



Resolution

“Impacts of the climate change”

The *Euregio the wadden* states:

1. The wadden sea area is severely exposed to the impacts of the global climate change. The outstanding factor for the morphogenetic development of this nature area is the dynamic sealevel. A radical change of the climate and the sealevel is a serious threat for the morphodynamic balance for the wadden sea area and its islands.
2. The existing local urban and economic structures have adapted to the natural dynamic shape of the wadden sea area within certain frames. A fast change of the natural conditions leads to a higher risk for the population within this living space.
3. Although local impacts of the climate change are difficult to evaluate, they have to be taken into account as seriously as the changes at the global level.
4. It is essential to take measures regarding the assessment of the risk for the wadden sea area in the near future. On this basis options for actions have to be developed.

Impacts of the climate change are well known at the global scale. In future it will be important to generate knowledge about the local scales because these information are needed for adaptation strategies.

In the wadden sea area the following changes have to be expected:

- rise of the sealevel
- increased water temperature
- different storm intensity
- changed sea conditions
- tidal changes
- change of the precipitation
- change of the regional climate

These changed conditions could lead to the following impacts:

- morphological impacts
- increasing hazard of stormfloods
- increasing vulnerability of the coastal zones, especially on the “Halligen”
- the ecosystem changes as a consequence of a higher water temperature

Because of these conclusions, the *Euregio the wadden* addresses to the responsible governments to begin a common discussion about the following subjects:

1. An intensive investigation of the local/ regional impacts and their risks.
2. The development of adaptation strategies in cooperation with the affected regions.
3. More support for increased efforts of the regions to prevent the acceleration of the climate change.

Additionally the *Euregio the wadden* demand a sustainable reinforcement of island- and coastal protection. Therefore an amendment is stated in the resolution "reinforcement of island- and coastal protection".

Adopted at the conference of Euregio the wadden on 25th of May 2007, Island Sylt, Germany.

This resolution will be committed to:

The national governments of Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.