



**Our Common Wadden Sea  
Landscape and Cultural Heritage**

**Trilateral Workshop  
Ribe, 11 – 12 May 2011**

**Danish Cultural Heritage Agency  
in cooperation with  
the Danish Ministry of the Environment, Nature Agency  
and co-organized with  
the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat**

**Executive Report**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The workshop “Our Common Wadden Sea Landscape and Cultural Heritage” was held on 11 – 12 May 2011 in Ribe in the framework of the collaboration on the landscape and cultural heritage of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. The workshop was organized by the Danish Cultural Heritage Agency in cooperation with the Danish Ministry of the Environment, Nature Agency and co-organized with the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat. 35 persons attended the workshop representing competent authorities, scientific institutes, museums and non-governmental organizations and associations. A list of participants is in **Annex 1**.

At the 2010 Wadden Sea Ministerial Conference it was agreed to discuss and evaluate the draft LancewadPlan (LWP) strategy<sup>1</sup> in order to decide, together with the relevant regions, upon whether or not parts of it may be accepted by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation.

Since the delivery of the draft LWP-strategy more than three years ago no follow up on the implementation of the strategy had been given trilaterally. Regionally, a number of developments had taken place, which have an impact on the further implementation. Moreover, in 2008 the Wadcult<sup>2</sup> at its final meeting commissioned the Historic Department of the Essex County Council to make a comparative study of the landscape and cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea Region in an international context. This study was finalized in 2010 but had not been made subject to a broader, trilateral review.



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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lancewadplan.org>

<sup>2</sup> “Wadcult” was the trilateral working group responsible for the LancewadPlan project and the elaboration of the final report. Wadcult consisted of representatives from national and regional authorities and research institutes (museums).

The objectives of the workshop were hence to:

- Review and discuss the Comparative Study made by the Essex County Council and on the basis hereof identify key areas of cooperation in a trilateral context;
- Take stock of the status of the regional and transnational implementation of the LWP-strategy recommendations and identify priorities and areas of cooperation in a trans-boundary context including areas of cooperation not covered by the LWP Strategy;
- Develop a framework action plan for future cooperation and division of responsibilities.

The program for the workshop is in **Annex 2**.

The chairman of the workshop, Michael Lauenborg, Danish Cultural Heritage Agency welcomed the participants to Ribe. As member of the former Wadcult, he was very pleased to realize that the LancewadPlan outcome was still appealing to the trilateral community. He also underlined the importance of the workshop, as the first step to set the common direction of how to lift this issue into a future, trilateral Wadden policy. Mr Lauenborg addressed the wish for a more inter-disciplinary approach in the future trilateral policy, which also includes the scientific community of the three countries, including the museums.

The Danish Head of Delegation in the Wadden Sea Board, John Frederiksen, Danish Ministry of the Environment opened the workshop, by refereeing to the adopted revised Joint Declaration of 2010. The three governments agreed that one of five future policy priorities was culture and landscape maintained in a larger Wadden Sea Region. Trilateral guidelines how to proceed, were also decided at the ministers meeting last year. The ministers requested the Wadden Sea Board to evaluate the LancewadPlan strategy in order to decide - together with the relevant regions - upon whether - or not - parts of it may be accepted by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. They also encouraged the competent authorities to develop the accepted parts into a trilateral policy.



As presidency of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation for the period 2010-13, Mr Frederiksen stated that Denmark had set up an ambitious goal - by declaring the aim to reach an agreement on the future policy of "Wadden Sea Landscape and the Cultural Heritage" between the relevant authorities as a constructive way to a (long term) implementation of the Sylt Declaration. As chair country, Denmark would expect a clear signal from the workshop to the Wadden Sea Board how to proceed.

## 2. PRESENTATIONS

### 2.1 Comparative Analysis of the Landscape and Cultural Heritage of the Wadden Sea Region

Nigel Brown, Head of Historic Environment Branch, Essex County Council

#### Aim

The overall aim of this comparative analysis of the cultural landscape of the Wadden Sea Region is to determine how unique it is internationally.

#### What is a "cultural landscape"?

The UNESCO Guidelines for Cultural Landscapes have three main categories, the Wadden Sea fits in the second of these:

Organically Evolved landscapes result from an initial, economic administrative and/or religious imperative and have developed their present form by association with and in response to their natural environment. They fall into two sub-categories:

- a relict landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible;
- a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress, at the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time.

#### Comparison of cultural landscapes

No international guidelines as to how to undertake a comparative analysis of cultural landscapes.

Therefore, as a first step we drew up a list of coastal wetland sites of international importance (e.g. World Heritage and/or Ramsar areas):

- with particular emphasis on water management strategies;
- show evidence for adaptation of the land to human purposes.

A next step, we reduced a long list to 15 comparison sites, which were scored<sup>3</sup> under seven criteria for cultural landscapes: *time depth, integrity, level of archaeological and documentary evidence, degree of adaptation, associative cultural significance, extent and authenticity*<sup>4</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Simply scored from 1 to 4 with 1 being the lowest and 4 the highest

<sup>4</sup> The Wadden Sea is the area where the technologies were developed to reclaim land from the sea, an idea which was exported across the world. The Wadden Sea is originator of the ideas and practise of drainage and land reclamation for at least 6 of the above, either directly or indirectly. What makes its cultural heritage special or authentic is the extent and completeness of the surviving cultural landscape, its long occupational history and its central position in the southern North Sea between two trading zones (the Baltic Sea and the Atlantic Ocean). In addition it has its own Frisian identity, reflected in language, customs and place-names.

### Comparative sites ranked by score

1.	Wadden Sea	<b>28</b>
2.	Po Delta, Italy	<b>25</b>
3.	Baie du Mont Saint-Michel, France	<b>23</b>
4.	Greater Thames Estuary, UK The Wash, UK	<b>22</b>
5.	Neretva Delta, Croatia/Bosnia Curonian Spit, Lithuania/Russia South Caspian Lowlands, Iran	<b>21</b>
6.	Camargue, France Danube Delta, Romania	<b>20</b>
7.	Sundarbans, Bangladesh/India Cape Cod, <b>Martha's Vinyard, Nantucket, USA</b>	<b>18</b>
8.	Doñana National Park, Spain Essequibo, Guyana	<b>16</b>
9.	Nova Scotia Dyke Lands, Canada	<b>15</b>

### Aspects of future cooperation

The conservation, management and interpretation of particular marshland landscapes, buildings and (marine) archaeological sites are vital. However, these need to be understood as part of a wider whole – a component part of the Wadden Sea, only in that way can the full value of particular places be revealed. Valuing and conserving the pattern of mudflats, salt marshes, islands, dykes, marsh pastures and traditional buildings. Clearly to achieve that will require the participation of people who live and work in the area.

The Wadden Sea has been at the heart of the longstanding adversarial approach to the sea and nature of a struggle against and victory over the nature. It could be at the forefront of a new symbiotic relationship with the natural world.

Integration of the management of the cultural and natural heritage would be beneficial. As would a focus on the need to conserve the overall pattern and structure of the cultural landscape, and the Lancewad cultural entities could be useful here.

The “*World Heritage Cultural Landscapes Handbook for Conservation and Management*” sets out eight key stages of a management process, whilst this is clearly aimed at World Heritage sites aspects of its approach may be more generally applicable:

*Stage 1: Getting agreement on the approach and planning the work*

*Stage 2: Understanding the cultural landscape and its values*

*Stage 3: Developing a shared vision for the future*

*Stage 4: Defining management objectives and assessing opportunities and challenges – using management plans to organize and coordinate*

*Stage 5: Identifying options and agreeing on management strategy*

*Stage 6: Coordinating the implementation of the management strategy*

*Stage 7: Monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management*

*Stage 8: Deciding when to renew/revise the management strategies and the management plan'*

In view of what has already been achieved in the Wadden Sea it may be, particularly in terms of trans-national cooperation, that the focus should now be on stages 4 -6, especially 5 and 6.

## Interventions

Jos Bazelmans appreciated the comparative analysis and could agree with the main conclusions and recommendations. Overall he questioned the future use of the report and whether the “UNESCO–stages” are the right way to proceed, as he found this proposal



not characteristic for the Wadden Sea Area. Should we develop (management) scenarios instead? To the comparative criteria he proposed to add another criterion: *the ecological value of the cultural landscape*.

Stefan Winghart also appreciated the analysis and emphasised the report as a vital document for the further trilateral work in an integrative way. In relation to the seven criteria, he found the proposal of Jos Bazelmans very important, as a mean to test the natural and cultural assets of the sites – in combination. Moreover, he focused on the criteria “time depth” and “archaeological evidence” as crucial elements in the ranking process.

Ulf Ickerodt found the report as a valuable tool to meet the local perception and feeling of its unique cultural landscape. In this respect he underlined the involvement and commitment of the stakeholders and the local communities as a precondition for a successful continuation of a common process. He advised to restart the process and bearing in mind not too expedite.

Michael Lauenborg emphasised that the overall value of the report is that it reaffirms the international (worldwide) importance of the Wadden Sea cultural landscape. For the first time a comparative analysis concludes the common assumption, so far. This now well documented fact should be the convincing argument to politicians and the inhabitants that we have an obligation to protect also this Wadden Sea heritage. In this respect he missed some advice.

## Discussion

The comparative analysis and the comments made were subject for a plenary discussion in which further issues were addressed.

The preservation of the cultural landscape should also enhance the biodiversity, traditional farming, promoted by the use of the EU subsidies schemes, would very much contribute to this. With regard to adding the ecological value of the cultural landscape as further criteria in management, it was stated that landscape values would depend on social standards and generate different levels of adaption with regard to landscape developments through time. This would particularly concern developments due to climate change and flood risk management.

Spatial planning, not least in relation to sea water/ground water level raise, was seen as an important instrument to address the cultural values. Also opportunities for preservation and sustainable use of the heritage could be generated from planning needs. In this respect, it was common sense that our cultural history would create added value for the tourism business, the people living and working in the region as well as for the development of infrastructure. Awareness raising was an important goal. Various projects and valuable examples of preservation around the world would support increasing the attention to the world class assets of the Wadden Sea Region.

## 2.2 Integrated Research Agenda for the Wadden Sea

Jos Bazelmans, Dutch Agency of Cultural Heritage, Dutch Wadden Academy

### Dutch Wadden Academy - aims and vision

- to develop the Wadden Sea Region into an incubator for widely applicable integrated knowledge of sustainable development of a coastal area, in which natural, social and cultural values are a key element and form an integrated foundations of the local and regional economy;
- the region is a meeting place for scientists from the Netherlands and elsewhere, administrators, policymakers and management agencies. Together, they develop sustainable and innovative solutions based on interdisciplinary knowledge.

→ **By 2020, the trilateral Wadden Sea Region will be the best monitored and best understood coastal system in the world.**

### What is integrated research?

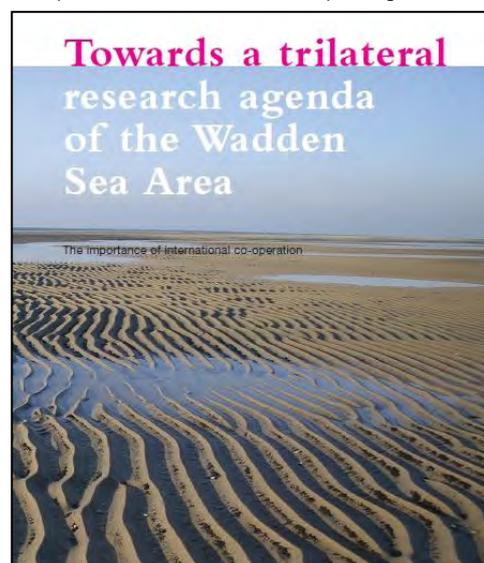
An interdisciplinary approach of two or more disciplines with emphasis on feedback and interaction between 1) space and time scales, 2) attention on the accumulation of processes and 3) interventions and effects.

It is based on the co-production of knowledge in which knowledge demands are generated in close interaction between scientists, practitioners and policymakers (engaged scholarship).

### Research disciplines and the Agenda

The Academy focuses on the research themes of geoscience, ecology, social and spatial economics, society and cultural history and climate and water, structured into:

- three integrated research programmes (Past Wadden - Wadden Monitor - Wadden Future);
- two conditional themes (Wadden Expert - World Wadden);
- three generic knowledge programmes (Wadden Climate - Wadden Nature - Wadden Well-being).



The landscape and cultural heritage are **most prominent part of "Wadden Well-being →**

- liveable community and quality landscape: how can social cohesion, a recognisable man-made landscape and living heritage be safeguarded?
- sustainable economy: how can work and income for the residents be guaranteed in a sustainable manner?

Phases of implementation:

2009 +: Communication and feedback and drawing up implementation plans;

2010 +: Mobilizing financial resources and Internationalisation;

2014 : Evaluation and summary.

**Research themes**

- the way in which people developed their way of life over time and how they used the (natural) resources that the region offered;
- **the nature and interaction of 'wild memory' and disciplined history in the Wadden Sea Region;**
- the historical development of the way in which the Wadden Sea Region is represented and valued - and
- the social and political organization of a just and sustainable future for the Wadden Sea Region.

**Underlying conditions**

- an interdisciplinary approach;
- participatory, action-oriented forms of research;
- the active and serious involvement of residents and visitors;
- the planning and development of new and existing historical information and knowledge systems;

and (of course) ...

- a cross-border approach.

## 2.3 LancewadPlan achievements

Manfred Vollmer, Secretary of the Wadden Sea Forum



The objective was to assess the achievements of LancewadPlan on the transnational level, to give an overview of the status so far and to outline the perspectives of further implementation.

The LancewadPlan Strategy "*A living historic landscape*" formulated a vision for the preservation of the identity, variety and history of the cultural landscape as well as for the management and enhancement of the awareness to be reached by 2020. In order to work towards this vision, some most relevant strategies and policies for implementation on trilateral level were elaborated:

- full understanding of the outstanding international values of the cultural landscape;
- designation of cultural environments of international importance;
- management aims at ICZM approach and cross-sectoral integration;
- integration of the cultural heritage in spatial planning;
- applying legal instruments for conservation, management and sustainable use;
- management in a coherent way;
- awareness raising and information and knowledge exchange;
- sustainable use and creating added value;
- provision of financial instruments and funds;
- development of landscape characterization tools;
- conservation and restoration by using agri-environmental measures;
- monitoring the landscape and heritage;
- establishment of transnational heritage network.

When the project formulated these strategies and policies, it became very clear that the results would only come into effect when all those involved in a future development of the region had the same sense of urgency to act. In this respect, a brief assessment was made of achievements to date and status of implementation.

In general, little progress in the implementation of the LWP strategies has been made. The most important reasons for this are little resources (manpower, budget) as well as low priority on the governmental level, respectively unclear responsibilities within the TWSC.

Analysing the strategies in more detail, further gaps could be pointed out, but also some progress in actions could be stated:

- a) Coherent management and designation of cultural environments of international importance are very much lacking due to different management systems on national and regional level and also different responsibilities. On the other hand, the designation of parts of the Wadden Sea as World Heritage Site consolidated a common approach for cultural landscapes and heritage among stakeholders and regional governments. Also the comparative analysis is an important step for being aware of the necessity of a common management of our cultural landscape.
- b) Still, integrated management and spatial planning and cross-sectoral integration has little consideration in European strategies and as well as in national plans and ICZM progress reports. Particularly, there is resistance to an integrated approach to urban development and land-use plans could be observed. Nevertheless, the application of integrated management has slowly increased and cultural heritage issues are, at least in part being considered in the regional spatial plans of the three countries. Also an increasing application in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) can be noticed.
- c) Awareness raising, information and knowledge exchange and the establishment of transnational heritage network have been stated as most important measures, but insufficient cooperation has led to gaps in information. In addition, lack of necessary power of responsible bodies contributed not to reach the aims. Only a small group of key movers and shakers has constantly been available. However, there have also been positive developments, like an increasing awareness among the public and the willingness to attract more partners by integrating related **issues, e.g. "Wadden Art" and local product marketing. It is also positive that the issue is still on the agenda of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation.**
- d) Finally, it can be stated that there is almost no monitoring to measure the developments, and little efforts has been made regarding for continuation. On the positive side was the use of the added value of culture in the tourism business as well as developments in creation of new inventories.

Reflecting on the reasons for gaps in implementation but also the achievements made, so far, there are definitely some promising perspectives to strengthen the work with the landscape and cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea Region:

The achievements made, so far, and not least the present comparative analysis should be used to continue the work; e.g. to initiate a common approach of landscape characterization.

The cooperation Wadden Sea Board – Wadden Sea Forum should be used to set the stage for implementing the LancwadPlan strategies and a cooperation with institutions working on related issues could lead to strengthening **the public's** identification with cultural heritage. The WSF is prepared to work on cross-sectoral integration and awareness raising among the stakeholders as well as on the support of the regional governments.

Finally, annual workshops/conferences will strengthen the collaboration and would be a good way to implement a sound, long lasting network.

### 3. BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

The status of implementation of the LancewadPlan Strategy policy was discussed in three break-out sessions covering the Strategy:

1. Implementation of the LancewadPlan recommendations (strategies and policies) on settlement, urban and landscape development.
2. Implementation LancewadPlan recommendations on, coastal protection and water management.
3. Implementation of LancewadPlan recommendations on nature, agriculture and tourism.

The participants were divided into 4 groups chaired by Albert Ettema (Work Group 1), Henning Hassmann (Work Group 2), Manfred Vollmer (Work Group 3) and Morten Stenak (Work Group 4).

A brief summary of the outcome of the discussions in the four work groups per break out session is given below.

#### **3.1 Session 1: Settlement Urban and Landscape Development**



##### Work Group 1

The work group focused on priorities for trilateral follow up of the recommendations for strategies and policies:

- (1) Awareness raising was considered of high priority. This should be done on a general level and not just for specific vulnerable areas and for the wider community including the level of the local decision makers and interested people.
- (2) Commitment of the communities – municipalities, local organizations etc. – is of central importance for progress in this field, which was also underlined by plenary contributions; in conjunction with awareness raising this is a precondition for progress and will enhance the cooperation between the different sectors involved in this field.

- (3) The most central work theme in terms of trilateral strategy and policies is to continue to work on characterization in a trilateral context and to further protection and exchange of information and best practices on protection.

The work group was of the opinion that the Wadden Sea Forum representing all the regional stakeholders of the Wadden Sea Region and the Dutch Wadden Academy should be tasked with the implementation of the priorities.

#### Work Group 2

(report not provided)

#### Work Group 3

The participants agreed on planning and community involvement as the most important issues with regard to preservation, maintenance and sustainable use the cultural landscape and heritage. Out of the 8 LWP strategies, the meeting prioritized three main strategies/ recommendations:

- (1) The development of landscape characterizations should be a mandatory integral part of the landscape plans of the local/regional authorities; planning with living communities should take the cultural environments/ensembles into consideration.
- (2) Strengthen the inclusion of the cultural and natural heritage in land use planning, and awareness raising of specific vulnerable areas. Accordingly cultural and natural heritage must be integral to the landscape characterisation advocated in point 1.
- (3) Strengthen the co-operation between the heritage sector and the municipalities with regard to planning in areas with preservation values.

Strategy 2) was seen as the implementation of existing land use plans by integrating the first strategy. All other strategies of the sector, elaborated in LWP, were seen as integral components of the three ones listed above. The responsibility for the implementation is on local and regional governments, whereas the local public/citizens could influence the way of implementation. Therefore, raising awareness was seen as very important.



The meeting was struggling a bit with the actions to be taken in the short run. Some general actions were considered useful, but the responsibility of taking initiatives was a bit unclear:

- use of the tool Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) with regard to cultural values also in land use planning;
- pressure on governments by the different organizations and bodies for sound integration of cultural aspects in planning;
- integration of nature protection procedures and cultural heritage;
- ratification (Germany)/implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

There was agreement that the most valuable and feasible action for the time being would be raising awareness by different tools. This would also support the execution of the actions listed above.

#### Work Group 4

Cooperation between museums/universities and municipalities on mapping landscape characterization and cultural environments creates a sound knowledge base, which can be used to raise awareness among politicians and the local population. This knowledge will too underline the assets and can be further activated through community planning and involvement of local stakeholders.

The urban planning (e.g. new residential areas) are major tools to regulate the settlement structures in towns and in the countryside. In areas of farm abandonment, depopulation and migration it is crucial to maintain a strong de-central, retail and living infrastructure and hereby support the vital functions in selected towns by integrating urban development and heritage management. A set of guidelines for reuse and development departing from good real-world examples will be important to support the political decisions.

The recommendations are lacking in statements about democratization and bottom up processes. This dimension is evident in the European Landscape Convention, which is ratified in two of the three Wadden Sea countries.

### **3.2 Session 2: Coastal Protection and Water Management**



#### Work Group 1

The necessity of an inter-disciplinary network to secure best sustainable solutions and increasing awareness about values at stakeholders in planning and protection was underlined, also in terms of making use of available information and networks; this should be integrated into the trilateral Task Group "Climate" and the Wadden Sea Forum.

The main condition for integrated sustainable protection by development of the landscape and cultural heritage is raising awareness on the working floor/on the local level; next to this a very important condition is participatory valuing, planning and management with the relevant stakeholders.

This should be furthered by the trilateral cooperation by intermediary bodies like trilateral Task Groups Wadden Sea Forum, Wadden Academy, national state services, museums and the regional public authorities (provinces, Länder, municipalities in Denmark). On a more general trilateral level, a small group on landscape and cultural heritage installed by the Wadden Sea Board should take part in relevant networks and trajectories to support the implementation of the trilateral prioritised recommendations.

Work Group 2

(report not provided)

Work Group 3

The meeting stated the developments taken due to climate change would have enormous effects on the preservation and sustainable use of the cultural landscape and heritage. Coastal protection measures and water management in the marsh area, along rivers and estuaries as well as in the Wadden Sea would cause negative effects on the heritage.

Three main strategies were prioritized:

- (1) The development of adaptive, sustainable strategies in coastal protection and water management. Balance the need for security of human life and economic values with the preservation of the cultural historic values.
- (2) Protection of archaeological sites through measures like sand nourishment and dune management.
- (3) Taking account of the heritage in coastal planning, particularly with regard to flood hazard zones, buffer zones and water management in the hinterland.

The work group was aware of the strong psychological influence in the debate about necessary measures due to climate change. Therefore, the public and the stakeholders should be genuinely integrated in plans and measures.

The workgroup defined several actions, which could be achieved in one or two years' time.

- inventory of settlement structures and archaeological sites in front of the dikes/Wadden Sea. This would include an assessment of the values (Responsibility: concerned agencies);
- inventory of future development plans and measures in the three countries, which are already available or currently being elaborated;
- press campaigns in the three countries with articles about the value of our cultural history and heritage as well as updating and maintaining the LWP website;
- preparation and implementation of a workshop with the aim to elaborate concrete and efficient measures (the issue of adaption to climate change was seen as most important and would need an extra workshop to discuss appropriate measures and actions).

Work Group 4

Coastal reclamation is a nation building subject in the Netherlands. Withdrawal due to coastal changes will cause a lot of emotions, which must be addressed in due time.

Everybody is **aware of the threats from climate change, but who takes responsibility. It's** a complex issue that addresses several authorities and all sectors tend to limit their tasks. The concept of ICZM should be renewed so it can be really cross-sectoral. The last 5-10 years ICZM has become a specialist task rather than a cross-sectoral management concept.

Proposed strategies

- raising awareness;
- stakeholder participation;
- monitoring studies;
- create interdisciplinary networks: 1. Trilateral, 2. Regional;
- intervene in other networks that already work on coastal protection and water management. Thus, supply other specialist network with heritage knowledge.

Making an overview of (trilateral) best practice, i.e. a cross-bordering catalogue promoting good real-world examples of assessment, planning, adaptation and management will be important. The overall concept is how to integrate cultural heritage in coastal protection, water management and nature conservation. Some issues could be:

- abandonment of polders /reclaimed areas to store and/or delay seawater and backwater floods;
- nature restoration of marshlands with respect to the heritage assets and cultural landscape pattern;
- settlement withdrawal and rural abandonment. How to deal with depopulation and recreate attractiveness. How can we benefit from heritage?
- location of renewable energy plants and areas (biogas, solar panels, wind turbines);
- location of new housing, industrial and other built up areas in respect to the heritage assets and cultural landscape pattern.

(NB: some of these examples are related to recommendations from session 1 and 3)

### **3.3 Session 3: Nature, Agriculture and Tourism**

#### Work Group 1

Trilateral priority was given to the following issues and themes:

- (1) Raise the awareness amongst farmers being the owner and manager of the open landscape which is under rapid transformation for various reasons; in this context it is also essential to promote the cooperation between farmers and the wider community.
- (2) It is essential to promote the cooperation between the natural and the cultural heritage as they work complementary to protect and sustainable use the overall heritage.
- (3) With regard to tourism and cultural landscape heritage this should be integrated into the work now ongoing in the trilateral Task Group "Sustainable Tourism" Strategy established in the context of the decision of the World Heritage Committee.

The work group was of the opinion that the Wadden Sea Forum should be tasked with the implementation of the two first priorities whereas the third priority was a task of the trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, more specifically of the Task Group.

#### Work Group 2

(report not provided)



Work Group 3

This session had to reflect three different themes and quite a number of proposed strategies. After a vivid discussion about the development of the landscape of the coastal zone and the changes in sector developments, the meeting elaborated strategies, recognized as essential for implementation. At this, an improved cooperation between nature protection and cultural heritage management was stated as very important. Furthermore, spatial planning and awareness raising had to play an important role in this field.

The elaborated strategies were:

- (1) Application of EU policies in national laws by integrating the requirements of cultural landscape and heritage.
- (2) Make use of the heritage for additional income and valorization of the region.
- (3) Use scenarios for the development of the landscape in dialogue with the public and the stakeholders.
- (4) Strengthen the Wadden Sea Area by attracting people to work in the Region to keep the area vivid. This aims at modern work places with communication via internet.

With regard to the elaborated strategies, the meeting concluded some actions, feasible for implementation in one or two years' time.

- develop scenarios about the development of the landscape in order to implement measures and to issue guidelines and regulations for adjusting possible developments due to sustainable heritage management;
- investigate possibilities to get a stake in composing EU policies. This would lead to make better use of participation in developments on EU level;
- develop concepts for raising awareness through new media and communication strategies.

Work Group 4**Agriculture**

The recommendations on agriculture should address problems of changing landscapes, where industrialization is the major driving force. **Farmer's** positive attitudes towards regulation and management of landscape and heritage assets should be improved.

The prime recommendation is to change the EU-subsidy system further towards sustainable landscape management. This is **a key incentive for changing farmer's** attitudes into sustainable agricultural land use and rural heritage management.

Here landscape characterization (In the UK various methods including Landscape Character Assessment, Historic Landscape Characterization and Historic Environment Characterisation are widely used to inform spatial planning) is a useful tool to map and

identify different landscapes categories and heritage areas where the vernacular/local characteristics can be strengthened, e.g. by EU-subsidies.

Awareness: An information service for farmers and other estate holders about good landscape and heritage practice.

### *Nature protection*

The Nature protection network is clearly much stronger and larger than the heritage network. There is a need to integrate the nature and heritage agenda as far as possible – the heritage sector must seek to create strategic alliances. Again, the EU-subsidies are vital as means to reach further. The EU-subsidies should combine nature conservation and heritage management.

The management of Nature2000 areas is largely based on strictly biological measures without integrating the heritage account. There is a need for improved communication between administrators on regional and trilateral level. Interdisciplinary pilot-project should be started to show the administrators and the public that it is possible to integrate carry out integrated management.

### *Tourism*

It is recommended to enhance corporation between national and regional tourist organizations that can promote the Wadden Sea region as a whole with different regional characteristics. Tourism Information about heritage assets can be delivered through the locals. Arrange a LancewadTour – a trilateral mobile exhibition in three languages; in regional museums, county councils, city halls etc. Further awareness raising and communication to the EU politicians.

## **4. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP**

### **4.1 Overall Conclusions**

On the basis of the presentations and the outcome of the discussions in the break-out sessions, the workshop participants discussed and **approved** of a number of overall conclusions:

- (1) The “Comparative Analysis of the landscape and Cultural Heritage of the Wadden Sea Region” was welcomed respectively endorsed. The analysis convincingly establishes that the landscape and the cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea Region is world class and an invaluable asset for the region with a broad scale of relevant stories and experiences. It was very much underlined that the findings of the report should be made accessible to a wider audience in the region in the national languages.
- (2) The analysis should also play an essential role in how to better deal with this superb heritage in a trans-boundary trilateral context. An area to be further focussed on was the integration of the natural and environmental values with the landscape and cultural heritage.
- (3) The LancewadPlan Strategy including its conclusions and recommendations was reaffirmed. It was acknowledged with appreciation that many of the recommendations had been subject to implementation on various levels in some of the regions or had been an inspiration for policy and management development. It was, however, also recognized that full use had not yet been made of the Strategy and that this should be a focal area in the coming period.
- (4) It was further concluded that areas of future trans-boundary cooperation were insufficiently defined in the Strategy and should be subject to further elaboration.

(5) It was recognized that the organization with regard to the implementation of the Strategy in particular in a trans-boundary context is weak. The competent authorities in this field are basically not involved in the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation.

- the development of the trans-boundary Strategy is central basically in all relevant fields, in order to raise and reinforce the policy and management responsibility and the awareness of the unique heritage;
- it is necessary to develop an organizational framework that is anchored in the competent authorities and is able to manage and coordinate the involvement of other stakeholders;
- the cooperation should also take a realistic approach in terms of the resources and man power and hence focus key common issues.

(6) A broad approach was advocated involving all relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations, science institutes, museums and awareness centres. Knowledge transfer and exchange of best practises was a very important incentive for regional work and should continue to be play and essential role in the trans-boundary cooperation.

(7) Central themes and issues for the future cooperation are:

- integration of the landscape and cultural heritage into spatial planning on all relevant levels through a.o. landscape characterization and sectoral plans;
- climate change and coastal protection and the involvement of the landscape and cultural heritage sector in the discussion and planning;
- activities in the field of tourism and agriculture should link up to already on-going activities;
- involving relevant science in the work in order to bridge the apparent gap between science and policy and management.

(8) Maritime history should play a more predominant role. An inventory of the archaeological heritage of the Wadden Sea is of high priority and of importance for the integration with the natural heritage. Also the maritime history in general should be upgraded because of its importance for the cultural heritage of the Wadden Sea Region.

## 4.2 Follow-up Framework Action Plan

On the basis of the overall conclusions the workshop endorsed the following framework action plan encompassing the priorities for the work until the Wadden Sea Conference in March 2013:

### (1) Information & Awareness

- the publication of the "Comparative Analysis of the landscape and Cultural Heritage of the Wadden Sea Region" on the CWSS website;  
Action: CWSS
- elaboration of an abbreviated popular version of the analysis in the national languages for local decision and policy makers and relevant local groups;  
Action: Wadden Academy, Wadden Sea Forum secretariat and CWSS in 2011
- reactivation of Lancewad website.  
Action: CWSS and WSF secretariat

### (2) Integration Natural and Cultural Landscape Heritage

The ecological values of the cultural landscape should be identified together with an identification of the landscape as an asset and the (economic) drivers for change; the use of scenarios should be made to uncover developments and define appropriate policies and management; integration of the ecological, economic and social dimensions.

Action: Wadden Academy as part of its international scientific agenda.

### (3) Annual Thematic Workshop/Other workshops

- a) An annual thematic workshop should be held to follow-up of the LancewadPlan Strategy to further help implementing the Strategy into regional and local policies and management, to exchange best practises and to extend and enhance the network including identifying the trans-boundary aspects of cooperation.

Action: In 2012 a thematic workshop prepared by a trilateral expert group; coordination by WSF secretariat assisted by CWSS, on landscape characterization with a view to an overall characterization based on the LancewadPlan Strategy entities and integration into regional spatial plans and local development plans. The possible development of an atlas should be discussed at the workshop as well. Representatives of regional and local authorities will play an important role in this workshop.



- b) Climate Change workshop to make inventory of plans and develop common approaches in the field of landscape and culture; involvement in trilateral Task Group "Climate" to be considered.

Action: WSF secretariat in cooperation with CWSS

- c) Tourism and agriculture aspects from the LancewadPlan Strategy to feed into already ongoing initiatives such as the trilateral Task Group "Sustainable Tourism Development Strategy" the World Heritage campaign ("story hunting") and relevant agricultural activities

Action: CWSS and WSF secretariat

### (4) Maritime Archaeological Heritage

An inventory of the archaeological heritage of the maritime part of the Wadden Sea (intertidal, sub-tidal) should be undertaken on common basis. As a first step a meeting should be held between the competent authorities and institutes to discuss scope, technics and feasibility.



Action: meeting in September 2011 in Hannover, by CWSS and WSF secretariat.

**(5) Organization & Coordination**

- a) There was agreement that the 2013 Ministerial Wadden Sea Conference in Denmark should be used to restate and reinforce the political commitment in this field and attempt to make it a key issues. The current Danish chairmanship will take an appropriate initiative in this field.
- b) A permanent expert group of the competent authorities should be formed to coordinate the work facilitated by the CWSS. The WSF secretariat was proposed to be tasked with the overall coordination and secretariat work for the various activities.
- c) The outcome of the workshop including the comparative analysis and the presentations and contributions should be published on the CWSS website and links should be installed on the websites of the organizations of the participants.
- d) To improve the trilateral understanding amongst the regional/local authorities and governments, an organisation and responsibility scheme about landscape and cultural heritage should be made available.



## Annex 1: List of participants

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**Annex 2: Final Programme**

<b>11 MAY 2011</b>		
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 13:15	Words of Welcome	Michael Lauenborg, Cultural Heritage Agency
	Opening	John Frederiksen, Nature Agency
13:15 – 13:45	Presentation of the Comparative Analysis of the Landscape and Cultural Heritage of the Wadden Sea Region	Nigel Brown, Head Historic Department, Essex County Council
13:45 – 14:45	Overall response to the report <b>by rep's. of national/regional agencies</b>  <b>Response from "the floor"</b>	Jos Bazelmans, NL Stefan Winghart, Nds Ulf Ickerodt, SH Michael Lauenborg, DK
14:45 – 15:15	An integral research agenda for the wadden cultural history	Jos Bazelmans, Dutch Agency of Cultural Heritage, Member Dutch Wadden Academy
15:15 – 15:45	Break	
15:45 – 16:15	LancewadPlan Strategy: Achievements, status and perspectives	Manfred Vollmer, Secretary of the Wadden Sea Forum
16:15 – 17:15	<b>Break-out session:</b> Implementation of the LWP recommendations (strategies and policies) on settlement, urban and landscape development  Work group sessions with focus on status of implementation and identification of priorities and areas of cooperation in a trans-boundary context	Presentation by Denmark (10 min)
17:15 – 18:00	Outcome of the work groups. Discussion on identification of planning issues in a trans-boundary context.	Plenary
19:00 – 20:00	Dinner	Short notice by Peter IIsøe, Wadden sea Board Chair
20:00 – 21:30	Evening Tour in Ribe.  The earliest Danish trade center and its common cultural history with Germany and the Netherlands	Archaeologist Morten Søvsø, South West Jutland Museum.

<b>12 MAY 2011</b>		
08:30 – 09:30	<p><b>Break-out session:</b> Implementation LancewadPlan recommendations on, coastal protection and water management.</p> <p>Work group sessions with focus on status of implementation and identification of priorities and areas of cooperation in a trans-boundary context</p>	Presentation by the Netherlands (10 min)
09:30 – 10:15	Outcome of work groups. Discussion and identification of issues in a trans-boundary context	Plenary
10:15 – 10:45	Coffee break	
10:45 – 11:45	<p><b>Break-out session:</b> Implementation of LancewadPlan recommendations on nature, agriculture and tourism.</p> <p>Work group sessions with focus on status of implementation and identification of priorities and areas of cooperation in a trans-boundary context</p>	Presentation by Germany (10 min)
11:45 – 12:30	Outcome of the work groups. Discussion, identification of key areas of cooperation	Plenary
12:30 – 13:00	<p>Conclusions, recommendations, action plan and division of responsibilities.</p> <p>Concluding remarks</p>	<p>Plenary</p> <p>Michael Lauenborg, Cultural Heritage Agency</p>
13:00 -	Lunch & departure	