



Rijkswaterstaat  
Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu

**Ministry Infrastructure & Environment**

## **WFD and TRANSCONTINENTAL Integrated Joint Approach**

*EU INBO 2011 Conference  
27-30 September 2011*

**Dr. Wanda Zevenboom  
Ing. Marcel Bommelé  
\*Ing. Ton Ruigrok  
*RWS North Sea Directorate  
\*Waterboard Rivierenland***



# Contents

## 1. Transboundary aspects Dutch situation

- Fresh waters and North Sea

## 2. FORA and current shared problems

## 3. Dutch pilot Rhine West (RW)

- Organization, joint efforts,
- Integration of various scales, across borders
- Sources, transport, inputs, fate, concentrations

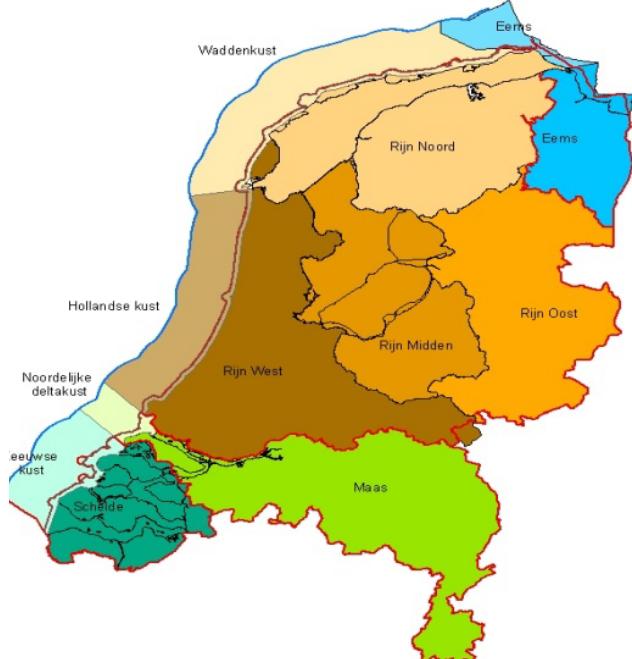
## 4. Conclusions

## 5. Questions and advice from YOU!

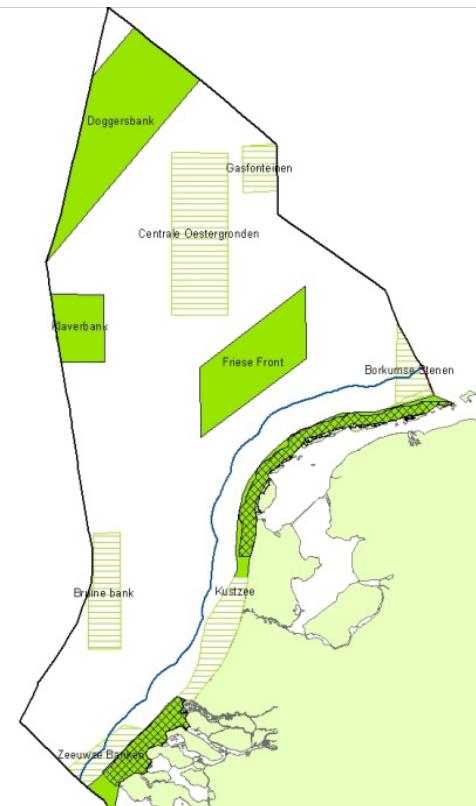


# Position of Dutch coastal waters (1/2)

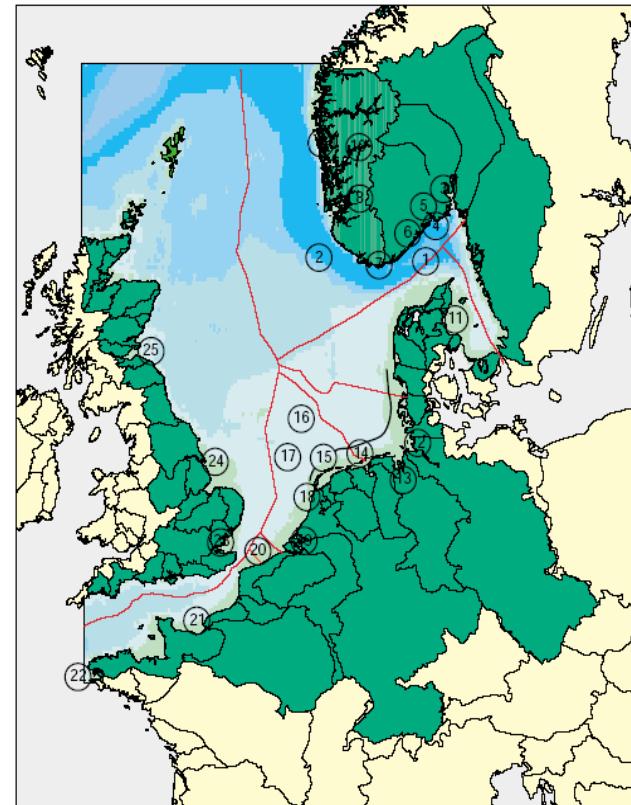
Features: NL below sea level, downstream: vulnerable!!



**WFD area**  
(12% of Dutch North Sea)



**Dutch part North Sea**  
(1.5 \* NL)



**Downstream**  
**Greater North Sea**



# Position of Dutch coastal waters (2/2)

**Features: open system, busy Greater North Sea**



## The North East Atlantic

Region I	Arctic Waters
Region II	Greater North Sea
Region III	Celtic Seas
Region IV	Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast
Region V	Wider Atlantic



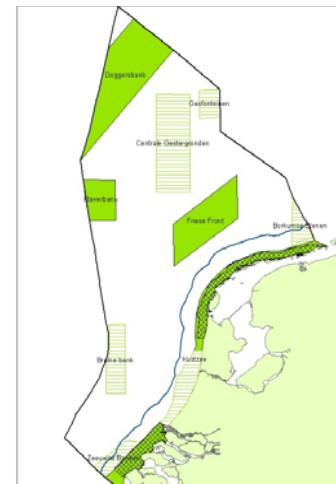
# North Sea, Fora, Areas



Greater North Sea

OSPAR Ministerial Conferences  
MSFD (Marine Strategy Framework Directive)

Rhine Commission



Dutch part North Sea

(1.5 \* NL)



WFD

WFD area's  
(12% of Dutch North Sea)

Natura 2000



# Problems: Eutrophication (OSPAR 2010) (1/3)

- **50% Reduction targets '85**
  - Reached for P, but not for N
  - Sources: Agriculture, shipping
- **Eutrophication problems remain in North Sea**
  - Excess nutrients, nuisance algae, oxygen deficiency, foam on beach
  - Impact on fisheries, recreation
  - This will last for longer time



*Algal bloom*

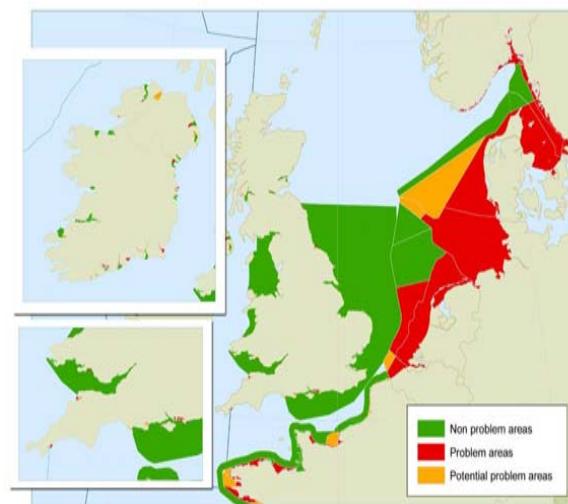


*Foam*

## Actions:

- WFD measures at source
- Link with MSFD through OSPAR

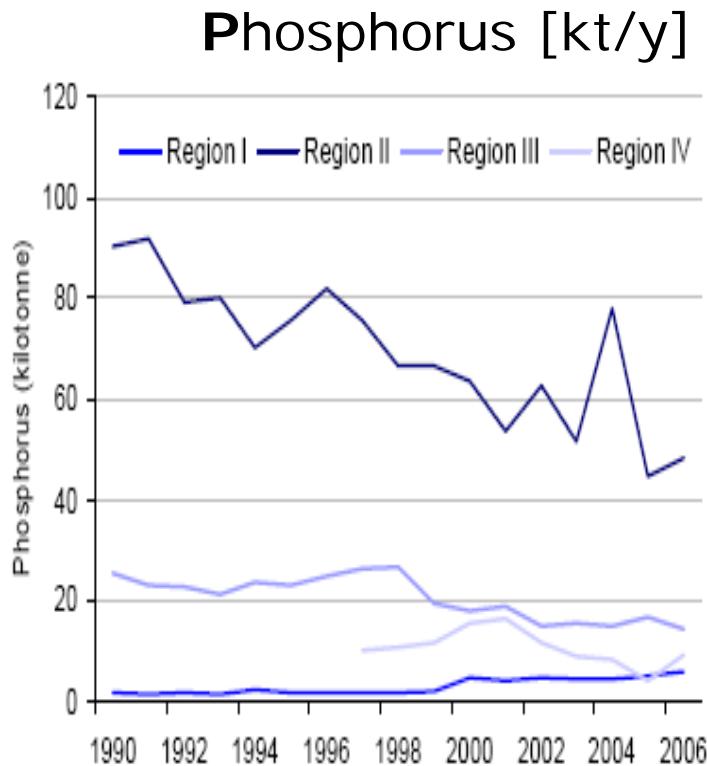
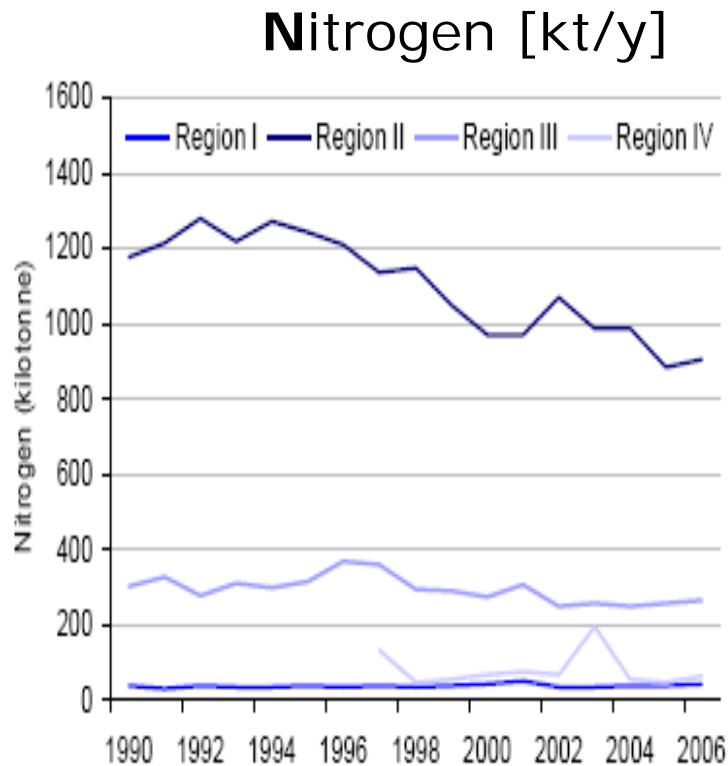
*Eutrophication problem areas*





# Riverine loads N and P in OSPAR regions (2/3)

**Reductions slowing down from 2000** in Greater North Sea





# Problems Hazardous Substances (OSPAR, 2010) (3/3)



- Some are reduced but
- Some are at unacceptable high levels in the sea,
- Leading to unacceptable effects (TBT imposex)
- Bioaccumulation in the foodchain (seamammals)

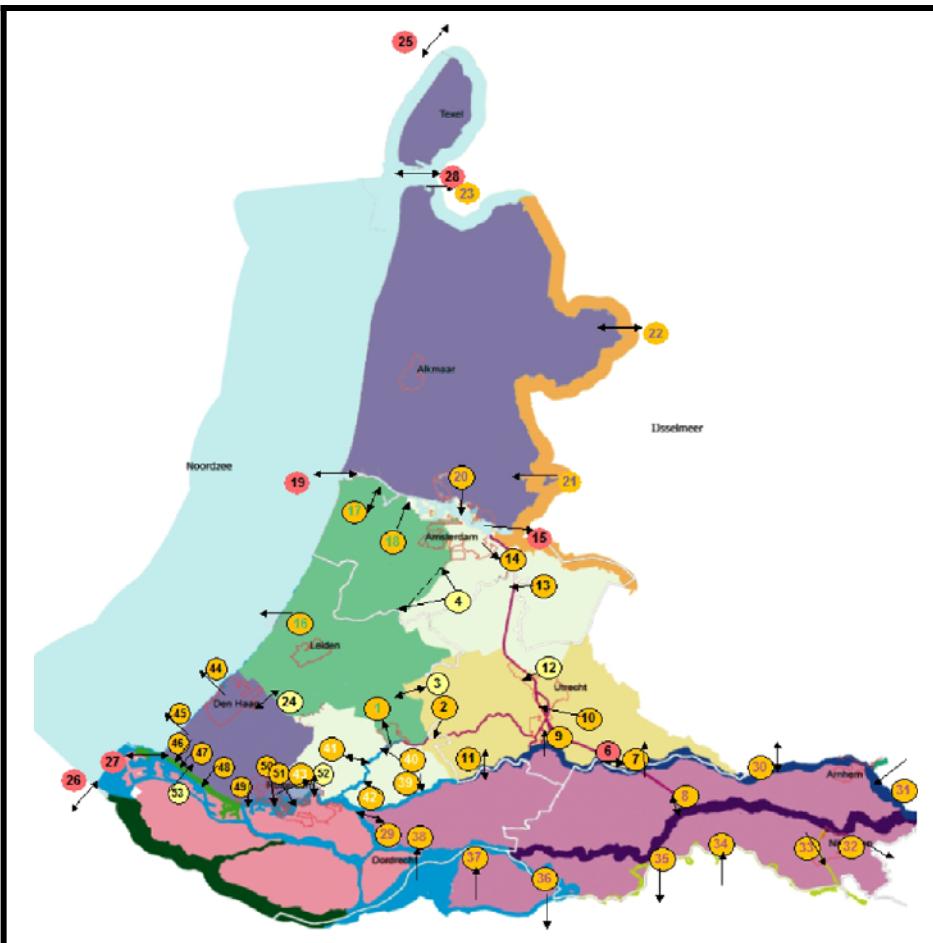
## Action

- Combatting at source: WFD measures upstream and at sea
- Monitoring substances and effects in relevant matrix\*\*

\*problems for the sea: Hg, Cd, Cu, Pb, PCB, PAK, oil, TBT, dioxinen, ftalates, herbicides, new substances..



# Pilot Rhine West (RW): Water authorities (1/5)



## International

I&M en RWS

## National

**5 RWS offices:**

ON, UT, NH, ZH, NZ

## Regional

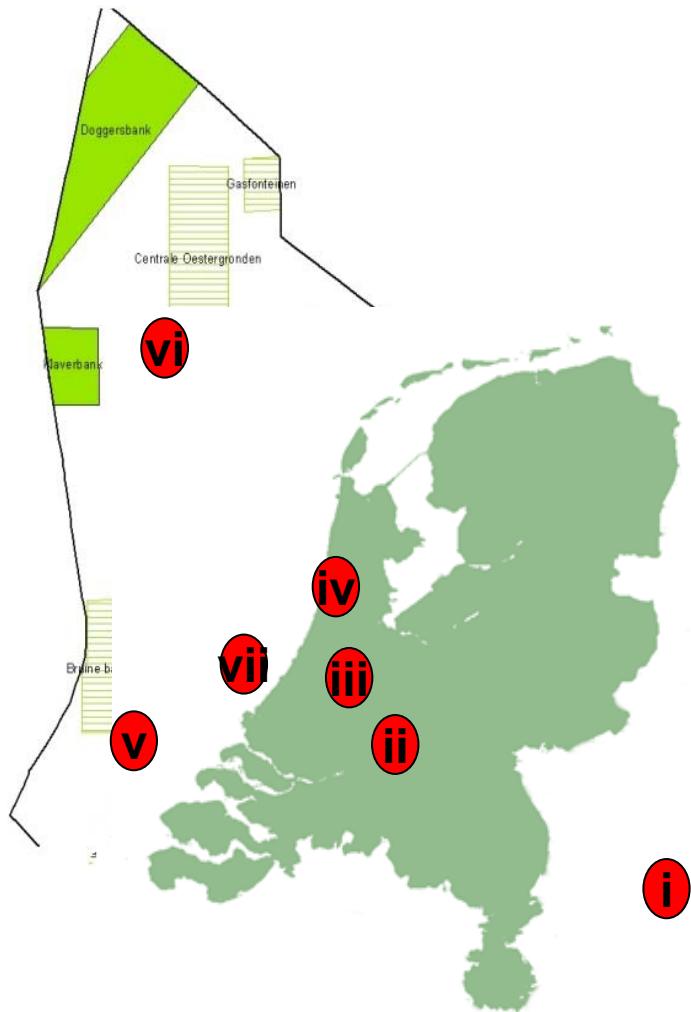
**5 Provinces**

**8 Waterboards**

**180 Municipalities**



# PILOT RW: 7 transport routes (2/5)

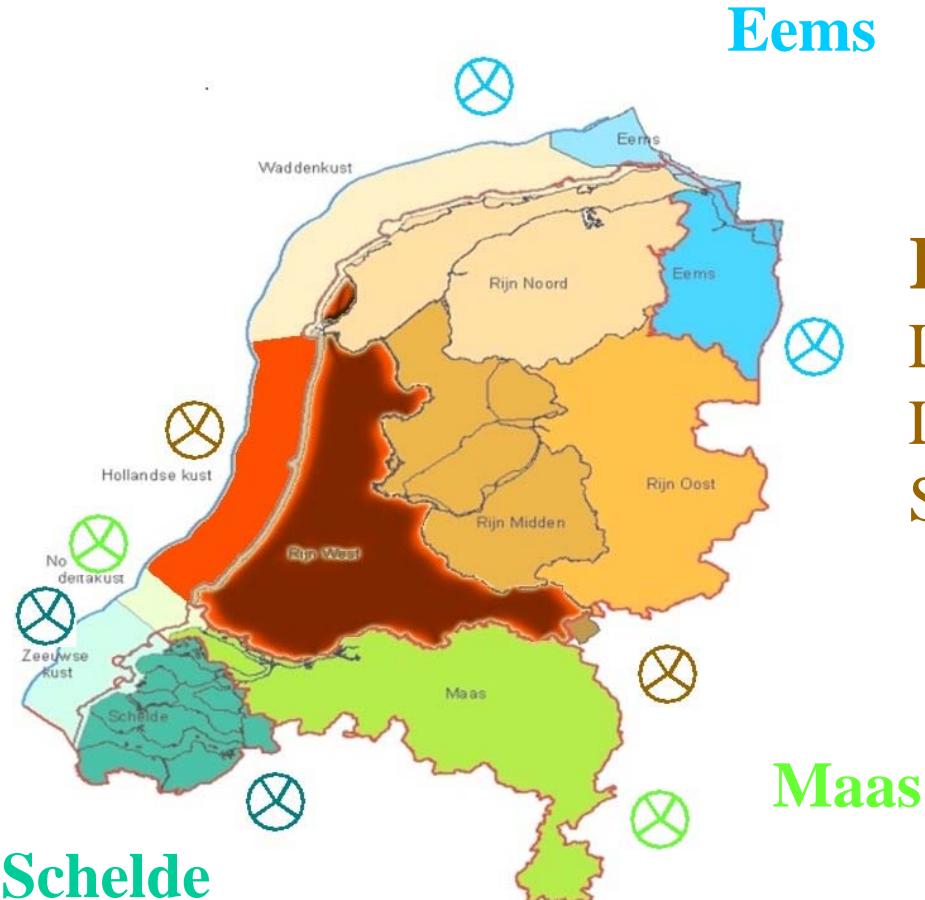


- vii = North Sea coast (OSPAR)
- vi = Atmos. deposition (OSPAR)
- v = Exchange estuaria / sink (OSPAR)
- iv = Groundwater<-> surfacewater (RW)
- iii = Exchange waterboards (WB) (RW)
- ii = Exchange WB <-> RWS (RW)
- i = Loads/inputs upstream international (OSPAR, Rijn Com., Rijn West)



# PILOT RW: 4 national River Basins (3/5)

KRW-Waterlichamen in de kustzee



**Rhine (O, West, M, N)**

Loads in: x kton N, P

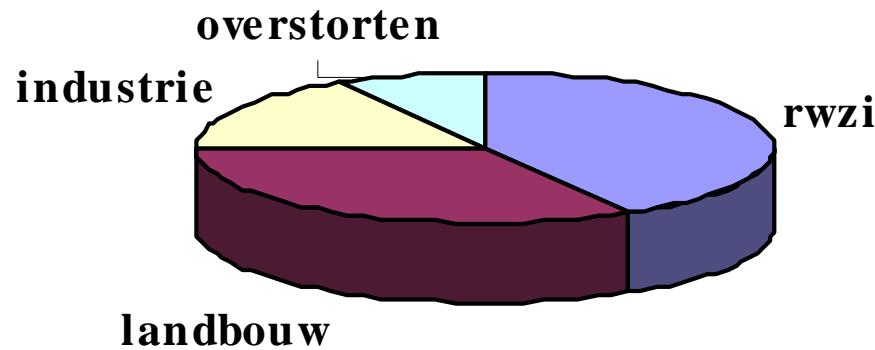
Loads out: y kton N, P

Sources (pies): N and P



# PILOT RW: example sources of Nitrogen (4/5)

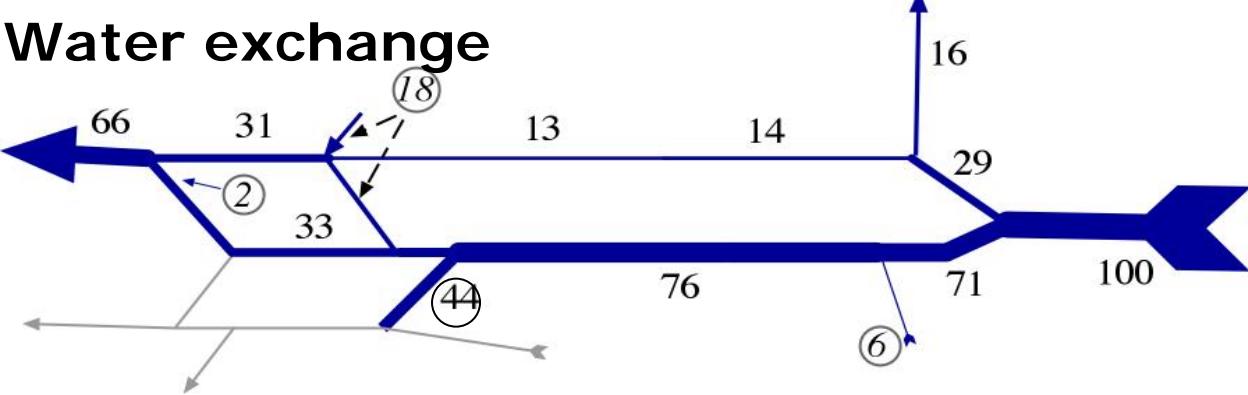
**bronnen N en P (voorbeeld)**



# Pilot RW: schematic Water- and N transport

Maassluis Lobith

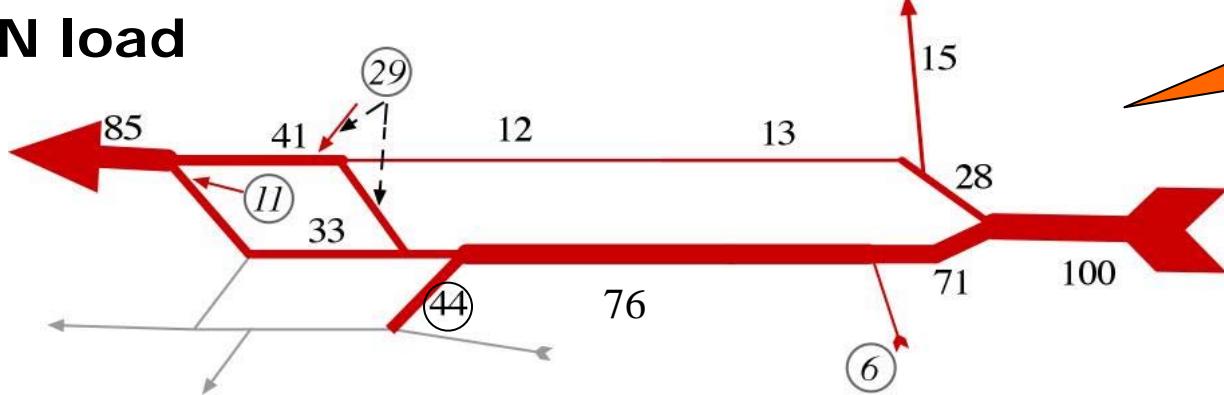
## Water exchange



$69230 \cdot 10^{-6} m^3$   
gem. 2006-2008

Preliminary  
results!

## N load



183 kton N  
gem. 2006-2008

--->Extra N load



## Dutch freshwater watersystems and North Sea are vulnerable

- intensively used, downstream (transboundary) and below sea level
- Some improvements in waterquality, but:
- Still eutrophication problems and
- Some hazardous substances at unacceptable level





## Common joint integrated riverbasin approach, focus on :

- Shared problems, sources, transport, conc.
- Joint fact finding, communication, commitment from the start
- Early signals to Brussels and neighbors
- WFD measures important for reaching downstream targets North Sea (OSPAR / MSFD)
- KISS (Keep it Simple and Smart)..





# Questions, Advice?

