



Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

Introduction to Peatland policy in The Netherlands

Douwe Jonkers Program Director National Peatland Program

Chris van Naarden Policy Officer Research & Development









National Peatland Policy

Framework:

Dutch Climate Agreement 2018

Objective:

1M ton CO2-equivalent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions form peatland in agricultural use by 2030

Agreement:

Central government, provinces, municipalities, water boards, farmer organisations and NGO's ('common responsability')

Approach:

6 regional peatland strategies, to be realized through a bottom up and adaptive approach ('learning by doing')

Central budget:

- \in 200 mln (processes, implementation of measures)
- € 76 mln research & development, regional pilots

ca. 275.000 ha peatland, of which 200.000 ha in agricultural use ca. 160.000 ha mineral soils (peat/clay/sand), of which 130.000 ha in agricultural use

Phased approach:

- regional peatland strategies in 3 steps (2021 2023 2026)
- Integration of regional objectives





Research & Development:

- > National Research program on measuring (reduction of) greenhouse gas emissions (NOBV)
- National Peatland innovation program
- > Measuring different types of peat and peaty soils all over the Netherlands

(Blue spots)





Research & Development:



- > National Research program on measuring (reduction of) greenhouse gas emissions
- National Peatland innovation program
- > A: Dairy farming at higher (ground)water levels
 - Reversed drainage systems/infiltration techniques
 - Soil structure improvements (Clay in peat)

- > B: development of wet cultivation systems
 - Typha, Miscanthus, Cranberry and Spaghnum

> C: transition of agrictulure to natural wetlands

