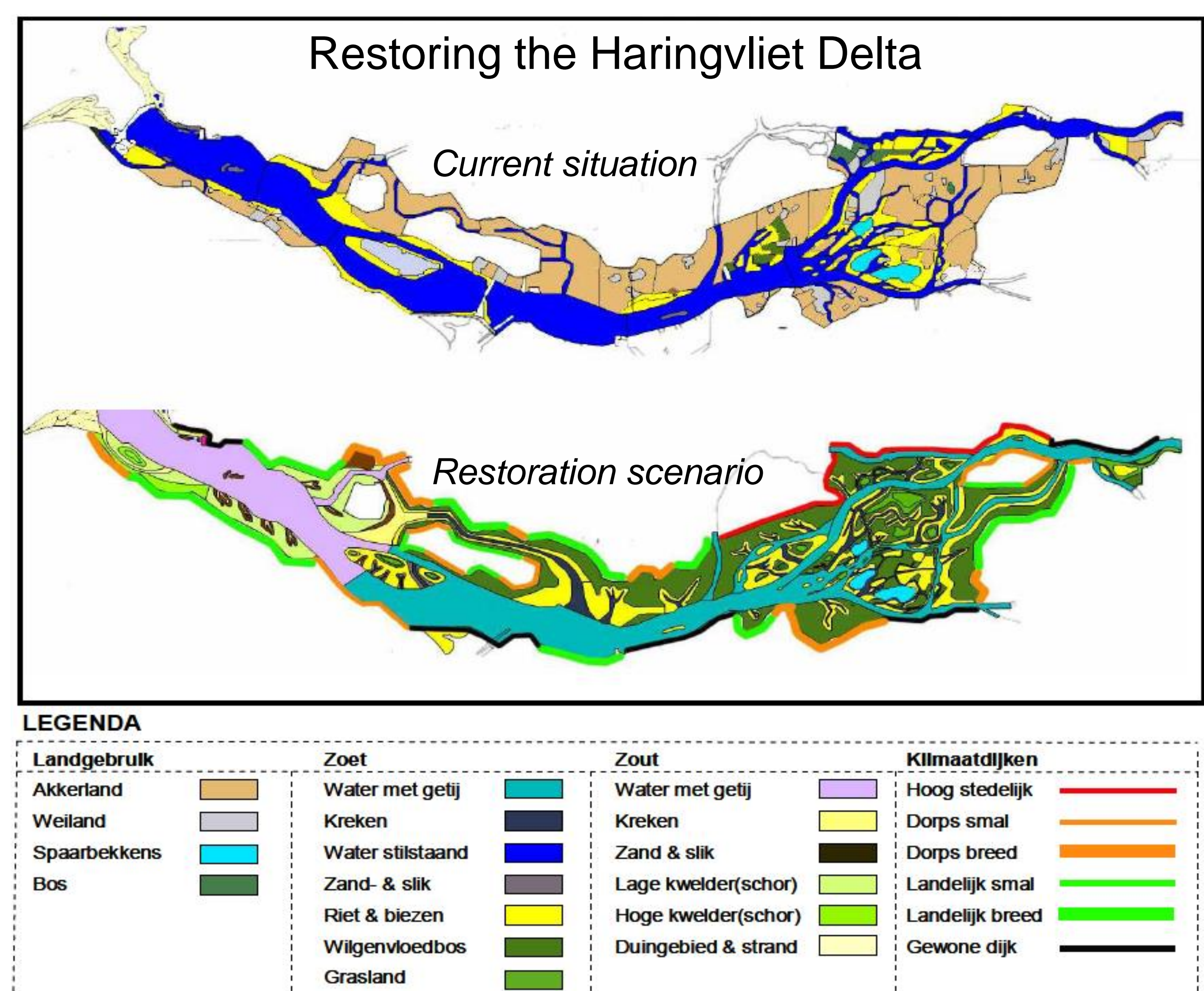


WHO WE ARE

- ★ The Institute for Environmental Studies (Instituut voor Milieuvraagstukken, IVM) is an interdisciplinary research institute at VU University Amsterdam that sits within the Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences (FALW).
- ★ IVM's mission is to contribute to sustainable development and care for the environment through scientific research and teaching. A unique feature of the institute is our capacity to cut through the complexity of natural-societal systems through novel interdisciplinary approaches.
- ★ Being the oldest environmental research institute in The Netherlands (est. 1971), IVM is currently one of the worlds leading institutes in sustainability science. IVM has been rated with the highest scores on scientific excellence
- ★ We receive each year over 120 MSc students and 15 PhD students in our teaching programs.

OUR EXPERIENCE

- ★ In the Environmental Economics Department of IVM, we focus on three themes.
- ★ First, we develop **economic models** to support complex decision-making, by simulating future economic developments and predict the economic consequences of a given policy (e.g. climate change, water quality).
- ★ Second, economic **policy instruments** are designed and evaluated to change behaviour and decision-making towards the environment.
- ★ Third, we are specialized in market and non-market **valuation approaches** such as choice experiments, meta-analysis and benefits transfer.
- ★ Novel valuation approaches are developed integrating economic values in GIS-based value maps to inform policy about the economic values associated with water, wetlands and biodiversity conservation.
- ★ IVM has written guidelines for water resource valuation under the EU Water Framework Directive.
- ★ We collaborate with other universities and research institutes worldwide on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB).
- ★ Currently several PhD students work in the department on different environmental valuation issues, developing and testing novel valuation methodologies in the area of, for example, flood risk valuation, climate change, and renewable energy.



WHAT WE DO IN ESMERALDA

- ★ IVM-VU will develop methods for generating and structuring economic information to support decision-making regarding ecosystem services. These include economic methods for mapping (e.g. primary valuation, value transfer) and assessment of ecosystem services (e.g. cost-benefit analysis, multi-criteria analysis, ecosystem service assessments, ecosystem service accounting and corporate ecosystem service reviews). Moreover, IVM will elaborate on the Dutch demonstration case: Restoring the Haringvliet.

WE ARE ALSO INVOLVED IN COMBIOSEERVE (EU), POLICYMIX (EU), WHaTer (EU), TEEB (EU), CLAIM (EU), OPERAs (EU), CLEANSEA (EU)



Pieter van Beukering

- ★ Environmental Economist, PhD
- ★ Associate Professor
- ★ Valuation of Ecosystem Services
- ★ Stakeholder engagement



Luke Brander

- ★ Environmental Economist, PhD
- ★ Valuation and mapping of Ecosystem Services (i.e. stated preference, benefit transfer)
- ★ Decision support methods