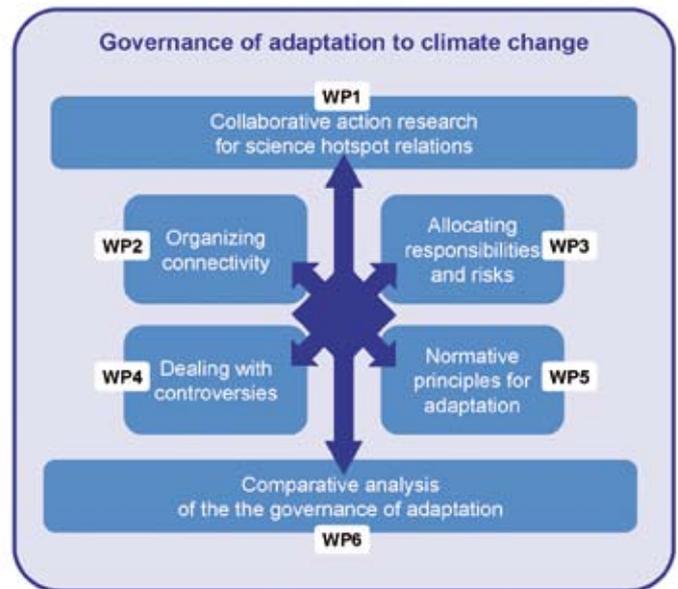
The programme works with eight consortia doing research on eight themes, one of them being [Governance of Adaptation](#).

Governance of Adaptation

This programme aims to integrate existing knowledge from the fields of public administration, economics, political science, spatial planning, law, environmental studies and psychology. Through close cooperation with hotspots, this programme will add new empirical evidence to test innovative theoretical propositions about the governance of climate adaptation. In short, this unique interdisciplinary programme will develop and test governance arrangements that will contribute to developing and implementing adaptation options and increasing the adaptive capacity of society so that future climate changes can be confronted.

Context of the programme

Adapting to the possible impacts of climate change presents a demanding challenge within the existing governance structures and arrangements. It raises normative questions (e.g. who should be responsible?) and may require innovative experiments, leadership approaches and process designs. Furthermore, governments may need to reconsider the economic instruments and governance structures that allocate risks and responsibilities between public and private partners. To complicate matters even further, climate change is surrounded by uncertainties, contested knowledge and differences in stakeholders' perspectives. Hence, the specific complexities of adaptation governance call for new advanced governance knowledge. In that sense, the governance of climate adaptation also poses a new scientific challenge.



The Work packages and Research questions

The research programme has defined six work packages.

The two methodological WPs:

WP1

WP1 deals with setting up a collaborative action research programme that facilitates and directs the interactions between hotspots and research projects.

WP6

WP6 will set up an international comparative research and exchange of learning experiences across regional and national boundaries.

Four key WPs address the following research questions:

WP2

How can we organise connectivity within the existing structures through innovative experiments, leadership approaches and process designs?

WP3

Which economic instruments and governance structures to allocate risks and responsibilities between the public and the private are promising, and how can they be implemented in the Dutch situation?

WP4

What are the consequences of uncertainties, stakeholders' perceptions and contested knowledge, and which methods help to cope with them in decision-making processes?

WP5

How can the principles of legitimacy, effectiveness and resilience be elaborated and what are the implications for the governance of adaptation?

Working with Hotspots / Stakeholders

- Hotspot Haaglanden region
- Hotspot Rotterdam region
- Hotspot Major rivers
- Hotspot South-West Netherlands delta
- Hotspot Shallow waters and peat meadow areas
- Hotspot Dry rural areas
- Hotspot Wadden Sea
- Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management



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Consortiumpartners



Radboud University Nijmegen



To develop the scientific and applied knowledge required for climate-proofing the Netherlands and to create a sustainable knowledge infrastructure for managing climate change

Consortia Knowledge for Climate

- Climate Proof Flood Risk Management
- Climate Proof Fresh Water Supply
- Climate Adaptation for Rural Areas
- Climate Proof Cities
- Infrastructure and Networks
- High-quality Climate Projections
- Governance of Adaptation
- Decision Support Tools

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