

Name:	11. MANAGED REALIGNMENT AND THE REESTABLISHMENT OF SALTMARSH HABITAT, FREISTON SHORE, UK		
Region	Europe	Country	UK
Ecosystem	Marine & coastal		
Nature of approach	Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (incorporation into relevant strategies); Implementation of EBA measures (natural resource management)		
Description of approach	<p>Objective/Expected outcomes Predicted accelerated sea level rise poses a particular future threat to communities based along the low-lying coastline of the North Sea, as this will raise the base level for future storm surges. The project aimed to restore a large area of farmland back to coastal wetland for the purpose of coastal flood risk reduction and habitat creation.</p> <p>Actions As part of the realignment scheme, the existing sea defence was breached in three places, and a new landward lying secondary defence was strengthened. Linear drainage channels were also excavated within the site to facilitate sediment and nutrient delivery into the interior of the realignment area. The land was managed to help ensure that a range of intertidal habitats continue to be present at a range of higher sea levels.</p> <p>Results achieved Restoration of 66 hectares of agricultural land into coastal saltmarsh through managed realignment of coastal defences has allowed space for the creation of intertidal habitat, which established quickly. The resultant increase in the intertidal zone has reduced the vulnerability of the area to flooding, by allowing increased flood water storage and space for wave attenuation. The coastal defence project protects 80,000ha of low lying land, including a number of settlements.</p> <p>Lessons learned Benefits – Such approaches can be cost effective in comparison to the cost of hard engineering solutions.</p>		
Type of organisation	NGO; Government	Name of organisation:	RSPB; Environment Agency
Further information and contact details	<p>ProAct Network 2008. The Role of Environmental Management and eco-engineering in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.</p> <p>http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/f/freistonshore/work.aspx</p> <p>Colls, A., Ash, N. and Ikkala, N (2009). Ecosystem-based Adaptation: a natural response to climate change. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN</p>		