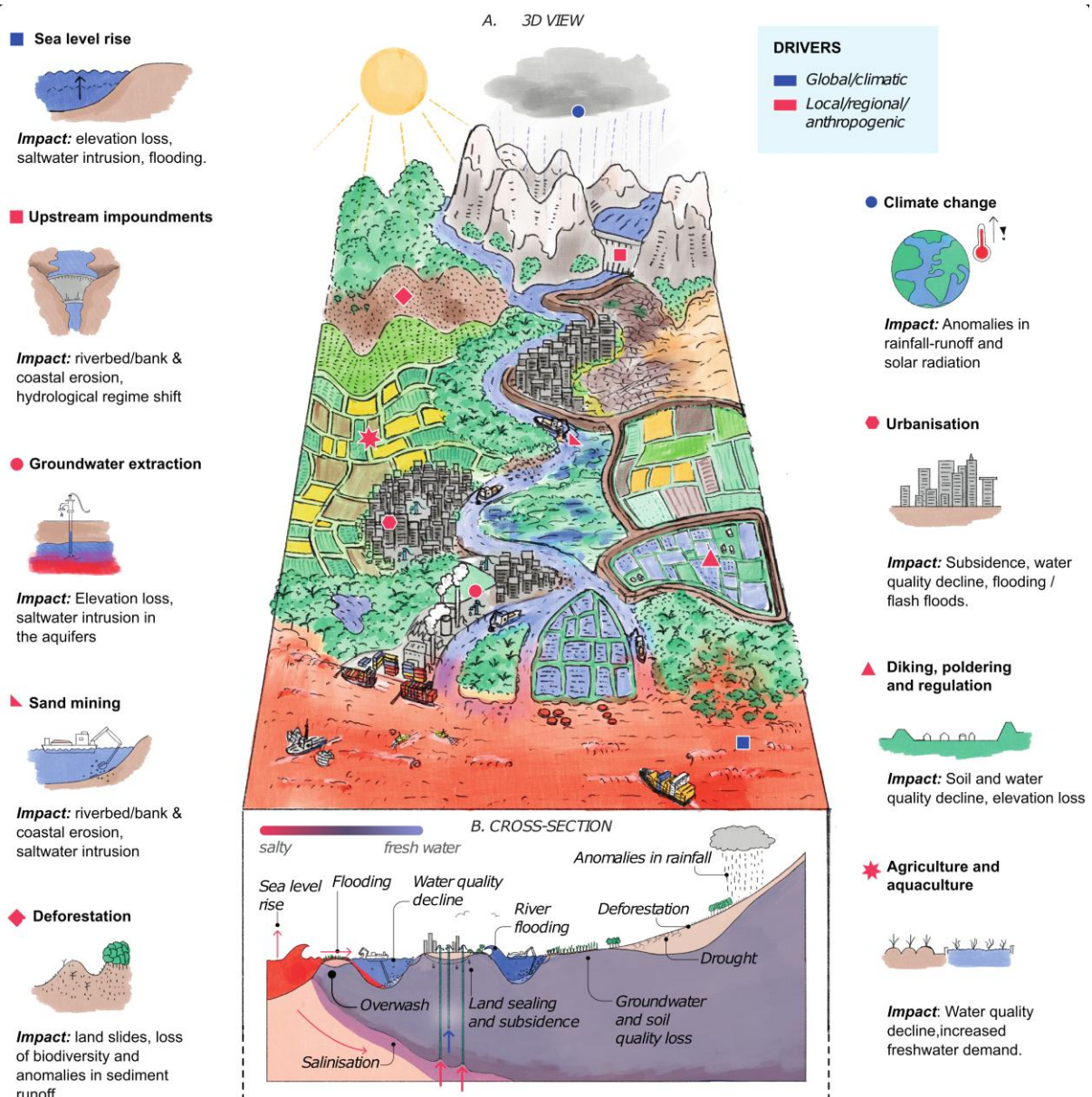


Theme: An integrated approach from biophysical to socioeconomic impact assessment for developing sustainable adaptation pathways in deltas.

Objective: To reflect on the most recent scientific efforts in linking biophysical system developments and livelihood in deltas, and share lessons learned from the adaptation efforts in some of the most important mega-delta's worldwide.

A comprehensive biophysical systems understanding of a delta from its source to its sink is a key primary step to develop sustainable adaptation pathways in deltas. This session aims to bridge the complex variabilities of the biophysical deltaic system to the livelihood of the population they serve, through relevant quantifiable socioeconomic assessments. We would like to discuss the cases of three prominent Ganges Brahmaputra Meghna (GBM), Mekong and the Nile mega-deltas, and find synergies and exchange lessons learned in adaptation planning.



Duration: 90min

Program:

Opening Remarks	<i>Sonja Pans (Deltares IPDC)</i>	<i>5 min</i>
<i>An integrated system understanding for the world deltas</i>	<i>Sepehr Eslami + Tiaravanni Hermawan (Deltares)</i>	<i>12 min</i>
<i>Lessons learned from the Mekong and GBM delta plans</i>	<i>Joint presentation from the World Bank (Virak Chan: Mekong) (Yukio Tanaka: GBM)</i>	<i>12 min</i>
<i>Climate migration patterns in the Mekong Delta</i>	<i>Vrinda Sharma (Paris School of Economics)</i>	<i>10 min</i>
<i>Lessons learned from JCAR implementation from an Egyptian perspective</i>	<i>Dr. Al Sayed Diwedar (NWRC)</i>	<i>10 min</i>
Moderated Q & A	<i>Shahnoor Hasan (Deltares)</i>	<i>10 min</i>
Panel contributions in continuation of the Q&A	<i>Robert Nicholls, Amelia Paszkowski, Gualbert Oude Essink, Al Sayed Ibrahim Diwedar</i>	<i>20 min</i>
Wrap-up: Invite participants to share their reflections/take-home message in the chat Lessons learned and Way forward	<i>Shahnoor Hasan / Sonja Pans</i>	<i>5 min</i>

Invitees:

- *DCC (IPDC ongoing cooperation)*
- *WUR*
- *WWF*
- *Haskoning*
- *ADB*
- *IPDC community ...*

Targeted audience:

Young to mid-level researchers, practitioners, funding agencies, government agencies, etc.

Take-away messages:

- Every delta is distinct and it has its own characteristics reflecting in geological, hydrological, socioeconomic and cultural dynamics.
- Adaptation needs to be embedded within a bigger picture and a greater understanding of "all drivers of change" (a holistic image) as there is a tendency to go to the direction of what we know best rather than the overall image. This highlights the growing demand for multi-disciplinary understanding of deltas.
- Inclusive bottom-up approaches and understanding of sociocultural needs and values are important, but these perhaps are most effective when nestled within a holistic system understanding: Think large scale act small scale for longer-term resilience.
- There is a greater need for adaptation plans to develop enabling conditions and an institutional framework for adaptation. However, the plan development efforts often overlook this need for an integrated perspective that we are advocating. This tends to happen due to administrative and institutions efforts related to development of programmes, which involves short-term project cycles.
- The experts from different deltas gave very different presentations. There is a missing link between the knowledge developed in other deltas that does not travel across. For example, there are more rooms for knowledge exchange and learning between the deltas.
- This leaves the vacuum for the methodology we advocate as the diagnostic conceptual framework. The place where experts from different deltas can exchange and learn from each other. We consider Deltares and its programs such as IPDC, JCAR can make a difference, and Moonshot 1 can support such learning processes.
- The link between Deltares core competency in biophysical understanding / modelling and socio-economic impacts is emphasized. We see great opportunities to not compete with financial institutes, but complement their work by our detailed analyses (e.g., in supporting hydro-economic modelling, etc.).

Material for promotion (IPDC Perspective)

- Every delta is distinct, with its own geological, hydrological, socioeconomic, and cultural dynamics shaping unique challenges and opportunities.
- Adaptation needs to be embedded within a bigger picture and a greater understanding of all drivers of change. Too often, efforts focus on what is most familiar rather than the overall system. This highlights the growing demand for multi-disciplinary approaches to understanding deltas.
- Inclusive, bottom-up approaches that reflect sociocultural needs and values are important, but they are most effective when nested within a holistic system perspective. Think large scale, act small scale for longer-term resilience.
- Adaptation planning must also create enabling conditions and institutional frameworks. Yet planning efforts often overlook this need for integration, constrained by short-term project cycles and administrative processes.
- Experts from different deltas shared diverse perspectives, yet knowledge often remains siloed and does not travel across regions. This creates a clear opportunity for the IPDC to foster cross-delta exchange, serving as a platform where insights can be shared, approaches compared, and system understanding co-developed. In doing so, IPDC has the potential to become a global hub for collaborative learning and system diagnostics among deltas, ensuring that expertise contributes to a shared understanding of resilience and sustainable development.