



Building with Nature

*Concept, Principles & Program
Governance*

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Motivation & Concept

EDD Principles

Research Program

Guideline

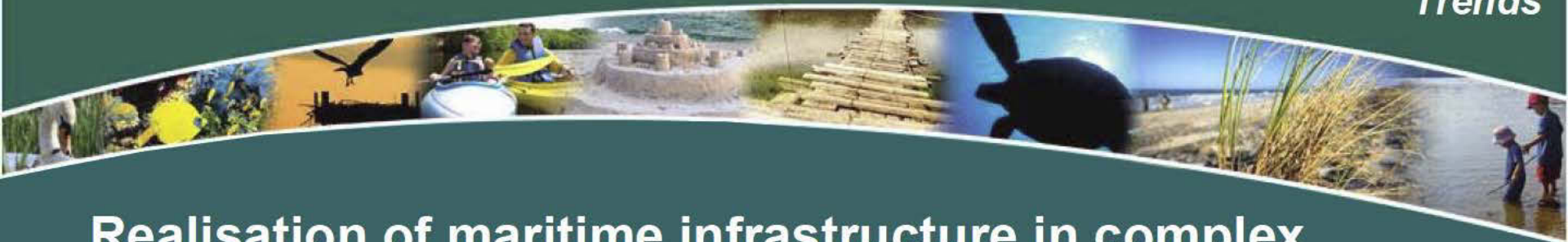
Governance

Status and Future



EcoShape

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Realisation of maritime infrastructure in complex environmental settings

Continuous growth of market for maritime infrastructure
Development of large-scale projects characterized by uncertainties and delays

Maasvlakte-2 (NL)





Realisation of maritime infrastructure in complex environmental settings

Extensive Environmental Management Plans and monitoring requirements

Sustainable development increasingly important for clients

Port of Melbourne (AUS)

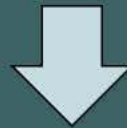


Port of Khalifa (UAE)

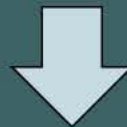




“Sustainable development offers opportunities to make the difference”



Innovation is needed to do things differently!



Building with Nature





Building with Nature

Utilizing natural processes
(Building by Nature)

Nature Instrumental	Full BwN
No BwN	Nature Integrated

Ecological system optimization
(Building of Nature)



Building with Nature

- **Dynamics of natural system** as starting point for design and realisation of maritime infrastructure
 - Make optimal use of natural processes
 - Design fits with natural (eco-)system dynamics
 - Explore opportunities to promote nature development
- From defensive (minimize environmental impacts) to **offensive** approach (optimize full economic and environmental potential)
- **Integration** of disciplines: Engineering, Ecology & Governance

“Eco-dynamic Development & Design”

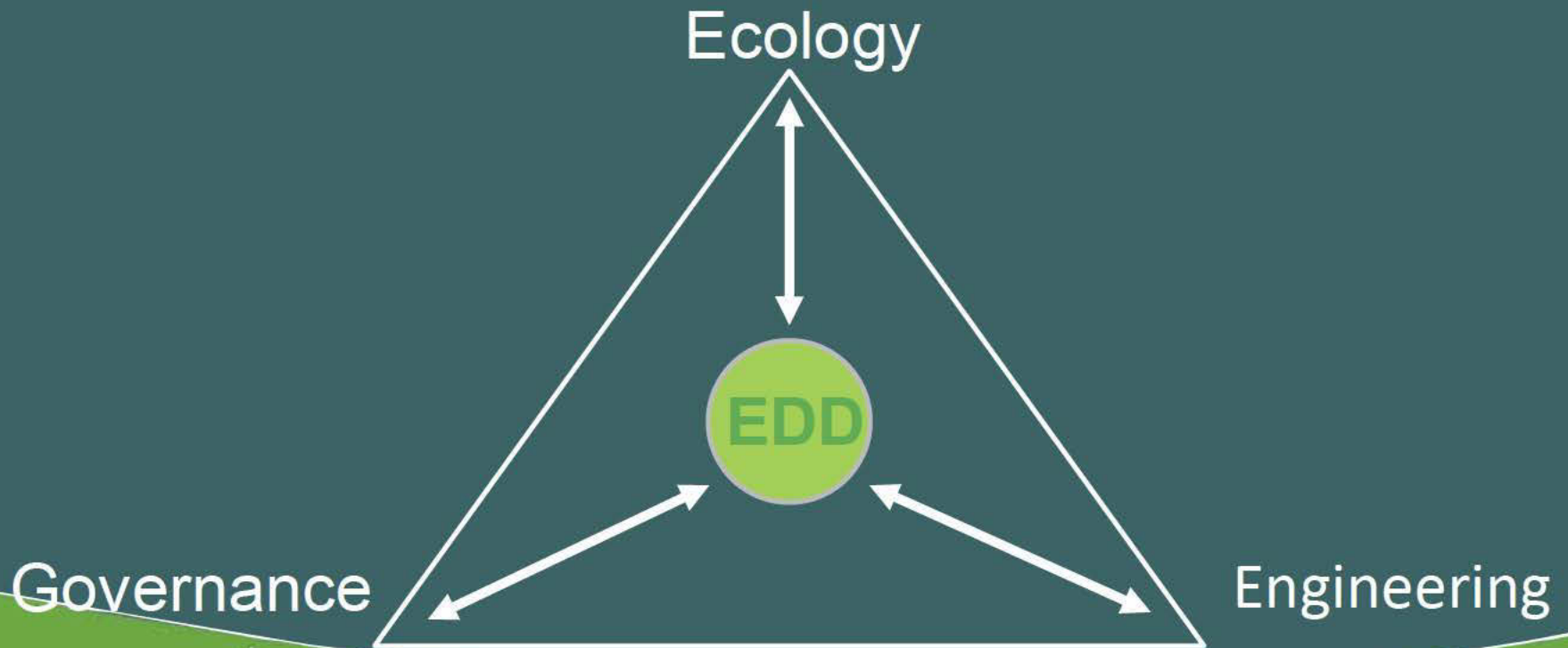


Figure courtesy of G.M. Jansen



EDD Guideline

- Process guidelines vs engineering parameters





Traditional vs Eco-dynamic Design

Eco-dynamic Design

An ecodynamic design of a sand nourishment is characterized by:



- Design serves integral objectives: Guarantee coastal safety, create space for nature development and recreation
- Implementation of a large sand volume (10-20 mln m3 or more)
- Envisaged life span 20 years
- Incidental disturbance of ecosystem
- Use natural processes for distribution of sand. Gradual evolution, ecosystem capable of following morphological changes.

Traditional Design



A traditional design of a sand nourishment is characterized by:

- Primary objective: Shoreline maintenance. Other objectives of secondary importance
- Implementation of a medium sand volume (2-5 mln m3)
- Envisaged life span 5 years
- Frequent disturbance of ecosystem.





Building with Nature program

- Program duration 2008-2012
- Budget ca 30 mln euro (approx 40 mln \$)
- Main outcome: Guidelines & Tools for Eco-dynamic Development & Design
- All Dutch key players involved!
 - Contractors (initiators): Boskalis, VanOord
 - Scientific Institutes: Deltares, Imares, NIOZ
 - Consultants: Witteveen + Bos, DHV, Haskoning, Arcadis
 - Industry: IHC Holland, Vereniging van Waterbouwers
 - Universities: Delft, Wageningen, Twente
 - Port authority: Harbour of Rotterdam
 - Government: RWS-DI, City of Dordrecht





Building with Nature Program **objectives:**

1. Develop ecosystem knowledge enabling 'Building with Nature (BwN)'
2. Establish how to bring the BwN-concept forward in society and make it happen
3. Develop scientifically sound design rules and norms
4. Develop expertise to apply the BwN-concept
5. Make the concept tangible using practical BwN-examples





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EDD principles

- Paradigm shift required
- 4 aspects all require different approach

	Cognitive aspects	Physical aspects
Aspects in relation to one's self	Intentions Thoughts and attitudes	Acts Acts and behavior
Aspects in relation to others	Culture Norms, values and culture	Roles Interaction and roles



EDD principles

- Think differently
 - Think innovative – think sustainable
 - Understand the dynamic system
 - Seek for integration of disciplines, balances
 - Be able to handle uncertainty
- Behave differently
 - Be open to other opinions
 - Seek engagement
 - Strive for win-win





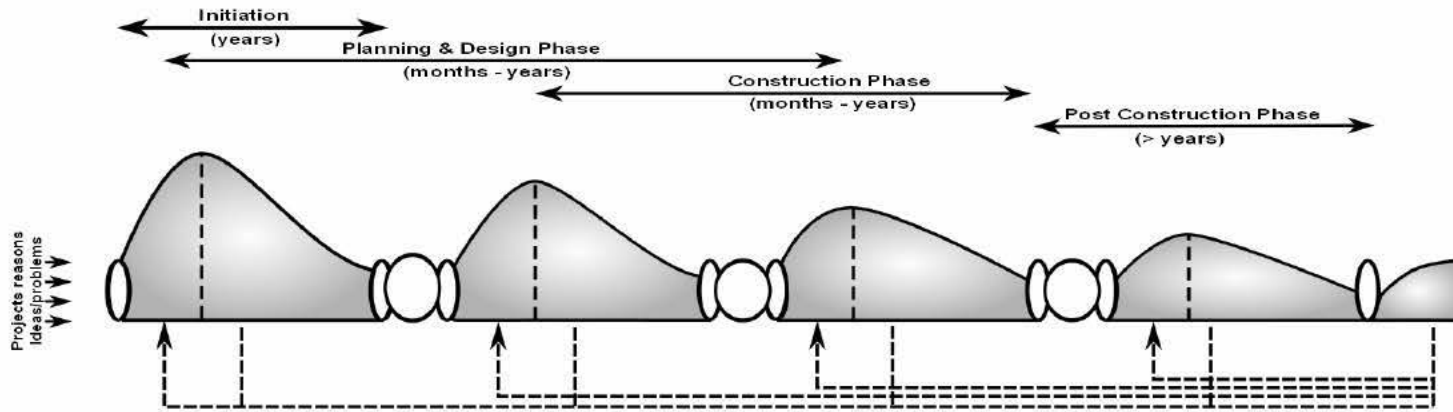
EDD principles

- Act differently
 - Include natural dynamics
 - Integrate EDD in all phases, life cycle approach
 - Manage uncertainties – apply adaptive management
 - Value ecology with economy and social aspects
- Interact differently
 - Inform and involve all stakeholders
 - Work interdisciplinary – integrate flexibility
 - Use transparent processes

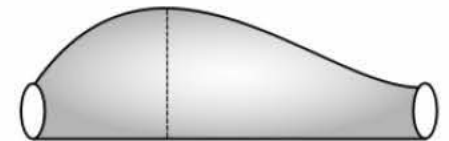




Project Realisation Phases



1. Understand the system
2. Identify realistic alternatives
3. Value the quality of alternatives and pre-select an integral solution
4. Embed the solution in a project approach
5. Prepare for implementation in the next phase on the road to realization





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Coastal Zone



BwN Cases



Fresh Water Lake



Estuary



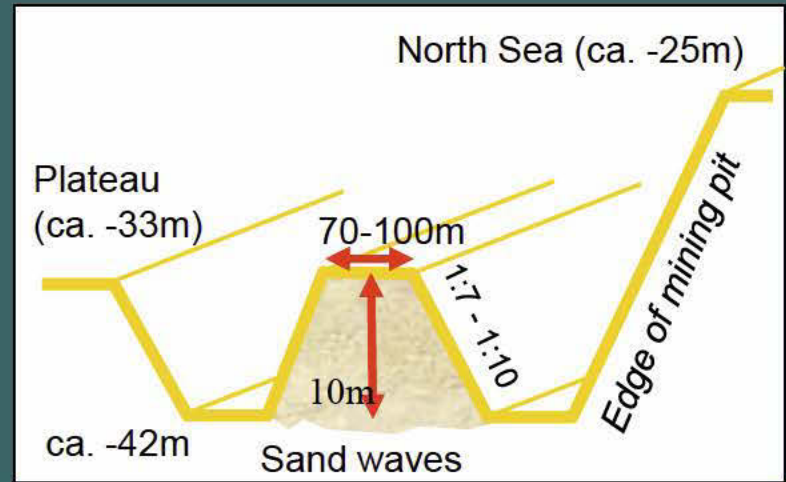
Tropical Waters (Singapore)



Case 1: Coastal Zone



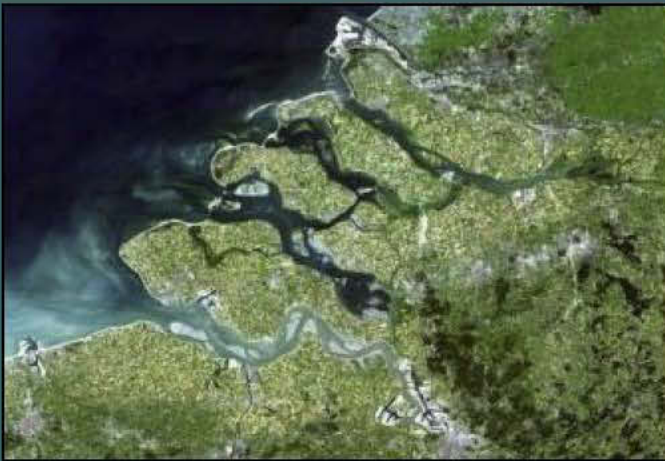
**mega-nourishment pilot
'Sand Engine'**



**landscaping of
sand borrow areas**



Case 2: Estuary



**long-term regional
development**



**sediment balance:
stability of intertidal areas**



Case 3: Fresh Water Lake



degradation
Lake Marken



adaptation of lake coast to
rising water level

BwN approaches in process of being implemented

- soft natural shorelines
- enhancing natural recovery of water quality





Case 4: Tropical waters - Singapore



Innovative coastal defence



decision making in different settings



Other Research Output

- Generic research – natural sciences (14 PhD's)
 - Dynamics marine / estuarine / coastal ecosystems
 - Interaction between of ecosystem and engineering
- Lessons learned from
 - Previous projects by partners
 - Study of external cases and research programs
 - International cooperation and information exchange
- Development of specific tools
 - Design & decision support
 - Monitoring
 - Data management





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EDD guideline

- Guideline as future ‘reference book’ / standards for good BwN / EDD project
 - How to EDD?
 - Lessons from cases (BwN + historic) / pilots / studies
 - Recommendation for tools to be used
 - Links to reports
 - Hard-copy book on “principles and concepts” plus underlying website(wiki) with design rules, standards etc.





Who will use the Guideline?

People responsible for project initiation, organization, design and implementation

- **Reader group (1):** Project owners / Proponents, Ecologists, Consultants, Wet Infrastructure Contractors with a stake or responsibility in project design processes
- **Reader group (2):** Authorities, Policy Makers, Politicians, Administrators, Standards Institutes, NGO's, Financers that can potentially influence the design criteria and thus the challenges posed to the first reader group.





Guideline Delivery

- Drafting / data collection in progress.
- Review process by Review Board starting 1st half 2011
- ‘deadline’ for new input: mid 2012
- Second half of 2012 for final editing, proof reading
- Publication end 2012 – exact format still to be decided
- Launching event??





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Governance is

the exercise of political, economic and administrative authority to manage a nation's affairs. It is the complex mechanisms, processes, relationships and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their rights and obligations and mediate their differences (source: Unifem)





Governance in relation to BwN approaches ?

Law and Order



rather than

Embracing opportunities



⇒ Generic Governance Research (5 PhD's)





Observed 'issues'

- Differences in local arenas: inter- national –regional – local
- No coordination at ecosystem level
- Different levels of knowledge: to be integrated?
- Dealing with uncertainties at various timescales, not a hobby of politicians





Conditions for success of BwN approach

- Communicate with/between all stakeholders, in early stages of project.
- Understanding each other's interests.
- Tune regulations between various Governance levels.
- Be aware that society is a dynamic system.
- Use available knowledge in defining project boundaries.
- Be able to handle uncertainties: precautionary on the negative – 'benefit of the doubt' on the positive.
- Be honest, transparent and open, at all levels.





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EcoShape, Building with Nature

- Organization up and running
- Research program established
- All funding in place
- All projects well underway
- Program to be completed by end 2012
- Continuation of program being discussed (internationalization)





Products and timing

- Website www.ecoshape.nl being upgraded to present interim products – open for reactions.
- Conferences for knowledge exchange in Spring 2011 + Fall 2012
(+ dedicated seminars with specific groups)
- EDD Guideline (peer reviewed) + (wiki) site for background information foreseen for Winter 2012/13
- International cooperation to be continued in next phase of program.

