

02/26/09 - About

After a month of absence, Konrad Steffen is back at the Greenland Ice Sheet, inspecting the current situation. Steffen is an authority when it comes to arctic climatology. For over 32 years, he has studied changes in the ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland. According to his findings, sea levels will rise more than one meter by the end of the century, and he emphasizes that "2100 is not the end of our history. Sea levels will continue to rise and probably at a faster rate than today". The need for adaptation is becoming more and more urgent.

How swift are cities in taking adequate response measures? We take a look at Alexandria, Jakarta, New York, and Rotterdam; four of the world's coastal cities that will be - and already are being - directly affected by sea level rise. How big is this impact and what can the cities do to be prepared? On the basis of interviews, scientists, policymakers, and inhabitants reflect on the situation of their city. It becomes clear that each city is faced with its own dilemmas, cultural habits, political structure and history, which makes it difficult to undertake immediate and necessary action.

But besides the differences between the cities, the similarities in the dangers and challenges that they are facing are huge. The problems are global and can be tackled more efficiently with an exchange of knowledge and intensive cooperation.





In the short version (approx.17min) we take a global look at New York, Jakarta and Rotterdam.

In the longer version (approx.42min) we take a closer look at the subject and add the city of Alexandria.

The following scientists and policymakers make their appearance in the film:

- Professor Konrad Steffen, Director of Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science (CIRES), University of Colorado, Boulder, USA.
- Professor Malcolm J. Bowman, professor of Oceanography and Distinguished Service professor Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS), State University of New York, Stony Brook, USA.

- Mr. Ernest Tollerson, Director, Policy and Media Relations, The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), New York.
- Prof. Hasanudin Z. Abidin, MSc, Head of Geodesy Research Division, Faculty of Earth Science and Technology, Institute Technology Bandung, Indonesia.
- Ir. Anthony Raymond Kemur, Head for Sub Directorate Spatial (land use) Use and Control from Ministry of Public Works Directorate of Spatial Planning, Directorate for Region 2 (Java and Bali), Indonesia.
- Professor Jeroen Aerts, Professor water, risk and insurance, Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM), VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Professor Pier Vellinga, Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands.
- Drs. Arnoud Molenaar, Programme Manager Rotterdam Climate Proof, adaptation programme of the Rotterdam Climate Initiative (RCI), The Netherlands.
- Professor Mohammed El Raey, Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Alexandria, Egypt.
- Dr. Khaled Abu-Zeid, Regional Water Resources Program Manager Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Egypt.

Festivals and broadcasting

The original version was screened previously at:

? World Water Forum, Istanbul, Turkey, March 2009

? Zanzibar International Film Festival, Tanzania, June 2009

? International Film festival on the Environment and Natural and Cultural Heritage Ekofilm, Praha, Czech Republic, Oktober 2009

? Green Vision International Environmental Filmfestival, St. Petersburg, Russia, Nov 2009

? Short Filmfestival Development & Climate Days at COP15, Copenhagen, Denmark, December 2009

? Indonesian Delta Forum, Semarang, Indonesia, October 2010

The documentary version (50 min) was screened previously at:

? Ekotopfilm, Bratislava, Slovakia, October 2009

? Miradas-Doc, Tenerife, Spain, November 2009

? Environmental Film Festival of Accra, Ghana , June 2010

? Rodos International Film and Visual Arts festival ECOFILMS, Rodos, Greece, June 2010

? Eco Film Fest, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 2010

? International Film Festival Water, sea and oceans, Usti nad Labem, Czech Republic, November 2010

Broadcasting:

Ushuaia TV (part of the TF1 group) in France have screened Connecting Delta Cities in March 2010.

TVC International, the international channel of the public Catalan television TV3, have screened the film 32 times from on March 15, 2010.