



DALE MORRIS



Company Role

Director of Strategic Partnerships
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Education

M.A., International law,
economics, and theory.
University of Virginia, 1989
B.A., Economics, and Political
Science.
University of Pittsburgh, 1987

Areas of Expertise

- Macroeconomic, fiscal and trade policy
- Water policy
- Community resilience and planning
- Living with Water strategies
- Workshop strategies, leadership, and delivery

Memberships/Boards

Member of the Board, RISE
Resilience, Norfolk, Va.

Experience Profile

Following decades working at the intersection of water management, science and policy, former Royal Netherlands Embassy Senior Economist Dale Morris joined The Water Institute of the Gulf in May 2018 as Director of Strategic Partnerships.

After six years in the U.S. Air Force, with more than half of those served in the Netherlands, Morris served as Legislative Director and Press Secretary in the U.S. Congress, focused on fiscal policy (tax, budget), trade, energy, entitlements, appropriations, and water issues. He moved to the Royal Netherlands Embassy as Congressional Liaison and provided policy support on trade, macroeconomic, productivity, energy, and communications issues. Post Hurricane Katrina (2005), Morris coordinated and directed the Embassy's and Dutch Government's recovery outreach to Louisiana, with a focus upon flood risk assessment, mitigation and communications, integrated water management for storm surge, tidal, stormwater and groundwater flooding. Morris engaged with federal, state and local government officials, stakeholders and the public on these issues and led the liaison on flood, water, climate and adaptation challenges with the US Congress and other U.S. states, including California, Florida, Texas, Virginia and New York. Morris co-founded the Dutch Dialogues, focused upon urban water management challenges and opportunities in post-Katrina New Orleans. Dutch Dialogues have been organized elsewhere in the U.S., leading to far-reaching planning, policy, and regulatory improvements in flood-prone and flood-recovering communities.

Morris directs the Institute's outreach to and engagement with key communities, municipalities, states, and organizations outside of Louisiana and guides the Institute's proposal efforts.

Professional Experience

The Water Institute of the Gulf	2018-Present
• <i>Director of Strategic Partnerships</i>	
Royal Netherlands Embassy	2000-2018
• <i>Senior Economist and Director for Water</i>	
• <i>Chairman Embassy's Ethics /Integrity Committee</i>	2007-2018
• <i>Chair, Pension Advisory Committee</i>	2002-2018
• <i>Public Affairs Advisor/Congressional Liaison</i>	1994-2000
U.S. House of Representatives	1989-1994
• <i>Legislative Director and Press Secretary</i>	
U.S. Air Force	1979-1984
• <i>Security Police/ Security Supervisor</i>	

Current and Recent Projects

Charleston Comprehensive Plan, USACE review, and NFWF projects for Johns Island and Church Creek, Charleston, SC. Morris is a co-lead of the consultant team providing land and water analysis for the Charleston's 2020 Comprehensive (City Plan) Plan update. Morris co-leads the multi-disciplinary consultant team that is reviewing the US Army Corps of Engineers Tentatively Selected Plan for perimeter protection for the Charleston Peninsula and strategies to improve the TSP and its impacts / benefits. Morris also supports the consultant teams and City of Charleston stormwater staff for two NFWF-funded projects, a flood risk mitigation planning project for Johns Island and an ecosystem restoration / risk mitigation project in Charleston's Church Creek basin.

Dutch Dialogues (Charleston, SC)

Historic Charleston Foundation, the City of Charleston

Dutch Dialogues® Charleston was a community-driven assessment, design and planning project with local, national and international flood experts alongside city officials, nonprofit partners and Lowcountry-area residents / stakeholders and focused on four distinct flood prone areas in Charleston. Dutch Dialogues Charleston was led by Morris / The Water Institute and Waggoner & Ball Architects, with support from the Royal Netherlands Embassy. Dutch Dialogues Charleston recommendations (see www.dutchdialoguescharleston.org) were adopted by Charleston City Council in Oct. 2019.

Houston Resilience Strategy and Living with Water

City of Houston, 100 Resilient Cities, The Rockefeller Foundation, Shell

The Water Institute led the development of a comprehensive Resilience Strategy for the City to enhance the city's long-term resilience to the weather and other shocks and stresses that weaken the City's physical, economic and social fabrics. The Resilient Houston Strategy was released in Feb. 2020. Morris directed the Living with Water components of the Houston Resilience Strategy

Dryvable, Rebuild Texas Fund

Morris assisted multi-partner team in development of a web-based forecasting tool to assist large institutions and eventually commuters to understand which Houston roads are, or are likely to be, flooded during storms.

Dutch Dialogues (New Orleans) and Dutch Dialogues (Hampton Roads)

Developed after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Dutch Dialogues enabled an entirely new conversation and approach on how New Orleans could recover and better live with water. Hampton Roads, VA has the highest rate of relative sea-level rise on the US east coast and suffers repeated nuisance, stormwater, tidal and riverine floods. Both efforts explored integrated approaches to water management and urban planning to address flood risk, flood mitigation, subsidence, urban adaptation, and sea-level rise adaptation. Both Dialogues served as springboards for successful National Disaster Resilience Competition awards.

New Orleans Urban Water Plan

Advisory Board Member for the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan.

Dutch Water Management Network in the U.S.

Royal Netherlands Embassy

Focus in Louisiana, Florida, California, Virginia, Texas, New York, and Massachusetts for water management, flood protection and risk mitigation, coastal protection and restoration, climate adaptation, sustainable urban planning.

Member of various flood advisory boards

Various

Member of advisory boards: American Planning Association (APA) Water Task Force, Northern Virginia Regional Commission, America's Wetland, APA "Water" track (2010 – 2013).