



Delta **Alliance**

For the resilience of deltas worldwide
Delta Alliance, current programme and outlook

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Overview

1. Introduction
2. Delta Alliance 2016 – 2019
3. Results, so far, 2016/2017
4. Current developments
5. Outlook



DeltA Alliance

**A knowledge driven network
for the resilience of deltas**

Urbanising Deltas are the most **promising** regions of the world



Fertile land



Strategic positions for ports / trade



Excellent living conditions



Rich ecosystems



Urbanising deltas are the most **vulnerable** regions of the world



New Orleans 2005



Japan 2011



Bangkok 2011



New York 2013



Urbanising deltas are the most **vulnerable** regions of the world

Human victims

- Floods caused 220,000 deadly victims between 1980 and 2003
- Expected: 100,000 deadly victims each year in 21st century
- Lack of fresh water leads to serious health problems

Economic losses

- Floods caused direct economic losses of > \$ 1 trillion between 1980 and 2003
- Reconstruction after floods require huge investments
- Lack of fresh water leads to serious problems for agriculture

Ecological losses

- Ecological downgrading of estuaries and land-water transitions
- Loss of the natural formative power of deltas



Mission

Contribute to improved resilience of the world's deltas through:

- Sharing knowledge / best practices
- Identifying knowledge gaps
- Developing jointly knowledge/tools
- Research uptake
- Monitoring progress resilience in delta's
- Building capacity
- Policy briefs





Activities international secretariat

- Organisation of and participation in cooperation with the wings in international conferences and (regional) workshops: keynotes, presentations, delta-sessions, master classes
- Matching research/ co creating tools/ monitoring/assessments
- Website / LinkedIn / Newsletters
- Dialogues
- Connecting science, practitioners and policymakers



Delta Alliance

Delta Alliance Wings



Delta Alliance products

Comparative assessment of the vulnerability and resilience of deltas
Extended version with 14 deltas
 synthesis report

Current situation	Land and water use (occupation layer)	Infra-structure (network layer)	Natural Resources (base layer)	Governance	Resilience & Sustainability Indicator		
					Current	Moderate Scenario	Extreme scenario
Nile delta	--	0	-	0	-	-	--
Tana	-	-	0	-	-	-	--
Incomati delta	0	-	-	-	-	-	--
Zambezi	+	-	+	-	0	0	-
Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna delta	--	--	--	0	--	-	--
Yangtze delta	-	+	-	0	0	0	--
Ciliwung delta	--	--	--	-	--	--	-
Ayeyarwady	-	--	--	-	-	0	-
Mekong delta	0	0	-	0	0	+	0
Rhine-Meuse delta	+	++	0	+	+	0	-
Danube delta	+	+	+	0	+	0	0
California Bay-Delta	0	-	-	0	-	0	-
Mississippi River Delta	0	0	-	0	-	0	-
Parana	+	0	-	0	+	0	-



2. Delta Alliance 2016-2019

Key points of the current programme

- 1) Both network activities and content; balance
- 2) Focus on active deltas, work with and between deltas
- 3) Look for synergy with other organizations (national & international) like Global Water Partnership, Wetlands International
- 4) Formulate the role of Delta Alliance related to Delta Coalition / Global Centre of Excellence on Adaptation



3. Results, so far, 2016/2017

- Thoughtleaderships Delta Alliance (Deltares, adaptive delta management, Wageningen Environmental Research urban-rural relations within delta's)
- Master class: adaptive delta management on the ground (IHE Delft with Delta Alliance / Bangladesh)
- Regional workshops Africa (TU Delft / Deltares with Delta Alliance DA) Ghana, Kenya, Benin
- Knowledge agenda: (urbanising delta's) for the Delta Coalition / policy briefs
- Deltamonitor (TU Delft)
- Supporting wings workshops / webinars / assessments / learning between deltas / capacity building etc.



Activities of the wings

- Bangladesh Adaptive Delta Management workshop; Coastal zone management - DC
- Argentina workshops Parana delta; webinar
- Taiwan conference
- Seed money to stimulate knowledge exchange: Egypt, Red River, Myanmar



Knowledge gaps / knowledge agenda

- Lack of knowledge **production**
 - Data
 - Theoretical frameworks
 - Adaptation options
 - ...
- Lack of knowledge **integration**:
 - Social and natural sciences
 - Experts and local communities
 - Researchers and practitioners
 -
- Lack of knowledge **uptake**

“Integrating knowledge from different sources and making it available to decision-makers at different levels is arguably the most important knowledge need. “ UNEP



Policy briefs: New perspectives for urbanising deltas, Habitat III Quito: delta cities on the urban agenda

1. Restoring the delta's natural resilience and adaptation capacity;
2. Integrated land use planning: tuning scientific knowledge, spatial planning and engineering;
3. Smart flood risk policy: smart combinations of prevention, spatial adaptation and disaster management
4. Combining adaptation and mitigation: sustainable port and industrial development
5. Sustainable agriculture: diversification
6. Capacity building and research: extending knowledge
7. Social inclusiveness and community building
8. Multi-actor governance: multiple scales and public-private
9. Creative financial mechanisms



4. Current developments

1. Delta Coalition
2. Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation



Delta Coalition and Delta Alliance countries

Delta Alliance

- Argentina
- Bangladesh**
- Brazil
- China
- Egypt**
- Ghana
- Indonesia**
- Kenya
- Mozambique**
- Myanmar**
- Netherlands**
- Spain
- Taiwan
- USA
- Vietnam

Delta Coalition

- Bangladesh**
- Colombia
- Egypt**
- France
- Indonesia**
- Japan
- Mozambique**
- Myanmar**
- Netherlands**
- Philippines
- South-Korea
- Vietnam**



Demand for Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation

Paris agreement

Failure of dealing adequately with climate change will increase damage from a multitude of risks such as natural disasters, social and economic disruptions and increasing political tensions.

Many people are looking for good practices and guidance with regard to climate change adaptation.



Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation: Summary of plans

- **Background:** from Global Commitments and Adaptation Futures 2016 towards the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation
- **Adaptation challenges:** what is effective climate adaptation? How to scale-up examples of effective climate adaptation?
- **Demand** for GCECA: *accelerate* climate adaptation; signpost and build *excellence* and convene stakeholders
- **Scope and activities:** advocacy and facilitation, network and convening, guidance and review, capacity building, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation
- **Organisation and governance:** international organisation with an office in the Netherlands with initially 10+20 pp staff, online activities and collaboration agreements with multiple partners
- **Planning:** to be launched at COP23 in Bonn, November 2017. Open for more end-users, donors, partners etc.



5. Outlook

- Changing setting: requires flexibility
- Meanwhile: challenge to bring science to the deltas and vice versa
- Urgent need for knowledge in deltas (climate change, urbanizations, risks)
- We look forward working together with **you!** (e.g. webinars, publications, website, contacts, matching)



Thank you!

www.delta-alliance.org for resilience in deltas world wide