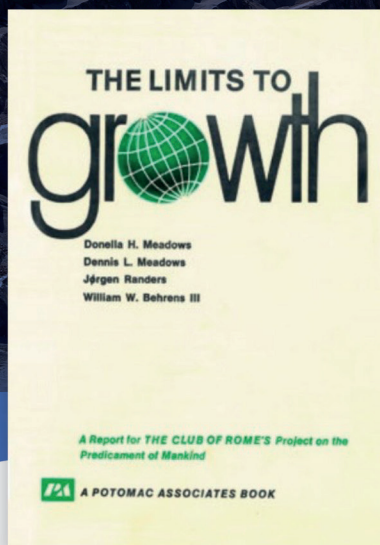
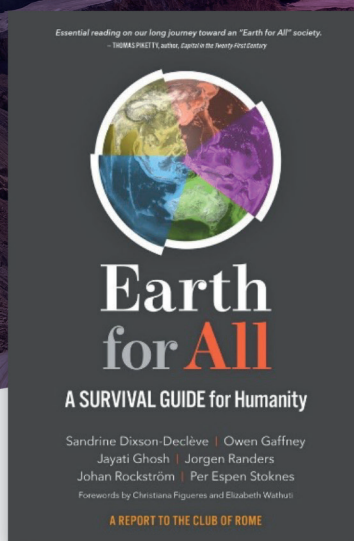


RESOURCE WENDE CONFERENCE - THE SYSTEMIC SCENARIO

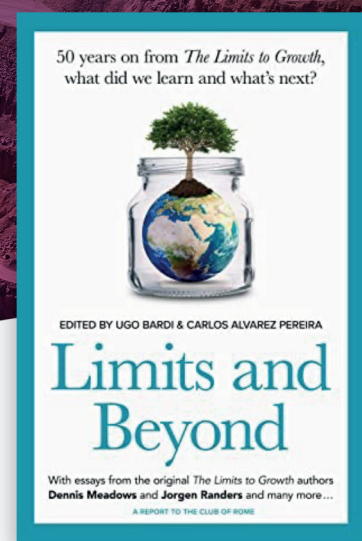
50 years *Limits to Growth*, the Final Countdown



1972



2022



2022

Location: KIT/SDG-House Amsterdam

Dates:

Tuesday 30 May 2023, 10.00-17.00h
Wednesday 31 May 2023, 9.30-17.00h

Host: Harm Edens

Participants: Policy makers, industry leaders,
experts, NGOs and influencers

Costs: €795,- p.p. (ex.VAT)

See website for early bird and special-group reductions

On behalf of The Futures Committee:

Rein Willems, Herman Mulder, Marieke van de Werf, Harald Tepper, Wouter van Dieren

Introduction

During many decades there has been a firm belief in large parts of the world that economic growth brings an end to poverty and will realise welfare for all humans. This belief has prevailed despite signals that indicate there are limits to growth, as already highlighted in the famous Club of Rome report 50 years ago. These signals have for a long time been observed as collateral damage that can be treated by individual programmes, allowing economies to continue their (green) growth journey.

The Covid pandemic and the war in Ukraine have served as a wakeup call in many areas, but most of all brought the realisation that the European societies are very much dependent on resources that are mainly produced abroad. Any hiccup in the supply of resources has had and will have serious consequences for European economies and industries. The obvious first reaction is to implement measures that improve supply chain security (diversification of suppliers, increased autonomy, strategic stocks and circular economy), so the growth paradigm can be continued. These are indeed important initial measures to limit the risks. However, when taking a closer look at the numbers of proven reserves volumes, sustainable production levels and growing worldwide resources demand, it becomes clear there will be a resource gap in the near future. Any attempt to increase and secure supply of primary and secondary resources for one continent, will have repercussions for other parts of the world.

Hypothesis: The resource reserves and supply volumes will not keep pace with the demand, as dictated by worldwide exponential economic and wealth growth.

What makes this conference unique?

Based on scientific studies and systemic modelling, the Resource Wende programme advocates the hypothesis that the worldwide resource reserves and supply volumes are unable to meet the growing demand. The programme promotes an alternative systemic scenario to address the imminent resource crisis: What is the European and Dutch strategy in case the desired resource supply cannot be realised, due to planetary boundaries, sustainability challenges, geopolitical tensions and social implications?

This systemic scenario provides an alternative perspective that complements the existing Dutch Circular Economy programme and the draft European Critical Raw Materials Act. As scenario thinking suggests, it is essential to be prepared for multiple pathways that can lead us into a sustainable future, instead of not having a plan B.

During the conference and beyond, you will learn more about the hypotheses that underpins the Resource Wende programme and will actively participate in the search for alternative systemic solutions. Solutions that allow businesses to close the gap between sustainable resource supply and demand volumes. Solutions that allow societies to get familiar with alternative economic models. Solutions that allow political leaders to equally distribute resources between nations and future generations, so we are able to bring earth overshoot day back to where it belongs: 31st December.

What do we want to achieve during this conference?

During the second Resource Wendé conference on May 30th and 31st in the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam, we would like to achieve the following goals:

1. **Broad awareness of the consequences of resource depletion** combined with a “Winner takes it all” market economy;
2. **Persuasion power:** A group of powerful individuals and organisations united by the desire to tackle the risks of resource depletion and to accelerate the transition towards a just, resource efficient and circular economic system;
3. The establishment of a **Resource Wendé Coalition** consisting of stakeholders that want to contribute to and benefit from the success of the Resource Wendé programme. This may lead to the establishment of a Resources Action Research Center that supports the resource transition with scientific evidence, advice and interventions.

Is this conference relevant for you?

This conference provides the latest knowledge and insights related to resource scarcity and measures (to be) undertaken to mitigate the risks at business, political and social level. The conference also provides the opportunity to network with experts and peers faced with similar challenges.

Participants are decision makers and experts from:

- **Businesses** dependent on critical raw materials and value chain security
- **Governments** responsible for the implementation of policies related to raw materials (e.g. EU CRM-act; Dutch Resource strategy, Circular Economy, Industry policy)
- **Knowledge institutions** involved in applied science related to raw materials, including **students** interested in all aspects of raw materials (e.g. mining, exploration & production, value chain sustainability and security, logistics & material flows, manufacturing)
- **NGOs** involved in generating awareness about the environmental and social impact of raw materials exploration and production
- **Media agencies** that are interested to inform a broader audience about the need to address resource depletion

Programme outline – CONCEPT

During the **first day** the focus will be on the **inconvenient truth**. In the morning prominent speakers will show the seriousness of the problem as well as the impact on the energy transition, our society and the worldwide geopolitical relations. In the afternoon you are able to actively participate in two rounds of workshops where we will take a deep dive into the challenges imposed by the increasing demand for resources on our economy, society and ongoing sustainability transitions.

The day will be concluded by a lively discussion with industry leaders, to get their view on the risks and the importance of systemic resource strategies to realise a stable investment climate and a license to operate for industries in Europe and The Netherlands.

During the **second day**, the focus will be on **alternative solutions that reduce resource demand while at the same time accelerating sustainability transitions**. In the morning we will look at government initiatives, such as the European Critical Raw Materials Act and the Dutch Resources Strategy, as well as public-private solutions brought forward by the Club of Rome and the Blue Cooling Initiative. In the afternoon you are able to participate in a workshop where alternative solutions for various focus areas are discussed (Resource Management, Climate & Energy, Society, Economy, Geopolitics, Circular Economy, Biodiversity). The second day will be concluded by a discussion how the Resource Wende complements the Dutch Circular Economy Programme, and a handover of a Resource Wende proposal to political and industry leaders.

During the breaks, lunches, drinks and the optional diner at the end of the first day, you will have ample opportunities for informal conversations and networking.

Questions & Registration

If you would like to know more about the conference or the Resource Wende programme, please visit the [website](#) or send an email to info@resourcewende.eu

For options to sponsor the Resource Wende conference or to become member of the Resource Wende Coalition, please send an email to marcel.vester@inisivitrin.nl

"We are facing enormous sustainability challenges. The limits of what the earth can carry are systematically exceeded. The way we deal with energy, resources and materials has consequences for global warming, biodiversity and people's living environment. We owe it to ourselves, but especially to our children and grandchildren, to stop this.

Not only in the Netherlands are the consequences becoming more and more visible, also and especially outside the Netherlands the consequences are large and often irreversible. Since the Club of Rome drew attention to this issue 50 years ago, the issues in this area have only increased, as has the need for international cooperation for effective solutions."

Kim Putters (Chair Social Economics Counsel - The Netherlands) in the explorative paper
"Balanced management of the raw materials transition and the energy transition for broad prosperity"

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KIT Royal
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