



## **Collaboration with Dutch NCP**

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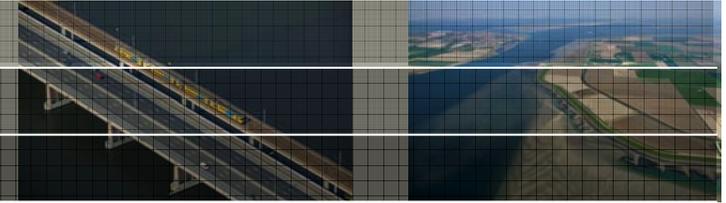


# Introduction

## Experiences with NCP

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

## Conclusion



On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 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
- ± 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)





# Introduction

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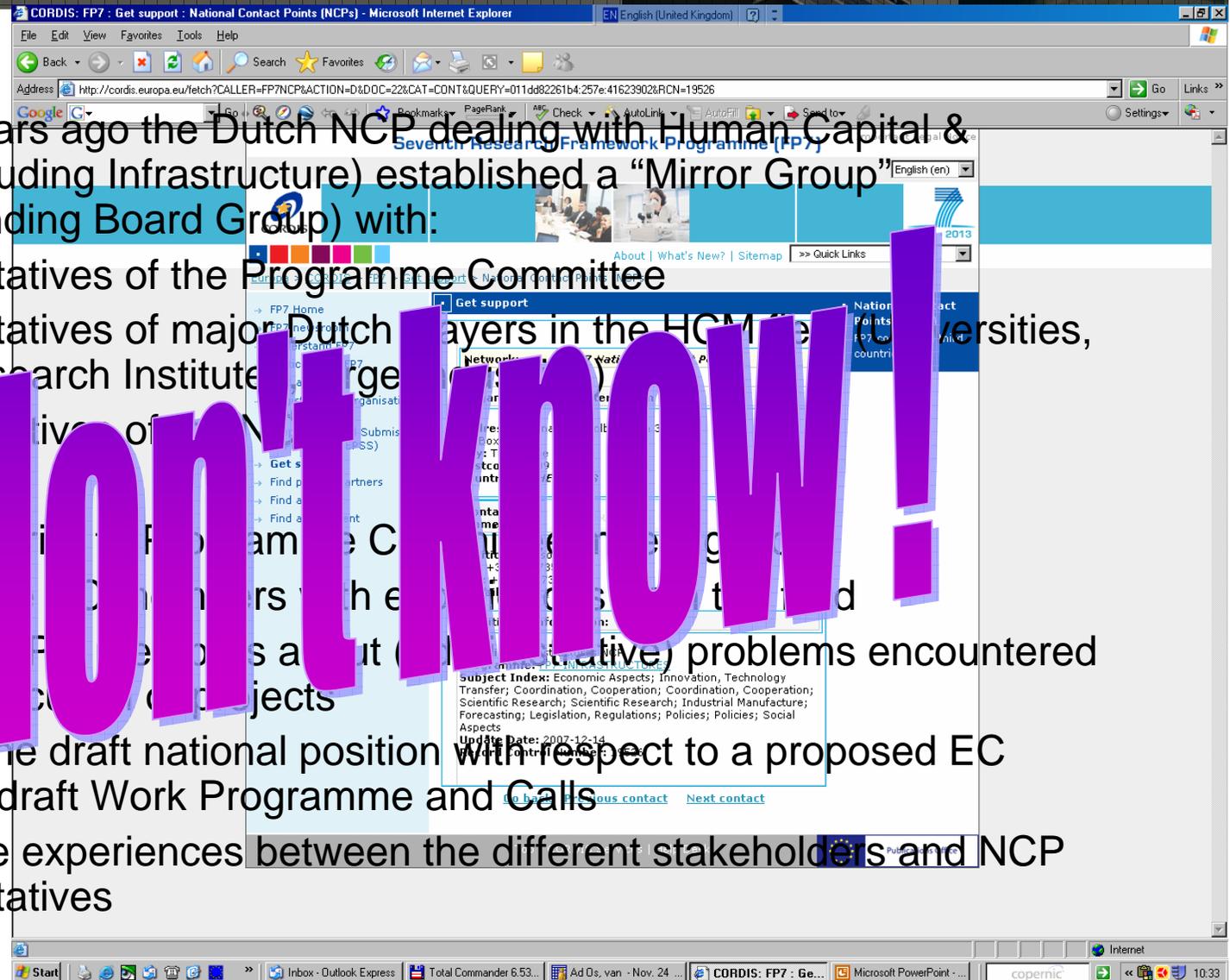
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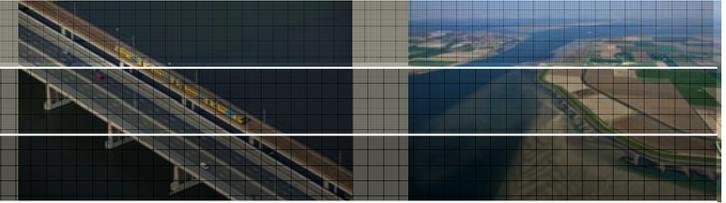
# NCP services already covered

- 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 (universities, large Research Institutes, large companies)
  - representatives of NCPs
- this group has been instrumental in:
  - providing comments on proposals with effect to the EC
  - informing 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

I don't know!



## 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.



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- 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**

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