

## **Construction of CRT de Bunt**

### ***What***

This action involves the realization of a Controlled Reduced Tide (CRT) in an area called 'De Bunt'. This area has a surface of approximately 99 hectares, from which 67 hectares of tidal nature.

### ***Where***

'De Bunt' is located along the river Scheldt on its left bank, near the village of Hamme in the province of East-Flanders. On the east side the area is flanked by the river Scheldt, on the North side flows the Durme which is a tributary of the river Scheldt and also knows tidal dynamics.

### ***How***

The construction of this FCA-CRT has already been initiated; the ring dyke surrounding this FCA-CRT will be finished in 2016. Therefore the construction of a combined in and outlet sluice, and the onset of a creek which will be part of this action.

The sluice will have six pipes for the inflowing water and six for the outflowing water, built as two rows on top of each other. The outflow pipes have a dimension of 3m x 3m, the inlet pipes are slightly smaller: 3 m X 2,2 m.

### ***Why***

FCA-CRT De Bunt is part of a series of measures to ameliorate the river valley of the Durme (also Groot and Klein Broek). As the river is prone to a high rate of sedimentation it suffers from problems in the areas water management (navigation, safety), nature and even recreation (loss of attractiveness).

De Bunt will capture the crest of the storm surge coming from downstream, this way the valley of the Durme has to deal with a lower tidal wave flowing up the river. The chance of flooding in the Durme valley decreases substantially.

By means of an in and outlet construction this FCA will be combined with the development of tidal nature with a surface of 67 ha. The estuarine nature that will develop here will contribute towards the nature objectives for the Scheldt estuary.

