



## Shipping Working Group

15 December 2010, Aalst

# The European Dredging Industry

## European Dredgers' Views on Maritime Transport Policies

**Paris Sansoglou**

*Secretary General*

*European Dredging Association*

**Belgian Presidency of the Council  
of the European Union**



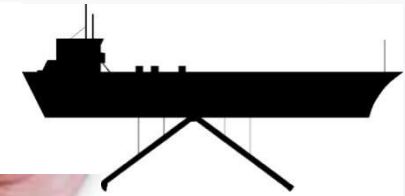


# Agenda

- Introduction to EuDA
- Sustainable waterborne Transport
- Conclusions



# Introduction to EuDA



FÉDÉRATION DU DRAGAGE  
DERATIE DER BAGGERWERKEN

## *EUROPEAN DREDGING ASSOCIATION*



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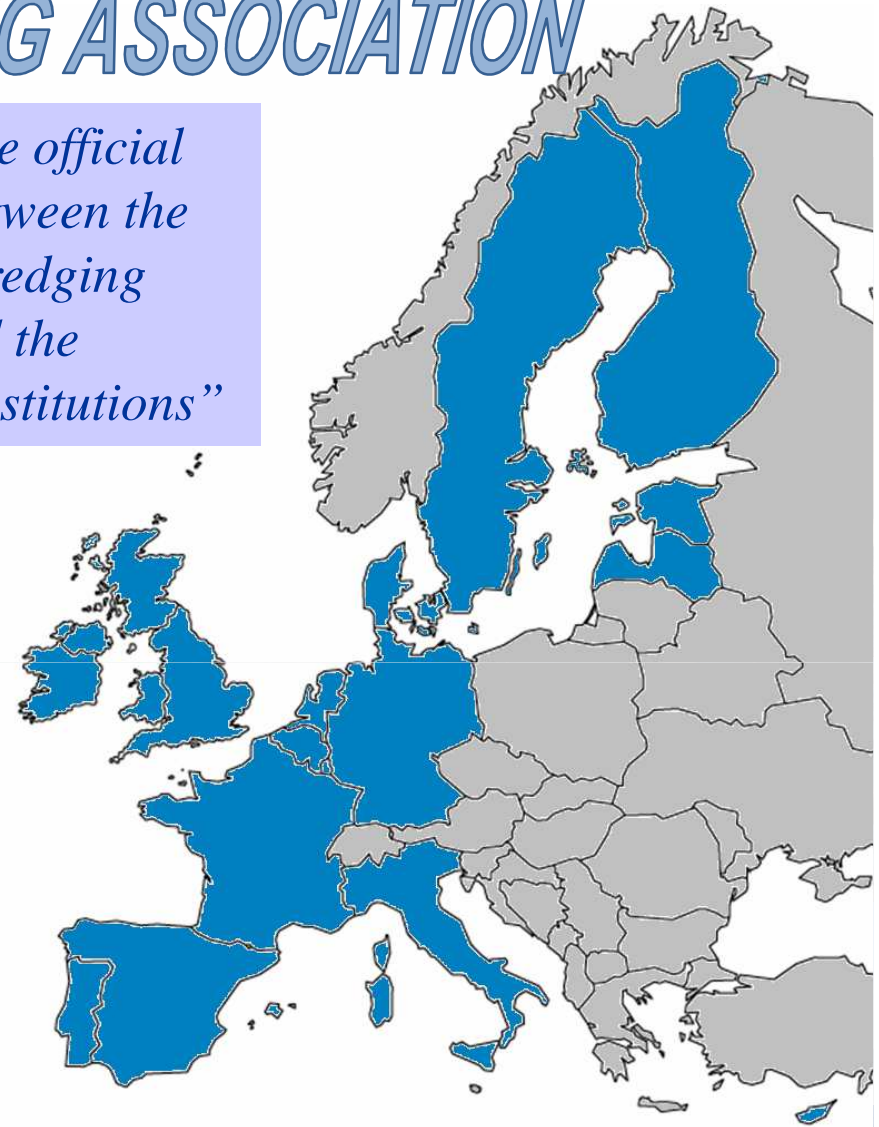
Slide 3



# EUROPEAN DREDGING ASSOCIATION

- founded in 1993
- represents the European Dredging Companies
- from 16 EU Members States
- world leaders (top 4)
- with a turnover (2009): € 6.5 bn
- +/- 25,000 European direct employment
- >50,000 indirect employment (*supply and service companies*)

*“EuDA is the official interface between the European dredging industry and the European Institutions”*



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# Sustainable waterborne Transport



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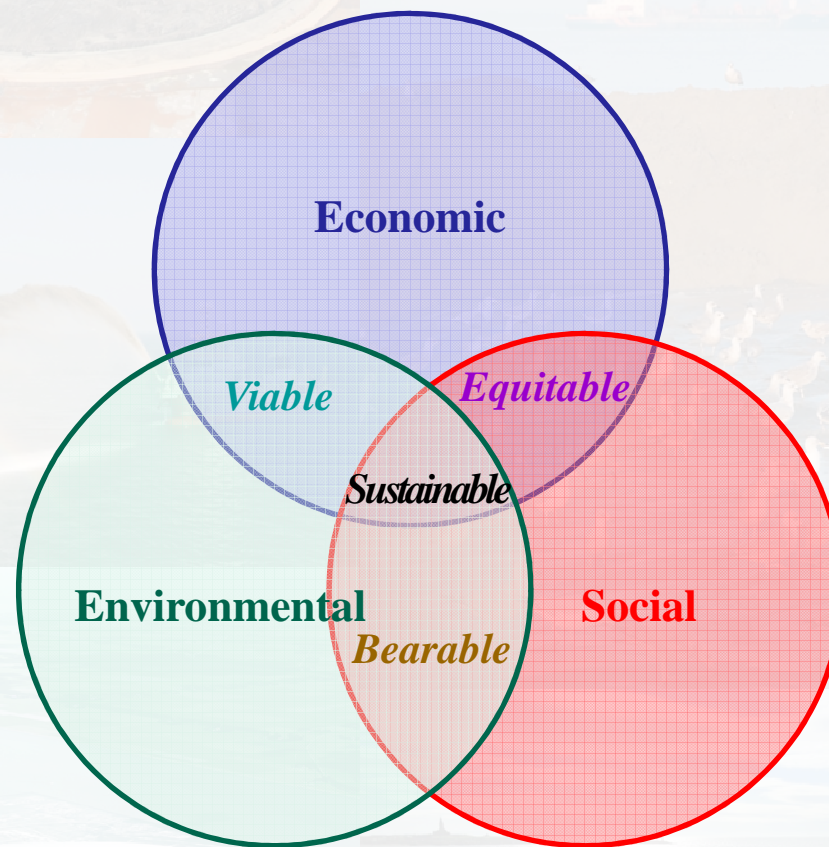


# Sustainable development



## Bruntland Report, UN 1987

*'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'*



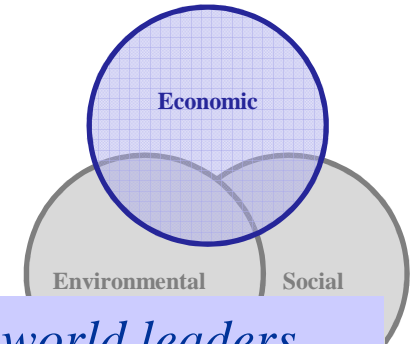
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# Sustainable waterborne Transport Economic Aspects



## The dredgers' view

### ⇒ Competitiveness

- ✓ European Dredgers are world leaders (Top 4)
- ✓ Innovation: High Tech Industry

*“To be world leaders is a moving target, not a destination”*

### ⇒ Global Competition

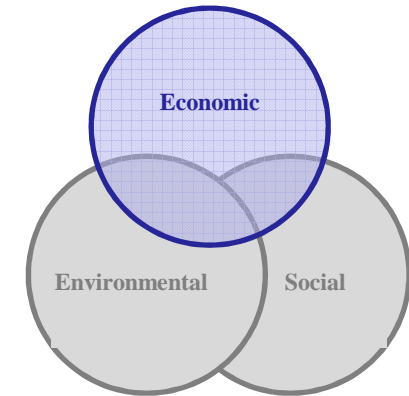
- ✓ Level Playing Field
- ✓ Market Access
- ✓ State aid to maritime transport

*“The only way to maintain global leadership and keep growing is to innovate”*

*“Competition can only be fair when all play by the same rules and have the same access to markets”*



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Economic Aspects



## The dredgers' view

⇒ Long term threats to the European Dredgers' Competitiveness are mainly the unfair competition practices from large state owned companies

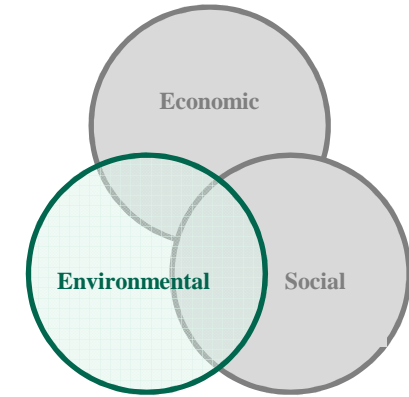
- ☞ Benefiting from a closed (protected) domestic market;
- ☞ Developing strongly their export markets through tied aid schemes.

*“Unfair competition practices are like coastal erosion: markets are eroded and lost at a steady pace; left untackled in the long term, they can wear out even the most resilient of companies”*





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Environmental Aspects



## The dredgers' view

⇒ Safety (3<sup>rd</sup> Package, EMSA, ...)

⇒ Environmental impact

✓ Air Pollution (CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, PM, ...)

✓ Energy Efficiency, decarbonisation of transport

⇒ EU environmental legislation

(ICZM, MSP, Habitats, Water, Waste, Marine Strategy, EIA, SEA, ...)

*“Global Industries, Global Rules”*

⇒ IMO environmental legislation

(SOLAS, MARPOL, LC, AFS, Ballast Water, Ship Recycling, ...)

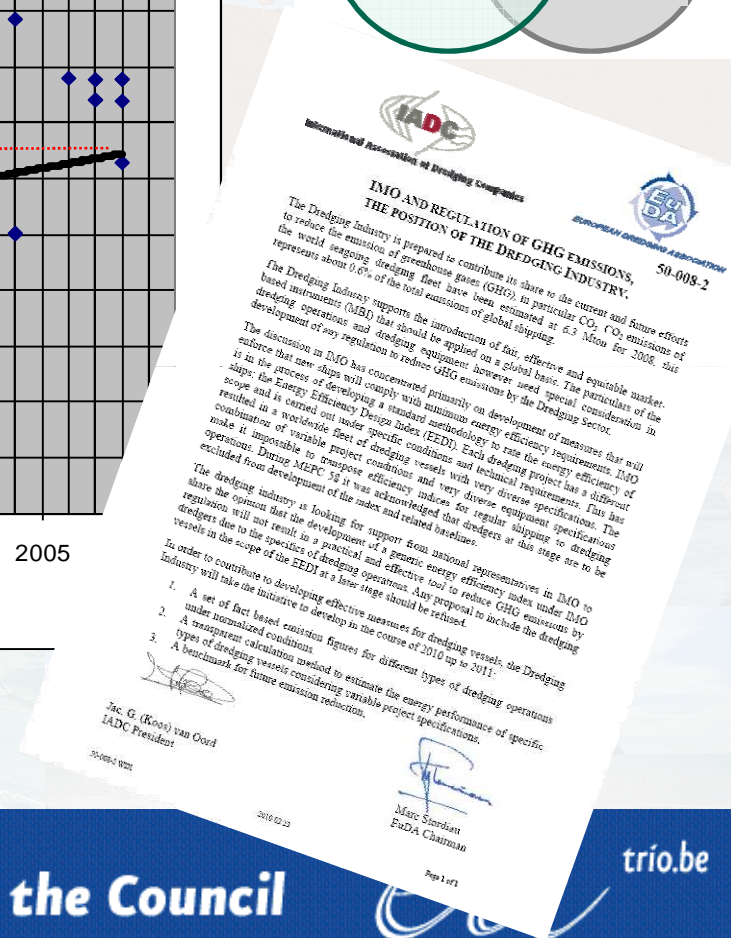
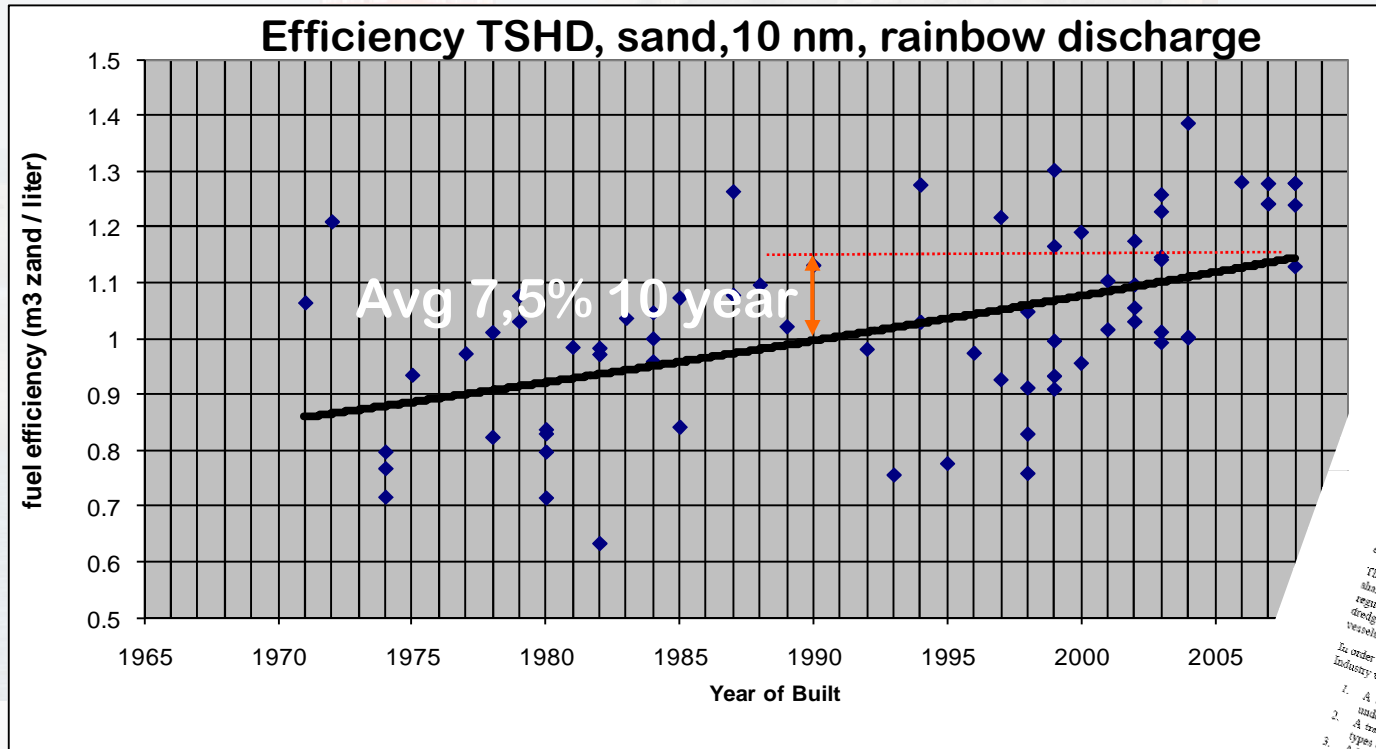
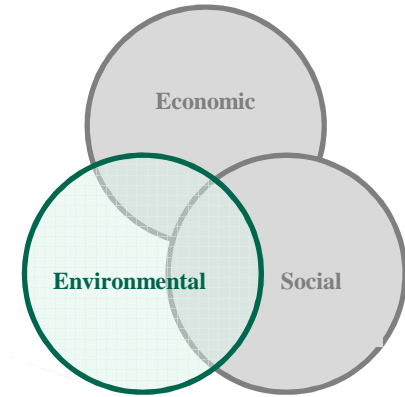
*“European Dredgers are committed to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction”*

*“Complex, overlapping, sometimes conflicting”*

*“Rapid Ratification”*



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Dredgers' Commitment to CO<sub>2</sub>

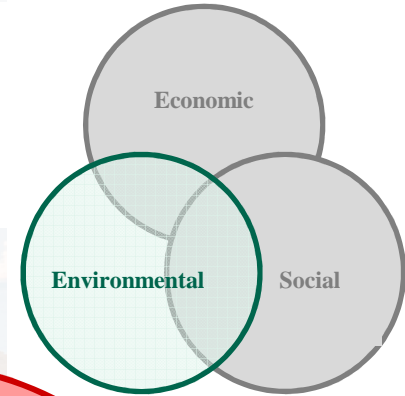


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# Sustainable waterborne Transport Complex Environmental Legislation

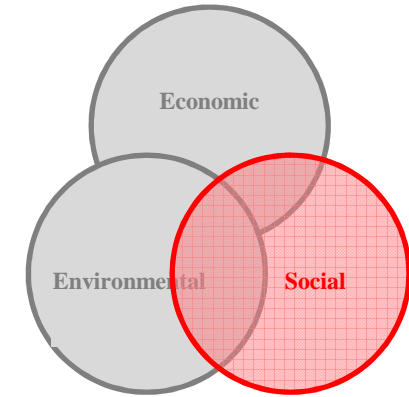


## The dredgers' view





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Social Aspects



## The dredgers' view

- ⇒ Quality, Health, Safety, Environment
- ⇒ Security (Piracy)
- ⇒ Knowledge and skills
- ⇒ Need for maritime professionals
- ⇒ Innovation
- ⇒ ILO MLC 2006 – IMO STCW

*“Short, medium & long term strategies”*

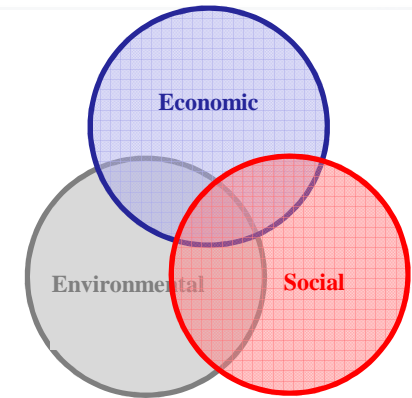
*“The European Dredgers invest in their Human Capital”*

*“Rapid Ratification”*



# Sustainable waterborne Transport

## ILO MLC 2006



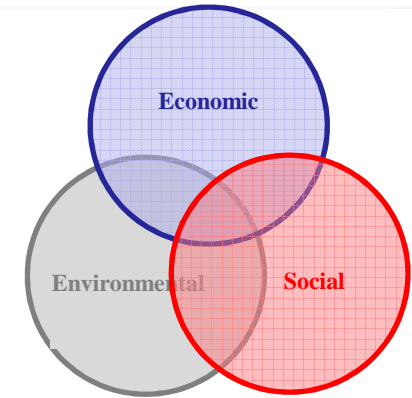
### Raising the standards for

- Improved safety;
- Improved working conditions & accommodation on board;
- Improved competitiveness  
(by eliminating sub-standard competitors);
- Improved quality of life at sea;
- Improved overall image of the industry.

⇒ Opening New Opportunities for the European Dredgers



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Social Aspects



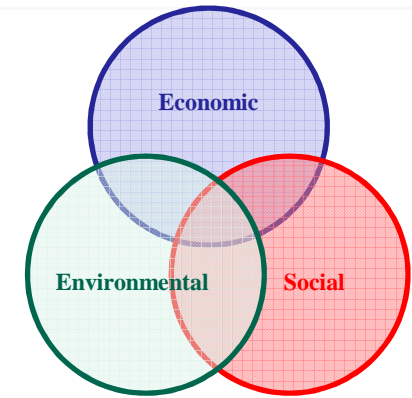
high-tech, high added value, high-wage



low-tech, low added value, low-wage



# Sustainable waterborne Transport When it all comes together



## Dredging is not a problem

... it is part of the solution !

👉 Port expansion in densely populated and urbanised areas:

👉 *“Reclaim land on the sea”*

👉 Ports’ access for bigger ships:

👉 *“Access channel deepening”*

👉 Guaranteed navigational depth:

👉 *“Maintenance dredging”*

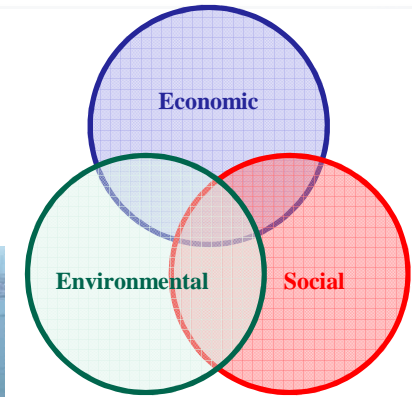
👉 Contaminated sediments on seabed or riverbeds:

👉 *“Environmental dredging”*





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Integrated Policies

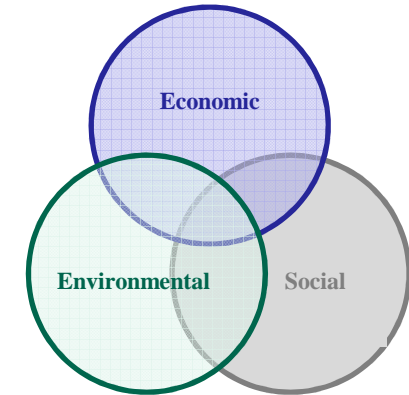


*“Integrated Policies  
need interdisciplinary  
(mutual) understanding  
and cooperation”*





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Large-scale Dredging Projects

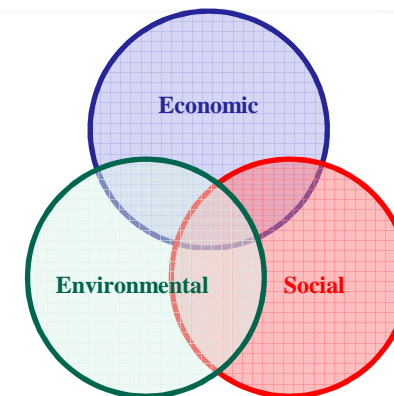


## The dredgers' view

- Growing demand for waterborne infrastructures
- ☞ Sustainable development important for clients
  - ☞ Uncertainties on project impacts
  - ☞ Extensive EMPs and monitoring requirements
  - ☞ Long-lasting procedures
  - ☞ Complex environmental legislation (Directives ⇔ National Laws).
- ⇨ Development of large-scale projects characterised by **uncertainties** and **delays** (sometimes cancellation).



# Sustainable waterborne Transport When it all comes together



## Solutions found in cooperation

⇒ At **policy level**:

cooperation between policy makers, with stakeholders;

*“Environmental Guidelines (fast track)”*

⇒ At **project level**:

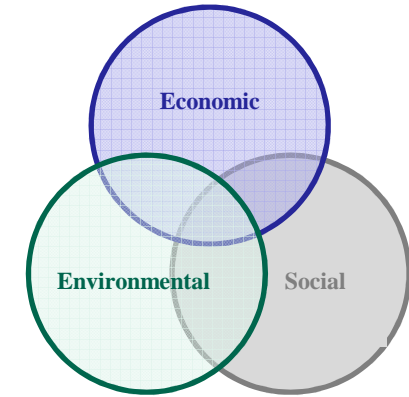
take ‘nature’ into account at the design phase  
and engage the stakeholders at an early stage.



*“To improve certainty and  
keep delays under control for  
large infrastructure projects”*



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Environmentally Sensitive Projects



## Characteristics:

⇒ Focus on mitigating negative effects

*“Defensive Approach”*

⇒ Site specific environmental requirements

*“Not copied from one site to another”*

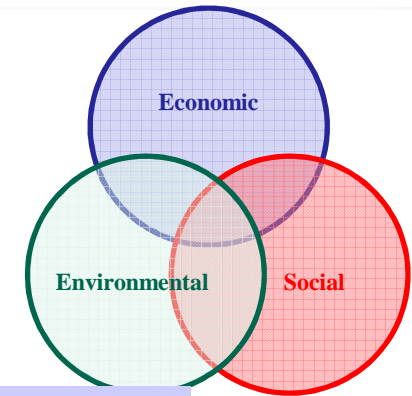
⇒ Knowledge shift from client to contractors

*“Thorough knowledge of ecosystem processes makes the difference on environmentally complex projects”*





# Sustainable waterborne Transport When it all comes together



Need to switch

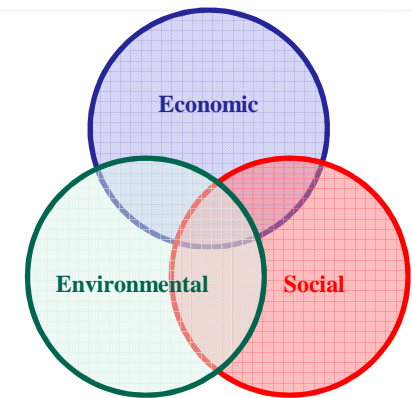
- ⇒ From **defensive approach**, “*Environment = Constraint*”  
minimising environmental impact,
- ⇒ To **offensive approach**, optimising  
full (socio-)economic and environmental potential.

“*Environment = Opportunity*”





# Sustainable waterborne Transport When it all comes together



## Solutions in cooperation

⇒ Long term vision and integrated approach:

*“Building with Nature”*

⇒ Innovative Solutions:

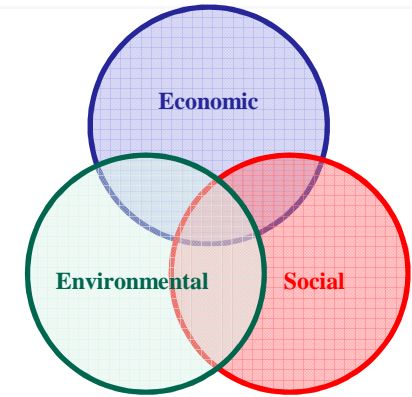
*“Multipurpose Island”*

⇒ Creation of ‘new nature’

*“More than Conservation”*



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Building with Nature



Concept (developed over last 30 years):

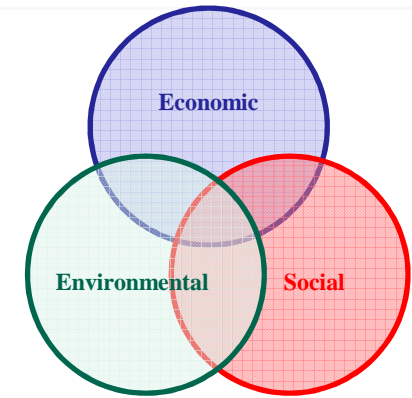
“Flexible integration

- of **land** in **sea**
- and of **water** in the **new land**

making use of materials and forces/interactions, present in nature, taking into account existing and potential nature values and the bio-geomorphology & geo-hydrology of coast and seabed.”



# Sustainable waterborne Transport Building with Nature



## “Eco-dynamic Development & Design”

⇒ the **dynamics of the natural system** become the starting point for design and realisation of maritime infrastructures:

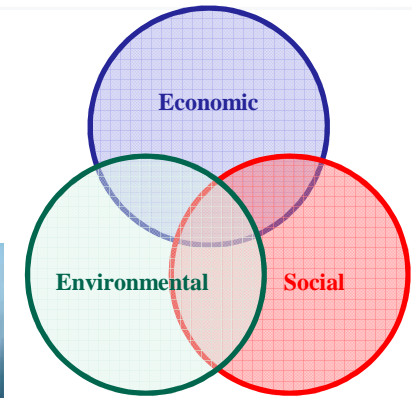
- ✓ Make optimal use of natural processes
- ✓ Design fits with natural (eco-)system dynamics
- ✓ Explore opportunities to promote nature development

⇒ Key disciplines are integrated (Engineering, Ecology & Governance).





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Building with Nature



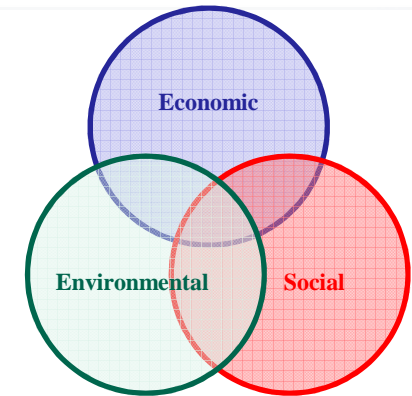
*“Using the forces of Nature, instead of fighting them”*







# Sustainable waterborne Transport Integrated Approach



## *Building with Nature*

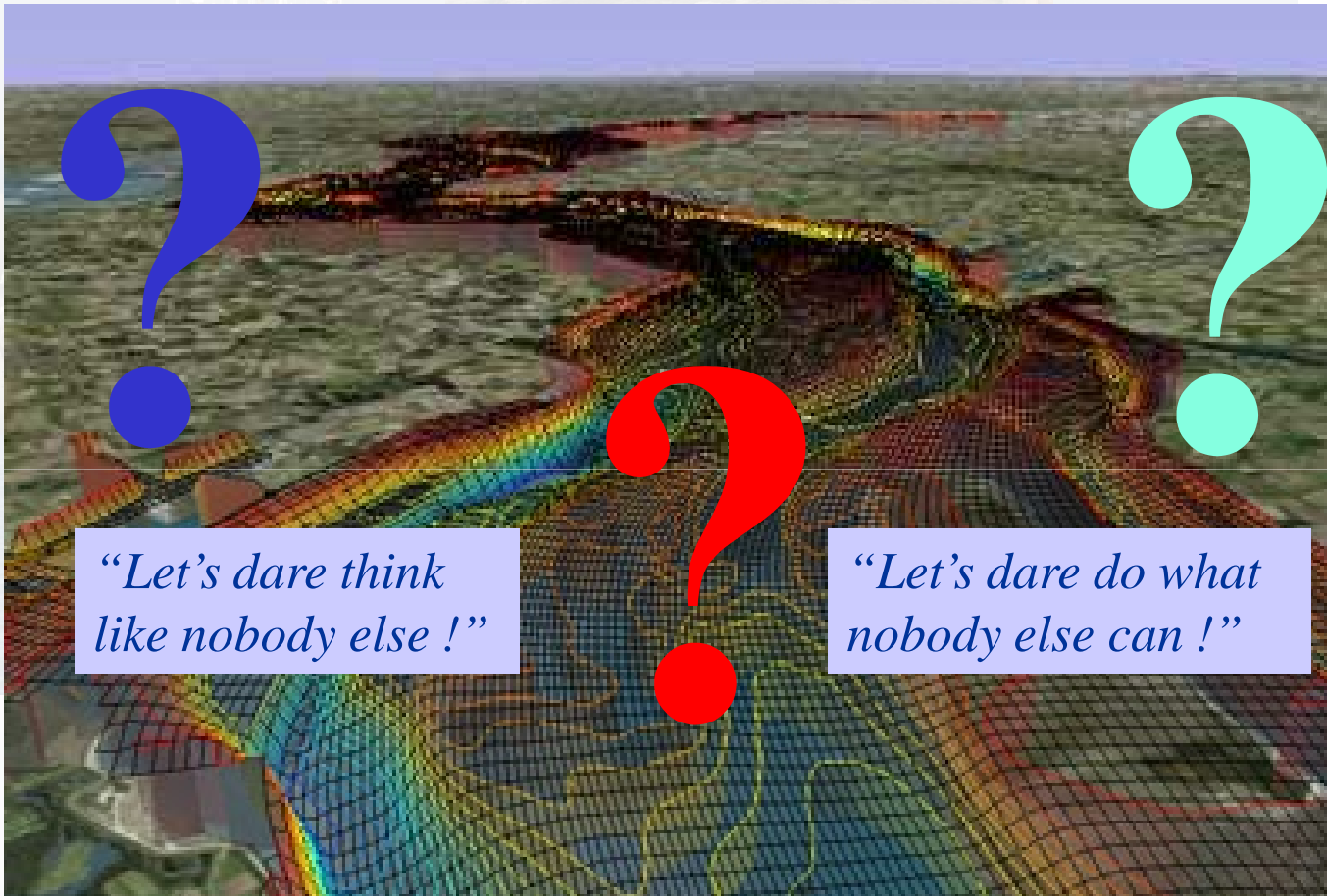
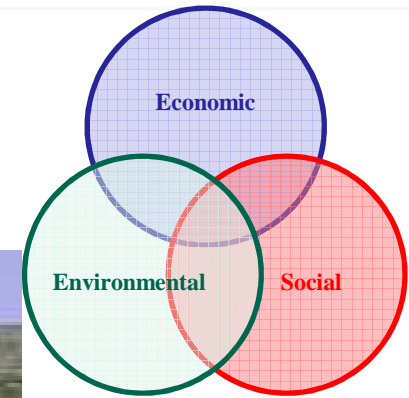
*offers opportunities to reinforce competitive edge while at the same time serving Society and developing Nature's potential, truly contributing to Sustainable Development.*





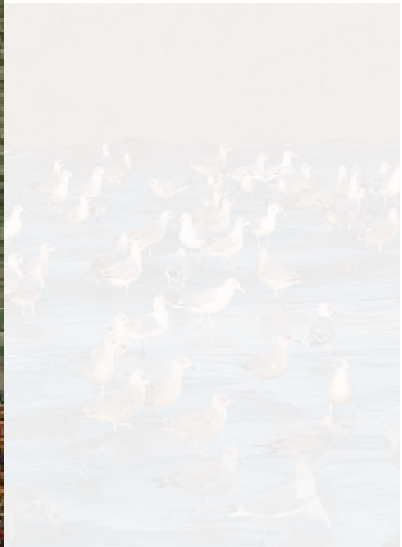
# Sustainable waterborne Transport

## What's next ? So much we don't know



*“Let's dare think like nobody else !”*

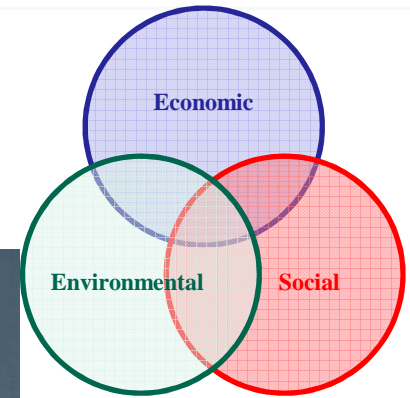
*“Let's dare do what nobody else can !”*



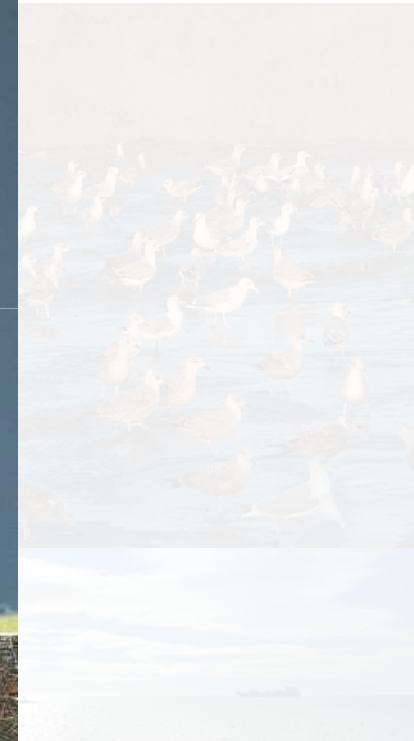
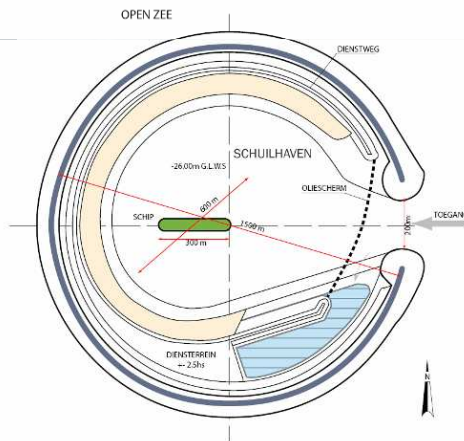


# Sustainable waterborne Transport Innovative Solutions

Coastal protection  
Safe Place of Refuge  
Nature development  
...



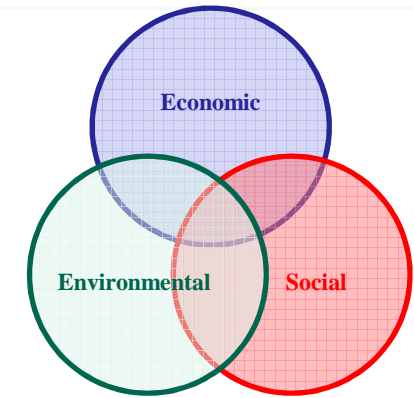
## “Multipurpose Island”





# Sustainable waterborne Transport Creation of 'new nature'

Where Nature serves Man and  
... Man serves Nature !

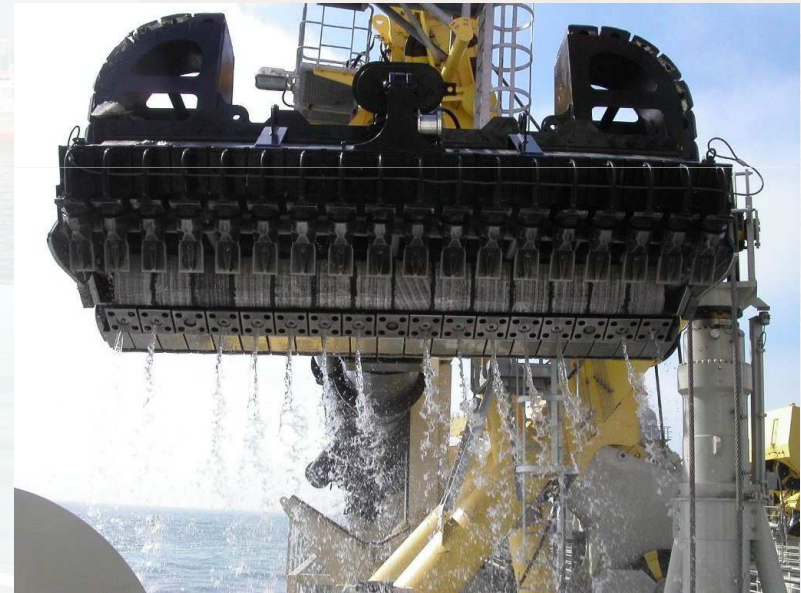


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# Conclusions



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# Conclusions



⇒ Dredgers are key waterborne transport stakeholders

⇒ Need for Cooperation and Integration

⇒ Dredgers help Policymakers, waterborne Industries & Citizens



# Conclusions



## **Dredgers are key waterborne transport stakeholders**

- ⇒ Specialised Transporters (sand, rock, gravel, silt);
- ⇒ Maintaining & expanding the networks:
  - ✓ for maritime transport and inland navigation;
  - ✓ for offshore energy (oil & gas, wind farms);
- ⇒ European Dredgers are world leaders in their industry;
  - ✓ however this leadership is under serious threat;
- ⇒ European Dredgers are ready to cooperate:
  - ✓ to improve policies and legislation;
  - ✓ to contribute to improve Nature and Society in a sustainable way.



# Conclusions



## Need for Cooperation and Integration

### ⇒ Relevant European policies for Waterborne Transport

- ✓ coordination of key policy objectives (e.g. DG ENV – DG MOVE);
- ✓ coordination of national implementation (e.g. guidelines);
  - ☞ without overlooking sector specific approaches.

### ⇒ Relevant International legislations for Waterborne Transport

- ✓ IMO – ILO – WTO: coordinated ratification by Member States;
- ✓ Concrete action against unfair competition practices, including temporary mechanisms to counterbalance these practices.

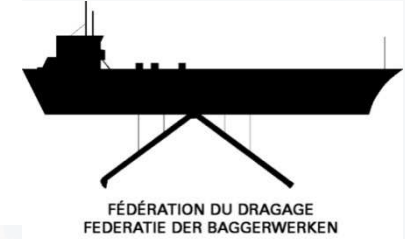
### ⇒ Strategic knowledge & know how

- ✓ need to continuously invest in RDI
- ✓ need to continuously attract, educate and train new recruits





# Conclusions



## **European Dredgers can help Policymakers, waterborne Industries and Citizens:**

- ⇒ Provide solutions for maritime transport policy implementation (infrastructures, safety, environmental performance, ...);
- ⇒ Increase trade, energy & aggregates supply, residences, tourism;
- ⇒ Create new jobs, build new knowledge and implement new ideas;
- ⇒ Protect coastline, create new land;
- ⇒ Restore nature (e.g. clean polluted seabeds/riverbeds), create new nature.



European Dredgers ...  
Building our Future  
together with Nature !





# Thank you !

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