



Collaboration with Dutch NCP

Ad van Os

advisor EU Affairs Deltares

coordinator RI I3 HYDRALAB III

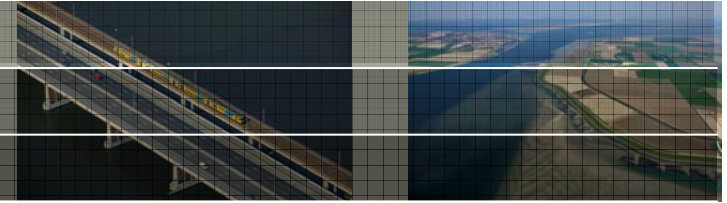
An aerial photograph of a coastal region. A large body of water, likely a river or estuary, flows from the top left towards the bottom right. The land is divided into various agricultural fields, some green and some brown. A small town or village is visible on the left side, near the water. A prominent dike or levee runs along the right side of the water, separating the land from the sea. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Introduction

Experiences with NCP

- NCP services already covered
- NCP services needed
- possible role of EuroRIs-Net

Conclusion



On January 1st, 2008 four renowned Dutch institutions established Deltares:

- **WL | Delft Hydraulics** – hydraulic engineering 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.

Facts and figures

- Legal form: not-for-profit organisation
- \pm 800 fte
- Annual turnover of some €87 million
- Branches in Delft and Utrecht, the Netherlands
- Serves the public and private sector
- National and international activities
- Exact sciences, integrated with social sciences



Our involvement in EU research

Deltares and especially Delft Hydraulics, TNO and Rijkswaterstaat have a long track record in EU research participation

More specifically Deltares participated and participates in:

- the Environment Programmes of FP3 through FP7
- the Infrastructure Programmes from FP2 onwards



35 years of EC-project experience
Coordinator of the I3 HYDRALAB III,
dealing with environmental hydraulics,
geophysical hydrodynamics and ice engineering (since 1998)



An aerial photograph of a coastal region. A large body of water, likely a river or estuary, flows from the top left towards the bottom right. The land is divided into various agricultural fields, some green and some brown. A small town or village is visible on the left side, near the water. A prominent dike or levee runs along the right side of the water, separating the land from the water. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Introduction

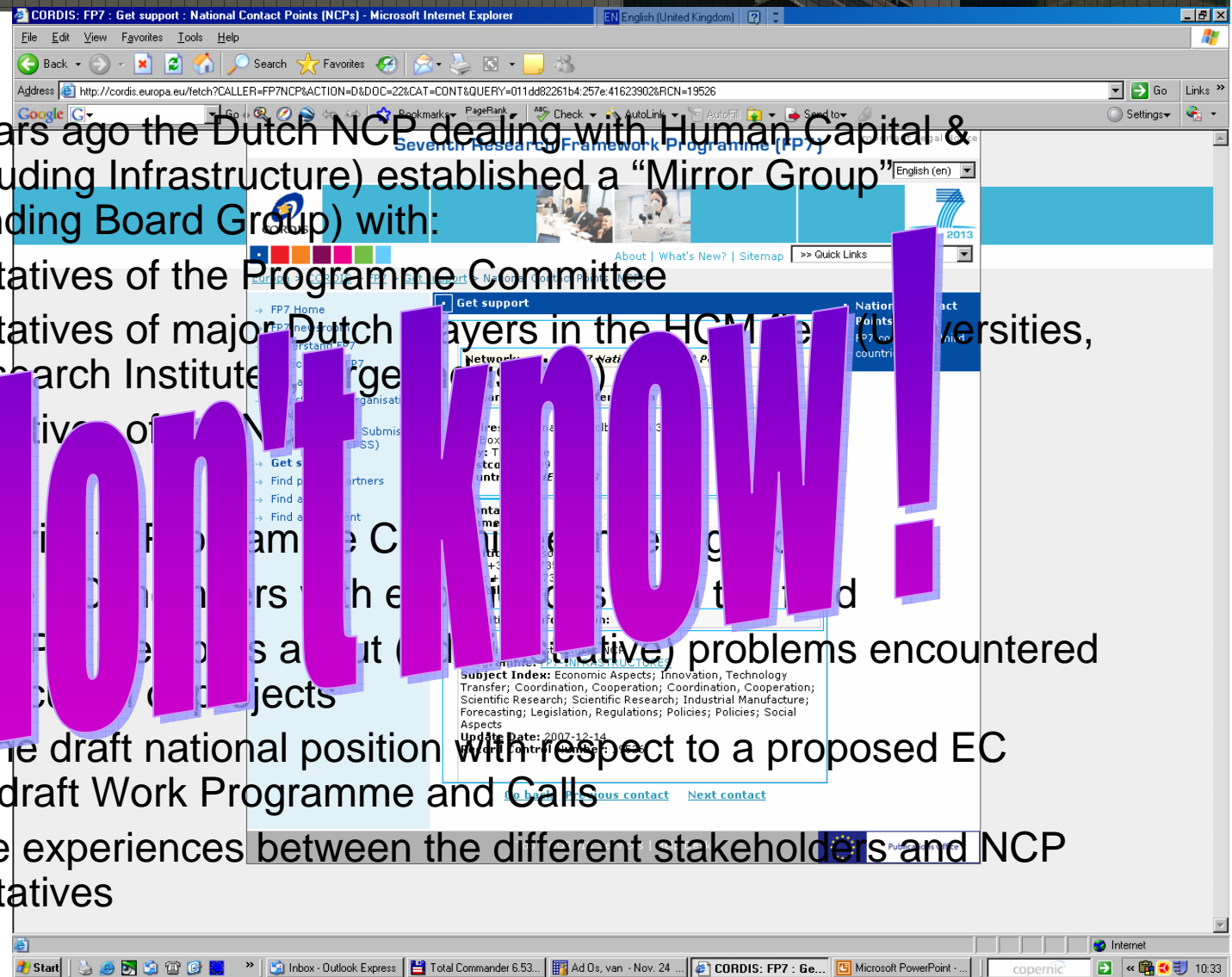
Experiences with NCP

- NCP services already covered
- NCP services needed
- possible role of EuroRIs-Net

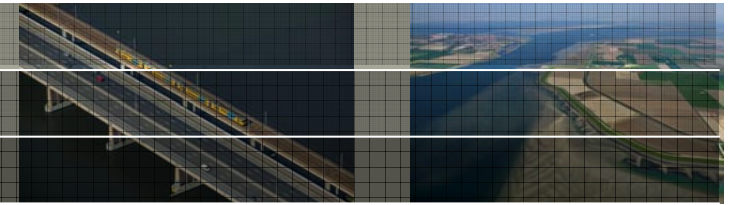
Conclusion

NCP services already covered

- some ten years ago the Dutch NCP dealing with Human Capital & Mobility (including Infrastructure) established a “Mirror Group” (MG or Sounding Board Group) with:
 - representatives of the Programme Committee
 - representatives of major Dutch players in the HCM field: large Research Institutes, large companies, universities,
 - representatives of NCPs
- this “Mirror Group” in the FP7 Programme C had:
 - provided the NCPs with early information about the programme
 - informed EC about (potential) problems encountered during the implementation of projects
 - discuss the draft national position with respect to a proposed EC policy or draft Work Programme and Calls
 - exchange experiences between the different stakeholders and NCP representatives

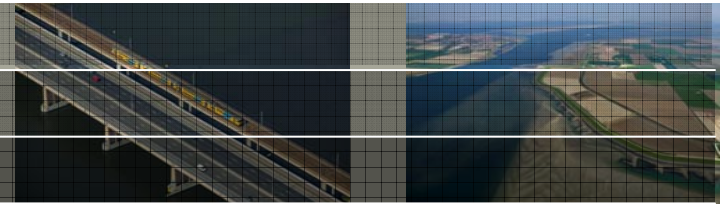


NCP services already covered ?



- this MG worked very well, until the NCP-representative went to Brussels and eventually joined the EC
- after he left the MG did not meet any more (at least to my knowledge)
- in my opinion this really is a great loss:
 - since then the contacts with the NCP and the PC members on Infrastructure have been scarce; mostly at Conferences like the one this week in Versailles !
- consequently we got our information regarding the Infrastructure Programmes through our direct contacts with the EC officers and our project partners from other EC countries
- the good example of having an MG was however copied by other parts of the Dutch NCP, e.g. the Global Change & Environment group

NCP services needed



- we have to distinguish between different types of clients:
 - inexperienced (first time) players in the infrastructure field
 - SME's
 - experienced (large) research infrastructure institutes
- the inexperienced players need information and guidance on
 - do's and don't's
 - partner search, EC contacts, etc.
- the SME's need info and help on their specific situation
- the experienced institutes are interested in strategic information and long term policy development
- these institutes can provide experience and inside information from the ongoing programme
- they can play a valuable role as sparring partner for the PC and NCP

Possible role of EuroRIs-Net



- exchange good practices
- communicate directly with ongoing RI's, e.g. through I3-Net
- emphasise the importance of continuity in European Infrastructure coordination
- advocate a fair equilibrium between existing and new Infrastructure
- keep an alert eye on the division of the Infrastructure programme over the different scientific fields

2. Exchange of Good Practices within the EuroRIs-Net project

Given the differences in NCP systems, the EuroRIs-Net project aims to ensure the coherence of NCPs' services provided throughout Europe and the involved International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC) and Third Countries. A questionnaire, aiming to identify the strong and weak points of NCPs, has been distributed and collected from all RIs NCPs, giving them the opportunity to be part of a learning network. The first results are expected shortly and will also be presented during the First RIs NCPs Workshop, which will take place in France in December 2008.

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. A large body of water, likely a river or estuary, flows from the top left towards the bottom right. The land is divided into various agricultural fields, some green and some brown. A small town or village is visible on the left side, near the water. A prominent dike or levee runs along the right side of the water, separating the land from the sea. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Introduction

Experiences with NCP

- NCP services already covered
- NCP services needed
- possible role of EuroRIs-Net

Conclusion

Conclusion

- NCP should realise that there are different “types” of “clients” (first users, SME’s, but also experienced players)
- these clients should be served differently and preferably separately
- National “Mirror Group” is a very powerful means of two-way info exchange and policy preparation
- advice to Dutch NCP on Infrastructure:
follow the example of your colleagues dealing with Climate Change & Environment and reinstate the Mirror Group



Thanks for hearing me out

Ad van Os

advisor EU Affairs Deltares

coordinator RI I3 HYDRALAB III