Jan Rotmans

Floriade, 23 May 2022

WHAT DOES IT MEAN
TO THE BUILDING SECTOR?

1. CRISES AS CHANCE

WE DO NOT LIVE IN AN ERA OF CHANGE BUT IN A CHANGE OF ERA



IN TIMES OF CHAOS



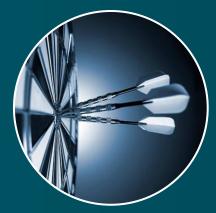
CHAOS



Unknown order



Everything is open



Closer to the core



Prerequisite for change



2019 THÉ PROTEST YEAR



SEMI-PERMANENT CRISIS

financial crisis

bank crisis

migration crisis

corona crisis

geopolitical crisis

UKRAINE WAR

wake-up call for Western countries

fossil rebound: setback to coal, oil and gas

geopolitical independency dominates sustainability

accelerates the transition to renewable energy



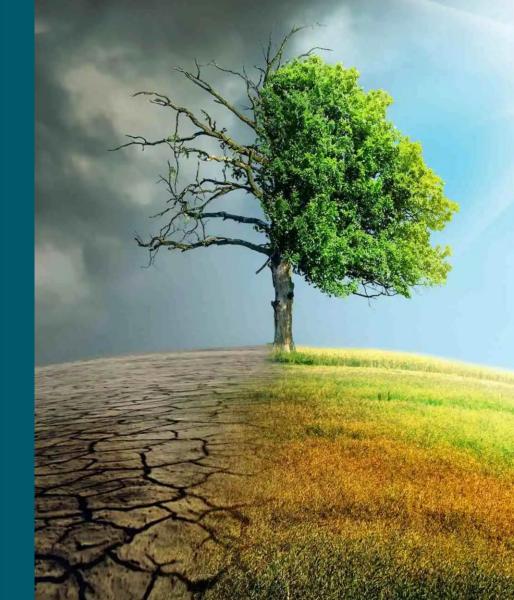
Climate Change 2022 Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

Summary for Policymakers



"PLANET HAS
ONLY UNTIL
2030 TO AVOID
CATATROPHIC
CLIMATE CHANGE"

IPCC, 2022

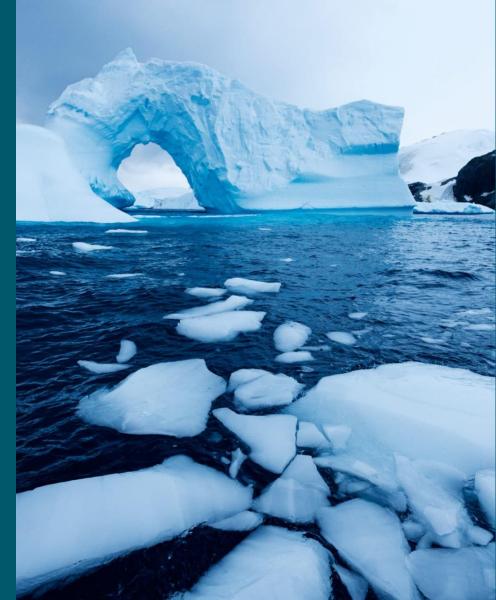




DO WE ACHIEVE THE CLIMATE GOALS?

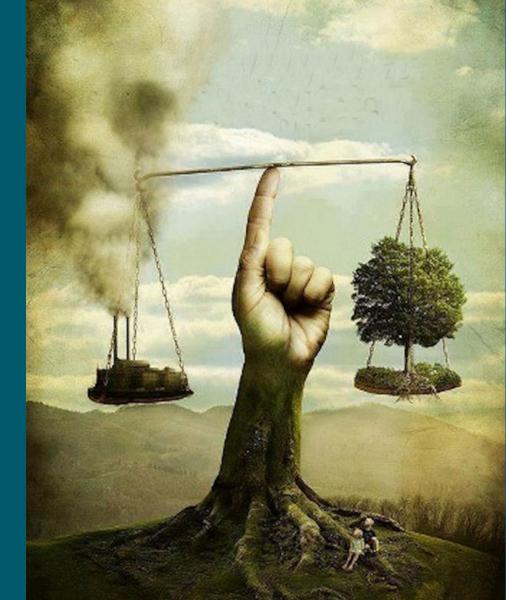


WE NEED TO FIGHT FOR EVERY TENTH OF DEGREE





DEEPEST CAUSE:
IMBALANCE BETWEEN
HUMANS AND NATURE



MORAL CRISIS

Crisis is in ourselves



CRISIS ARE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE



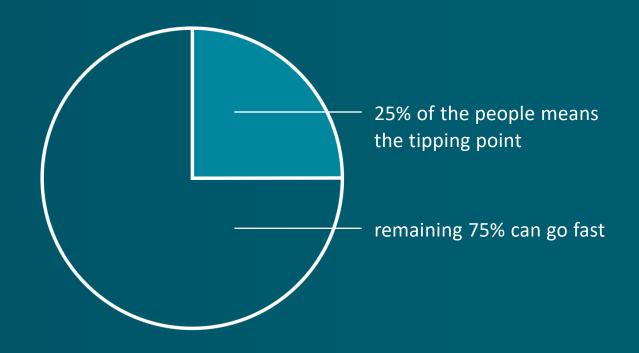
People are stubborn



We learn from crises

CRISES HELP TO CHANGE

We are close to the tipping point



SYSTEMIC CHANGE IS NEEDED



TRANSITION

Fundamental change in:



Thinking values, paradigms



Acting attitude, behaviour



Organising laws, rules

PALETTE OF TRANSITIONS



BUTTONS TO PUSH

policy

fiscal impulses: taxes and mortgages

financial impulses: subsidies and loans

juridical impulses: laws & rules

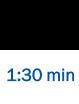
technology

knowledge, R&D, institutions, implementation

behaviour

social norms, diversity of impulses





2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO THE BUILDING SECTOR?

BUILDING SECTOR

produces ca. 10-15% of the CO2-emission in the Nederlands

last 5 years hardly any CO2-reduction in the building sector

at this pace building emits 10% less in 2030 rather than 50%

CHALLENGES FOR BUILDING SECTOR

renovation & transformation

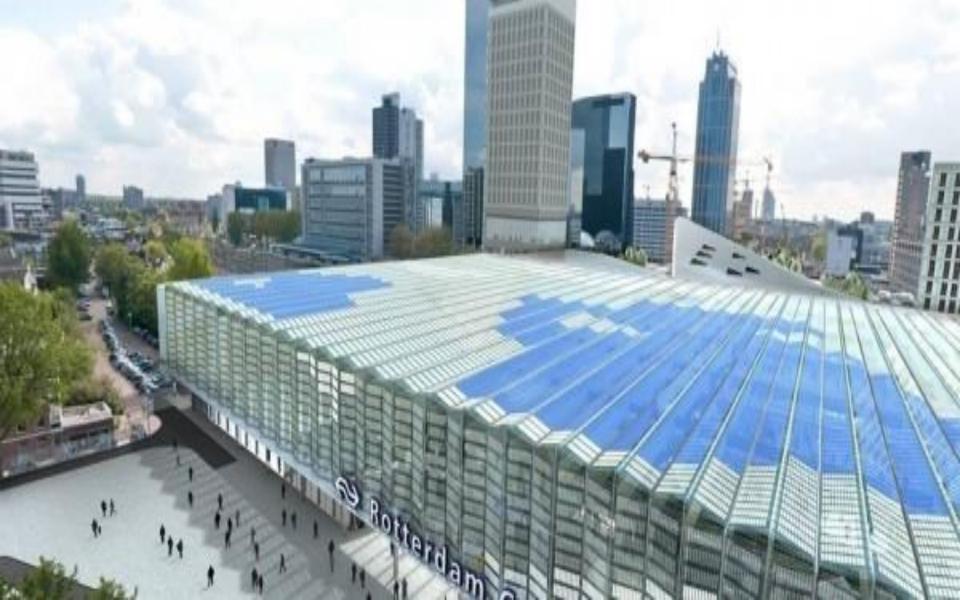
sustainable

circular

digitization

affordable

life-long housing



7 GW solar-energy [10 million panels]
10.000 soccer pitches after 20 years

70 GW needed [100.000 soccer pitches]



on 10% of roofs in NL solar panels on roofs of business parks < 1% on roofs of industrial estates < 1% on fallow land < 1%







2.5 billion m2 surface on roofs & walls that we still don't use for solar energy!

Biobased Building

BUILDING WITH WOOD

wood & biomass rather than concrete

can act as a major carbon sink

1 million wood buildings saves 50 Mton CO2

with wood from European production forests



2.000 biobased houses after 5 years!

Circular Building



CIRCULAR BUILDING

renaissance of an existing building

80% of old building is re-used

each material has own passport

radically different in design, building, maintenance, financing

25 circular buildings after 5 years!

Rid of Gas





Loppersum

RID OF GAS

7 million houses with natural gas

in 2042 rid of gas: 350.000 houses/year

1.500 per day!

still 100.000 houses built with gas 2.000 per day!

In 4 years 2000 houses rid of gas coming 20 years 2000 houses per day!

CONCLUSION

It should go weigh faster & smarter

3. WHAT IS NEEDED?

HIGHER AMBITION LEVEL

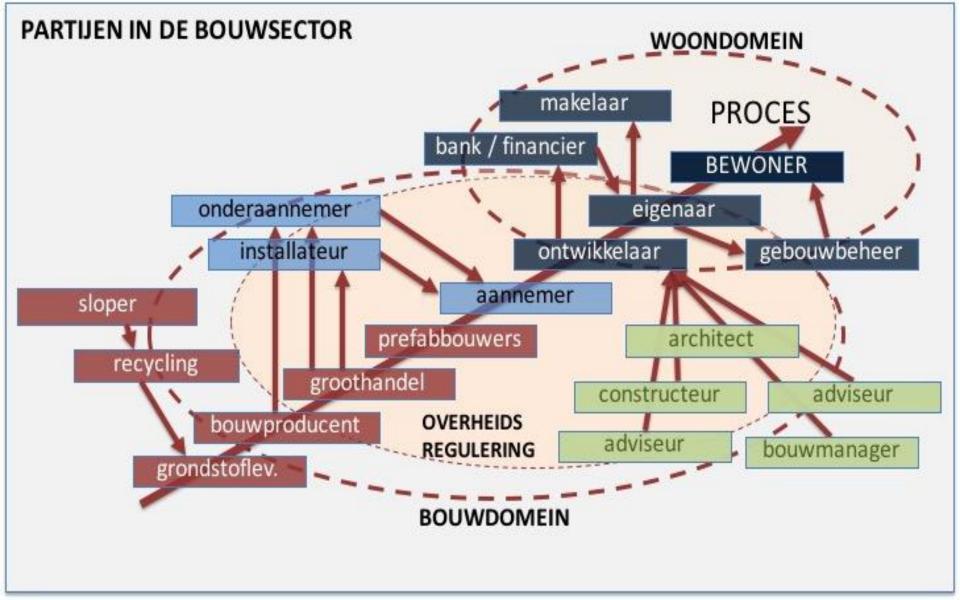
- acting from a deeply felt urgency
- building sector innovates, but not at system's level
- pearls of projects, but they do not scale up
- too little attention for social and radical innovation

TRANSITION IN BUILDING SECTOR

structure: traditional, complex chain, user at the end

culture: inward oriented, masculine, not change-oriented

practice: tendering based at the lowest price



DISRUPTOR

one party responsible for all building aspects

concept development project development architecture financing maintenance

end-user central

CULTURE

not really critizing each other

masculine forces dominate

lack of women and diversity

hardly any social psychologists

few cross connections with other sectors

sustainable procurement should become the norm

CULTURAL SHIFT

in 5 years, if you as commisioning party or contractor, doesn't put sustainability at the centre, you are a bit of a loser

SUSTAINABLE PEARLS

at the project level quite a few pearls of projects

scaling up of pearl projects at system's level is slow

focus on technical - rather than social innovation

change inertia

75% of success of innovation is due to social innovation and not due to technical innovation

SCALING UP

top-down

bottom-up

centralized

not demand driven

rigid

mechanistic

high pre-financing

decentralized

demand driven

flexible

organic

low pre-financing

TOP-DOWN & BOTTOM-UP

both strategies are needed

in the short term we need fast industrialized processes in the long term we need localized & customized houses

technically the challenge is to do it in a circular way socially the challenge is to make the end-user key

TRANSITION INSIGHTS

is a difference between a pilot and radical innovation project

successful pilots are not necessarily replicated

anticipate barriers in systems when starting a pilot

need people who translate results from one context to another

we need connectors & translators

4. LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP ASKED

In a period of chaos leadership is more important than ever: authentic & connecting leadership



EVERYBODY HAS A ROLE IN THIS

realization that it starts and ends with you

people often look up when leadership is asked

everyone who creates impact is a potential leader

IN TIMES OF CHAOS

individuals & small groups of people can make a significant difference



Boyan Slat
Ocean Cleanup



Greta Thunberg
Climate activist



Jos de Blok
Buurtzorg



Marjan Minnesma
Urgenda

breakthrough innovation in building doesn't come from branche organisations or covenants, but from people who do things that were thought of as impossible

PERSONAL TRANSITION

- fear among people to really change
- overcoming fear is a big challenge
- working hard & long on yourself

ANGST IS NIEUWSGIERIGHEID DIE NOG IN DE KAST ZIT



STEP INTO THE ARENA

I don't ask you to put the world on your shoulders

I don't ask you to have no more fun

I don't ask you to raise money

I only ask you to stand up and step into the arena

The Man in the Arena

'It is not the critic that counts. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust, sweat & blood. Who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again, but but who does actually strive to do the deeds. Who knows great enthusiasm and great devotion; who spends himself in a worthy case. Who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those who neither know victory nor defeat'

Theodore Roosevelt