

# Strengthening strategic delta planning processes in Bangladesh, the Netherlands, Vietnam and beyond“ by

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## What is the problem we want to address?

Urbanising deltas worldwide face many threats to water safety, water and food security and sustainable development. To prepare for the future, people in deltas increasingly call for strategic delta planning (long-term and across sectors). This is complex as future uncertainty is combined with conflicting interests among stakeholders. It differs from ‘normal’ delta planning in many ways (purpose, scope, type of plan, time horizon). We therefore study strategic delta planning processes to better understand the role of this new planning approach. For instance, can strategic delta planning facilitate innovative ideas that can be transformed in strategic planning choices and implementation projects?

## How do we work?

Strong links with **practice** (e.g. ongoing delta planning processes) to ensure the empirical grounding of research, uptake of results and contributions to policy practice.

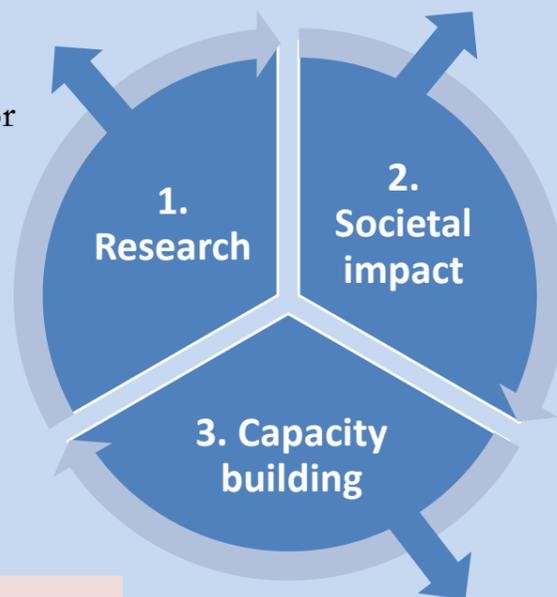
Involvement of semi-public organisations and the **private sector** who have an interest in further testing and improving tools they offer and the use of their tools.



**1. Goal:** Enhance understanding of strategic delta planning processes, using a view of delta planning as a long-term adaptive process in an open system.

Method: (Historical) analysis of cases relevant for current / past delta planning processes, case comparison, in 4 projects:

1. Participatory planning approaches and tools (PhD Shahnoor Hassan)
2. Innovative solutions (PhD Vo Thi Minh Hoang)
3. Actors coalitions (vacancy)
4. Integration and comparison (Post-doc Chris Seijger)



**2. Goal:** Strengthen strategic delta planning processes, enabling agreements among key actors on problems and (innovative) solutions that more effectively can be translated into implementation projects.

1. Application of four planning tools:
  - MOTA to assess plan implementation
  - Denvis for delta envisioning
  - Participatory scenario development
  - Design studios / charettes
2. Discuss planning experiences, practice tools with delta planners, and develop recommendations through workshops



## What we offer to different target groups?

<b>Delta planners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance on strategic delta planning and management (planning and implementation, negotiating consent, planning tools, innovative solutions, actor coalitions)</li> <li>• Opportunities to participate in events to share and exchange experiences</li> </ul>
<b>Civil society</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better insight in how strategic planning can act as an opportunity for change towards more sustainable livelihoods</li> </ul>
<b>Research institutes, private sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better insights in how innovative ideas (e.g. building with nature, tidal river management) can be incorporated in delta planning and implemented</li> <li>• Better insights in role of participatory planning tools and approaches, and guidance how to apply in different planning phases and contexts</li> </ul>
<b>Universities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case studies on strategic delta planning for enriching water and development training and education, incl. MSc curricula</li> </ul>
<b>Scientific community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on pros and cons of strategic delta planning in scientific debate</li> <li>• Delta planning theories, tested analytical frameworks and case studies</li> <li>• Experience in methods for science-policy interfacing</li> </ul>

**3. Goal:** Enhance capacities of key stakeholders in ongoing delta planning projects in five ways.

1. Local PhDs and Post-doc continue to work on related topics in the region afterwards.
2. MSc university curriculum of Consortium members and broader academic partners
3. Professional training courses incorporating the results are implemented in the three deltas involved and beyond.
4. Dissemination of recommendations and guidelines

Linked to ongoing capacity building projects like Nuffic projects and training workshops.

