

COASTAL PROTECTION OVERSEAS STUDY TRIP (OST)

Brought to you by: SWA Coastal Protection Chapter

Tailored for senior management, decision-makers, and industry leaders, this trip is an opportunity to engage in a leadership-level dialogue on the future of coastal resilience, guided by those who built the world's most iconic defenses.



Why Join?



Global Perspectives

- Compare diverse approaches to coastal challenges.



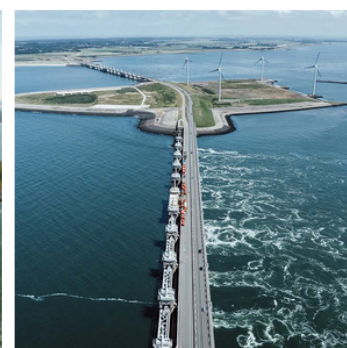
Networking & Collaboration

- Build international partnerships across sectors.



Cross-Sector Learning

- Engage with experts from government, industry, and academia.



Travel Date: 27 – 31 October 2025

Venue: Rotterdam, Netherlands

Participating Fees: \$4,000 per pax before GST

Special Discounts for SWA & CP Members are applicable

Limited slots – sign up now!

Participants are responsible for the cost and booking of their own flights and accommodation.

Designated hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Rotterdam Centre, Leuvehaven 80, 3011 EA Rotterdam, Netherlands

Organised by:



Supported by:



Objectives



The OST aims to facilitate an exchange of ideas and highlight the diverse approaches and practices from various regions worldwide. While we all face similar challenges, each region operates under unique conditions. This initiative will provide opportunities for members to interact, network, and collaborate with players from different parts of the world, fostering knowledge exchange and co-learning across various sectors.

Activities Covered:

The OST will include activities such as site visits, workshops, and presentations featuring insights from three key sectors:

1. Public Sector:

- Representatives from the host nation's governance agencies will share perspectives on planning, regulations, and policy-making related to coastal defense and management.

2. Private Sector:

- Major contractors and consultants from the host nation will present their expertise, focusing on the design, construction, and lessons learned from coastal defense infrastructure projects.

3. Academia and Research Sector:

- Leading research institutions and universities in the host nation will showcase their key research areas and developments, addressing specific challenges in coastal defense and related fields.

DAY 1

Turning Policy Into Practice

- **Deltares Wave Flume** – One of the world's largest wave flumes testing coastal defenses in real scale. It enables researchers to study how dykes, dunes, and other barriers perform during extreme conditions to develop a reliable and future proof design.
- **Sand Motor** – Innovative coastal protection method in which a large volume of sand is deposited in one location, allowing natural forces to spread it along the coast over time. This is originally developed to reduce the frequency and cost of maintenance nourishments along the Dutch coast



DELTAIRES WAVE FLUME



SAND MOTOR

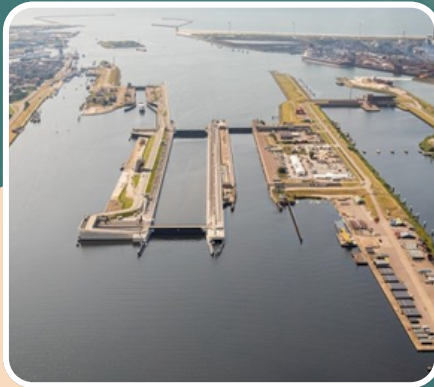
DAY 2

Protecting the Hinterland

- **Garage in Dune, Katwijk** – An underground parking facility is cleverly built into a dune to not only provide 663 parking spaces but also strengthen flood defenses by embedding the garage inside the sand dunes along the coastline. This design demonstrates how infrastructure can serve both protective and aesthetic purposes, enhancing public space while safeguarding the coastline.
- **Sea Lock IJmuiden** – The largest sea lock in the world Sea Lock IJmuiden is connecting the North Sea with the North Sea Canal and enabling ships to reach the Port of Amsterdam. The locks of IJmuiden have a history dating back to 1876, when the largest lock of that era was opened.



GARAGE IN DUNE KATWIJK



SEA LOCK IJMUIDEN

DAY 3

Combine Protection and Economics

- **Afsluitdijk** – A 32-kilometre-long dam that separates the IJsselmeer from the Wadden Sea, protecting the Netherlands from flooding while serving as a road link between Friesland and North Holland. Completed in 1928 as part of the Zuiderzee Works.
- Currently undergoing major renovation, the dam is being reinforced to withstand climate change and rising sea levels. Upgrades include fish-friendly pumps, solar energy systems, and improved storm surge barriers, ensuring long-term resilience and ecological sensitivity.



AFSLUITDIJK

DAY 4

Adapting to Sea Level Rise

- **Oosterscheldekering** – The largest and most complex structure that is part of the Delta Works, a series of dams and storm surge barriers, designed to protect the Netherlands from flooding from the North Sea.
- This construction was built in response to the devastating North Sea Flood in 1953. As the most challenging and costly component of the Delta Works, its construction spanned more than a decade.

Eastern Scheldt Storm Surge Barrier



OOSTERSCHELDE KERING

DAY 5

Control and Protect on Nation's scale

- **Maeslantkering** – It is a massive, movable storm surge barrier located at Hoek van Holland, Netherlands, designed to protect the city and port of Rotterdam from flooding.
- It is a key component of the Delta Works, a series of projects aimed at flood protection. The barrier consists of two 210-meter long, hollow steel gates that pivot into place, closing off the Nieuwe Waterweg, the main waterway leading to Rotterdam, during storm surges. This automated system is designed to close when water levels reach a critical threshold, preventing storm surges from inundating the area.



MAESLANTKERING

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INFORMATION**

+65 6515 0812
enquiry@swa.org.sg
www.swa.org.sg