



SEA for the Schelde Estuary Development Plan 2010 : Flanders and the Netherlands work together on a large scale water project of international importance

Outline

- **Where is the Schelde-estuary located?**
- **History and problem definition of the Schelde**
- **Studies**
- **SEA**
 - Procedure : how was the procedure constructed
 - Problems between legislation of two countries
 - Guidelines during the notification (starting notice)
 - Public participation during the SEA procedure
 - SEA versus EIA
- **Elements for discussion**
- **Next Steps**

Where is the Schelde estuary located



History en problem definition

- 2001 preliminary study “Long Term Vision” signed by both gouvernements
- Problem definition :
 - Accessibility of the Harbours (mainly the Harbour of Antwerp);
 - Nature: decrease of biotopes of significant international importance (Dutch and Flemish problem);
 - Safety against flooding (mainly a Flemish problem).
- Beginning of a joint project management between the Flanders en the Netherlands = ProSes (Project management Schelde Estuary).

Previous studies

- Nature Development plan
- 3 Social Cost Benefit Analysis
- Joint SEA made (two countries involved)
- Development plan 2010 for the estuary

The SEA

- **Procedure**
 - Establishing a procedure that can be accepted by both countries
- **Problems of differences in legislation**
 - Who is competent authority in a joint procedure
 - Identical guidelines for the environmental report
 - Differences in timing between legislation

The SEA

- Dutch EIA-commission versus common EIA – commission for the Netherlands and the Flanders
- Public participation (two moments: beginning of the SEA-procedure (starting notice and review of the env. report)
- Acceptance of the SEA by local authorities versus EIA

Elements for discussion

- Differences of legislation
- SEA versus EIA
- Advantage of public participation

Next steps

- Three transboundary EIA's
- Several domestic SEA's and EIA's
- Implementation of measures and projects