

Session DD 6.3: The economics of climate adaptation

Chairs	Prof.dr. Ekko van Ierland, Wageningen UR, the Netherlands and Stéphane Hallegatte, CIRED and Météo-France, France
Speakers	Dr. Tatian Filatova, Deltares, the Netherlands Dr. Peter Pol, Erasmus University, the Netherlands Dr. Pieter van Eijk, Wetlands International, the Netherlands Dr. Olaf Jonkeren, VU University, the Netherlands Remi Drouin, St. John's College, Oxford University, United Kingdom Dr. Sinite Yu, TIIWE, Taiwan
Rapporteur	Dr. Kirsten Hollaender, Knowledge for Climate, the Netherlands

This session was organized to discuss the economics of adaptation, to examine which forms of governance could increase the implementation of behavioral changes and infrastructural adjustments and to discuss how the transition towards climate proof regional development can be fostered.

The presentations included different results, retrieved from modeling, literature surveys and empirical research. Whilst Filatova stressed the role of incentives, Pol reflected on the role of regional and local knowledge as chance vs. barrier to innovation. The presentation of Eijk differentiated between hard and soft measures for adaptation and discussed their implications. An estimate of costs for inland water way transport for the Rhine as shown by Olaf Jonkeren was comparably low as to the costs experienced in the Shatt al Arab, where whole sectors such as date palm plantations are suffering, presented by Remi Drouin. The most impressive and positive example came from Taiwan, where stakeholder consultation was combined with regionalized projections of water level rise and land subsidence, with specialized local maps of impacts on water level and water usage possibilities. The researcher presented his own house in a picture to illustrate the gravity of land subsidence, which was very impressive. The use of small group workshops, conferences and a series of conferences were vital in identifying the pilot sites. Now houses will not be flooded every two years on average, but only every 50 years on average. This example was a very positive manner of concluding the session.