



Background and overview

2005: First national assessment of effects of climate change in the Netherlands (PBL, 2005)

2006: Four climate change scenarios for the Netherlands (KNMI, 2006)

2007: Adoption of a National Adaptation Strategy (Ministry VROM)

2007: First long-term assessment of flood protection challenges and options for a climate resilient delta (PBL, 2007)

2009: Advice of 2nd Delta Committee

2009: Extension of climate change scenarios 2006 (KNMI, 2009)

2010: Launching of Delta Programme with focus on:

- flood protection
- freshwater supplies
- urban development (urban flooding, heath)



2011: Strategic options for a climate-proof development of the Netherlands (PBL, 2011)

2012: Update of effects of climate change in the Netherlands (PBL, 2012)

2012: Audit of national adaptation strategy (Netherlands Court of Audit)

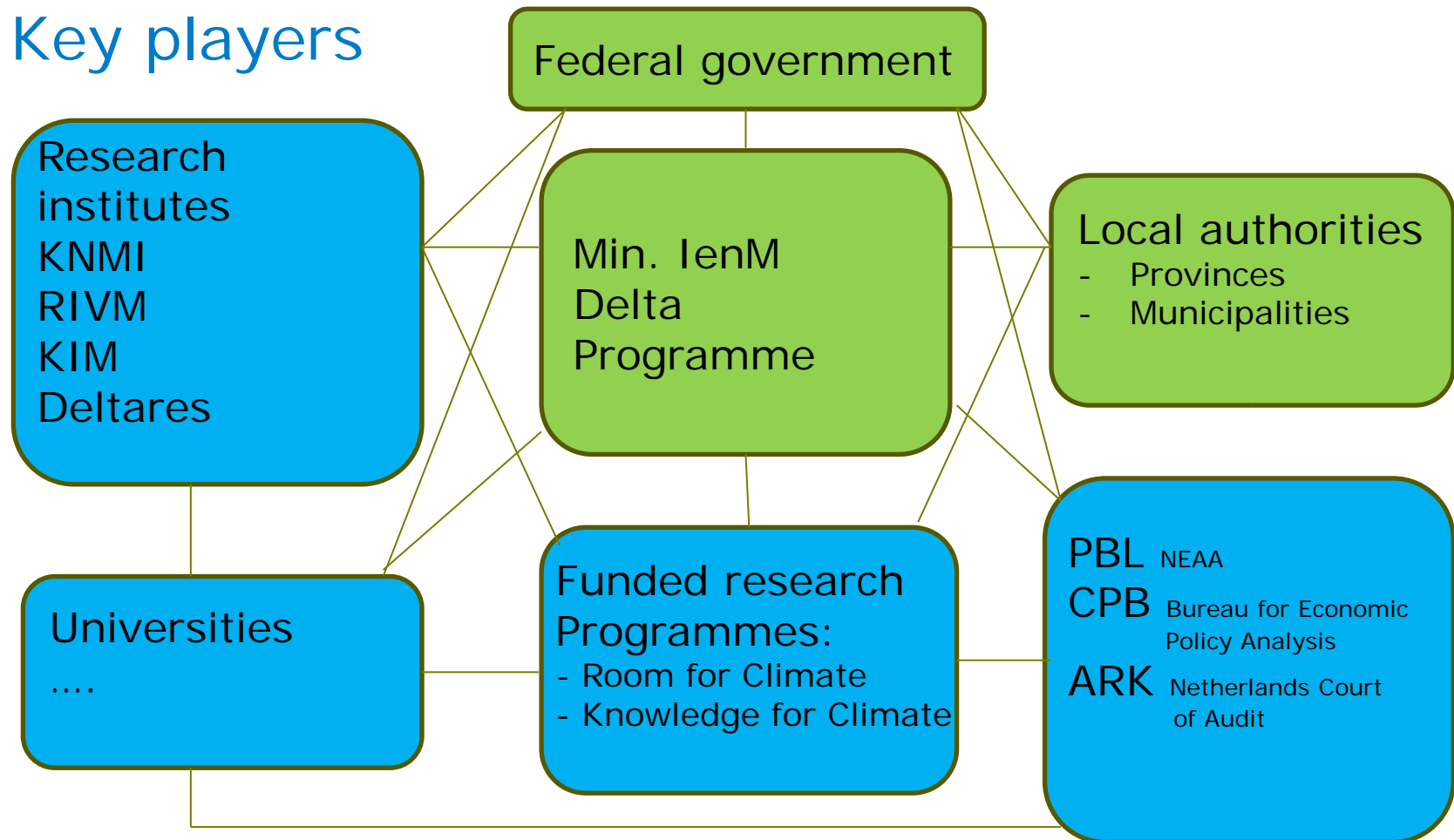
2012: To be expected - integrated strategy on mitigation and adaptation (Ministry Infrastructure and Environment)

2012/2013: Exploration of adaptation strategies within Delta Programme

2014: Expected strategic decisions of Delta Deltaprogramma on:

- flood protection
- freshwater supplies
- urban development

Key players



Two types of Assessments

Exploring challenges/risks



Characteristics

- Monitoring effects of climate change
- Exploring the potential future ranges of climate change and effects
- Combining uncertainties in socio-economic development and climate change
- Addressing worst cases
- Analysis of vulnerabilities and uncertainties
- => Problem definition

Exploring solutions



- Often more sectoral orientated
- Designed for policy support (also for local authorities)
- Also backcasting
- Dealing with uncertainties: designing adaptive policy strategies ("policies with uncertainties")



Original role of PBL: interfacing science ↔ policy

Lessons learned:

- Information and network society makes a very complex communication model
- Change of status of science in media-society: “science seems just an opinion”
- Role of PBL has changed: now one of the many players, but position as ‘broker’ between science and policy is not disputed
- Process of assessments as important as the result/product
- Be close to the policy-making process, but be aware of your independent status
- Be flexible in framing the ‘problems’ and ‘solutions’



Challenges

- 3 challenges in process:
 - i) integrating scientific fields and debating scientific base and uncertainties,
 - ii) increase interaction with policy and
 - iii) with society (stakeholder participation)
- Transition in assessments:
from ***exploring challenges and risks*** towards ***exploring solutions:***
how to design and present useable adaptive strategies?
- From “What” to “How”
more attention needed for governance aspects
- Policy agenda is leading – how to translate long-term adaptive strategies into manageable steps, within recognisable policy frames?



Thank you

<http://www.pbl.nl/en/>