



7th international SedNet event. 6 – 9 April 2011

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Dredged material assessment nowadays and in the future

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DGE

DGE – Dredging in Europe

- **informal network of authorities involved in regulating and advising sediment and dredged material management of rivers, coasts and ports in countries around the North Sea and the Baltic Sea**
- **started 1999 as Dutch-German-Exchange and is working since 2005 as multilateral forum of representatives from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom**
- **DGE's practical and problem oriented exchange aims at better knowledge and experience of sediment and dredged material management and at promoting the related national and international discussions**
- **Relevance and objectives & products: www.sednet.org/dge.htm**



Associations of ‘Dredging’:

- the whole management chain of dredged material - uptake, transport, placement/disposal, *use/treatment*
- legislation concerning dredging
- environmental aspects of dredging activities (*working with nature*)
- multiple purposes of dredging - maintenance of waterways, safety against flooding, clean up dredging

Dredged material assessment

forms the starting point in the management chain - has to account for the complexity of the problems *ab initio*

has to be problem-oriented

has to comply with the principle of commensurability (don't take a sledgehammer to crack a nut)

Yes, sediment is an integral part of waters, and keeping the material in the system will principally be the best solution

- but consider than the long-term consequences (“whole life cycle”)



Under these conditions:

What kind of criteria, which criteria are necessary?

What kind of rules, which rules in applying these criteria are necessary?



Structure of the session

Three talks setting the scene (EU – DGE, US, EU – research)

Short statements from European countries addressing key themes (the respective national points of view)

Further statements are welcome!

Audience discussion moderated by Pol Hakstege (NL) & Chris Vivian (UK)

Agreement on key messages to the conference

Possible further process