# STORM SURGE BARRIERS

integral part of the Coastal Defences in the Netherlands

# and I-STORM

Historical perspective, lessons learned and personal experiences

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## Japan – the Netherlands Long lasting relation on trade and knowledge sharing





From 1641 – 1853 Japan and the Netherlands had an intensive relationship in trade and knowledge exchange

Johannes de Rijke (1842-1913) and others helped with river management and building dikes

## Japan – the Netherlands Long lasting relation on trade and knowledge sharing















Part 1: Introduction

Rijkswaterstaat & personal introduction

#### Rijkswaterstaat



Rijkswaterstaat (RWS) is the operational agency of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management

Rijkswaterstaat is responsible for the design, construction, management and maintenance of the main infrastructure facilities in the Netherlands. This includes the main road network, the main waterway network and watersystems



#### Personal introduction

Marc Walraven, M.Sc. (Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management)

- Formerly District Manager and responsible for management and operations storm surge barriers in Rotterdam Region
- Senior advisor Storm Surge Barriers
- Leader Operational Closure Team Maeslant- and Hartel Barrier
- Co-founder and Member of the Board of I-STORM network
- Living at 3m below Mean Sea Level

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Part 2: Introduction

The Netherlands, Historical floodings & Lessons learned



### The Netherlands



- 17 million inhabitants
- Flat country with deep polders
- Coastal Delta of Northwest Europe with European rivers discharge in the North Sea
- 45% of Dutch borders is coastal
- 55-60% of the country is in floodplain (by sea and rivers)
- Subsidence is an increasing challenge too







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Wuppertal







I-STORM

Brecht

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## The Netherlands: A long history with flooding

#### Historical floods



- Early ages: swamps, regular flooding, houses on mounds
- Dynamic landscape with erosion & sedimentation
- Fertile, productive and accessible for ships

#### But also ...

- Major floods caused thousands of death people and wetlands (some are still nature reserves)
- Still regular flooding continued: 25 major floods between 1500 and 1953!

#### Floods always led to new protection measures



#### Major floods in the last 100 years & Lessons Learned

- 1916 North
- 1953 South West
- 1993/1995 Center
- South East



# **1916** North







Closure dam 'Afsluitdijk' of 32 kms offered many advantages, such as:

- Safety
- Fresh water reservoir
- New land for agricultural use and cities
- Better road connections

# **1953** South West













#### The Delta Plan provided:

- Safety law and regulations
- Dams and raised dikes
- Storm Surge Barriers



# **1993/95** Center











Nature Based Solutions introduced Room For The River Concept

# **2021** South East





New policies and measures for creeks in hilly region are being developed



## *Effect of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century floods*

- Every flood got it's response with dikes, Storm Surge Barriers and Nature Based Solutions
- And, apart from the disasterous effects, every flood brought new opportunities as well:
  - Road Infrastructure
  - Fresh water reservoirs
  - New land for agricultural use and new cities
  - Innovations such as movable Storm Surge Barriers
  - New policies regarding river space 'Room for the River'
  - A more integral approach to design for multipurpose use

#### And last but not least we learned that:



- Adaptation of a more integrated approach to water management is essential
- Flood protection demands a balanced combination of Nature Based Solutions and mechanical structures such as dikes, dams and Storm Surge Barriers

Part 3: Into the future

Delta Programme Long Term Strategies For the Netherlands

#### Delta Programme – 2100 and beyond



The Delta Programme protects the Netherlands against high water and flooding, ensures there is enough fresh water, and contributes to climate-resilient and waterrobust planning for our country



#### Ruimte voor zeespiegelstijging

Een verkenning van denkrichtingen om Nederland ook op lange termijn veilig en leefbaar te houden bij zeespiegelstijging



## Delta Programme – 2100 and beyond

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https://english.deltaprogramma.nl/documents/publications/2023/09/19/delta-programme-2024-english

#### POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF ACCELERATED SEA-LEVEL RISE



2018 https://bit/ly/2OArzxX

Deltares

Enabling Delta Life

**ANTARCTICA** 

Part 4: Storm Surge Barriers

Overview of Dutch Storm Surge Barriers



Maeslant Barrier - 1997



Haringvliet Sluices / Barrier - 1971



Eastern Scheldt Barrier - 1986





**Ramspol Barrier - 2002** 



Hollandse IJssel Barrier - 1958



Hartel Barrier - 1997

#### Hollandse IJssel Barrier - 1958



- 1<sup>st</sup> of Delta Works
- 2 vertical lift gates
- 1 sluice
- 80m / 250ft width

Lowest point of the Netherlands: -6,74m / -22 ft





#### Eastern Scheldt Barrier - 1986



- 62 gates
- 42m / 138ft width per gate
- 6-12m/ 20-40ft height per gate
- 1 sluice
- 2 artificial islands
- Total stretch 9km/5.6mi







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#### Maeslant Barrier - 1997



- 2 horizontal floating gates
- No sluice
- 360m / 1180ft width
- 22m / 72ft height





#### Ramspol Barrier - 2002



- 3 Inflatable gates
- No sluice
- 80m / 260ft per gate
- 10m / 33ft diameter



# Each Storm Surge Barrier is different













#### Storm Surge Barriers do have typical characteristics

- Mostly unique design and one of a kind
- Sub systems mostly designed for other use (i.e. frequent use) than used in a storm surge barrier
- Low frequency of closures or full tests

- > Full test is difficult (shipping, required water levels)
- > High reliability requirements (no possibility to close a lane or lower speed like on other assets)
- > Low chance on a failure required, extreme high risk
- Governmental organisations are mostly fully responsible
- Operations team and trained staff have a crucial role in achieving level of reliability though knowledge and experience are crucial!



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Part 5: Storm Surge Barriers

# Examples of unforeseen experiences & introduction to lessons learned

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Worldwide focus is on optimising costs in design and construction, but the reliability of a storm surge barrier is determined by

## Management, Maintenance & Operations (MMO) as a daily business

#### for another 100-200 years

Some examples as an introduction to lessons learned

## Lessons Learned – 25 years Maeslant Barrier





INS BEDRUFSINFORMATE

2017

2022

#### Achtergronden ontwerp Maeslantkering

Reflecties in een tactisch verbindend perspectief



أجادوامو



#### Lessons Learned

### Coastal Flood Risk Reduction

The Netherlands and the U.S. Upper Texas Coast



Edited by Samuel Brody, Yoonjeong Lee and Baukje Bee Kothuis



Book

#### CHAPTER 20

#### Design, maintain and operate movable storm surge barriers for flood risk reduction

#### Marc Walraven", Koos Vrolijk", and Baukje Bee Kothuis<sup>b,c</sup>

Melainy of Information and Water Management, Rajkmassemata, Rostendum, Nichorko de Department of Hydraufik Rajkwenting and Filod Raik, Fandry of Chell Engleser ing and Geosciences, Delb University of Technology, Delb, The Netherland "Netherlands Human Support Office, Housean, TX, United Szere

#### Introduction

After the food disater of 1953 in the Netherlands, it was dear that a new form of coastal defense was urgently needed. The Dutch chose to shorten the coastline, whereby part of the coastal linlet was completely closed off with dams and another part was provided with movable sorm surge barriers. The so-called Delta Works were implemented, and in a period of about 45 years, six movable barriers were constructed. They were all the first of their kind prototypes of which by now various features have been applied in some form or another in several places around the globe (a.o. Daniel & Paulus, 2019). At multiple locations, possibilities for building a barrier or upgrading an existing barrier are currently being considered to protect coastal area against storms, sea-level rise, and possible future consequences of climate change. For example, in Rotterdam, the Masslant barrier faces a range of challenges caused by potential sea-level rise (Delares, 2019). Similarly, in the Houston Galveston Bay region, shortening of the coastline by means of a Coastal Spine is being considered following Hurricane Ike (2008), and a movable storm surge barrier in the Houston Ship Channel has been included in the preliminary design (USACE & TGLO, 2020).

Over the years, storm surge barriers have proven to incorporate a number of very specific characteristics that have a significant impact on their management, maintenance, and operations (MMO). In the process, many lessors have been learned worldwide about the use of several types of barriers similar to those in the Delta Works, and a number of new designs have also been developed. Sharing these valuable lessors amongst barriers, worldwide, is one of the main aims of the LSTOR M<sup>+</sup> network (LSTORM, 2020).

\* I-STORM is the international knowledge-sharing network for all those working in the storm surge barrier profession. See also www.i-storm.org.

Castal Real Rick Reductor https://doi.org/10.1016/2978-0-323-85251-7.00020-2 Copyright © 2022 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. 27

Chapter about Storm Surge Barriers

#### Design, maintain and operate movable storm surge barriers 279

Table 2 Dynamic environment of storm surge barriers.

Type of dynamic environment	Brample of dynamics
Politics, policy, law and regulation changes	<ul> <li>Shift from mainly focus on managing flood risk to also include attention to environmental aspects.</li> <li>Awareness of the need for flood affety measures decreases the longer no flood disates occur; this leads to paradoxical feature: high flood safety level because of high flood risk means less attention and thus (political) support for flood risk reduction measures.</li> </ul>
Organizational and process changes	<ul> <li>Changing relationship between market and government. Shift from 'all technical knowledge in-house at govern- ment level' to 'obtaining technical knowledge from market parties' to 'part of the technical knowledge in- house and partly from the market'.</li> </ul>
Technological changes and innovation	<ul> <li>Application of new types of materials and new design processes. For example, hydraulic laboratories used to be built and operated manually (e.g., the Mississippi River Model in Vichburg; and Witerloopkundig Laboratory in Hevopolder) and are now built and operated mainly by computerized systems (e.g., the Lower Mississippi River Physical Model at LSU Baron Rouge, LA; and the Delta Hume at Deltares in Delti).</li> <li>Shift from structural softsy (on construction and material knowledge) dative in by the development of K/T technology.</li> <li>New potential theats and needs for security: e.g., cyber security.</li> </ul>
Knowledge and craftsmanship changes	<ul> <li>Additional requirements, for example resulting from the demand for multifunctionality, require additional and different types of knowledge.</li> <li>In the Netherlands, many barriers were built after the 1953 distater, a strong new knowledge impulse. The level of safety became so high, that for decades no new barriers have been built: knowledge and (human) knowledge carriers become obsoleto or even disuppear.</li> </ul>
Physical environment changes	<ul> <li>Sea level rise, dimate change, higher/lower levels of river discharge</li> <li>Increasing amount of shipping, for example resulting in a higher chance of colliding with a storm surge barsier.</li> </ul>

increasing amount of (potential) additional functions is becoming relevant, mostly related to creasing economic, recreasional, ecological, or sustainable energy benefits. Think of additional design to enable fish migration (e.g., at the Haringyliet Barrier) or to incorporate turbines to generate energy from tidal motion (e.g., at the Eastern Scheldt Barrier). For MMO, this means for the first case monitoring and maintaining an extra opening in

#### First conceptual model of 'Lessons Learned'

Conceptual model

Topics with impact on the reliability of a storm surge barrier during its lifetime

# Two examples



## Example 1

Ball Joint Maeslant Barrier

#### **Example 1:** Ball Joint Maeslant Barrier

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#### Example 1: Ball Joint





# The ball joint: a 10 m steel ball rotating in a steel hollow. Designed to be <u>'maintenance friendly'</u>

#### Already after 5 years (and only test closures)

- Technical problem: Unexpected rapidly wear of the coating of the steel hollow
- Additional environmental problem: New laws blocked the use of specialized coating
- Short term: Additional maintenance turned out to be no permanent solution
  - Longer term: Alteration of design with hard plastic disks (cost ¥ 653.480.000,- / € 4.000.000,- 2002 rate)

# Example 1: Ball Joint



#### **Example 2:** Gulls have recently been declared being endangered species



#### **Example 2:** Gulls have recently been declared being endangered species





- Nests are not allowed to be disturbed
- Interfering with Maintenance Season
- Prevention is crucial, but costly

#### Effect: Developing urgent but costly measurements



<page-header>

- Special covers were designed
- These have to be placed and removed by contractor every year
- And 'last but not least' . . . .



These experiences aren't unique, but occur all over the world due to the unique nature and characteristics of storm surge barriers

これらの経験は特別なものではありませんが、防潮堰の特殊性と特徴性により、すべての世界中で発生します。



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Part 6: International

*I-STORM* 



#### Introduction to I-STORM

An international knowledge sharing network

- For Storm Surge Barrier (SSB) professionals around the world
- Sharing knowledge and experience to improve management, maintenance and operation of SSBs
- To better protect people, places and property from flooding
- Established in 2006



#### Introduction to I-STORM





We share Knowledge and experience of SSB's to

- Continuously improve barrier operations, management and performance
- Optimise SSB's performance within Flood Risk Systems
- Inform concept and development of new barriers
- Understand the impacts of environmental factors such as climate change on SSB's to help us to adept in future
- Collaborate on research and development



#### Annual Meetings Rotterdam June 2022

**I-STORM** 

ANNUAL MEETING









#### Peer Reviews & Other Reviews

#### **Peer Reviews**

- Thames Barrier, UK (2010)
- Eastern Scheldt Barrier, NL (2011)
- Ramspol Barrier, NL (2012)
- Maeslant Barrier, NL (2014)
- New Orleans Barriers, US (2018)
- Venice, IT (2023)

#### **Document Reviews**

- Venice (2012)
- New Orleans (2013)

#### **Operational Review**

• Venice, IT (2019)





#### Gate Design Workshops

- Galveston, US (2019)
- Philadelphia, US (2022)
- London, Thames Barrier II, UK (2023)
- Copenhagen, Denmark (2024)





### **I-STORM** Communications

- Surge newsletter
- Webinars
- Website (www.i-storm.org)
- Twitter (twitter.com/ISTORMnetwork)
- LinkedIn (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8959685/
- I-STORM international team: enquiries@i-storm.org





Welcome to I-STORM

storm surge barriers

The international network for





I-STO

why we do the jobs we do, as this was the 70th anniversary of the 1953 flood. This flood was a North Sea surge which inundated areas of the east coast of Britain and the Netherlands and saw in total over 2000 people tragically lose their lives

Storm surge barriers are rightly giants in the business of flood risk management but that means that these assets carry a lot of responsibility for ensuring that events like the

I-STORM plays such a part in ensuring that this risk is managed and controlled and highlights even more the importance of our network and the good work that is happening under that banner. Please continue to link together and share knowledge and experience.

1953 tragedy never happen again

Andy

These photos show a tribute to the 70° anniversary we did in the UK, by lighting ou Barriers in areen

Contact: andrew.batchelor@environment-agency.gov.u



### I-STORM Communications

• Characteristics Table

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Barrier

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1b Barking Creek Barrier

An rising sector gates at 61m, 2x rising sector gates at 31m and 4x falling radial gates at 31m

38.6, map. 12 (b sizes)

moved every2 weeks) Part 7: Conclusive note

Sharing and collaboration is to the benefit of all

#### **Two conclusive notes** 2つの結論的なメモ

1. Nature Based Solutions and structures like Storm Surge Barriers as a balanced combination provide the solutions to climate change in the future

1. 自然に基づく解決策と防潮堰などの構造物を バランスよく組み合わせることで、将来の気 候変動に対する解決法を与えます。



#### **Two conclusive notes** 2つの結論的なメモ



2. Adaptability is crucial. We can learn from each others experiences in maintenance and operations of Storm Surge Barriers. It would be my pleasure to learn from and with you

2. 適応力が重要です。防潮堰の維持管理や運用の経験をお互いに学ぶことができます。皆様から、そして皆様と一緒に学ぶことができれば幸いです。

# THANK YOU どうもありがとうございます