

Agora
Verkehrswende



BASED ON THE
AGORA STUDY
"12 INSIGHTS ON
TRANSFORMING
TRANSPORT"

A UNIQUE HYBRID
BETWEEN A
GRAPHIC NOVEL
AND INFOGRAPHIC
PRESENTATION

PACKED TO
THE GILLS
WITH INFORMATION ABOUT
TRANSPORT

FUTURE AHOY!

AN INFOGRAPHIC NOVEL ABOUT
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

BY AGORA VERKEHRSWENDE AND ELLERY STUDIO





FUTURE AHOY!

An Infographic Novel About
Sustainable Transport

DEAR READERS,

Since releasing “12 Insights into Sustainable Transport” in 2017, Agora Verkehrswende has published more than twenty studies detailing the essential building blocks of climate-friendly mobility.

This publication marks a significant departure from our previous work on sustainable transport. For one, it’s filled with cartoons and colorful illustrations. For another, it does not contain any new findings. Why did we decide to take a different approach?

The term “Verkehrswende” (“transport transformation”) and the broad range of topics it encompasses have gained enormous polarity over the past three years in Germany. But there has been little progress in implementing policies that will make sustainable transport a reality, in Germany or other parts of the world, although it is becoming increasingly clear that the transport sector is one of the biggest challenges in climate protection.

So instead of another expert report, we have sought to reach a wider audience with an innovative genre: the “infographic novel.” Part infographic, part graphic novel, it draws on our previous insights but repackages them in a fun and accessible format. Its purpose is to raise public awareness

of the problems that the transport sector poses for the climate while pointing to real solutions that can help fight global warming. In realizing this ambitious project, we enlisted the help of Ellery Studio, a group of young designers, researchers, illustrators, and go-getters dedicated to making climate change understandable and illuminating prudent paths forward. We spent many gratifying hours with the Ellery team last year hatching ideas and storylines for this novel form of science communication. It was new territory for everyone.

“Future Ahoy!” is the result of our collaboration. We hope that it entertains, enlightens, and ultimately inspires. Its overriding message is that sustainable transport is a collective endeavor. If it is to succeed, each and every one of us must embrace a common purpose.

Christian Hochfeld and Marena Pützscher
Agora Verkehrswende

WHAT IS AN INFOGRAPHIC NOVEL?



IMPORTANT FACTS AND INFOGRAPHICS APPEAR IN BRIGHT PINK.

THE CONTEXT EXPLAINS THE REST.

The facts tell the story

BLA BLA BLA

A CUTE COUPLE, DON'T YOU THINK?

HERE I AM WITH MY FAMILY.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT HAS BEEN A HUGE TOPIC FOR US RECENTLY.

GRAMPS

DAD

DAUGHTER

NEWEST MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

RUDY

I WAS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL AT FIRST. I DEFINITELY PREFER THINGS TO STAY THE SAME.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

1. WHY IT IS NECESSARY P. 6

2. HOW IT CAN SUCCEED P. 20

3. ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL P. 64

WE CAN MAKE TRANSPORT SUSTAINABLE.

THIS INFOGRAPHIC NOVEL EXPLAINS HOW IT CAN BE DONE.

CHAPTER 1

**WHY
WE NEED
SUSTAINABLE
TRANSPORT**

REASON #1 FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT: TO PROTECT THE PLANET

IT WAS HARD TO IMAGINE THIRTY YEARS AGO! BUT NOW WE HAVE A HEALTHY PLANET AND A PROSPEROUS, EMISSIONS-FREE ECONOMY.

THIS COULD BE THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE, BUT ONLY IF WE MANAGE TO STOP GLOBAL WARMING!

2050

In 2021, climate change continues to gain steam.

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMT OF BEING AN ASTRONAUT! ... BUT OUR PLANET SEEMS SO FRAGILE FROM WAY UP HERE.



TODAY

7% OTHER

8% BUILDINGS

19% INDUSTRY

24% TRANSPORT

42% POWER & HEAT

32 BILLION TONS OF CO₂ ARE RELEASED EACH YEAR GLOBALLY

WORLDWIDE CARBON EMISSIONS BY SECTOR IN 2016

THE EARTH HAS ALREADY WARMED BY 1°C. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, WE ARE HEADED FOR BIG TROUBLE!



COOL IT!

WE HAVE TO TAKE ACTION NOW TO AVOID CAUSING CATASTROPHIC DAMAGE TO THE CLIMATE, TO NATURE, AND TO OURSELVES.

IN 2015 THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD SIGNED THE PARIS AGREEMENT, WHICH CALLS FOR GLOBAL WARMING TO BE KEPT BELOW 2°C, AND, IF POSSIBLE, BELOW 1.5°C. THE WORLD NEEDS TO ACT NOW!

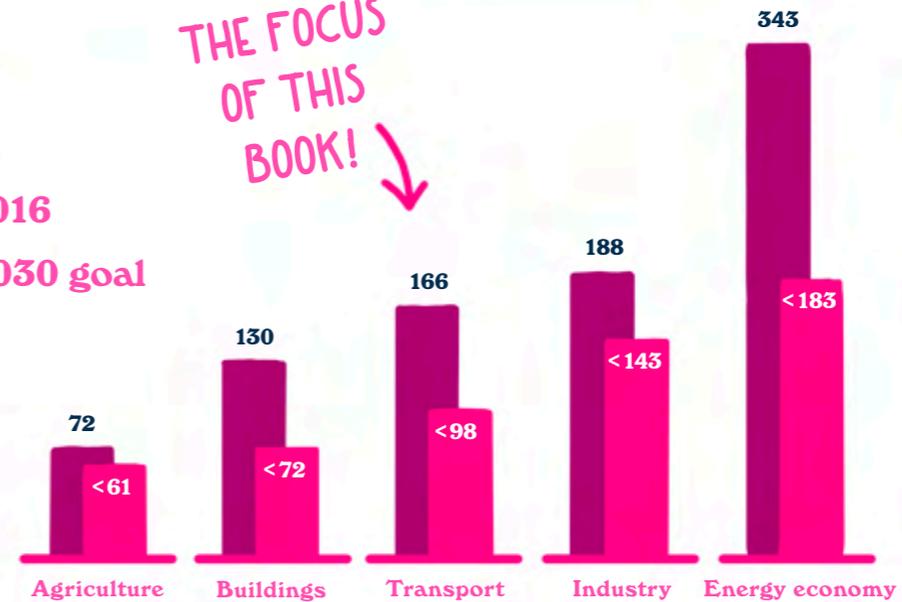


GERMANY HAS ADOPTED AMBITIOUS TARGETS, AND IS SEEKING TO REDUCE EMISSIONS IN ALL AREAS OF THE ECONOMY.

THE FOCUS OF THIS BOOK!

● 2016

● 2030 goal



Which areas of the economy are responsible for emissions? And how much carbon can be released in 2030? (Figures in million tons of CO₂ equivalents*)

*DEFINITIONS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 76.

GERMANY'S GOAL IS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS IN TRANSPORT BY **40-42%** RELATIVE TO 1990. IT WANTS TO REACH THIS TARGET BY 2030.

DAMN! I'M LATE FOR MY MEETING!
I'LL TAKE THE CAR TODAY.
OTHERWISE I WON'T ARRIVE ON TIME.

GRANDPA, DID YOU KNOW
THAT ALMOST 20% OF ALL
EMISSIONS IN GERMANY COME
FROM TRANSPORT? I JUST
HEARD IT ON THE NEWS!

!!!
LAST NIGHT
I DREAMT
AGAIN
I WAS AN
ASTRONAUT...

Experts: Climate
change spinning
out of control.

KIDS ON STRIKE!
THAT NEVER
HAPPENED IN THE
GOOD OLD DAYS!

Experts: Clim
change

NO THANKS,
DAD

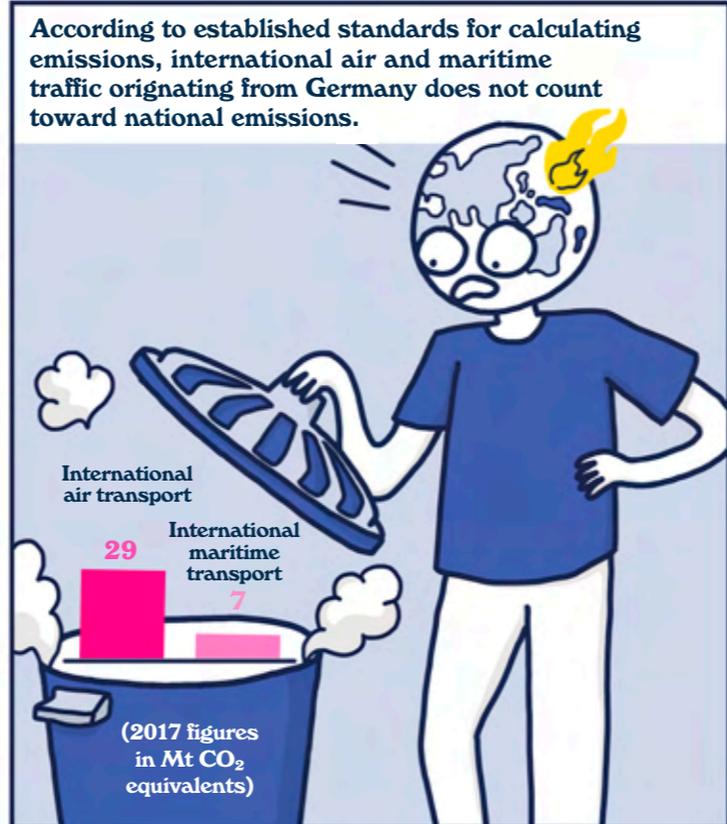
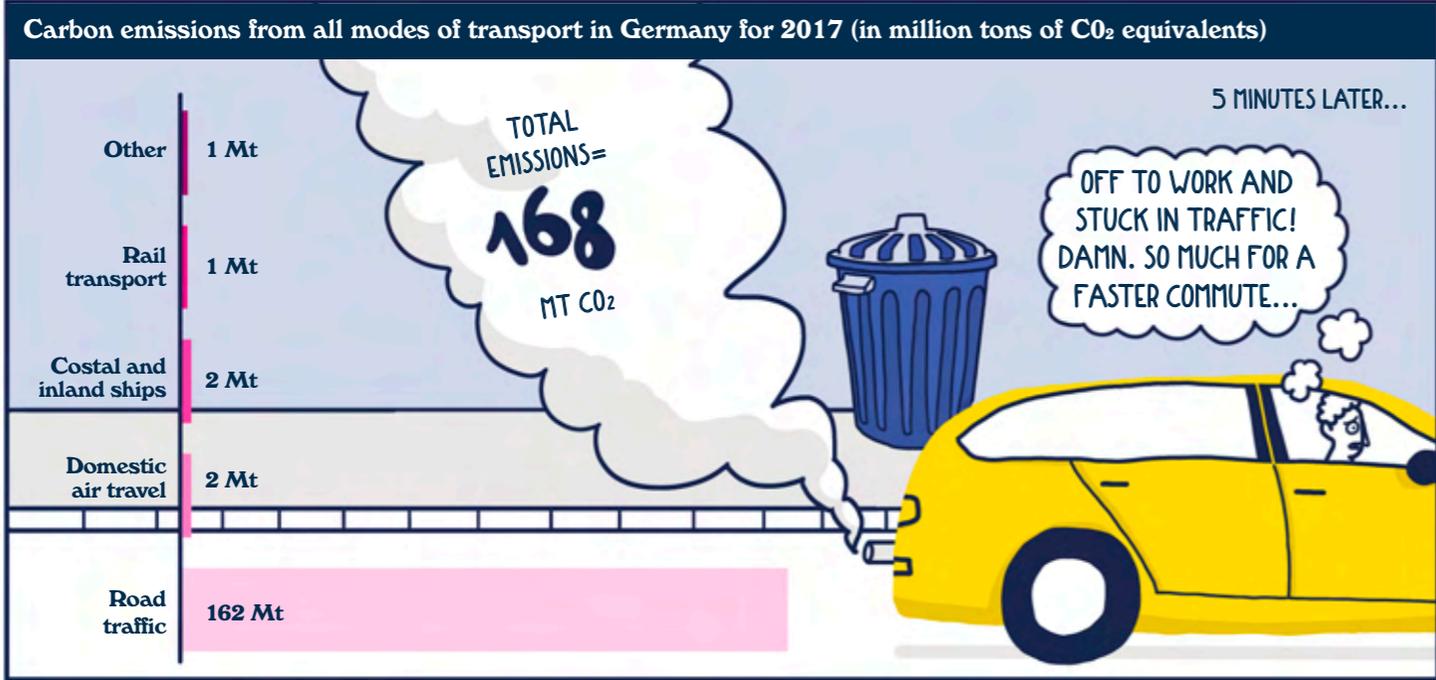
I'D RATHER RIDE MY
BIKE - IT'S MUCH
HEALTHIER!

ANYWAY, SCHOOL
IS CLOSED FOR A
CLIMATE STRIKE!

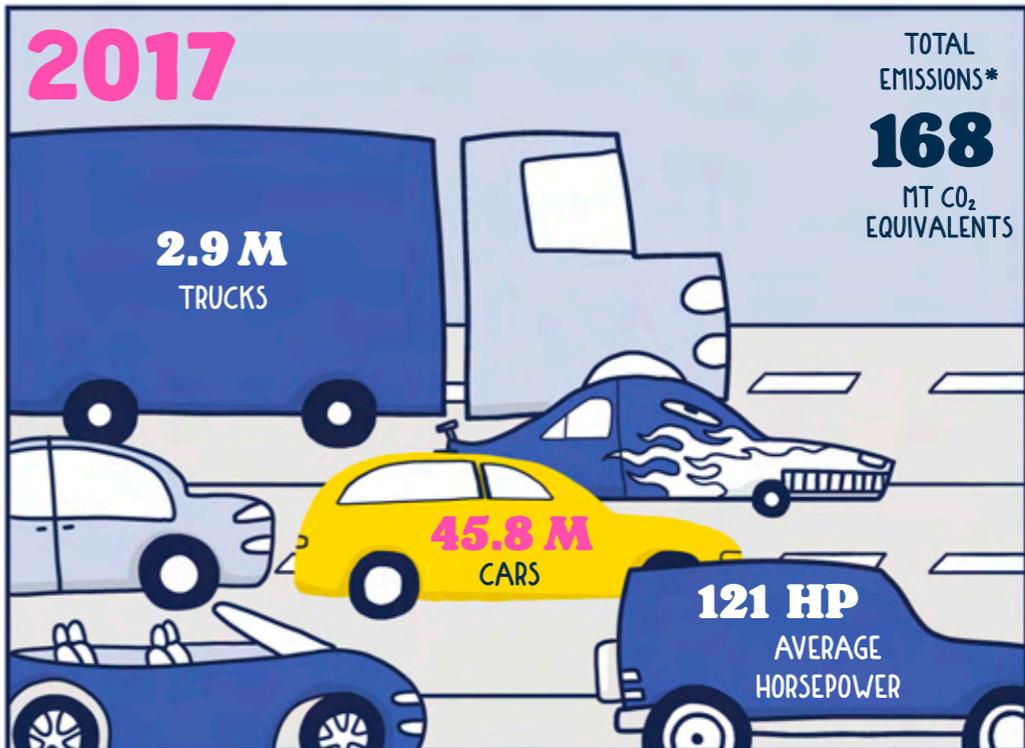
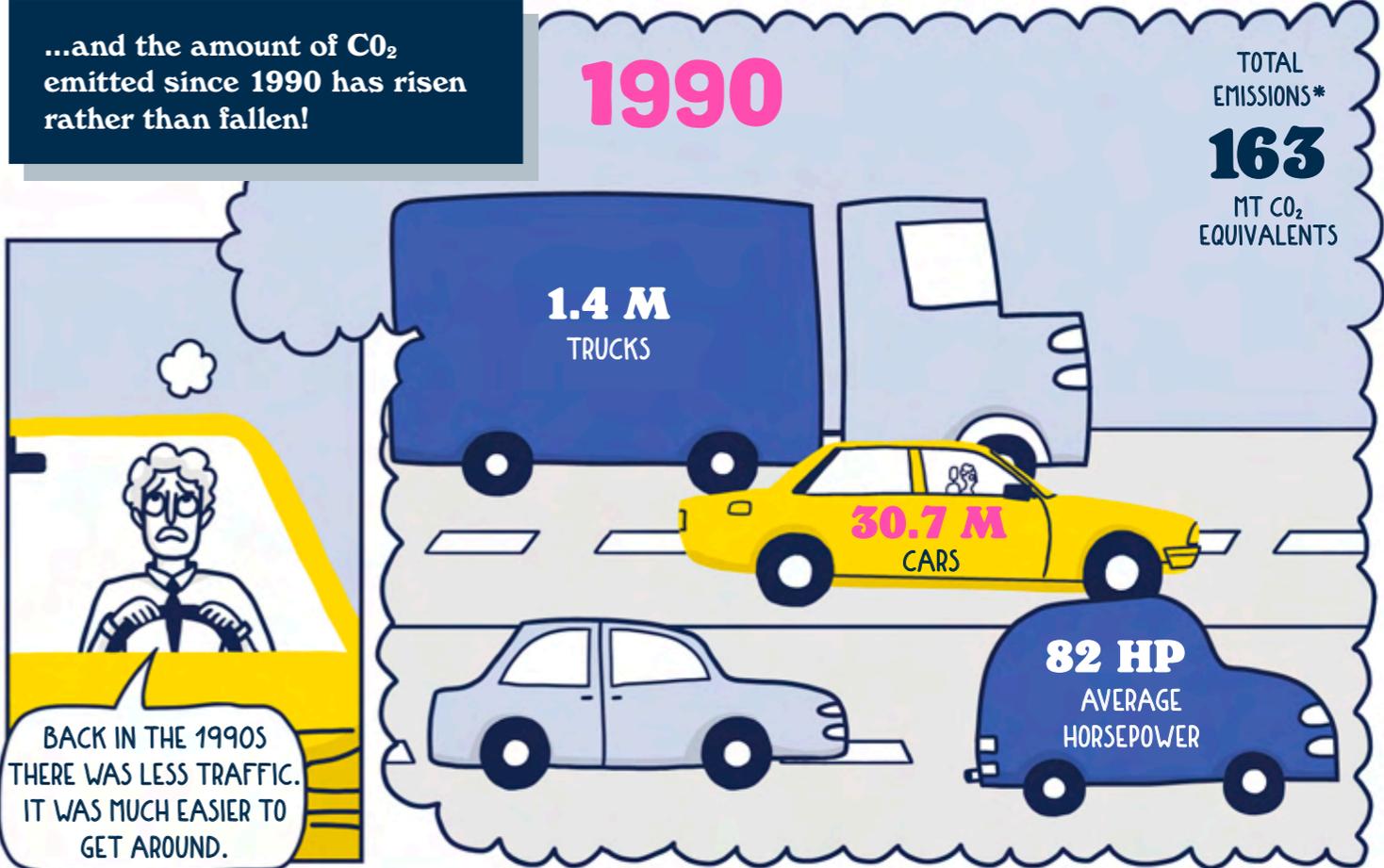
GOOD OLD
DAYS?
OK BOOMER...

IN THE
GOOD OLD
DAYS THE
SITUATION
WASN'T AS
SERIOUS.

Cars and trucks cause more emissions than all other modes of transport combined...



...and the amount of CO₂ emitted since 1990 has risen rather than fallen!



One thing is clear: Making road transportation climate neutral by 2050 will require radical change.



*TOTAL ROAD TRANSPORT EMISSIONS IN GERMANY

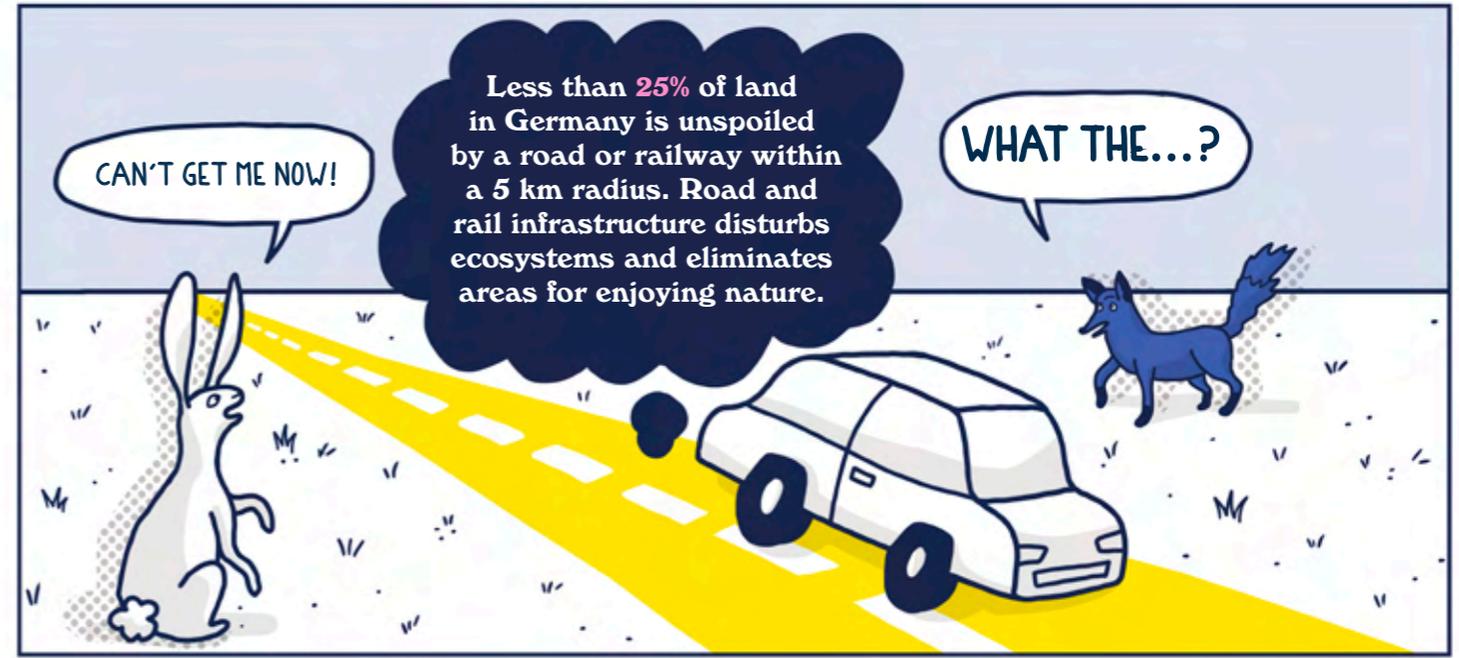
REASON #2 FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT: TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE



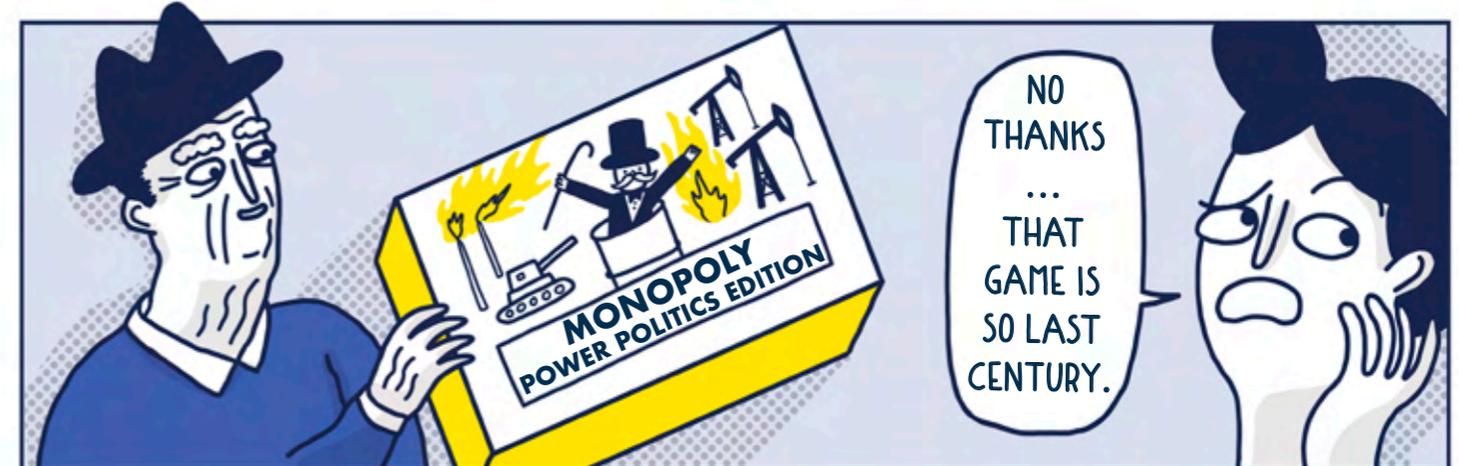
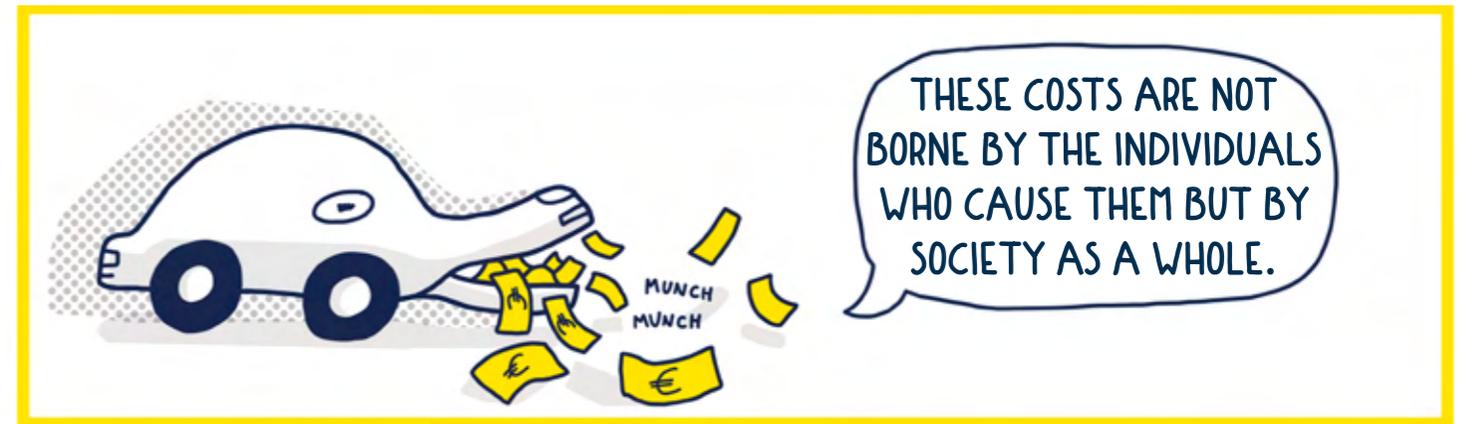
Nearly **5 million** Germans regularly lose sleep because of traffic noise.



Tailpipes release nitrous dioxide, a harmful compound that causes respiratory problems. **61%** of dangerous emissions in German cities are caused by road traffic.



The external costs of road traffic to the environment and human health are estimated at **52 billion**.



Conventional vehicles are almost totally dependent on petroleum, which has to be imported from abroad.



Traffic injuries in 2018:
399,293
(including 3,275 fatalities)

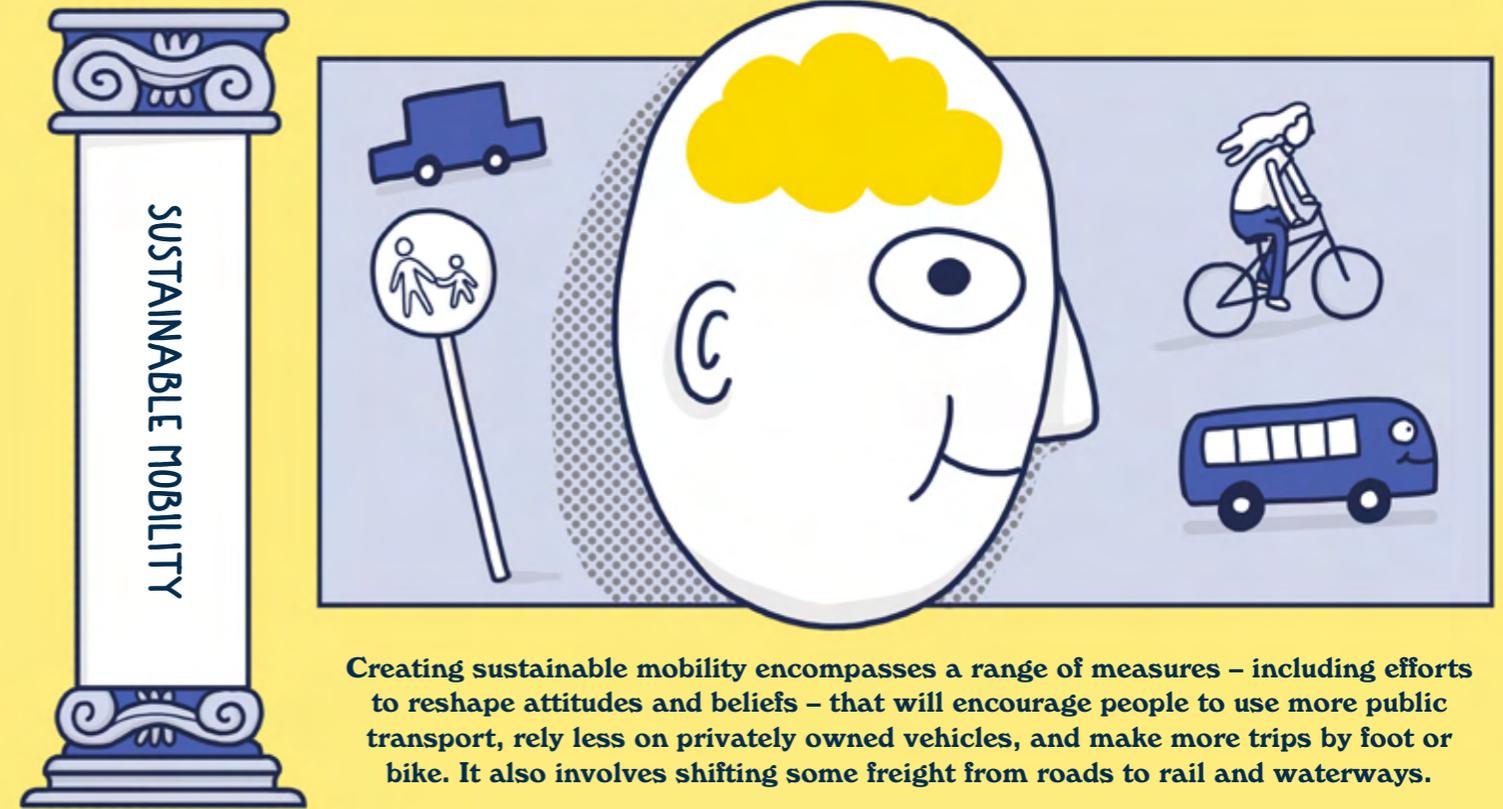
HOW IT CAN SUCCEED

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

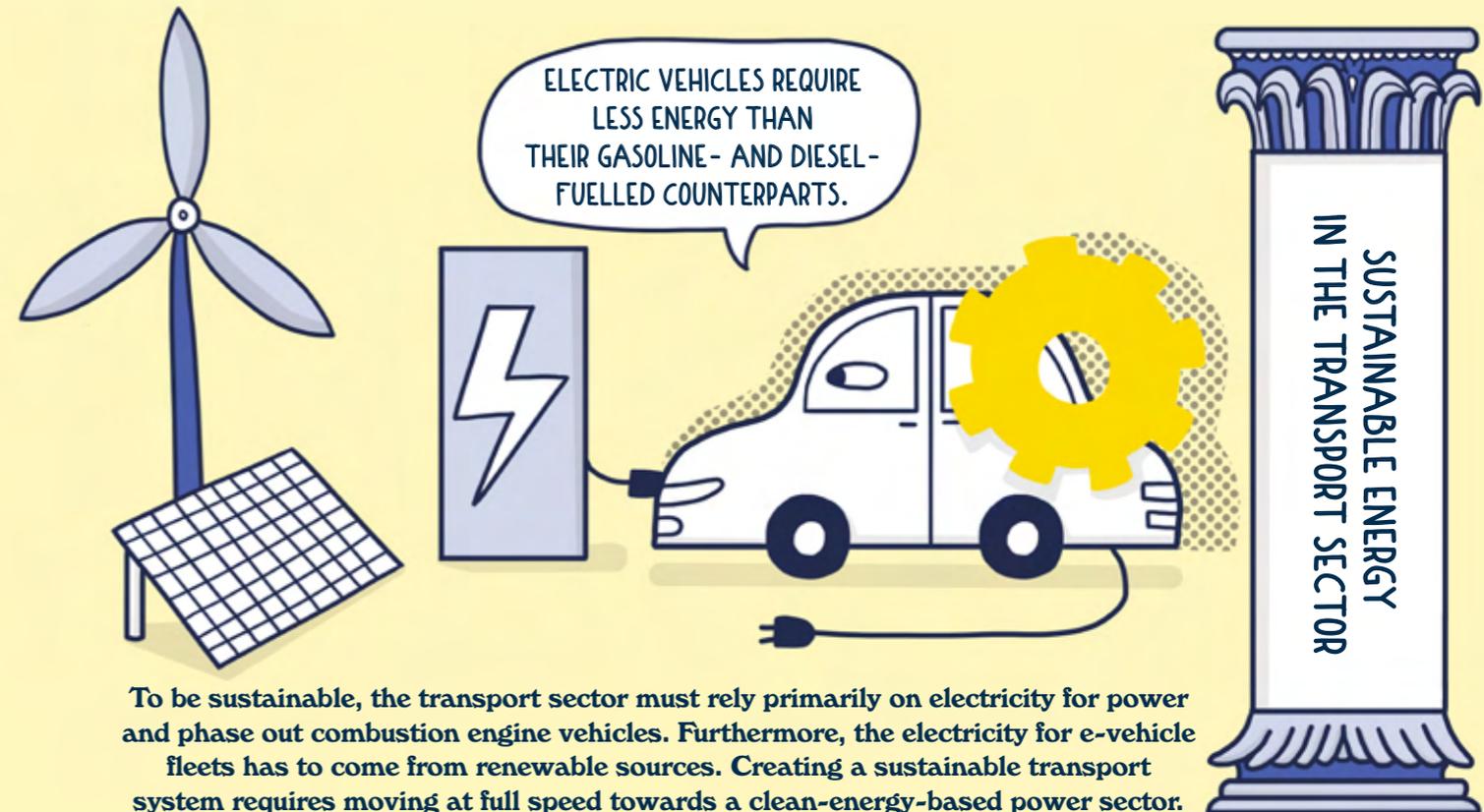
Carbon-neutral transport by 2050



Through collective efforts that seek to improve efficiency, we can make transport sustainable.



Creating sustainable mobility encompasses a range of measures – including efforts to reshape attitudes and beliefs – that will encourage people to use more public transport, rely less on privately owned vehicles, and make more trips by foot or bike. It also involves shifting some freight from roads to rail and waterways.



To be sustainable, the transport sector must rely primarily on electricity for power and phase out combustion engine vehicles. Furthermore, the electricity for e-vehicle fleets has to come from renewable sources. Creating a sustainable transport system requires moving at full speed towards a clean-energy-based power sector.

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Sustainable transport rests on two pillars.
This section is about the first.

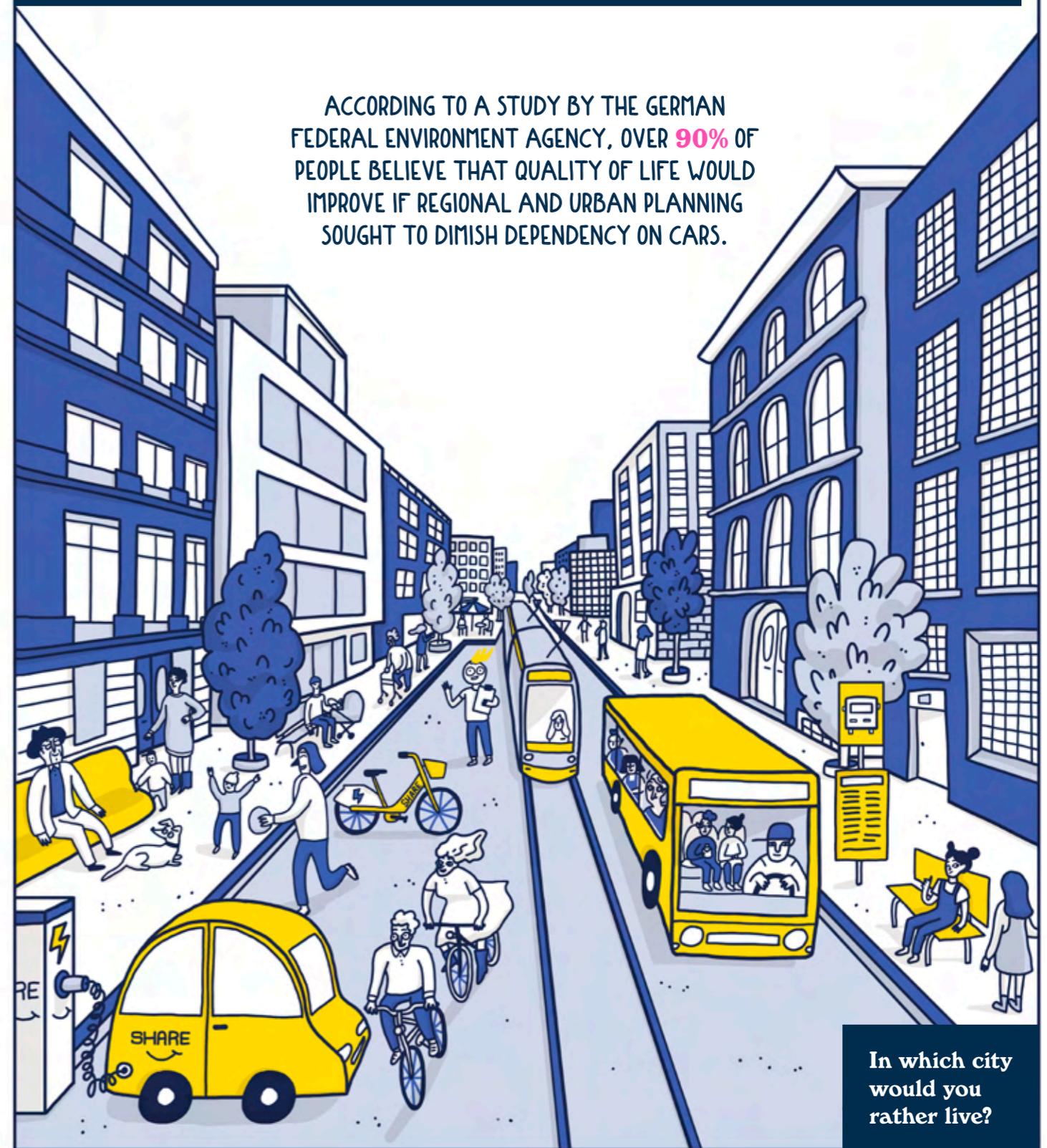


THE TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY WILL BEGIN IN CITIES.



AND NEW WAYS OF THINKING ARE A CRUCIAL FIRST STEP.

ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY THE GERMAN FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, OVER **90%** OF PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT QUALITY OF LIFE WOULD IMPROVE IF REGIONAL AND URBAN PLANNING SOUGHT TO DIMISH DEPENDENCY ON CARS.



In which city would you rather live?

In the postwar era, everyone loved the idea of car-centric cities.



HOW I MISS THOSE POST-WAR BOOM YEARS...

THE CAR AS ROOMMATE

IMAGINE URBAN TRANSPORT IS A SHARED FLAT. WOULD YOU LIVE WITH SOMEONE WHO TAKES UP AS MUCH SPACE AS CARS DO IN CITIES?

12%
OF JOURNEYS ARE TRAVELLED WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORT

50%
WITH A CAR

14%
WITH A BICYCLE

AND BY FOOT
24%

Modal share* of journeys made in Germany with over 100,000 inhabitants

*TERMS ARE DEFINED ON PAGE 76

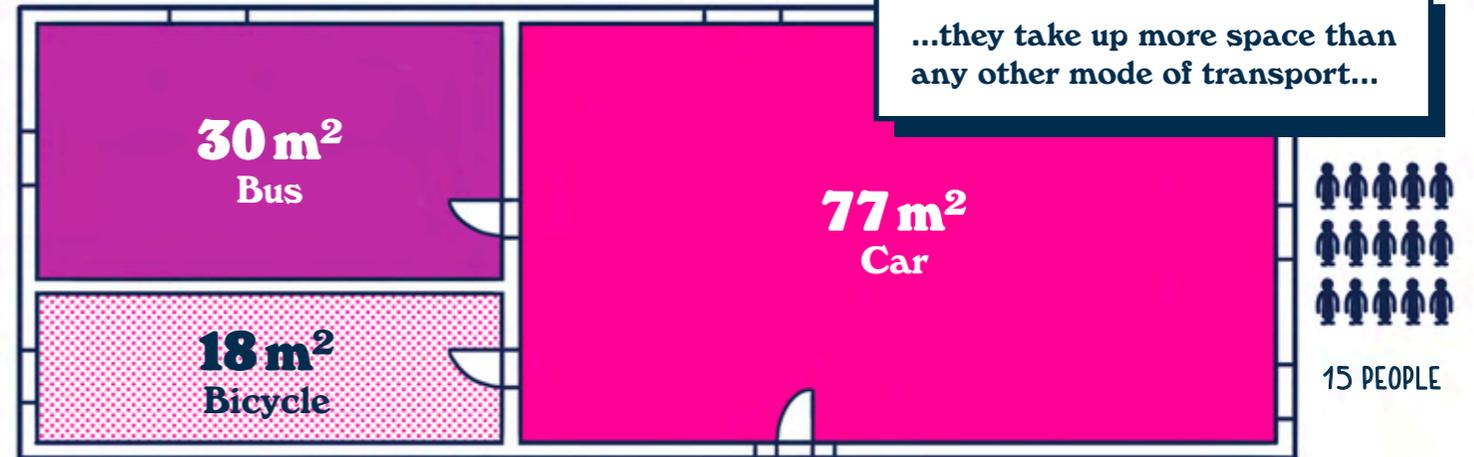
Many cities are reaching the breaking point...



...because cars foul the air and ruin the climate...

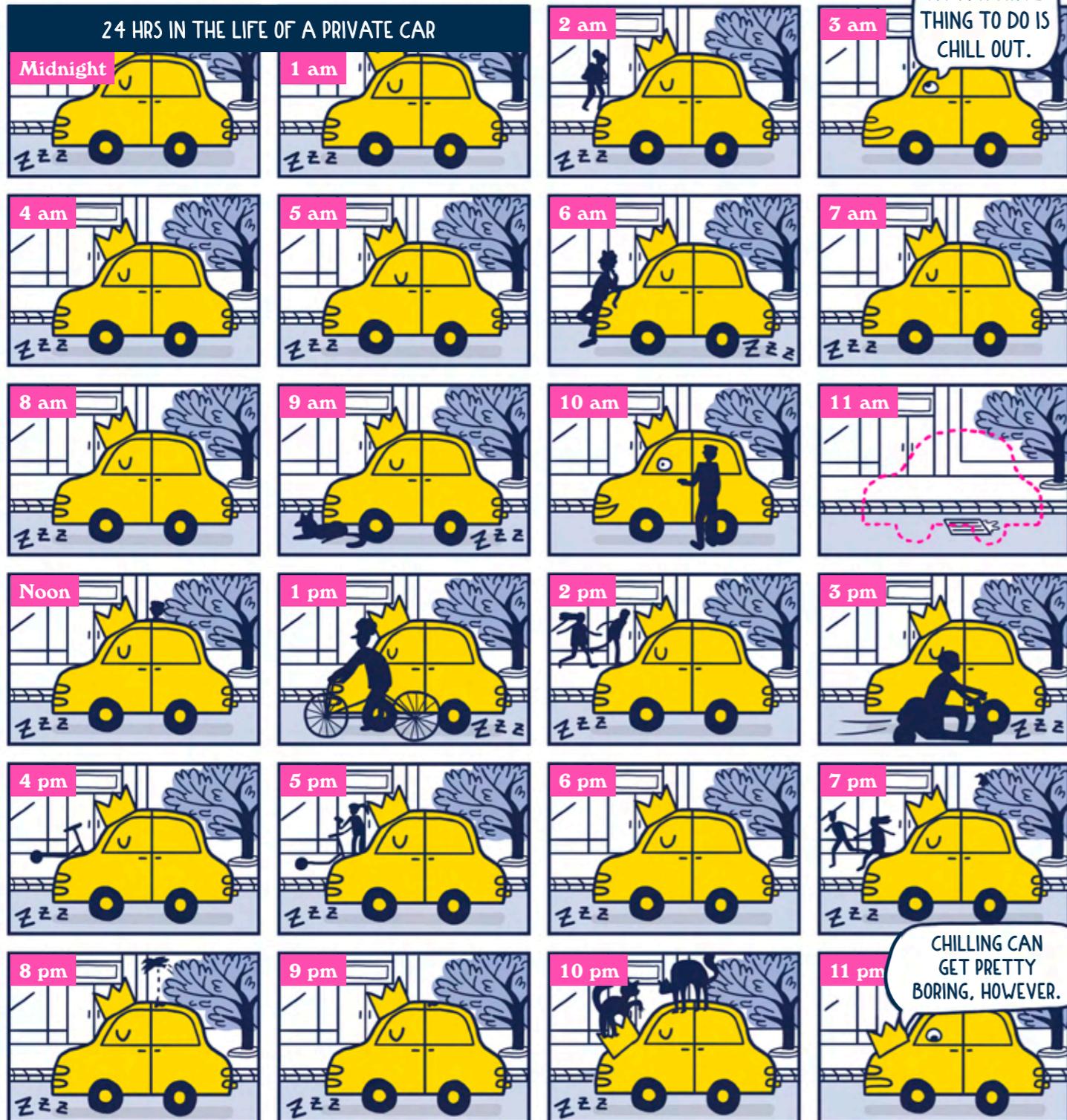


...they take up more space than any other mode of transport...



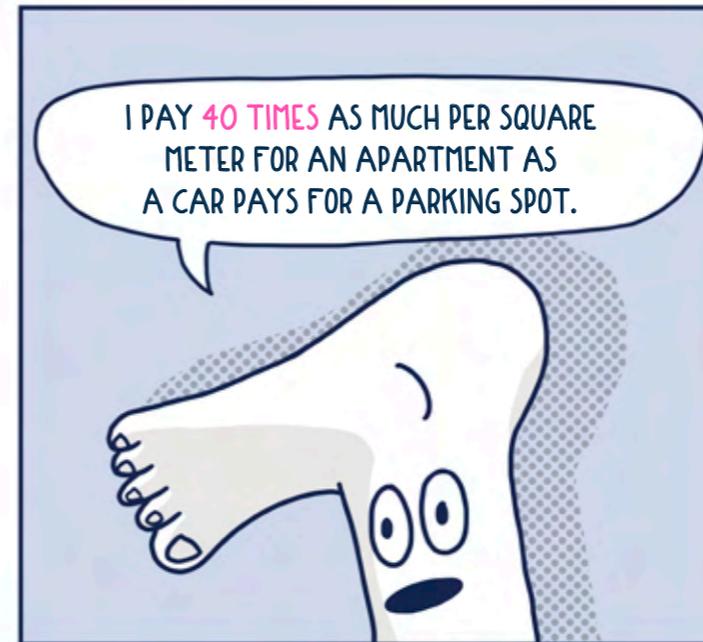
Street space required for the transportation of 15 people using various means of transport (based on the shared apartment analogy).

...cars take up a lot of space even when they are not being used...

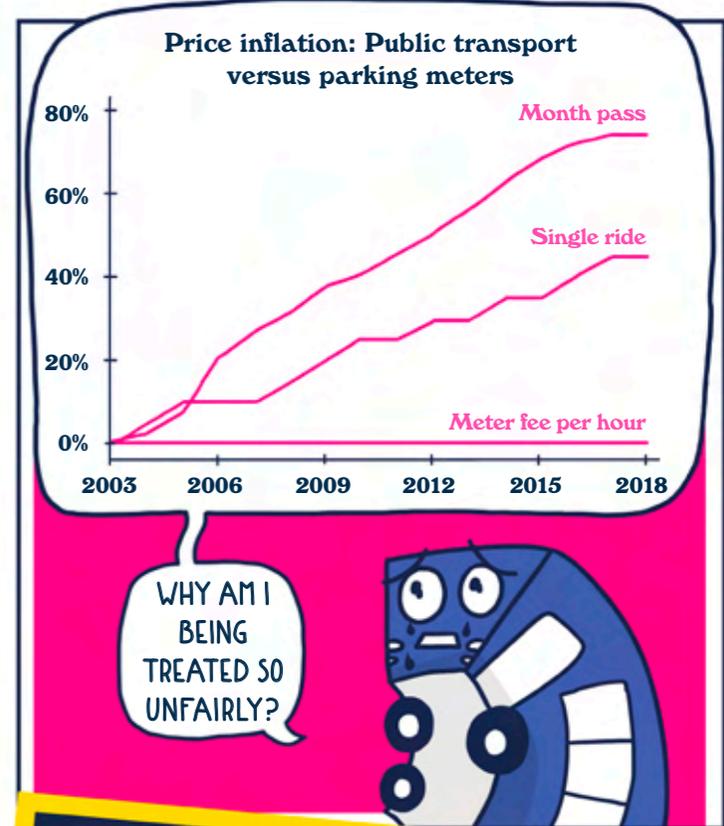


On average, private vehicles are used just 1 hour a day.

...the car pays significantly less than other users of urban space...



...and...



Alternatives already exist ...



Many people have difficulty changing their daily routines. This is where policy-makers can help.

Policymakers need to create incentives to make sustainable mobility a reality.

PUSH

"Push measures" should be enacted that make car ownership less appealing.



REDUCE SPEED LIMITS

CREATE MORE ULTRA LOW EMISSIONS ZONES

HIGHER FEES

STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIONS

REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PARKING SPOTS

REALLOCATE ROAD SPACE TO OTHER PUBLIC USES

TAX TRANSPORT THAT HARMS THE CLIMATE

PULL

"Pull measures" are designed to make other forms of transport more attractive.



PROMOTE ECOMOBILITY

IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

ENCOURAGE SHARING AND POOLING SOLUTIONS

EXPAND BIKE PATHS AND MAKE THEM SAFER

INTERLINK DIFFERENT MODES OF TRANSPORT

CREATE PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY AREAS

CITIES

WE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING THAT IS NECESSARY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL!

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO HELP.

IF WE ONLY HAD ACCESS TO THE RIGHT TOOLS!

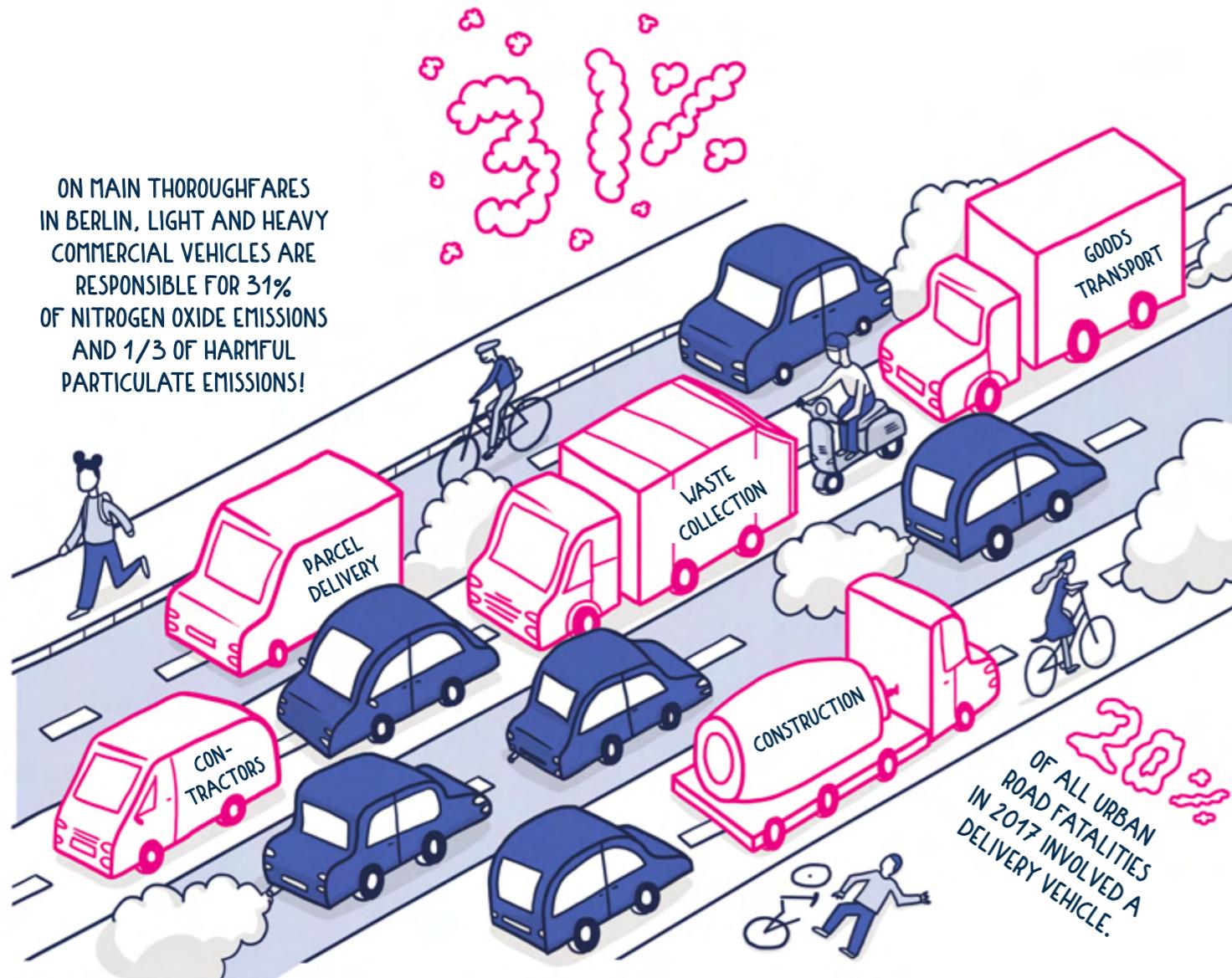
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

GOODS TRANSPORT IN CITIES

ANOTHER IMPORTANT BUILDING BLOCK OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Our roads are becoming ever more congested with people and goods. The delivery of goods is essential for daily life, supplying us with food and other necessary items. However, delivery vehicles compete with cars, buses, and cyclists for scarce road space. Cities will face numerous challenges in this sector in the coming decades.

ON MAIN THOROUGHFARES IN BERLIN, LIGHT AND HEAVY COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 31% OF NITROGEN OXIDE EMISSIONS AND 1/3 OF HARMFUL PARTICULATE EMISSIONS!



Despite the problems, we rely on deliveries more than ever before, as the following figures show:



Number of daily deliveries (trips) and shipments (dispatched goods) per business (in Wuppertal, Germany)

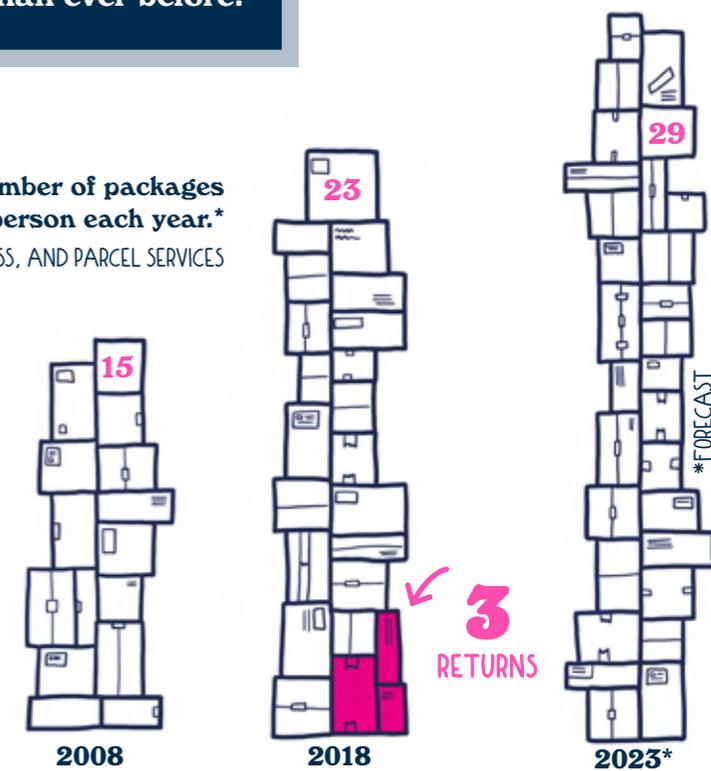


Households are also ordering more online than ever before.

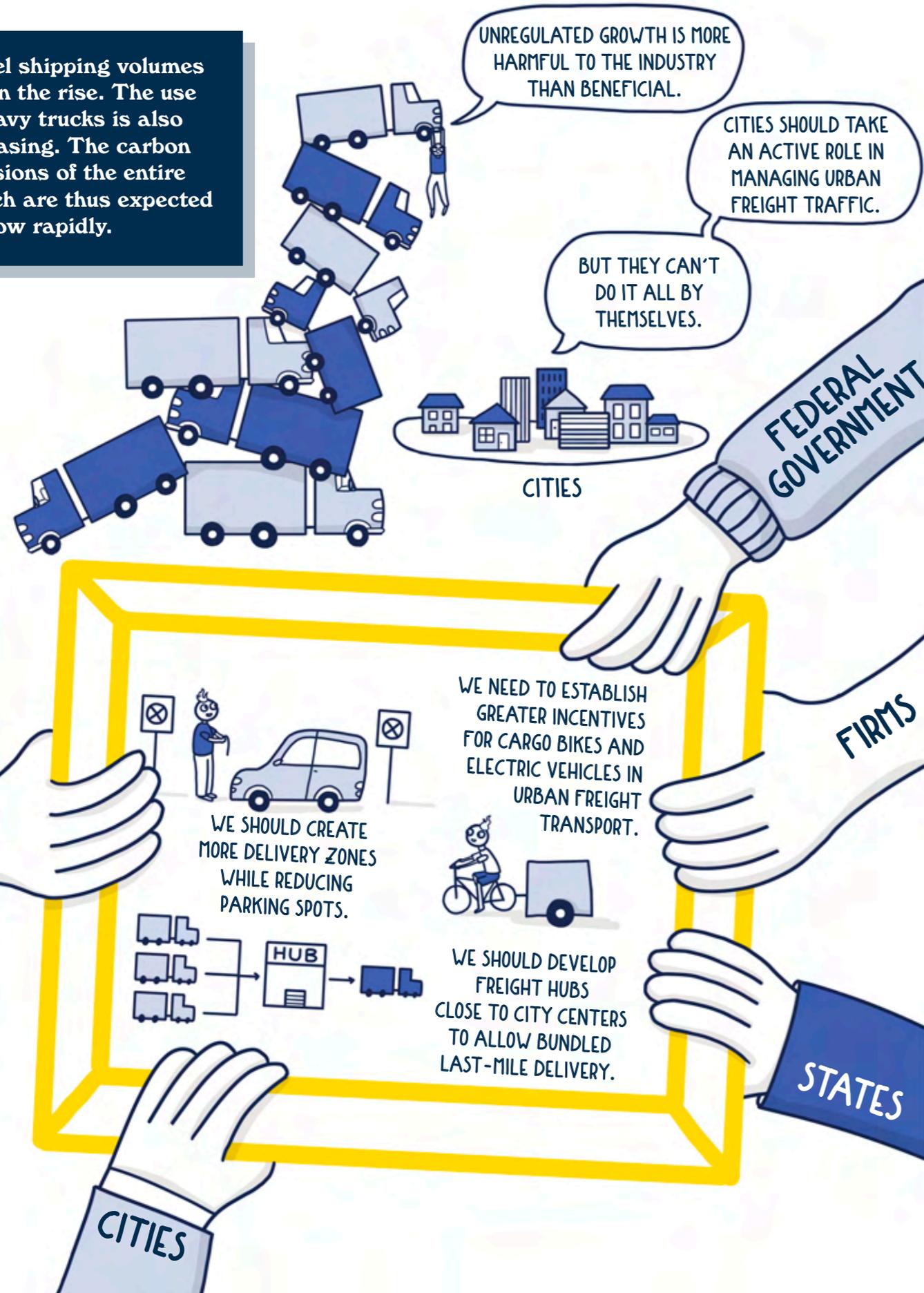
I MAKE 42 STOPS A DAY. THAT MEANS I HAVE TO FIND LEGAL PARKING SPOTS 42 TIMES. THERE ARE HARDLY ANY DELIVERY ZONES - AND I ONLY HAVE 6 MINUTES PER STOP!

I HOPE SOME OF THOSE PACKAGES CONTAIN SAUSAGES...

Average number of packages received per person each year.*
*COURIER, EXPRESS, AND PARCEL SERVICES



Parcel shipping volumes are on the rise. The use of heavy trucks is also increasing. The carbon emissions of the entire branch are thus expected to grow rapidly.



AUTOMATED SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY?

Self-driving cars could revolutionize transportation.

I'VE SEEN A FEW THINGS IN MY DAY...

THANK GOD IT'S A CONVERTIBLE.

CHEERS!

I JUST ORDERED IT BY APP.

AUTOMATION + DIGITALIZATION

IT DRIVES ALL BY ITSELF!

THESE SELF-DRIVING CARS CAN ALREADY DRIVE BETTER THAN ME!

NICO ROSBERG, FORMULA 1 RACER

THAT'S WELL AND GOOD FOR NICO ROSBERG ... BUT ARE SELF-DRIVING CARS ALSO GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT?

Self-driving cars could create heaven on earth...



...if they are integrated into public transport, particularly for the first and last mile...



...and if they are shared for the transportation of numerous passengers...

...then we could reduce the size of the vehicle fleet by 97% without limiting personal mobility. This would free up the massive amounts of space currently used to park vehicles while also slashing energy consumption and emissions.

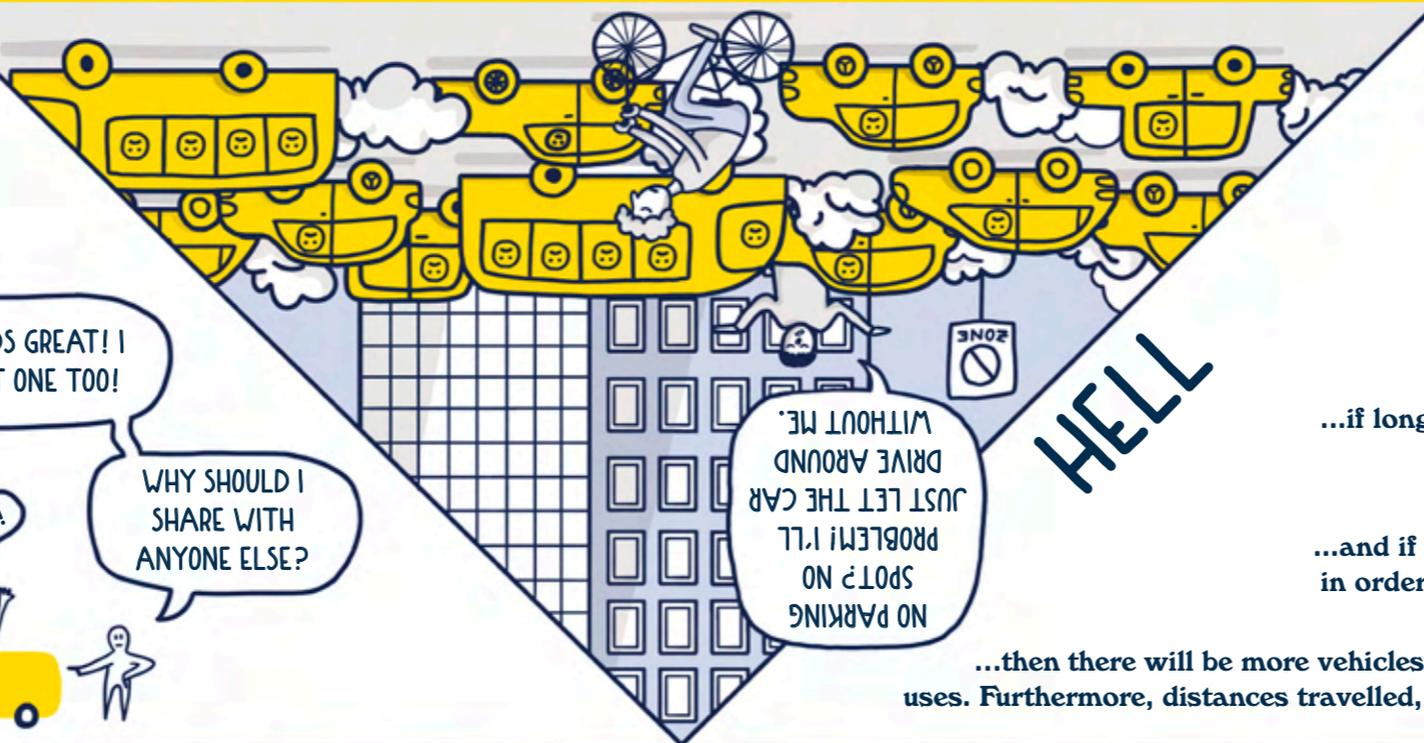


WOULD YOU PREFER TO GO TO HEAVEN OR HELL?



SOUNDS GREAT! I WANT ONE TOO!

WHY SHOULD I SHARE WITH ANYONE ELSE?



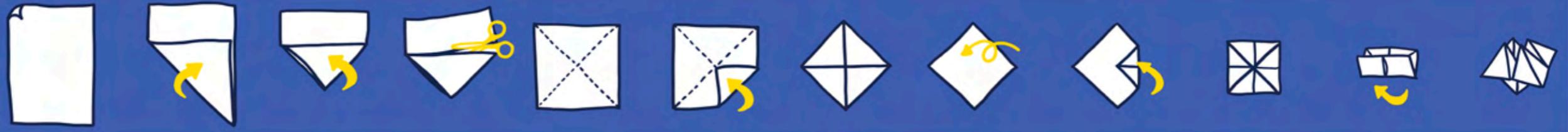
...or they could unleash infernal forces...

...if everyone wants to own their own car...

...if long-distance trips become more frequent because people can read or sleep while travelling...

...and if we let self-driving vehicles drive on their own, in order to avoid paying for expensive parking spots...

...then there will be more vehicles on the road and less public space for non-vehicle related uses. Furthermore, distances travelled, energy consumption, and emissions will continue to rise.



IN RURAL AREAS

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY LOOKS DIFFERENT

Nearly one quarter of Germans live in rural areas.



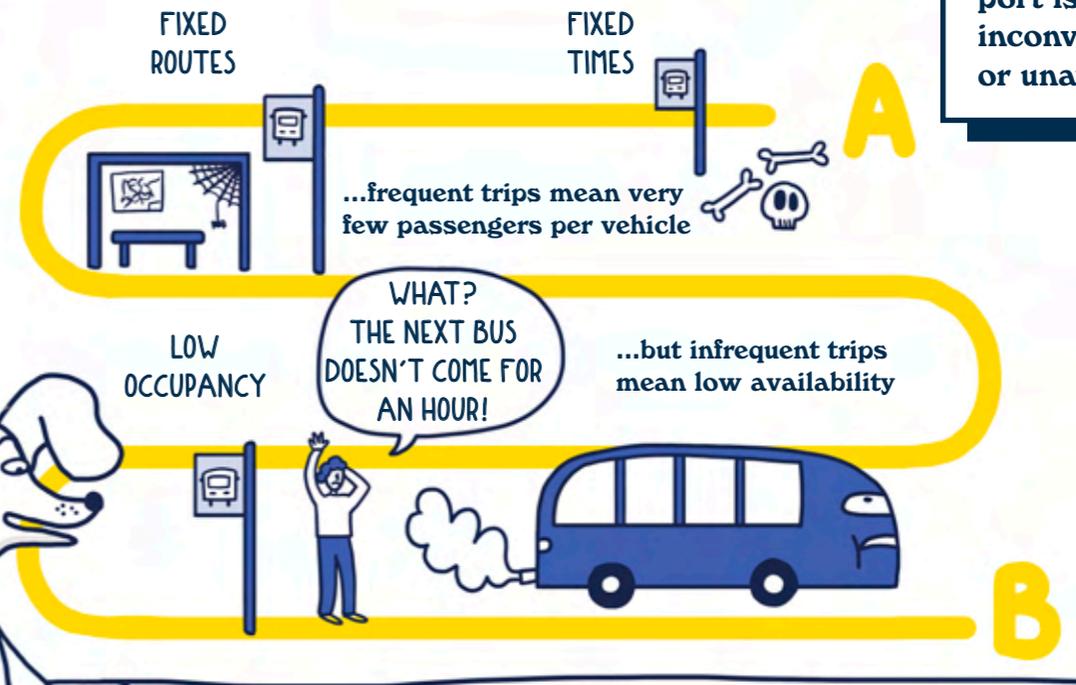
THE TRAIN IS PACKED AGAIN...

OH NO... I'M GOING TO BE LATE AGAIN.

DAILY COMMUTERS IN STUTT GART
250,000

People living in rural areas are much more dependent on cars than city dwellers...

...because public transport is often inconvenient or unavailable.



As a result, the share of trips taken with a car is twenty percentage points higher in rural areas.

BUT COMMUTING INTO THE CITY EVERY DAY IS A DRAG!

THE COUNTRYSIDE IS SO IDYLIC!

Car **70%**

OH GREAT, NOW WE'RE STUCK IN A TRAFFIC JAM. MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN THE TRAIN?

JUST TO GET TO THE TRAIN STATION, YOU HAVE TO TAKE A BUS TO THE NEXT VILLAGE.

Bike **7%**

THAT'S HORRIBLE!

Public transport **5%**

... AND THEN WALK 10 MIN FROM THE BUS STOP...

Walking **17%**

THE BEST OPTION IS TO GO BY CAR.

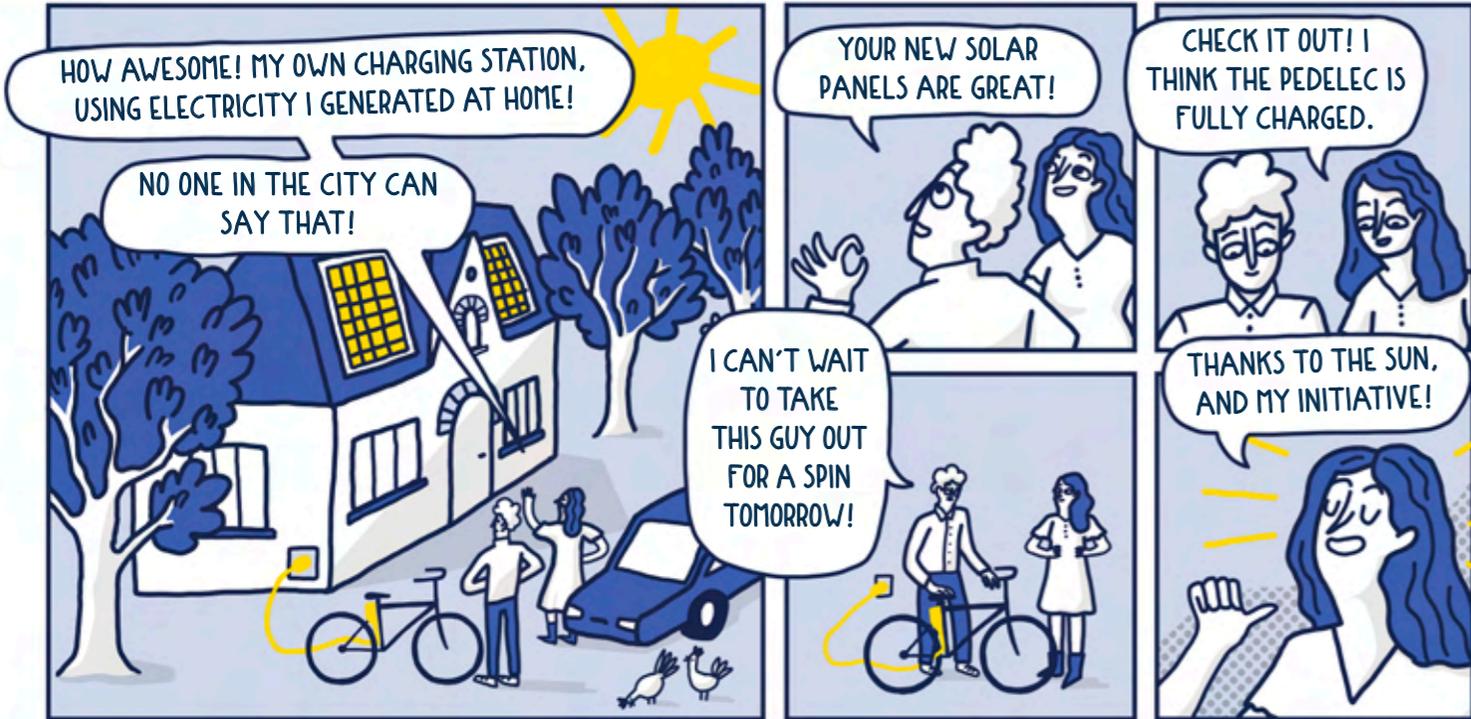
THAT'S THE COST OF DATING A COUNTRY BUMPKIN!

Modal share in villages and small towns in Germany (2017)

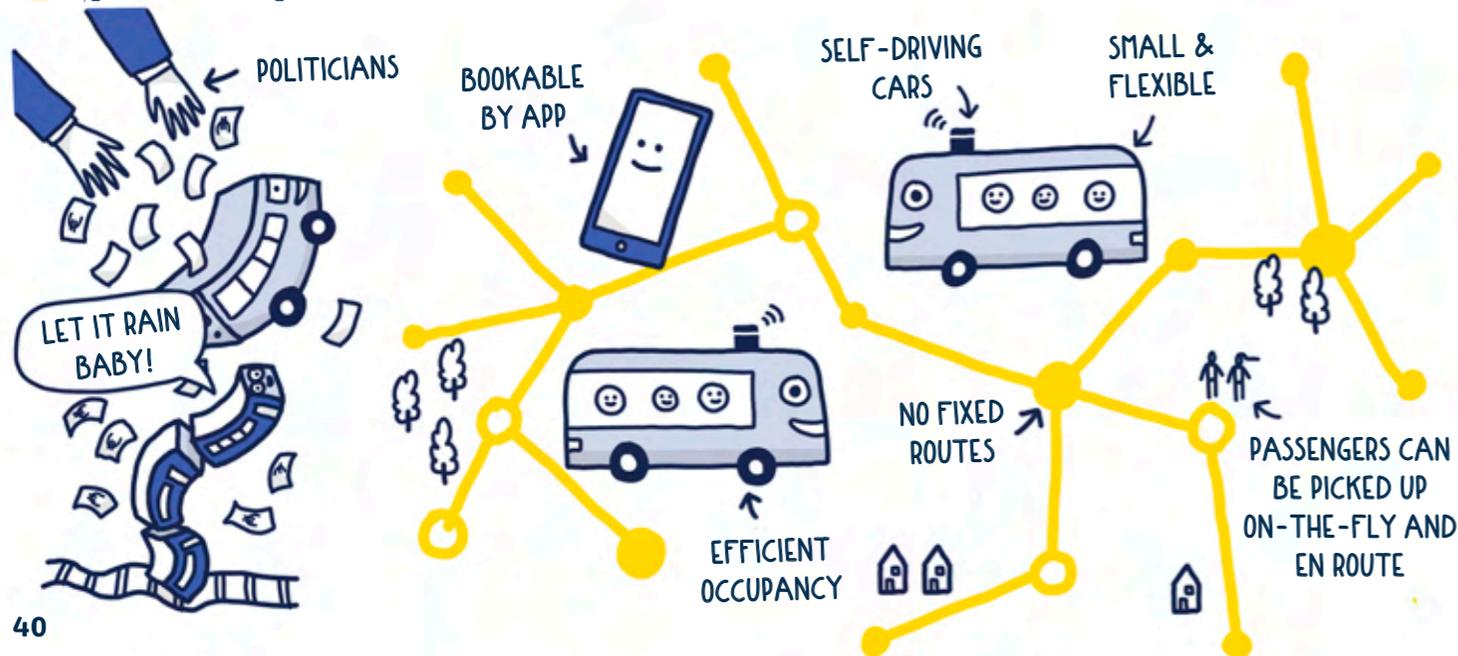


BUT how should people in rural areas get from point A to point B in the future?

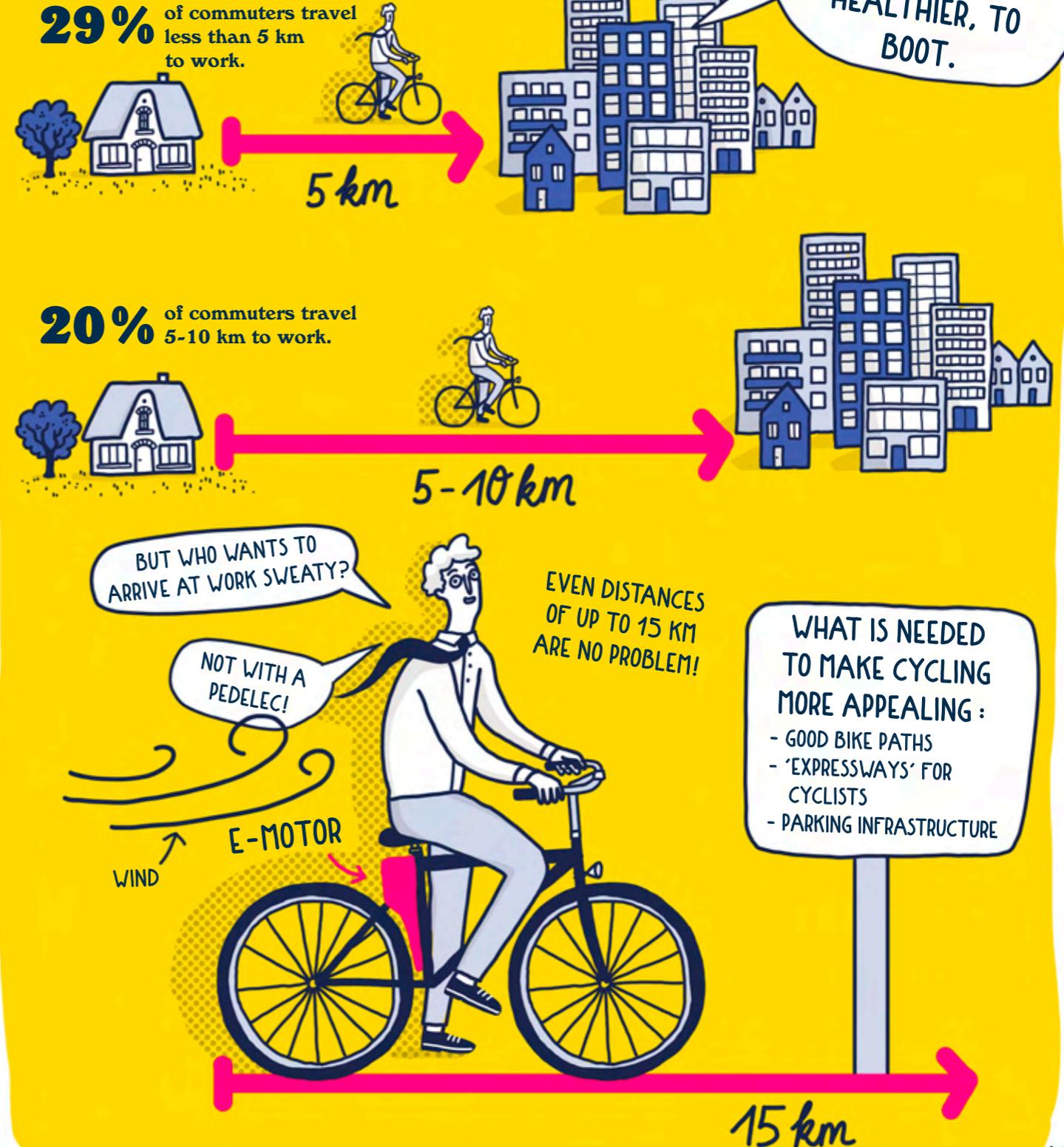
1. Private cars will remain important for the foreseeable future. What matters is that they are electric.



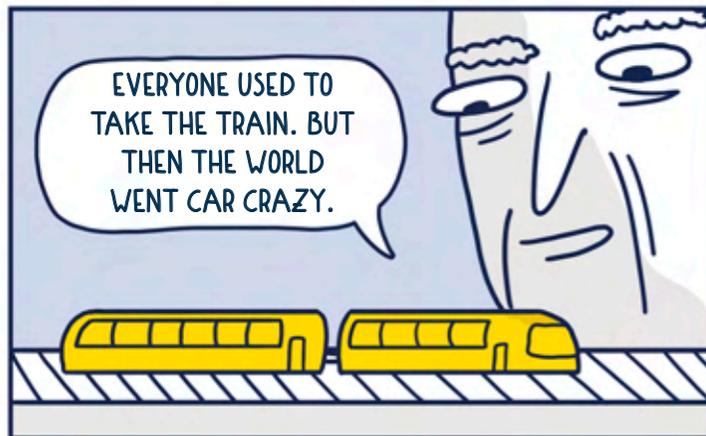
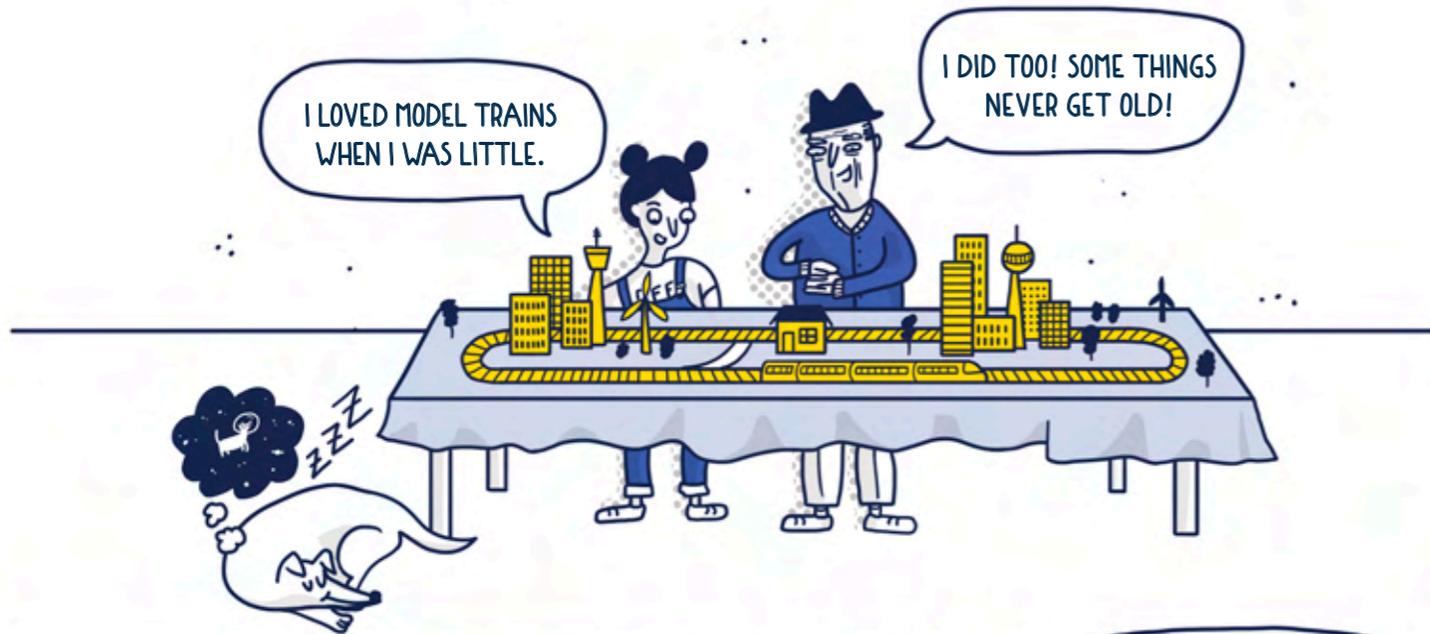
2. With ambitious investment and new mobility services, public transport in rural areas can be made more convenient.



3. Encouraging a shift to different modes of transport is possible in rural areas as well as in the city.



FROM ROAD TO RAIL



Rail transport is climate friendly...



Comparison of greenhouse gas emissions between road and rail (in gram CO₂ equivalents per passenger or ton kilometer, 2017)



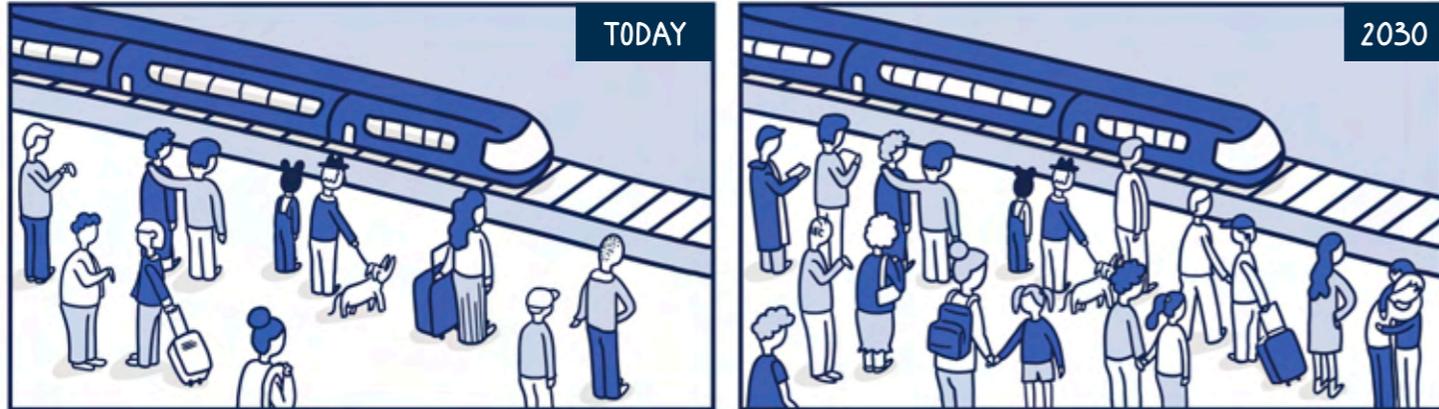
Comparison of energy consumption between road and rail (in megajoules* per passenger or ton kilometer*, 2017)



Energy sources in rail transport (2017)

*SEE DEFINITIONS ON PAGE 76

Since rail travel is very climate friendly, the government aims to double the number of train passengers in Germany by 2030.



BUT HOW?

An innovative timetable system and better coordination between regional trains can dramatically improve the efficiency of the rail network. Travellers will be able to get anywhere they want with greater ease. This will require the expansion of the rail network and the construction of new stations.



AN APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT

REFORM THE RAILWAY TOLL SYSTEM
 Rail tolls are ultimately paid by passengers in the form of higher ticket prices. Rail travel would be more competitive if public subsidies were available for rail network operators.

OPTIMIZE THE RAIL NETWORK
 Policymakers must enshrine rail network optimization into law with guaranteed funding..

CREATE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD
 If each form of transport was required to bear its own environmental and climate costs, rail would be much more price competitive than other options.

THE RAILMAP 2030 FROM AGORA VERKEHRSWENDE SHOWS HOW THIS CAN BE DONE.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN THE TRANSPORT SECTOR

Sustainable transport rests on two pillars.
This section is about the second.



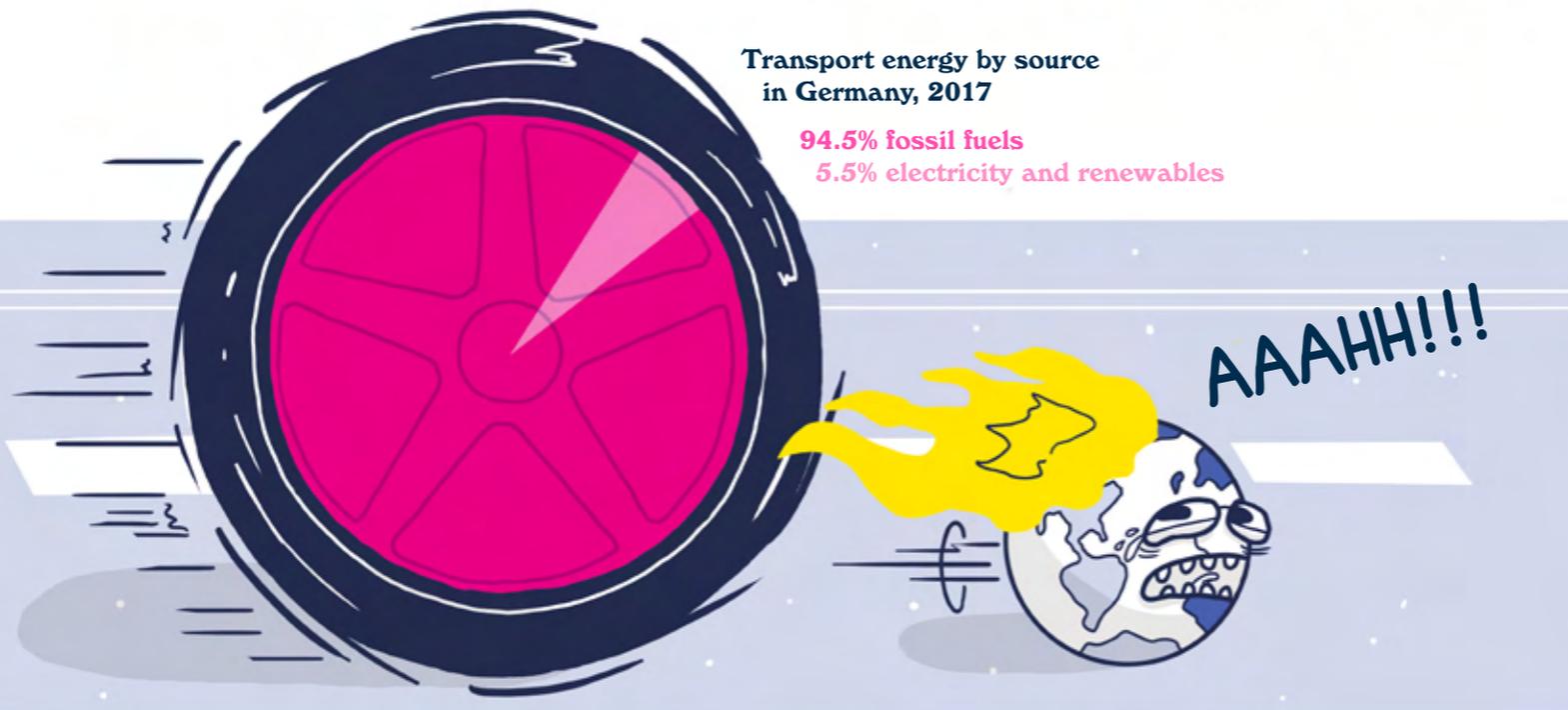
WE NEED ALTERNATIVES TO GASOLINE AND DIESEL

Even if we change the way we travel and use more bicycles and trains, we won't be able to do away with cars and trucks entirely. To ensure that the transport sector is environmentally sustainable, we need to power it with renewable energy and create more efficient vehicles.

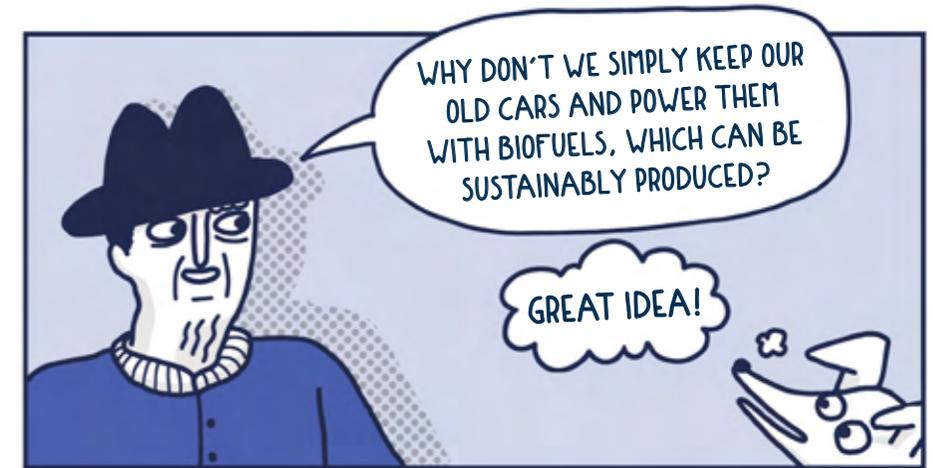


Transport energy by source in Germany, 2017

94.5% fossil fuels
5.5% electricity and renewables



BIOFUELS ARE NOT THE ANSWER

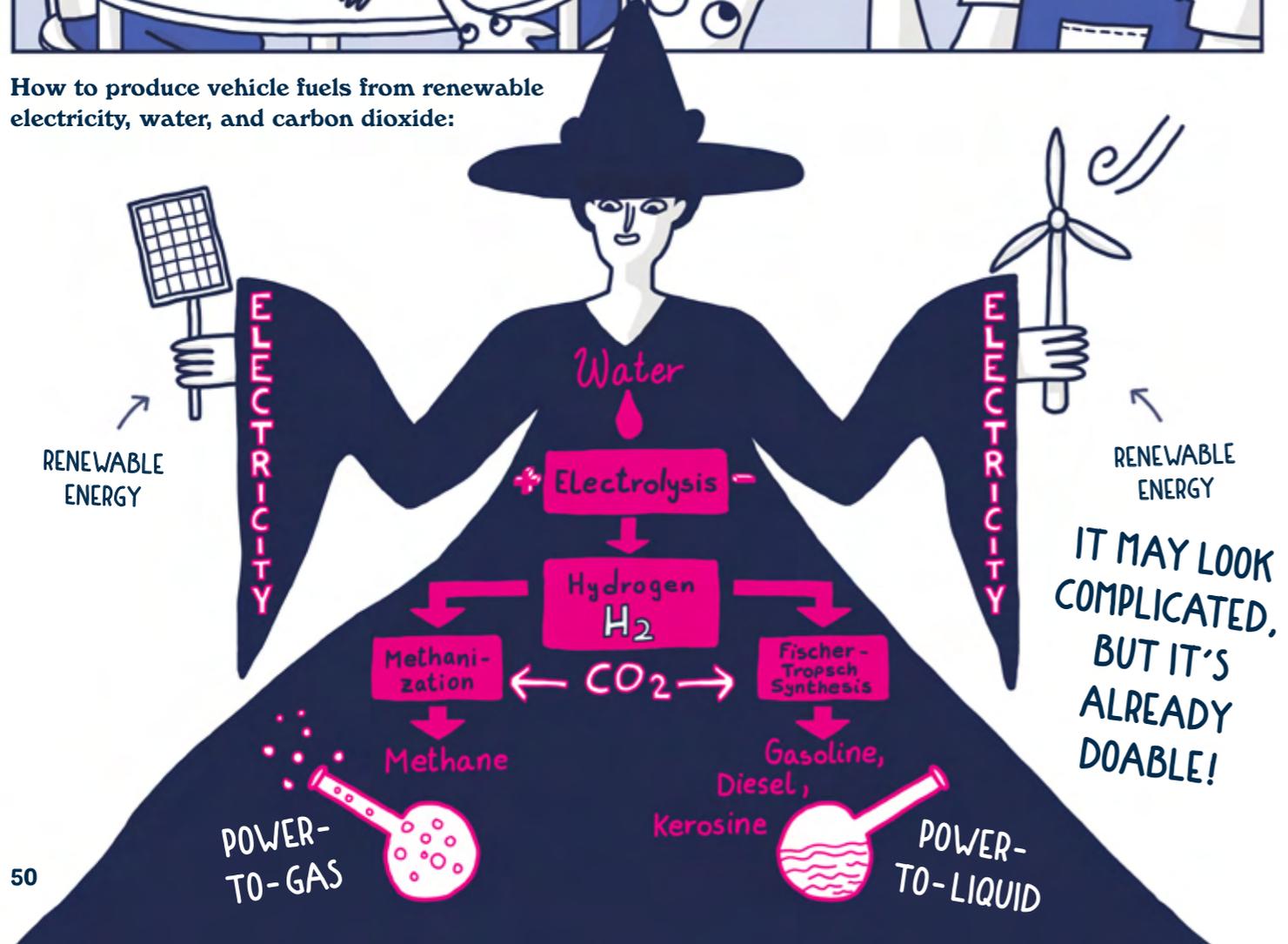


SYNFUELS

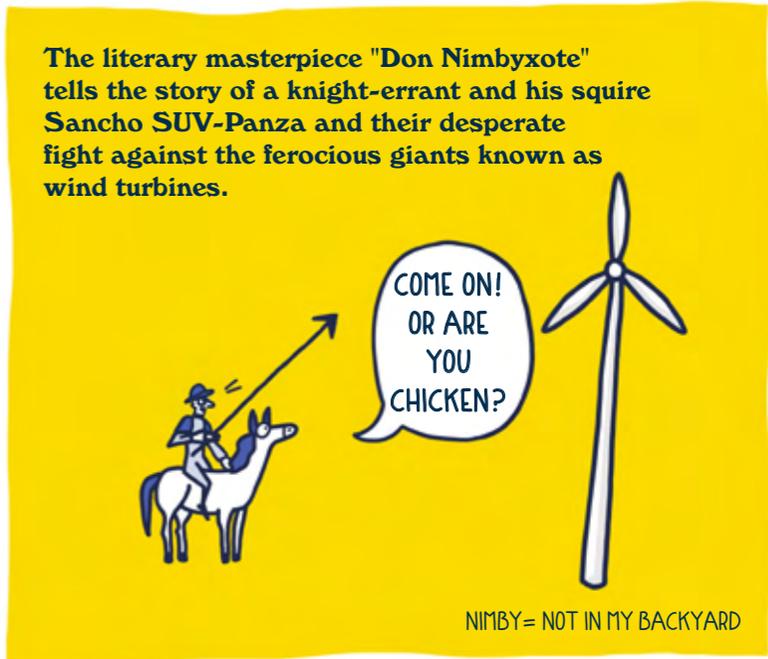
INEFFICIENT AND TOO EXPENSIVE



How to produce vehicle fuels from renewable electricity, water, and carbon dioxide:

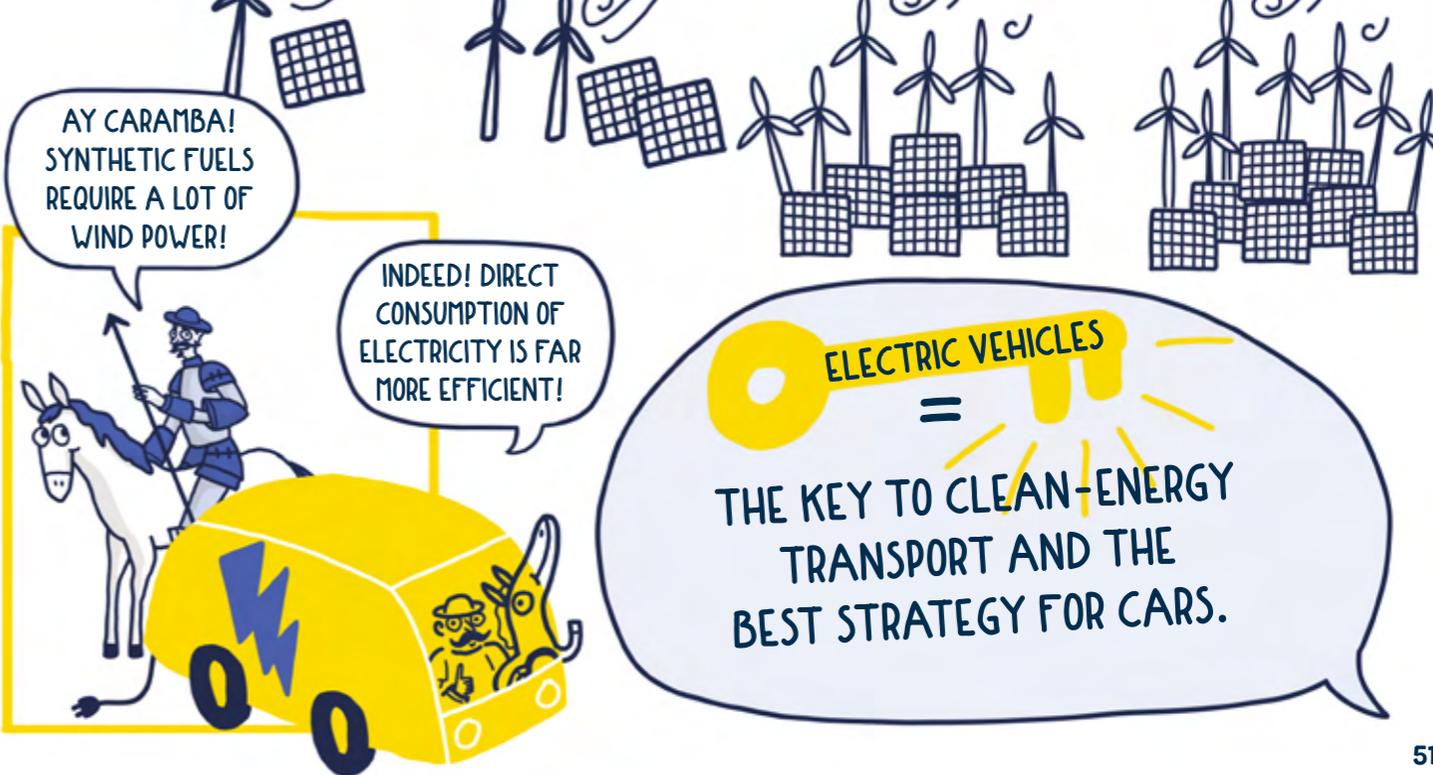


DIRECT POWER CONSUMPTION IS THE MOST EFFICIENT



How much energy do various types of vehicles require to travel a distance of 100 km?

Battery-electric vehicle	Fuel-cell vehicle	Conventional vehicle (with power-to-gas)	Conventional vehicle (with power-to-liquid)
15 kWh	31 kWh	93 kWh	103 kWh



BUT...
are there enough raw materials for everyone to drive electric vehicles?



WHERE BATTERIES GET THEIR JUICE

Global raw material deposits (2018) versus demand in 2030

Resources: Total deposits, including those that cannot be extracted economically.

Reserves: Deposits that can be extracted economically using current technology.

LITHIUM

LITHIUM IS AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

SHORT-TERM SUPPLY BOTTLENECKS COULD OCCUR, HOWEVER.

WORLDWIDE LITHIUM RESERVES ARE ENORMOUS, ENOUGH TO MEET GROWING DEMAND

240,000 t
annual demand in 2030

14,000,000 t
Reserves

62,000,000 t
Resources



LITHIUM MINING IS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH POOR LABOR CONDITIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

THAT'S WHY ITS EXTRACTION HAS A BAD REPUTATION.

THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR...



COBALT

WORLDWIDE COBALT RESOURCES ARE ALSO ENORMOUS RELATIVE TO ANNUAL DEMAND.

BUT HALF OF ALL COBALT MINING TAKES PLACE IN CRISIS-RIDDEN COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE CONGO.

25,000,000 t
Resources in the ground

7,000,000 t
Reserves

400,000 t
annual demand in 2030

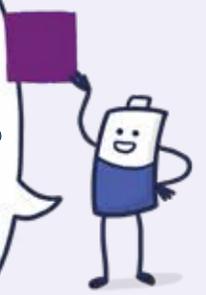
GO LOOK FOR COBALT SOMEWHERE ELSE!

120,000,000 t
Resources under the sea floor

TO PROTECT PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT WHERE MINING TAKES PLACE, WE NEED :

- Mandatory due diligence for cobalt (via cobalt's inclusion in the EU regulation for conflict minerals)
- Partnerships that support sustainable mining
- Collection and recycling targets for cobalt and lithium in the EU's battery directive

WE SHOULD TRY TO RECYCLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, DESPITE THE LARGE QUANTITIES AVAILABLE. (IN THE FUTURE, I WILL WORK WITH LESS COBALT.)

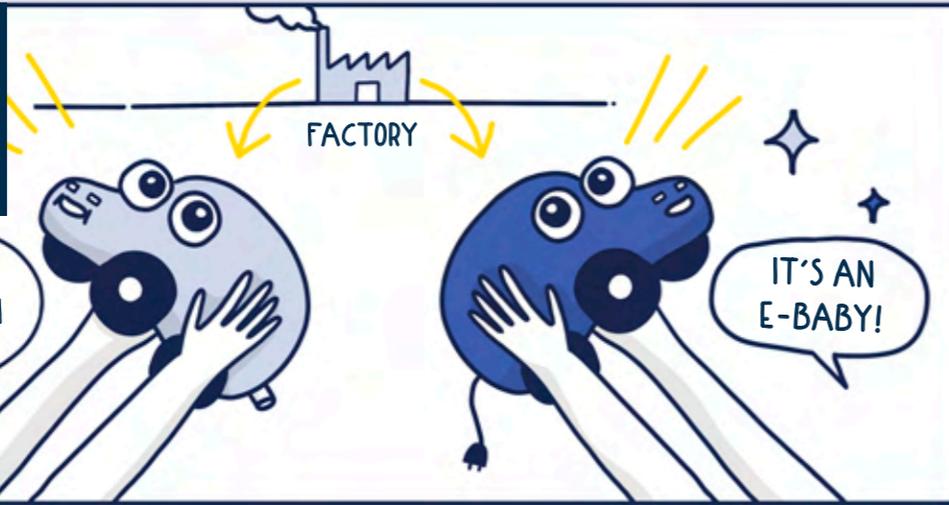




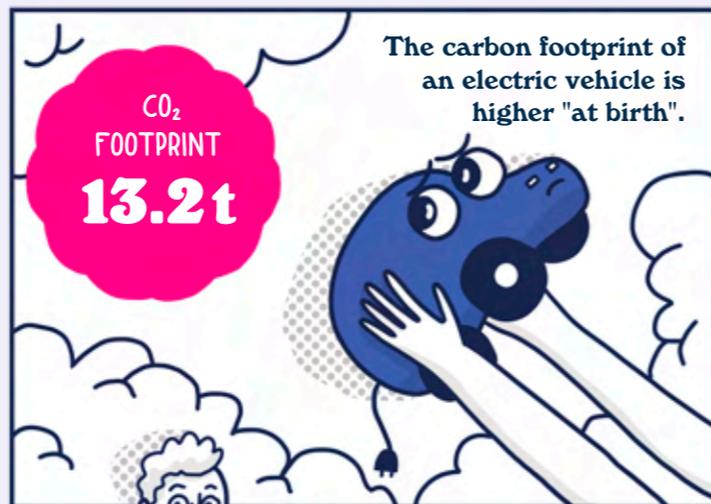
BUT...

aren't electric cars much worse for the environment than conventional cars during manufacturing?

In Germany, electric cars are already more climate friendly than their conventional counterparts.



CO₂ FOOTPRINT
7.5t



CO₂ FOOTPRINT
13.2t

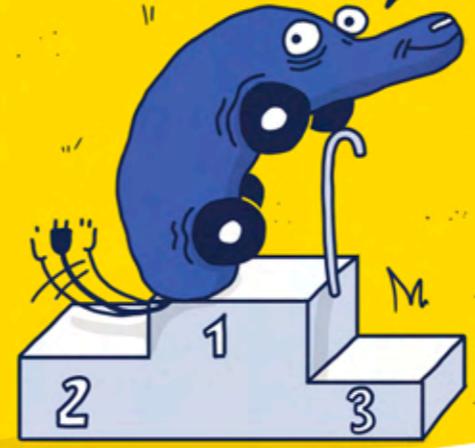
The carbon footprint of an electric vehicle is higher "at birth".

BATTERY PRODUCTION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES CONSUMES A LOT OF ELECTRICITY, HOWEVER. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TROUBLESOME WHEN THE ELECTRICITY IS GENERATED USING FOSSIL FUELS.



WITH AGE, HOWEVER, E-CARS HAVE AN ADVANTAGE.

I'VE TRAVELLED 150,000 KM SINCE I WAS BORN!



INCLUDING EMISSIONS FROM PRODUCTION!

After 150,000 km the electric vehicle has lower cumulative emissions, however.



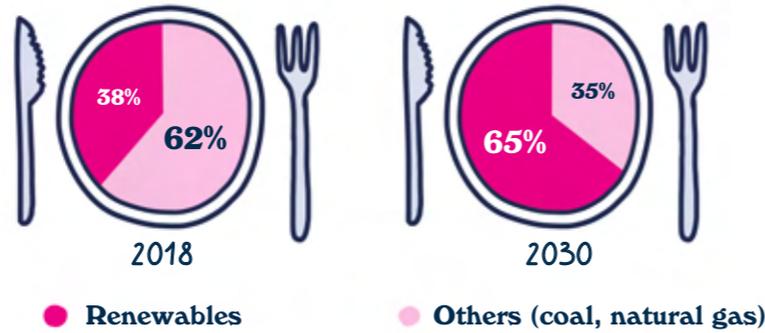
Gasoline
24%
more emissions than an e-car

Diesel
16%
more emissions than an e-car

I WAS DROPPED YEARS AGO.



The greater the share of renewables in the power system, the more climate friendly electric vehicles become.



TO MEET THE GROWING DEMAND FOR CLEAN ELECTRICITY IN THE TRANSPORT SECTOR WITHOUT CREATING SHORTFALLS ELSEWHERE, WE NEED TO RAPIDLY EXPAND WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY.



The adventures of Don Nimbyxote continue...

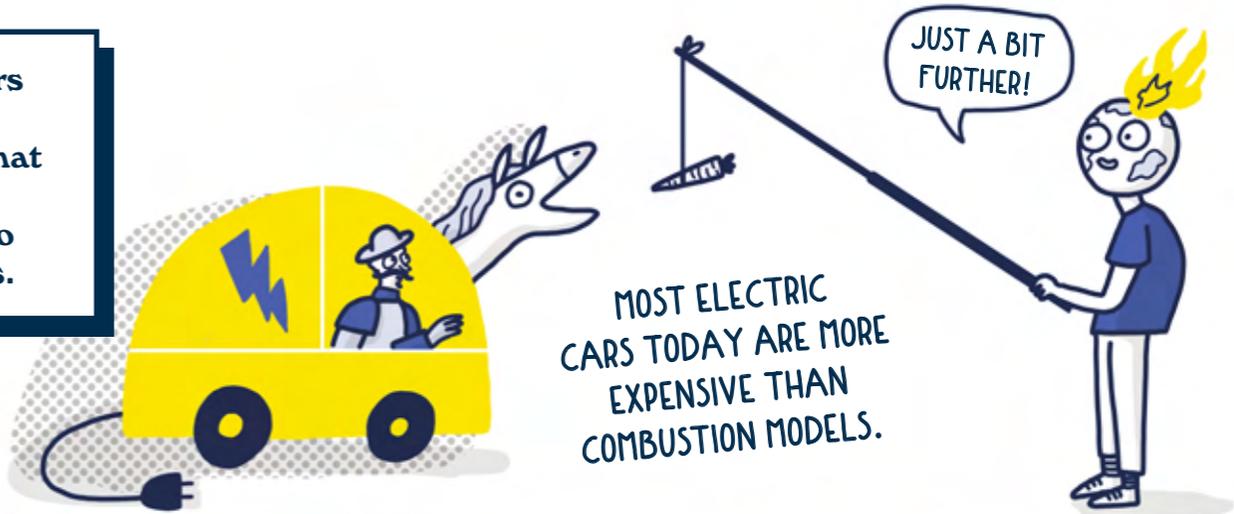


TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN CLEAN ENERGY AND BATTERY PRODUCTION WILL CONTINUE TO REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

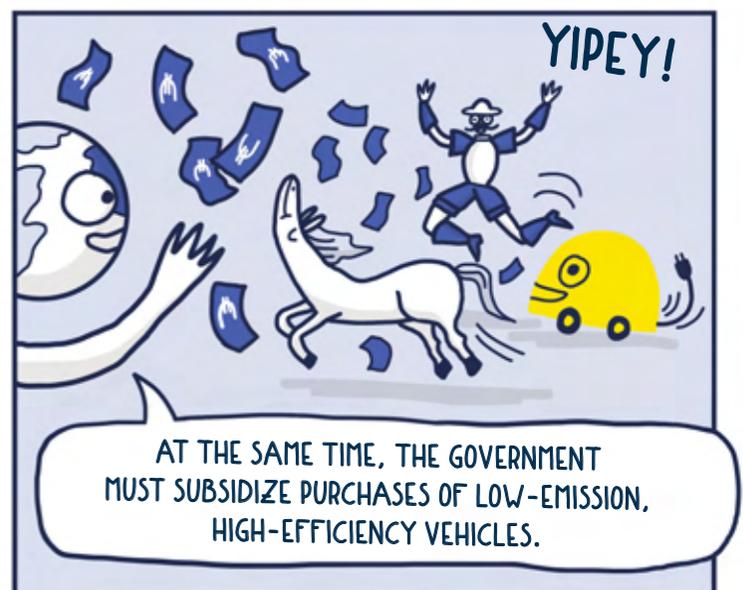
BUT THESE EFFICIENCY GAINS WILL BE LOST IF CARS CONTINUE TO GET LARGER AND HEAVIER.



Policymakers must create incentives that accelerate the switch to electric cars.



MOST ELECTRIC CARS TODAY ARE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN COMBUSTION MODELS.



AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOVERNMENT MUST SUBSIDIZE PURCHASES OF LOW-EMISSION, HIGH-EFFICIENCY VEHICLES.



MY HORSE NEEDS A DRINK!

WHERE CAN I WATER MY HORSE?

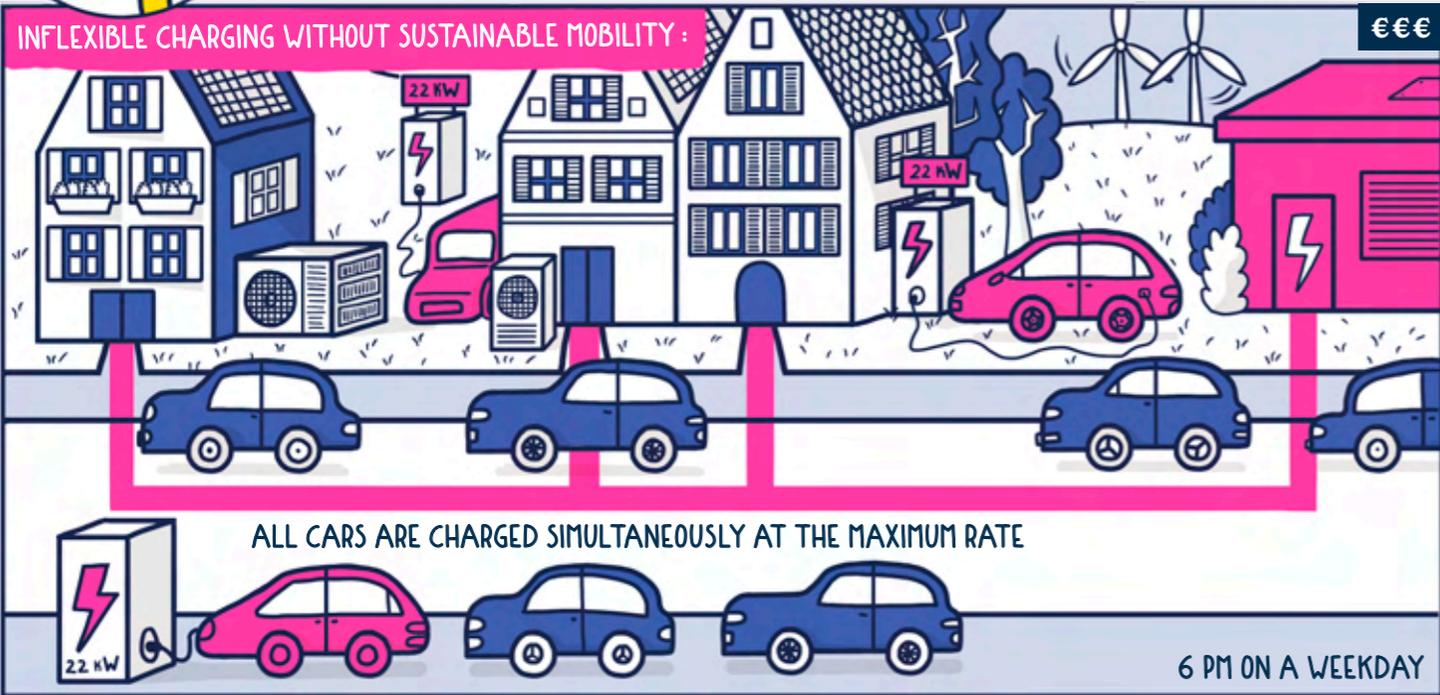


BUT...

how do we get electricity into cars?

Widespread deployment of electric vehicles in Germany will require the expansion of the power grid. To keep investment costs down, we need flexible charging for electric vehicles in combination with sustainable mobility.

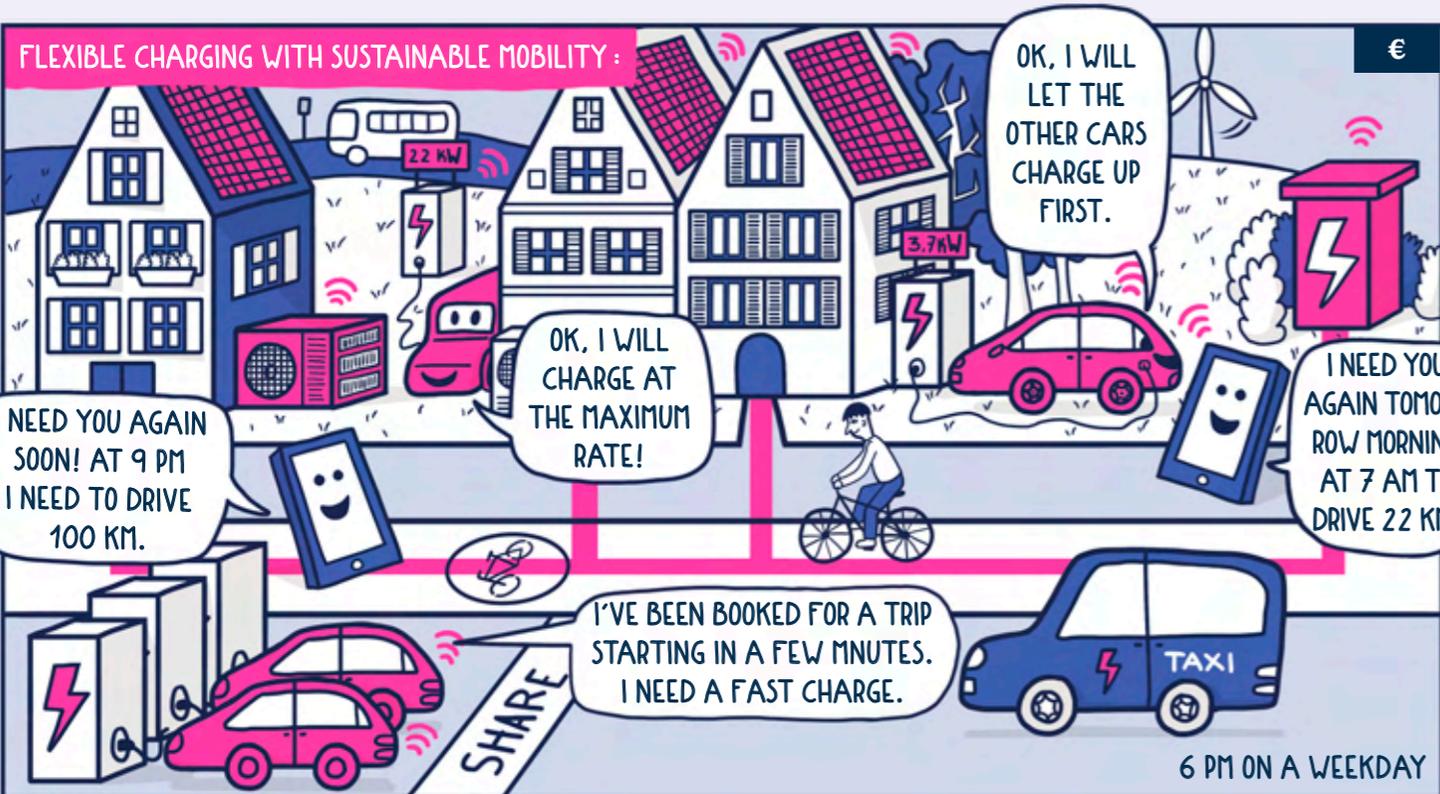
INFLEXIBLE CHARGING WITHOUT SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY :



ALL CARS ARE CHARGED SIMULTANEOUSLY AT THE MAXIMUM RATE

6 PM ON A WEEKDAY

FLEXIBLE CHARGING WITH SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY :



OK, I WILL CHARGE AT THE MAXIMUM RATE!

I NEED YOU AGAIN SOON! AT 9 PM I NEED TO DRIVE 100 KM.

OK, I WILL LET THE OTHER CARS CHARGE UP FIRST.

I NEED YOU AGAIN TOMORROW MORNING AT 7 AM TO DRIVE 22 KM.

I'VE BEEN BOOKED FOR A TRIP STARTING IN A FEW MINUTES. I NEED A FAST CHARGE.

SHARE

6 PM ON A WEEKDAY

We need flexible charging that accommodates current grid capacity and generation levels.



WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

IT'S SIMPLE: CHARGE ME WHENEVER THERE IS AN ABUNDANCE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, BUT DON'T CHARGE ME SO MUCH AS TO OVERLOAD THE POWER GRID. DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?

CHARGING BASED ON GRID CAPACITY

I CHARGE AS LONG AS I AM NOT OVERLOADING THE GRID. THIS HELPS STABILIZE GRID POWER FLOWS.

I CHARGE 100%

I CHARGE ONLY 20%

THIS KEEPS GRID EXPANSION TO A MINIMUM!

CHARGING BASED ON GRID CAPACITY AND GENERATION LEVELS

WHEN OUTPUT OF RENEWABLES IS HIGH, THE PRICE OF POWER FALLS, AND I CAN CHARGE AHEAD OF TIME. BUT THOSE IN A HURRY RECEIVE PRIORITY IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE GRID FROM OVERLOADING.

ELECTRICITY STORAGE IS DIFFICULT. THE LESS POWER THAT NEEDS STORING, THE BETTER.

CHARGING BASED ON GENERATION LEVELS

I CHARGE WHEN POWER IS CHEAP, REGARDLESS OF THE PROBLEMS IT CREATES.

HELP, I'M OVERLOADING!

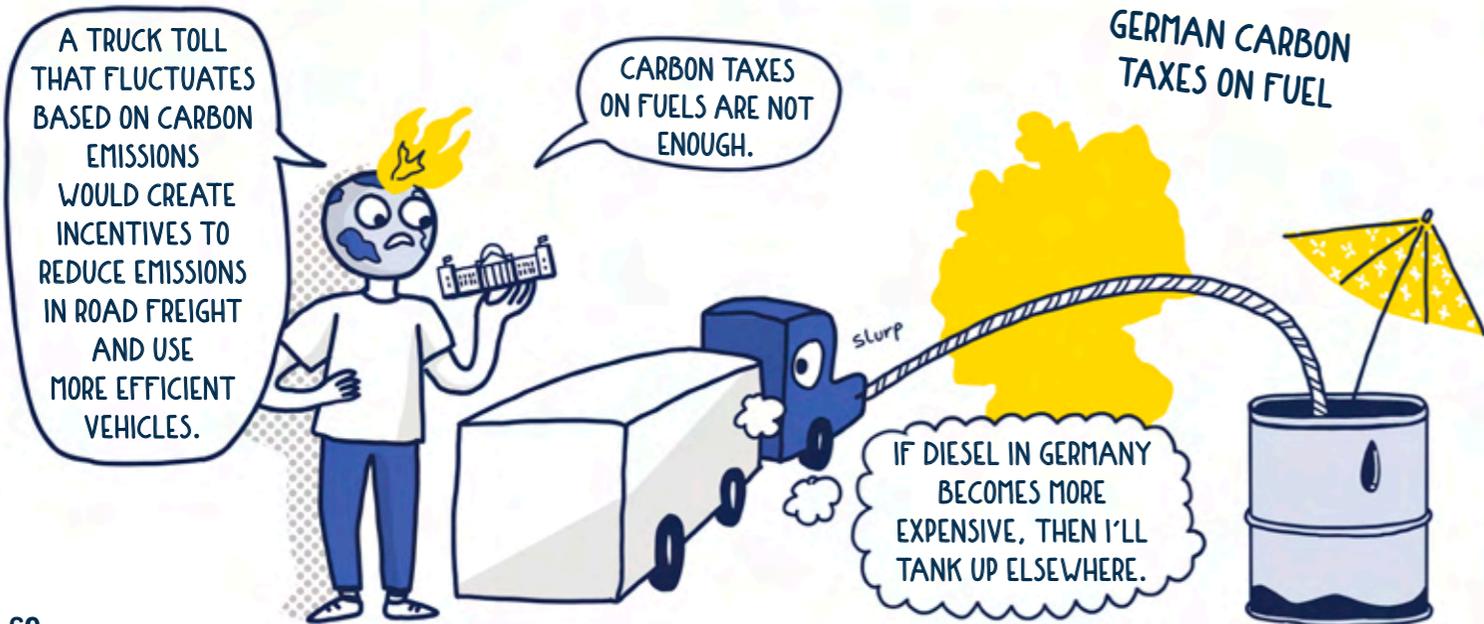
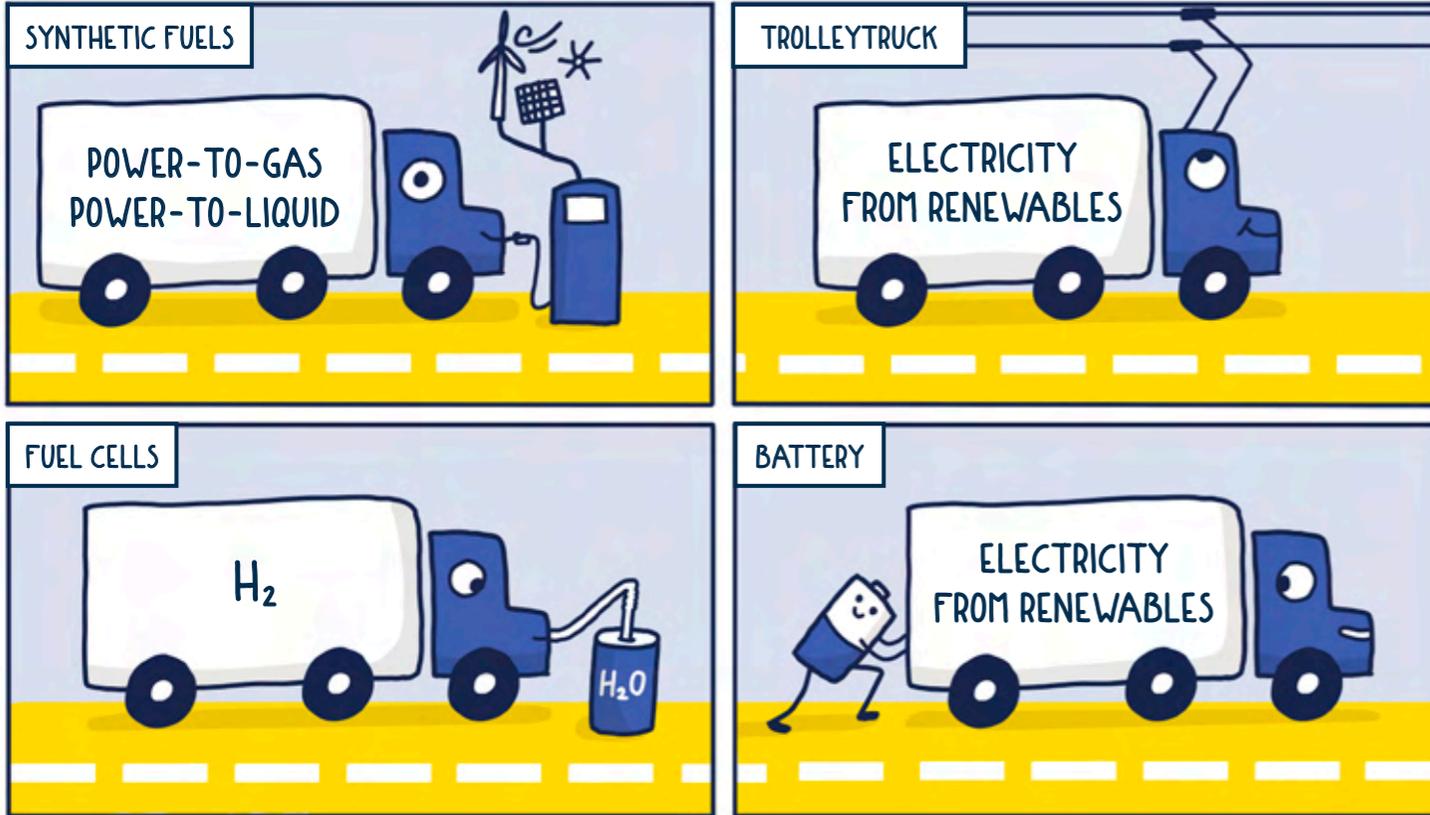
I'LL CHARGE TO 100% ANYWAY!!!

NO, I WILL!!!

ONE AT A TIME PLEASE. OTHERWISE THE GRID WILL OVERLOAD!

HEAVY TRUCKS

EXPERTS ARE STILL DEBATING HOW BEST TO POWER THEM



LARGE SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT

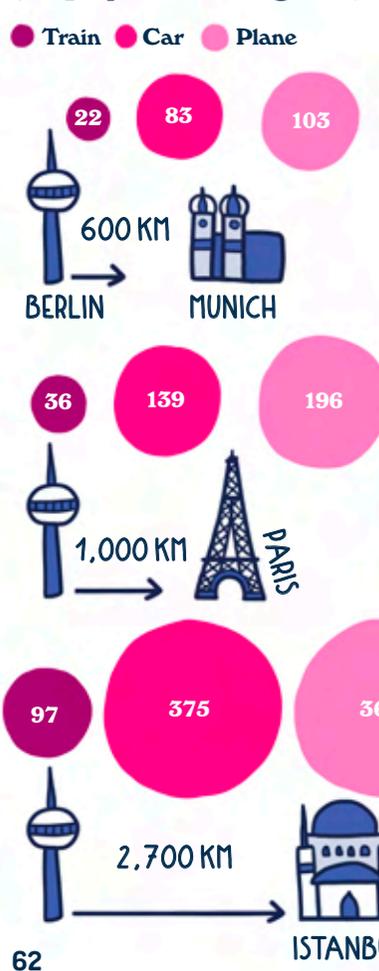
THESE VEHICLES PROBABLY CAN'T BE ELECTRIFIED



The adventure meme is not without drawbacks.



What is the CO₂ footprint of my trip? (CO₂ equivalent kilograms)



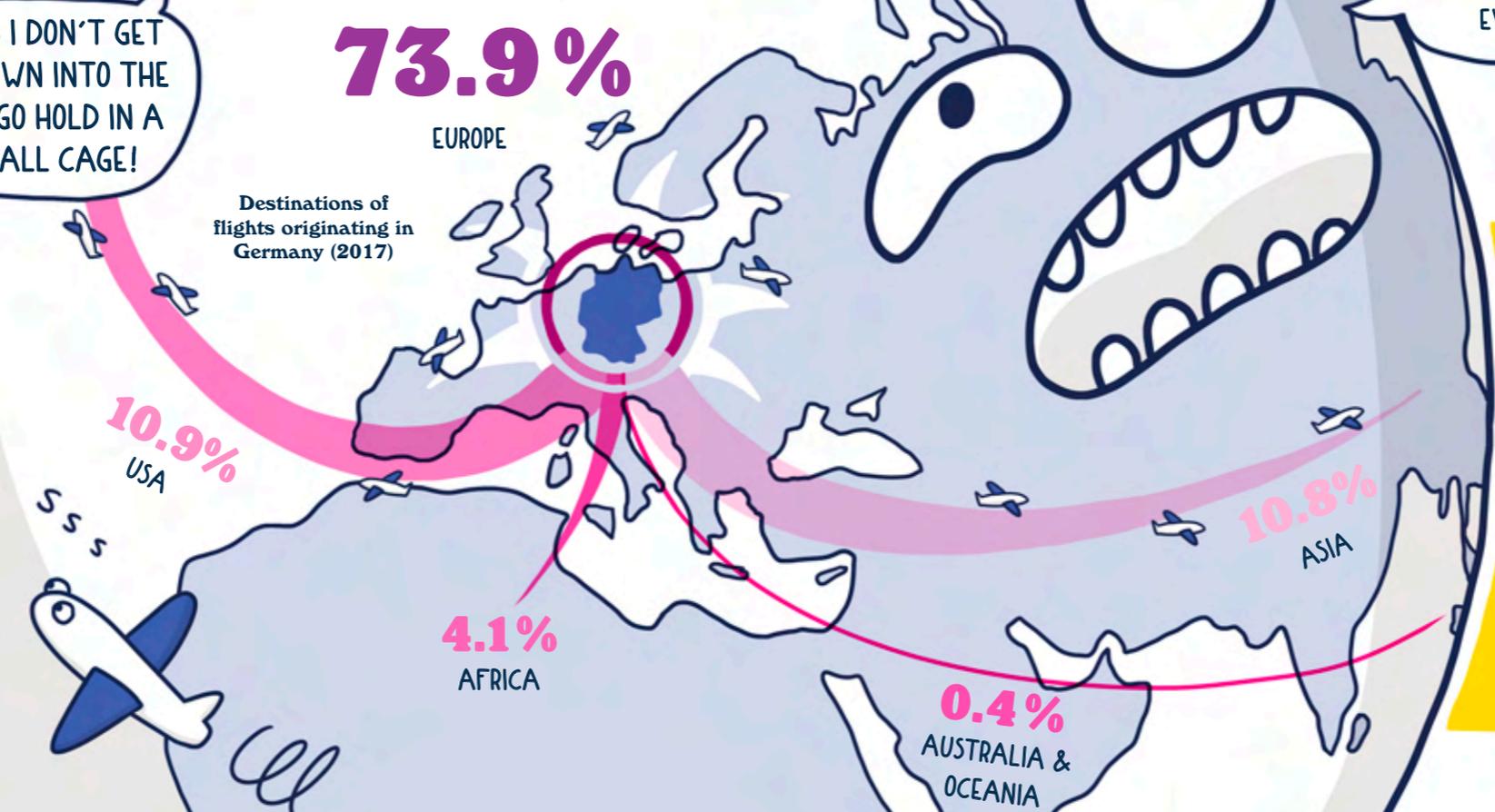
German air freight (Annual freight volume in billions of tons)



DO I LOOK LIKE AN OUTDOOR DOG? I AM A REFINED CITY DOG!

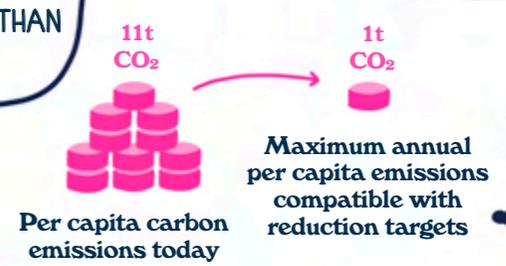
AHA! MOST FLIGHTS FROM GERMANY REMAIN IN EUROPE. WE CAN TAKE THE TRAIN INSTEAD!

PLUS I DON'T GET THROWN INTO THE CARGO HOLD IN A SMALL CAGE!



SO MUCH FOR FLIGHT-SHAMING. PEOPLE ARE FLYING MORE THAN EVER!

ONE TON? JUST ONE ROUND-TRIP FLIGHT TO TURKEY WOULD EXHAUST MY EMISSIONS BUDGET.



Carbon-neutral planes remain a distant dream. For now, the only solution is to fly less.

GREEN SYNFUELS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES.

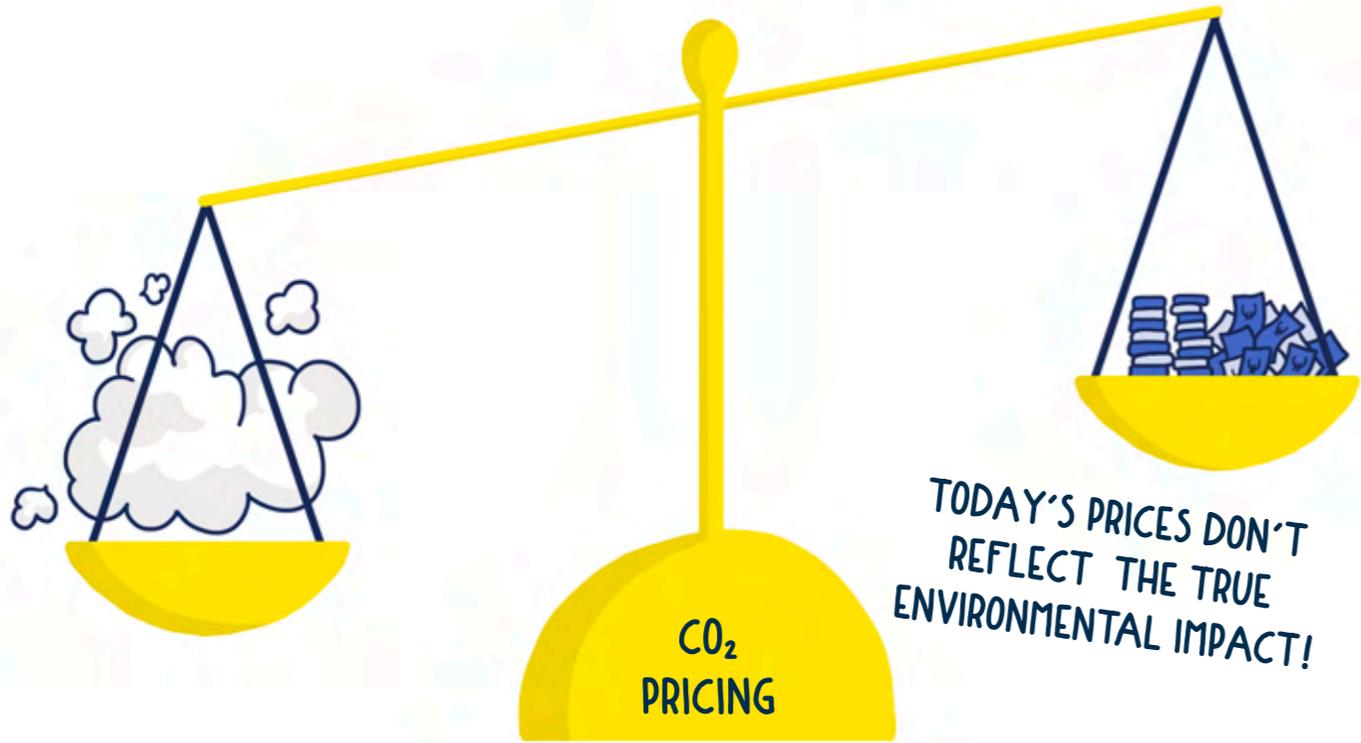
I AM TOO HEAVY TO RUN ON BATTERIES.

CHAPTER 3

USHERING IN THE AGE OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Looking to the future

CARBON PRICING IS ESSENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT



Polluters should pay for the damage they cause to the environment. By taxing activities that emit carbon, we can discourage pollution while encouraging cleaner alternatives. In this way, carbon pricing can help create climate-friendly transport powered by clean energy.



CHANGE IS INEVITABLE BUT OFFERS TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY

The auto industry is facing the greatest upheaval in its history. Manufacturers who resist change will end up losing out. The future belongs to companies that embrace the development of environmentally friendly vehicles and services.



THIS DECISION TREE HAS FAR-REACHING CONSEQUENCES! TEST IT FOR YOURSELF.

START

Should we manufacture electric vehicles for climate protection?

YES
NO

Electric drivetrains are less complex than their conventional counterparts, and hence require less manpower to build. If **40%** of new cars are electric in 2030 and **20%** are hybrid, the German automotive sector will have **84,000** fewer employees.



In the "business as usual" scenario (continued manufacturing of conventional vehicles), some **57,000** jobs will disappear by **2030** due to greater mechanization and productivity increases.

However, only **30,000** jobs will be lost because of e-vehicles. The other **57,000** jobs will disappear regardless of the types of vehicles we produce, due to productivity improvements and further automation. It is also important to consider that the industry currently employs **840,000** people.

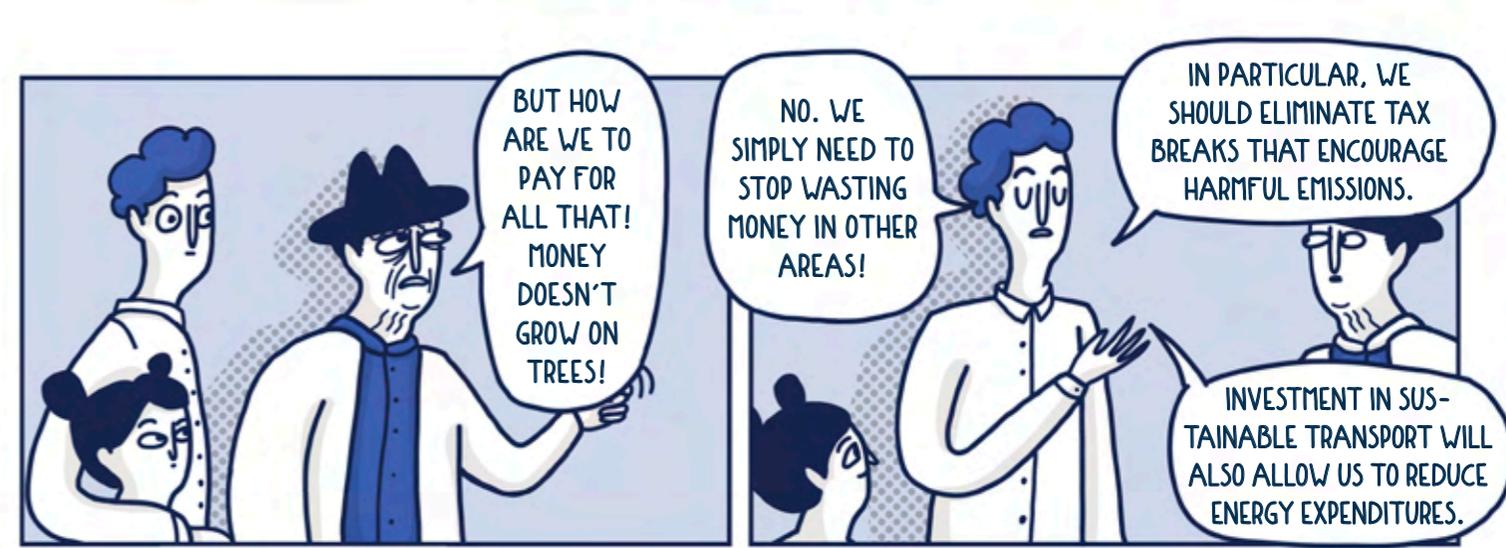
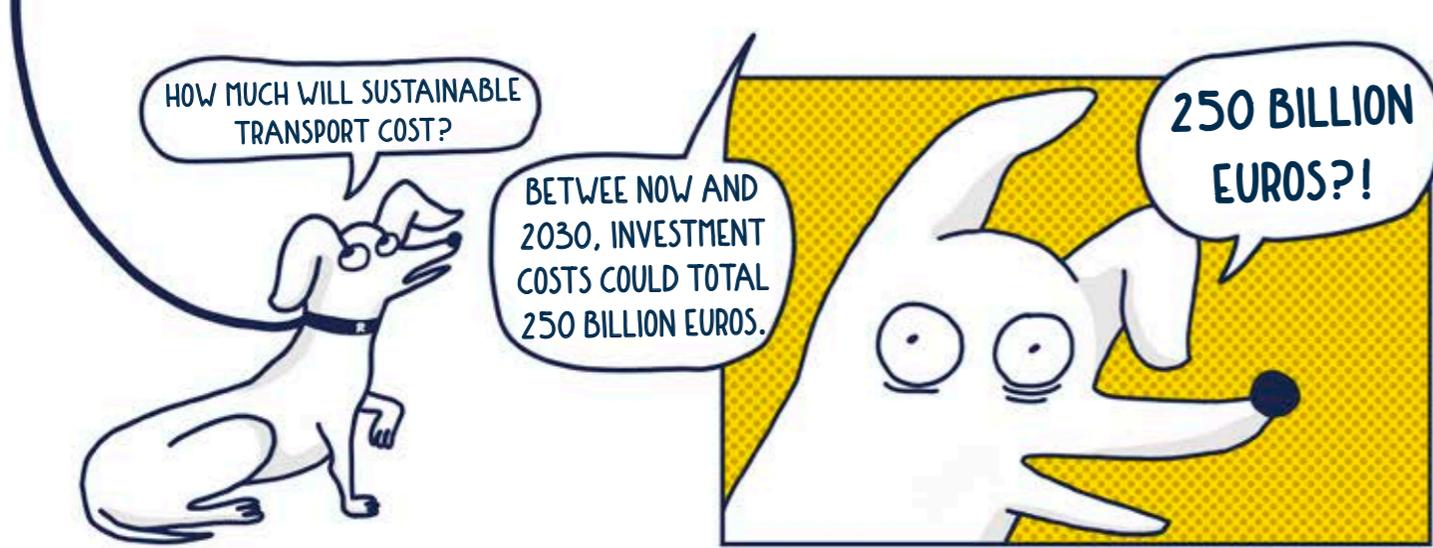


If car and bike sharing enjoys success as a business model in Germany, some **200,000** new jobs could be created. However, this would likely reallocate demand for jobs and skills across regions.

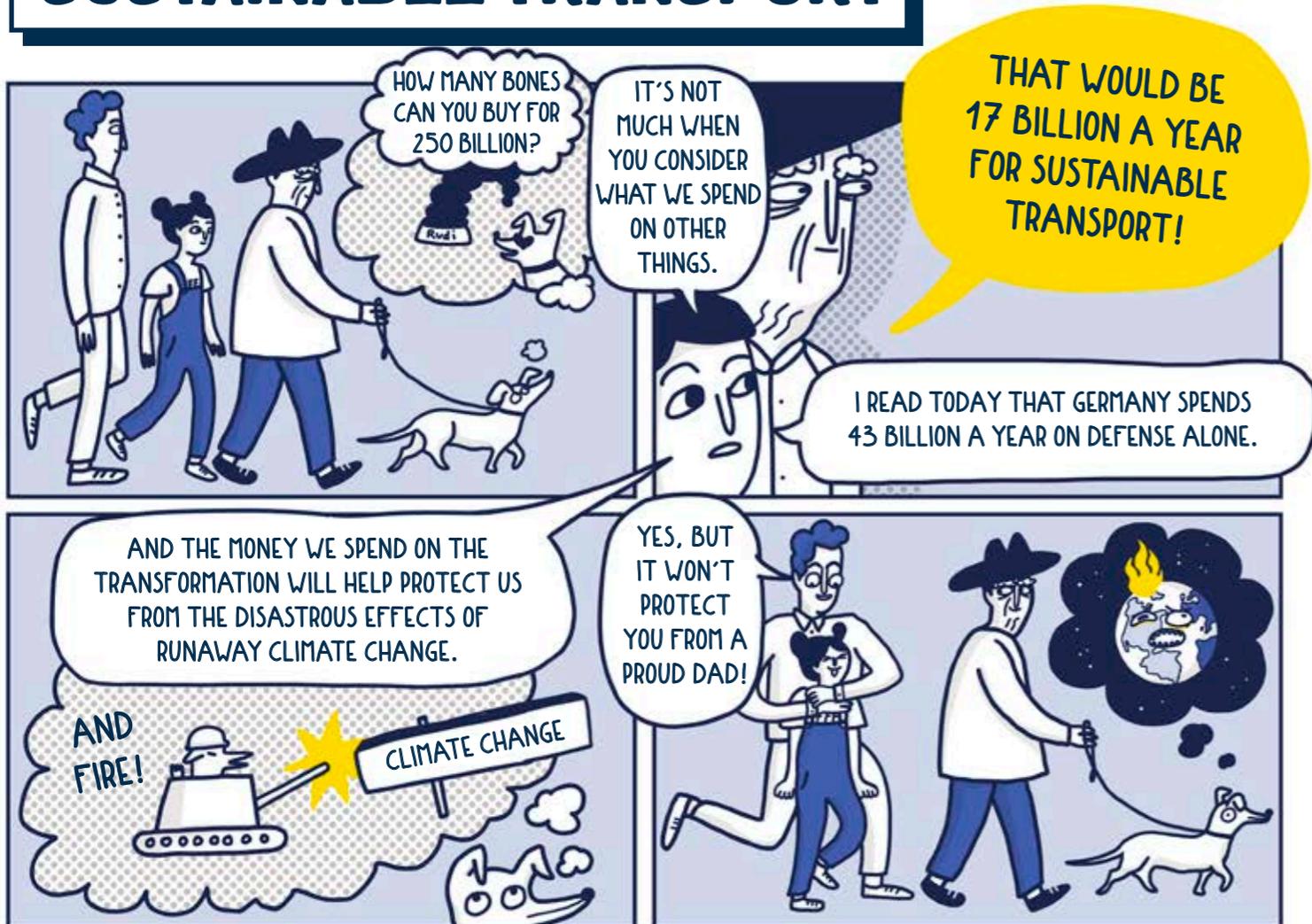


German companies sell more cars abroad than they do at home. Demand for electric vehicles in foreign markets, especially in China, is growing rapidly. If Germany cannot cater to this demand, massive job losses in the German car industry are likely to result.



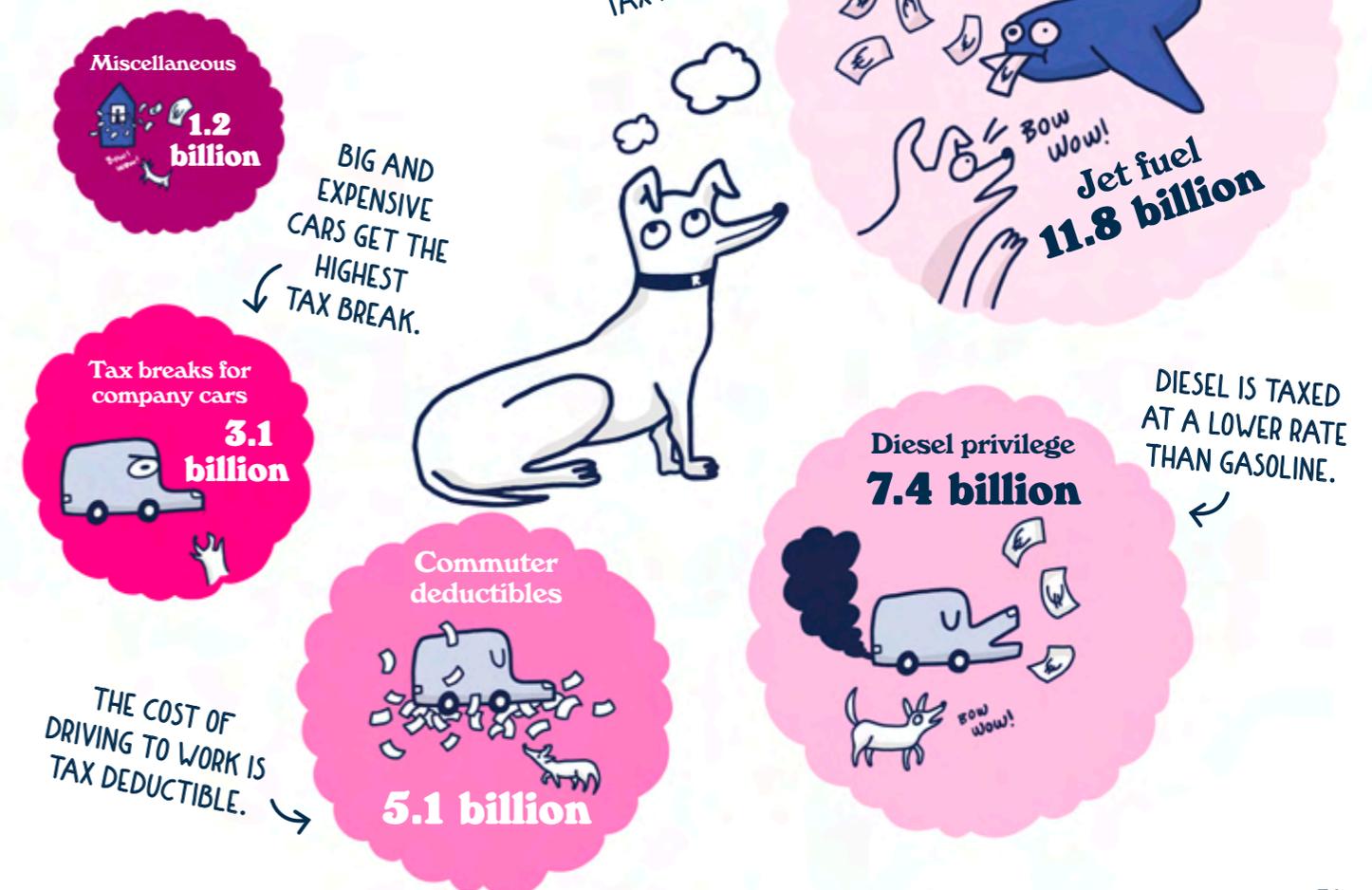


WE CAN AFFORD SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT



The German government awards environmentally harmful tax breaks in the transport sector amounting to **28.6 billion** euros annually. In purely mathematical terms, the abolition of these tax breaks would be more than sufficient to fund the investment necessary to transform the sector.

Value of environmentally harmful tax breaks, (2017), in euro billions



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IS GOOD NOT JUST FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION

WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T TEACH HUMANS A FEW NEW TRICKS!

I THINK THEY'RE CATCHING ON!

NOW THEY JUST NEED TO LEARN HOW TO DRIVE...

AIR QUALITY WILL IMPROVE...

...SO WILL ROAD SAFETY!

TADA!

THEN IT'LL BE GOODBYE, BIG OIL!

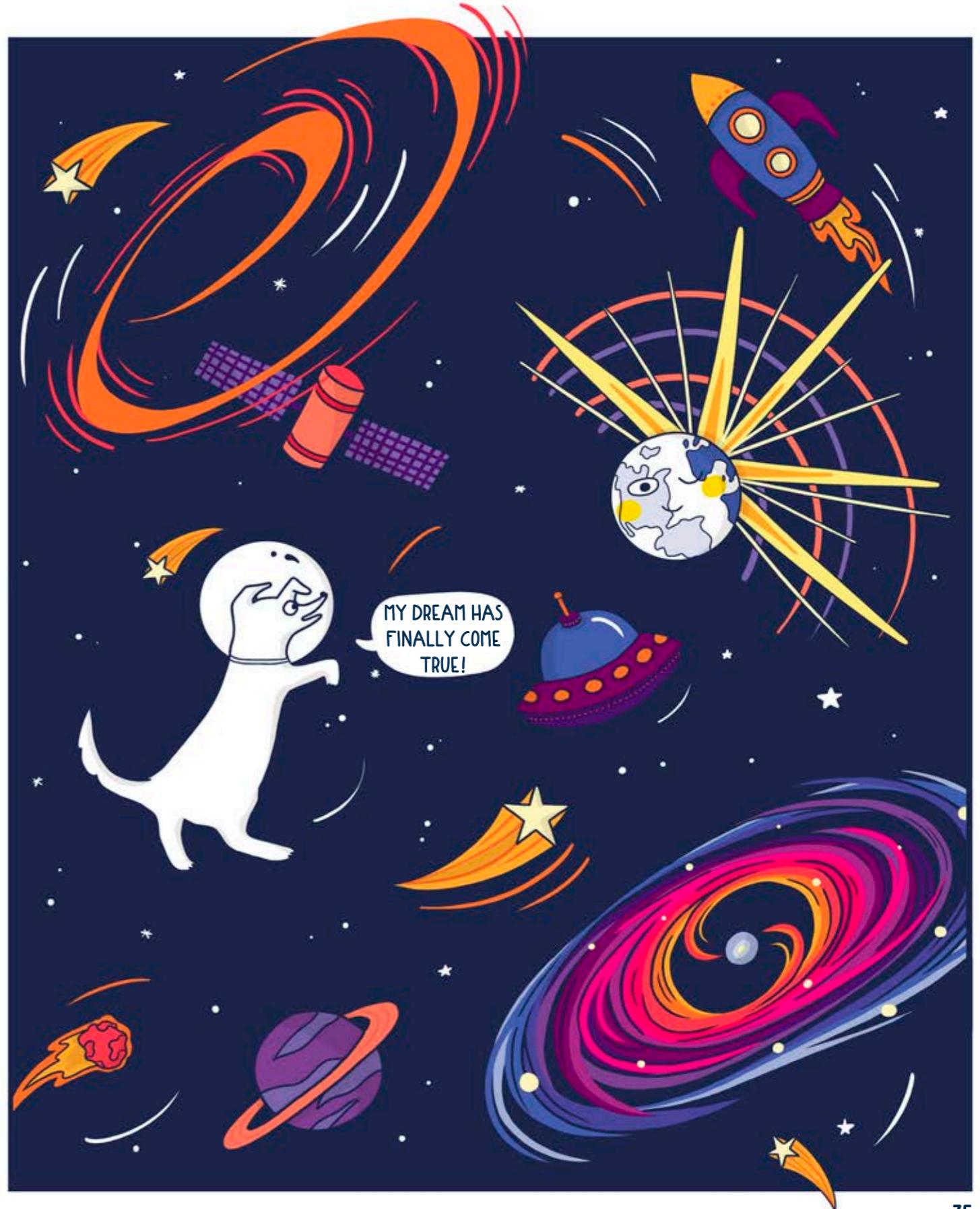
ONCE WE ARE NO LONGER DEPENDENT ON OIL, GERMANY CAN ACHIEVE ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

EVEN WITHOUT CLIMATE CHANGE ...

... A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SECTOR WOULD MAKE MANY THINGS BETTER

BOTH IN CITIES...

...AND IN THE COUNTRY.





GLOSSARY

Agora

Greek for "gathering place" or "marketplace"; the central public space in ancient Greek city-states where ideas were exchanged and debated.

CO₂ equivalents

A unit of measurement for standardizing the climate impact of different greenhouse gases. It refers to the magnitude of the greenhouse gas effect as expressed in CO₂.

Electric vehicles

This includes both battery-electric and fuel-cell vehicles.

Electric mobility

Discussion of electric vehicles in German and French usually falls under what is known as "electric mobility" (German: Elektromobilität; French: mobilité électrique). The term has been slow to catch on in English-speaking countries, most likely because "mobility" is already frequently used to refer to "mobile computing" and "social mobility."

Intermodal transport

When different means of transport (car, bus, bicycle) are combined in a single journey.

MJ/P km

Refers to the amount of energy required to transport one person one kilometer in megajoules.

MJ/t km

Refers to the amount of energy required to transport one ton of goods one kilometer in megajoules.

Modal share (AKA modal split)

The percentage of travelers using a particular type of transportation.

Multimodal mix

When different means of transport (car, bus, bicycle) are combined in a single journey.

NIMBY

NIMBY (short for "not in my back yard") describes the opposition of residents to a planned development – such as an airport, a low-income housing project, or, as in our case, a wind turbine – that they would otherwise support were it not being built so close to their homes.

Passenger transport

While the term "passenger" is normally used in English to refer to an individual transported in a vehicle that he or she does not operate, the OECD defines "passenger transport" as any form of transport of people by road, rail, water, or air.

Power-to-gas

Also abbreviated PtG, this refers to a process for producing gas from electricity, which can be stored and used to power vehicles.

Power-to-liquid

Refers to a process for producing liquid fuel from electricity. Hydrogen is first split from water via electrolysis, and then converted into synthetic fuel via Fischer-Tropsch synthesis.

GHG

Greenhouse gases are all gases that raise the temperature of the earth's atmosphere. They include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).

Verkehrswende

A German neologism inspired by the term "Energiewende" (literally, "energy transition"), it is a compound of the German terms "Verkehr" (transport, traffic) and "Wende" (transition, turnaround). It refers to the transformation of the transport sector toward greater sustainability (pronunciation: Fair-cares-venn-duh).

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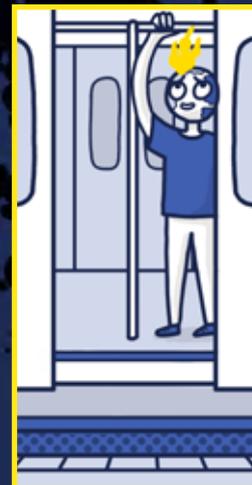
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Agora Verkehrswende and Ellery Studio (2021): Future Ahoy!
An Infographic Novel about Sustainable Transport





Agora Verkehrswende is a Berlin-based think tank that conducts in-depth research on mitigating climate change in the transport sector. The arguments in favor of a Verkehrswende – a sweeping transformation of the transport sector toward sustainability – are numerous and compelling. Yet so far action has failed to materialize, persuading us to ask: What can we do to increase public awareness for this important issue?



You're holding the answer in your hands. This infographic novel shares our insights in a new format designed to reach a wider audience and engender broader public support for sustainable transport. The storyline follows a family of three generations, from the young and idealistic to the old and cantankerous, as they grapple with issues related to the climate and the future of mobility. They discover that sustainable transport is not just good for the climate, but also an opportunity to positively reshape how we live and work together.

Agora
Verkehrswende



Agora Verkehrswende is a joint initiative of Stiftung Mercator and the European Climate Foundation.

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