*Question 1: CCA/DRR Integration*

**How is climate change adaptation currently integrated in the existing national and subnational DRR plans, national risk assessments and relevant actions in your country (e.g. flood management, forest fire protection, drought management, heat waves planning and storm emergency planning)?**

On the national level, Disaster Risk Reduction in the Netherlands is coordinated by the Ministry of Security and Justice (<https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-security-and-justice>), whereas climate change adaptation is in the hands of the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (<https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-infrastructure-and-the-environment>).

The integration of the two fields has increased over the past years. Climate change is for instance integrated/mainstreamed in the flood risk strategy (which also includes disaster management) and fresh water management, and is in the process of being integrated/mainstreamed in spatial development (urban development and critical infrastructure). The Delta Programme (since 2010) is a programme in which all authorities jointly develop policies and implement measures to adapt on the water related impacts of climate change (increased rainfall, sea level rise, changing river dynamics and droughts and heat). <http://english.deltacommissaris.nl/>)

Historically, flood risk management in the Netherlands has been primarily based on protection (i.e. reducing the probability of a flood by building levees, storm barriers and dams) and disaster management. The threat of climate change has led to a rethinking of the risk assessment approach and resulted in a three-layered flood risk reduction strategy, including i) protection, ii) preventive spatial development and iii) disaster management. The preventive spatial development focusses on increasing the climate and flood-robustness of the built-up area and critical infrastructure. Disaster risk management mainly focuses on early warning, evacuation and contingency plans

The three-layered risk reduction approach originates from the idea that a 100% protection can never be guaranteed, and that also measures should be in place to reduce the consequences of a flood in the rare case that protection fails. In the flood risk strategy, the potential increase of future risks due to climate change and socio-economic developments (demographic development and urbanization) are taken into account.

*Question 2: Good practices*

**What are in your opinion examples of good practices of integration and/or synergy of CCA and DRR in your country? Both national and subnational examples (links and references) of organizational and implementation practices are welcome.**

DRR with respect to climate change is primarily about the management of disasters due to weather extremes. Climate change is expected to increase both the frequency and intensity of these extremes. Therefore the integration of climate change and DRR is inevitable. The Dutch Delta Programme is a good example of an integrated approach towards CCA and DRR (see above). The Delta Programme combines national policy frameworks with regional tailor made strategies. Specific policy objectives and measures are formulated regarding the prevention of casualties and fatalities and the performance of critical services and infrastructure (like energy supply, communications, hospitals) (see for more info <http://english.deltacommissaris.nl/>) .

Another example is the forthcoming National Adaptation Strategy on Climate Change. Here a risk frame for the climate related risks in the Netherlands has been developed, encompassing economical risks, personal risks and environmental risks. In this way the Climate Change risks are presented as part of the ‘normal DRR’ approach with easy links to potential measures and responsible actors. PBL 2015. (see <http://www.pbl.nl/publicaties/aanpassen-aan-klimaatverandering-kwetsbaarheden-zien-kansen-grijpen> for a comprehensive report in Dutch, see <http://www.pbl.nl/en/publications/adaptation-to-climate-change-in-the-netherlands> for an extended summary in English)

Also as part of the National Adaptation Strategy, two local case studies/stress tests have been executed in order to assess the risks of cascading climate change effects. (see overall report <http://www.ruimtelijkeadaptatie.nl/k/nl/n88/news/view/1548/245/simulaties-naar-keteneffecten-bij-extreem-weer-leveren-belangrijke-conclusies-op.html>. The information is yet only available in Dutch)

As a good example of transboundary awareness raising and collaboration can be mentioned the initiative on the level of the BENELUX with a conference on CC risks and adaptation in 2014: <http://www.benelux.int/nl/kernthemas/leefmilieu/conferentie-klimaatadaptatie-de-be> , and a workshop on DRR and CCA in 2015: <http://www.benelux.int/nl/nieuws/benelux-workshop-over-klimaatverandering-en-rampenrisicovermindering>.

*Question 3: Views on new EEA 2017 CCA/DRR report*

**What specific topics could the EEA 2017 CCA/DRR report cover in order to support the respective activities at national or subnational level in your country?**

The report could provide support to the statement that risk reduction, preparation and prevention are sensible investments that pay off in terms of reduced loss of life, avoided damage and disruption, and long-term economic growth and stability. Moreover it could make a case to support to integrate the concept of risk prevention with long-term planning, allowing communities and decision makers to identify and exploit opportunities for synergies with planned investments, including plans for adaptation to climate change. This underlines the importance of integrating the reactive DRR domain and proactive CCA domain (reducing future CC related risks) and highlighting the responsibilities of actors to address CC in the risks assessment.

The report could also highlight the value of the recent conventions and protocols that already integrate the DRR and CCA, such as the Sendai convention and Sustainable development goals. Within member states this could be established by integrating climate change in national risk assessments and by timely integrating CC in infrastructural developments (high investments and long turnover times!).

Finally, highlight the importance of case studies/stress tests as an tool to bring the different actors in a region or on a location together and increase the awareness of risks in that region or location and the interaction with climate change (see above the link to recent example in the Netherlands).