

## Adaptation in practice.

### Reflection on guidance at the local level

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## This presentation

- Present research on adaptation processes
  - In the Rhine river basin
  - River restoration at the local level
- Discuss guidance on water related adaptation



## The Knowledge in Action Research program

- Rhine as 'canal'
- Salmon 2000 project
- Since 1998 flood action plan
- 'Resilience', space for the river



## Community of practice

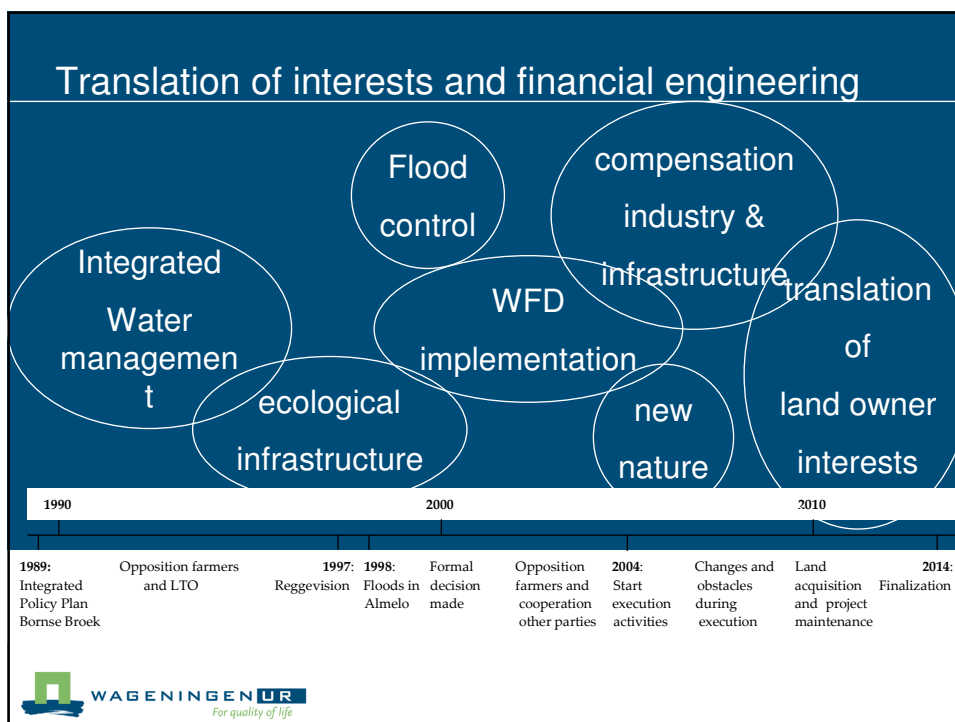
- 20 policy makers, water managers, stakeholders, scientists
- Practice of river restoration
- "taking time to learn"



## Field study Doorbraak

- Artificial 13 km low land river
- Matching flood control with 'new nature',
- restoration of river basin
- 20 year process of 'adaptive planning'





## Observations

- Messy translations of multiple policies and interests at the local level
- Science – policy - practice ‘gap’ is not the main problem
- Adaptation is one of many interests
- Process management skills are crucial

## Discussion

- Adaptation is often framed as ‘going back’
- Lack of motivating future narratives
- The value of experiments and pilots
- Linear adaptive strategy framework versus complex practice
- Guidance's for whom? (WFD, ecological infrastructure, nature development, urban planning...etc.)



Source: brochure  
Kander