On the border of SWEET & SALT
- research based design towards the adaptivity of the Southwest Delta -

Development vision for 2100 when a Steam scenario occurs, the river Haringvliet will be completely salt during parts of the year, which is a threat for agriculture. Therefore a self-sufficient fresh water system will be developed, making use of the existing creek system, the old harbour canals and water storages in the polders. Excess rain water in winter will be stored on the island, above as well as under the ground, so in summer the water can be used again for irrigation of the agricultural lands. This new watersystem based on the substrate layer will become the structure carrier of the occupation layer to give Goeree-Overflakkee a new economic strong future, based on tourism and recreation. By adding 'gradient' transitions between land and water the island can become dynamic and diverse again. So in the end the delta will return to a previous state, where biodiversity and ecology where the main characters.

No-regret intervention: New center of tourism and recreation, based upon the existing harbour canal of Dirksland. This water canal will become the new point of departure to discover the island, with a key role for the village of Dirksland. In that way some pressure will be released from the coastal area on the 'head' of the island and carrying capacity will be created for facilities in the existing villages.

A new economic and spatial impulse for the village of Dirksland, its renewed relation with the water and improved quality of public space, makes it the perfect point of departure for tourists but also for new urban developments along the water.