



On the 31st of October 2017 the Delta Coalition gathered for a dinner on the occasion of the Amsterdam International Water Week (AIWW). As host of the AIWW and member of the Delta Coalition, the Netherlands organized the dinner with the aim to support agenda setting, knowledge exchange and network building in the field of delta challenges and solutions. The purpose of the dinner was to:

- Expose the relevance of deltas to the international community present at the AIWW;
- Extend the network of people working on issues in low-lying countries with delta areas;
- Share knowledge between delegations on shared delta challenges and solutions;
- Enhance familiarity with the Delta Coalition.

During the dinner, all members of the current trojka of the Delta Coalition (Egypt, Japan, Bangladesh) gave presentations, supported by the Netherlands as host country of the dinner:

- Ms. Elaine Alwayn (Director for Soil and Water Affairs at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Public Works and Water Management of the Netherlands; and host of the dinner) explained the objectives of the Delta Coalition. She emphasized that all dinner participants are themselves part of the Delta Coalition and that meeting each other would help strengthen our network and cooperation on delta issues.
- H.E. Ambassador Sheikh Belal (Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in the Netherlands) shared the results of the 2nd Ministerial Conference of the Delta Coalition that was held in Dhaka last July. He encouraged all participants to have a close look at the 5-year action plan that was adopted there and to reflect on how to contribute to its implementation. NB: the 5-year action plan, the Dhaka Declaration and the Terms of Reference on the governance of the Delta Coalition can be found [here](#).
- Prof. Rifaat Abdel Wahaab (Head Sector, Research & Development Holding Company for Water & Wastewater Korneche El-Nil, Rod El-Farag Water Treatment Plant in Egypt) shared the Egyptian experience with successfully admitting a project proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), aimed at receiving funding for the climate adaptation of their coastal zones. His presentation gave important insights in the process for securing funding of the GCF as well as in the foreseen activities of Egypt as current chair of the Delta Coalition.
- Mr. Tomoyuki Okada (director for International Coordination of River Engineering at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan) showed the solutions that Japan is implementing as response to rising sea levels and land subsidence. His presentation was an excellent example of sharing the challenges and good practices of delta management. This is one of his key expectations of the Delta Coalition, in addition to the advocacy of the socioeconomic importance of delta regions; pursuing safe living conditions in delta regions; and the promotion of practical cooperation among member countries.
- Mr. Thymen Kouwenaar (Deputy Project Manager of the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation (GCECA)) presented the GCECA that has as its mission "Accelerate climate adaptation by recognizing, building and promoting excellence among all relevant groups of stakeholders around the world." He emphasized the mutual interests of the Delta Coalition and the GCECA and shared ideas on how to complement each other.

Over 65 participants representing 11 countries of the Delta Coalition joined the dinner to meet peers from other countries and discuss shared delta issues. Thank you all for joining the Delta Coalition dinner and for your ongoing commitment to make delta regions worldwide more resilient. Together, we have strengthened our network for delta challenges worldwide.



Background information on the Delta Coalition (more information and contact: www.deltacoalition.net)

Deltas: vulnerabilities and opportunities abound

Deltas and their populations are facing growing problems of coastal flooding, wetland loss, shoreline retreat and loss of infrastructure. Every year, over the million people experience flooding from storm surges alone. And climate change is making the situation worse.

Deltas are home to around half a billion people, attracted by fertile soil, fresh water and other natural resources, including gas and oil in some places. Many of the largest cities are found in deltas, which also house major ports, and some of the world's most important industrial and agricultural production areas.

The Delta Coalition

The Delta Coalition is world's first international coalition of governments that have formed a partnership to deal with this problem and to get things done to make Deltas more resilient.

Fast, informal, and flexible, the coalition facilitates discussion, exchange, innovation and creativity between the participating members and observers. Government lead and multi-stakeholder the initiative aims to get things done to improve and protect lives in urban deltas.

Members

Argentina, Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, France, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, the Netherlands and Vietnam.

Trojka

The Delta Coalition is governed by a trojka Chairmanship that is composed by an evolving combination of countries. For mid 2017 – mid 2018 the trojka is as follows: Egypt is the Current Chair; Japan is Incoming Chair (resuming Chairmanship by mid 2018) and Bangladesh is Outgoing Chair.

Goals

The coalition will facilitate a complete body of knowledge on deltas, adaptation, resilience and sustainable urban development. Most importantly, it will allow delta countries to join forces to stimulate best practice, innovation and to increase opportunities for financing in order to facilitate implementation of projects that will reduce vulnerability to climate change.

Objectives:

1. Get deltas on the agenda world-wide;
2. Facilitate the development, availability and exchange of knowledge on deltas, resilience and sustainable development;
3. Promote practical implementation and cooperation to increase the resilience of deltas and to increase investments in sustainable delta management.