

The road to a trilateral research agenda

Prof.dr. Jouke van Dijk, Director Waddenacademie


Presentation for Wadden Sea Board,
Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, March 10, 2016



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Background

- The necessity for a Trilateral Research Agenda for the Wadden Sea Region originates from the declarations from the Trilateral Ministers meetings 2010 and 2014, stating that:
- Sylt-declaration 2010, pkt. 41: "Support the establishment of a trilateral research platform directly connected with existing national networks. The platform will elaborate a trilateral agenda for policy-relevant research in consultation with the Board..."
- Tønder-declaration 2014 pkt. 63: "Encourage discussions by the scientific community and policy makers on the major policy issues and related knowledge as a basis for further developing a trilateral research agenda and a trilateral research platform."



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Priorities of the Dutch presidency of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation June 2015:

7. Scientific agenda for the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site:

The Wadden Sea has long been a site of much and diverse scientific research. For good management of the World Heritage Site there are plenty of questions that will require common and better coordinated research.

Objective: A coherent scientific agenda, relevant to the World Heritage Site which supports decision-making on current and future issues, captures the interest of young scientists and promotes scientific cooperation between institutions.



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Spring 2015: Start

Trilateral supertrio installed by the Wadden Sea Board:

Mette Guldborg (Denmark);
Karsten Reise (Germany)
Jouke van Dijk (Netherlands, chair)

Support and coordination by CWSS (Folkert the Jong)



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Summer 2015: Installation five subgroups

1. Geosciences	
DK Jesper Bartholdy	Chair
DE Alexander Bartholomä	
NL Hessel Speelman	
2. Ecology	
DK Karsten Laursen	
DE Christian Buschbaum	
NL Katja Phillippart	Chair
3. Economy and Society	
DK Torben Dall-Schmidt	Chair
DE Ingo Mose	
NL Jouke van Dijk	
4. Cultural Heritage	
DK Mette Guldborg	
DE Beate Ratter	Chair
NL Meindert Schroor	
5. Climate and Water	
DK Aart Kroon	
DE Horst Sterr	
NL Pier Vellinga	Chair



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Summer 2015 – summer 2016: Working process subgroups

The subgroups write an overall outline of 3-4 pages of themes and issues within their field. The outline serves as a starting point for a broad discussion among scholars in the same field at a workshop. The subgroups finish their report concluding with suggestions for 5-10 important research questions within its field.

The report contains an outline of

- Major achievements and persisting gaps of knowledge (5-10 most important research questions)
- Main questions relevant for policy
- Suggestions for transdisciplinary themes

The final report per subgroup is 3-4 pages.



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Planned activities

Cuxhafen, October 2015: workshop of 16 scientists from Cultural History and Economics

Delmenhorst, April 2016: workshop 10 scientists from Geology

Texel, June 2016: Workshops for Ecologist and Water and Climate in combination with the Waddenacademie Symposium on Cumulative effects and the Ecopotential meeting

Husem, December 2016: Waddenacademie symposium on Cultural History



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NEXT: Summer 2016 – February 2017: draft version trilateral research agenda

On the basis of the outlines from the subgroups, the working group will write a draft version for a trilateral research agenda. This draft version will be circulated in due time prior to the Trilateral Scientific Symposium in Denmark in February 2017.

February 2017 – February 2018 : Trilateral Scientific Symposium and follow-up

At the symposium a broad range of scholars gets the opportunity to comment on the work and give input to further content or enhancements. The super trio will subsequently finish the proposal, so it will be ready to be presented to the ministers' conference in early 2018.

.... 2018: Ministers' conference

The trilateral research agenda is presented to the ministers' conference in the Netherlands 2018.



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