

#### Sandscaping Innovative coastal management, working with nature for multiple benefits

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Inspiration

Perspiration

Where could it work?

Will it happen?







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Zandmotor: Built in 2011 Size: 21.5m m<sup>3</sup> Cost: £60m Design life: 20 years

Photos Joop van Houdt, Rijkswaterstaat

# **Zandmotor in the Netherlands**

Flood defence (legal standard)

Experiment for long term sustainable coastal management:

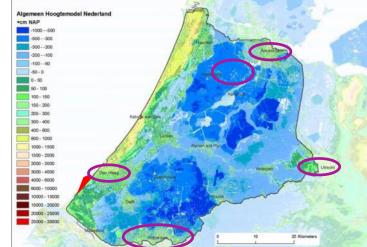
- Reduce cost of nourishment
- Reduce disturbance of habitats £50m

#### Creating opportunity:

- Tourism and recreation
- New habitats in dredging areas and on the Zandmotor

#### Fifth anniversary:

- All happy!
- No final conclusions yet









£10m



# **NL context: Innovation policy**

- Water Management is 1 of 9 'Top Sectors' in NL:
  - Driven by national urgency + export potential
  - Focus, funding & facilities

UK

- Similar to UK BIS' Eight Great Technologies
- Explicit policy to experiment with sandy solutions for the coast
  - Essential for NL to find new solutions
  - Acceptance that innovative solutions may not always provide maximum value for money – need to take a risk!
  - Financial risk only: can't take risks with flood protection!



#### **NL context: Building with Nature**

Design to use natural processes to meet society's needs

- Oyster reefs
- Creating pioneer saltmarsh
- 'Feeding' mudflat development
- Zandmotor







#### Working with Natural Processes







#### **NL context: Multiple benefits**

Flood risk investment as a driver for 'spatial quality':

- Government pays for flood risk management
- Expects local partners to match fund for spatial quality

Compare with Partnership Funding: similar but different







# **Bring in the Dutch?**



Not: big Dutch solutions; the context is too different

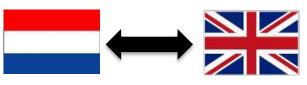


- Inspiration from '**Delta approach**': everyone working together to solve a national problem
- Translate & apply **innovations** developed with NL government funding

UK leads the world in flood response in maximising Return on Investment:  $\rightarrow$  Export products!









# NL to UK

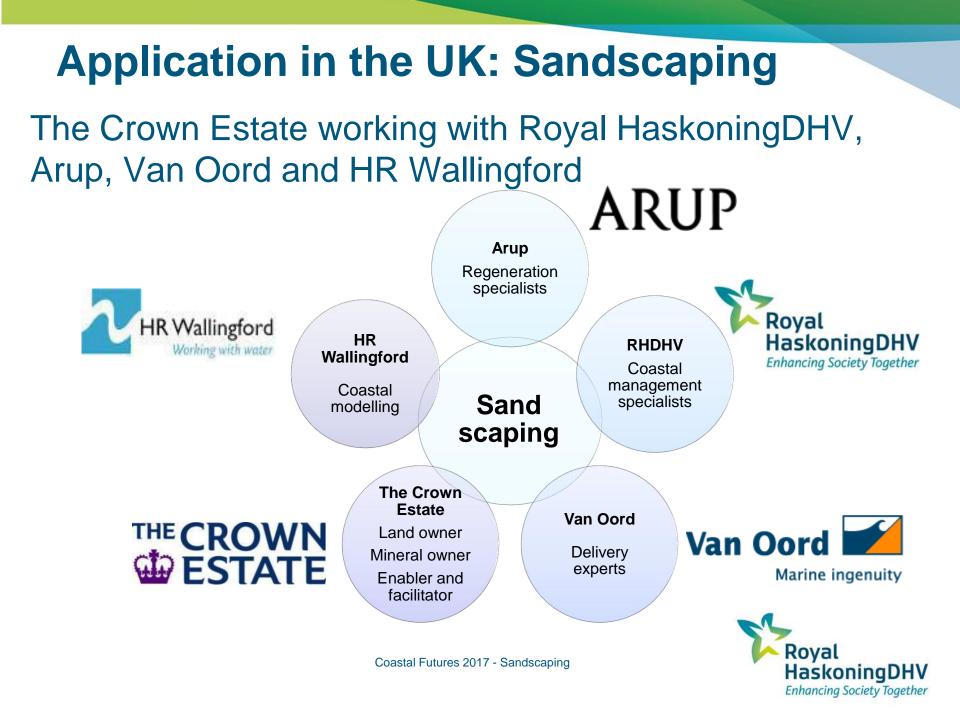
#### Inspirational...

- Large scale & innovative nature
- Multi-functional & multi-funding solution
- Adaptive
- Transformational
- ...But could it work in the UK?
- More complex coastlines
- Different governance & funding





**Enhancing Society Together** 



# Catalyst for coastal communities

## **Application in the UK: Sandscaping**

#### What are we doing?

- National: profiling & enabling
- High-potential Sites
- Work with local parties on local cases





## So what is Sandscaping?

- Soft coastal management
  - → sand or shingle, or even mud
- Design to make use of natural processes
  - → can be more natural & more efficient
- Large scale
  - $\rightarrow$  to influence processes & create economies of scale
- Multi-functional = Multi-fundable
  - → reduce risk but also create opportunity
- Flexible with a medium-term functional life
  - $\rightarrow$  buying time for adaptation
- Long-shore interaction
  - → potential for sequence of benefits

In the right place, and if designed well!









## What will it take?

- Local ownership & drive
- Competitive business case
- Acceptable uncertainty



- Win-Win → Partnership of those who benefit & are willing to pay
- Please In My Back Yard





#### Sandscaping (with shingle) in Suffolk





Burningham, H. & French, J. 2014



- Slaughden:
- Confirmed that it can work: 1.2M m<sup>3</sup> for 50 years

HR Wallingford, 2016

• Next step: consenting and funding  $\rightarrow$  maximise additional benefits



#### **Potential in Wales**

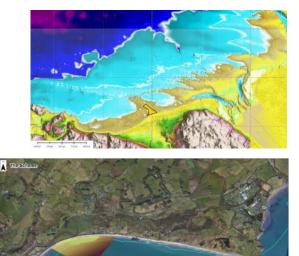
First sandscaping studies in 2011

#### Welsh Government's Coastal Risk Management Programme



Welsh Government

North Wales, Pwllheli







#### Penzance

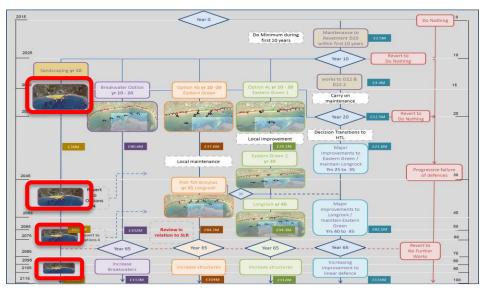
Decision pathway strategy

One of the options for the next 10 years

#### Drivers:

- Support regeneration
- Bring sediment to the shoreline







#### **Bacton, North Norfolk**



#### Conclusions

- Zandmotor NL is a promising example of innovative coastal management: building with nature, multi-benefits, efficiencies, adaptive
- Sandscaping: Inspiration → Perspiration → Implementation
- Good example of UK benefitting from innovations tried & tested in NL
- Various promising locations on the UK coast





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