

## **LAND-SEA INTERREGIONAL MEETING 3**

### **HAMBURG**

#### **PREPARATION PAPER**

Hamburg has various interests into the areas of flood protection, coastal management and tourism. Many examples could be found within the city. Starting with the HafenCity, a relatively new quarter of the city build in front of the dikes with a huge acceptance by tourist. There new ways had to be found to protect houses, inhabitants and visitors alike.

Also flood protection buildings have in some parts to be integrated into the everyday life of inhabitants and tourists which has been achieved e.g. with the redesigned and in some parts new build flood protection building between the underground stations Landungsbrücken and Baumwall. An area directly at the edge of the port with huge touristic activities.

Furthermore the beaches along the banks of the river Elbe, passing directly through the city of Hamburg, are highly liked and used by inhabitants and visitors. They also have to setup in a way that houses at the river bank are protected, even in the event of a heavy storm flood.

The last point to consider is the management of tourism in preserved areas, like e.g. the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer”. Economically interests have to be brought into balance with the needs for environmental protection and the protection of wildlife.

For the meeting in Hamburg we will focus on two topics out the four mentioned. The first day will start with a presentation about the topic of flood protection.

On the second day we will visit the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” to have more insights onto the questions of coastal protection and ecological preservation.

Further information's are provided on the following pages.

## 1. “Multi-purpose flood protection infrastructure with the focus on the City of Hamburg”

Following up on the demand to manage and accommodate various needs and demands of different stakeholder groups in spatial planning and flood risk management (e.g. Harmonisation of the WFD 2000/60/EC and FD 2006/60/EC), the urban and natural areas are increasingly being (re)designed as multi-purpose spaces.

Consequently, the purpose and design of dikes, walls, polders or flood plains is being reconsidered aiming at creating 'added value' and multiple benefits of flood protection infrastructure in addition to their main function.

However, this main function, being the flood protection, must not be endangered or reduced to an unacceptable level. Meanwhile, there is a number of projects and initiatives with the main goal to identify such spaces and develop a set of criteria for their selection and design (e.g. FP 7 projects PEARL and RISCKit).

This presentation will outline the main requirements and considerations when (re)-designing the flood protection infrastructure including the aspect of tourism. It will give some examples and outline the main ongoing initiatives and projects, mainly focusing on the City of Hamburg. It will also discuss the possibilities and limitations of such multiple use.

## 2. National Park „Hamburgisches Wattenmeer“

On the second day of our partner meeting in Hamburg we will visit the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” located on and around the island of Neuwerk.

The Wadden Sea is a large system of sand and mud with dynamic processes, functioning undisturbed by other factors. It reaches out about 500 km on the coastline of three countries: Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. In 2009 the Wadden Sea has become UNESCO-world heritage, since 2011 the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” is part of it.



To preserve the nature, the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” has been founded in 1990. The Island Neuwerk also has become model region for sustainable economic activities and is part of the UNESCO-biosphere reserve since 1992.

With 13.750 hectare the national park “Hamburgisches Wattenmeer” is the smallest of three Wadden Sea-national parks. On over 90 % of its territory nature has priority.

As a second goal visitors shall experience the nature and its environment, as long as there is no collision with the aim to preserve nature. On the eastern part of the island Neuwerk visitors can walk along rest and bread places of different bird species; on a hike along the so called “Kleiner Vogelsand” seals can be spotted.

## Characteristics

Founded in 1990 by the Hamburgische Bürgerschaft, the parliament of the federal state of Hamburg, the national park is located 105 km outside from the main territory of



Hamburg on the delta of the river Elbe. Beneath Neuwerk the national park also consist of the islands Scharhörn und Nigehörn.

40 residents live on Neuwerk over the whole year. Around 120.000 people are regular visitors, who also have the chance to stay there for e.g. vacation. They are accompanied by roundabout 2.000 different species like birds, fish and seals.

Even though the national park is used economically for e.g. agriculture, fishery, costal preservation, shipping and tourism.

## UNESCO World Heritage

The national park "Hamburgisches Wattenmeer" is the smallest world heritage reservation of Germany. It was recognised as biosphere within the 1992 UNESCO-program "Man and Biosphere" (MAB). Its aim is to promote sustainable economic activities consistent with conservation of nature. This includes biological diversity, sustainable development and cultural preservation.

With the regognition of Hamburgs part of the Wadden Sea all German parts of the Wadden Sea have finally become part of the worldheritage together with its neighbouring parts from the Netherlands and Denmark. With an area of about 10.000 square kilometers the Wadden Sea is home to a hughe diversitiy of different spicieses and natural events. The Wadden Sea has become a place of rest for millions of birds on their way to Afrika or back to Europe at spring and fall of the year.

And the Wadden Sea is on the same level with the Grand Canyon (USA) and the Greate Barrier Reef in Australia, whiche are also part of the World Heritage Sites named from the UNESCO.