COLLABORATION AND GOVERNANCE IN WATER MANAGEMENT

PhD Defences S. van Herk & J. Rijke
Inspiration and network event

14 February 2014 | TU Delft Auditorium
PROGRAMME
AND SPEAKERS

PhD Defences

09:30 – 11:30  PhD Defence Sebastiaan van Herk
Delivering Integrated Flood Risk Management Governance for collaboration, learning and adaptation

11:30 – 12:00  Lunch

12:00 – 14:00  PhD Defence Jeroen Rijke
Delivering change: Towards fit-for-purpose governance of adaption to flooding and drought

Inspiration and Network event

14:00 – 14:15  Welcome

14:15 – 14:30  Opening Inspiration and Network event

14:30  Speeches: Lessons learnt from research and their application in practice
Chris Zevenbergen, Professor TU Delft & UNESCO-IHE
Ben Broens, Programme director Rijkswaterstaat Room for the River, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
Piet Sleeking, Alderman of the City of Dordrecht

15:00  Dialogue on knowledge valorisation in the Dutch Delta Programme and Flood Protection Programme
Matthijs Kok, Professor TU Delft
Richard Jorissen, Director National Flood Protection Programme
Corné Nijburg, Director Water Governance Centre
Jos van Alphen, Strategy advisor Dutch Delta Programme

15:30 – 16:30  Drinks & Networking

16:30  Closing speech
Richard Ashley, Professor UNESCO-IHE & University of Sheffield
Our research has focused on methods of collaboration and governance to deliver integrated water management. Multiple lessons have been identified, inter alia:

**Start with a clear integrated vision on Flood Risk Management**
Vision provides the framework to develop measures during the planning process. Stakeholders must have a joint understanding of the overarching objectives for the performance of the entire flood system.

**Consider multiple and diverse interests**
The project vision and objectives can accommodate and stimulate the inclusion of multiple and diverse stakeholder interests. Particularly, the integration of Flood management and Spatial planning provides opportunities for stakeholder participation.

**Adopt fit-for-purpose governance arrangements**
The structure and processes of projects must be designed and adapted according to their purposes. This includes, for example, procedural approaches, ‘multi-level governance’ structures that balance top-down and bottom-up processes, and learning alliances that embed formal and informal processes.

**Implement structured planning processes with funnelled design freedom**
Design freedom provides the scope to devise new and enriched solutions, especially to incorporate local interests. The design freedom needs to be reduced gradually to simulate progress and ensure implementation. This funnelled planning process is structured by milestone management that is anchored in decision-making procedures.

**Cultivate adaptive management and learning**
Integrated water management projects can have long durations. Project managers and policy makers need to adapt to the continuously changing economic and political context. Moreover, every planning phase requires an adjustment of approaches. Governance arrangements need to stimulate learning, cultivate receptivity to apply lessons learnt, and adjust structures and processes when opportune to do so.
The dissertation of Sebastiaan van Herk provides guidance for Integrated Flood Risk Management. It presents governance arrangements for planning processes, for stimulating learning and collaboration, and for adaptation of the physical (natural and man-made) and societal systems. It presents four appealing case studies from The Netherlands. This work brings new insights to scientific domains, including: Flood Risk Management, adaptive co-management, and transition management, particularly through their mutual enrichment.

The dissertation of Jeroen Rijke addresses pressing challenges of policy makers, planners and project managers in the water sector to successfully implement adaptation action. Through combining insights about multi-level governance, adaptive governance, transition management, and programme management, it provides guidance for establishing fit-for-purpose governance approaches to enhance the strategic planning and delivery of adaptation to flooding and drought. It draws on case studies about water sensitive urban design in Australia and the Room for the River flood protection programme in the Netherlands.