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Meeting of the

**Expert Group Climate Change Adaptation (EG-C 13)**

26 April 2022

Online meeting

1. **Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the Agenda**

The meeting was opened by the chairperson Robert Zijlstra on 09:30 on 26 April 2022. by MS Teams. He passed apologies of Jannes Fröhlich (WWF) who is on parental leave. Ester Kuppen announced an earlier leave at 11:00.

A list of participants is at Annex 1.

The EG-C **adopted** the draft agenda of the meeting (Annex 2).

1. **Adoption of the draft summary record**

EG-C13-2-Draft-SR-EG-C12v0.1.docx

The chair reviewed the list of action items, of which all were completed or on today´s agenda. The presentation of Saa Kabuta will be postponed to EG-C 14. Mr. Wurpts was requested to consider to give a presentation on RESTCOAST in EG-C 14.

The EG-C **noted** the information and **adopted** the draft summary record of EG-C 12.

1. **Announcements**

**Lower Saxony**

* An ecological sediment management approach (for now focused on mound of river Ems) shall be extended towards the area around the Island of Wangerooge. Spans over Wadden Sea basins of Harle and Blaue Balje as well as Harle Ebb tidal delta and (outer) Jade bay, from where relevant amounts of dredged sediment have to be disposed;
* Latest activity is probably interfering with Floating Storage Regasification Units FSRU planned for Jade.;
* There are plans to continuate the workshop platform from the soon-ending Program for a rich Waddensea sediment community (Consortium of understanding (CoU) by means of RestCoast.

**Netherlands**

* Last week 22nd International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species was held, including a session on impact of climate on alien species. Saa Kabuta will provide information on these.

**CWSS**

Under lead of Rijskwaterstaat, a proposal for the project MAinstreaming Nature Based Solutions through COASTal systems (MANABAS COAST) has been submitted under the first call for applications of the Interreg VIB North Sea Region Programme/Priority 3. A climate resilient North Sea Region/3.1 Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches. MANABAS COAST aims at contributing to accelerating the process of climate change adaptation in a systematic way, by mainstreaming Nature Based Solutions (NBS) that integrate coastal flood risk management with biodiversity goals. This will be approached by testing solutions and translating the outcomes into a framework for Integrated System Based Asset Management. Amongst several pilot sites, also study pilots in the Wadden Sea Area are foreseen. The project is planned for a duration of 60 months, starting on 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2027. CWSS is partner in this proposal, with a total of 103,412 EUR, of which 60% are covered by the EU-grant, 40% by co-financing.

**Denmark, Schleswig-Holstein, WSF, Waddenvereniging:** No announcements

The group **noted** the information and **welcomed** a presentation by Andreas Wurpts on the H2020 project RestCoast and possibly others.

1. **Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI)**

The chair informed that the Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) 2 workshop report (Community vulnerability) has not been submitted to WSB 36, due to concerns raised in the email consultation with EG-C and the Task Group World Heritage (TG-WH). The CVI developers Jon Day and Scott Heron were informed and a meeting is being planned. EG-C discussed how to proceed.

EG-C **agreed** to consult the workshop participants with the workshop report and reflections, and inform them on the idea of publishing. It should be particularly clear that not all participants agree on the outcome and method. EG-C further **agreed** on the basic idea to publish the report with low profile, e.g., on the CWSS website. A list of participants ‘names could be omitted and instead just groups of participants or institutions listed.

1. **Presentations – current projects/proposals**

Frank Ahlhorn held a presentation on the TrilaWatt project.

EG-C noted the information and the invitation to approach Frank with possibilities to connect with EG-C.

Robert Zijlstra presented the Interreg EU North Sea proposal MAinstreaming NAture BAsed Solution (MANABAS), in particular a Dutch salt marsh NL case.

Julia Busch informed that CWSS has planned in external expertise and services in the MANABAS proposal, which will be planned in more detail with EG-C, if the proposal receives funding: Host workshop € 15,000.00, Consultant € 20,000.00 , Host webinar € 10,000.00.

Possible connections with EG-C include:

* Bring together Wadden Sea cases, foster trilateral exchange on knowledge and experiences (also with the trilateral Expert Group Salt Marshes and Dunes), e.g., on main bottlenecks of applying NBS.
* Address conflicts, such as with nature values N2000, EU water framework directive. Active management in the Wadden Sea vs natural dynamics, (balance nature conservation and flood safety).
* Holistic view, including socio-economics.
* SMART goals.



*Figure: MANABAS COAST pilot cases as submitted in the proposal.*

Information on the Integrated System-based Asset Management (ISBAM)as used in the MANABAS COAST proposal is in the report “[The Business Case for scaling-up Building with Nature in the Netherlands](https://www.ecoshape.org/app/uploads/sites/2/2021/05/Whitepaper-Integrated-System-based-Asset-Management-1.pdf)”

[UNESCO Marine World Heritage. Custodians of the globe's blue carbon assets](https://whc.unesco.org/en/blue-carbon-report)

Information on blue carbon capture on salt marshes can be found a.o. in this publication  
[Niet alleen bos, ook schorren en kwelders remmen klimaatverandering](https://www.natuurmonumenten.nl/nieuws/niet-alleen-bos-ook-schorren-en-kwelders-remmen-klimaatverandering) (in Dutch)

EG-C **thanked** Frank Ahlhorn and Robert Zijlstra, **noted** the information and **welcomed** the CWSS initiative with MANABAS Coast.

EG-C **considers** taking up the carbon sink topic (e.g., in salt marshes) even though it is a mitigation topic.

1. **Activities 2022 and Work plan 2022 - 2026**

Document: EG-C13-6-activities2022

Robert Zijlstra introduced a list of activities, which was derived from the discussion in EG-C12. The group reflected on the activities (see Annex 4).

The group agreed that:

EG-C **welcomed** that Jacobus Hofstede will draft a workplan in form of Terms of Reference for 2023 -2026, which will be discussed at the next meeting, which can then be elaborated towards a workplan. EG-C will consider to also organize a discussion with a broader group of representatives within the TWSC to define the role and tasks of the EG-C in the next working period.

EG-C **noted** that development of products in EG-C is a challenge, due to the very diverse group composition and restricted time of individuals. One way forward may be the distribution of tasks and different leads for sub-tasks.

Mr. Zijlstra will finalize the list of activities and circulate this for comments.

1. **Trilateral Governmental Conference (TGC)**

Claus von Hoerschelmann informed that a company for the video will need to be Dutch, as the project will be paid by Rijkswaterstaat. One possibility would be a similar work as in <https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/news/short-animation-shows-importance-dune-dynamics>

EG-C **noted** the information and **agreed** that Claus von Hoerschelmann and Ester Kuppen with support by CWSS will continue drafting a storybook with external (scientific) support (see agreement EG-C 12). A next step is selection of a company.

1. **Any Other Business and next meeting**

There was no other business.

The next meeting, EG-C 14, will be held 27-29 June 2022, on Ameland (Netherlands). A preliminary travel scheme is from 27 June morning to 29 June early afternoon. Robert Zijlstra and Ester Kuppen will arrange a hotel reservation. Booking and payment will be done individually.

EG-C **thanked** Ester and Robert for the preparation and **agreed** to the proposed general travel schedule.

1. **Closing**

The Chairperson closed the meeting than 12:15 on 26 April 2022.and thanked participants for a fruitful discussion.

**ANNEX 1: List of participants**

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**Expert group Climate Change Adaptation**

**(EG-C 13)**

26 April 2022

Online meeting

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Chair** | | | | |
| **Mr Robert Zijlstra**  Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management  Noord Nederland  Leeuwarden  phone: +31 (0) 6 224 818 36  EMail: [robert.zijlstra@rws.nl](mailto:robert.zijlstra@rws.nl) | | | | |
| **Denmark** | | | | |
| **Mr Thomas Larsen**  Ministry of Environment  Danish Coastal Authority  Højbovej 1, DK - 7620 Lemvig  mobile ++45 91 35 74 42.  E-Mail: [tla@kyst.dk](mailto:tla@kyst.dk) | | **Mr Klaus Bertram Fries**  Varde Municipality  Bytoften 2 , DK - 6800 Varde  phone: +45 (0) 79 94 71 10  E-Mail: [klbf@varde.dk](mailto:klbf@varde.dk) | | |
| **Germany (Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein)** | | | | |
| **Mr Claus von Hoerschelmann**  Schleswig-Holstein Agency for Coastal Defense, National Park and Marine Conservation  National Park Authority Schleswig-Holstein Nationalpark-Zentrum Multimar Wattforum Dithmarscher Straße 6a 25832 Tönning  Phone +49 (0)4861 9620-15  E-Mail: [Claus.vonHoerschelmann@lkn.landsh.de](mailto:Claus.vonHoerschelmann@lkn.landsh.de) | | **Mr Jacobus Hofstede**  Ministry of Energy, Agriculture, the Environment, Nature and Digitalization Schleswig Holstein,  Mercatorstraße 3, D-24106 Kiel  Postfach 71 51, D-24171 Kiel  Phone: +49(0) 431 988 4984  Mobile: +49 1520 6537300  E-Mail: [Jacobus.Hofstede@melund.landsh.de](mailto:Jacobus.Hofstede@melund.landsh.de) | | |
| **Mr. Andreas Wurpts**  NLWKN, Coastal Research Station Norderney/  Forschungsstelle Küste, Norderney  Phone: +49 4931/947-270  Mob. +49 1711201875  E-Mail: [Andreas.Wurpts@nlwkn-ny.niedersachsen.de](mailto:Andreas.Wurpts@nlwkn-ny.niedersachsen.de) | |  | | |
| **Netherlands** | | | | |
| **Mr Saa Kabuta**  Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment  Directorate of Water Affairs  Postbus 61  NL 8200 AB Lelystad  Phone: +31(0)6 - 29 38 23 19  E-Mail: [saahenry.kabuta@rws.nl](mailto:saahenry.kabuta@rws.nl) | |  | | |
| **Participants from advisors to WSB and external experts** | | | |
| **Ms Ester Kuppen**  Waddenvereniging  Postbus 90  NL-8860 AB Harlingen  phone: +31 (0)6-10883266  E-Mail: [kuppen@waddenvereniging.nl](mailto:kuppen@waddenvereniging.nl) | | **Mr. Frank Ahlhorn**  Wadden Sea Forum  Virchowstr. 1  D – 26382 Wilhelmshaven  Phone: +49 4421 9108 18  E-mail: ahlhorn@waddensea-forum.org | |
| **Secretary** |  | | | |
| **Ms. Julia A. Busch**  Common Wadden Sea Secretariat | | |  | |

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Description automatically generated**ANNEX 2: Final agenda**

FINAL AGENDA v1.0

**Expert group Climate Change Adaptation**

**(EG-C 13)**

26 April 2022

Online meeting

1. Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The meeting will be opened by the Chairperson at 09:30 on 26 April 2022.

Proposal: Adopt the draft agenda of the meeting

1. Adoption of the draft summary record

Document: EG-C13-2-SR-EG-C12

Proposal: Adopt the draft Summary Record of EG-C 12.

1. Announcements

*Document: EG-C13-3-Announcements*

Meeting participants are invited to hand in their information to the CWSS before the meeting. Individual announcements will not be repeated, but time given for questions [all]. We will take some time for oral announcements.

1. Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI)

Update on status of publication CVI report. Concerns were expressed on the publication of the report. Proposal: Discuss and agree on way forward.

1. Presentations – current projects/proposals

Presentations: Trilawatt (Frank Ahlhorn) and Interreg EU North Sea proposal MAinstreaming NAture BAsed Solution (MANABAS), salt marsh NL case (Robert Zijlstra)

Proposal: Note the information

1. Activities 2022 and Work plan 2022 - 2026

Document: EG-C13-6-activities2022

From the discussion in the EG-C12 we derived a list of possible activities for the remainder of 2022. The suggested activities are elaborated in annex EG-C13-5-activities2022. The meeting is invited to reflect on the activities and decide upon which activities we will proceed with, and by whom.

The (draft) results of the brainstorm can be found here: <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOOnFPaw=/?share_link_id=997529068553>

Proposal: Agree on organisation of activities for year 2022.

1. Trilateral Governmental Conference (TGC)

Update on the EG-C side event at the TGC. Claus von Hoerschelmann will update us.

Proposal: Discuss follow up, agree on lead by Claus in close cooperation with Ester.

1. Any Other Business and next meeting

Any other business

Next meeting: EG-C 14, 27-29 June 2022, Ameland (Netherlands) (preliminary)  
In order to prepare a schedule and reserve accommodation we need to fix a travel scheme. Proposed scheme: arrival on Monday 27th (approx. 1400), meeting/excursion up to Tuesday evening. Departure on Wednesday 29th with wrap up or last excursion in the morning (tbd). Discuss some financial issues. Further oral explanation by Robert/Ester.

1. Closing

The meeting will be closed no later than 12:15 on 26 April 2022.

**ANNEX 3: Action items arising from EG-C 13**

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**Expert Group Climate Change Adaptation**

**(EG-C 13)**

9 February 2022

Online meeting

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Action #** | **Agenda item** | **Actions agreed upon** | **Person responsible** | **Deadline** |
| 1 | 3 | presentation on the H2020 project RestCoast and others | Andreas | EG-C 14 |
| 2 | 4 | Agree with CVI developers (e.g., on sharing the report and reflections with workshop participants) | CWSS, chair | ASAP |
| 3 | 5 | 1st. draft workplan | Jacobus | EG-C 14 |
| 4 | 5 | Circulate list of activities, additional comments and/or approve | Robert, all | 1 May |
| 5 | 7 | Continue drafting a storybook with external (scientific) support | Claus, Ester, CWSS | EG-C 14 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| PREVIOUS MEETINGS | | | | |
| 12 | 7 | Presentation on alien species | Saa | Next meeting |
| 11 |  | Circulate TMAP list | Robert | ASAP |
| 11 |  | Email chair on required persons TMAP workshop | DK | ASAP |
|  | EG-C7/5 | Summarise CVI main conclusion and turn those to recommendations for the next trilateral working period/review the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (CCAS) and to communicate results | all | Next WSB meeting |

**ANNEX 4: Activities of EG-C for 2022**

Overview of possible activities by EG-C  
Year 2022 (before ministerial conference)

**Introduction**In EG-C meeting #12 the group brainstormed on objectives and possible activities. This gives input for a workplan for coming trilateral working period and for the remaining period until the Ministerial Conference 2022. This document summarizes the suggestions for activities for the remaining time in 2022. Purpose of this overview is to feed discussion in EG-C meeting #13. Purpose is to decide what we can and will do, and what will be done later, or not at all. Below follows a list of proposed activities resulting from the brainstorm, a brief description and proposal how to continue.

**Draft a workplan for 2023-2026**This activity is important and should have our attention in 2022. The WSB has expressed that CCA is an important topic that should get serious attention within the trilateral coorperation. Drafting a more complete workplan, including insight in needed capacity and financial means is an important step to be effective in the next working period. Suggestion was made to select few activities on which we can really work (like CVI in this period)  
*Proposal*: take sufficient time to prepare this. Start a.s.a.p. and discuss first draft in EG-C meeting june,   
Lead by: Jacobus will prepare first draft, including SMART activities and product(s).

**Organization of the group**  
Ambitions on the topic on CCA are large. However, from past period we learn that ambitions and means of the expert group are not in balance. This includes capacity for a pro-active chair.   
*Proposal*: address this dilemma to the national delegations by writing a memo. Goal would be to have a clear and more explicit list of tasks and responsibilities. Memo includes recommendations for the members of the group and consideration for appointing a new chair (with more “time”).  
Lead by: Robert – goes along with what Jacobus will start. Robert would like to look at a fresh new chair with more time and capacity. Robert will address that first in the national lines. Robert will work less next year.

**Update CCAS (and its priorities)**  
The present climate change adaptation strategy dates from several years ago and could use an update. At the same time, main aim and principles do not seem (very) outdated. Looking at the priorities, we have to conclude that after 2 working periods several priorities have not been completed. Given the increasing speed of climate change this should be of concern, and implementation could use a boost. This is however not solely the responsibility of EG-C. Finally, if we update the strategy or priorities now, there is insufficient time to incorporate this in the upcoming MD.   
*Proposal*: include activity in the workplan 2023-2026, and make explicit on which priorities EG-C will work (like in this period on the CVI)  
 **Information platform update**  
*Proposal*: the group has already decided to leave the platform as it is now. A respective note on the status (updated until November 2019?, end of Interreg Building with Nature project), will be included on the website https://www.waddensea-worldheritage.org/ccap. To be confirmed by the group

**Presentation on climate effects**  
Robert Zijlstra has presented on this topic to the WSB in September 2021. This presentation is available for other purposes too. Question related to this activity is also to whom we want to present.  
*Proposal*: no need for an additional presentation -> does the group agree? And include new ideas on communication in the workplan 2023-2026

**Continuation CVI work**The EG-C has contributed to the development and test of the Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) on the Wadden Sea in past years. Activities could be continued, questions is what we want to do. The second phase (Economical, social and cultural) knew its limitations and could be extended. However, is this the core of EG-C work, shouldn’t the group focus on morphology/ecology? Which was covered in phase 1 of the CVI.

*Proposal*: Develop proposal for the board how to continue with CVI method. First thoughts (open for discussion): leave ESC as it is. And CVI fase 1 results can be further elaborated in next working period, e.g. distinguish morphological elements like tidal flats, salt marshes, etc and e.g. include vulnerability of Flyway and Swimway. This could be done together with other groups. Proposal for the board should include financial proposal.

Lead by: Julia and Robert (develop proposal and deliver to WSB along with phase 2 results.

**QSR Report**Some members of the EG-C are involved in the update of QSR chapters. EG-C does not consider itself responsible for QSR chapters, but the groups has offered to help by doing reviews and help to provide information

Chapter Coastal protection: this chapter was last updated few years ago and is still up2date.   
Chapter Climate/climate ecosystems: EG-C has proposed to the authors to merge these chapters and update this to a more compact chapter giving an overall view of impact of climate change on a system level. This update was delayed by limited capacity by Robert, but aim is still to have this ready before the conference end of 2022.

*Proposal*: update chapter coastal defense in next working period (around 2024?): Lead by: <TBD>  
*Proposal*: update chapter climate before end of year. Lead by: Robert

**Ministerial conference**The group will prepare an animation on the impact of climate change on the ecosystem. So far no other contributions/activities are foreseen. A simple additional action to raise awareness for climate change adaptation could be to develop a flyer with brief description of impact of climate change on the Wadden Sea using a.o. CVI results (mainly fase 1).

*Proposal*: continue animation, no other activities at the conference foreseen. Decide upon this meeting.

**Discuss implementation of NBS**A follow up project to the Interreg Nature based solution project is being prepared and will be submitted soon. Several organizations involved in the trilateral cooperation will also work on this project (If accepted).   
*Proposal*: follow Interreg activities, no EG-C activity. NBS to be included in adaptation options. CWSS to stimulate a trilateral cooperation between salt marsh cases NL, D, DK (??).

**Climate monitoring, TMAP**Monitoring impact and effects of climate change is import to know what is happening to the (eco)system, and it is also expected to become a more explicit demand by Unesco to monitor impact of climate change on the OUV. This was one of the reasons to also pilot the CVI. Mr. Kellerman has approached EG-C for strategic advice and help on implementing climate monitoring in TMAP. So far, progress is limited. TMAP aims to organize an expert work shop on climate monitoring.

*Proposal*: contribute on a low-profile basis to the implementation of climate monitoring in TMAP. Robert/Claus to approach Adi

**Explore adaptation measures**  
*Proposal*: this was also mentioned as activity for 2023-2026. Include in next working period.

**Activities to pick up later ( to be included in the workplan 23-26)**

* Options for adaptation and increasing resilience
* Dilemma natural dynamics and nature conservation
* Increase visibility EG-C
* Organize webinar’s, symposia