

Do institutions enhance or limit adaptive capacity to climate change?

A comparative study of the Dutch Wadden Sea and the Venice Lagoon

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Dutch Wadden Sea

Similarities:

- Erosion of sediments
- Loss of habitats
- Decreasing inhabitants
- Increasing tourism
- Presence of natural gas

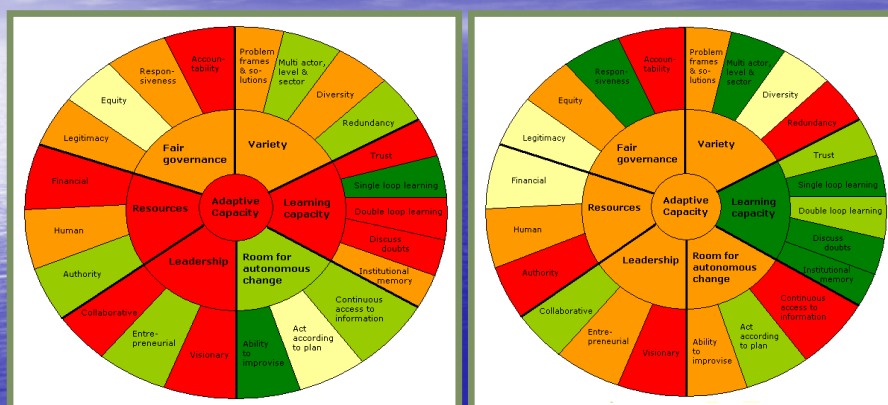


Venice lagoon

Different institutions

Venice	Wadden
dialogue seen as source of conflicts	dialogue seen as a solution
low level of trust between actors	Higher trust and growing
most knowledge on the lagoon produced by private consortium	knowledge available through Wadden Academy
people adapted to flooding	people forgot how to react
limited cooperation	slow consensus process
authority claimed by everyone	authority not claimed by anyone
EU regulations are implemented but distrusted	EU regulations implemented and trusted

Both systems lack adaptive capacity



Venice

Wadden