





# **The FAIR project** Optimising flood protection

Flooding poses a major risk of loss of life and economic damage in the North Sea Region (NSR). Flood protection is the cornerstone of our strategy for reducing these risks. The infrastructure assets that protect us from flooding in the NSR, such as dykes, sluices and dams, are ageing: many are 70-100 years old and often fail to perform to the desired level. The flood protection infrastructure needs to be renovated, adapted and maintained right across the NSR.

#### Aim of the project

The overall aim of the FAIR (Flood defense infrastructure Asset management & Investment in Renovation, adaptation, optimisation and maintenance) project is to reduce the flood risk across the NSR by demonstrating climate change adaptation solutions that will improve the performance of flood protection infrastructure.

#### **Project's approach**

FAIR demonstrates improved approaches for costeffective upgrading and maintenance, optimising investments across national system asset levels, as well as applying adaptive solutions. FAIR guides the full-scale implementation of climate adaptation solutions for dykes, sluices, dams, and flood gates at target sites in Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and The Netherlands.

#### **Project results**

The FAIR project will enhance climate change adaptation methods and techniques by demonstrating improved approaches for adaptive investment planning and adaptive techniques for upgrading existing flood protection infrastructure. The demonstration and subsequent widespread implementation of the improved approaches and techniques will reduce the probability of flooding and minimise the impact of floods across the NSR, thus improving climate resilience at target sites covering most of the NSR.

Facts & FiguresDuration:2015-2020Budget:4.5 millionLead Partner:Rijkswaterstaat



Target sites for FAIR in the NSR.

## Contact

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### Partners

A transnational approach plays a vital role in accelerating learning, as there is no budget or time for 'trial and error'. The asset owners are facing real problems and challenges whereas the scientists bring in domain expertise and innovative solutions. FAIR gathers them together in the NSR in the first collaboration of its kind. By sharing experience and knowledge FAIR will promote improved practise across the NSR.

