

# ENERGY CITIES' FORUM 2022

## KEEPING OUR LINKS STRONG, BUILDING NEW ONES

Brussels, 21-22 April 2022



### ENERGY CITIES' HUB: RESOURCE-WISE & SOCIALLY JUST LOCAL ECONOMIES

### SOCIAL COHESION, A SINE QUA NON OF THE ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSITION



#### MAYORS' VOICE SESSION | 22ND APRIL 2022 | 09:30- 11:00

The ecological transition cannot be achieved without social cohesion. Not all households are equal when it comes to the ecological transition: "We are all in the same storm. But we're not all in the same boat" (Extinction Rebellion).

Cities have a key role to play in restoring a redistributive economy and ensuring that the transition makes sense for all. They must **ensure that their economic and ecologic transition is creating positive, local and socially just added value**. They have the power to engage citizens in the transition through democratic and pedagogical tools. This session will address the issues of **desirable job creation, the importance of transition education, and redistributive local policies and economies**

## AGENDA

Time	<b>Welcome</b> by the moderator Anna Gumbau, EU climate and Energy Journalist
09:30	<b>Food for thought:</b> Introduction to the session with <b>Mathieu Saujot</b> , Senior research fellow, Lifestyle in transition at IDDRI (France)
09:45	<b>Dive deep:</b> A conversation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Barbara Trachte</b>, Secretary of State of the Brussels-Capital Region, responsible for Economic Transition and Scientific Research (Belgium)</li><li>▪ <b>Inês de Medeiros</b>, Mayor of Almada (Portugal)</li><li>▪ <b>Flavia Boghiu</b>, Deputy Mayor of Brasov (Romania)</li></ul>
10:15	<b>Exchanges and discussion</b> with elected representatives in the room
11:00	<b>Conclusion</b>

\*More information about Energy Cities Annual Forum are available [here](#).

# Social cohesion, a sine qua non of the ecological and economic transition

**Mayors' Voice session**

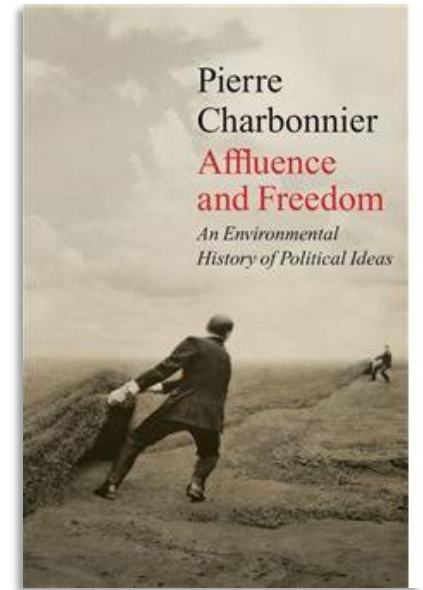
**Hub : Resource-wise & socially just local economies**

# Mathieu Saujot

Coordinator Lifestyles in transition, IDDRI

- **A new era (anthropocene) that requires a new political software**

*"the transformation of our political ideas must have a magnitude at least equal to that of the geo-ecological transformation "*

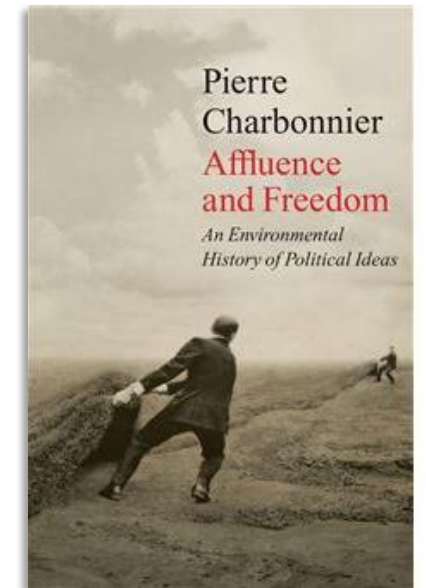
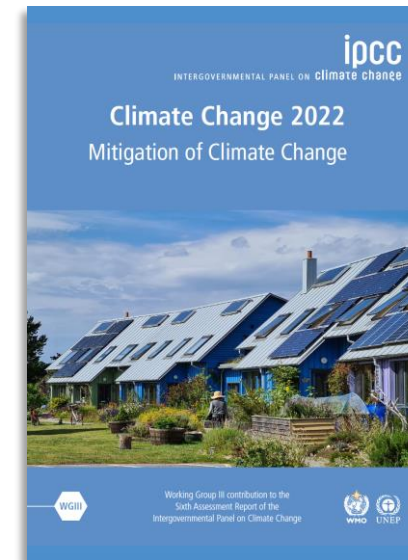


- **A new era (anthropocene) that requires a new political software**

*"the transformation of our political ideas must have a magnitude at least equal to that of the geo-ecological transformation "*

- **IPCC Sixth Assessment : changing demand is a key lever for mitigation**, it implies changing lifestyles and going towards more sufficiency

*« Demand-side measures and new ways of end-use service can reduce global GHG emissions in end use sectors by 40-70% by 2050 compared to baseline scenarios (...) » SPM*



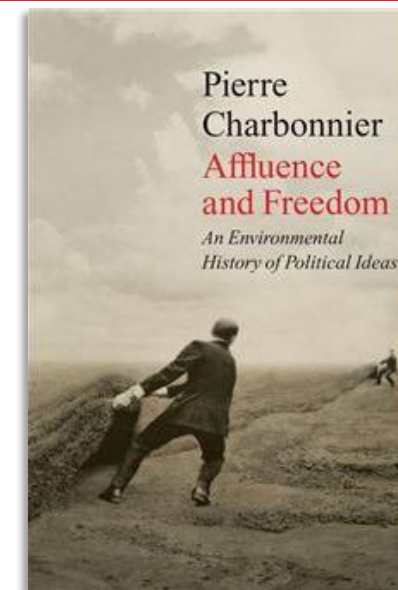
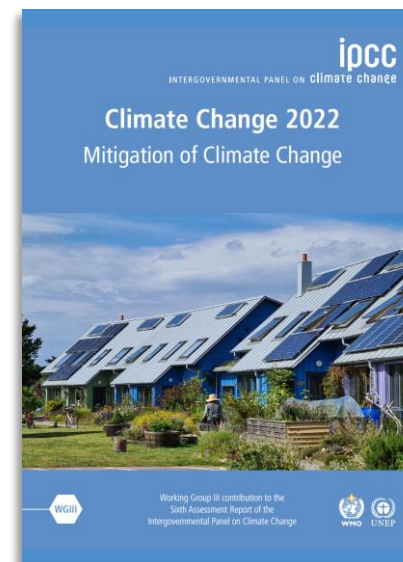
- **A new era (anthropocene) that requires a new political software**

*"the transformation of our political ideas must have a magnitude at least equal to that of the geo-ecological transformation "*

- **IPCC Sixth Assessment : changing demand is a key lever for mitigation**, it implies changing lifestyles and going towards more sufficiency

*« Demand-side measures and new ways of end-use service can reduce global GHG emissions in end use sectors by 40-70% by 2050 compared to baseline scenarios (...) » SPM*

- **Changing lifestyles requires ambitious action at all levels of society** (individual, social, infrastructure, institution)



## « How to imagine a frugal individual in a society of abundance ? »

What is the counterpart to the promise of increasing material comfort ?



*“by one route or the other, all modern regims ended up promising more goods to their subjects“ F. Trentmann*

« How to imagine a frugal individual in a society of abundance ? »

What is the counterpart to the promise of increasing material comfort ?

**Yellow vest crisis in France**

The promise of social progress for all has not been fulfilled: questioning of the political pact (e.g. request for referendums).





## « How to imagine a frugal individual in a society of abundance ? »

What is the counterpart to the promise of increasing material comfort ?

## Yellow vest crisis in France

The promise of social progress for all has not been fulfilled: questioning of the political pact (e.g. request for referendums).

A more general context of **questioning the neoliberal framework**, especially since the 2008 crisis



## « How to imagine a frugal individual in a society of abundance ? »

What is the counterpart to the promise of increasing material comfort ?

## Yellow vest crisis in France

The promise of social progress for all has not been fulfilled: questioning of the political pact (e.g. request for referendums).

A more general context of **questioning the neoliberal framework**, especially since the 2008 crisis



## Concrete dead-ends

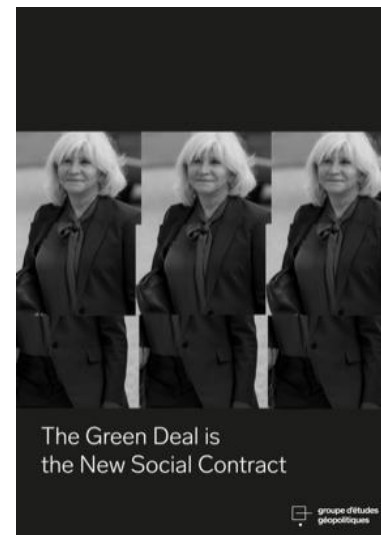
**Sufficiency** = Why make efforts on my side when I don't trust my neighbor and institutions to do the same?

How to build the **non-materialistic** foundations of my **well-being** in a rhythm of life dominated by economic insecurity?

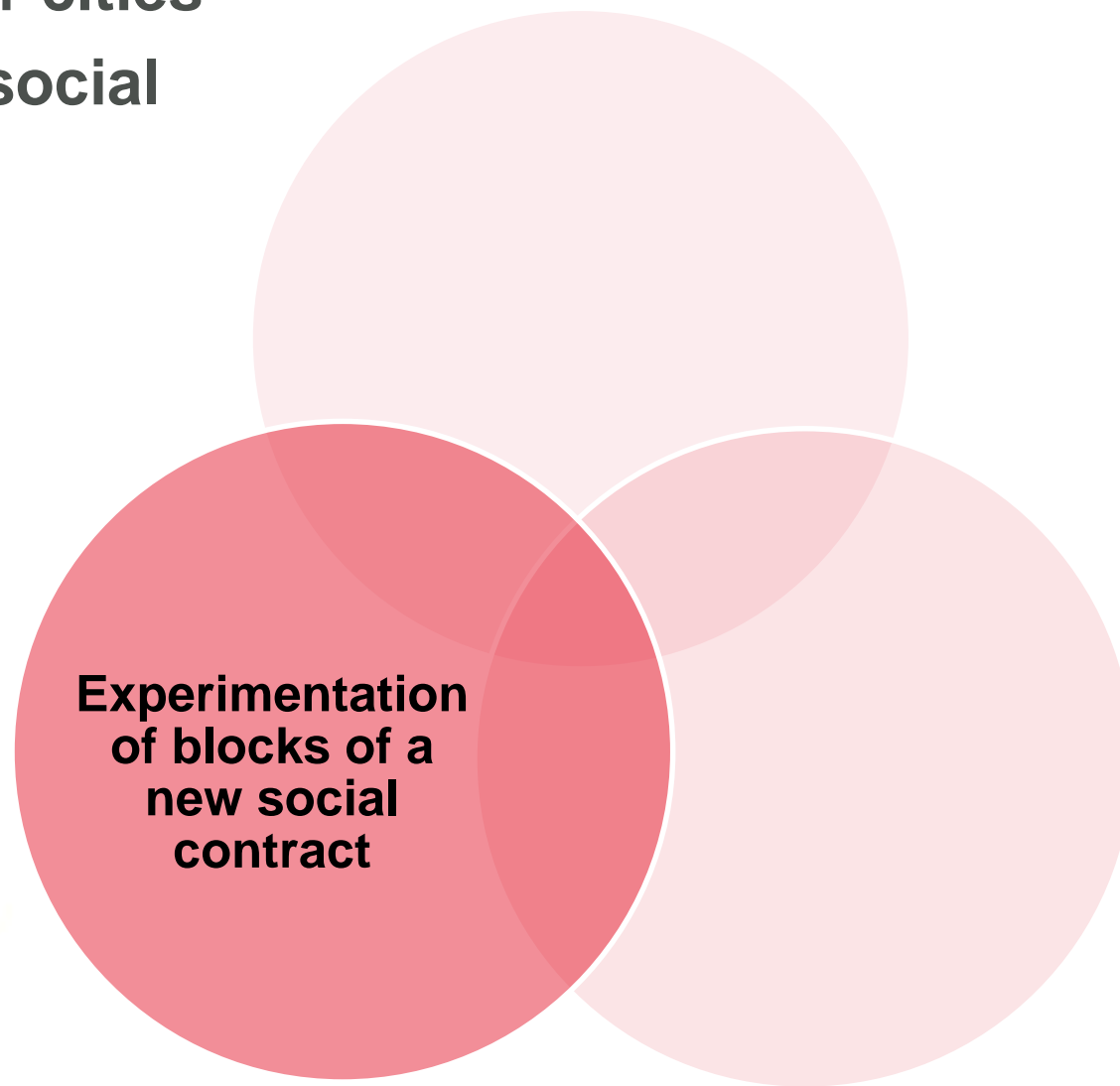
How to **finance new public services** in a context of « public poverty » and « private wealth » ?

The « Do not harm » philosophy is not enough  
(e.g. tax rebate), the Green deal must go  
beyond

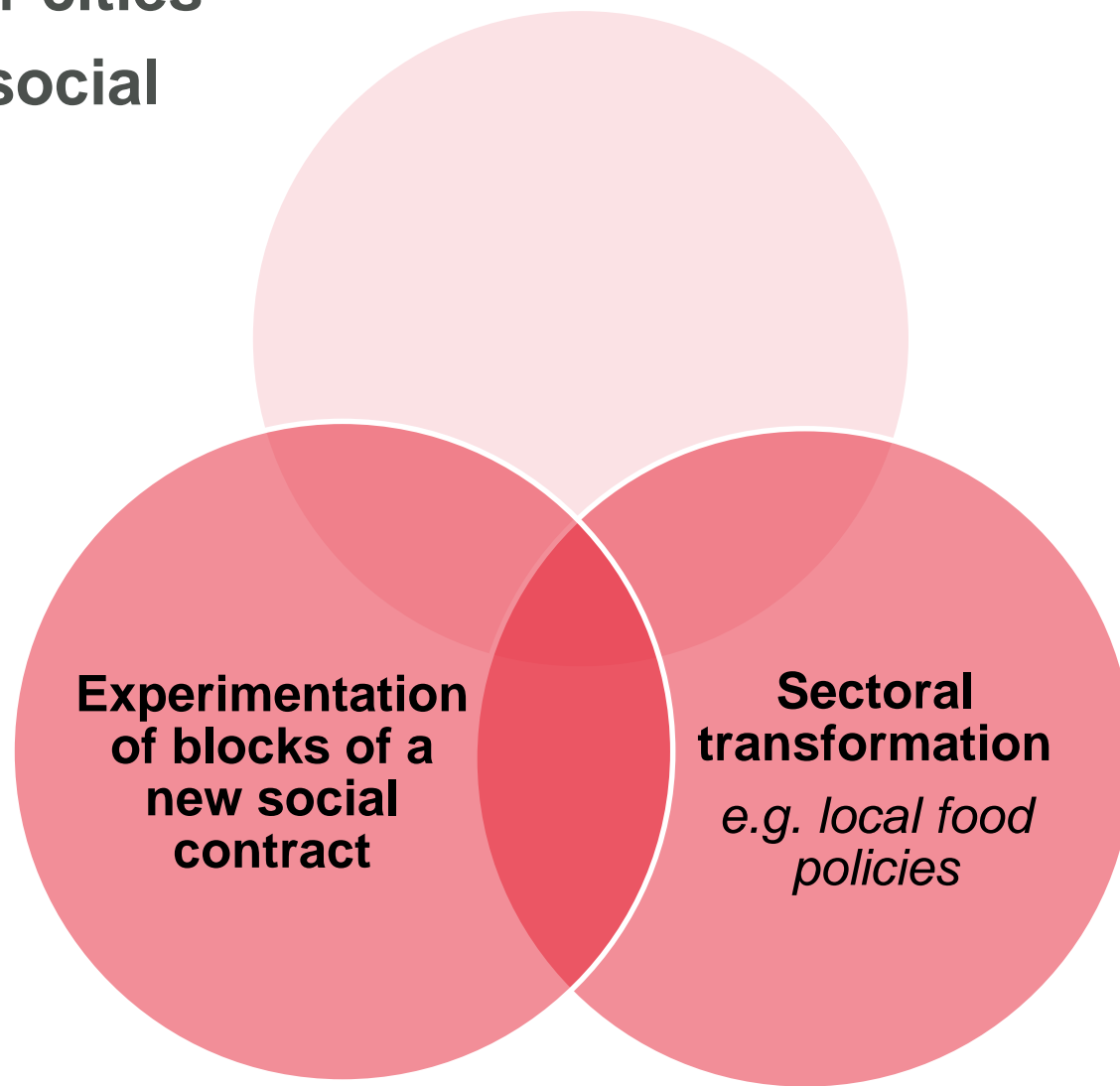
A critical role for cities to explore new social  
contracts



**A critical role for cities  
to explore new social  
contracts**



A critical role for cities to explore new social contracts



## A critical role for cities to explore new social contracts

