

Session DD 1.2: Sea level rise, surge and coastal processes (part 2)

Chair	Prof. dr. Wilco Hazeleger, Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, KNMI, the Netherlands
Speakers	Sarafat Khan, Bangladesh Water Development Board, Bangladesh Kellie Adlam, University of Sydney, Australia Dr. Maarten Kleinhans, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Yesterday's session with visits to all corners of the world, investigating and discussing regional sea level rise, storm surges and coastal flooding, continues today with a 'visit' to the Bangladesh coastal area. Sarafat Khan points out how this vulnerable delta is being affected by inundation, drainage congestion in the polders and increased salt intrusion and urges immediate action, by researchers and policymakers.

The other two presentation in today's short session highlight the historical perspective. Kellie Adlam gives an interesting overview and analysis of how the Tiber Delta has developed through time and how the present shoreline came into being, concluding that much uncertainty will remain about the future development.

Maarten Kleinhans then explains why river bifurcations are unstable, except for unexceptional and dangerous - conditions. With a fascinating presentation, including beautiful historical maps and instructive graphs, Kleinhans points at the effects of bifurcations that must be found both downstream and upstream.

Looking back at today's (part 2) and yesterday's (part 1) session on regional sea level rise, storm surges and coastal flooding, it can be concluded that each region and delta has its unique circumstances, threats and solutions and that a historical perspective really does contribute to understanding the dynamics of those delta's.