

# Sustainable Urban

# Deltas

CONFERENCE

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9 May 2016

at  
IABR-2016-  
THE NEXT ECONOMY  
Fenixloods II Rotterdam

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IABR-

Delta  
Coalition



Government of the Netherlands

We live in an urbanized world. More and more people move to cities every day in search of a better and more productive life. The rapid and ongoing urbanization puts an enormous stress on our urban landscape, and urban deltas are among the most vulnerable areas in the world. How can we make future deltas inclusive, sustainable productive, resilient, and livable for everyone?

How does this complex challenge affect work in the field? How can we transform ideas, recommendations, and policy into alliances, programs, and projects? What new strategies, methods, and development models can effectively contribute to these major transitions?

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DELTAS calls together governments and professionals from all over the world who share a commitment to make tomorrow's urban deltas more inclusive, sustainable, productive, and livable for all citizens.

Collaboratively, with keynote presentations and in breakout sessions, we will develop answers to these challenges. How can we transform ideas, recommendations, and policy into alliances, programs, and projects? What new strategies, methods, and development models can effectively contribute to these major transitions? Are there best practices we can learn from?

Working on the urban agenda is a collaborative effort. In developing solutions, cities and countries need to work together. Exchange of knowledge and best practices, and strengthening international networks of city makers is key.

We wish you an inspiring and productive day.

Kees Rade

Director Inclusive Green  
Growth / Ambassador  
Sustainable Development  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of The Kingdom of the  
Netherlands

George Brugmans

Executive Director  
International Architecture  
Biennale Rotterdam

Henk Ovink

Special Envoy for  
International Water Affairs  
for the Kingdom of  
The Netherlands

# Transformative capacity of resilience

The WEF's Global Risks Perception Surveys showcase over again that future risks (climate change, water crises, biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse, extreme weather events, natural catastrophes, manmade environmental catastrophes, etc.) are increasing in frequency and impact. Water is at the heart of this uncertain future, it is through water that we feel the impact of climate change the most. Water is essential for our economy, our social and cultural well-being and it defines our societies' vulnerability. It connects economy and ecology and with water all these risks and opportunities show a clear and strong interdependency on a regional, and often metropolitan scale. Although this increases the complexity of these risks and their impacts, this is also the scale where we (mankind) can adapt to and mitigate these risks! This is where we can and must act. And it is in deltas, urban deltas, where urbanization, opportunities and the increasing vulnerability meet up and where we can and must make a difference.

To encounter future's risks, impacts, uncertainties, their interdependencies but moreover the opportunities worldwide to mitigate and adapt towards these risks, we need to develop better and more productive ways of working on these challenges. The six aspects below describe some of the key ingredients. They are not only connected and interdependent - one without the other will cause a failing approach - the assessment of regions along these lines will also clarify their specific needs.

## 1. Long-term planning coupled with short-term innovative projects

We have to take the time to get a better understanding of risks, uncertainties and strengths, of our future challenges. A regional and comprehensive research is a necessity to understand the complexity of the issues at stake, their interdependencies and the risks-on-the-ground. Long term comprehensive planning is vital for defining the right response

and the ways forward to deal with this complexity. But long term strategies need to be coupled with short term innovative interventions that will withstand next year's elections. These projects will inspire and have a ripple effect in responses and follow-ups. It is through replication and up-scaling that their values and impact are spread across the world. The connection between planning and projects is critical. One without the other fails; plans are left alone on the shelves and projects become incidents. Connecting the comprehensive long term with implementation and innovation of today builds a strong and resilient approach.

## 2. Public-private funding

Public private partnerships, built on trust and mutual gains, need to be embedded in a process of transparency and accountability. Only then we can get to new ways of financing, matching public and private funds and funding. For this we need better benefit cost analyses (BCA's), better processes for monitoring and evaluation. The needed comprehensive long term approaches must be addressed in evaluations and analyses to increase transparency and attract donors, public and private. Key for both public and private stakeholders, BCA's now lack the capacity to capture comprehensive long term integrated resilience approaches. Monitoring ensures that all partners can guide the process and their own contributions and step in or up when needed. Evaluations - if rightly done and (politically) positioned - enable the loop back into existing structures to fix institutional mismatches and increase capacity, perform change and thus improve for truly better delivery towards next steps for resilience.

## 3. Coalition building and inclusive collaboration

Real change is cultural change and thus must start in the hearts and minds of the people of the region. Because of that understanding, matching up global talent with local talent is critical, partners of all backgrounds and with both the best professional skills as well as specific regional ties and personal convictions

need to be involved from the beginning. An open process built on trust, inclusiveness and participation, and aimed at innovation and inclusive cultural change, is key.

## 4. Building institutional capacity

A comprehensive approach demands a critical level of institutional capacity. For organizing the necessary inclusive processes and building a coalition among public and private stakeholders that ensures accountability and transparency. Capacity and ownership to move this comprehensive approach towards sustainable implementation. Building this up from the start is key for successful transformation and local as well as regional development. At the same time a strengthened institutional capacity is the inevitable result of such a process.

## 5. Programmatic approach

The programmatic approach is like the 'engine' that ensures the lasting connection between short and medium term interventions and the strategy (regional, comprehensive, long term). It connects decision making across political cycles with the implementation of the projects. And ensures a process of accountability and transparency with clear Benefit Cost Analyses (BCA), instruments of monitoring and evaluation to create - again - an enabling environment for (new) public private partnerships to emerge. This programmatic approach demands (and builds up) a critical level of institutional capacity that in itself can help organize the necessary inclusive processes to build a coalition among public and private stakeholders that ensures accountability and transparency. Capacity and ownership to move this comprehensive approach towards sustainable implementation. Building this up from the start is key for successful transformation and local, regional and global resilient development.

## 6. Design

And last, adding ambition, quality and the needed complexity to this approach, stands design. Design has the strength to identify opportunities and transform these into innovative examples. Design can connect the regional interdependencies with local needs. Connecting people and place, making

tactile what is envisioned, practical what is ambitious. Design is key for showing the added value of investments across sectors, scales and through time, in a comprehensive way. Design is essential for the collaborative and inclusive process, building the alliance needed for critical change. Not by a trade-off of interests, but by bridging gaps. Design bridges the gap between quality and safety, between local needs and political capacity, between regional interdependencies and community assets, between economy, society and the environment. Design in that sense is both the 'cultural' process as well as the 'economic' outcome.

## Change the world

The slowness of climate change causes a slow approach and a focus on response, not an approach of preparedness. But we have a choice to make! We can choose not to go slow and incremental but to step up, leap-frog and become transformative. Transformative in our approach, in our collective actions, in our collaborations. And transformative in creating facts on the ground with that capacity to change. Change the world by overhauling the speed of climate change in the way we develop our cities, regions and nations.

We have to start from the acknowledgement that complexity needs to be embraced to get a better sense on how to deal with it. And that design, research and collaboration go hand in hand with politics, policy development and investment strategies. An approach with impact and transformative capacity, to help create an enabling environment where better science, research and data will find solid ground. Where innovation and implementation go hand in hand with inclusive collaborations across all sectors, all layers of government, all stakeholders from activists and vulnerable communities to private and public institutions. Too good to be true? No, it can be done!

Henk Ovink

Special Envoy for International Water Affairs for the Kingdom of The Netherlands  
Sherpa for the High Level Panel on Water  
*Principal Rebuild by Design*

# Program

**09:00**

Meet & greet, coffee and tea

FOYER

**09:30**

**Word of Welcome** by George Brugmans

(Executive Director IABR) and

**Opening** by Kees Rade

(Director Inclusive Green Growth / Ambassador Sustainable Development

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Kingdom of the Netherlands

AUDITORIUM

**09:45**

**Introduction** by Henk Ovink

(Special Envoy for International Water Affairs for the Kingdom of The Netherlands)

AUDITORIUM

**10:00**

**Keynote “The Next Economy”** by Maarten Hajer

(Chief Curator IABR–2016–)

AUDITORIUM

**10:30**

**Keynote “Radical Social Inclusion and the City”** by Edgar Pieterse

(Director African Centre for Cities)

AUDITORIUM

**11:15**

Coffee break

FOYER

**11:45**

**Keynote “Designing Resilient Landscapes”** by Adriaan Geuze

(Director West 8 Urban Design and Landscape Architecture)

AUDITORIUM

# Program

**12:30**

Lunch

FOYER

**13:30**

**Breakout sessions**

**“Balancing economic, ecological and social agendas”**

by Florian Boer (Director De Urbanisten) and Tim Peeters (Architect at ZUS)

**“Resilience and Risk”** by Matthijs Bouw

(Director One Architecture)

**“Blue Space: Mobilizing territories and coalitions”** by Joachim Declerck

(Director Architecture Workroom Brussels)

**“The Urban Metabolism”** by Eric Frijters

(Director of .FABRIC)

**15:30**

Coffee break

FOYER

**16:00**

**Plenary wrap up: main findings and conclusions.**

AUDITORIUM

**17:00**

Aperitif with finger food and visit of exhibition.

EXHIBITION SPACE

# Key Notes



## The Next Economy

Maarten Hajer  
(Chief Curator IABR-2016-)

Within half a century, the number of people living in cities worldwide will have doubled. When that happens, the city will truly have become the engine of the world economy. But what does that Next Economy have in store for us? No one can predict what the future will hold, but one thing is certain: more of the same is no longer a sensible option. Climate change, global urbanization, emerging new technologies, increasing migration, and growing inequality urgently demand real solutions. We have to rethink the way in which we live, work, and learn, and where and how we consume and produce. And we do have a say in the future we want: we want our cities to be clean, productive, and inclusive.



# Radical Social Inclusion and the City

Edgar Pieterse  
(Director African Centre for Cities)

Urbanization is less and less associated with well-being but rather a prospect for increasing marginalisation and vulnerability to systemic risks that may stem from climate change in combination with other overwhelming dynamics.

As cities continue to proliferate and expand in Africa and Asia, policy leaders have to reckon with the dislocating impacts of technological change, the crisis of work, intensifying social strife, polarisation, and public and private institutions that are out of step with emergent economic-cultural systems. The specific drivers of social fragmentation and exclusion in many African cities will be explored to illustrate the argument.

The second half of the keynote proposes a framework for radical social inclusion, based on three dimensions: place-making through the articulation of work and service delivery within a social enterprise model; the centrality of imagination to drive genuine innovation and ensure the cultural embedding of reforms; and institutional investments that can fuel new kinds of alliances, networks, delivery capability and democratic oversight.

# Designing Resilient Landscapes

Adriaan Geuze  
(Director West 8 Urban Design and Landscape Architecture)



Once we understand that the world will continue to urbanize, how do we ensure that rather than merely accommodating development, we productively use it to achieve the future that we want? Design, therefore plays a crucial role in the exploration and representation of the future that we (may) want. Taking the Dutch Rhine-Meuse Delta as one example, this keynote will explore the role that design can play in guiding development by anchoring it in resilient urban landscapes.

Quality of life will be a key success factor in the global battle for talent in which all major urban regions and deltas are engaged. Although the Dutch Rhine-Meuse Delta is a rich man-made landscape, formed by centuries of agriculture and trade in the estuary of the river Rhine, the region doesn't take full advantage of its landscapes in the global battle for talent. The metropolitan landscape of this Delta Metropolis has the potential to offer the quality of life that is needed for a competitive knowledge economy. At the same time, more intensive use, access, and development of the landscape might be an important step in its financial sustainability and its future reason for being. How can we use the landscape of our deltas and metropolises to our economic advantage without destroying them? And do we invest enough in their development and conservation? How can design, planning and governance be of help?

# Breakout Sessions

Florian Boer (Director De Urbanisten) and  
Tim Peeters (Architect at ZUS)

## Balancing economic, ecological and social agendas

This breakout session searches for a functional balance between economic, ecological, and social agendas. Can the development of more productive deltas be the key to the safeguarding of vulnerable ecosystems? And how can making a territory more productive contribute to regional and local social challenges?

The starting point for this session is the project 'New Meadowlands: a productive city and regional park for New Jersey and New York' – one of the winning projects of the international design competition Rebuild by Design, set up after hurricane Sandy hit New York and New Jersey. Integrating transportation, ecology, and development, the project transforms the Meadowlands basin to address a wide spectrum of risks while providing civic amenities and creating opportunities for new redevelopment.

The project proposes a new balance by rebuilding ecosystems as landscapes for

water storage and recreation, creating new development opportunities between natural and urban systems. The new kind of programs that can be developed provide the region with high quality natural and recreational areas and foster a closer connection between inhabitants and the natural and urban environment.

Focusing on the next steps, this session explores how these types of integrated visions and long-term strategies can be translated into projects. What does this require from the process and from the parties involved?



MIT CAU + ZUS + Urbanisten

Matthijs Bouw (Director One Architecture)

# Risk and Resilience

This breakout session will explore the role of risk in spatial projects and the possible agency design can have at the risk-management table. Using examples from New York and Rotterdam, the session will examine risk from three perspectives.

1. The ontology of risk
2. Mitigation, resilience and adaptation
3. Global risks and project risks

## The ontology of risk

The notion of risk has traditionally been formulated in the technical and financial domains, with a defined set of metrics. More recently, we have become more and more aware of the psychological and sociological aspects of the production, assessment and management of risk. This has led to the inclusion of many new actors in the risk conversation, with many repercussions on the way we plan.

## Mitigation, resilience and adaptation

Mitigation (lessening the effects), resilience (learning to cope) and adaptation (reducing the vulnerability) are distinct approaches for managing risk, each with their own realm of possibility and their own timescales. Understanding when each approach is opportune, and how the different approach build on each other, is important in designing with risk.

## Global risks and project risks

Designing for 'global risks', such as those resulting from climate change, economic

inequality or terrorism, can often be in conflict with 'project risks', those related to the feasibility of a project. Successful implementation of mitigation, resilience or adaptation projects depends on designing the right balance between the two.

Participants in the breakout session are welcome to submit their own risk problems for discussion during the session. The aim of the session is to get a clearer understanding of possible strategies for the management of global risks and project risks in resilience projects.

WITH A CONTRIBUTION FROM  
ARNOUD MOLENAAR (CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER,  
CITY OF ROTTERDAM)

Making urban landscapes and deltas more resilient puts new questions on the table of policy makers. How can we put complex issues such as resilience into practice? What new strategies, methods, and development models can effectively contribute to these major transitions? Being part of the 100 Resilient Cities Program of the Rockefeller Foundation, the City of Rotterdam will share their newly developed Resilience Strategy.



Joachim Declerck  
(Director Architecture Workroom Brussels)

# Blue Space: Mobilizing territories and coalitions

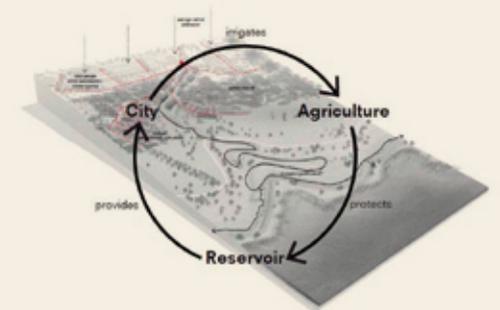
Looking at three experimental case studies in Istanbul, Belgium and The Netherlands, this break out session focuses on visions and working methods that turn recurring peaks and growing shortages of water into building blocks for shared rural and urban (re)development strategies. The session presents and discusses how to reverse the logic: from trying (mostly in vain) to restrict or limit the negative influences of urbanisation and food production on the water system, to using the water system as backbone for urbanization.

Urban deltas are built around water and on fertile soils. Their success is built on the interdependence between natural qualities and resources, intensive food production, and the concentration of human activities and trade. Today however, both massive urbanization and climate change destabilize the fragile synergies and equilibriums in deltas. As rapidly growing cities consume more and more land, the need for food provision, for irrigation and for drinking water increases likewise. On top of that, climate change accelerates and magnifies the peaks and shortages of water throughout different seasons. The battle for space between water, food production and urban living and activity, becomes untenable and a major design and policy question.

Based on the results of IABR–Atelier Istanbul, IABR–Atelier BrabantStad and the project Metropolitan Coast Landscape 2100, the session discusses how to explore different scenarios to make more rather than less space for water buffering and infiltration, both in times of inundation and drought. Can a productive conversation around these scenarios lead to new collaborations between different fields of policy-making and expertise, between land owners, real estate developers and farmers? And how can we use design to visualize the space needed for the water system, and its connections with economy, food production and living?



IABR–Atelier Istanbul:  
H+N+S Landscape Architects, 51N4E,  
Architecture Workroom Brussels.



WITH A CONTRIBUTION FROM  
JANE MADGWICK, (CEO WETLANDS  
INTERNATIONAL)

Urbanisation in delta's can only succeed if short-term development aims are implemented as part of a longer pathway towards social and environmental sustainability. Development of infrastructures such as coastal defences and real estate should therefore always be implemented as part of a continuum of development interventions, which also include ecosystem management and local community-level action. Experiences from major cities such as Rotterdam and New York have demonstrated that Building with Nature can offer such integration. Bringing Building with Nature to scale requires knowledge sharing, dialogue, brokering of inter-sectoral solutions and joined up action, between key players such as humanitarian and environmental organisations, private sector, government agencies and communities. The importance of natural infrastructure for urban resilience is illustrated through case studies from Indonesia and Senegal.



Eric Frijters (Director of .FABRIC)

# The Urban Metabolism

This breakout sessions focuses on how knowledge of the urban metabolism of our cities and deltas can help us make them more sustainable and resilient. Housing more than half the world population and responsible for three-quarters of the industrial production, urban regions are the primary consumers of natural resources such as water, food, and energy. Though urban regions only cover 3 percent of the land surface, they are responsible for 75 percent of the harmful greenhouse gasses. On the other hand, as main consumers of the world's resources and main producers of waste, urban regions offer the best opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of mankind on the world.

The urban metabolism is a promising approach that can couple economic development with sustainability and provide opportunities for a transition to a more circular use of materials and resources. It assumes that the city is a complex and dynamic system that can be described in not only technical, but also organic terms. As such urban regions, like a human body, have a metabolism through which vital flows of materials such as water, food, energy, people, and cargo run. The mapping, analyzing, and interrelating of these material flows provides insight into how the urban system functions and shows where improvement is possible.

The practical implementation of the concept of urban metabolism in spatial

development is complicated. In this session, we will address the opportunities that the metabolism approach provides for a more sustainable development model for urban regions and deltas and the obstacles that it raises on the basis of case studies from IABR-Ateliers in Albania, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The session will also zoom in on the specific characteristics of international deltas. A panel discussion with representatives from different countries and planning contexts will and elaborate the ways in which the metabolism approach can take place in practice during a panel discussion with representatives from

WITH A CONTRIBUTION FROM  
LEO POLS, (ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGNER AT PBL  
NETHERLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
AGENCY)

The rapid and ongoing urbanization puts an enormous stress on our urban landscape, and urban deltas are among the most vulnerable areas in the world. In order to be able to proactively anticipate developments and make our deltas more sustainable and resilient, we need to know more about how deltas function as urban systems. Based on ongoing research into the spatial, social and economic flows and characteristics of the urban deltas of Ho Chi Min City (Vietnam), Beira (Mozambique) en Barranquilla (Colombia), a preliminary overview is given.

IABR-Atelier Rotterdam: Urban Metabolism  
.FABRIC, JCFO



# Bio Speakers



**FLORIAN  
BOER**

is founder and director of DE URBANISTEN. He is an expert in connecting complex environmental issues to spatial potentials. His specialism is design on urban landscapes and transformations related to flood resilience and urban water management systems. With DE URBANISTEN he is deeply involved in climate proofing Dutch cities like Rotterdam, Dordrecht and Zwolle. Internationally he is working on water sensitive design for several Danish cities and Mexico City. Florian teaches at the Amsterdam and Rotterdam Academies of Architecture.



**MATTHIJS  
BOUW**

is a Dutch architect and urbanist and founder of One Architecture (est. 1995), an award-winning Amsterdam and New York-based design and planning firm. He currently is the Rockefeller Urban Resilience Fellow for PennDesign at the University of Pennsylvania.

A leading voice on designing for resilience, he has published many articles and given talks to both students and professionals on incorporating resiliency into design practice. Bouw's own practice is known for its unique approach in which programmatic, financial, technical and organizational issues are addressed, communicated and resolved through design. Bouw has been a pioneer in the use of design as a tool for collaboration, for instance through the development of 'Design Studios' as an instrument to support the Netherlands' Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment with its long term planning.

In New York City, the office co-leads the BIG Team that won the Rebuild by Design competition for the flood protection of Manhattan, and is currently part of the multi-disciplinary teams executing the first phase of the East Side Coastal Resiliency project for Lower Manhattan, as well as planning the Lower Manhattan Coastal Protection project. In the Netherlands, One are part of the 'Hackable City' team for Buiksloterham, a large scale brownfield redevelopment in Amsterdam-Noord based on the principles of the circular economy.



## GEORGE BRUGMANS

has been the executive director of the IABR since 2004, and its president since 2014. He chaired the Curator Team of the 5th IABR: *Making City*. He is also the executive director of iabr/UP, and as such responsible for the IABR-Ateliers. Before coming to the IABR, in 2004, Brugmans built up an extensive expertise as a producer in the arts and the media. He was editor-in-chief and commissioning editor at the VPRO, a Dutch public national broadcaster, where he produced over 200 documentaries, thirteen of which he also directed. As chairman of Bergen, a Dutch film production company, he was one of the producers of *Antonia's Line* – Academy Award® (Oscar®) for Best Foreign Film (1995). He (co-) wrote scenarios for feature films, including *De Wisselwachter/The Pointsman* (released in 1986), and *De Vliegende Hollander/The Flying Dutchman* (1995). Before moving to film Brugmans had an international career in the performing arts, including being co-founder

and the first director of the Springdance Festival in Utrecht (1986-1992), artistic director of the Summerfestival of Salzburg, Austria (1990-1992), and co-founder and artistic director of the Encontros Acarte Festival in Lisbon, Portugal (1987 – 1990). He was a member of the Committee of Cultural Consultants of the European Commission in Brussels (1988), advisor to the Dutch Government on international cultural policy as a member of the National Art Council (2004 - 2007), and the vice-chairman of the Board of Governors of the Amsterdam Art Council (2003 - 2009). Brugmans graduated in History at the Universities of Utrecht and Florida.



## JOACHIM DECLERCK

is co-founder and partner of the Architecture Workroom Brussels. Educated as architect and urban designer at Ghent University (BE) and the Berlage Institute (NL), Declerck's activities focus on innovation within the disciplines of architecture and urban design, while exploring their role within the transformation of the built environment. From 2008 to 2011 Joachim Declerck was head of the professional development program at the Berlage Institute. Complementary to the postgraduate, PhD, and public and publications programs, the professional development program broadens the institute's research activities to the professional sector and opens its laboratory to architectural practitioners, practices, and other related organizations (public and private). Before taking this position, Declerck co-edited the Berlage Institute publication *Brussels-A Manifesto*:

Towards the Capital of Europe and was curator of the exhibition *A Vision for Brussels*.

Together with Vedran Mimica, and representing the Berlage Institute, he curated the 3rd International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam, *POWER* – Producing the Contemporary City, in 2007. Since the founding of the Architecture Workroom, Declerck was curator of the exhibition *Building for Brussels: Architecture and Urban Transformation in Europa* in BOZAR (2010), and he directed the project *The Ambition of the Territory* that was presented in the Belgian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale (2012).

He was part of the Curator Team of the 5th IABR: *Making City* (2012) and of IABR-2016–*THE NEXT ECONOMY*.



## ERIC FRIJTERS

is founder and director of .FABRIC, and Professor Future Urban Regions (FUR) at the Dutch Academies of Architecture. Eric has over 15 years of experience in the design and implementation of projects in architecture, urban planning and regional strategy in the Netherlands and abroad. He has a background in architecture at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Philosophy at the University of Amsterdam and graduated Cum Laude at the Technical University of Eindhoven. His research has been published in several books (including 'Tussenland', 'Station Centraal' and *Urban Metabolism*) and various magazines.

His work was recognized with various prizes (Prix de Rome, Iakov Chernikhov International Architecture Prize and recently Eo Wijers Prize) as a designer in the field of innovative experimenting in architecture and urbanism. Starting from June 2013 he leads the research group FUR focused on healthy urbanization, design thinking methodology and test results of productive strategies for urban metabolism at the Dutch Academies of Architecture.



## ADRIAAN GEUZE

is co-founder of West 8 urban design & landscape architecture. Geuze together with his office West 8, developed a technique of relating contemporary culture, urban identity, architecture, public space and engineering within one design, while always taking the context into account.

With offices in Rotterdam, New York and Brussels West 8's international team of 70 architects, urban designers, landscape architects and industrial engineers has implemented award-winning projects all over the world. Gaining international recognition with projects such as Schouwburgplein in Rotterdam, Governors Island in New York, and Madrid Rio (ESP).



## MAARTEN HAJER

is the Chief Curator of IABR-2016, the seventh edition of the International Architecture Biennale of Rotterdam. Maarten Hajer is internationally renowned for his exploration of the relationships between public policies, urban development and environmental issues. He is Professor of Urban Futures at the University of Utrecht and until very recently served a 7-year term as Director-General of the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. As director of the PBL, Hajer was one of the prime advisers to the Dutch Cabinet on issues ranging from land use, planning, environment and nature, to water and transport.



## JANE MADGWICK

has been CEO of Wetlands International since 2004, leading a network of 18 offices operating in over 100 countries. Over this period the organisation has tripled its capacity to safeguard and restore wetlands for people and nature. Previously Jane worked for WWF internationally. She has carried out ecological research and multiple use conservation programmes in the UK, Somalia, Belize, Yemen and Australia. Her technical expertise is primarily in ecological restoration of wetlands and water policy.



## ARNOUD MOLENAAR

is Chief Resilience Officer Gemeente Rotterdam. After attending the University of Utrecht, graduating in Physical Geography, Arnoud Molenaar started his career with several ambitious trainee posts and jobs in France, New Zealand and the Netherlands. As deputy head of the Rotterdam Water Management Department he was responsible for Rotterdam's urban water management and the Waterplan2Rotterdam. In 2008 he was appointed Manager of the ambitious Rotterdam Climate Proof program. In this context he initiated the international Connecting Delta Cities network, became regional coordinator within the Dutch research program Knowledge for Climate and responsible for the design and implementation of the Rotterdam Adaptation Strategy.

He successfully led the City of Rotterdam towards a leading position on innovative urban water management and climate adaptation, which resulted in 2013 in an European Peer City status. Arnoud is first editor of the third Connecting Delta Cities book Resilient Cities and Climate Adaptation Strategies which was launched early 2014, he also was member of the Steering Committee of the international conference Deltas in times of Climate Change 2014. In September 2014 he has been appointed as Chief Resilient Officer at the City of Rotterdam supported by the Rockefeller Foundation.



## HENK OVINK

was appointed by the Dutch Cabinet as the first Special Envoy for International Water Affairs (2015). As the Ambassador for Water, he is responsible for advocating water awareness around the world, focusing on building institutional capacity and coalitions amongst governments, multilateral organizations, private sector and NGO's to address the world's stressing needs on water.

Henk is Principal for Rebuild by Design, the resilience innovation competition he developed and led for the US Presidential Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force where he was Senior Advisor to the Chair.

He has been Director General for Planning and Water Affairs and Director for National Spatial Planning for the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment.

He teaches at Harvard GSD and is member of the International Advisory Board for the City of Rotterdam. He was Curator for the 5th International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam 2012 'Making City', curates the debate series 'Design and Politics: the next phase' for Aedes network Campus Berlin and initiated the research program and is chief editor of the series of publications with NAI010 Publishers on Design and Politics.



## EDGAR PIETERSE

directs the African Centre for Cities at the University of Cape Town and holds the South African Research Chair in Urban Policy. His research and teaching gravitates around urban development politics, everyday culture, publics, responsive design and adaptive governance systems. He is consulting editor for Cityscapes—an international biannual magazine on urbanism in the global South. His most recent co-edited books are: African Cities Reader III: Land, Property & Value (2015), Africa's Urban Revolution (2014) and Rogue Urbanism: Emergent African Cities (2013). He is co-lead author of the Urban Chapter for the International Panel on Social Progress—an international collection of over 200 scholars focused on providing research-based, action-driven solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. He is also the Chairperson of the Panel of Experts supporting the Integrated Urban Development Framework of South Africa.



## LEO POLS

is environmental designer at the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. He has a background in urban and landscape planning. He is Master of Urbanism (Rotterdam Academy of Architecture) and had an education in landscape planning and design (School of Garden and Landscape, Boskoop, the Netherlands).

Leo Pols has a wide experience in landscape, urban and environmental design, spatial policy for town and country and 'research by design'. He made plans for 'new forests', spatial policy for new 'country-seats' and relations between city and countryside. The long experience in landscape and urban design, research and policy makes that Leo is strong in connecting people and issues.

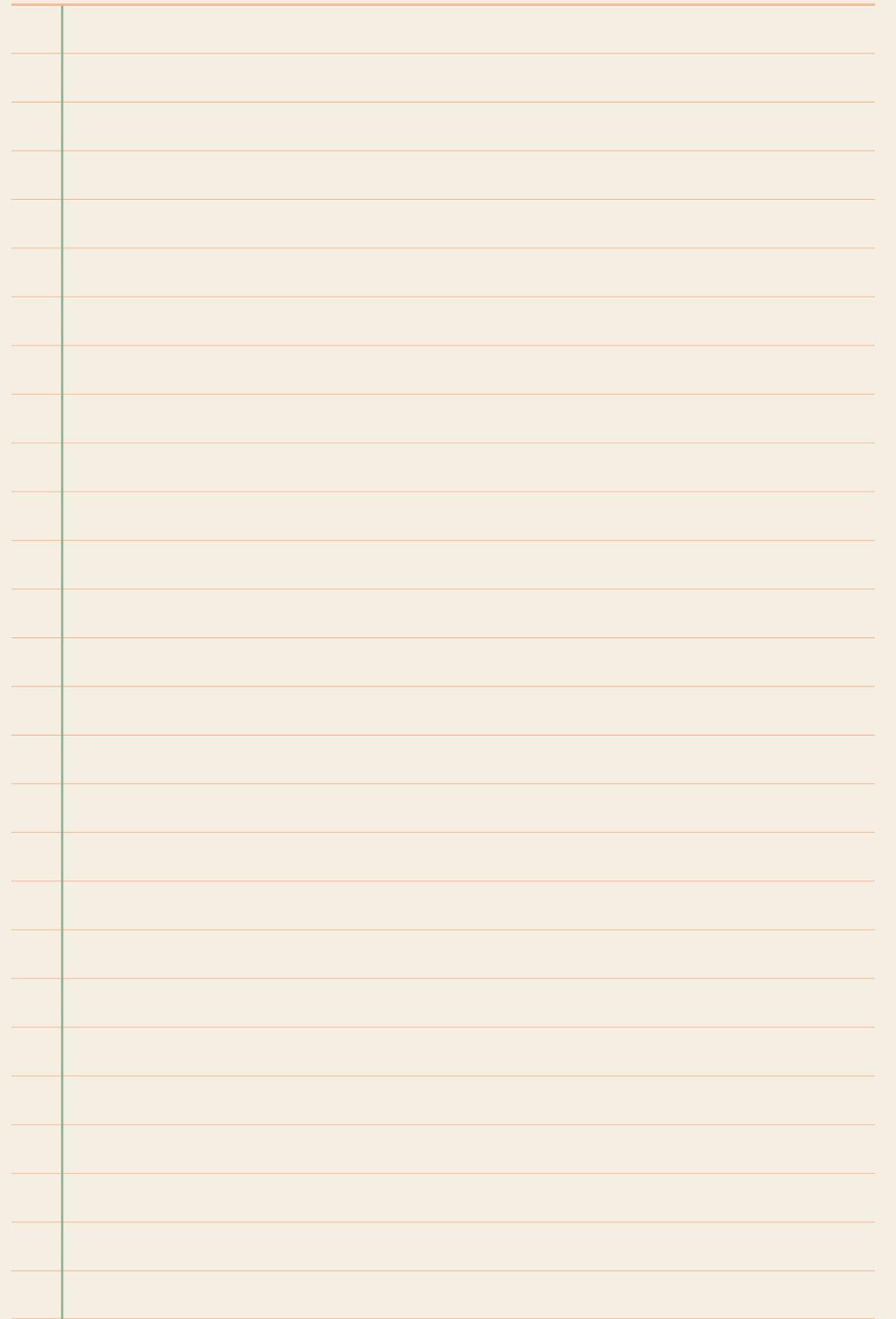
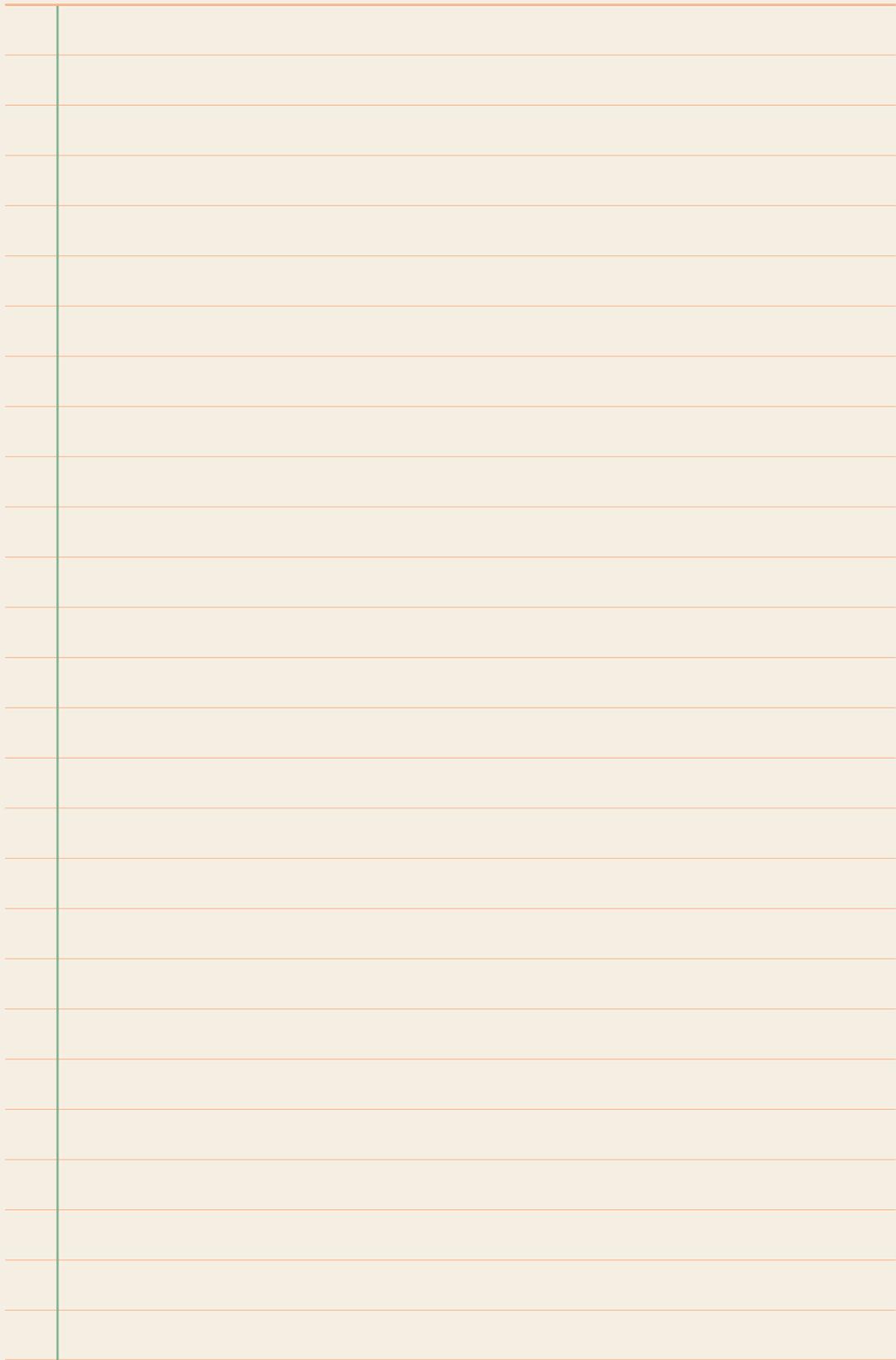
He developed the Delta Envisioning Support System (DENVIS), which is set up as a serious design game with the use of decision support techniques, to overcome contradictions between ecological, economic and social values. The last few months he is researching complex spatial problems in the Delta Cities Barranquilla (Colombia), Ho Chi Min City (Vietnam) and Beira (Mozambique).



## KEES RADE

is Director of the Inclusive Green Growth Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Ambassador for Sustainable Development since 2014. He is responsible for the implementation of the Dutch international strategy for sustainable development and the interdepartmental coordination in this area. In April 2016, he became the new Arctic Ambassador of the Netherlands. In this position, he will represent the voice of the Dutch Arctic policy and will work together with other Arctic stakeholders in the Netherlands to implement the Dutch Arctic Strategy and reach its aims to tackle the challenges that are faced in the Arctic.





**ABOUT THE DELTA COALITION**

The Delta Coalition is the world’s first international coalition of governments that have formed a partnership to get things done to make deltas more resilient. Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, France, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mozambique, Myanmar, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and Vietnam have already joined. Fast, informal, and flexible, the coalition facilitates discussion, exchange, innovation, and creativity between the participating members and observers. Government led and multi-stakeholder, the initiative aims to get things done to improve and protect lives in urban deltas. The coalition will facilitate knowledge exchange on deltas, adaptation, resilience, and sustainable urban development. Most importantly, it will allow delta countries to join forces to stimulate best practice, innovation, and to increase opportunities for financing in order to facilitate implementation of projects that will reduce vulnerability to climate change.

**ABOUT IABR and IABR–2016–THE NEXT ECONOMY**

The International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam (IABR) was founded in 2001, in the conviction that architecture is a public concern. It is therefore that it focuses on (the future of) the city. To make our future cities resilient and livable for everyone, the transition has to be planned, and the IABR holds that design can and should contribute. Given the urgency, cities need to learn from each other as fast as possible and explore the road to a resilient future together. The IABR therefore connects the Netherlands to the world, and brings the world to Rotterdam. It brings designers, academics, and thinkers together with decision-makers, politicians, the private sector, and of course the public, or rather citizens. The IABR produces exhibitions, conferences, films, books, lectures, and debates, but it is also, and more and more, an incubator for innovation. Its long-term research by design–programs promote knowledge exchange between cities and tangibly contribute to the making of the city. The IABR–Ateliers are co-produced together with local and/or regional governments and other stakeholders in Holland and abroad. They connect the research by design-methodology to real world problems. They are solution-oriented and insist on applicable results – visions and strategies, toolboxes for governance, (financial) development models and pilot project proposals–; results that are actionable and designed to change the status quo.

In the weekend of 23 and 24 April 2016, the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam will launch its seventh edition: IABR–2016–THE NEXT ECONOMY: a main exhibition and a 12- week long program of activities, conferences, and workshops in and around former warehouse Fenixloods II in the Rotterdam district of Katendrecht. Under the guidance of IABR-director George Brugmans and IABR–2016 chief curator Maarten Hajer an international Curator Team will once again focus on the future of the city, exploring the relationship between spatial design and tomorrow’s economy. IABR–2016 is a platform for creative coalitions of designers, academics, artists, administrators, entrepreneurs, citizens, and all other agents of change with fresh ideas and productive imaginations of the twenty-first century city.

Sustainable Urban Deltas Conference is set up and produced by the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam (IABR) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, and organized as part of the official Delta Coalition gathering in Rotterdam.

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Matthijs Bouw (Director One  
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Arnoud Molenaar (Chief Resilience  
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Joachim Declerck (Director  
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Madgwick (CEO Wetlands  
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Eric Frijters (Director of .FABRIC),  
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#### INTRODUCTIONS

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