

Urban Future.

Rotterdam 24



**THIS IS YOUR  
#UF24 EVENT PROGRAMME!**

Version May 7, 2024

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# Welcome to

# Urban Future.

Europe's most inspiring event  
to make cities sustainable.

Home to a global community  
of 50,000+ urban change-makers.

# GET INSPIRED, CONNECT AND GROW IN ROTTERDAM!

Together with up to **2,500**  
fellow **urban change-makers**

**250** Speakers

**180** Mayors & City Representatives

**100** Partners

**60** Sessions

**35** Field Trips

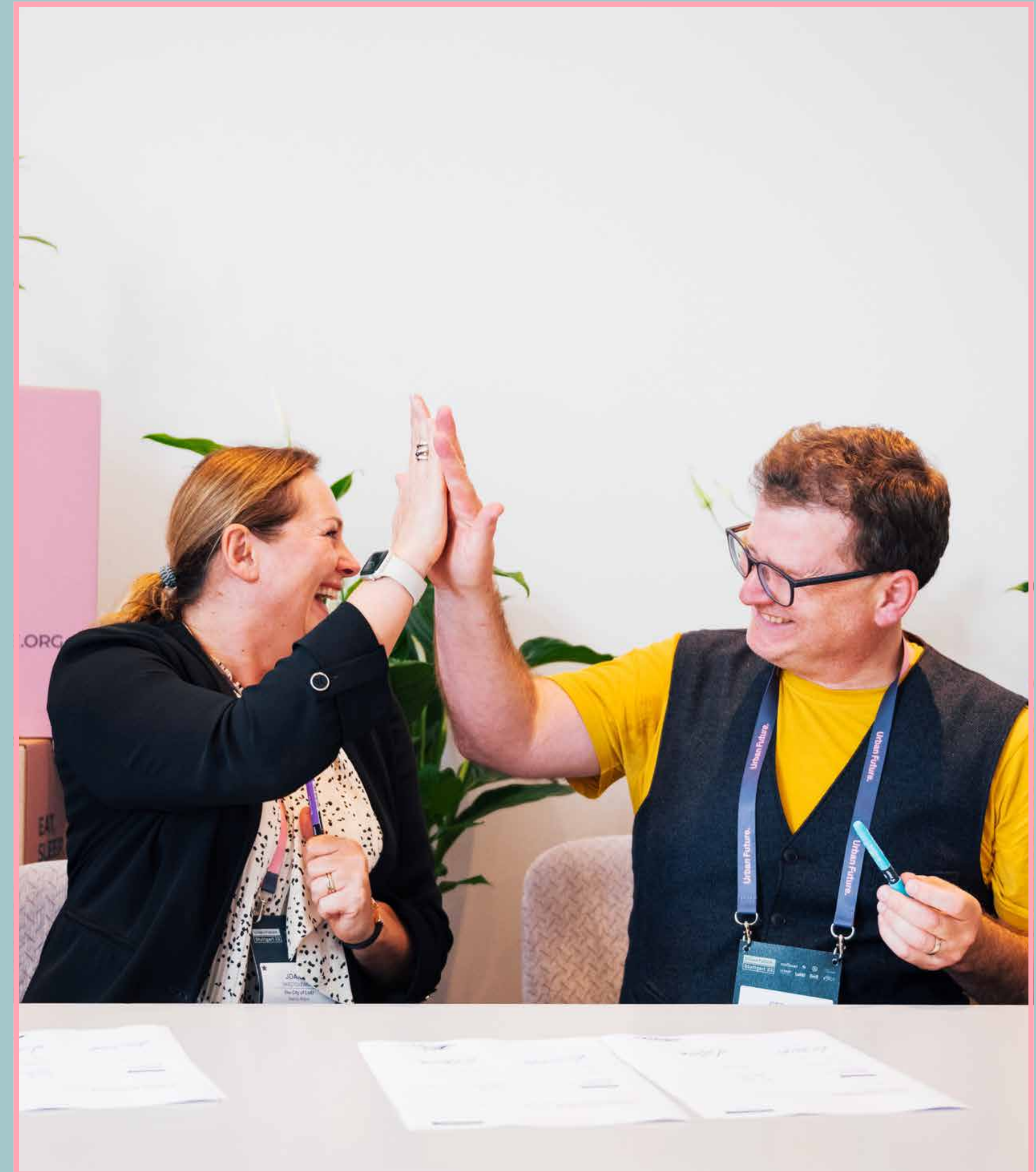
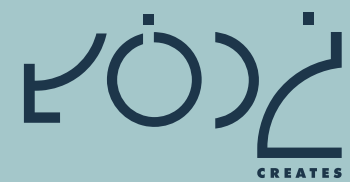
**Countless** connections

**Unforgettable** memories





# POWERED BY PASSION & PARTNERS



Explore our entire team of partners on the [these pages](#).

# URBAN FUTURE WEEK

MONDAY | JUNE 3

TUESDAY | JUNE 4

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 5

THURSDAY | JUNE 6

FRIDAY | JUNE 7

**UF24 YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME**  
09.00 – 17.30 | CIC ROTTERDAM



**COOPERATIVE PUBLIC GOVERNANCE ON EU PRIORITIES**  
09.00 – 17.30 | ROOM MATE BRUNO HOTEL



**RISE CITIES: 2024 FELLOWSHIP CLOSING EVENT**  
13.00 – 17.00 | ROOM MATE BRUNO HOTEL | BY INVITATION ONLY



**CAPITAL OF INNOVATION: ALUMNI NETWORK MEETING**  
14.00 – 18.00 | CITIZENM HOTEL



**URBAN INNOVATION LEADERSHIP FORUM**  
BY INVITATION ONLY | TBC



**JUST STREETS PROJECT: DUTCH LIVING LAB VISIT**  
TBC



**WELCOME RECEPTION AT ROTTERDAM'S CITY HALL**  
19.00 | INVITATION ONLY | ROTTERDAM CITY HALL

**OASC SUMMIT 2024**  
TBC



#UF24 CONFERENCE

Urban Future.

**PAINT YOUR CITY**  
12.30 – 16.30 | GOOILANDSSINGEL

**CO-CREATION LUNCH: PURPOSE FOR A NEW DISTRICT**  
12.45 | LOUNGE EXPO | CITY OF STUTTGART LOUNGE



**C40: AWARD CEREMONY FOR "SCHOOLS REINVENTING CITIES"**  
16.00 | AHOY



**MAYORS MEET & GREET**  
17.30 | INVITATION ONLY | AHOY



**INNOVATORS MINGLE**  
17.30 | AHOY



**ROTTERDAM'S BIGGEST DINNER: UF24'S MUST-ATTEND SOCIAL EVENT**  
19.00 | FOODHALLEN ROTTERDAM

**SLOVENIAN-DUTCH BUSINESS FORUM**  
14.00 – 15.30 | AHOY | INVITATION ONLY



**CO-CREATION LUNCH: PURPOSE FOR A NEW DISTRICT**  
12.45 | LOUNGE EXPO | CITY OF STUTTGART LOUNGE



**CITIES FUCKUP SHOW**  
16.00 | AHOY

**EUROHEAT & POWER 2024 CONGRESS**  
POSTILLION HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTRE WTC



**RAM ROTTERDAM ARCHITECTURE MONTH**



# CONFERENCE TRACKS

Welcome to our favourite programme to date!

More than a year of preparation has gone into its development. The tracks combine the expertise of more than 450 leading urban shapers, who have helped us tailor the content exactly to our CityChangers' needs. These tracks will equip you with what you need to grow as a change-maker and create more impact with your work.

**Track 0**  
HIGHLIGHT  
SESSIONS

**Track 1**  
CLIMATE  
ADAPTATION

**Track 2**  
BUILDING  
SUSTAINABLE  
CITIES

**Track 3**  
SOCIAL  
ASPECTS OF  
TRANSFORMATION

**Track 4**  
LEADERSHIP  
AND PERSONAL  
GROWTH

**Track 5**  
CITYCHANGER  
SKILLS

We are constantly updating our programme. Thanks for your understanding that some details may change before #UF24! Current status as of May 2024.

The most updated version will be available in the #UF24 Conference App.












# #UF24 CONFERENCE DAY 1

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

	PORT   3RD FLOOR		DOCK   2ND FLOOR							
	PORT 1 A	PORT 1 B+C	DOCK 5	DOCK 10 A	DOCK 10 B	DOCK 13	DOCK 14	DOCK 15	DOCK 16	DOCK 17
09.00 10.30	<b>3.1.</b> <b>A new era of 'greenlash'</b> How cities can save the green transition	<b>0.1.</b> <b>Opening Ceremony</b> Let the fun begin!			<b>0.2.</b> <b>This changes everything</b> How green and digital go together					
11.00 12.30	<b>2.1.</b> <b>From silo to system: Creating the Real Estate we need</b> How to transform a system when most stakeholders are happy with it	<b>0.3.</b> <b>Igniting the changemaking fire</b> How to make Change with a capital C	<b>2.5.1.</b> <b>Redoing heritage</b> How to transform historical sites through place-led urban innovation	<b>5.7.</b> <b>Universal: Changemaking skills and know-how</b> Workshop hosted by Next Generation Academy	<b>1.5.</b> <b>Mayors for climate adaptation</b> How the decisions of city leaders can make all the difference	<b>1.3.</b> <b>When the climate crisis hits home</b> Handling climate risks in the built environment	<b>4.3.</b> <b>Critical: Preparing your city for an uncertain future</b> How leading cities prepare for the future with 'urban resilience'	<b>1.3.4.</b> <b>Make our cities green again</b> How cities are fast-forwarding their green infrastructure	<b>3.5.3.</b> <b>Driving urban transitions with national platforms</b> How to achieve climate neutrality with multi-level governance	<b>3.4.2.</b> <b>The CitiVerse</b> Digital tools to engage with your citizens
14.00 15.30	<b>1.1.</b> <b>Heroes of climate adaptation #1</b> Let them show you how to make climate your city's top priority	<b>2.2.1.</b> <b>Density and proximity</b> How to beat urban sprawl and inner-city blues	<b>5.6.</b> <b>Generative AI: what's hot &amp; what's coming</b> Executive briefing on the latest AI trends and their effects	<b>4.7.</b> <b>Challenge your ignorance</b> The gender space gap: How to get men to think like women	<b>3.2.</b> <b>Wake up and fail fast</b> Cities must fix their energy strategies: this is how	<b>3.4.</b> <b>Happy neighbourhoods, happy cities</b> How to build urban resilience with community power	<b>3.5.</b> <b>The Yinyang of urban governance</b> How to balance top-down and bottom-up	<b>4.4.</b> <b>Winning 1 million Euros is not the point?</b> How participating in Europe's iCapital competition sparks collaboration	<b>3.5.5.</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>2.5.</b> <b>Second life for buildings</b> How to deconstruct, repurpose, and renovate buildings and neighbourhoods
16.00 17.30	<b>2.4.3.</b> <b>Is a just transition for housing possible?</b> Let's talk it straight: how to share responsibility and account for it	<b>4.2.</b> <b>Change must come from the top</b> Why it pays to make enemies	<b>2.2.3.</b> <b>Mission-led urban transformation</b> Workshop: How to reframe, rethink and reorganise around what is needed	<b>5.5.</b> <b>Wanna talk?</b> Meet fellow doers, disruptors, and making-it-happen teams	<b>2.2.</b> <b>Starting from scratch: change by design</b> How planners, architects, and engineers transform the way we build	<b>1.3.1.</b> <b>Decision-making tools for climate adaptation</b> How to make robust decisions	<b>3.4.1.</b> <b>Know your people</b> From Rotterdam to Nairobi: Proven tools and methods to engage with people	<b>2.3.</b> <b>Follow the money in real estate</b> How leaders transform business models	<b>3.3.</b> <b>Urban utopia for realists</b> How to steer a radical mobility transition	<b>3.5.2.</b> <b>Big enough to cope, small enough to care</b> How medium-sized cities are leading sustainability

# #UF24 CONFERENCE DAY 2

Thursday, June 6, 2024

	PORT   3RD FLOOR		DOCK   2ND FLOOR							
	PORT 1 A	PORT 1 B+C	DOCK 5	DOCK 10A	DOCK 10 B	DOCK 13	DOCK 14	DOCK 15	DOCK 16	DOCK 17
09.00 10.30	<b>1.2.</b> <b>Making climate adaptation in cities really work</b> How to integrate climate adaptation in general urban planning	<b>4.1.</b> <b>Driving change from within</b> How to work agile in a system of set rules (and how to change them)	<b>2.2.2.</b> <b>Placemaking as a strategic urban regeneration method</b> How to align stakeholder interests with place-led innovation	 <b>1.3.6.</b> <b>The most sustainable city in the world is ...</b> Finding the right KPIs to measure progress	<b>5.2.</b> <b>Fixing your climate communications</b> Learn how to speak for your facts	<b>3.3.2.</b> <b>Prohibit, regulate, facilitate?</b> Cities in search of a mobility strategy	<b>2.4.2.</b> <b>Deconstructing 'greenlash' in the built environment</b> Brick by brick: Building public support for a green transition	<b>5.4.</b> <b>Sink or swim: welcome to the urban shark tank</b> Find replicable solutions that will work in your city	<b>3.4.3.</b> <b>Unleash your city's social innovation power</b> How to create the ecosystem needed for districts to flourish	<b>2.3.1.</b> <b>Roadmap to circularity</b> Achieving market transformation in the built environment
11.00 12.30	<b>2.4.</b> <b>Enter the construction site</b> Build, maintain, retrofit: Frontrunners show that change is possible	<b>4.6.</b> <b>Living your vision</b> Personal growth: How to manage passion	<b>2.2.4.</b> <b>Unlocking the power of arts &amp; culture for transformation</b> How to spark collective behavioural change	 <b>5.9.</b> <b>What's your legacy?</b> Workshop hosted by Next Generation Academy	<b>2.5.2.</b> <b>Level up your game</b> Beat boring: How to get children excited about urban planning	<b>3.5.4.</b> <b>Collaboration for a brighter future</b> How cities and the private sector are moving closer together to tackle key challenges	<b>5.3.</b> <b>Preparing the tiger: procurement for sustainability</b> Bring your challenge and learn innovative ways to procure for it	<b>1.3.2.</b> <b>Selling it to the sceptics</b> How to finance the greening of cities with private capital	<b>5.1.</b> <b>Hiring for change</b> Why I want to work for the city	<b>2.1.1.</b> <b>Leader of the pack</b> How Slovenia is cutting CO <sub>2</sub> -emissions in the built environment
14.00 15.30	<b>2.4.4.</b> <b>Emissions vs. Housing</b> How to win it with vacant spaces for affordable housing	<b>5.10.</b> <b>The business of urban sustainability</b> Can the private sector contribute to thriving cities?	<b>2.4.1.</b> <b>Green jobs and upskilling</b> The future of construction or how to deliver the promise of green jobs	 <b>1.3.3.</b> <b>Join the rooftop revolution</b> Workshop: How to capitalise on multifunctional roofs	<b>2.4.5.</b> <b>All eyes on the blind spot: construction waste</b> How to make circularity a viable and just economy	 <b>5.9.</b> <b>Dutch Metropolitan Innovations (DMI) ecosystem</b> Showcase event from the unique Dutch PPP for new tools from the digital world	 <b>3.3.1.</b> <b>Breaking the iron law of mobility</b> How to avoid backlash on your road to mobility justice	<b>1.4.</b> <b>Trapped: coastal cities facing an existential threat</b> Rising sea levels: How to anticipate overwhelming challenges	 <b>4.6.</b> <b>Trust me, I'm a changemaker</b> Listen carefully: How to avoid your change project from blowing up	<b>3.5.1.</b> <b>Urban governance for sustainability</b> How to tackle climate and inequality together
16.00 17.30		<b>0.4.</b> <b>Cities FuckUp Show</b>		 <b>1.3.5.</b> <b>Greening streets and squares</b> Walkshop: Public space retrofitting			 <b>1.3.7.</b> <b>Heroes of climate adaptation #2</b> Walkshop: Green space maintenance		 <b>4.8.</b> <b>Your Rotterdam souvenir</b> Making sense of your role in the transformation through poetry	



# #UF24 CONFERENCE FIELD TRIPS

WEDNESDAY   JUNE 5		THURSDAY   JUNE 6		FRIDAY   JUNE 7					
1. Rotterdam by night	24. Two bridges morning run	2. Climate adaptation walk	3.A 3.B Rotterdam architecture: the next 100 years #A / #B	4. Rotterdam architecture: the past 100 years	5. Explore the CitiVerse	6.A 6.B Morning rooftop hop #A / #B	7. Afternoon rooftop hop	8. Urban regeneration #1: Rotterdam-South	9. Hangover morning swim
		10. Urban regeneration #2: Merwe-Vierhaven	11. IKEA's multifunctional hub in Amsterdam	12. Sustainable timber tour	13. Sustainable garment tour	14. Circularity to taste: the milk & beer tour	15. Public space detective tour	16. Rotterdam top attractions: Markthal and Cube Houses	17. Pedelec tour to Rotterdam's fields and farms
		18. Urban regeneration #3: Katendrecht	19. Building a city beach	20. Urban resilience tour	21. Upcycle Paradise	22. Social entrepreneurship & inclusion tour	23. MVRDV: "Yes! In my backyard"	25. Touring Rotterdam's street art & sculptures	26. Buildings by women
		27. Floating City tour	28.A 28.B A. BlueCity morning visit B. BlueCity afternoon visit	29. Building sustainable and resilient cities	30. Second Life for Buildings				



# SPEAKER LINEUP SAY HELLO TO:

... and many more!

																
Pepijn Duijvestein	Oana Stancioiu	Leonora Nicholson	Martha Marisa Wanat	Rutger Bregman	Janet Sanz	Christophe Najdovski	Elena Doms	Lykke Leonardsen	Marco Te Brömmelstroet	Katharina Schätz	Ahmed Aboutaleb	Vojtech Vosicky	Xavier Matilla Ayala	Jacqueline O'Donovan	Marije Ten Kate	Aric Chen
																
Susan Leadbetter	Chantal Zeegers	Felix Rodenhoff	Valentina Schippers-Opejko	Ben Collier	Bas Boersma	Heinrich Strößenreuther	Katharina Moser	Eleni Myrivili	Paul van Roosmalen	Arnoud Molenaar	Rosemarie van Ham	Hélène Chartier	Anne-Sofie Gregersen	Wouter Valkenier	Emanuel Heisenberg	Maria Vassilakou
																
Anja Flötenmeyer-Woltmann	Tamlyn Shimizu	Margaret Heffernan	Jorn Wemmenhove	Ulrike Sima	Armin Nassehi	Vinita Damodaran	Chautuileo Tranamil	Tracy Metz	Anne Dubrau	Frederik Verstraete	Karin Huber-Heim	Jessica Watts	Ying-Chih-Deng Sommer	Jorik Beijer	Bob D'Haeseleer	Scott Francisco
																
Derk Loorbach	Jose Besselink	Lisa Olsson	Safaa Charafi	Claire Elizabeth Williams	Joost Helms	Sylvie Gallier Howard	Eleanor Sharpe	Roland van der Heijden	Enrique Peñalosa	Marcel van Oosterhout	Charlotte Glazier	Maarit Kahila	Jennifer Koster	Carolin Lemke	Ćwika Małgorzata	Henrik Morgen
																
Ludo Pittie	Philipp Riegebauer	Siobhan Burger	Dejan Stojanovic	Heinrich Strößenreuther	Wietse van Ransbeeck	Jessica Watts	Victoria Yavorskaya	Kristen Zupancic	Dominik Campanella	Elizaveta Fakirova	Milena Ivkovic	Geiske Bouma	Mark Nieuwenhuijsen	Kathy Nothstine	Elna Rotaru	Ellen Schindler



# SESSIONS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

**0.1.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Opening Ceremony

### Let the fun begin!

Welcome to URBAN FUTURE 2024 in Rotterdam. Let us surprise you with this opening, setting the bar for the 3 days ahead. Get ready to be inspired, provoked, motivated, and hungry for more.

**Elina Rotaru (Moderator)**

Sustainability Trainer at Clujul Sustenabil | Cluj-Napoca | Romania

**Chantal Zeegers**

Vice Mayor of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Margaret Heffernan**

Professor of Practice at the University of Bath | Bath | UK

**Ben Collier**

CEO at Farmlink Project | Los Angeles | USA

**0.2.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

PORT 1 A

## This changes everything

### How green and digital go together

Ever since climate change has made headlines, the future on planet earth began to look very scary. We project the world as we know it into an imagined climate of 2100 and become petrified. Let's straighten it out: A 2100 society is fundamentally different from a 2024 society. Yes, the social world is going to change more rapidly than the physical one. This change is mainly brought about by digitalization whose promise to boost 'green' is yet to be delivered. In this session we shine a fascinating light on how 'green' and 'digital' (can) go together. Join us for a discussion with some of Europe's most authoritative voices, and quiz them with your questions.

**Tamlyn Shimizu (Moderator)**

Global Partnerships & Communications Lead at BABLE Smart Cities | Germany

**Armin Nassehi**

Sociologist at Ludwig Maximilian Universität München | Munich | Germany

**Bas Boorsma**

CEO at Urban Innovators Global & Professor of Practice at Thunderbird School of Global Management | The Netherlands

**0.3.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.00

PORT 1 B+C

## Igniting the changemaking fire

### How to make Change with a capital C

Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come. It seems as if things are magically falling into place. If only! What looks like a freak event – take the fall of the Berlin wall – has been in the making for a long time. It's madly dedicated individuals who believe in an idea, so hard that it infects others and spreads like wildfire. So, before we get going and learn how to make cities more sustainable, we hear the story of writer Rutger Bregman and changemaker Claire Elizabeth Williams and how his talks inspired her to start one of the most ambitious urban experiments in recent years, with radical implications for how we deal with homelessness and poverty. What do we know about changemakers like Claire, their psychology, and how they have changed the course of history? Time to inspire, motivate and celebrate.

**Karin Haselböck (Moderator)**

European leadership team member at Ashoka Europe | Vienna | Austria

**Rutger Bregman**

Historian & Author at School for Moral Ambition | Houten | The Netherlands

**Claire Elizabeth Williams**

Senior Manager Corporate Citizenship at Imagine Canada | Co-founder & former CEO at Foundations for Social Change | Co-founder of Wiser Together | Toronto | Canada

**0.4.** June 6, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Cities FuckUp Show

### Spilling it all out for you!

Join the highlight of UF24 and meet 3 brave CityChangers who will be sharing not only their biggest FuckUps, but more importantly, their key learnings from this experience.



# TRACK AND SESSION DETAILS





Track 1

# CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Cities must prepare for water and heat extremes. But climate adaptation is much more than coping with horrific weather conditions. Critically, for city leaders, preparing for extremes puts their communication and collaboration skills to the test. Let's learn from those who have already taken the test. We hear how climate adaptation can be integrated into general urban planning, how key actors communicate to make sure politicians opt for, stakeholders collaborate on, and citizens get involved and have their say in adaptation measures.





# Track 1

## SESSION DETAILS

**1.1.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

PORT 1 A

### Heroes of climate adaptation

**Let them show you how to make climate your city's top priority**

Climate mitigation comes with a simple storyline. To save the world, you must beat (phase out) the enemy: fossil fuels. In the climate adaptation story there is no enemy, no global goal around which to mobilise, and you cannot easily spot adaptation heroes on LinkedIn. 'Selling' adaptation is difficult but, its impacts are real. Adaptation saves lives and contributes to climate mitigation – a lush Champs Elysée means heat relief and fewer cars. Join this session to meet the climate heroes on their uphill battle. Learn from them how to go from vision to practice, how to deal with vested interests, overcautious politicians, upset citizens, intimidated pencil-pushers, and hostile newswriters. If you are passionate about climate change and cities, make sure to get a seat!

**Philipp Bouteiller (Moderator)**  
Managing Director at Artprojekt | Germany

**Eleni Myrivili**  
Global Chief Heat Officer at UN-Habitat & Arsht-Rock Center | Athens | Greece

**Katharina Schätz**  
Climate Resilience Manager at City of Regensburg | Regensburg | Germany

**Marco te Brömmelstroet**  
Professor in Urban Mobility Futures at University of Amsterdam | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**Maria Vassilakou**  
CEO at Vassilakou Urban Consulting | Vienna | Austria

**1.2.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 1 A

### Making climate adaptation in cities really work

**How to integrate climate adaptation in general urban planning**

Cities operate in structural silos. However, they realise that true water management is extremely difficult to handle with these structures and mentalities. Who is responsible for the stormwater which runs off buildings, through parks, onto streets, and into canals? And how do you deal with both too much and too little water at the same time? In this session, we learn how to organize your city around these (not so) new realities: how to legitimately coordinate communities and stakeholders, find the right people to work with, and involve both those who do not (yet) feel addressed and those who have always done it their way. Let's get integrated water management to work in your city!

**Philipp Bouteiller (Moderator)**  
Managing Director at Artprojekt | Germany

**Lykke Leonardsen**  
Head of Programme for Resilient & Sustainable City Solutions at City of Copenhagen | Copenhagen | Denmark

**Ala Hussin**  
Managing Director at Lapinus | The Netherlands

**Dirk van Peijpe**  
Director at DE URBANISTEN BV | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Michiel Van Driessche**  
Partner at Felixx Landscape Architects & Planners | The Randstad | The Netherlands

**1.3.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 13

### When the climate crisis hits home

**Handling climate risks in the built environment**

Imagine your street floods in an epic thunderstorm. You are worried, but luckily, no physical harm was done. What you don't notice, however, are the event's indirect impacts. Flood data informs a climate risk map, which investors base their decisions on. Planned investments in your neighbourhood could be withdrawn, rents will drop – way down! This is not a mere scenario any longer. In cities across the world, decaying urban fabric comes with huge social, financial, and political costs. At the same time, the EU ramping up on corporate sustainability reporting indirectly forces cities to get their act together. The problem can no longer be pushed around! Join this high-level discussion on stakeholder responsibilities, understand their motivations, and learn how to break through the wall of denial.

**William Kistler (Moderator)**  
Founder & CEO of urbanOvation | London | UK

**Jan Kadijk**  
Former Head of Academy at Dutch Green Building Council (DGBC) | The Hague | The Netherlands

**Clemens Brenninkmeijer**  
Head of Sustainability at REDEVCO | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**Sandra Phlippen**  
Chief Economist at ABN AMRO | The Randstad | The Netherlands

**1.3.1.** June 6, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 13

### Decision-making tools for climate adaptation

**How to make robust decisions**

It is far from clear how climate change will pan out in your city. For sure, there will be surprises. With uncertainty, conflicting interests, and seriously high stakes at play, you need the right know-how and tools to assist with making decisions. Yes, there is a growing number of digital tools: digital twins, climate monitoring, risk maps... but if you focus solely on tech, some of the most effective tools will escape your radar. Let's learn how to combine digital and analogue, science and other ways of knowing, to ensure your climate adaptation plans serve ALL citizens.

**Yasmin Ait Abderrahman (Moderator)**  
President at FNV Young & United | The Netherlands

**Rosemarie van Ham**  
Inclusive Climate Action Rotterdam (ICAR) / Advisor at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**João Dinis**  
Office Coordinator at Cascais Ambiente | Cascais | Portugal

**Kaidi Põldoja**  
Executive Manager of Spatial Planning & Design Department at City of Tallinn | Tallinn | Estonia

**1.3.2.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 15

### Selling it to the sceptics

**How to finance green of cities with private capital**

Billions of square meters of flat rooftops are waiting to be used. Even more basement space is available and ideal for water storage. Many thousand brownfield sites are waiting to be greened. Property holders would hardly deny the vital importance of greening cities, but when asked to step up, the excuses for inaction are many. And we can see why: if you don't see the benefits, why open roof tops for water retention, biodiversity, or solar? Why finance urban green (maintenance) with no immediate ROI? Join this session to learn how to win over sceptics and get investors on board: how to make sure they future-proof their properties, keep vital urban green, and add lots more to our cities.

**Elizaveta Fakirova (Moderator)**  
Urban Researcher & Manager at Technical University of Munich | Munich Germany

**Ludo Pittie**  
Director, Landscape Advisory at wsp | London | UK

**Paul van Roosmalen**  
Programme Manager Multifunctional Roofs at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Dirk C. Gratzel**  
CEO GreenZero | Germany



# Track 1 SESSION DETAILS

**1.3.3.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 10A



## Join the rooftop revolution

### Workshop: How to capitalise on multifunctional roofs

Remember the days (not so long ago) when green roofs were for bohemians and hippies? Today, hundreds of cities around the world are using green and multifunctional roofs as a strategic tool to fight flooding, but also to increase the quality of living, renature the city, source solar power, and add biodiversity. In this workshop, the City of Rotterdam - together with LIFE@Urban Roofs - will showcase amazing multifunctional roofs and walk you through the tricky part of organizing and financing one of your very own.

**Paul van Roosmalen (Moderator)**  
Programme Manager Multifunctional Roofs at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands



**1.3.4.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 15

## Make our cities green again

### How cities are fast-forwarding their green infrastructure

Green infrastructure is essential for cities to fight the effects of climate change – and at the same time a critical part to increase livability. Everyone wants it (in principle), however, lots of cities are struggling big time with developing their green infrastructure. Why is that the case? And how is it possible that some cities have their green space shrink without even knowing it? Let's meet some of Europe's frontrunners as well as fastest-growing green cities. Learn how "3-30-300" as a rule of thumb can be applied to boost urban green and hear from key people just how they do it.

**Mila Kostatinova (Moderator)**  
Director Business Exploration & Development at Husqvarna Group | Gothenburg | Sweden

**Erik Swan (Moderator)**  
Product Owner HUGSI at Husqvarna Group | Jönköping | Sweden

**Christophe Najdovski**  
Deputy Mayor of Revegetation, Green Spaces, Biodiversity, and Animal Condition at City of Paris | Paris | France

**Cecil Konijnendijk**  
Co-lead Nature Based Solutions Institute | The Netherlands



**1.3.5.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 10A



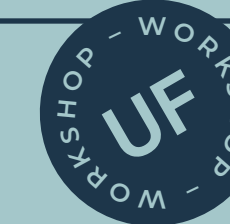
## Greening streets and squares

### Workshop on public space retrofitting

You will have seen encouraging video clips in which carpark spaces magically disappear from streets, trees drop from the sky, and people stroll happily on permeable walkways. Inspired by this vision, ever more creative urban teams are greening our cities, street by street, thereby creating win-win-win situations: improving the micro-climate, cleaning polluted water, enriching biodiversity, and making these spaces more attractive, much like in the video. But who decides what they are going to look like, and how they will be used? To avoid your public space retrofitting project from blowing up midway, you need to get a few things right from the start and prepare for many more to come. Join this workshop to learn how to approach public space retrofitting in the most inclusive and economic way.

**1.3.6.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 10A



## The most sustainable city in the world is ...

### Finding the right KPIs to measure progress

In a recently published ranking, London, New York, and Paris topped the list of the world's most sustainable cities. Based on which indicators? Emissions? NOx, CO2? Or green space? What kind of green? Relative to what? Using different KPIs, these three cities could easily hit sustainability rock-bottom! So, how do you know as a city where you stand on your road to sustainability? Let's inject this philosophical debate a fair dose of data realism: in this co-creation workshop, we're taking a critical look at city rankings to determine what KPIs give a realistic picture of sustainability success, and which don't.

**Mila Kostatinova (Moderator)**  
Director of Business Exploration & Development at Husqvarna Group | Gothenburg | Sweden

**Erik Swan (Moderator)**  
Director of Digital Business Exploration at Husqvarna Group | Jönköping | Sweden

**Mark Nieuwenhuijsen**  
Director of Urban planning, Environment & Health at Barcelona Institute for Global Health | Barcelona | Spain



**1.3.7.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 14



## Heroes of climate adaptation #2

### Walkshop: Green space maintenance

Lush urban green. We all want it. And we expect someone to take care of it. If urban parks are in are bleak and desolate, local media will be quick to blame city leaders. If strong wind breaks branches and uproots trees, someone is liable for the damage done. Have you ever wondered how technology, old and new, can assist your green space maintenance? Some cities have sheep grazing in parks, others employ mowers with sensors to do as little harm as possible. And how does a tree surgeon answer nature's call high up in the tree? Join our call and get outside to meet a different breed of climate adaptation heroes: those who do it.

# Track 1

## SESSION DETAILS

**1.4.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 15

### Trapped: coastal cities facing an existential threat

#### Rising sea levels: How to anticipate overwhelming challenges

With water coming at us from all sides and sea levels projected to rise significantly, in the long-term coastal cities and especially delta cities like Rotterdam face an existential threat. The expected magnitude of change earns respect even from ingenious Dutch water-engineers. At the same time, waterfront living has never been more popular, putting further pressure on limited land. Retreating inland seems out of the question. So, with far-reaching decisions waiting to be taken, let's find out how to go about them. Join this session to understand how a challenge of this magnitude can be approached systematically, and what you can learn from it to apply to your city, whether coastal or not.

**Tracy Metz (Moderator)**

Water Talks Podcast & Director at John Adams Institute | The Netherlands

**Vinita Damodaran**

Director Centre for World Environmental History at University of Sussex | Sussex | UK

**Nikki Brand**

Policy Advisor at Technical University Delft | Delft | The Netherlands

**1.5.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 10 B

### Mayors for climate adaptation

#### How the decisions of city leaders can make all the difference

Urbanisation and climate change raise new questions about how to manage water in cities. Flooding and drought force us to include solutions mimicking a 'natural' hydrological cycle: water buffer and retention areas, high quality urban green, ...., – for any such intervention to work as intended, community involvement becomes key. At the same time, critical decisions need to be taken at the top-level: to integrate adaptation in general urban planning, commitment must come from the Mayor's Office! In this session we hear from Mayors championing such innovative initiatives in their cities. Join us to learn more about what decisions city leaders are taking towards a water-resilient future, and how to make sure their plans, intentions, and whitepapers don't end up in some drawer.

**Tracy Metz (Moderator)**

Water Talks Podcast & Director at John Adams Institute | The Netherlands

**Ahmed Aboutaleb**

Mayor of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands





Track 2

# BUILDING SUSTAINABLE CITIES

It is clear: to create sustainable cities and get anywhere near the set CO<sub>2</sub> targets, we must cut emissions in one of the emission-heaviest sectors, the built environment. But where to focus? Materials or buildings? Districts or circular? Voluntary targets or laws? Whatever your answer is, it risks missing the bigger picture. Because what we need involves changing everything, all at the same time and immediately. But how do you change a system as complex as real estate that's been refined over decades, with each player knowing exactly their role and take away? In this track we look at exactly what can be done and how to do it.



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# Track 2 SESSION DETAILS

**2.1.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

PORT 1 A

## From silo to system: creating the real estate we need

### How to transform a system when most stakeholders are happy with it

The real estate industry is made up of multiple silos, and, within them, most actors are happy with how things run. They know their role and how the money flows. They are not exactly known for their changemaking mentality. There is no point working on only one silo, though; we need to fix all segments at the same time. In this session, we hear how frontrunners are: creating new ways to collaborate with stakeholders; going from silo to system thinking; allowing separate systems to be worked on simultaneously; building circular supply chains; and asking the crucial question of who is paying who in a just transition. Let's listen to and learn from those who don't just talk "system change" but actually do it!

- Jennifer Koster (Moderator)**  
CEO at WerkWell | Wassenaar | The Netherlands
- Marije Ten Kate**  
Head Urban Planner at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands
- Geiske Bouma**  
Senior Researcher/Advisor Urban Innovation at TNO Vector | The Hague | The Netherlands
- Sabine Biesheuvel**  
Co-founder & Director at BlueCity | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**2.1.1.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 17

## Leader of the pack

### How Slovenia is cutting CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions in the built environment

With 2.1 million inhabitants Slovenia is big enough to make a real difference and small enough to get things done. Size matters, but it's nothing without leadership! In Slovenia, they don't talk it out endlessly, but do it, leaving talkers no choice but to follow the doers. Join this session to learn how Slovenian sustainability practitioners are pushing the boundaries of national legislation, changing everything from materials to procurement, to make the country a true leader in Europe and the world.

**2.2.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 10 B

## Starting from scratch: change by design

### How planners, architects, and engineers transform the way we build

When the excavators start digging, it's too late. Important decisions have been made at the design stage. It dates back years, sometime decades. So, what if you started from a blank sheet? How would you design to build sustainably, and what would such as design process look like? Bearing in mind that, eventually, yours will become outdated thinking, too. In this session, we're going to hear from architects, planners, and engineers who have had the guts to start from nothing, but with a bold idea. Learn from them who they figured needs to be at the table from the very beginning, what scale and collaborations to consider – think building alliances – and how to procure and supply it. Meet the visionaries whose practices have the power to change the industry standards.

- Eugen Antalovsky (Moderator)**  
Former CEO of Urban Innovation Vienna | Vienna | Austria
- Caterina Rocca**  
Head of Regulatory Affairs at ROCKWOOL Group | Copenhagen | Denmark
- Andrej Šmid**  
Architect at Arhitekt Šmid d.o.o. | Maribor | Slovenia
- Siobhan Burger**  
Programme Manager Social Impact at Dura Vermeer | Utrecht | The Netherlands
- Scott Francisco**  
Founder & Director at Pilot Projects | Montreal | Canada
- Angeline Chartier**  
Postdoctoral Researcher at Wageningen University | Wageningen | The Netherlands

**2.2.1.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Density and proximity

### How to beat urban sprawl and inner-city blues

To prepare for the future, cities need to take two keywords seriously: density and proximity. Neighborhoods hold immense potential in terms of testing solutions: the interlocking matters of climate justice, 15-minute cities, zero-emission neighborhoods, and resilience. From Milan to Barcelona to Athens, learn from a panel of lighthouse cities how they are making green and thriving neighborhoods a reality, what lessons other cities can learn, and how your city can emulate their success.

- Hélène Chartier (Moderator)**  
Director of Urban Planning & Design at C4 | France
- Jo Jewell**  
Director Cities for Better Health at Novo Nordisk | Copenhagen | Denmark
- Christophe Najdovski**  
Deputy Mayor of Revegetation, Green Spaces, Biodiversity, and Animal Condition at City of Paris | Paris | France
- José Besselink**  
Urban Planner at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands
- Xavier Matilla Ayala**  
Former Chief Architect of Barcelona | Barcelona | Spain
- Jesse Shapins**  
Co-Head Neighbourhood Investments at Urban Partners | Copenhagen | Denmark



**2.2.2.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 5

## Placemaking as a strategic urban regeneration method

### How to align stakeholder interests with place-led innovation

Placemaking evokes pictures of parklets, greenery, and colorful geometric forms painted on streets. Seen in the media, there is typically a grey 'before' image, and another showing the green and colorful 'after'. Even in new developments, placemaking is at best considered a nice-to-have and added only at a later stage. Why not get it right from the start and make it central to any urban development? Strategic placemaking comes with many benefits and saves you lots of worries (and money). Join this session to learn how placemaking done well encourages social cohesion, prevents gentrification, and makes (most) stakeholders happy. Let's hear from placemakers how to turn the practice from a tactical and fringe activity into a strategic and central method for urban regeneration.





# Track 2 SESSION DETAILS



**2.2.3.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 5

## Mission-led urban transformation

**Workshop: How to reframe, rethink and reorganise around the changes that are really needed**

What does “mission-led” even mean, and why does it seem to be talk of town lately? Here’s an answer: to meet the challenges of the 21st century, our urban communities need to make rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes. This demands a massive shift in our mindset: it means working very differently to how most of us have been trained and rewarded to operate. So how do we do that? During this participatory workshop we will introduce some key ingredients that can help with a mission-led approach to change and explore strategies for shifting into mission-led mindsets. This is where to gain ideas and confidence for using a mission-led approach to help create the changes that our urban communities so desperately need!

**Tim Taylor (Moderator)**  
Director at Korimako | Slovenia

**2.2.4.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 5

## Unlocking the power of arts & culture for transformation

**How to spark collective behaviour change**

We have all the solutions to solve our planetary problems, so what’s the holdup? We’re putting all our efforts into the “what needs to be done” and “how to actually do it”, but what if there is an additional factor - the underlying human behaviour - that we are not paying enough attention to? There is a systemic relevance to the arts and culture sector. Creative reforms may shape how we face challenges. So, how can cities leverage the power of art and culture in urban development and decision-making processes? Ultimately, how can we use it to drive collective behavioural change? Listen to practitioners in the field and take the lessons back to your city.

**Jessica Watts (Moderator)**  
Consultant at Arup & Ki Culture | Berlin | Germany

**Aric Chen**  
General and Artistic Director at the Nieuwe Instituut | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Kristen Zupancic**  
Founder of Plot Twist Placemaking | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**2.3.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 15

## Follow the money in real estate

**How leaders transform business models**

They say sustainability just “doesn’t pay off”. That it’s much more profitable to build ‘business as usual’ and sell fast for quick returns. Who cares whether materials can be reused or not, and whether people live in happy neighbourhoods or must languish in anonymous transit-like districts? Well, some do! Driving change in real estate is anything but a walk in the park, though. In this session, we’re going to hear from developers who have taken on that challenge. We learn from cities’ strategic financial decisions, from investors on turning real estate cost models upside down, and about the critical role taxation plays in steering the ship into safer waters. Because one thing is clear: business as usual cannot be the business any longer.

**Kaitlyn Dietz (Moderator)**  
Clean Construction Finance Manager at C4 | Spain

**Vincent Taapken**  
Founding Partner at New Industry Development | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Julie Emmrich**  
Sustainable Finance Lead at World Green Building Council (WGBC) | Cologne | Germany

**2.3.1.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 17

## Roadmap to circularity

**Achieving market transformation in the built environment**

If we’re going to look beyond silos, it’s pretty clear what we’ll need to succeed: collaboration, collaboration, collaboration. There are global goals to achieve, but how can these targets cascade from the global to national level, and ultimately lead to local action? Luckily, at least 11 European countries now have clear plans on how to do this: decarbonization roadmaps. In the end, it’s all about changing the “economy” part of the circular economy – and how collaborating can get us there. What levers do cities hold to align their emissionmitigation actions? How can individual players along the value chain benefit from each other? What can be triggered by economic incentives, and what by regulations?

**Richard Boyd (Moderator)**  
Senior Programme Manager, Built Environment at Laudes Foundation

**Laetitia Nossek**  
Programme Manager at Dutch Green Building Council | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**Amy Paterson**  
Director Sustainable Finance at Systemiq | London | UK

**Cécile van Oppen**  
Co-founder of Copper8 | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**Anna Wierzbicka**  
Director at City of Łódź | Łódź | Poland

**Ellen Hoeijenbos**  
Trade Union Official EU Affairs at FNV Bouwen & Wonen | Utrecht | The Netherlands

**2.4.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

PORT 1 A

## Enter the construction site

**Build, maintain, retrofit: Frontrunners show that change is possible**

Put your hard hats on! Having finished the brainy part – designing and financing – we can finally start digging and building. From a sustainability perspective, the best building is the one which has never been constructed. From an innovation perspective, there’s so much to learn from trying out new, or fewer materials. From a demographic perspective, more affordable housing units are needed. The building sector is also a huge labor market; by providing millions of jobs, the industry is said to be “too big to fail”. But construction is not the end of the story. Buildings desperately need to be retrofitted! In this session, we hear from innovators on building new with fewer and alternative materials, on driving up retrofitting rates, and on the construction workforce’s role in the transformation. Join us to get a glimpse of the bigger picture.

**Karianne Kraaijestein (Moderator)**  
Head of Communications at Built by Nature | The Netherlands

**Frederik Verstraete**  
Chief Evangelist Officer at Earth Plus | Belgium

**Emanuel Heisenberg**  
CEO & Founder of ecoworks | Berlin | Germany

**Zamany Menso**  
BWI World Board Member | The Netherlands



# Track 2 SESSION DETAILS

**2.4.1.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 5

## Green skills, decent work and the future of construction

### How to deliver the promise of green jobs

Can we prove that shifts to cleaner forms of construction will not only create more jobs, but will enhance their quality and increase the diversity and inclusivity of the workforce across the construction supply chain? In this session, new research will be shared which makes the case that such a just transition is possible. This will be followed by an interactive debate among a panel of speakers representing union voices, cities and construction employers. They will be responding to tough questions about their responsibilities to secure the people and the skills needed to build, maintain and retrofit buildings that genuinely reduce carbon emissions and create quality job.



**2.4.2.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 14

## Deconstructing 'greenlash' in the built environment

### Brick by brick: Building public support for the green transition

The European Green Deal pledged to leave no person or place behind, yet fuel taxes, heat pumps, and ultra-low emission zones were met with huge "greenlash". What's really happening on the ground? Join us to share inspiring and heartbreaking stories of the impact that built environment climate action has on inequality. How do we learn from these cases to ensure future initiatives benefit the most marginalised communities? The lack of public acceptance is a key obstacle to our climate targets, so how can we counter the populist weaponisation of the just transition with a unifying, compelling narrative?

- Giulio Ferrini (Moderator)**  
Head of Built Environment at Institute for Human Rights & Business | London | UK
- Ying-Chih Deng Sommer (Moderator)**  
Senior Officer Built Environment at ICLEI | Bonn | Germany
- Maria Vassilakou**  
CEO at Vassilakou Urban Consulting | Vienna | Austria
- Zeno Winkels**  
General Manager at Woonbond | Amsterdam | The Netherlands
- Ronja Endres**  
Project Lead at PECO Institut e.V. | Regensburg | Germany
- Line Knudsen**  
Senior Consultant at Ramboll Management | Denmark
- Claude Moraes**  
Director at 89up | London | UK
- Hugh Garnett**  
Senior Programme Manager, Real Estate at IIGCC | London | UK



**2.4.3.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

PORT 1A

## Is a just transition for housing possible?

### Let's talk it straight: how to share responsibility and account for it

Europe's population is growing, and its building stock is ageing. So, how can we increase the number and affordability of housing units without losing sight of our emission-reduction targets? What solutions exist beyond simply building more, and who's responsible for it? Building owners, city administrations, EU policymakers – or all of them, and others? Let's talk about shifting from housing as speculation to housing as a human right, about solutions that community- and market-led housing can offer, and just how crucial collaboration between developers, housing associations, and city administrations really is to making a long-lasting change.

- Alice Haugh (Moderator)**  
Programme Manager at Laudes Foundation | The Netherlands
- Elena Milanovska**  
Associate Director - Housing Programmes Lead at Habitat for Humanity International - Europe, Middle East | Bratislava | Slovakia
- Leilani Farha**  
Global Director at The Shift | Ottawa | Canada
- Jacob Heitland**  
Director of Climate Action at London Borough of Newham | London | UK
- Kwan Ok Lee**  
Dean's Chair Associate Professor at National University of Singapore | Singapore | Singapore
- Michael Neaves**  
Advocacy & Communications Manager at European Community Land Trust Network | Brussel | Belgium

**2.4.4.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

PORT 1A

## Emissions vs. Housing

### How to win it with vacant spaces for affordable housing

Cities face an affordable housing crisis. The way out of it, logically, would be to build more. A classic conflict of interests: how can we create more affordable housing units without simultaneously emitting emissions that exceed every climate target we've set? There needs to be a clearer matchmaking of the potential of vacancies and tools to utilise them for affordable housing. But how can the climate and housing departments in cities align and collaborate? Delve into the practical measures that cities can adopt to promote densification without forsaking their climate objectives.

- Nazakat Azimli (Moderator)**  
Programme Manager, Built Environment at Laudes Foundation | Amsterdam | The Netherlands
- Ruth Owen**  
Deputy Director at FEANTSA | Brussels | Belgium
- Kelly Harrison**  
Director at whitby wood | UK

**2.4.5.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 10 B

## All eyes on the blind spot: construction waste

### How to make circularity a viable and just economy

What happens with a building after it has served its purpose? What if it's outlived what it was designed for? Construction and demolition waste accounts for more than a third of all rubbish generated in the EU, containing a wide variety of materials such as concrete, bricks, wood, glass, metals, and plastic. Both from a carbon-emissions and social perspective, this is pure madness. Hear about how cities can cut back on the trash. Through better design, re-use, data, regulation, and procurement, learn how to reshape the entire process.

- Karin Huber-Heim (Moderator)**  
Director at Circular Economy Forum Austria | Vienna | Austria
- Jacqueline O'Donovan**  
Managing Director at O'Donovan Waste Disposal Limited | London | UK
- Anne-Sofie Gregersen**  
Group Sustainability Manager at ROCKWOOL Group | Denmark
- Pepijn Duijvestein**  
Director & Owner of New Economy | Amsterdam | The Netherlands
- Vojtech Vosecky**  
Founder of The Circular Economist | Gothenburg | Sweden



# Track 2

## SESSION DETAILS

**2.5.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 17

### Second life for buildings

#### How to deconstruct, repurpose, and renovate buildings and neighbourhoods

The most sustainable building is the renovated, reused and repurposed one. But where do we begin when most cities don't even know how many vacant plots, empty buildings, and brownfield sites they have? The good news is: It can be done. The better news is: Here you can learn how to! Hear about major challenges and loopholes from practitioners that went the extra mile and learn how you can do it, too. Join this session to be amazed by what's possible even on the neighbourhood scale.

- Jennifer Koster (Moderator)**  
CEO at WerkWell | Wassenaar | The Netherlands
- Anne Dubrau**  
Factory Manager at Nydalen Fabrikker | Oslo | Norway
- Guri Hummelsund**  
Production Manager at Nydalen Fabrikker | Oslo | Norway
- Dominik Campanella**  
CEO & Co-founder of Concular | Germany
- Jan Jongert**  
Co-founder of Superuse | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**2.5.1.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 5

### Redoing heritage

#### How to transform historical sites through place-led urban innovation

Join this interactive workshop to learn how you can bring new imaginaries to the old stories. We'll showcase how to turn urban challenges into design and placemaking opportunities. Both are proved to benefit diverse communities, and revitalise forgotten areas, making them vibrant Neighbourhoods once again. Four city practitioners will show how to identify the sites suitable for a reset. They'll share expertise on what tools to use, the values that guide transformation processes, and the implementation knowledge for engaging the community.

**Milena Ivkovic (Moderator)**  
CEO at Placemaking Western Balkans | The Netherlands

• PLACE  
MAKING  
W BALKANS



**2.5.2.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 10 B

### Level up your game

#### Beat boring: How to get children excited about urban planning

Pop singer, athlete, musician, chef, pilot, medic, teacher, ... What needs to be done for pupils to name urban planner as their dream profession? Does one need to be a planner to have a say in our urban futures? What are students' ideas about their city, and how can these get incorporated in planning today? In this session we celebrate schools reinventing Rotterdam. In three categories Reinventing Cities, C40 and Minecraft will award schools for their winning design ideas. Watch and unlearn!

**Said Kasmir**  
Vice Mayor for Education, Culture & Events at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands



Reinventing  
Cities





Track 3

# SOCIAL ASPECTS OF TRANSFORMATION

To secure the welfare of future generations and to adapt to a changing climate, we need to transform our cities and urban lives; we need to live sustainably. To understand how “social” and “green” can go together, we’ll learn how to rally enough people behind “green”, and how to talk to those who won’t. Because if the transformation benefits the few, the many will crush it.





# Track 3 SESSION DETAILS

**3.1.** June 5, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

PORT 1 A

## A new era of 'greenlash'

### How cities can save the green transformation

Protests and riots used to be something that Europeans would see on the news – rumblings in distant places, but not on their doorstep! But as cities are served a toxic cocktail of COVID-19 fallout and the cost-of-living crisis, the green transition becomes ever more divisive. The divide runs right through cities, neighbourhoods, and families. Mobility: fiercely contested; energy: ever so expensive; housing: unaffordable; taxes and subsidies: unfair; digital: dividing; local initiatives: unruly; the media: partisan. The needs of the moment call for progressive social policy, not green city action. Unless they can be combined! From Colombia to the US, back to the Netherlands and Rotterdam – for this session we've sourced some of the most amazing transformation stories on how green and social go together (or not).

**Sylvie Gallier Howard (Moderator)**  
Founder & CEO at EQUITABLE CITIES CONSULTING LLC | Philadelphia | USA

**Eleanor Sharpe**  
Former Director of the Department of Planning & Development at City of Philadelphia | Philadelphia | USA

**Derk Loorbach**  
Director at DRIFT | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Enrique Peñalosa**  
Consultant and lecturer in urban design, leadership, transport & sustainability | Bogotá | Colombia

**3.2.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

Dock 10 B

## Wake up and fail fast

### Cities must fix their energy strategies: this is how

With rising carbon prices and more aggressive climate laws to come, the time window for action is closing. Municipalities can either become owners of the energy transition or they'll have to sell out to big energy (and to China). They also need to quickly get people and organisations to take action, and support those who cannot afford it: homes need insulating, e-charging needs mounting, solar must go on roofs. Fairness debates get sparked: why support the "haves," i.e. property owners, instead of the "have-nots," i.e. the tenants? Whoever you choose to subsidize and however you plan to fight energy poverty, there are a thousand ways of getting it wrong. Let's fail fast then! Learn from the most dedicated CityChangers how to quickly turn the tide.

**Felix Rodenjohnn (Moderator)**  
Co-founder & CEO at DISTRICT ENERGY | Dortmund | Germany

**Anja Floetenmeyer-Woltmann**  
Managing Director at Klimaschutzagentur Region Hannover gGmbH | Hannover | Germany

**Bob D'Haeseleer**  
Climate Neutral City Advisor at ICLEI | Freiburg | Germany

**3.3.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 16

## Urban utopia for realists

### How to steer a radical mobility transition

Mobility is the most emotional topic in city making. However you tackle it, you can be sure to get in hot water with someone's win, translating into someone else's loss. Which is why, so far, cities have focused on electrification and cautiously reducing cars from inner cities. According to Derk Loorbach, director of the renowned DRIFT institute, this strategy fails to understand the transformative potential of mobility. In this session, he will take you on a journey to a wholly-transformed city. Mobility is the logical starting point to learn how to envision and strategise for a more radical transition that addresses all the root problems in existing urban mobility regimes...notably social ones.

**Derk Loorbach (Moderator)**  
Director at DRIFT | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**3.3.1.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 14

## Breaking the iron law of mobility

### Transforming public space and urban mobility with public acceptance

Ever tried to reduce car usage or revamp your city centre without meeting fierce reactions? Or introducing new services like car-sharing or electric charging in lampposts without public resistance? The iron law of mobility states that you will always get it wrong for some. Sustainable mobility planning is much more than just introducing measures, it is about spatial re-purposing while securing public acceptance. Not as easy as it sounds! Engage in a candid discussion on how to defy the "iron law of mobility" and make room in your city management and planning towards a more equitable and urban mobility future.

**Henrik Morgen (Moderator)**  
Nordic Lead & Principal Advisor at BABLE Smart Cities | Copenhagen | Denmark

**Martine Reinhold Kildeby (Moderator)**  
Director Global Networks & Partnerships at BLOXHUB | Copenhagen | Denmark

**Kevin van der Linden**  
Strategic Mobility Advisor at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Rafael John Santiago**  
Team Leader Urban Development & Coordinator Mobility Transition at City of Dortmund | Dortmund | Germany



**3.3.2.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 13

## Prohibit, regulate, facilitate?

### Cities in search of a mobility strategy

The speed of innovation in the mobility sector is astronomical. It's almost impossible to keep track of all the new solutions revealed on any given day. New companies and services are being invented and cities are having a hard time keeping up, let alone act rather than react on them. We're talking about a universe of micro-mobility options on the one hand, and electric vehicles on the other. Let's find out how cities can deal with this amount of innovation, which solutions to look out for, and what the future might hold for some of them. We learn how cities are dealing with them strategically (or not), and whether you should prohibit, regulate, or embrace mobility offerings.

**Vincent Taapken (Moderator)**  
Founding Partner at New Industry Development | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Vincent Joanknecht**  
Mobility Advisor at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Andrew Mason**  
Head of Communications at BMW Group Nederland | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Martine Reinhold Kildeby**  
Director Global Networks & Partnerships at BLOXHUB | Copenhagen | Denmark



# Track 3 SESSION DETAILS

**3.4.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 13

## Happy neighbourhoods, happy cities

### How to build urban resilience with community power

Neighbourhoods are at the heart of city-making. Some were meticulously planned with social cohesion in mind while others seem rushed. In some, election turn-out is high and people like to take initiative. In others, citizens are disillusioned by politics, and few people seem to care; when there is a crisis – take a heat wave, – neighbours don't check after one another; the community is said to lack resilience. In this session, we're looking at what makes some places more resilient than others and what's to be done about it: How to use transformation projects, for example combining mobility, energy, and health, to strengthen local democracy, boost social cohesion and help cities on their green transition.

**Nilofer Tajuddin (Moderator)**  
Manager, Programmes, Climate Resilience at Resilient Cities Network | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Peter Weidig**  
Head of Urban Zero at Franz Haniel & Cie. GmbH | Duisburg | Germany

**Katrin Witthaus**  
Managing Director at Urban Zero Ruhrort | Hattingen | Germany

**Kinga Feenstra** Resilience Policy Advisor at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Mattia Federico Leone**  
Co-Director European Hub at UCCRN | Italy



**3.4.1.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 14

## Know your people

### From Rotterdam to Nairobi: Proven tools and methods to engage with citizens

We've heard that in some districts' residents are open to collaboration. Elsewhere city officials and researchers are only met with disdain. Why is this? Why are some places so hard to penetrate? And who is really doing the job of 'knowing their citizens'; who is spending hours on finding out what they think, want, and aspire to? And what if those who try to find out are only met with hostility! Let's get to the bottom of it. Urban professionals, civil servants and researchers watch out: We learn from Rotterdam, Nairobi, and many other places proven tools to engage with your people.

**Robbert Nesselaar (Moderator)**  
Director at Stichting Citymarketing Arnhem | The Randstad | The Netherlands

**Jurian Edelenbos**  
Professor at Erasmus University Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Thorsten Mehnert**  
Chairman at "Ecken wecken" | Leipzig | Germany

**Christina Neddens**  
Head of Urban Planning Office at City of Leipzig | Leipzig | Germany

**Oana Stancioiu**  
Architect / Consultant at nonconform ideenwerkstatt GmbH | Vienna | Austria



**3.4.2.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 15

## The CitiVerse

### Digital tools to engage with your citizens

If digital technology is so immensely powerful, why not use it for more than just making people click on shopping carts! Helsinki and Brussels are leveraging it for climate goals and urban redevelopment, respectively. Our experts can guide you through data strategy, ecosystem building, and real-world problem-solving.

**Karl-Filip Coenegrachts (Moderator)**  
Director at citiesofpeople | Ghent | Belgium

**Ivy Yang (Moderator)**  
EU AI/Digital Policy Specialist at OASC | Brussels | Belgium

**Faouzi Achbar**  
Vice Mayor for Social & Digital Inclusion of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Roland van der Heijden**  
Programme Manager Digital City at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Christina Yan Zhang**  
CEO at The Metaverse Institute | London | UK

**Martine Dellanoy**  
Smart & Sustainable Cities & Communities Advisor at Digital Flanders | Brussels | Belgium

**Teppo Rantanen**  
Executive Director at City of Tampere | Tampere | Finland

**Erol Özgüner**  
CIO at City of Istanbul | Istanbul | Turkey

**Cristina Bueti**  
Counsellor on Metaverse & Smart Cities at International Telecommunication Union | Geneva | Switzerland



**3.4.3.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 16

## Unleashing your city's social innovation power

### How to create the ecosystem needed for districts to flourish

Berlin, Cambridge, Copenhagen, Dublin, Rotterdam-The Hague, Tallinn, - the list of cities and regions named Europe's next Silicon Valley continues. Which region does not want to become the next innovation powerhouse? Which city does not want to host that edgy district everyone talks about? The questions to be answered are different ones: Can you actually plan for an innovation district? How to attract and keep talent? Is your project adding to segregation or are you fixing it? It depends on a few critical things. In this session, social impact entrepreneurs, innovation agencies, industry and politicians share their know-how on 'creating' inclusive innovation districts. Benefit from the knowhow of experienced ecosystem builders!

**Jorick Beijer (Moderator)**  
Co-founder & Director at Blossity | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Kathy Nothstine**  
Head of Future Cities at Nesta | London | UK

**Joost Helms**  
Co-founder & Director at EIPO | The Netherlands

**Asceline Groot**  
Community Manager at ImpactCity The Hague | The Hague | The Netherlands

**Gerrit Jan van 't Veen**  
Director at World Startup | The Hague | The Netherlands

**Jette Jørgensen**  
Managing Director Hubs at IKEA Retail | Frederiksberg | Denmark

**3.5.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 14

## The Yinyang of urban governance

### How to balance top-down and bottom-up

In most cases, it's elected representatives and experts that are in charge of leading the green transformation. But are they really smarter, faster, and more effective than tens of thousands of citizens working together? Bottom-up certainly wins the popular vote and they have a moral point: It's become too convenient for government to partner up with lobbyists who know the direct line to power. So, how to square local democracy demands with top-down decision-making? Is radical bottom-up possible at all, and how to lead top-down for good? In this session we're talking it straight with speakers taking sides. Which one do you take: bottom up or top-down?

**Yasmin Ait Abderrahman (Moderator)**  
President at FNV Young & United | The Netherlands

**Paul Depla**  
Mayor of Breda | Breda | The Netherlands

**Maarit Kahila**  
CEO & Co-founder of Maptionnaire | Helsinki | Finland

**Marco Pastors**  
Director at National Programme Rotterdam-South (NPRZ) Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Wietse van Ransbeeck**  
CEO & Co-founder of CitizenLab | Brussels | Belgium

**Mario Raimondi**  
Academy director at humankind | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Carine Saloff-Coste**  
Head of Green Space & Environment at City of Paris | Paris | France



# Track 3 SESSION DETAILS



**3.5.1.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 17

## Urban governance for sustainability

### How to tackle climate and inequality together

Climate and inequality are wicked problems which can only be addressed in tandem. In Rotterdam, the Dutch national government, the City of Rotterdam, housing, educational and care institutions, as well as employers are collaborating on a new perspective for the deprived Rotterdam South area. In Estonia, the City of Tallinn is spearheading novel governance for the sustainability transition, with citizen engagement and communal climate action. For this workshop, they join forces to share their dilemmas, learnings and explore solutions for sustainability governance. If you're in for climate, you must be in for social equality: this is how.

**Perle Laouenan-Catchpole (Moderator)**

Moderator & Facilitator at Masters in Moderation | The Netherlands

**David van Dis**

Policy Advisor at National Programme Rotterdam-South (NPRZ) | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Triin Sakermäe**

Sustainability Governance Advisor at Strategic Management Office of Tallinn | Tallinn | Estonia



**NPRZ**

**3.5.2.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 17

## Big enough to cope, small enough to care

### How medium-sized cities are leading sustainability

Most Europeans live in medium-sized cities. They're at the forefront of building sustainable cities in Europe and for locally realising the Sustainable Development Goals. While they face unique challenges in realising sustainable transformation, they also have particular assets to help them realise it. When it comes to city governance, size matters. In this workshop representatives will share their experiences and learnings from transforming public administration, engaging the private sector and working with civil society.

**Tamlyn Shimizu (Moderator)**

Global Partnerships & Communications Lead at BABLE Smart Cities | Germany

**Cathrin-Claudia Hermann**

Project Manager at City of Detmold | Detmold | Germany

**Annika Lundqvist**

Head of International Office at City of Gävle | Gävle | Sweden

**Martin Hückeler**

European Affairs Officer at City of Solingen | Solingen | Germany

**Jenny Rydén**

Project Manager at City of Varberg | Varberg | Sweden



**3.5.3.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 16

## Driving urban transitions with national platforms

### How to achieve climate neutrality with multi-level governance

In collaboration with CapaCITIES, Driving Urban Transition (DUT) and NetZeroCities (NZC), this session will delve into the critical role of multi-level governance in achieving climate neutrality by 2030. With a focus on aligning policies across local, regional, national, and European levels, we'll explore challenges, opportunities, and innovative strategies through examples from the EU Cities Mission. Join the conversation and help shape the future of urban climate action.

**Julio Lumbreras (Moderator)**

Associate Professor at Technical University of Madrid | Madrid | Spain

**Ovidiu Cimpean**

State Secretary at Ministry of Investments and European Projects, Romania | Bukarest | Romania

**Nina Mostegl**

City Manager Austrian "Climate-neutral Cities" at SIR | Salzburg | Austria

**Tarek El Azzouzi**

NetZeroCities Partnerships Manager at Climate-KIC | Brussels | Belgium

**Maxi Jäger**

Expert at AustriaTech | Vienna | Austria

**Elena Simion**

International Projects Expert at UEFISCDI | Bucharest | Romania



**3.5.4.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 13

## Collaboration for a brighter future

### How cities and the private sector are moving closer together to tackle key challenges

It is amazing at what some individuals, businesses or cities can achieve on their own. But it's even more amazing at what they can achieve when working together. Most of us have experienced the magic of successfully working together. But most of us have also experienced the opposite. The challenges on hand are simply too big: metropolitan areas cannot afford any longer to remain an uncoordinated collection of administrative boundaries. This session will take a close look at how to make collaboration in a complex environment work: with a wide variety of cities, the private sector and a shared desire to overcome all challenges in working together. You'll meet people in the "epicentre" of metropolitan collaboration: so grasp the opportunity to grill them and learn from their experiences!





Track 4

# LEADERSHIP AND PERSONAL GROWTH

This track focuses on the personal experience of those who drive change, on how to make change happen – and how not to. We will share highly inspirational stories, provide workshops on personal skills for change-making and offer in-depth engagement to help build resilience and grow as leaders.





# Track 4 SESSION DETAILS

**4.1.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Driving change from within

### How to work agile in a system of set rules (and how to change them)

In cities and organizations around the world individuals and small teams are breaking new ground. By doing things differently, they are challenging toxic organizational cultures and challenging orthodox views on everything from mobility to the building industry. If you want to break new ground in your organization and industry, this session is for you. Exchange know-how and strategies with international peers, including ways to pitch your ideas, find unlikely allies, build strategic networks, and deal with opposition. Let's learn how to avoid getting swept up in the system you set out to change!

**Karin Haselböck (Moderator)**  
European leadership team member at Ashoka Europe | Vienna | Austria

**José Besselink**  
Urban Planner at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Sascha Glasl**  
Co-founder of Space&Matter | Amsterdam | The Netherlands

**Datty Ruth**  
CEO of Smarter Habitat | Monaco

**Barbara Luns**  
Director at Architectuur Instituut Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**4.2.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Change must come from the top

### Why it pays to make enemies

Changemakers need allies in top positions. Here they are! Find out why they chose the 'dirty' business of politics, how they learned to swim in stormy seas, and when they recommend doing small interventions or going "all-in". How are they dealing with all that 'hate'? Listen to three leaders who went BIG when it came to using their formally granted powers. Let's find out why, despite the trouble, it pays to do the right thing. And make sure to get a front row seat!

**Katharina Moser (Moderator)**  
Director at IDG Summit, Inner Development Goals | Vienna | Austria

**Janet Sanz**  
Climate Action Vice President of Metropolitan Area of Barcelona | Barcelona | Spain

**Ulli Sima**  
City Councillor for Innovation, Urban Planning & Mobility at City of Vienna | Vienna | Austria

**Lan Marie Nguyen Berg**  
Member of the Norwegian Parliament | Oslo | Norway

**4.3.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 14

## Critical: Preparing your city for an uncertain future

### How leading cities prepare for the future with 'urban resilience'

Election cycles of four to six years make it difficult to plan for the long-term. A predecessor may simply bin your ideas. Competing city departments make coherent planning even worse. If we want to be prepared for crises, cities need to stop this political game of thrones. 'Urban resilience' is emerging as the core concept for local governments to bypass power games: with robust, community-based decision-making. In this session, the Resilient Cities Network (RCN) celebrates 10 years of 'urban resilience' and the first cities' Chief Resilience Officers. They've taken stock and share with you their critical learnings, before introducing their groundbreaking foresight work to anticipate future challenges and crises. Mayors may come and go.

**Lina Liakou (Moderator)**  
Global Director of City Engagement & Practice at Resilient Cities Network | Greece

**Robert van Asten**  
Deputy Mayor of The Hague | The Hague | The Netherlands

**Jens Ejner Christensen**  
Mayor of Vejle | Vejle | Denmark

**Eleni Myrivili**  
Global Chief Heat Officer at UN-Habitat & Arsht-Rock Center | Athens | Greece

**Arnoud Molenaar**  
Chief Resilience Officer at Municipality of Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**4.4.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 15

## Winning 1 million Euros is not the point?

### How participating in Europe's iCapital competition sparks collaboration

Every year, the European Commission awards one European city with the "Capital of Innovation" award, which comes with a whopping 1 million Euros check. But while prestige, recognition and prize money are all great outcomes, the biggest effect is usually of internal nature: putting together a strong application involves intensive internal collaboration. While collaboration is not the norm in most public administrations, the campaign brings together a city's most innovative and passionate people for one clear mission. Meet the winning and runner-up teams from previous iCapital Awards, and hear just how competing for the iCapital crown has transformed the way they work together.

**Jorge Canovas Montoya (Moderator)**  
Project Adviser at EISMEA | Belgium

**Miguel Brito**  
European & International Affairs Adviser | Lisbon | Portugal

**Sofia Malander**  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer | Linköping | Sweden

**Yuliia Katynska**  
Deputy Director | Lviv | Ukraine

**Margherita Cera**  
Deputy Mayor | Padova | Italy

#iCapitalAwards

**4.5.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

PORT 1 B+C

## Living your vision

### Personal growth: How to manage passion

True visionaries must live their vision. But how do you burn for something without burning out? Let's hear from amazing individuals who are fully committed to their task and like to lose themselves in their work. How do they strike a balance between working on their vision, sometimes 24/7, and finding time for relationships? What strategies have they developed to wind down, deal with setbacks, recharge, and keep going? And what did experience teach them that they can safely do without? Let's find out. Join fellow visionaries as they talk about the blessings and pitfalls of being one.

**Katharina Moser (Moderator)**  
Director at IDG Summit, Inner Development Goals | Vienna | Austria

**Jorn Wemmenhove**  
Co-founder of humankind | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Elena Doms**  
Founder of Earth Plus | Mecheln | Belgium

**Claire Elizabeth Williams**  
Senior Manager Corporate Citizenship at Imagine Canada | Co-founder & former CEO at Foundations for Social Change | Co-founder of Wiser Together | Toronto | Canada



# Track 4 SESSION DETAILS

**4.6.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30



DOCK 16

## Trust me, I'm a changemaker

### Listen carefully: How to avoid your change project from blowing up

Changemakers are people of action not theory. It's just that, when things go wrong, there will be voices saying: "We told you so... you did not listen". Former allies will distance themselves from you, eroding trust. So, to prevent your change project from blowing up, you need to learn that not-so-secret superpower called listening. Piece of cake, right? Well, far from it. Some people are just not good at it; we excel elsewhere. This is your chance to practice active listening. Then, we change roles: you'll be the one to do the talking. Let's help each other grow as changemakers. Showing up already sets you apart from the rest!

**Michael Winter (Moderator)**

Co-President at oikos International | Graz | Austria

**Carolin Lemke (Moderator)**

Co-President at oikos International | Munich | Germany

**Victoria Yavorskaya (Moderator)**

Vice-President at oikos International | Graz | Austria



**4.7.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30



DOCK 10 A

## Challenge your ignorance

### The gender space gap: How to get men to think like women

You need to truly understand what it's like for women to walk down streets at night, to use labyrinthine park houses, or to cross vast empty squares. It's scary; it's unacceptable. In this session we look at prime examples such as London's awareness campaign for safe public transport to take all genders on a journey, challenging their own ignorance. First, find out why some (typically male) decision makers remain reluctant to co-creating their cities with marginalised groups. Second, learn how this results in discrimination. Third, we try it out ourselves and co-create a gender-sensitive space. Do you dare to have your own views challenged?

**Susan Leadbetter (Moderator)**

Principal Consultant - Liveable Places at wsp | London | UK

**Safaa Charafi (Moderator)**

Founder of Urban Inclusion | Brussels | Belgium

**4.8.** June 6, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30



DOCK 16

## Your Rotterdam souvenir

### Making sense of your role in the transformation through poetry

For two days you've been soaking up tons of information and changemaking know-how, you explored an exciting city, made new connections, and you've probably had many intense conversations. Our brains need time to make sense of all that novelty. Writing is a fun and proven way for processing the unfamiliar. Many people write diaries but few of us write poems. Poetry is how we learn to speak, teach children the alphabet, and best remember history, but when was the last time you wrote a poem? Join the growing Urban Poets' Club, where you will explore how poetry can be used as a tool to understand yourself, and your role in the transformation. Try something new, reconnect with your past poet and create your very own Rotterdam souvenir: a personal poem.

**Leonora Nicholson (Moderator)**

Creative Producer at Unheard Poetry | Warsaw | Poland



Track 5

# CITYCHANGER SKILLS

Whether you are starting out, building influence, or aiming to make a bigger impact, Skills for CityChangers offers vital expertise to help you progress. Discover key skills for driving change and learn from the best.





# Track 5 SESSION DETAILS

**5.1.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 16

## Hiring for change

### Why I want to work for the city

Why would truly gifted and enthusiastic talent want to put up with the red tape mentality instead of hitting it big at a cool tech company! Tech salaries are out of reach, yes, but why don't cities invest more in attractive employment if it helps them save lots more at the end of the day? In this session, we hear from leading cities working hard to become attractive employers. Learn how to get city branding right, reform hiring processes, offer purpose and competitive salaries, and, critically, change that organizational culture. Join in and find out how to recruit and hold onto the right ones.

- Luise Fischer (Moderator)**  
Systems Innovation Co-Lead at NetZero Cities, EIT Climate KIC | Vienna | Austria
- André Sobczak**  
Secretary General of Eurocities | Brussels | Belgium
- Hanna Zdanowska**  
Mayor of Łódź | Łódź | Poland

**5.2.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 10B

## Fixing your climate communications

### Learn how to speak for your facts

Stop 'activating' people with random facts about climate change! It won't help. People just hate to change. We want sustainability integrated in our daily routines, and consumers want services to run smoothly. Better use your communicative skills to zoom in on those who can make a difference: local decision-makers, utilities, and, yes, consumers. But make sure to target them strategically. Understand your target audience's motivation and challenges, and find out how to gain their trust, because facts can't speak for themselves. Bring your challenge to the session and hear from our master communicators how to beat it.

- Michael Shank (Moderator)**  
Director of Engagement at CNCA | Washington, D.C. | USA
- Anja Floetenmeyer-Woltmann**  
Managing Director at Klimaschutzagentur Region Hannover gGmbH | Hannover | Germany
- Heinrich Strößenreuther**  
Serial NGO-Founder | Berlin | Germany
- Thomas Brudermann**  
Associate Professor at Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | Graz | Austria

**5.3.** June 6, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 14

## Preparing the tiger: procurement for sustainability

### Bring your challenge and learn innovative ways to procure for it

Public procurement is often seen as a rather dull and boring field. However, with European cities procuring to the sum of billions of Euros every year, they have substantial purchasing power. Most of all, they hold an immensely powerful tool to implement change we can wield in the charge towards sustainability. Cities around the world are increasingly unleashing these powers to drive change in industries, ranging from climate adaptation to energy, and from retrofitting to social and gender-responsible procurement. But you must get a few key things right from the beginning. Join this highly interactive session to share the most important dos – and the worst don'ts.

- Philipp Riegebauer (Moderator)**  
Chief Project Officer & Professor for Infrastructure Management at BABLE Smart Cities | Stuttgart & Düsseldorf | Germany
- Perle Laouenan-Catchpole (Moderator)**  
Moderator & Facilitator at Masters in Moderation | The Netherlands
- Sascha Haselmayer**  
Author & Partner at Ashoka Europe | Berlin | Germany
- Valentina Schippers-Opejko**  
Coordinator Urban Agenda Partnership on Innovative & Responsible Public Procurement at City of Harlem | Amsterdam | The Netherlands
- Charlotte Glazier**  
Urban Greening Specialist | London | UK
- Karolis Granickas**  
Head of Europe at Open Contracting | Germany

**5.4.** June 6, 2024  
09.00 – 10.30

DOCK 15

## Sink or swim: welcome to the urban shark tank

### Find replicable solutions that will work in your city

Join us for the "Urban Shark Tank", where a panel of urban 'sharks' will listen to creative pitches from a public/private duo who have successfully implemented a project in their city. The sharks, made up of diverse experts in the field of urban innovation, will offer valuable advice and insights on how to replicate this project in other cities, making it scalable and impactful. Don't miss out on the chance to witness first-hand the creativity and ingenuity of urban visionaries, while getting the chance to vote for your favourite pitch and try your hand in our rotating seat at the panel. Do we have a deal?

- Tamlyn Shimizu (Moderator)**  
Global Partnerships & Communications Lead at BABLE Smart Cities | Germany
- Susa Eräranta**  
Project Director at City of Helsinki | Helsinki | Finland
- Adam Pustelnik**  
Deputy Mayor at City of Łódź | Łódź | Poland



**5.5.** June 5, 2024  
16.00 – 17.30

DOCK 10 A

## Wanna talk?

### Meet fellow doers, disruptors and making-it-happen teams

Whatever you call it: transforming, changing, innovating, or disrupting. Those who are doing it are hands-on doers and often faced with similar challenges. So, if you want to meet your peers – your partners in crime, your fellow changemakers – and discuss with them just how to overcome these transformation challenges, then this networking session is for you! The BMW Foundation's amazing RISE Cities Fellows are your hosts, the theme is collaboration, and the floor is yours.

- Raffaella Schmuck (Moderator)**  
Programme Manager RISE Cities at BMW Foundation | Germany





# Track 5 SESSION DETAILS

**5.6.** June 5, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

DOCK 5

## Generative AI: what's hot & what's coming

**Executive briefing on the latest AI trends and their effects**

Let artificial intelligence experts take you on a journey which will expand your imagination. They will brief you on the latest AI trends, indicate what's already possible, and ultimately explain how this will affect your city and business.

**Alexander Schmidt (Moderator)**  
Founder & CEO at BABLE Smart Cities | Germany

**Rebecca Moody**  
Researcher at Erasmus University Rotterdam | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Sarah-Jayne Williams**  
Director Global Product Partnerships at Google Maps | London | UK

**Jonathan Reichental**  
CEO at Human Future | San Francisco | USA



**5.7.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 10 A

## Universal: Changemaking skills and know-how

**Workshop hosted by Next Generation Academy**

Distilled for you: the essence of change-making. In this educational workshop, you'll learn universal strategies, designs and methods that change-makers can't do without. Led by international experts from a range of fields and sectors, you will hear how to successfully lead and shape urban transformations. Join this workshop to refine your skills.

**Martha Marisa Wanat (Moderator)**  
Co-founder of Next Generation Academy | Mexico City | Germany & Mexico

**Mathis Dippon (Moderator)**  
Programme Manager at European Capital of Democracy | Vienna | Austria



**5.8.** June 5, 2024  
11.00 – 12.30

DOCK 10 A

## What's your legacy?

**Workshop hosted by Next Generation Academy**

The City of Rotterdam and its urban development strategists will ask you to help them work on a very concrete local project. Your professional background is, more or less, irrelevant. You will be guided through a process inspired by design sprints and learn effective methods and strategies on the fly. Join this workshop to leave a legacy.

**Antonella Bosio (Moderator)**  
Project Architect at Equilibry GmbH | Berlin | Germany

**José Roberto Lagunes Trejo (Moderator)**  
Lead Project Coordinator at Fundación Hogares | Mexico



**5.9.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 17.30

DOCK 13

## Dutch Metropolitan Innovations (DMI) ecosystem

**Showcase event from the unique Dutch PPP for new tools from the digital world**

The DMI Ecosystem event is a meeting place for all stakeholders from the innovative initiative. To tackle all the challenges we face in our urban spaces, we must do this in a coherent manner – and we must do it together. The DMI ecosystem delivers new tools from the digital world for mobility, public space, and housing. It is a public-private partnership between industry, knowledge institutes, municipalities, provinces and ministries. Let's gather and discuss new tools for the digital world.



**5.10.** June 6, 2024  
14.00 – 15.30

PORT 1 B+C

## The business of urban sustainability

**Can the private sector contribute to thriving cities?**

This session, co-hosted by the World Benchmarking Alliance and the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, Rotterdam, will delve into the significance of private sector transparency and accountability, as we explore how multistakeholder partnerships that include the private sector can drive evidence-based decision making towards more inclusive, equitable, and environmentally sustainable cities.

**Besmira Dyca**  
Research Lead at WBA | The Netherlands

**David Dodman**  
General Director at IHS | Rotterdam | The Netherlands

**Roxana Slavcheva**  
Global Lead for Built Environment at World Resource Institute | London | UK





Field Trips

# ROTTERDAM AWAITS YOUR DISCOVERY

This day is dedicated to exploring the city in various ways.

Attendees are invited to see, feel and experience first-hand, in exclusive, small groups with the best guides.

First come, first served!  
Bookings open in April.





# Field Trips LET'S EXPLORE ROTTERDAM!

Friday, June 7, 2024

**1.** June 5, 2024  
21.00 – open end

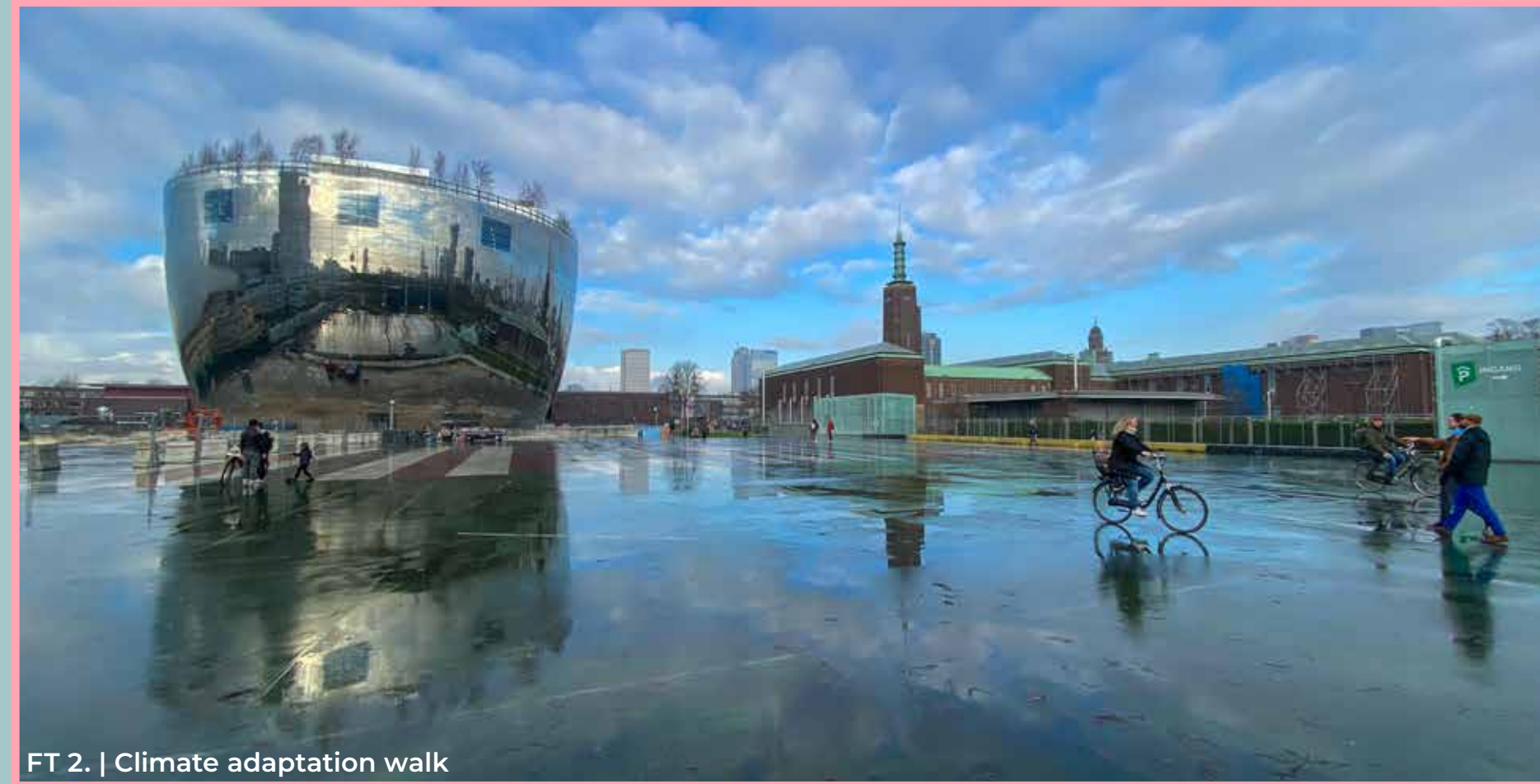
## Rotterdam by night

The night is for dancers and lovers. After a day of inspiring talks, engaging workshops, and making new connections, it's time to explore Rotterdam. Choose from one of three nightlife hotspots (and one of three energetic guides) – Deliplein Katendrecht, Witte de Withstraat or Nieuwe Binnenweg – and head out into the night! Learn more about the city's night economy and have a drink and good chats with fellow CityChangers.

**2.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## Climate adaptation walk

In Rotterdam there is a change in tide of urban design. Stormwater forces the city not only to build creatively, but also to focus on repurposing existing infrastructure for water retention. Join this tour to explore some of the city's astonishing stormwater management sites and meet Rotterdam's planning masterminds behind some of the most innovative water adaptive urban and landscape designs.



FT 2. | Climate adaptation walk

© Photography by the City of Rotterdam by Joep Blauie

**3.A** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00 **3.B** June 7, 2024  
10.00 – 13.00

## Rotterdam architecture: the next 100 years #A / #B

Rotterdam might look like we all imagined future cities to look like, but not entirely. There are still relicts left from decades ago, when other needs were prioritised. This results in a beautiful combination of modernity and tradition - but what does tradition mean in a city, which was heavily affected by World War II? Consider this field trip a walk down history lane, on which you will time-travel through different epochs and discover the rebuilt city's most stellar modernist buildings. Don't miss this chance to see the work of iconic Dutch architects live and in colour.

**4.** June 7, 2024  
14.00 – 17.00

## Rotterdam architecture: the past 100 years

Rotterdam might look like we all imagined future cities to look like, but not entirely. There are still relicts left from decades ago, when other needs were prioritised. This results in a beautiful combination of modernity and tradition - but what does tradition mean in a city, which was heavily affected by World War II? Consider this field trip a walk down history lane, on which you will time-travel through different epochs and discover the rebuilt city's most stellar modernist buildings. Don't miss this chance to see the work of iconic Dutch architects live and in colour.

**5.** June 7, 2024  
14.00 – 16.00

## Explore the CitiVerse

Immersive Tech enables Erasmus University (EUR) to offer not only education in new, inclusive, and sustainable ways. These tools can help conduct real-life experiments and communicate research findings, making it easier to exchange knowledge with practitioners. After a short introduction by some of the leading experts in the field, you will experience Virtual Reality demos as used in urban transformations: for buildings, mobility, water, inclusion, and much more.

**6.A** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 12.15 **6.B** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 12.30

## Morning rooftop hop #A / #B

This is your chance to take a closer look at and quiz the masterminds behind Rotterdam's multifunctional roofs with your questions. On this field trip, you'll explore repurposed rooftops of a former police station headquarter, a hospital, a school, and a housing project.



FT 6. | Morning rooftop hop

© Jits van den Broek



# Field Trips LET'S EXPLORE ROTTERDAM!

**7.** June 7, 2024  
13.45 – 15.45

## Afternoon rooftop hop

Climb up on Rotterdam's blue, green, yellow and red rooftops to explore three very different buildings, among them: Europe's first skyscraper overlooking river Maas and the two bridges, the old harbor, cube houses, the market hall, and even Ahoy Rotterdam!



**8.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 13.00

## Urban regeneration #1: Rotterdam-South

Did you know that Rotterdam is home to almost all the world's nationalities? More than 80 are said to live in Rotterdam-South. In „the beautiful city behind the dykes“, you will find old canals, picturesque avenues, and even buildings much more charming than anywhere else in Rotterdam. At the same time, election turn-out is low, mistrust in city authorities is high and the yellow press had a field day when riots erupted during Corona lockdown. To many Rotterdammers the South feels like a different planet altogether. Let's explore this multicultural district together with its urban regeneration stewards.

**9.** June 7, 2024  
07.30 – 09.00

## Hangover morning swim

Celebrated the end of #UF24 a bit too hard? Feeling „tired“ on Friday morning? Well, forget hair of the dog - we got a better idea for your recovery. Because after a long night out, a morning swim is all you need to feel your old self again. And don't worry, it's within crawling distance from Ahoy.

**10.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 13.00

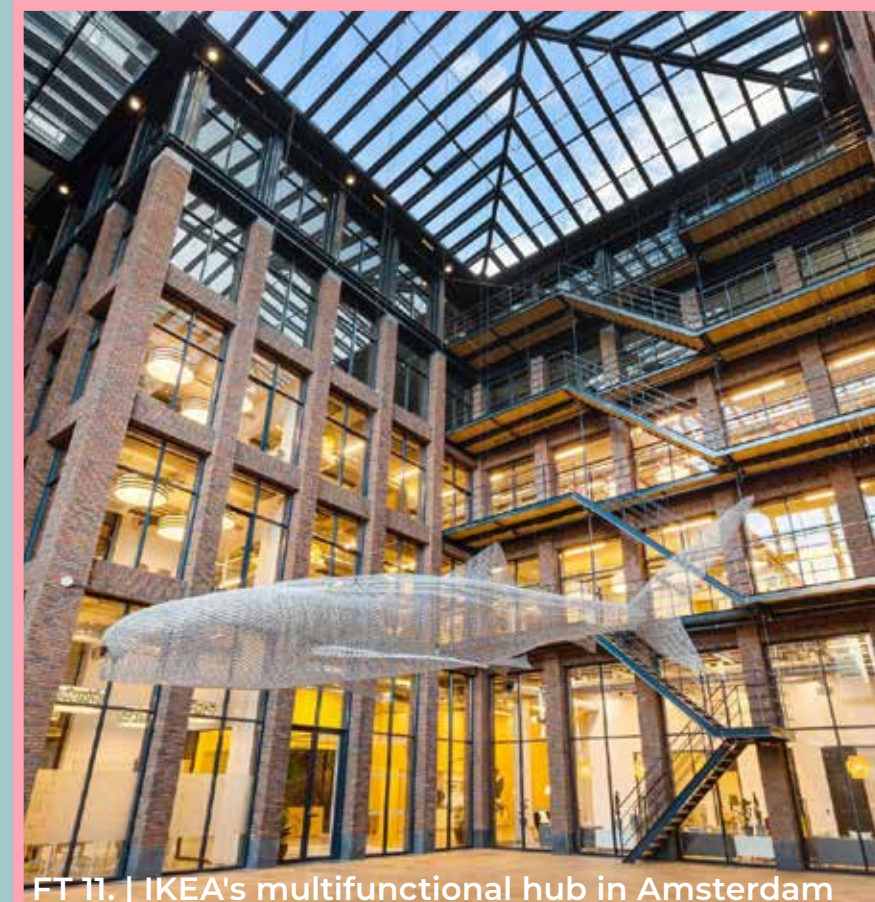
## Urban regeneration #2: Merwe-Vierhaven

Explore the up-and-coming Merwe-Vierhaven (M4H) district, where the city meets the river and Rotterdam's past meets its future: from no-frills workers' city to Europe's innovation capital, hosting some of the most exciting start-ups. Join this field trip to explore the 100 hectares north of Maas, where the former fruit port turns into a modern space for living, working, experimenting, and learn how the city's tidal park serves as a 'natural' water buffer should the water come from all four sides.

**11.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 13.30

## IKEA's multifunctional hub in Amsterdam

Check out IKEA's multifunctional hub in Amsterdam where all things sustainability will be discussed, seen, touched, felt and heard. Centrally located, the hub is not only showcasing the latest and most attractive workspace design, IKEA is also eager to co-create the neighbourhood with surrounding communities so as to neatly blend in with existing urban structures, businesses and local networks.



**12.** June 7, 2024  
10.00 – 13.00

## Sustainable timber tour

Just what exactly is Conservation Timber, and how can it be used in civic infrastructure? Starting with Rotterdam's innovative Beterbanks, this tour will demonstrate and investigate the potential of forest-positive procurement to connect urban residents to sustainably managed forests worldwide.

**13.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## Sustainable garment tour

Take a tour through Rotterdam's startups and locations dedicated to changing the polluting fashion industry - and consumers' mindsets -, like De Waaserij where you learn how to turn valuable but unusual real estate into spaces for fashion artists and get introduced to the sustainable fashion brand Versatile. Meet the founders of If Denim and visit Fabulous Funghi in the well-known Blue City, to experience a très chic 'show & tell'.



# Field Trips LET'S EXPLORE ROTTERDAM!

**14.** June 7, 2024  
09.15 – 12.30

## Circularity to taste: the milk & beer tour

Dozens of cows floating in the first farm of its kind in the world. Self-sustaining and circular: solar panels supply essential energy, while rainwater is harvested from the roof and purified. Cows are primarily fed with city-sourced ingredients like the nearby brewer's spent grain and potato scraps, or grass from sports fields and golf courses. Adjacent meadows provide ample space for the animals to roam. Talk about green innovation! But WHY is it on water and will we see more like it in the future? Join in to find out and try some of their circular products.



FT 14. | Circularity to taste: the milk & beer tour

**15.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 11.30

## Public space detective tour

We've heard lots about accessible, inclusive and liveable cities - now meet their ugly cousin! Learn how to change inhospitable design and inaccessible public spaces with the help of Floor van Ditzhuyen aka The Public Space Detective. Explore a different side of Rotterdam which, like too many cities, aims to be inclusive but sometimes finds it hard to walk the talk.

**16.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 11.30

## Rotterdam top attractions: Markthal and Cube Houses

Let us take you on a (food) tour to two of Rotterdam's most iconic buildings, and let's find out what they look like from the inside.

FT 16. | Rotterdam attractions tour:  
Visit Markthal and enter the Cube Houses



© Oesip van Dijk/BenBede

**17.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 13.00

## Pedelec tour to Rotterdam's fields and farms

Starting from #UF24 event venue Ahoy Rotterdam, take a trip on e-bikes and explore agricultural lands and farm food on Rotterdam's Southern edges. For about 4 hours, you'll ride through scenic fields - but to give your electric vehicle a break, multiple stops are on the agenda. You and your bike crew will for example visit "Gebiedscooperatie" to enjoy a cup of energising coffee before continuing your journey to "Buytenhof", where a delicious lunch will be served. Ready for the ride?

**18.** June 7, 2024  
09.15 – 12.00

## Urban regeneration #3: Katendrecht

The old harbour district Katendrecht has long since morphed into the trendy quarter of Rotterdam. And soon it will be one gem richer. Join the urban planners behind the district's revitalization strategy on a tour of Katendrecht and experience how the district is changing like a live ticker in front of your eyes.



FT 18. | Urban regeneration #3: Katendrecht

© Iris van den Bess



# Field Trips LET'S EXPLORE ROTTERDAM!

**19.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 11.30

## Building a city beach

Take a look at the Rondje Rijnhaven historic district that's bringing holiday vibes to Rotterdam with its brand-new city beach. The Rijnhaven Park will become a place for all kinds of people and activities. There is more: Of the 3,000 newly built homes, there will be a mix of affordable, medium-priced rental and owner-occupied, as well as high-priced housing.



FT 19. | Building a city beach at Rondje Rijnhaven

© Gemeente Rotterdam

**20.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 11.30

## Urban resilience tour

Visit Bospolder-Tussendijken to experience the "Resilient BoTu 2028" programme, where the big topics of social cohesion, security and climate adaptation will be faced over the coming ten years. The municipality of Rotterdam, the residents and several local partners are working together on major improvements for the neighborhood. Their ambitious goal: BoTu's social index should increase to the urban social average within ten years. Join this tour to vibrant Delfshaven together with the district manager and the residents leading the project.

**21.** June 7, 2024  
10.00 – 12.00

## Upcycle Paradise

By 2030, the municipality of Rotterdam aims to halve the current use of primary raw materials, including the construction sector (with the aim of 100% by 2050). This is your chance to get a sneak peek into how the city wants to make circular building common practice: Visit the construction site of de HER and learn more about Rotterdam's future circular centre before it's open to the public in early 2025! 80% of de HER building are used materials, including the steel structure; 100% of its elements can be disassembled. Beyond the building itself, de HER will live and breathe circularity: from education for school classes to raising awareness among Rotterdammers, from workshops to circular entrepreneurs.

**22.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## Social entrepreneurship & inclusion tour

Let's shine a light on three distinct types of social entrepreneurs in Rotterdam, each contributing to the city's social fabric in unique ways. Rotterdamse Munt provides a range of eco-friendly daytime activities, opportunities for green volunteer work, and serves as a Learning Practice Center. Sportspullenbank collects and redistributes second-hand sports gear, ensuring everyone can engage in physical activity. Rotterdamsche Werken is dedicated to empowering disadvantaged youth, including those with disabilities like Down syndrome, autism, or low IQ. With this tour, we want to support these initiatives. Together we can make a real difference for these projects! Jump on board and help!

FT 22. | Social entrepreneurship & inclusion tour



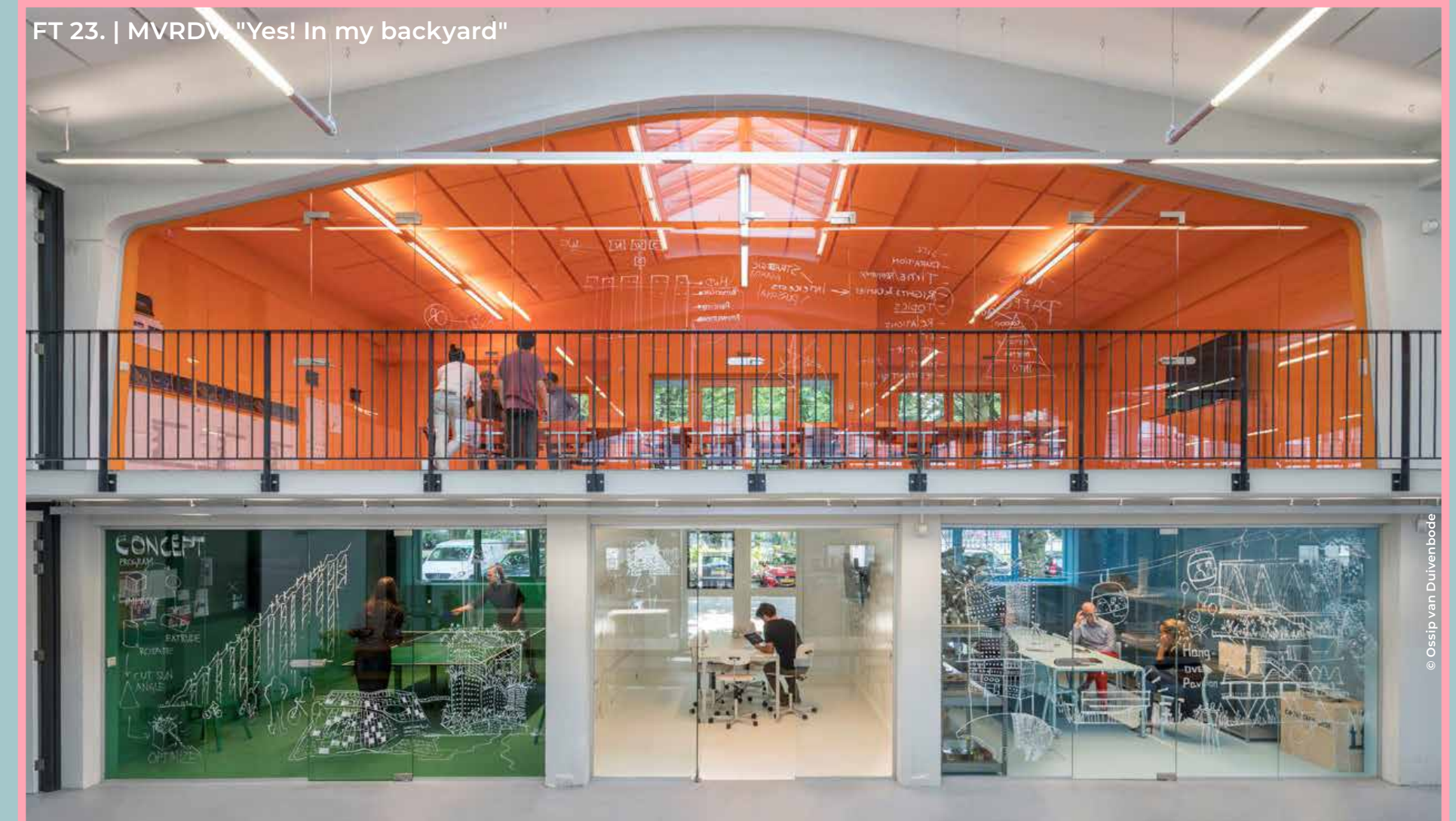
© P&O Rotterdam, Peter Schmidt

**23.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## MVRDV: "Yes! In my backyard"

Looking for innovative ideas to create inviting urban spaces? World-famous MVRDV with offices in Berlin, New York, Paris, and Shanghai are opening the doors for a half day workshop in their Rotterdam homebase. In small groups, you will explore design solutions for backyards, courtyards, and rooftops. We're very excited about this opportunity and we hope you are, too.

FT 23. | MVRDV "Yes! In my backyard"



© Oostip van Duivenbode



# Field Trips LET'S EXPLORE ROTTERDAM!

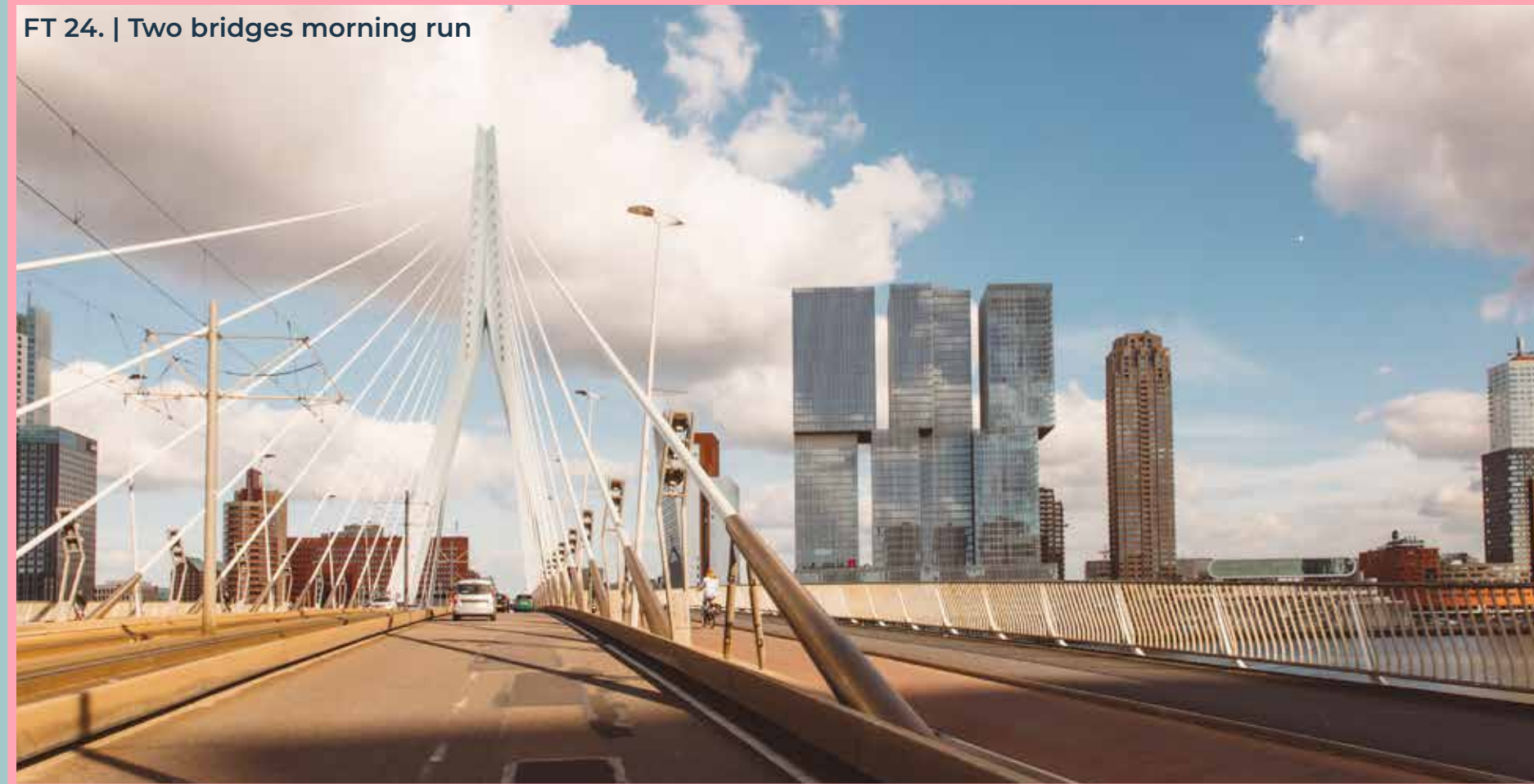
Friday, June 7, 2024

**24.** June 6, 2024  
07.00 – 08.00

## Two bridges morning run

Six kilometres in little less than an hour. Easy. We run by Markthal, the cube houses, both bridges, the Museumpark, Witte de Withstraat and Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen. We'll finish where we've started, but feeling much better.

FT 24. | Two bridges morning run



© UF pic by Sophia van der Horst

**25.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 12.00

## Touring Rotterdam's street art & sculptures

From giant feet and foxes to oilmen and Santa Claus: if nothing else, a lot of Rotterdam's outdoor art makes you look up. It's larger than life. It is so easy to take the artwork for granted, but take your time to admire them. They often tell an interesting story or convey a special message from an inspired creator. It suits the progressive city of Rotterdam: even the art 'on the street' is not just beautiful but also innovative, diverse, confrontational, and provocative. What does the artwork tell us?

**26.** June 7, 2024  
10.00 – 12.00

## Buildings by women

The contributions of female architects have been overlooked throughout history. Even today the role of women in architecture is often underexposed and underappreciated. 'Gebouwen door Vrouwen' (Buildings by Women) celebrates the work of female architects. The project is an initiative by Rotterdam architect Sofie van Brunschot to map and document the buildings designed by women. During this walking tour Sofie will guide you past three inspiring projects in the city centre of Rotterdam. Join this walking tour and change your perspective on our built environment.

**27.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## Floating City tour

With most land under sea level, which continues to rise, building floating structures makes sense. You'll take a tour around the deck of Rijnhaven's Floating Office, walk along the adjacent floating hotel rooms Wikkelploot, and meet its founder. Traveling Dutch style, a water taxi will finally take you underneath Erasmus Bridge over river Maas to Nassau harbour, to finish your tour at the Floating Lofts.

FT 27. | Floating City tour



© Robin Utrecht

**28.A** June 7, 2024 10.30 – 12.00 **28.B** June 7, 2024 13.00 – 14.30

## A. BlueCity morning visit B. BlueCity afternoon visit

BlueCity's mission is to accelerate the transition from the linear to the circular economy through entrepreneurship. Since 2015, it has developed from a vacant swimming pool into a circular economy hub for the city and region. BlueCity houses over 50+ circular entrepreneurs who make the transition possible! In addition, it organizes business programs for both start-ups and established SME-companies. In sectors ranging from food to maritime, you'll learn how they support early-stage circular entrepreneurship, establish collaboration between chain partners and provide concrete action perspectives to make chains more circular. A circular and entrepreneur haven – Why not stay a little longer for lunch at BlueCity's Bar Stroom!

**29.** June 7, 2024  
09.00 – 12.00

## Building sustainable and resilient cities

With increasing urbanisation, housing shortage and more intense weather events, we must quickly answer #UF24's core question: "How can we build sustainable and resilient cities?" On this tour, the City of Rotterdam together with ROCKWOOL will showcase compelling answers at different sites in the city. ROCKWOOL is known for developing innovative solutions among others for energy efficiency, fire protection, indoor comfort, and for efficiently managing excess water from heavy rainfalls. The City of Rotterdam is considered a European leader in climate adaptation. Together with ROCKWOOL, they will take you to three key sites to report on their partnership for building sustainable and resilient cities.

**30.** June 7, 2024  
09.30 – 11.00

## Second Life for Buildings

Watch the amazing transformation of an old star-shaped 19th century prison complex. Where previously detainees served long prison sentences, more recently 121 homes plus office spaces were completed, including a huge community garden. Join this tour to hear from the developers and architects on how the transformation has acted as a catalyst for the further development of the entire district.



# TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

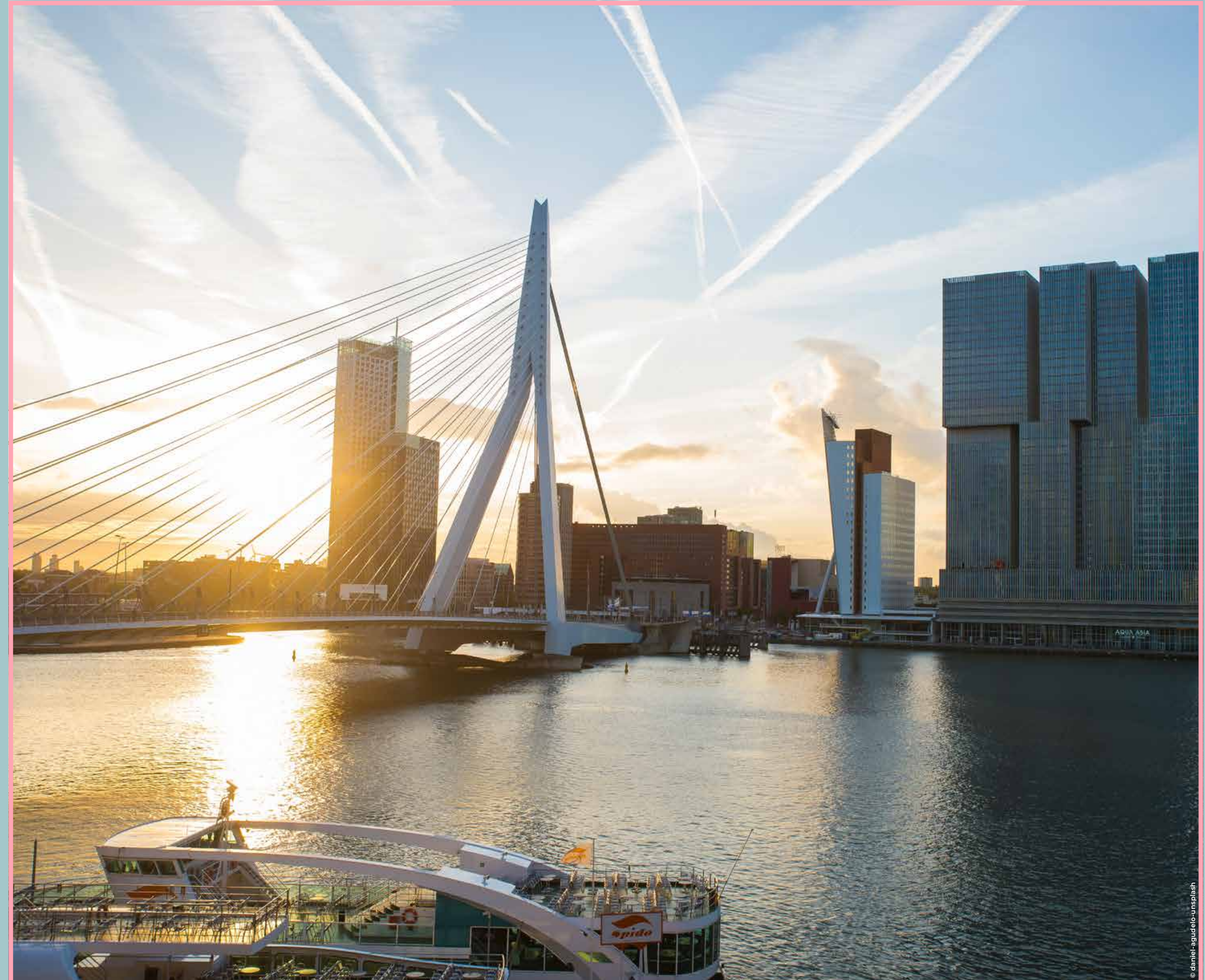
## Getting to Rotterdam!

### BY TRAIN OR BUS

If you arrive at Rotterdam Main Station you are right in the center of the city. When travelling via NS (train), it is possible to check in and out using your contactless debit card, credit card or mobile or DOWNLOAD THE NS APP for easy payment.

### BY PLANE

There are two options: **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol** and **Rotterdam The Hague**. Use the train terminal inside the airport and take one of the super convenient direct train services to the city of Rotterdam. From Schiphol it takes about 30 min, from Rotterdam The Hague even less with metro line E or bus 33.





# VENUES & SERVICES

## Staying to Rotterdam!

### MAIN VENUE

Rotterdam Ahoy Convention Center  
Ahoyweg 10, 3084 BA Rotterdam, Netherlands

### WHERE TO STAY

There is a variety of hotel options to choose from. See e.g. the booking platform with reserved contingents for #UF24: HOTEL OPTIONS.

As June is a very popular month in Rotterdam, please make sure you book your accommodation right away!

### Q&A ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Please check our FAQ section!  
Thank you!





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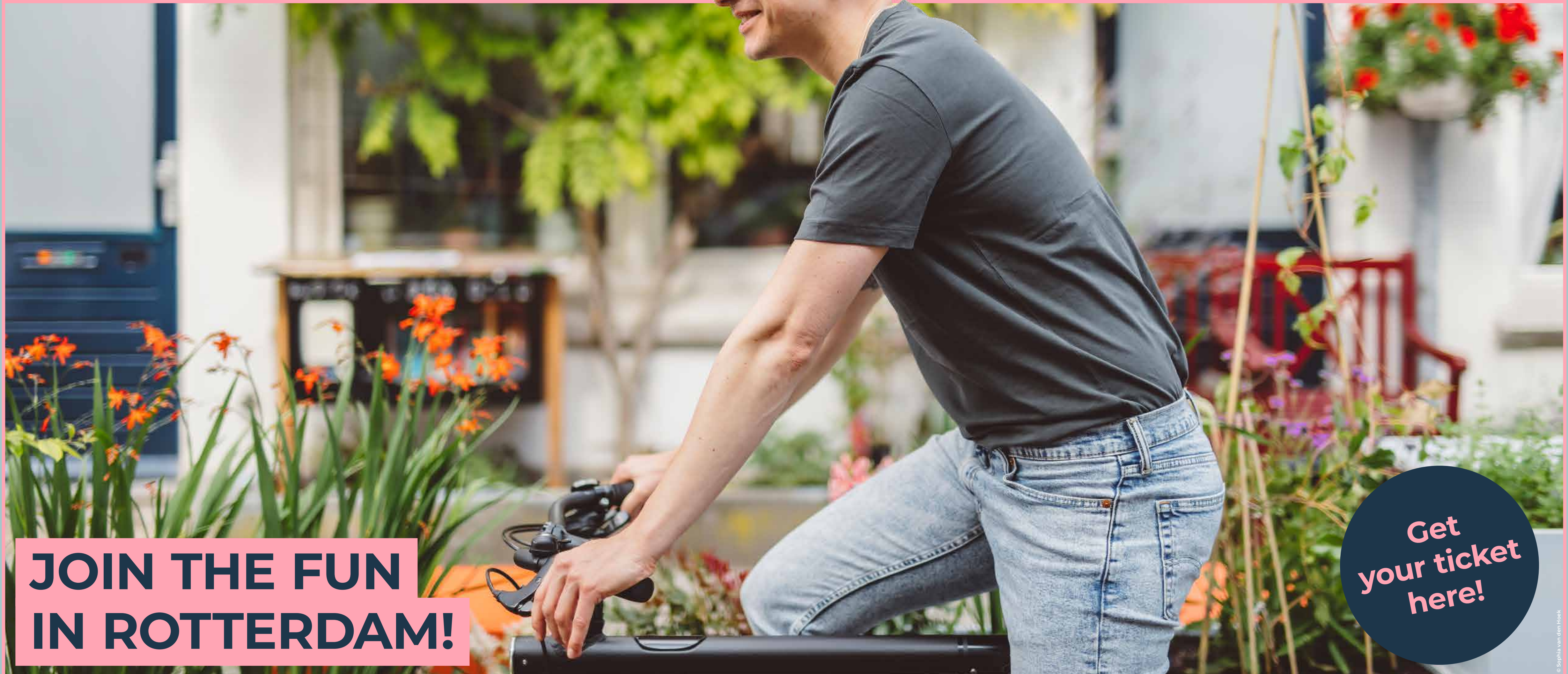
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