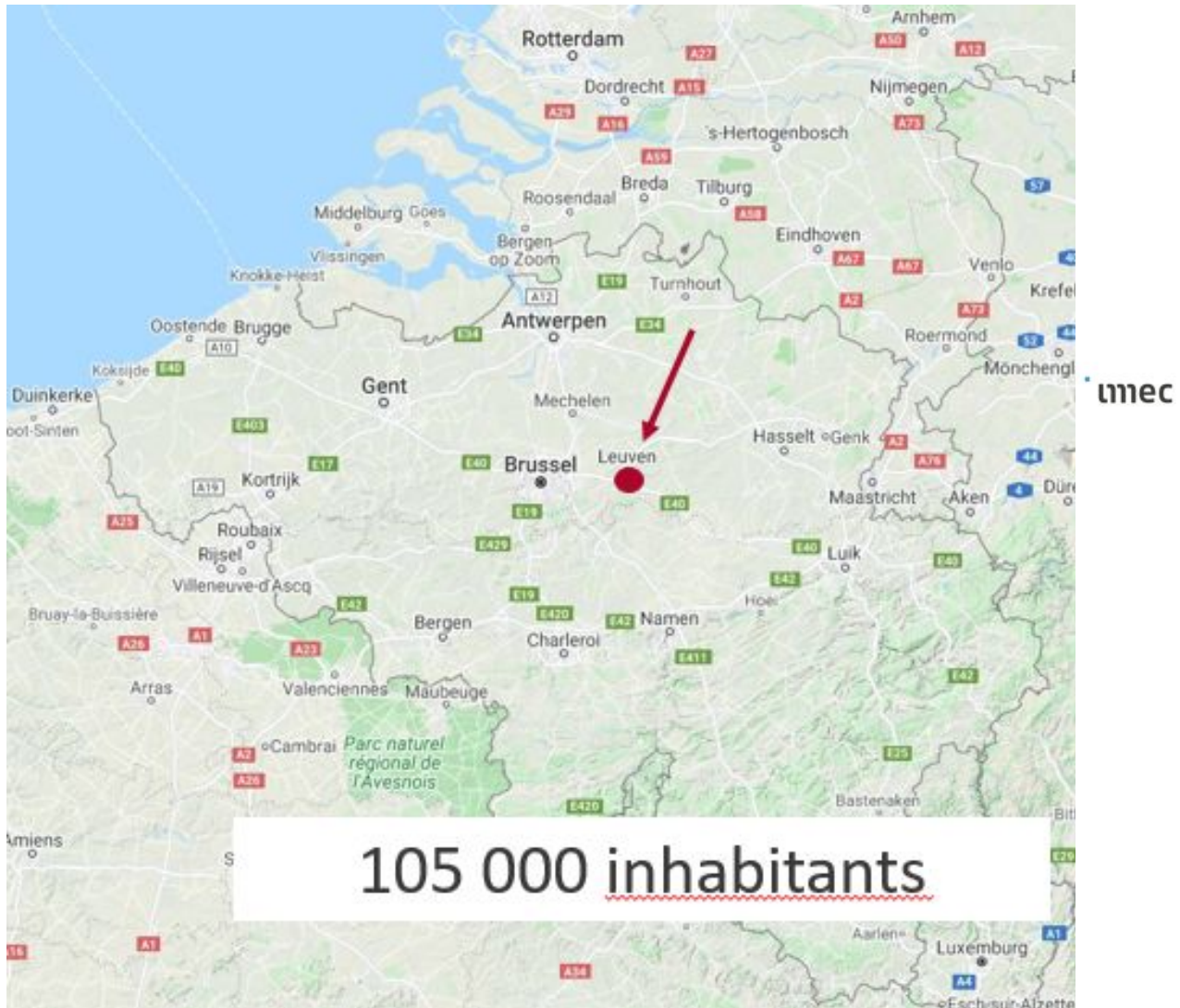


Stijn Van Herck

*Welkom!*

# Leuven



population around 200.000 during the academic year

# Leuven

Towards a better future

- European Capital of Innovation
- Leuven 2030
- Roadmap to 2050

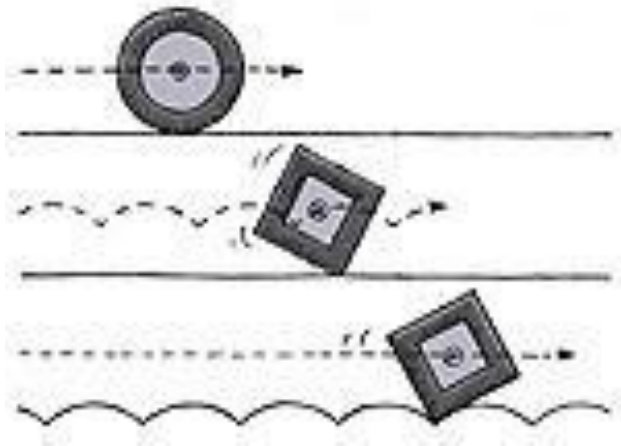
iCapital 2020  
EUROPEAN  
CAPITAL OF  
INNOVATION  
LEUVEN



Stad Leuven



**Why me?**  
*I was willing.*



**Need to know**  
*Speech = Teaser*

**iCapital 2020**  
**EUROPEAN  
CAPITAL OF  
INNOVATION**  
**LEUVEN**



**Stad Leuven**

## 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

A **durable solution** that leads to a **sustainable city** can only be reached

if we approach **the problems & solutions from different angles**

and choose those **solutions that are not mono- but multifunctional.**

Therefore:

# 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

From the viewpoint of mobility, planning & public domain:

- Self-driving eco-friendly cars
- Shared in use
- Reduced carbon-footprint
- Reduced P-Space footprint
- Underground parking & recharging
- Law-abiding =>
  - Less signs
  - Less obstructions
  - ...





# 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

From the viewpoint of ecology, planning & public domain:

- historical city centres
- Suburbs:
  - biodiverse food producing
  - equal rights housing
- Clean waterways
  - Biodiverse fauna & flora
  - Criss-cross city centre & suburbs
  - Wide green & clean river banks
  - Bringing coolness





# 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

From the viewpoint of waste management & public domain:

- recycling society
- ‘waste’ as a resource
- wastewater
  - (partially) processed on site.
  - harvested for its inherent warmth
  - mined for its valuable components
    - Various chemicals
    - Organic matter
    - But also water



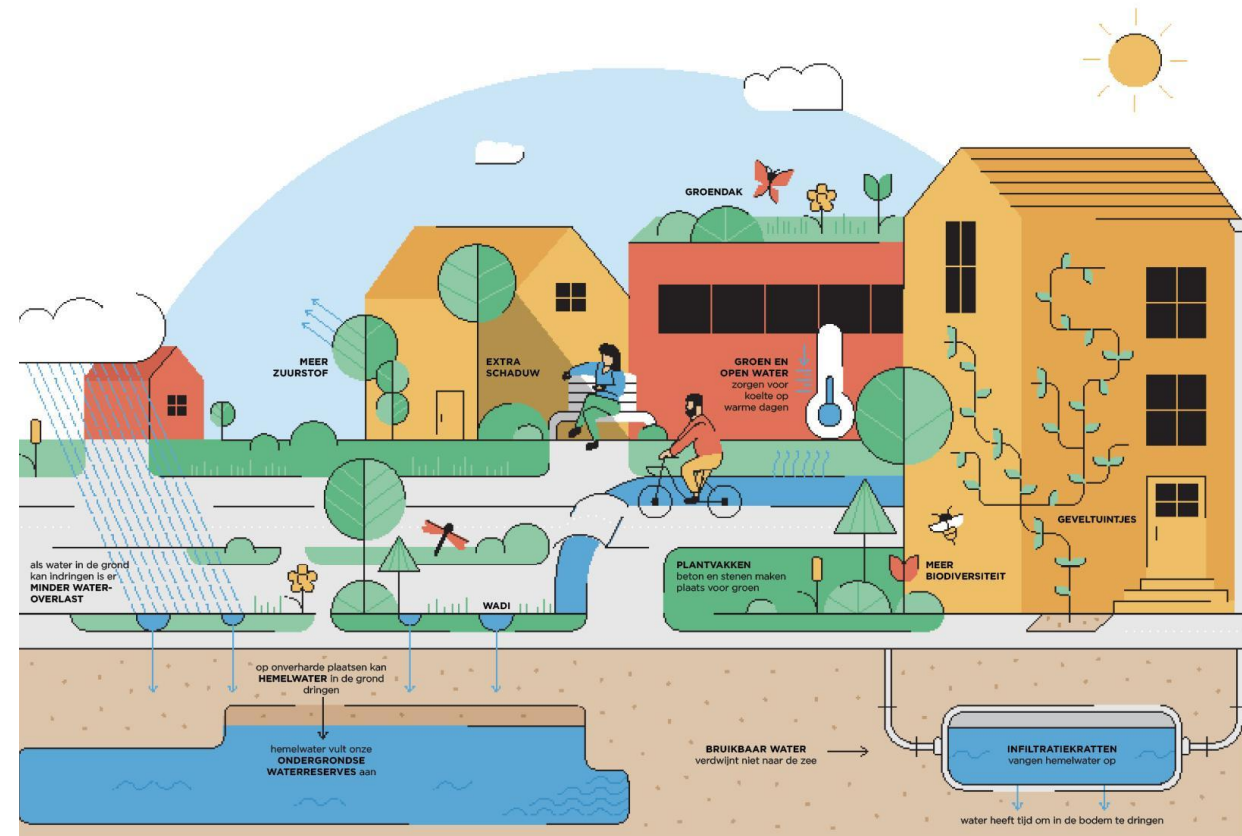
*Hence wastewater will be a resource rather than a problem!*



# 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

City engineers dream of a sewage system:

- Rainwater-management starts on a private property.
- Nature based solutions in the public domain
- Wastewater as a resource
- Technological upgrade
- Financially self-sustaining



# 2050 – A mixture of dreams, Sci-Fi & reality

Vision of the future:

- Humanity & Nature in balance
- Common good before personal wants
- Space & Funds needed

=> UTOPIA

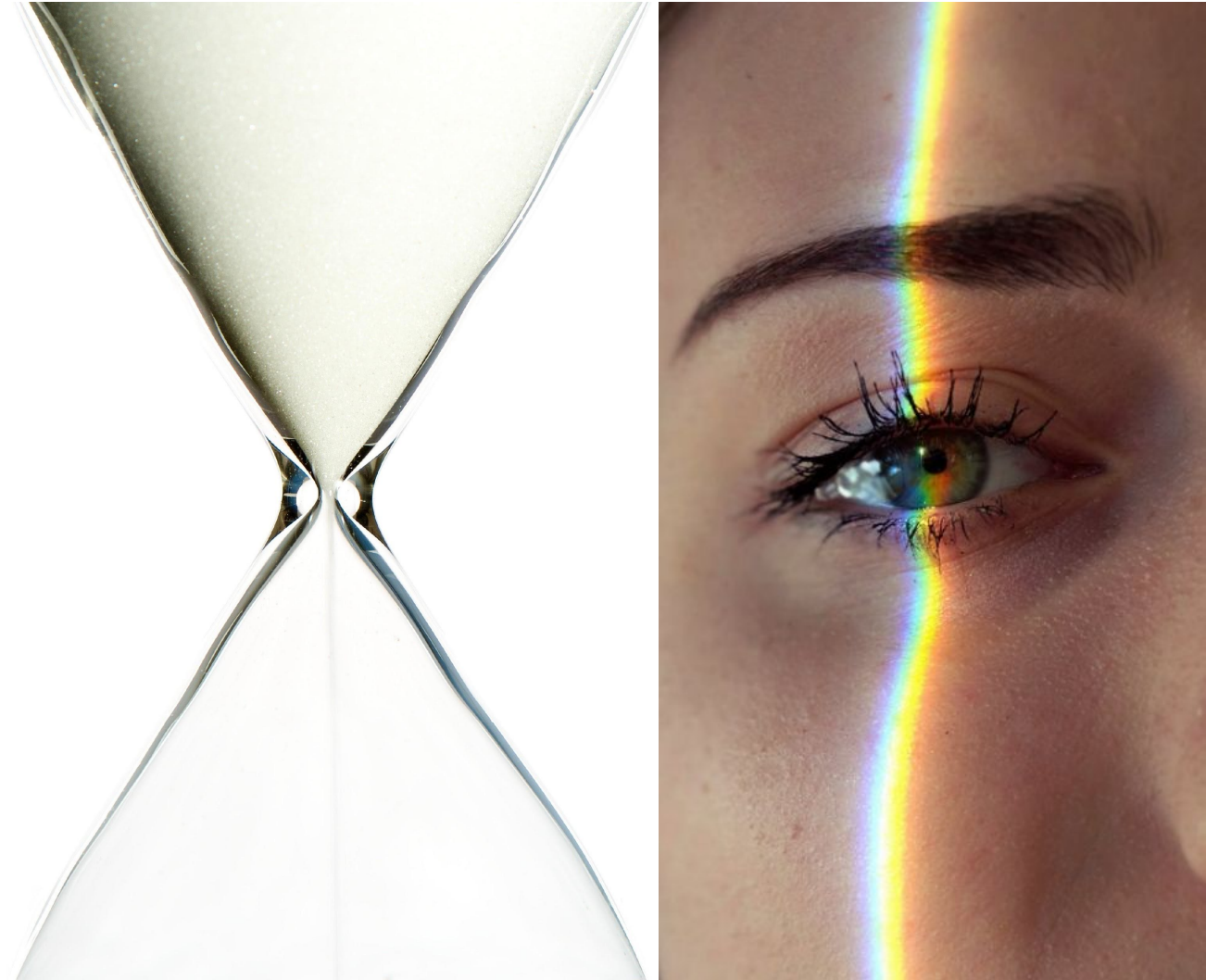


## 2050 – A near future

Reality check – On average

- Roads  $\pm 45$  years
- Sewers  $\pm 75+$  years
- 1 traffic artery @ a time
- € 1M / (street + sewer)

*1.069 streets*

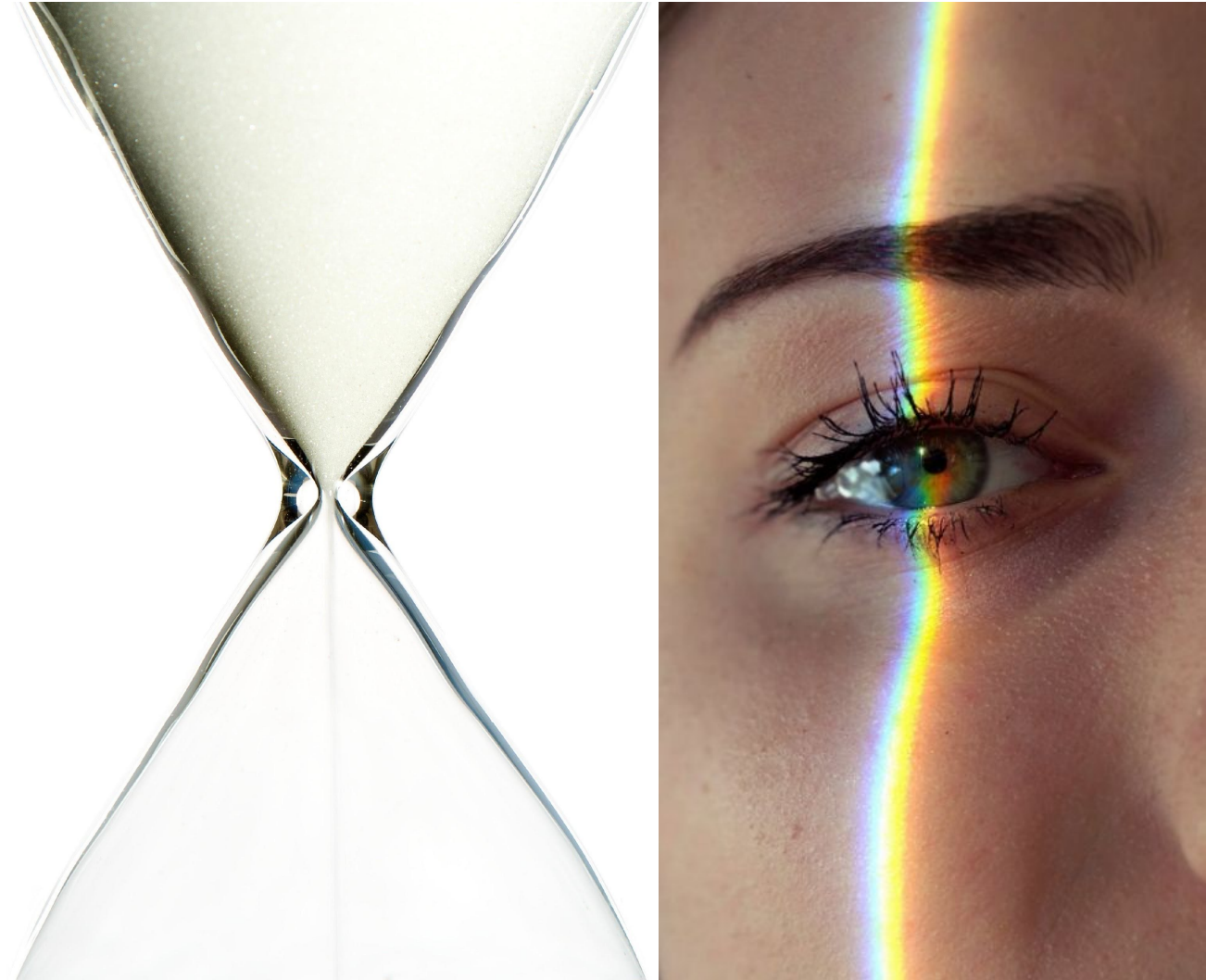




# 2050 – A near future

## Reality check – Doing it right

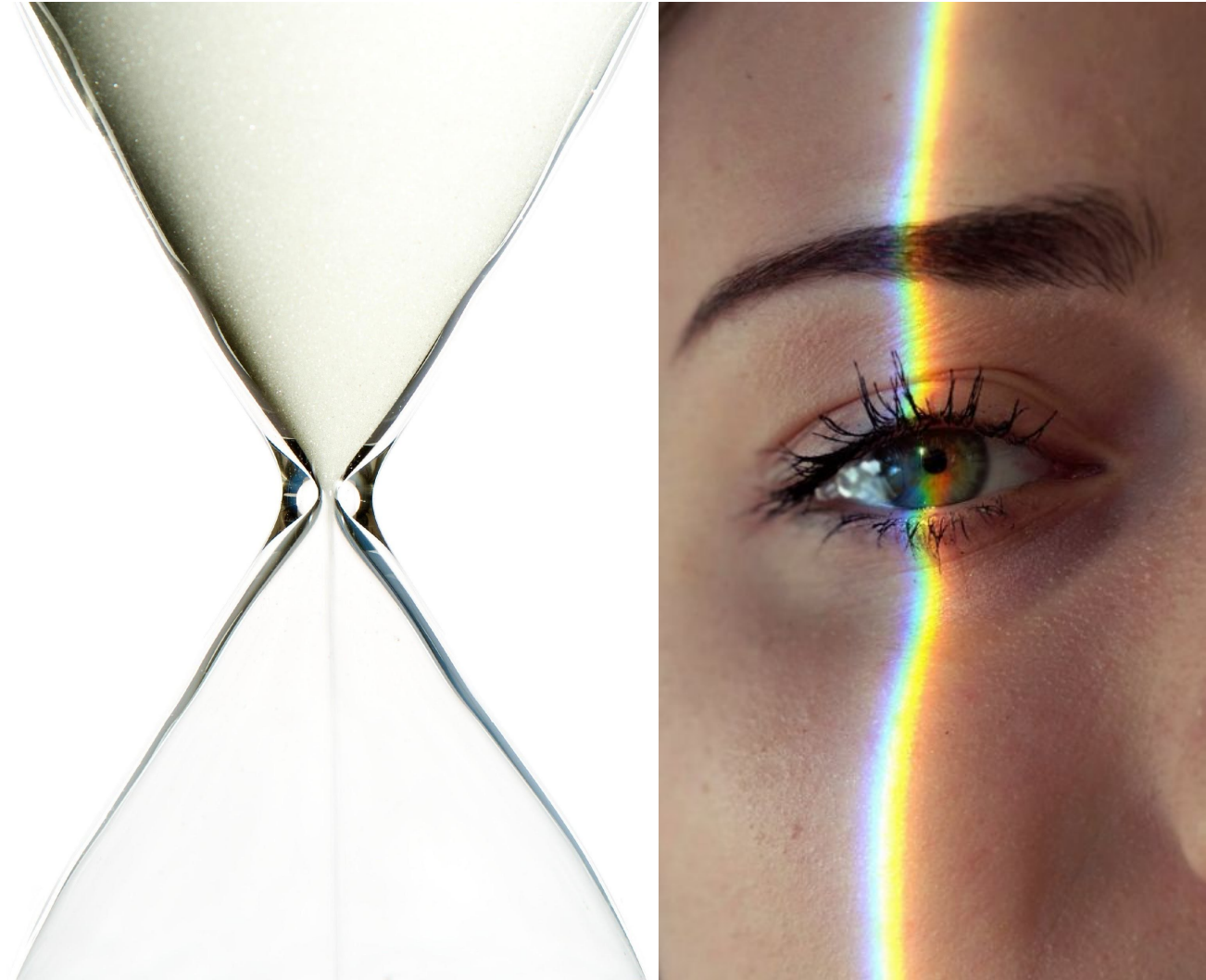
- Research
- Combine
- Customise
- Collaborate
- Adapt
- Quick wins & mistakes
- NBS & synergies
- Keeping up
- ...



# 2050 – A near future

Reality check – Doing it right

- Delays
- Frustration
- Motivational deadlines  
vs.  
Demotivational deadlines



# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Factors slowing us down:

- Grants
  - Timing
  - Administration
  - Law & Vision changes
  - ...





# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Factors slowing us down:

- Contractor
  - Trusted vs Public Tender
  - Flawless Tenders?
  - Lawyers & Scoundrels
  - Administration
- Time & Money wasted
- Lesser Quality @ Higher Cost
- Due to shift in priorities



# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Factors slowing us down:

- Participation
  - Experts by education & experience  
vs  
Experts by Internet Browsing
  - Large effort ⇒ Small changes



# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Braking factors:

**Monitoring & governance**

**&**

**Privacy**





# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Braking factors:

**Terms of office**

**&**

**Fields of study**



# Limits in the current social, political & economic structure

Braking factors:

**Privatisation,**

**Ownership &**

**Business models**





# Conclusion

A journey to a durable & sustainable city

- Eyes on destination
- Accept changes & Expect opportunities
- Be prepared to Learn & Adjust
- Be armed against restrains
- Anticipate hurdles

**It's possible if we work together!**

