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Netherlands: Climate Change and Urbanism

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THINK, DO, ACT!

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Director for Planning, Strategy and Design
Ministry VROM NL

15-1-2009
Climate Change and the Dutch policy agenda

The Netherlands above and below sea level

- dunes and beach 200 m
- between 0 and 1 m
- below sea level
- above 1 m

A complex of floodgates in the Afsluitdijk near Den Oever.

The Maeslandkering in the Nieuwe Waterweg near Rotterdam in closed condition.
Climate Change and the Dutch policy agenda I
Below sea level, sea level rise, variations in river flow, salt water penetration, etc.
Climate Change and the Dutch policy agenda II
1970 - 2004: global greenhouse gas emissions have increased by 70%
...and may rise to 4 times 2000 level by 2100
CO2 Capture & Storage - necessary intermediate step for transition
Climate Change and the Dutch policy agenda II
Urbanism: Randstad's core "business"
Living in a safe, climate proof and greenblue Delta

Randstad sustainable protection against flooding.

Anticipate on increasing salt water penetration and watershortages

From "Green Hart" towards a greenblue Delta: protect, develop climate proof and sustainable
Making quality by a stronger connection between "green, blue and red"

Protect and develop landscape differentiation

Transition of the agricultural economy

Development of green living and work environments combined with the "greenblue" task

Development of high greenblue quality around the cities: metropolitan parks
Strengthen what's internationally strong

Use and strengthen the international top:
• Metropolitan strengths A’dam
• Harbor R’dam (→ harbor network)
• Airport Schiphol (+Lelystad, Eindhoven)
• Den Haag: international city of justice, peace and safety
• Utrecht: knowledge centre
• Center point Greenports
• High value economic knowledge centers

Invest in international connections between the Randstad and other city networks.
Powerful sustainable cities and regional mobility

Scale-up city regions (North - South)

Optimize usage and climate proof
development of inner cities (transform, restructure, intensify)

Develop scale-leap Almere (+60,000 houses etc.)
National Advice of the Delta Committee

Delta Program
Delta Fund
Delta Act
Impact on NL watersystem of sea level rise, variations in river flow (2050 - 2100)
Delta committees list of 12

Flood protection level
New urban development plans
Areas outside the dikes
North Sea coast
Wadden Sea area
South - western Delta:
  – Eastern Scheldt
  – Western Scheldt
  – Krammer-Volkerak Zoommeer
The major rivers area
Rijnmond (mouth of the river Rhine)
IJsselmeer area
Political - administrative, legal, financial
Nr. 12 -  
Political - administrative, legal, financial  
Strengthen political - administrative organization:  
• national direction and regional execution  
• permanent Parliamentary Delta Committee  

Guarantee funding by:  
• creating a Delta Fund with specific funding and rules  

A Delta Act will anchor the political - administrative organization and funding within the present political system and the current legal framework.
# Organization and costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicatie extra kosten per jaar [miljard euro]</th>
<th>Periode</th>
<th>Gemiddeld</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deltaprogramma</td>
<td>2010 - 2050</td>
<td>1,2 tot 1,6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2050 - 2100</td>
<td>0,9 tot 1,5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deltaprogramma, met extra ruimte aan de kust voor andere functies</td>
<td>2010 - 2100</td>
<td>1,3 tot 1,9</td>
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Cities can take the lead!
Public-private: Taskforce Carbon Capture and Storage
Rotterdam and Amsterdam DO change

50% CO₂ reduction in the Rotterdam region
Change of plan: how planning can be re-invented

In other words: "Do we need climate change or a financial crisis to think, choose and develop?"
### Act level

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

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<thead>
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<th>scale</th>
<th>acting power</th>
<th>mitigation</th>
<th>adaptation</th>
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<tr>
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<td>rules &amp; regulations</td>
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<td>city</td>
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R&D
- 'Communication'
- Development (sustainable)
  - policy
  - projects
  - partnerships
Politics TRAP

ACT / RE-ACT

THINK & DO
Politics ACT

ACT / RE-ACT

THINK & DO

- time-frame = to know
- act and re-act out of knowing
The Dutch approach

THINK
DO
ACT