

Drawn to Maps?

Developing risk maps as a communication strategy for local coastal communities as part of the SEA-CCHange project

Department: Physical Geography & Sustainable Development
Research group: Global change geomorphology & Environmental Sciences
Supervisor: Jana Cox, Jaap Nienhuis, Kim Cohen
Email address: j.r.cox@uu.nl

Project description

Coastal communities are under uniquely high threat from climate change effects. Despite this, many local coastal communities and their knowledge are left out of international and national climate strategies and agendas. So, a consortium: SEA-CCHange (Socio-Ecological Archiving: Coastal Communities' Heritage in times of climate change) has emerged to target this issue. This consortium spans both the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development and Physical Geography Departments at UU. You will work together with a postdoc on the latest research from the consortium, which spans institutes in Ireland, The Netherlands and the UK with additional cases in Indonesia and the Caribbean.

Your part of the project will involve creating risk profile maps for all case study locations (Zeeland (NL), Lamelara (Indonesia), southwest Ireland, UK, and the Caribbean). These risk maps will focus on four main ongoing threats: sea-level rise, subsidence, coastal erosion & extreme climate related events (e.g. storm surges, high rainfall etc.). These will be created using collated available data. A special focus will be given to making the maps accessible and explainable to the communities. This includes e.g. creating videos, pamphlets, podcasts or other outreach materials.

Alongside map development, you will help us with other general project management tasks including building a project website, setting up workshops and discussion forums and helping us develop a strategy to feed the project insights from academia directly back to our partners and local communities.

Job requirements

A background in GIS or other remote sensing/mapping approaches is a must.
You like discussion and communication with people of different backgrounds.
You are interested in science communication and outreach, in particular distilling important messages through visual aids.