Seminar "Innovative strategies in basins and deltas and their mechanisms of implementation"

The Seminar "Innovative Strategies in basins and deltas and their mechanisms of implementation" was held on October 25, 2016 in Buenos Aires. It was co-organized by Delta Alliance Argentina, Fundación Humedales - Wetlands International and Fundación Torcuato Di Tella, with the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Buenos Aires. The seminar consisted of a series of presentations by international experts on innovative cases of intervention in deltas and urban basins and their implementation mechanisms.

The invited international experts were Prof. Dr. Ir. Han Meyer (Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands), Dr. Machiel van Dorst (Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands) and Prof. PhD. Lisa Diedrich (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden).

The seminar was introduced by representatives of the organizing institutions. Mr. Daniel Blanco spoke on behalf of Fundación Humedales - Wetlands International, Mr. Hernán Carlino did so on behalf of Fundación Torcuato Di Tella, MSc. Arch. PhD (cand) Verónica Zagare spoke on behalf of Delta Alliance Argentinean Wing and finally Mr. Marc Hasselaar also welcomed the audience, as Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Buenos Aires.

After the welcome given by the organizers, Prof. Dr. Han Meyer presented "Paraná Delta - an exceptional case". Through a presentation of examples of current practice in the Netherlands, Dr. Meyer reflected on the three main themes of the Agenda for 21st Century Water Systems: Restoring natural resilience, and combining flood risk strategy with other agendas and make the system adaptable. After reviewing the current strategies implemented in the Netherlands, he started an interesting discussion on the Paraná Delta.
Dr. Machiel van Dorst introduced "To find the combination of ecological and social resilience: How do we connect our global, long-term goals with resilient deltas to the perspective of residents - here and now"? Following a holistic approach, the presentation began with a review of the basics of ecological, environmental and social resilience, ending with the presentation of cases of "resilient holistic design in deltas" around the world.

Prof. PhD. Lisa Diedrich presented "Future Urban Water Landscapes - Site-Specific Design Approaches". After introducing the challenges for urban landscapes, she presented a series of publications and examples of interventions in the Netherlands, Germany and the United States of America.

After the presentations, a space was held for questions and reflections on the theme of the seminar about the potential of applying innovative strategies in the Parana Delta. The attendants to the seminar included national, provincial and municipal authorities as well as academic institutions, research centres and civil organizations.

The seminar was held in the auditorium of the University Torcuato Di Tella, which gave space for this purpose.