



**Fundamental decarbonisation  
through sufficiency by lifestyle changes**

**Less is more?**

**An overview of sufficiency policies to reduce  
emissions and increase quality of life**

Fiona Breucker, Jacques Delors Institute, Dr. Elisabeth Dütschke, Fraunhofer ISI  
Sergio Olivero, The CONCERTI Project, Yves Marignac, Association Négawatt  
Matteo Giacomo Prina, Eurac Research, Gunnar Olsen, Inforse Europe  
Thomas Pellerin- Carlin, MEP, Dr. Frank Sieber-Thomas, European Commission

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003656





**Fiona Breucker**

Research Fellow Energy Sufficiency

**Jacques Delors Institute, Energy Center**

# Agenda

**Introduction to the session and sufficiency,** Fiona Breucker (Jacques Delors Institute)

**Presentation of results from the FULFILL project**



**Dr. Elisabeth Dütschke**  
(Fraunhofer ISI)



**Sergio Olivero**  
(Politecnico di Torino)



**Yves Marignac**  
(Négawatt)



**Matteo Prina**  
(EURAC)

**Audience engagement**

**Taking sufficiency to the European policy level**



**Yves Marignac**  
(Négawatt)



**Gunnar Olsen**  
(Inforse)



**Thomas Pellerin-Carlin**  
(Member of European  
Parliament)



**Dr. Frank Siebern-Thomas**  
(Head of Unit, DG EMPL,  
European Commission)

**Audience engagement and Discussion**

# FULFILL

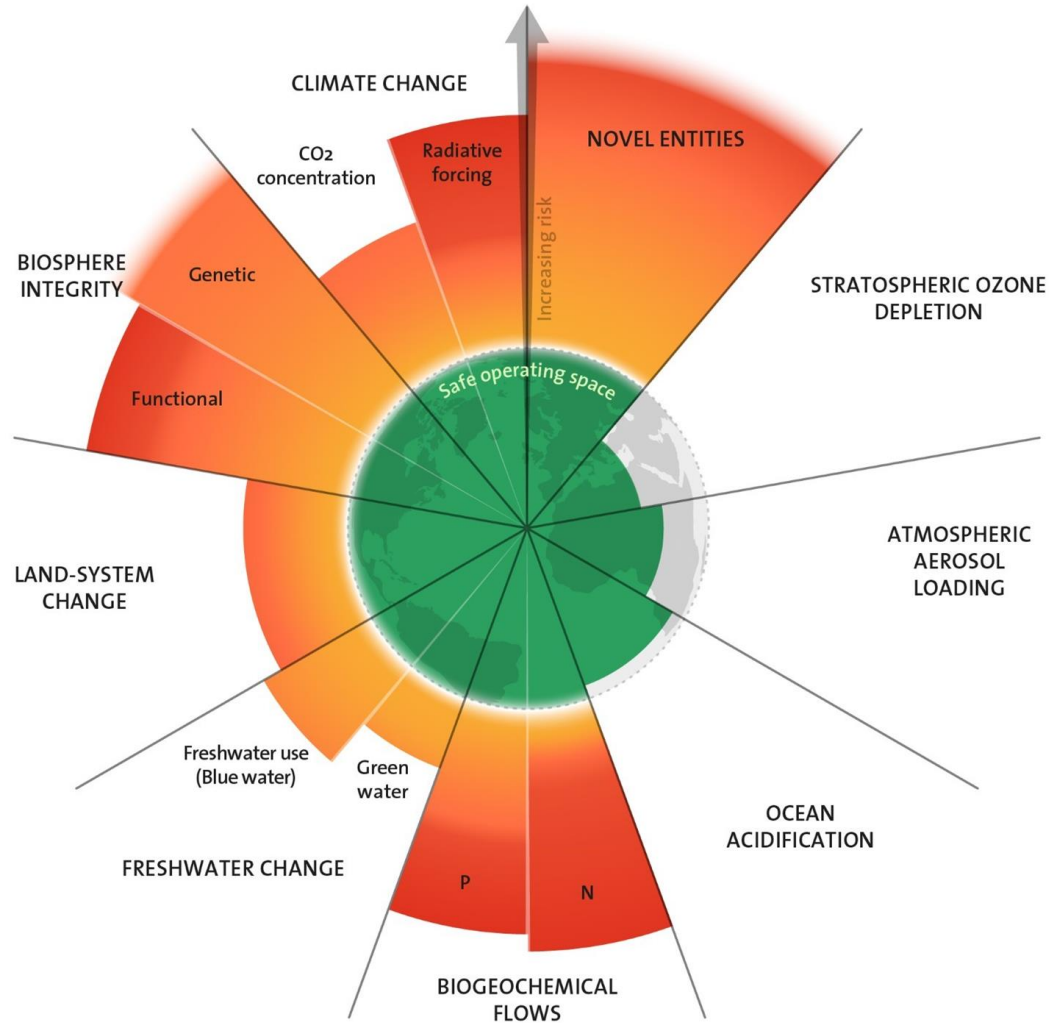
*Fundamental decarbonisation through sufficiency by lifestyle changes*



- EU- funded research project on sufficiency
- empirical research in 5 EU countries + India
- the project included analyses of:
  - 9500 surveys
  - 50 citizen initiatives
  - comparative analyses of 16 policies
  - 3 citizen science workshops
  - input-output models
  - quantification of sufficiency measures

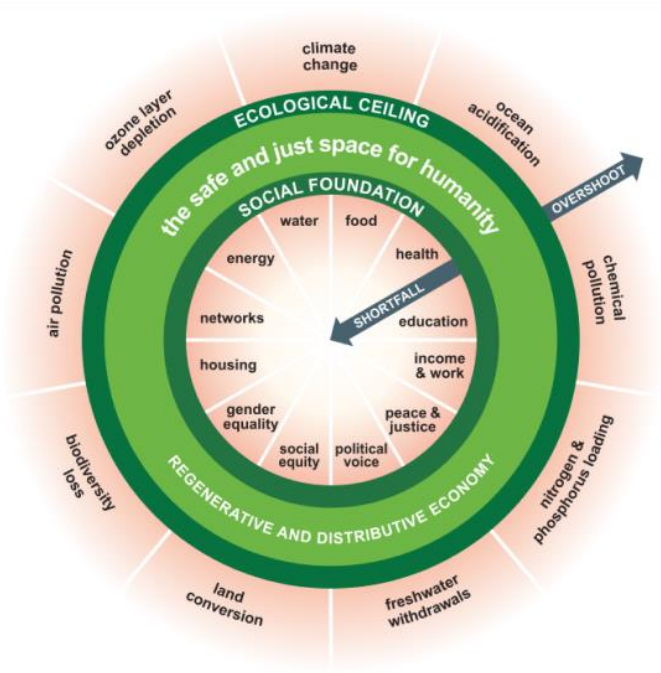


# Why is this important?



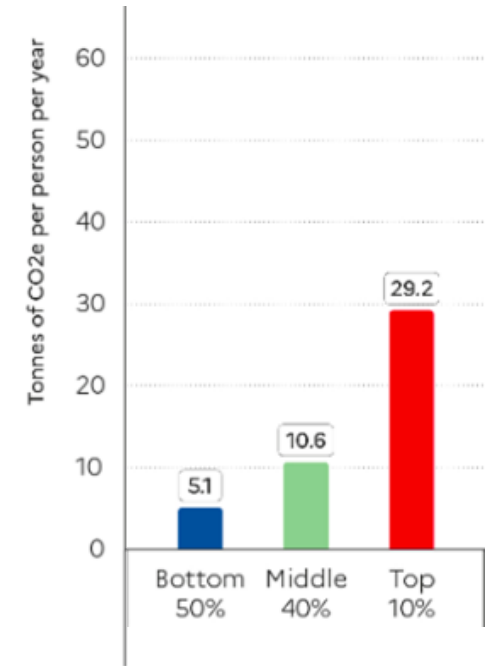
- crossing planetary boundaries threatens ecosystems and human societies.
- six planetary boundaries have already been transgressed
  - climate change
  - biodiversity loss
  - land-system change
  - biogeochemical flows
  - freshwater use
  - novel entities

# Well-being for all within planetary boundaries



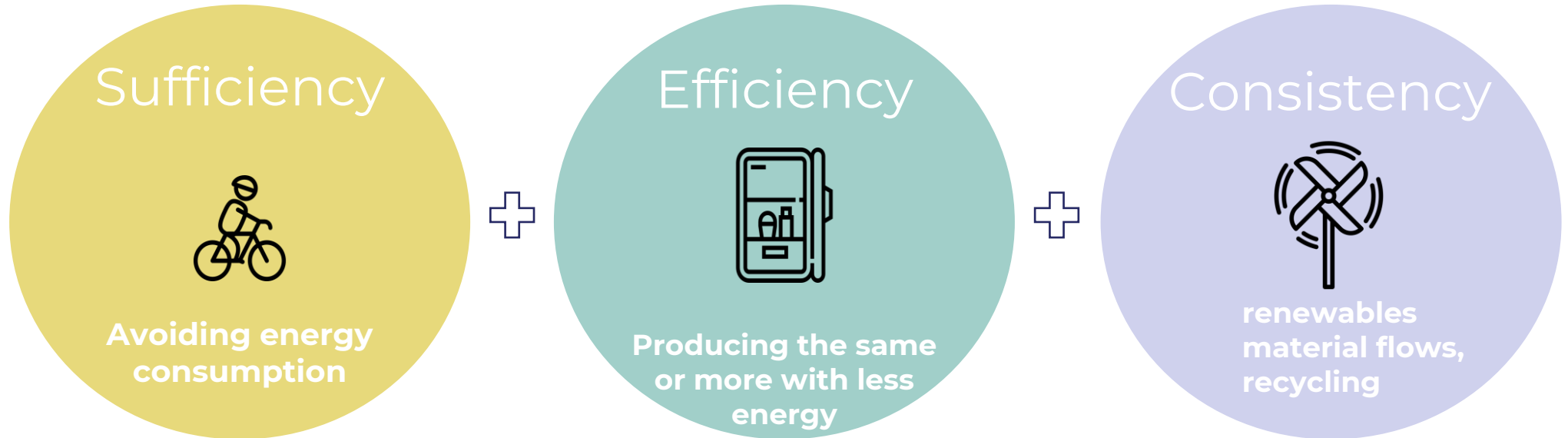
- Overshoot day for the EU was on May 3rd, 2024
- We would need 3 planets to satisfy our demand if everyone on Earth lived like Europe's residents.
- Sufficiency aims to provide well being for all without overshooting planetary boundaries!

Per capita emissions, Europe, 2019



Source: Chancel, L., Piketty, T., Saez, E., Zucman, G. et al. World Inequality Report 2022, World Inequality Lab [wir2022.wid.world](http://wir2022.wid.world)

# Sustainability strategies



## Examples

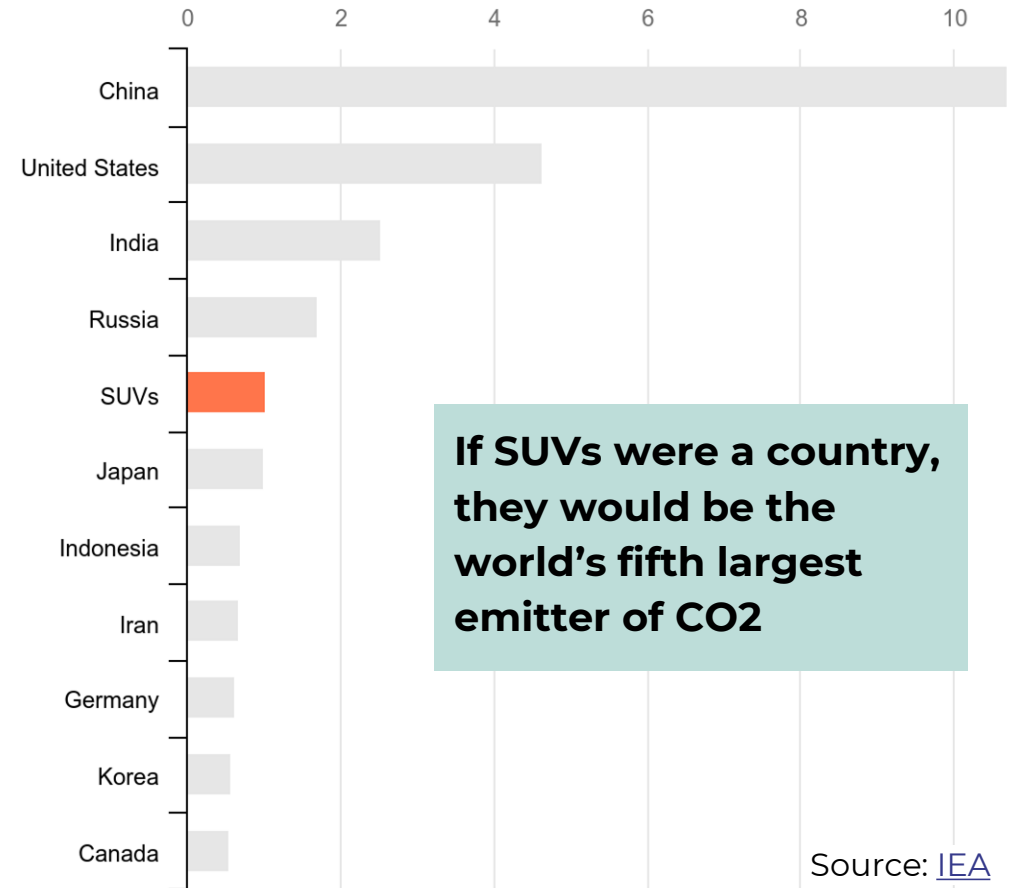
Take the car with combustion engine	cycling, public transport, car sharing, work from home	electric car	electric car with renewable electricity
Heat all rooms at 22°C with fossil fuel boiler	put the heating to 19°C , heat less rooms	invest in building renovation	install a renewable heating system (e.g. heat pumps)

# Why do we need sufficiency?

- SUVs accounted for 48% of global car sales in 2023.
- **Trend towards heavier, less efficient vehicles largely nullifies recent global gains in car emissions and energy use.**
- SUV's: responsible for over 20% of the growth in global energy-related CO2 emissions in 2023
  - ~ 20% more emissions than an average medium-sized car
  - more critical materials and parking space in constrained urban areas
  - pedestrian safety



Source: [Pexels](#)



**If SUVs were a country, they would be the world's fifth largest emitter of CO2**

Source: [IEA](#)





“FULFILL understands the **sufficiency principle** as **creating the social, infrastructural, and regulatory conditions** for changing individual and collective lifestyles in a way that **reduces** energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions to an extent that they are **within planetary boundaries**, and simultaneously **contributes to societal well-being.**”

“**Sufficiency policies** are a set of **measures and daily practices** that **avoid demand** for energy, materials, land and water while **delivering** human **well-being** for all within planetary boundaries.”

(IPCC 2022. Summary for Policymakers, p. 41)

# Sufficiency needs policies and infrastructures

Policies, infrastructure, regulatory conditions, social norms



## Individual level



choosing plant-based diets



Biking and using public transport



repairing and sharing goods



reconsidering consumption demands

- Policies and infrastructures often favour unsustainable consumption patterns
- Enabling regulation not necessarily expensive or slow to implement





## Changing infrastructures



# Sufficiency Video





European  
Commission



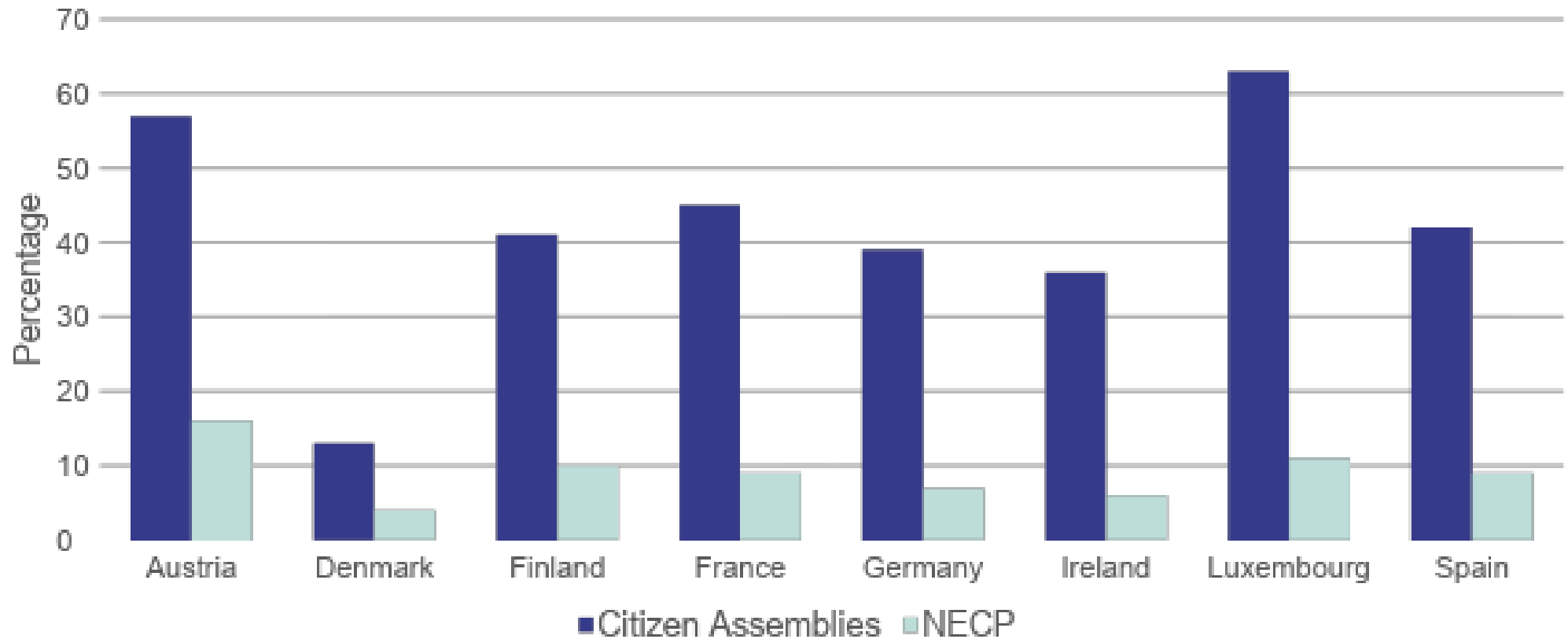
## Elisabeth Dütschke

Head of Actors and Social Acceptance in  
the Transformation of the Energy System

**Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and  
Innovation Research ISI**

# European citizens and sufficiency - previous findings

Share of sufficiency measures



Engaged  
citizens  
suggest  
sufficiency

# European citizens and sufficiency - studying their current views

What are  
everyday  
experiences with  
sufficiency?

What do  
unprepared  
publics prefer?



9500  
surveyed on  
lifestyles



160  
interviewed  
on daily life  
and  
sufficiency



45 initiatives  
studied



85  
participants  
in citizen  
workshops



9900  
surveyed on  
policy  
measures

# European citizens and sufficiency - everyday experience

## Very sufficient

3-4% per country

Very low in emissions in all behavioural domains and high in well-being

Female, higher income, supporting sufficiency-oriented lifestyles and environmental identity

## Partly sufficient

8-9% per country

Very low in emissions in some behavioural domains and below average overall as well as high in well-being

Eco-friendly, support for environmental policies

## Deprived

12-14% per country

Very low in emissions in all domains and low in well-being

More often female, low income, not working full-time

*"I always say that participating to this initiative gives me a lot of energy".*  
(Woman, 47, Italy, reduced consumption)

Living in a tiny house allows me to be less a slave to work." (Woman, 25, France, tiny house)

Time availability

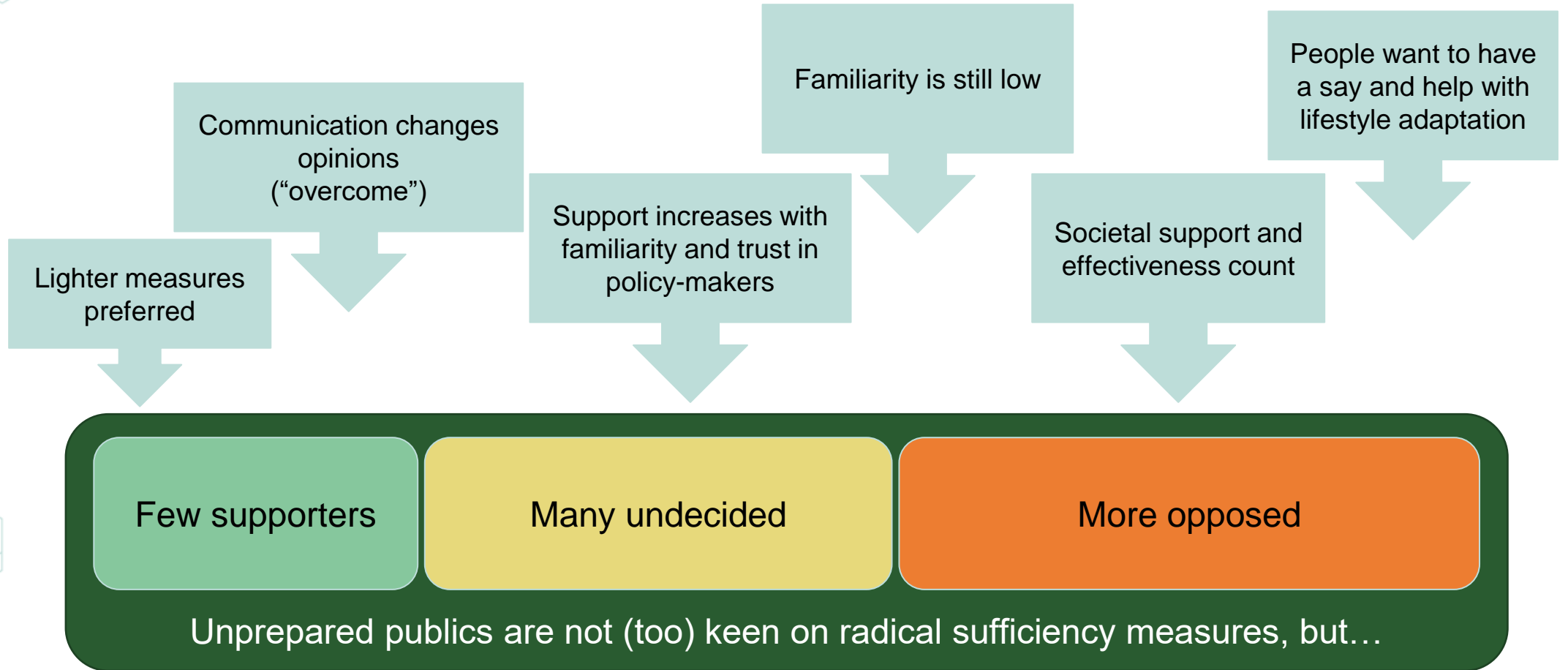
Income and affluence

Well-being as consequence and motivator

Sufficiency as a side-effect in joining initiatives and unknown as a concept



# European citizens and sufficiency - policies





## Sergio Olivero

Head of Business and Finance Innovation  
**RESCOOP.EU, CONCERTI, Energy Center  
of the Politecnico di Torino**



European Sustainable  
Energy Week 2024

11-13 June 2024, Brussels and online



# The CONCERTI Project

Renewable Energy Communities (REC): creating value  
for sustainable growth and sufficiency

an Italian best practice

<https://progettoconcerti.it>

*Sergio Olivero*



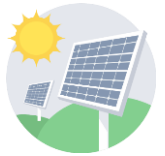
# Renewable Energy Communities (REC): *definition*

A **Renewable Energy Community (REC)** is a **legal entity** made up of energy **users**, **producers** and **prosumers** (*producers+users*) who are clustered to generate economic, social and environmental benefits deriving primarily from the **sharing of electricity** produced by **renewable** sources.



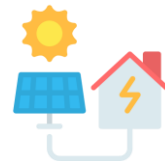
USER

Draws electricity from the grid and is the owner of the connection point to the grid, identified by a POD (Point Of Delivery) code



PRODUCER

Producer of energy from renewable sources, that is totally fed into the grid (potentially shareable energy)



PROSUMER

Producer of energy from renewable sources, which is partly consumed on site (physical self-consumption) and partly fed into the grid (potentially shareable energy)

# REC and sufficiency

On 14 July 2021 the European Commission adopted the “**fit for 55**” package, which adapts existing climate and energy legislation to meet the new EU objective of a **minimum 55 % reduction** in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030.

A key element in the 'fit for 55' package is the revision of the **Renewable Energy Directive (RED II)**, to help the EU deliver the new 55 % GHG target.

The revised directive (**RED III**) was published in the Official Journal on 31 October 2023, and entered into force on 20 November 2023.

**Italy transposed the RED II Directive** with the Law Dlgs 199/2021, that entered into force on 24 January 2024: **the “engine” of RED II are RECs.** RECs are therefore a major catalyst of fossil fuel reduction, paving the way to **sufficiency**.

# Renewable Energy Communities (REC): *Magliano Alpi and follow-ups*



December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020: the **first** Italian **Renewable Energy Community (REC)** was founded in the City of Magliano Alpi <https://cermaglianoalpi.it/> with the scientific support of the Energy Center of the Politecnico di Torino



April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024: the Renewable Energy Community “**CONCERTI**” <https://progettoconcerti.it> was founded by the “*Consortium Bealera Maestra Destra Stura*” (CBMDS), clustering **25 Municipalities** (including Magliano Alpi) in the Province of Cuneo starting from April 2024, the Italian Government is making **€ 2,2 BILLION** available to support RECs in cities with less than 5,000 inhabitants



# Best practice: **CONCERTI: REC + water saving**

The project **CONCERTI** is promoted and managed by the **Irrigation Consortium BMDS**

The Consortium is currently moving from traditional “*flowing water*” irrigation to **pressure pipes** [€ 76 million were awarded to create the infrastructure, also implying 2 MW hydropower production]

Pressure pipes mean:

- 1) **Less water** needed for irrigation (pressure&focused use ☐ lower losses, better use)
- 2) More water **left to rivers**
- 3) **Renewable energy by hydro power plants**: 2MW (especially used for public lighting of cities in the night, **reducing the use of energy from the grid**)



The Magliano Alpi is one of the Cities partner of Consortium BMDS



<http://progettoconcerti.it/>



Promoted and managed by **CBMDS**

Technical partners



## Best practice: **CONCERTI: REC + water saving**

The Consortium is a no-profit private-law company, owned by 16 Municipalities and actively cooperating with SMEs

The Consortium BMDS have created a dedicated **no-profit company** (cooperative) in order to manage all RECs that will be activated in the area of the Province of Cuneo

A digital **IoT-AI platform** is being developed

The value:

- **50% cut of water necessary for irrigation** (farms located in 25 Municipalities)
- **50 MW** of installed PV power [**€ 45 million investment**], that will save up to 25.000 tons of CO2/year and generate up to **€ 1.5 million/year** (for a period of 20 years) for social initiatives.
- RECs will assure a **circularity between production and use of energy** and will give money (incentives) for people who will **change their energy consumption behaviours**



<http://progettoconcerti.it/>



Promoted and managed by  
CBMDS

Technical partners



Politecnico  
di Torino



ENERGY  
CENTER

 **fabbrica digitale**  
IT ENABLING TECHNOLOGY





Best practice: **CONCERTI: behavioural change**

**In a REC, if you use energy when it is available you get incentives** (about € 100/MWh), since you help matching production and consumption at local level according to a circular approach.

The matching means that you are using **renewable energy produced at local level only**.

Thanks to Law Dlgs 199/2021 (that transposes EU RED-II Directive), **if you change your consumption habits you get money** ☑ major catalyst of innovative mood towards energy transition.

The Law also states that **all incentives related to energy sharing > 55% is devoted to social initiatives**: CONCERTI will use this money [€ 1.5 million/year] to fund energy efficiency projects and raising awareness campaigns



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

## **Sergio Olivero**



Head of Business&Finance Innovation

*Chair ETIP-SNET WG5 «Innovation implementation in the business environment»*

*Member of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Forum of Energy Communities - IFEC*

*Member of the Scientific Committee of the Symbola Foundation*

*Vice-President of CONCERTI*

*President of the Scientific Committee of Magliano Alpi's REC*

[sergio.olivero@polito.it](mailto:sergio.olivero@polito.it)





# Yves Marignac

Energy expert and spokesperson

**Association négaWatt**



**Fundamental decarbonisation  
through sufficiency by lifestyle changes**

## Sufficiency policies

Yves Marignac, Association négaWatt

**Energy expert and spokesperson**  
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12/06/2024



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# Sufficiency levers can be identified and related policies and measures can be designed

1

## Servicial

Intensity and duration of use of equipments

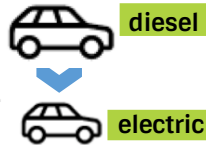


repair

2

## Dimensional

Size, nominal capacity of equipments



electric

3

## Organisational

Collective planning and sharing



coworking

Residential

Tertiary

Mobility

Freight

Industry

Agriculture

Heating temperature

Flying less

Long-lived goods

Change of diet

Built areas

Car sizing

Sharing products

Modal shift

Circular economy

## Policies and measures to be developed

like for any kind of lever

Informing & supporting actions

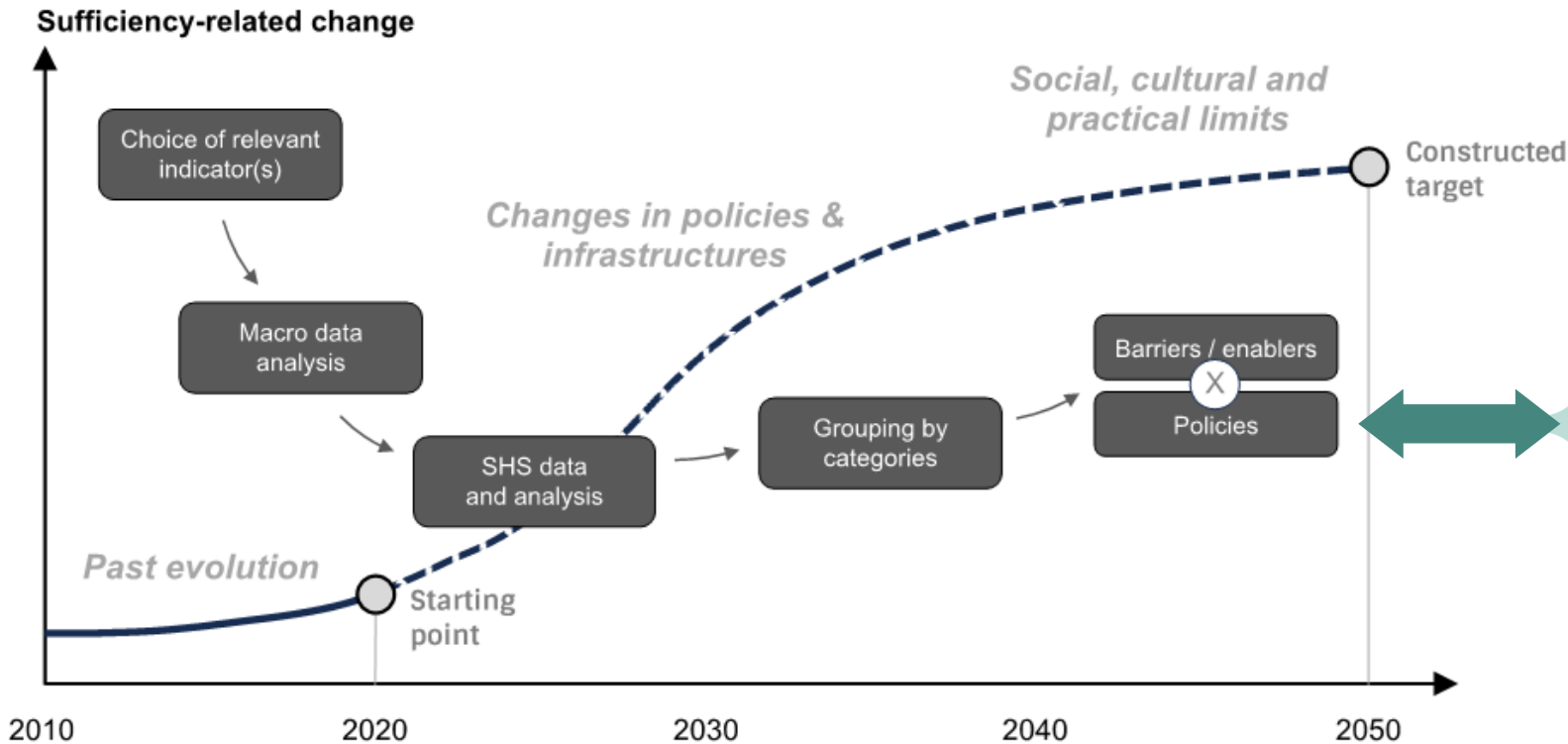
Changing social norms & practices

Guiding & regulating innovation and markets

Regulating & adapting infrastructures

Habits  
Infrastructures  
Societal framework

# Sufficiency policies and measures can be discussed in relation with projected dynamics of possible change



Social and human sciences (SHS) can help identify barriers, enablers and possible dynamics through categories. Policies and measures can build on positive factors and address barriers to drive sufficiency-related change.



**Sharing space in housing**

*Focus on people aged 65+*



**Cohousing**



**Sharing products**

*Focus on washing machines*



**Reduced car sizing**



**Biking more**

*Focus on daily trips*



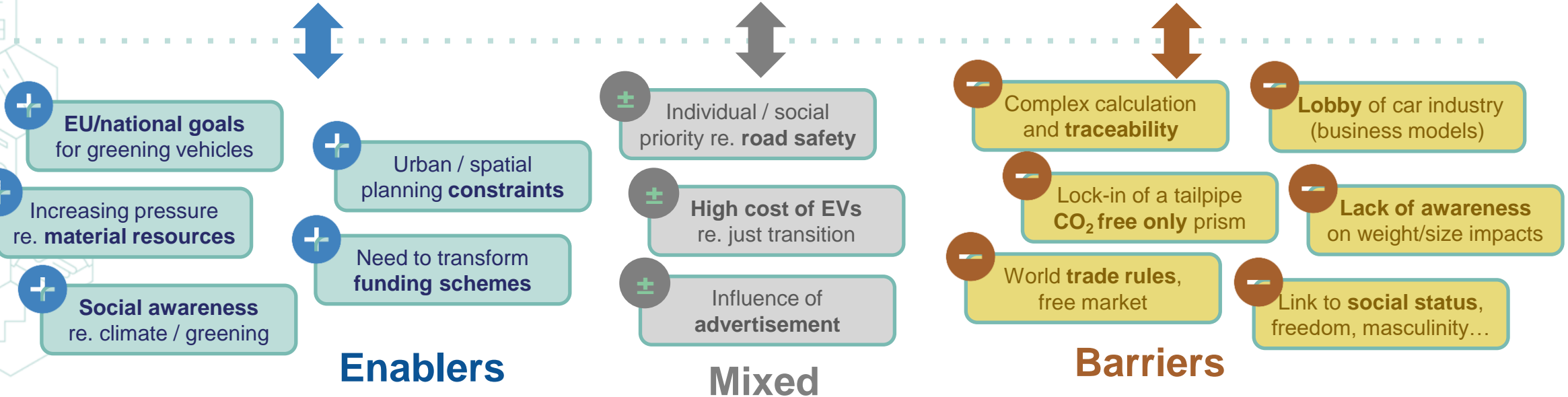
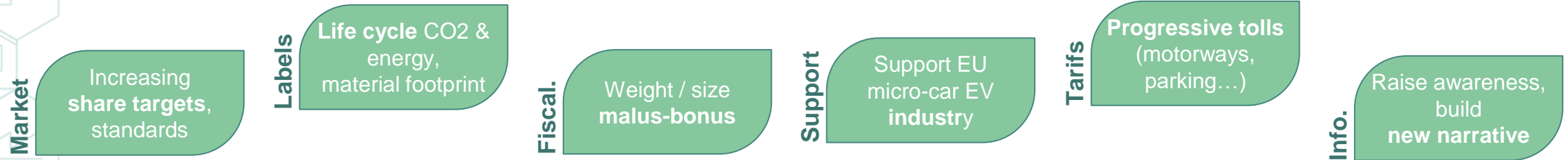
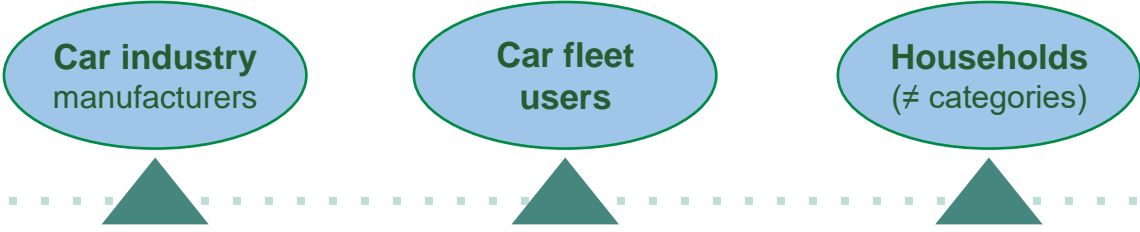
**Flying less**

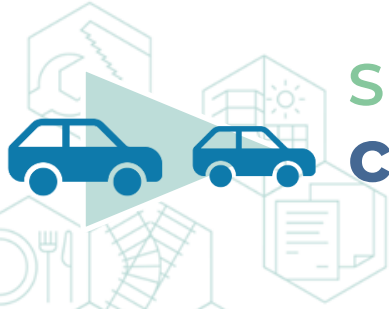


**Change in diet**



# Sufficiency policies: car sizing





# Sufficiency policies: car sizing

Enablers

Mixed

Barriers

## Policies

	Existing EU/national mandatory targets on greening of vehicles	Increasing pressure on material resources consumption and extraction	Social awareness on climate change, increasing will to buy green products	Urban/ spatial planning constraints	Necessity to find sustainable funding schemes for policies for transports beyond CO2	Road safety as a political priority	Necessity to make electric vehicles more financially accessible	Influence of advertisement on vehicles	Complexity of calculation and traceability	Lobby of car industry (less profit on smaller cars, employment rates)	World trade rules and free market	Policy prism on tailpipe CO2 emissions / policy resistance to change measures	Lack of awareness on the impact of weight and size even for EV	Social incentives to own a large car (link to freedom, social status, masculinity...)
<b>Market</b>	Include progressive targets of share of new A et B category vehicles sold on EU market for manufacturers	+++	+++	++	+	-	+	+++	+	+	+++	+++	++	++
<b>Labels</b>	Include material consumption standards/caps for new vehicles sold on EU market, including electric vehicles (EV)	+++	+++	+			++	+++	++	+	+++	+	++	+
<b>Fiscal.</b>	Shift to a life cycle analysis to measure CO2 emissions and energy consumptions of vehicles sold on EU market	++	++	+++			++	+	+++	+	+++	++	+	
<b>Sup.</b>	Include weight and size standards/caps in targets set for the greening of public and private vehicle fleets	+++	+++	+	+		++			++	++	++	+	
<b>Link</b>	Include weight and size and material consumption criterion in the calculation of car energy and emissions labelling	++	+++	+++			++	+	++	++		++	+	+
<b>Tarifs</b>	Include weight and size criterion in fiscal schemes targeting physic and moral persons	++	++	++	+	+	+++	+++		++	+++	+	+	++
<b>Info.</b>	Support the development of microcar industry in Europe to make EV accessible and relocate some of the production		+	+			+++		+	++				++
	Support the development of accessible car sharing practices in Europe, to adapt vehicles uses to the needs		+	++	+		+++		+	++		+	+	++
	<i>National level:</i> adapt motorway toll rates to size and weight of vehicles (existing in many country)	+++	-	+	++	+	+++	-	+	+++	-	++	++	+
	<i>Local level:</i> adapt parking toll rates to size of vehicles	+	-	+	+++	+++	+++	+	-	+++	-	+	+	+
	Raise awareness on the impact of size on CO2 emissions, atmospheric pollutants, energy and material consumption	++	++	++	++	++	++		++	+++		++	+	++
	Build a breaking narrative on mobility to tackle values and misconceptions around cars and support smaller affordable cars	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	+++		++	+	+++

Legend for impact ratings:

- +++ very positive
- ++ positive
- + rather positive
- absent
- negative





# Sufficiency policies: car sizing

Policies allow to target ... with different impacts  
different groups... at different time scales

Policies		Target group	Qualitative potential	Delay of implementation and impact	Horizon in scenarios	Comments
Market	Include progressive targets of share of new A et B category vehicles sold on EU market for manufacturers	Manufacturers	Strong	Mid term	2040	Complexity to implement if not aligned with offer on the rest of the world market
	Include material consumption standards/caps for new vehicles sold on EU market, including electric vehicles (EV)	Manufacturers	Strong	Mid to long term	2050	
Labels	Shift to a life cycle analysis to measure CO2 emissions and energy consumptions of vehicles sold on EU market	Manufacturers	A / B	Mid term	2040	A on the efficiency of the measure B on the probability to be implemented
	Include weight and size standards/caps in targets set for the greening of public and private vehicle fleets	Public and private entities	A / B	Mid term	2040	A on the efficiency of the measure B on the probability to be implemented
Fiscal.	Include weight and size and material consumption criterion in the calculation of car energy and emissions labelling	Manufacturers and buyers	B	Mid term	2040	Touches private entities as well as individuals
	Include weight and size criterion in fiscal schemes targeting physic and moral persons	Indiv. buyers, private entities	B	Short term	2030	Either through a dedicated tax, or a bonus-malus scheme
Sup.	Support the development of microcar industry in Europe to make EV accessible and relocate some of the production	Manufacturers and buyers	B	Long term	2050	
	Support the development of accessible car sharing practices in Europe, to adapt vehicles uses to the needs	Public author., car users	B	Mid term	2040	
Tarifs	<i>National level:</i> adapt motorway toll rates to size and weight of vehicles (existing in many country)	Owners, buyers of vehicles	C	Mid term	2040	
	<i>Local level:</i> adapt parking toll rates to size of vehicles	All	C	Short term	2030	Strong impact in urban areas, much more limited in rural ones
	Raise awareness on the impact of size on CO2 emissions, atmospheric pollutants, energy and material consumption	Policy makers	C	Short term	2030	Reinforces the acceptability and feasibility of more operational policies
Info.	Build a breaking narrative on mobility to tackle values and misconceptions around cars and support smaller affordable cars	Entities, indiv., policy makers	C	Mid term	2040	Reinforces the acceptability and feasibility of more operational policies

# Identified sufficiency policies exist that allow to target all sectors, players and uses



More than **330 sufficiency-related policies and measures** found in literature

- sector
- political target / strategy
- measure / action
- policy instrument

Cross-sectoral and sectoral policies, targeting various sufficiency levers, using the whole range of policy instruments

A comprehensive set of proposals to develop an **EU strategy for sufficiency**



## Transport / mobility

Investment in infrastructures, modal shift, local urban planning, car sharing...



## Energy, buildings and spatial planning

Optimising use of existing buildings, net-zero land take, progressive energy tariffs...



## Materials, products, food

Material footprint reduction targets, circular economy, product design rules...



## Cross-sectoral: information, taxation and finance

Public campaigns, regulated advertisement, redistributive taxation practices, funding schemes...





**Matteo Giacomo Prina**

Senior researcher

**EURAC research**



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003656



Fundamental decarbonisation  
through sufficiency by lifestyle changes

# What can sufficiency contribute? Results of an input-output model

Nicolò Golinucci, Lorenzo Rinaldi, Francesco Tonini & Matteo Vincenzo Rocco,  
Matteo Giacomo Prina, Filippo Beltrami, Erwin M. Schau, Wolfram Sparber  
SESAM – Politecnico di Milano, Eurac Research  
12<sup>th</sup> Jun 2024, EUSEW sufficiency session





# Objective

To analyze the potential contribution of lifestyle changes and to assess the system-wide impacts of upscaled sufficiency-based lifestyle changes on climate, economy, and society at the European level.

## Specific goal

To quantify the effects of sufficiency on greenhouse gas emissions, macroeconomic indicators, energy use, and resource consumption through the use of an input/output model.

# Data from FULFILL

## Data for 6 sufficiency measures

- Diets
- Sharing spaces in housing
- Moderate car sizing
- Sharing products\*
- Biking
- Flying less

## for 5 countries

- Italy
- France
- Germany
- Latvia
- Denmark

Country	Year	Transition	% impact policies	Share of people willing to reduce animal products consumption	Share of willing people actually changing	Resulting share <sup>7</sup>
Denmark	2025	2021->2025	0%	26%	48%	12%
	2030	2025->2030	5%	27%	50%	14%
	2035	2030->2035	25%	32%	58%	19%
	2040	2035->2040	45%	37%	67%	25%
	2045	2040->2045	73%	43%	78%	34%
	2050	2045->2050	100%	50%	90%	45%

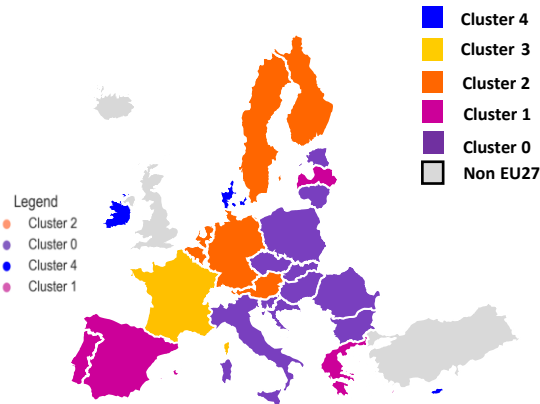
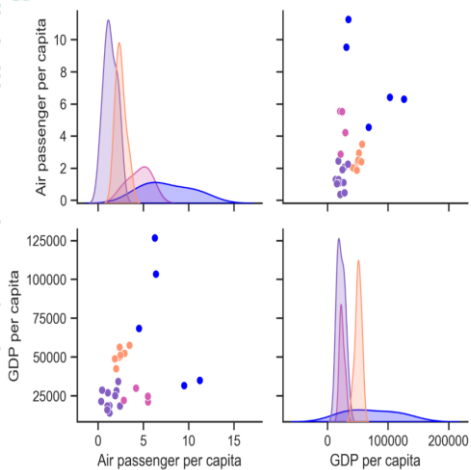
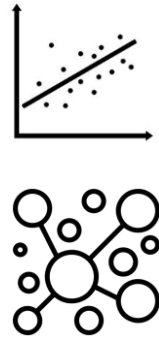
Modelled sub-indicators regarding diets for men in Denmark (D5.3)

\*only washing machines are considered

# Methods and materials

## Preprocessing of data for MARIO

- **Sufficiency data for 5 countries (Italy, France, Germany, Latvia, Denmark)**
- **Evaluation of business as usual future trends**
- **Clustering analysis to extend results to all EU countries**



## Input/output Macro-economic modelling

### INPUT

- **Input-Output (IO) database**
- Description of sufficiency measure



### MARIO:

Open Python-based objective programming for easing IO analysis



### PROCESSING

Automatizing the application of each **sufficiency measure in multiple scenarios**

### OUTPUT

- Aggregated results (products, activities, regions, ...)
- Results visualization



Economic indicators



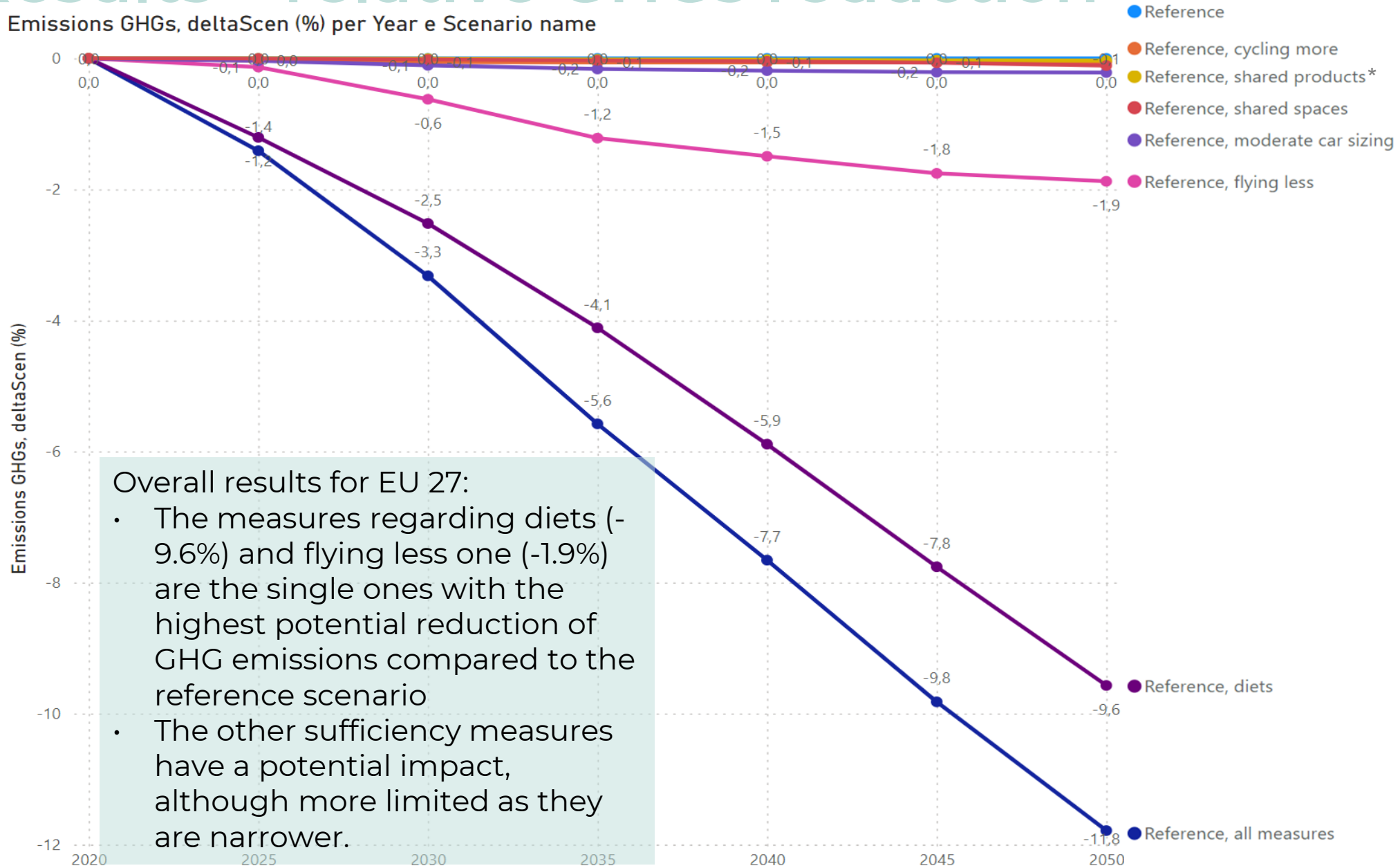
Use of energy and resources



Emissions of greenhouse gases

# Results – relative GHGs reduction

Emissions GHGs, deltaScen (%) per Year e Scenario name



## Overall results for EU 27:

- The measures regarding diets (-9.6%) and flying less one (-1.9%) are the single ones with the highest potential reduction of GHG emissions compared to the reference scenario
- The other sufficiency measures have a potential impact, although more limited as they are narrower.

\*only washing machines are considered

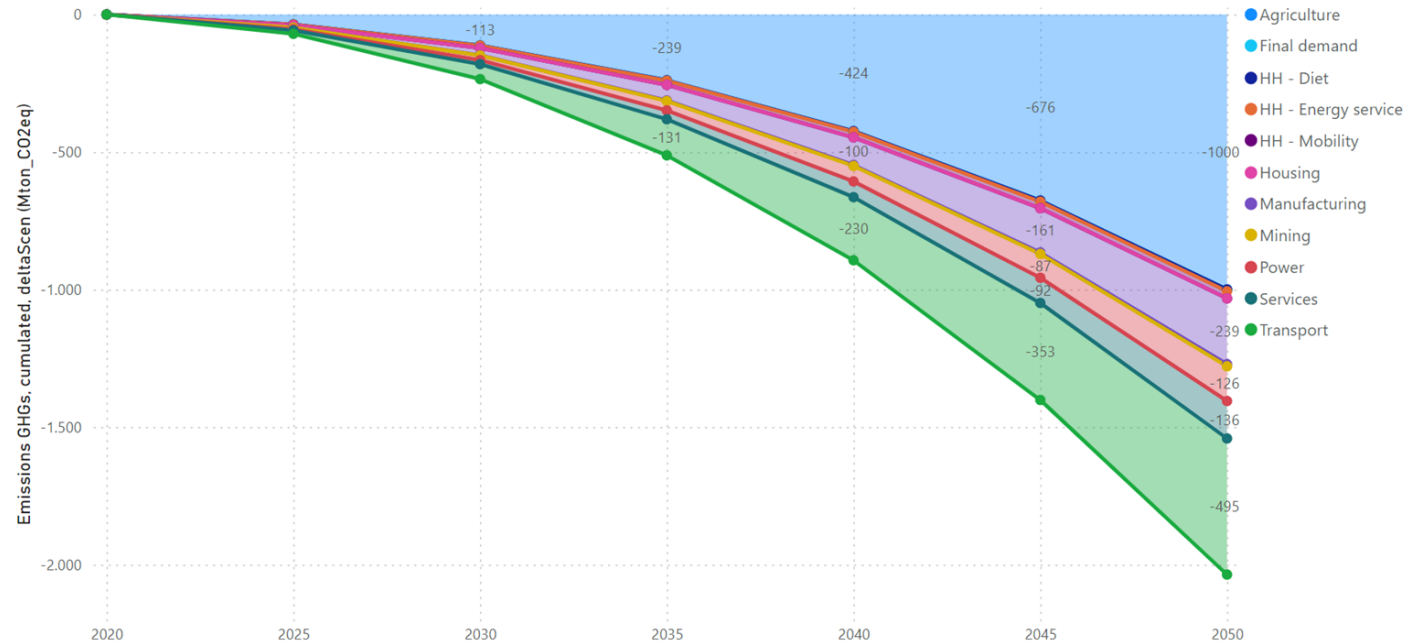


# Results – cumulative GHGs reduction

## Overall results for EU 27:

- Overall, **from now to 2050 about 2 Gton** of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent can be saved thanks to these measures
- >90% of this is due to **diets** (1.5 Gton) and **flying less** (0.4 Gton)
- Main impact is on the following sectors:  
Agriculture,  
manufacturing and  
transport.

Emissions GHGs, cumulated, deltaScen (Mton\_CO2eq) per Year e Activity\_agg2

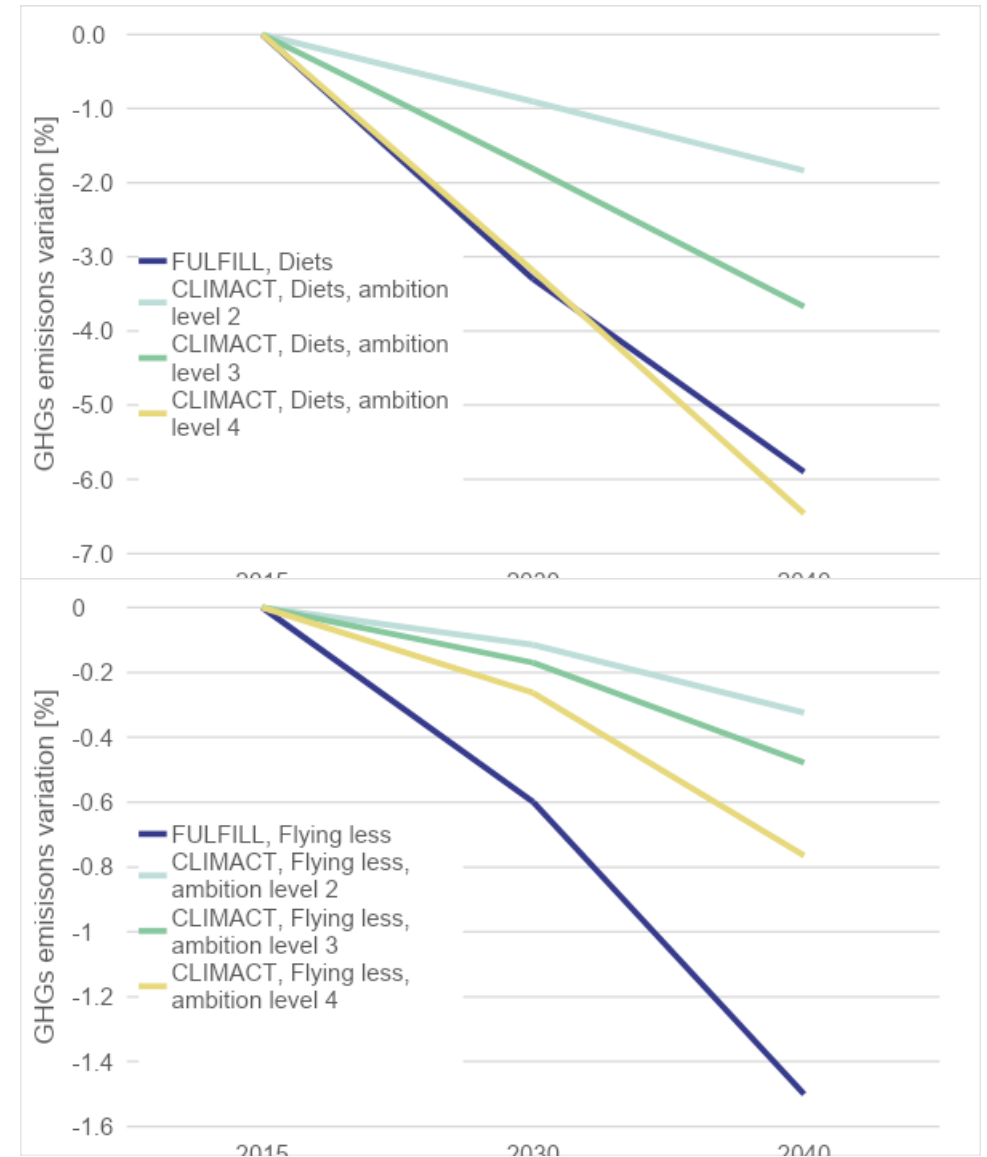


# Discussion of the results

In order to understand the robustness of our results we made a comparison with the results provided by CLIMACT 2050 Pathways Explorer [1].

This has been performed for the following sufficiency measures: Diets and Flying less

The results show results in line with the CLIMACT scenario ambition level 4.



[1] CLIMACT, [2050 Pathways Explorer \(climact.com\)](https://www.climact.com)

# Conclusions

Goal was quantifying the effects of sufficiency on greenhouse gas emissions, macroeconomic indicators, energy use, and resource consumption through the use of an input/output model.

- **Sufficiency measures** have been selected to be relevant for this evaluation: Diets, Sharing spaces in housing, Moderate car sizing, Sharing products, Biking, and Flying less. For each of them a **business as usual scenario** and a **sufficiency scenario** have been found (for **5 countries**). A **clustering analysis** has been used to **extend** what have been found for these 5 countries to all EU27
- These data have been used as input of **MARIO** (input/output **macro-economic model**) applied at global level with a particular focus on EU27
- Results show that, **from now to 2050 about 2 Gton** of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent can be saved thanks to these sufficiency measures.
- >90% of the assessed potential is due to **diets** (1.5 Gton) and **flying less** (0.4 Gton). Further potential would need to be assessed by broadening the scope of other sufficiency measures
- Most affected sectors are Agriculture, manufacturing and transport.



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☰ Active poll

● Less is more? An ove...

47 👤

### How many Europeans in our survey indicate that they have too much space in their place of living?

between 11% and 18% 📍



between 3% and 10%



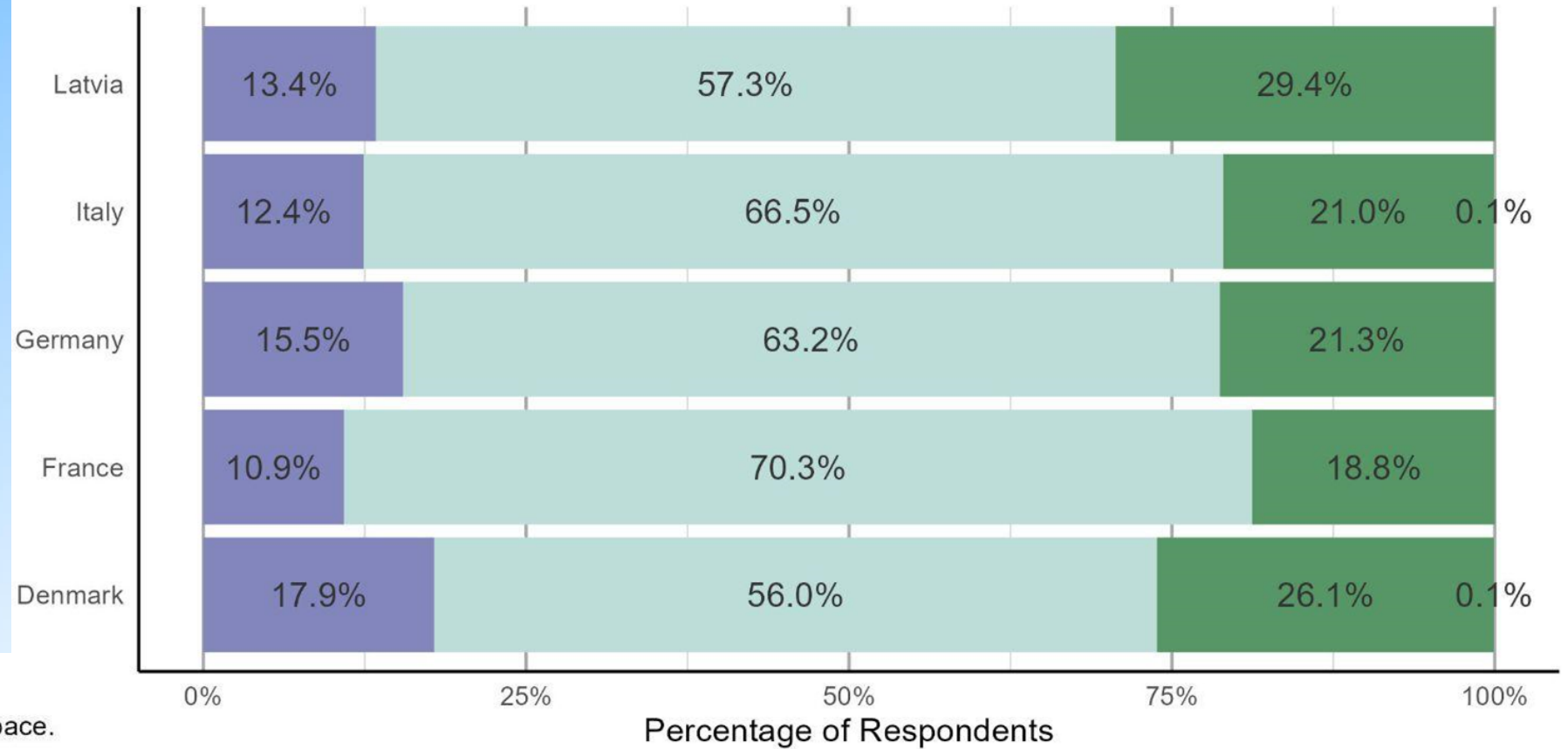
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## How did you feel about the size of your home in 2021?



LV: n=1369, IT: n=1901, DE: n=1803, FR: n=1836, and DK: n=1851

- I could have done with less space.
- Overall, it was fine the way it was.
- I could have done with more space.
- No answer / other



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☰ Active poll

● Less is more? An ove...

74 👤

### How many Europeans in our survey cycle every day?

between 5% (Italy) and 40% (Denmark)



between 4% (France) and 24% (Denmark)



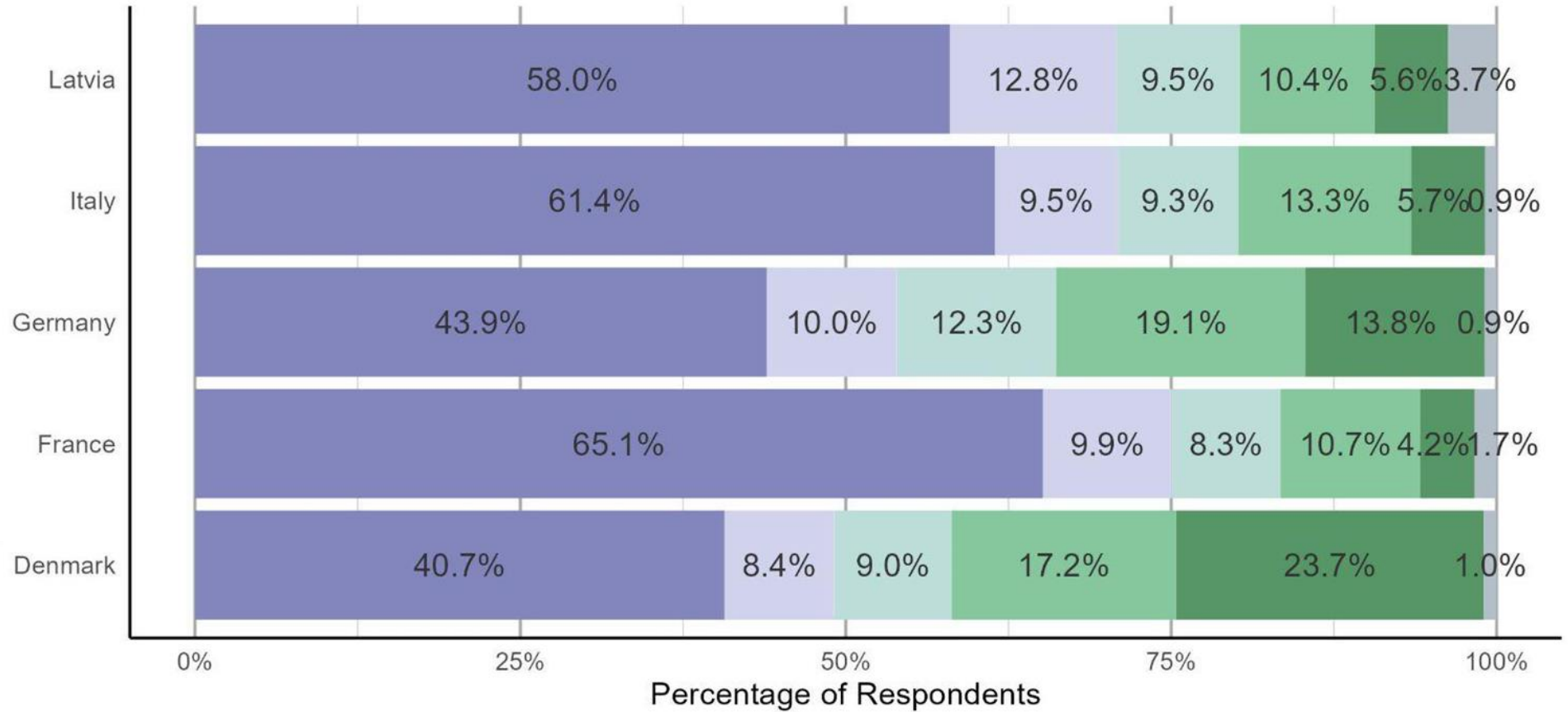
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## In 2021, how often did you cycle?



LV: n=1369, IT: n=1901, DE: n=1803, FR: n=1836, and DK: n=1851



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# Yves Marignac

Energy expert and spokesperson

**Association négaWatt**



# The Sufficiency Manifesto

- A growing awareness of the role of sufficiency
- An informal “sufficiency coalition” of European organisations
- The publication of a “sufficiency manifesto”, now supported by more than 90 organisations

## Initiators





# 1

## Why managing demand through sufficiency policies is needed now

- Covid 19, Ukrainian crisis, geopolitical tensions and economic pressure: a **challenge** to *“maintain stability in an evolving era of **polycrisis**”*
- Puts questions of **security of supply**, strategic **autonomy**, and industrialisation back to the top of the EU agenda
- Meanwhile, strong **ecological concerns** remain and **climate urgency** is growing

*“By putting sufficiency at the heart of its policies, the EU can set itself on the path of a resource-wise and resilient global leadership, providing a more secure, fair, and less costly transition to net zero emissions.”*



*“Sufficiency policies are a set of measures and daily practices that **avoid demand for energy**, materials, land and water while **delivering human well-being** for all **within planetary boundaries**.”*



## 2

### Five reasons to make sufficiency a priority for the EU

#### *“Sufficiency means...”*

- a more **resilient** Europe”  
Reducing demand and using resources wisely domestically: being less dependent on critical imports, less vulnerable to shortages, and more resilient to shocks
- less costs and more **competitiveness**”  
Sufficiency can help achieve a successful, prioritised reindustrialisation, by focusing on sectors that are strategic, reducing costs and minimising risks
- facilitated achievement of our **climate** and energy targets”  
Sufficiency enables to deliver on EU objectives cost-effectively, making the most of the potential to implement energy efficiency and deploy renewables
- a better **quality of life** for all”  
Targeting the most unsustainable consumption patterns and ensuring redistributive access to resources to meet everyone’s fundamental needs
- a more **sustainable** Europe”  
Sufficiency has the potential to rebalance EU policy in the next mandate towards strong sustainability

Sufficiency is the **common denominator** in the response to all aspects of the crisis, and should therefore be the **common factor** to political agendas



# 3

## Recommendations: putting sufficiency at the heart of the EU strategic agenda



### Transport / mobility

- Shifting **infrastructure investments** to support modal shift
- Promoting short-distance travel and a **more localised provision** of services & supplies
- Tackling the issue of **vehicles' size** by standards, incentives etc.
- Targeting **unnecessary air traffic** through specific measures



### Energy, buildings and spatial planning

- Optimising use of **existing buildings and spaces** rather than new builds
- Working toward a 2050 **net zero land-take** target
- Measuring and reducing the **whole-life carbon footprint** of buildings
- Implementing **circularity principles** to reduce material use
- Introducing **progressive tariff** frameworks re. energy consumption



### Materials, products, food

- Assessing the introduction of **binding material footprint reduction** targets
- Promoting resource and material sufficiency through **product design rules**
- Increasing **food waste prevention** and shifting to **less meat intensive diets**



### Cross-sectoral: information, taxation and finance

- Developing **public campaigns** to promote sufficiency and better regulating **advertisement**
- Introducing **taxation practices** (bonus-malus...) to favour **sufficiency and redistribution**
- Leveraging **funding schemes** for **local, citizen-driven, bottom-up** sufficiency projects

“Sufficiency can promote **well-being** and improve **security** and **resilience** across all energy-, material- and resource-intensive sectors”



**Gunnar Boye Olesen**

Coordinator

**INFORSE-Europe**



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003656



**Fundamental decarbonisation  
through sufficiency by lifestyle changes**

# How EU's climate plans can include sufficiency, EU NDC and national NECPs

Gunnar Boye Olesen, International Network for Sustainable Energy  
(INFORSE) - Europe

12<sup>th</sup> Jun 2024, EUSEW



## **EU is developing one NDC (National Determined Contribution) for the Paris Agreement.**

- The NDC for 2035 with update for 2030 is to be submitted 9-12 month before COP30 in 2025 (i.e.around end of 2024).

## **Each of the 27 EU countries (+Ukraine) are developing their own NECP (National Energy & Climate Plan).**

- The NECPs shall add up to the EU NDC.
- Drafts NECPs were ready in 2023, final versions to be submitted June 30, 2024.



# Sufficiency in National Energy & Climate Policies (NECPs), 4 countries

<b>NECPs of</b>
<b>Denmark</b>
<b>France</b>
<b>Germany</b>
<b>Italy</b>

<b>Activities</b>	
<b>Buildings</b>	
<b>Mobility</b>	
<b>Products</b>	
<b>Diets</b>	

# Sufficiency policies in NECPs, overview

**Reduce size and activity level**

Only taxes, no direct measures except support for work from home (Germany, Italy)

**Replace with less resource intensive use**

Improve public transport & biking (all),  
Ban short flights (France)  
Save energy, move energy use in time (all)  
More vegetables in diets (France, evt. Germany)  
Repair label (FR), direct re-use stations (DK),  
wood buildings (G)

**Organisational / sharing**

Only vehicle sharing and renting  
(Germany, Italy)

# Sufficiency in NECP vs. Proposals. Example: German Buildings

	German NECP, draft 2023	Proposals for more sufficiency
<b>Reduce size and activity</b>	(no measures to reduce building or dwelling sizes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Promote co-housing</li> <li>● Promote sharing dwelling, renting rooms</li> <li>● Assist moving to smaller dwellings</li> <li>● Promote well planned tiny house developments</li> </ul>
<b>Replace with less resource intensive use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Energy Advice services</li> <li>● Low-income energy advice, electricity</li> <li>● Dynamic electricity tariffs to move electricity use in time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Label for energy efficient behaviour</li> <li>● Moderate temperature in public buildings</li> <li>● Progressive tariffs for energy</li> </ul>
<b>Organisational</b>	(no measures)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sharing as above</li> <li>● Reduce parking</li> </ul>

# Sufficiency in NECP vs. Proposals. Example: German Mobility

	German NECP, draft 2023	Proposals for more sufficiency
<b>Reduce size and activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Gigabit internet strategy improve work from home</li><li>● Aviation tax</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Allow two days// week work from home</li><li>● Support to move closer to work</li><li>● Urban planning to reduce travel needs</li></ul>
<b>Replace with less resource intensive use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Investments in rail network</li><li>● VAT in train reduced to 7% from 19%</li><li>● 49€ ticket for local public transport</li><li>● Tax exempt job ticket and bicycle</li><li>● Promote rail freight, lower track charges</li><li>● Invest in bicycle infrastructure</li><li>● Special depreciation cargo bikes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Public transport VAT 0%</li><li>● Ban short-haul flights</li></ul>
<b>Organisational</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tax relief for renting electric bicycles</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Promote carpooling, bicycle+car sharing</li></ul>

# Sufficiency in EU NDC to Paris Climate Agreement

<b>EU NDC 2023 Update from 2020</b>	<b>Proposals for more sufficiency</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Target of 30% reduction of GHG from EU budget funded activities</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Include sufficiency guidelines and requirements in EU funded activities</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Carbon pricing with ETS, in aviation and coming in transport + heating</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Aviation tax (fuel tax, passenger tax)</b></li><li>● <b>Support transborder railways</b></li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Sufficiency in product regulation (ecodesign, labelling)</b></li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Support national sufficiency policies and measures</b></li></ul>



# NECP's are not Adding up to the EU 2030 Target

EU 2030 target is 55%  
GHG reductions 1990-  
2030

NECPs (2023 drafts)  
are adding up to 51%  
reduction 1990-2030  
(Analysis by European  
Commission)

**Sufficiency policies can help  
EU meeting the emission gap**



## Frank Siebern-Thomas

Head of Unit



**Fair Green and Digital Transitions,  
Research Unit of the European  
Commission's Directorate-General for  
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion  
(DG EMPL)**



**Thomas Pellerin-Carlin**  
Member of the European  
Parliament





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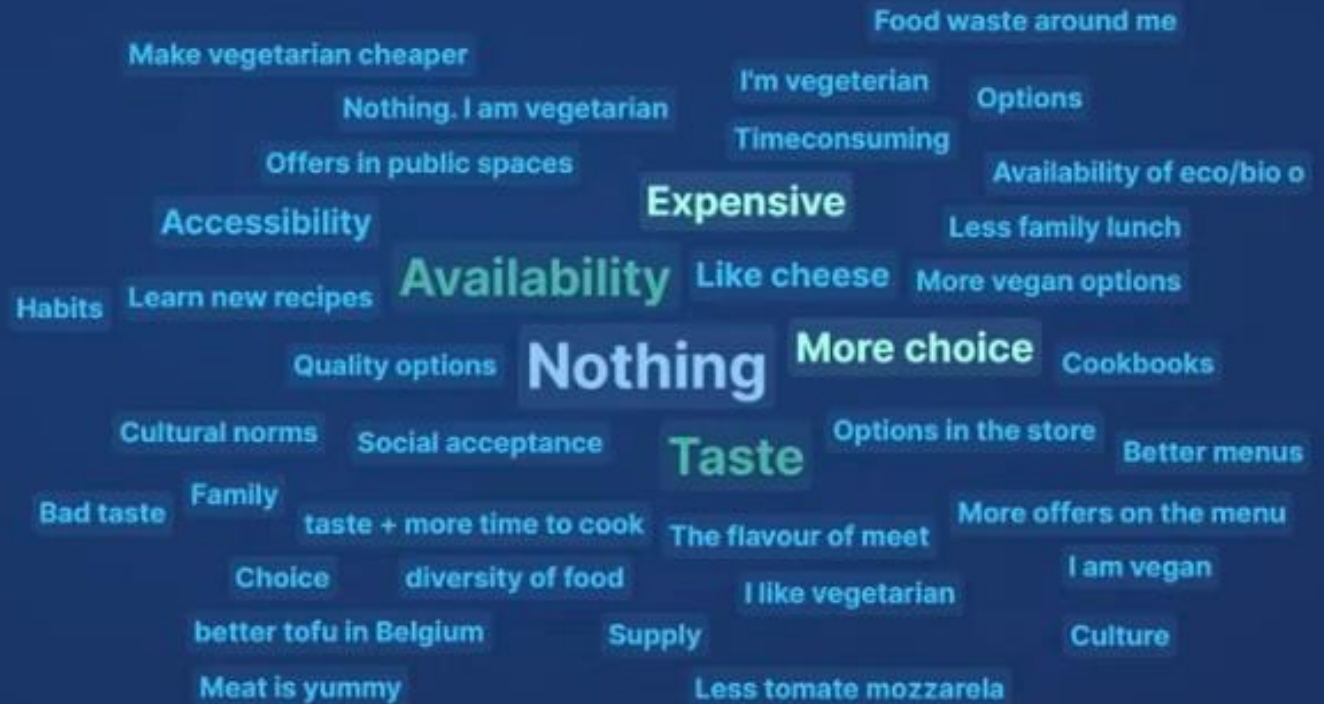


• 8 participants typing

• Less is more? An ove...

51

**What holds you back from having vegetarian/ vegan dishes more often? What would you need to change?**



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# FOOD



## Infrastructures and Policies

-  Food vouchers for healthy, local products
-  Climate-friendly options in cafeterias
-  Lower tax on organic products
-  Marketing and informational campaigns
-  Food labels

## Individual Actions (enabled by infrastructures and policies)

-  Consume less meat, fish, dairy
-  Less waste, more composting
-  Grow your own vegetables/herbs
-  Consume local, in-season



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••• 2 participants typing

• Less is more? An ove...

69

**What holds you back from using your car less often (to cycle and use public transport, work from home more often?) What would you need to change?**

Word cloud content:

- No public transport
- Weather in Belgium
- Love gas
- Sunday, less bus
- I use it seldom
- Too many buses strikes
- Safer bike lanes
- Not having kids
- Ideology
- cycling lines in rural
- Weather
- Thefts
- closer public services
- PUBLIC TRANSPORT
- Poor public transport
- Distance
- Not safe
- Rain
- cheaper e-bikes
- I don't have a car
- Time management
- Prices of train !!
- Infrastructure
- Nothing
- Bike lanes
- Nothing, love cars
- poor infrastructure
- proximity shops in rural
- No car
- Navigo price
- Safety issues
- Near living area to work
- costs of public transport
- More availability
- Secured bike lanes
- Working from home
- Safe infra for bicycle



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# TRANSPORT



- Infrastructures and Policies**
- Make carsharing more accessible
  - Public transport available 24/7
  - Subsidize trains and tax planes
  - More bike lanes + parking
  - Speed limit 80 km/h
  - Make night trains accessible
  - Ban private jets
  - Ban cars in city centers
  - Allow telework

- Individual Actions (enabled by infrastructures and policies)**
- Carsharing
  - Use public transportation
  - Less airplanes, more trains
  - More walking and cycling



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*Time for Discussion:*  
*Any Questions?*



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# Final Event

**September, 18th 2024**

15:00-17:00h

**presentation of findings + networking apéro**




**Representation of the German  
Federal State Nordrhein-Westfalen**  
Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Bruxelles,  
and online



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003656



# Let's keep in touch!



@FULFILLeu  
[www. fulfill-sufficiency.eu](http://www. fulfill-sufficiency.eu)



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