An exploration of Landscape Identity and Flood Safety...

... a delta dilemma?

On the reconciliation of the antropogenic and natural flux in the peat pasture delta landscape through Building with Nature



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Research by Design Building with Nature



SEA LEVEL RISE source: IPCC, 2019

image: Heijnen

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URBANIZATION AND FLOOD RISK source: PBL, 2020; NOVI, 2020

Conclusions and Reflection

Delta Urbanization & Flood Safety

Landscape Identity

Alblasserwaard - Peat Pasture

FLOOD SAFETY, COASTAL, FLUVIAL AND PLUVIAL PEAKS AND LOWS



Waterweg Maas Oude Maas Hollands Haring-vliet Diep

100 years

Conclusions and Reflection



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FLOOD SAFETY, PROBABILITY REDUCTION

Risk = **Probability** x Consequences



OOSTERSCHELDE BARRIER Probability reduction as flood safety approach

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Conclusions and Reflection

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FLOOD SAFETY, PROBABILITY REDUCTION





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FLOOD SAFETY, PROBABILITY REDUCTION

System





FLOOD SAFETY COMPARTMENTS data: Rijkswaterstaat, 2010 image: Heijnen, 2020

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FLOOD SAFETY, PROBABILITY REDUCTION

Artefacts



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FLOOD SAFETY, PROBABILITY REDUCTION



Riverine

FLOOD SAFETY, AT COST OF BIODIVERSITY

Problem Statement



FLOOD SAFETY, ALLOWING URBANIZATION AT COST OF BIODIVERSITY

Problem Statement

A sectoral flood safety approach has been a prerequisit for Delta Urbanization in the Netherlands. This, however, has gone at the cost of biodiversity and resilience.

As a result, a dilemma appears to exist between sectoral flood safety on the one hand, and biodiversity and flood resilience on the other. The pursuit of flood safety, especially within the perspective of extreme climate scenario's, may continue to go at the cost of biodiversity and resilience.

In the case of the Dutch delta, flood safety and landscape are inseperably linked and a certain relationship of people mastering over nature becomes apparent of this intertwining.

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FLOOD SAFETY, AND LANDSCAPE

In the case of the Dutch delta, flood safety and landscape are inseperably linked and a certain relationship of people mastering over nature becomes apparent of this intertwining.



Kinderdijk Heritage site

Alblasserwaard peat pastures Image: Heijnen, 2020

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Cattle Farming

TRANSITION TOWARDS A MORE BIODIVERSE AND FLOOD RESILIENT DELTA

Knowledge Gap





Retreat



TRANSITION TOWARDS A MORE BIODIVERSE AND FLOOD RESILIENT DELTA

Knowledge Gap:





Retreat



TRANSITION EMBRACIVE APPROACH

Building with Nature

"... developing coastal and river works, making use of the dynamics of the natural environment. And additionally, providing opportunities for natural processes."



The Sand Engine Image: Rijkswaterstaat, J. Brobbel, 2020

Conclusions and Reflection

A FLAWED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND NATURE

Hypothesis

Building with Nature can provide the tailor- made flood safety solutions needed to transition towards a more biodiverse and resilient delta. Shifting the sectoral flood safety appraoch to concequence reduction, embracing the dynamics of water, soil and air as the critical condition for delta urbanization.

The building with Nature solutions aimed to transition the flood safety approach, besides promoting biodiversity and flood resilience in space, need to address the people – nature relationship as well.



LANDSCAPE IDENTITY, THE MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPE

Theoretical underpinning



Landscape Identity [Ramos et al, 2016]

Landscape Transformations

Societal Transformations Perception sphere

Societal Transformations Action sphere

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY, THE MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPE

Landscape

Theoretical underpinning

	Action	↔	Perception
 Landscape 	Soils Air & Climate Hydrology Geology Land Cover Land Form Flora & Fauna		Colour Texture Pattern Form Sounds Smells Touch
People 🗸	Land Use Settlement Enclosure Ownership		Memories Associations Preferences

Landscape Character Assessment [Swanwick, 2017]



Landscape Identity [Ramos et al, 2016]

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Landscape Transformations

Societal Transformations Perception sphere

Societal Transformations Action sphere

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY, THE MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPE

Theoretical underpinning



[Van den Born, 2008]

Research by Design Building with Nature

FLOOD SAFETY, LANDSCAPE IDENTITY AND BUILDING WITH NATURE

Research Question

// How can an understanding of Landscape Identity promote a biodiverse and flood resilient urbanized delta? "



FLOOD SAFETY, LANDSCAPE IDENTITY AND BUILDING WITH NATURE

Research Questions

Problem Field

1.	[How] are floo	d safety and	landscape	identity related?
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Research by design

2. inform	How does an understanding of landscape identity the application of Building with Nature solutions in pursuit of flood safety?
	[Research by Design]
3.	How can BwN solutions be applied to alter the human-nature relationship?



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Landscape

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Intervention concepts

Peat

SCALES, NATIONAL, REGIONAL, LOCAL, INDIVIDUAL



Problem Field analysis

Research by Design

PROPOSAL FLOOD SAFETY, LANDSCAPE IDENTITY AND BUILDING WITH NATURE



Delta Urbanization & Flood Safety	
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SCALES, NATIONAL, REGIONAL, LOCAL, INDIVIDUAL

meso

micro



Problem Field analysis

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ALBLASSERWAARD, FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

Peat Pastures



VEENWEIDE LANDSCAPE, DETERMINED THROUGH THE LAND USE OF CATTLE FARMING



GEOLOGY, HYDROLOGY AND AIR & CLIMATE, CONTROLLED THROUGH HYDRAULIC INFRASTRUCTURES.

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ALBLASSERWAARD, FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

Peat Pastures



Peat Pasture

Delta Urbanization & Flood Safety

Landscape Identity

Alblasserwaard - Peat Pasture



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Conclusions and Reflection

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ALBLASSERWAARD, FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

VEENWEIDE POLDER



Conclusions and Reflection

Alblasserwaard - Peat Pasture



Conclusions and Reflection

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0 m 5 m

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ALBLASSERWAARD, FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

VEENWEIDE POLDER



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Conclusions and Reflection





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ALBLASSERWAARD FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

Conclusion

LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

PEOPLE - NATURE RELATIONSHIP

PEAT PASTURE [VEENWEIDE]

Mastery over nature

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER





RESEARCH BY DESIGN BUILDING WITH NATURE, FLOOD SAFETY AND LANDSCAPE IDENTITY

Alblasserwaard

2. AC:	What are the potentials and restrictions
[spatial and	d societal] in the application of a Building with
Nature approa	ach to the landscape identities that exist in the
	Alblasserwaard? [Research by Design]

3. BC: What are the [spatial] implications of applying a Building with nature approach to the development of flood safety in the Alblasserwaard? [Research by Design]

[BC] Flood safety and building with nature	[B]	[C	[C]	
	Embrace Approach $$ R = P x $\left[\frac{C}{C} \right]$	De	sign app	
		Co Riv Pe		
[AC] Landscape Identity and Building with Nature	[A]	[C]	
	Action Perception	R	Coastal liverine leat	

Landscape --- Peol

(P)

(N)

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pproach

Intervention concepts

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ALBLASSERWAARD, BUILDING WITH NATURE AND FLOOD SAFETY

Reconciliation of the antropogenic compartments and natural flux of water, soil and air



From a one size fits all to tailor made solutions fitting the landscape, adressing the people - nature relationship





ALBLASSERWAARD, BUILDING WITH NATURE AND FLOOD SAFETY

Reconciliation of the antropogenic compartments and natural flux of water, soil and air









BUILDING WITH NATURE, LAND USE AND URBANIZATION

Adressing the perceptive sphere



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Research by Design

Building with Nature



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BUILDING WITH NATURE, INLAND



Peat Bog [Sphagnum] formation [Veenmos]

Remediaton 3 - 5 years

- 30 cm water level increase / fluctuation
- Reeds and Cattail for insulation and cattle feed



Peat Growing 5 - 10 years

- 1 month innundation resilient
- reversing subsidence 1 2 mm per year



Sphagnum

Peat soil



Paludiculture

Crops

- Cattail [insulation / cattle feed]

Building Material 2 - 5 years

- Azolla [Meat substitute / cattle feed]
- Sphagnum



Black Elder [> 30 years] Willow [> 2 years] Lisdodde [3 - 5 years] 5


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Building with Nature

BUILDING WITH NATURE, INLAND, RIVERINE, URBAN RIVERINE

Systemic application



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BUILDING WITH NATURE, INLAND, RIVERINE, URBAN RIVERINE

Systemic application



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BUILDING WITH NATURE, LAND USE AND URBANIZATION

Following the hydrological dynamics and zones





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BUILDING WITH NATURE, LAND USE AND URBANIZATION

Following the hydrological dynamics and zones



Crop diversity

Crop rotation



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Research by Design Building with Nature

BUILDING WITH NATURE, URBAN RIVERINE

Inlet

- Softening the riverine edges
- Diversifying the [industrial program]
- Elevated infrastructures and flood proof settlement
- Public function attached to node





Conclusions and Reflection

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0 m



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BUILDING WITH NATURE, URBAN RIVERINE

Inlet

- Softening the riverine edges

- Diversifying the [industrial program]

- Elevated infrastructures and flood proof settlement

- Public function attached to node



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Research by Design Building with Nature

BUILDING WITH NATURE, INLAND

Peat bog formation

- Increasing water levels

- Altering Land Use
- Elevated infrastructures and settlement





Conclusions and Reflection

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0 m

50 m

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Research by Design Building with Nature

BUILDING WITH NATURE, INLAND

- Increasing water levels
- Phytoremediation
- Peat bog formation





Conclusions and Reflection

CONCLUSIONS HYPOTHESIS AND MAIN QUESTION

Hypothesis

Building with Nature can provide the tailor made flood safety solutions needed to transition towards a more biodiverse and resilient delta.

Shifting towards a concequence reduction flood safety approach, embracing the dynamics of water, soil and air should be the critical prerequisite of delta urbanization. Building with Nature solutions aimed to transition the flood safety approach, besides promoting biodiversity and flood resilience, need to address and alter the people – nature relationship as well.

Main Research Question

"How can an understanding of Landscape Identity promote a biodiverse and flood resilient urbanized delta?

CONCLUSIONS SUBQUESTIONS

[How] are flood safety and landscape identity related?

- Control over hydrology
- Land Use and Settlement are dependent on probability reduction
- Expression in landscape of people mastering over nature

How does an understanding of landscape identity inform the application of Building with Nature solutions in pursuit of flood safety?

- Suitability to the landscape
- Broadens the scope of influence [people- nature relationship]
- Provides tangible domains of intervention
- Limited to coastal and riverine territory

How can BwN solutions be applied to alter the human-nature relationship?

- Adress the action sphere
- Design for systemic implementation and adressing the perceptive sphere

REFLECTION & LIMITATIONS

- Approach of Landscape Identity
- Scope of the project
- Limitations

CONCLUSIONS MAIN QUESTION

Main Research Question

"How can an understanding of Landscape Identity promote a biodiverse and flood resilient urbanized delta?

- Ideas of landscape influence landscape changes

- Dutch ideas of flood safety link to hydrologic control
- at cost of biodiversity and flood resilience
- Embrace approach through Building with Nature [action]
- Designing the nodes [perception]





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Research by Design Building with Nature



Conclusions and Reflection



			SANDY COASTS	MUDDYCOAS	PORTS	ones	RIVERS AND E	LOWIDAND LAVE
		RESTORING SEAGRASS MEADOWS	+	+	+	-	+	
		FACILITATING CORAL DEVELOPMENT	+	+	+			
		BUILDING SHELLFISH REEFS				-	+	+
		REHABILITATING MANGROVE BELTS	+	+	+	-	+	
		GROWING SALT MARSHES		+	+	+	+	
		ESTABLISHING WETLAND FORESTS				-	+	+
		DEVELOPING WETLAND AREAS			+		-	-
		CHREATING HANGING AND FLOATING STRUCTURES					+	+
		CREATING REVETMENTS	+	+	+	—	+	+
		INTEGRATING VEGETATED FORESHORES		+				
		APPLYING MEGA-NOURISHMENTS						
		CONSTRUCTING NATURE ISLANDS		+				
		ENHANCING DUNE DYNAMICS						
A	I	LANDSCAPING THE SEABED	+	+	+			
Applicability	+	CONSTRUCTING PERCHED BEACHES	+		+	-		+
		STRATEGICALLY PLACING FINE SEDIMENT					_	
Growing system feature		CLAY RIPENING AND CONSOLIDATING						+
		CREATING SEDIMENTATION BASINS		+	+		-	+
		MANAGING COASTAL RETREAT / REALIGNMENT		-				+
		DEVELOPING INLAND BUFFER ZONES			+	-	+	+
		DEVELOPING DOUBLE DIKE SYSTEMS	+	+			+	+
		RESTORING CONNECTIONS	+	+	+	+	+	+
		RESTORING SALINITY GRADIENTS			+	+	+	
		RESTORING TIDAL DYNAMICS		+	+	-	+	
Coastal		CREATING TIDAL PARKS			-			
		CONSTRUCTING SECONDARY CHANNELS			+	+	+	
Riverine		OPTIMIZING FLOW PATTERNS	+	+	+	+	+	+
Inland		PEAT GROWING	-					





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