

**Deltares**  
 Enabling Delta Life

## Flood Management and Climate Change

Presentation at the First National Climate Conference Surinam  
 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009

by  
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**Deltares**  
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Courtesy Jaap Kwadijk, Deltares for his contribution to the slide set

Deltares: joining forces

In 2008, the following Dutch institutions joined forces to form Deltares:

- **WL | Delft Hydraulics** – hydraulics, hydrology, water quality, ecology and integrated water management
- **GeoDelft** – geo-engineering
- A part of **TNO Built Environment and Geosciences** – soil and groundwater
- Sections of **Rijkswaterstaat** (RIKZ, RIZA and DWW) – integrated water management and hydraulic engineering

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Range of disciplines at Deltares

- Measuring and monitoring
- Mathematics and information technology
- Hydrology
- Hydrodynamics
- Geohydrology
- Soil mechanics
- Chemistry and microbiology
- Ecology
- Spatial sciences
- Sediment transport and morphology
- Hydro-engineering
- Geo-engineering
- Eco-engineering
- Risk management
- Life and social sciences



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Why we need such institute in the Netherlands




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Historic water management

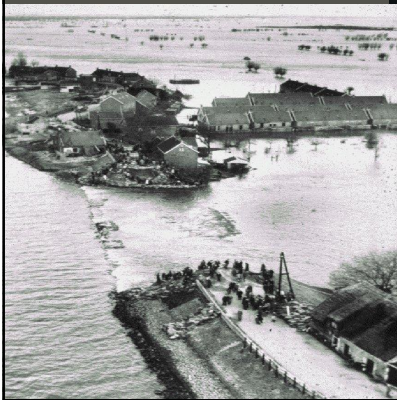


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Closure dam Zuiderzee, 1932



1953 flood Rhine Delta - Zeeland

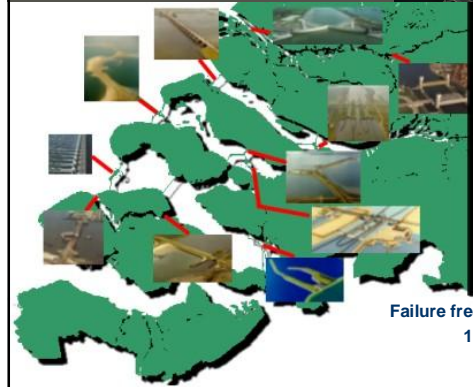


1953 flooding disaster  
SW - Netherlands

Resulting in:  
- the Delta-law  
- the Delta-plan

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Delta Plan, the Netherlands



Failure frequency of up to  
1 in 10,000 years

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Storm surge barrier Eastern Scheldt



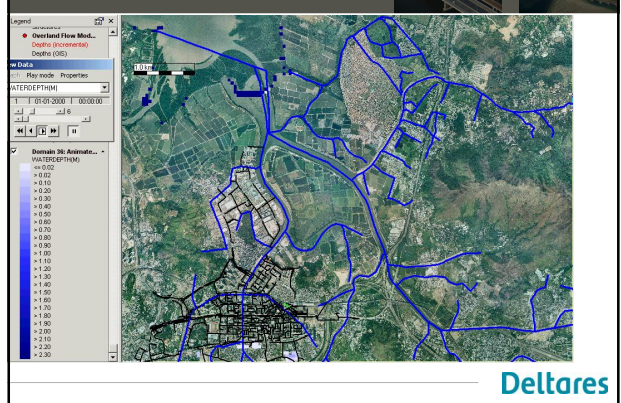
Room for the Rhine branches

SOBEK simulation of Beveland flooding 1953



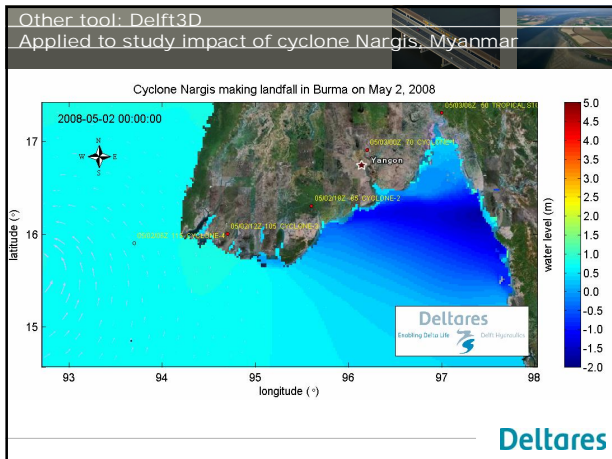
View Data  
One mode  
WATERDEPTH[M]  
01:00:1953 | 00:00:00

SOBEK model Yuen Long, Hong Kong

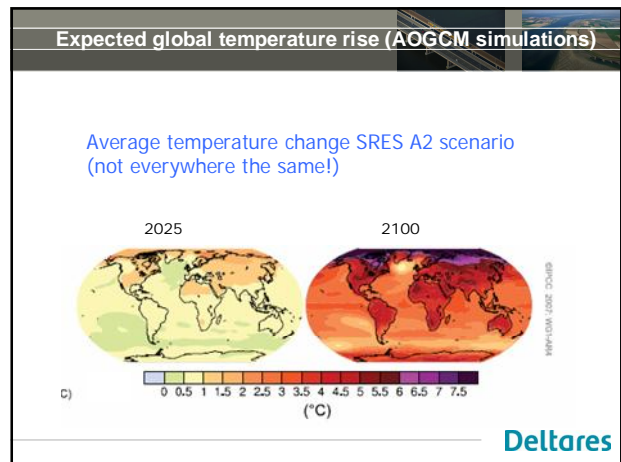
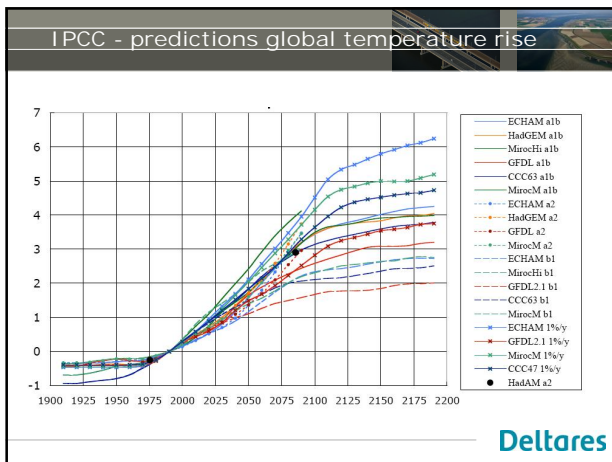


Legend  
Overland Flow Mod...  
Depth (meters)  
Depth (m)  
Play mode Properties  
WATERDEPTH[M]  
01:00:00:000 | 00:00:00:000  
01:00:00:000 | 00:00:00:000  
Depth (m)  
0.00  
0.20  
0.40  
0.60  
0.80  
1.00  
1.20  
1.40  
1.60  
1.80  
2.00  
2.20  
2.40

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- Various climate change impacts on water
- Impacts of changing sea water levels
    - coastal flooding
    - salt intrusion
  - Impacts of changing rainfall
    - yearly water balance (reservoirs, incl. spillways)
    - droughts
    - flooding caused by individual storms
  - Impacts of changing winds
    - wind set-up in coastal zones
  - Impacts of changing temperatures
    - water quality and ecology
- Deltares



Rising sea water levels

The question is not “will it happen”?  
It is “when and how much”

Causes

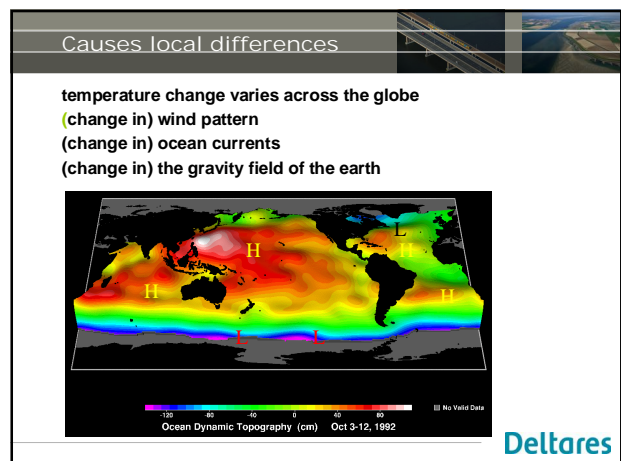
- Thermal expansion of the sea
- Land ice melt (glaciers, Greenland, Antarctica)

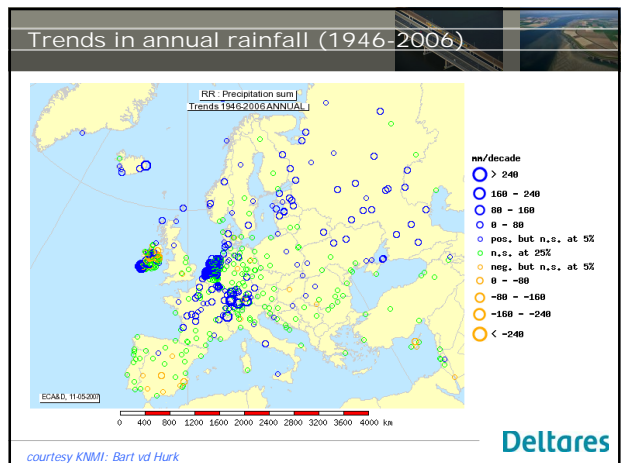
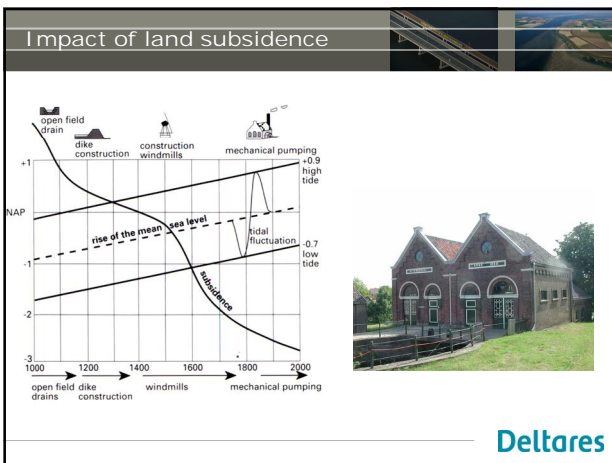
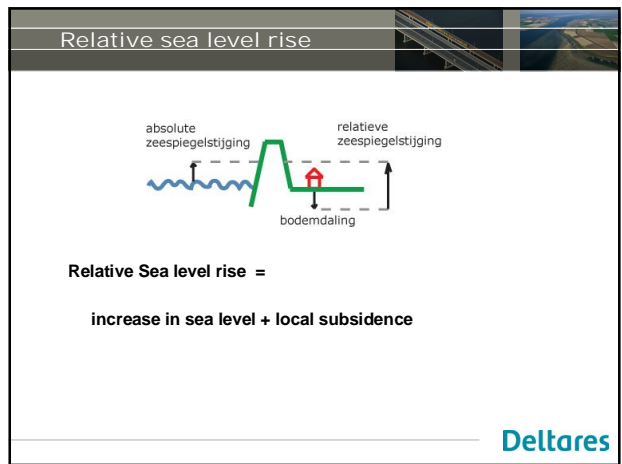
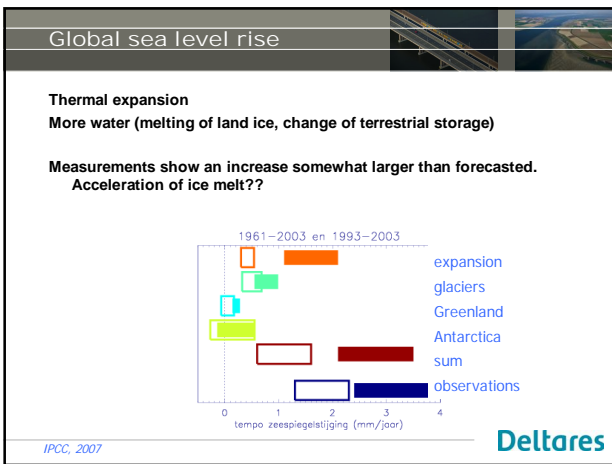
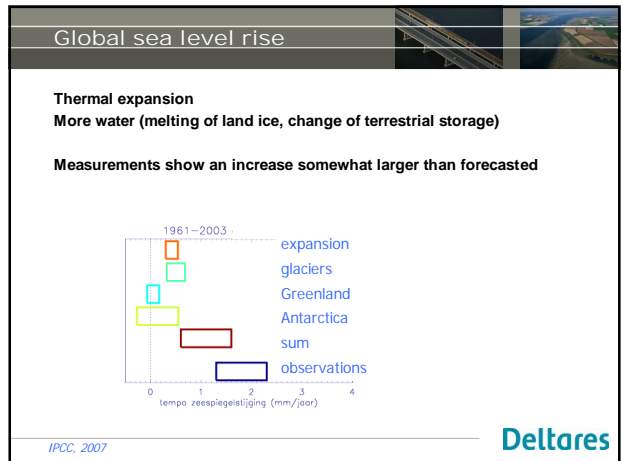
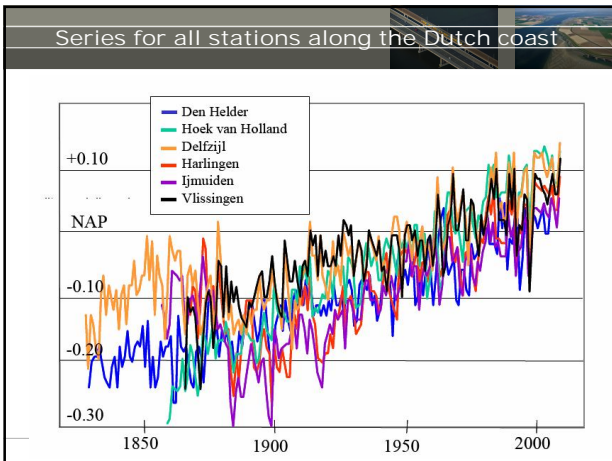
Not the same all over the globe

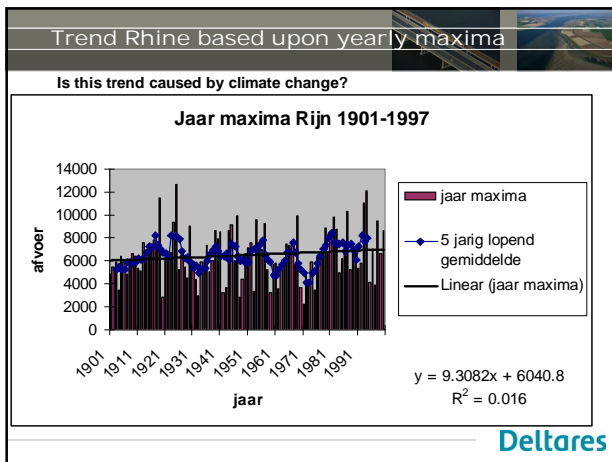
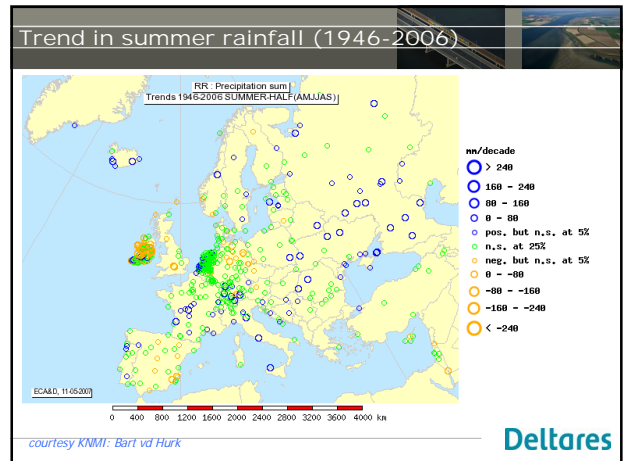
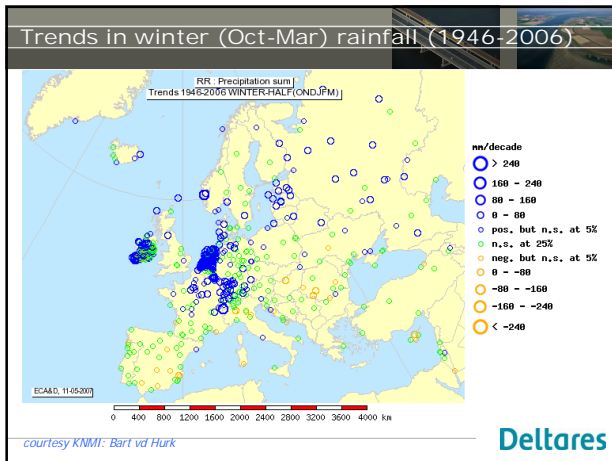
Estimates for the Netherlands

- IPCC – 18 to 59 cm in 2100
- Netherlands Delta Commission – 130 cm in 2100

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### How to handle climate change impacts

**Establish reference or baseline situation**

**Alternative approaches to study climate change impacts:**

1. Check on resilience – define “tipping points”
2. Study climate change impacts on the basis of scenarios and process this in design

**Example current study Hong Kong**

Baseline Scenario: based upon 2010 rainfall and sea level statistics

Standard Scenario: x % rainfall increase and 6 cm sea level rise in 2030

High Scenario: 2x % rainfall increase and 12 cm sea level rise in 2030

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### Measures

**Important to take pro-active approach**

**Hard measures**

- Dikes and polders
- Dams (including buffer zones, e.g. IJsselake)

**Less hard measures**

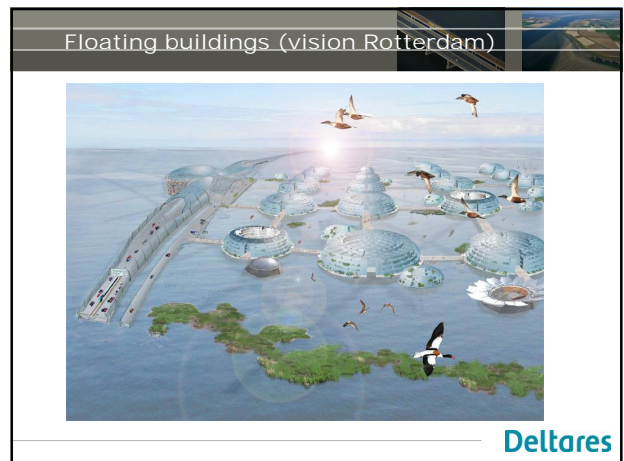
- Storm surge barriers

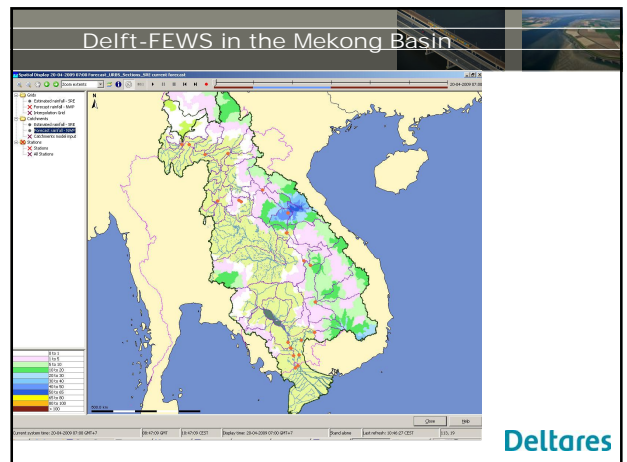
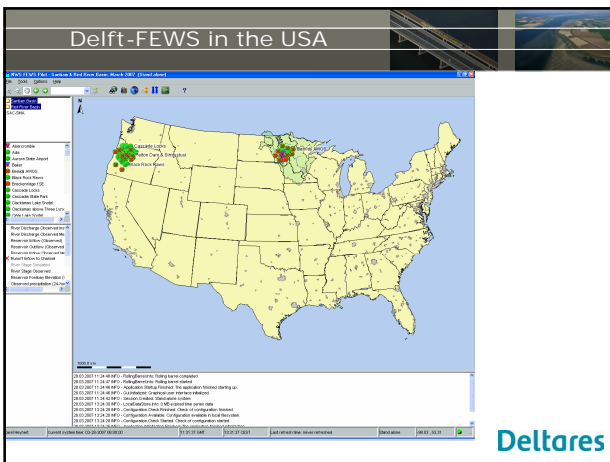
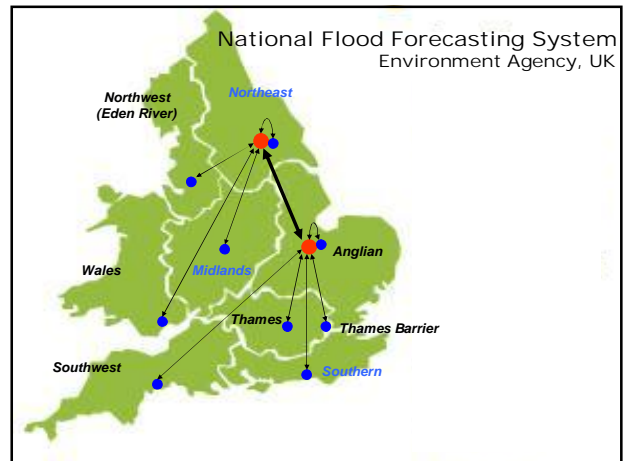
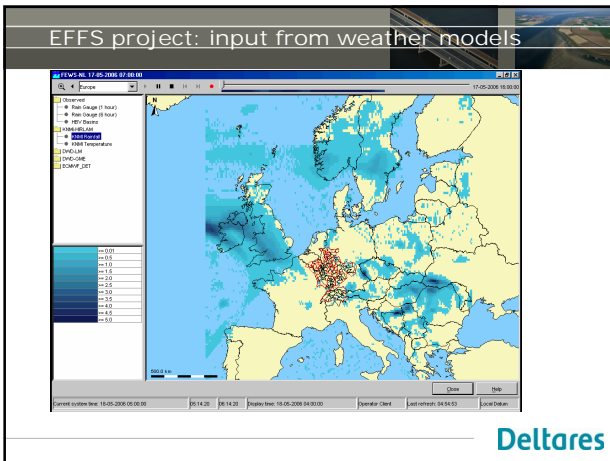
**Environmental friendly measures**

- Room for rivers
- SUDS (space for water, green roofs)
- Vegetation along dikes (reed, mangroves)
- Living with water
  - use of vertical space
  - floating houses

**Soft measures (e.g. flood forecasting)**

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### Climate Conference Rotterdam 2010

International conference [www.climatedeltaconference.org](http://www.climatedeltaconference.org)

## Deltas in Times of Climate Change

29 September to 2 October 2010  
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Deltares in Times of Climate Change  
Rotterdam 2010  
Connecting world science and delta

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### Concluding remarks

- Is Surinam prepared for climate change impacts?
- The climate change impact issue requires a proactive approach, in particular to serve as guide line for land use developments
- Climate change flood impact studies require a good set of toolkits to quantify these impacts
- The Netherlands has developed a suite of products to address the study of climate change impacts
- These products are in use in many countries world wide, including Surinam

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