# Where there is a will, there is a way

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and

Chairman,

Netherlands National Committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes



### Replace

### Reduce

### Refine

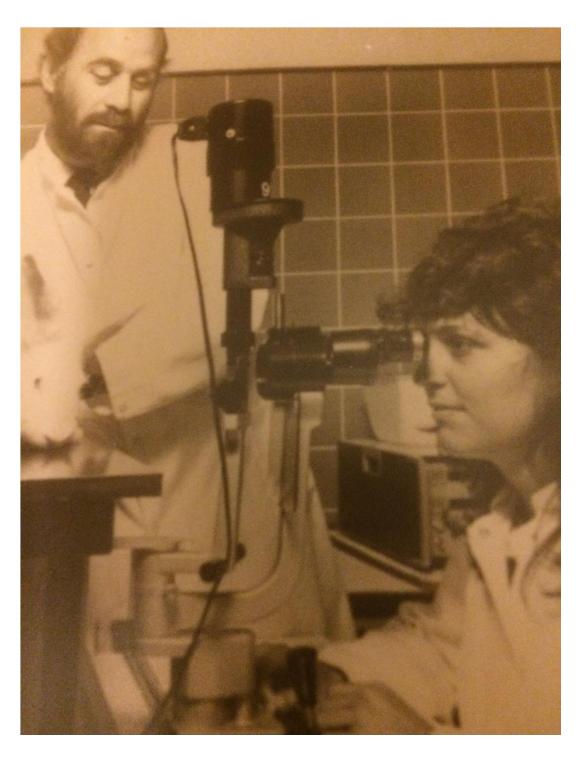


### Traditional concept of replacement



### Replace, Reduce, Refine





Achievement since 1960s:

1% of animals used in regulatory testing

## Categories of "scientific purposes" (Dir/ 2010/63/EU)

- Educational and professional training,
- Regulatory safety testing,
- Routine production testing, including
  - Quality control
  - Efficacy and tolerance testing
- Fundamental research,
- Translational and applied research



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(v) a non econnear project vanimar), and

- (d) any information that might indicate non-compliance.
- 3. Inspections shall be carried out on at least one third of the users each year in accordance with the risk analysis referred to in paragraph 2. However, breeders, suppliers and users of non-human primates shall be inspected at least once a year.
- 4. An appropriate proportion of the inspections shall be carried out without prior warning.
- Records of all inspections shall be kept for at least 5 years.

#### Article 35

#### Controls of Member State inspections

- 1. The Commission shall, when there is due reason for concern, taking into account, inter alia, the proportion of inspections carried out without prior warning, undertake controls of the infrastructure and operation of national inspections in Member States.
- 2. The Member State in the territory of which the control referred to in paragraph 1 is being carried out shall give all necessary assistance to the experts of the Commission in carrying out their duties. The Commission shall inform the competent authority of the Member State concerned of the results of the control.
- 3. The competent authority of the Member State concerned shall take measures to take account of the results of the control referred to in paragraph 1.

- (c) information on the elements set out in Annex VI.
- 2. Member States may waive the requirement in paragraph 1(b) for projects referred to in Article 42(1).

#### Article 38

#### Project evaluation

- 1. The project evaluation shall be performed with a degree of detail appropriate for the type of project and shall verify that the project meets the following criteria:
- (a) the project is justified from a scientific or educational point of view or required by law;
- (t) the purposes of the project justify the use of animals; and
- (c) the project is designed so as to enable procedures to be carried out in the most humane and environmentally sensitive manner possible.
- 2. The project evaluation shall consist in particular of the following:
- (a) an evaluation of the objectives of the project, the predicted scientific benefits or educational value;
- (b) an assessment of the compliance of the project with the requirement of replacement, reduction and refinement;
- (c) an assessment and assignment of the classification of the severity of procedures;

### Dir/2010/63/EU:

## "The purpose of the project justifies the use of animals"

- There are no harmonised criteria for this judgement, and there never will be
- The composition of competent authorities (that evaluate and authorize projects involving animals) varies considerably, both in number of members and in level/width of expertise
- Guidance like synthesis of evidence and codes of practice are useful but do not truly address science versus ethical values



### **End of story?**



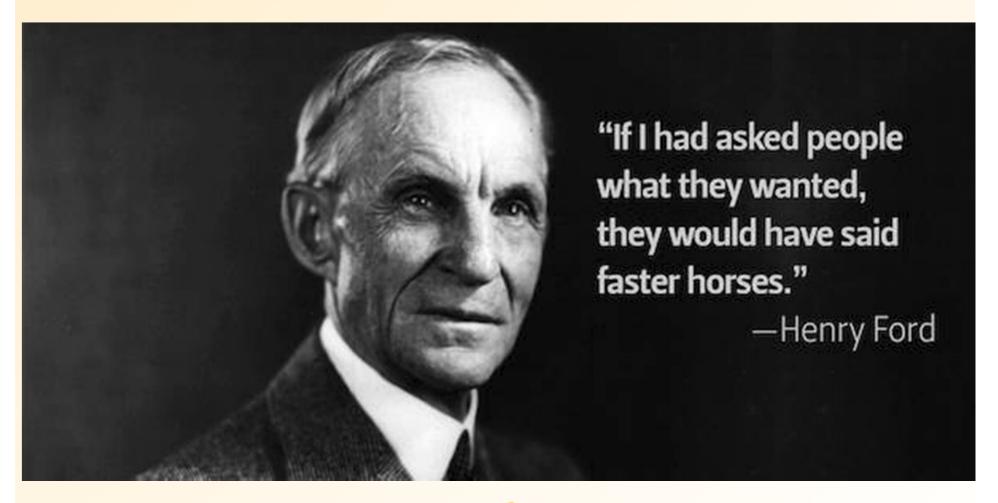


#### MY POINT ON THE HORIZON

# A true transition to scientific progress and innovation without the need for animal studies



### MY POINT ON THE HORIZON





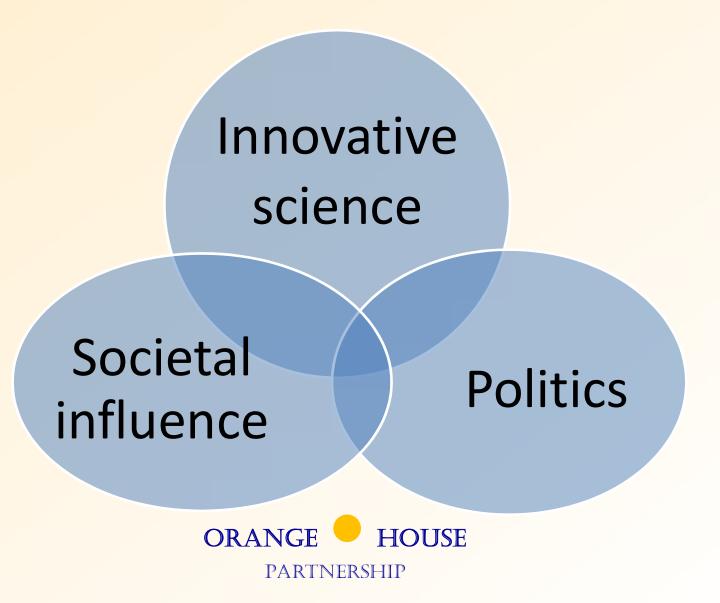
## Is a transition a realistic proposition?



ORANGE HOUSE
PARTNERSHIP



### Transition to animal free research



# "There are many roads that lead to Rome"



### Renewable energy

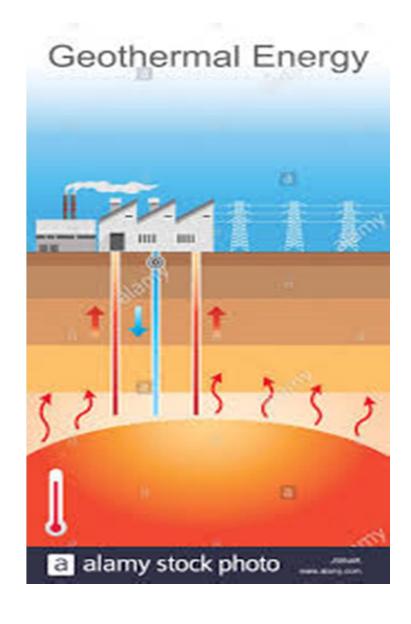


### Renewable energy

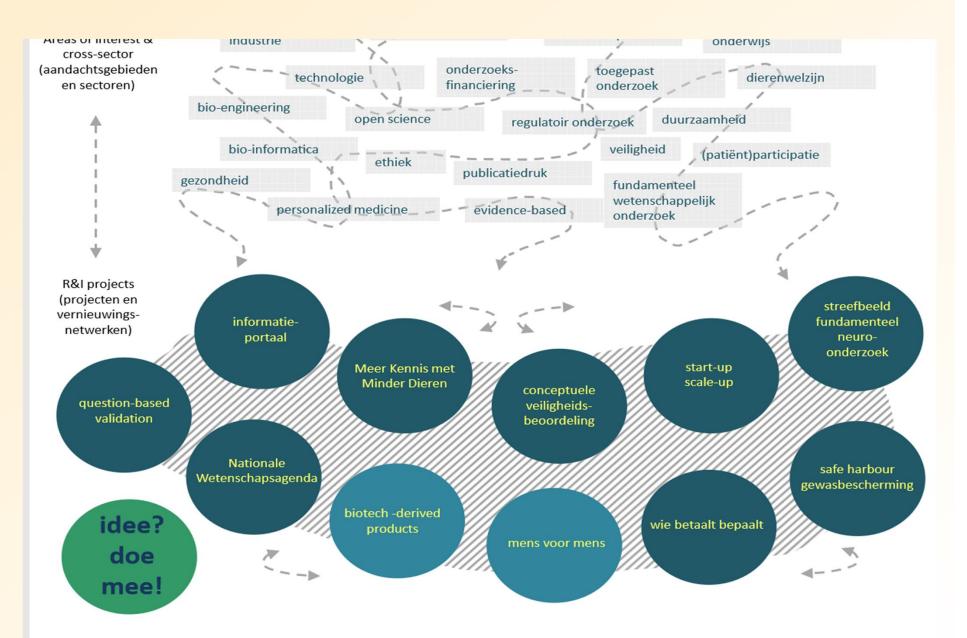


### Renewable energy

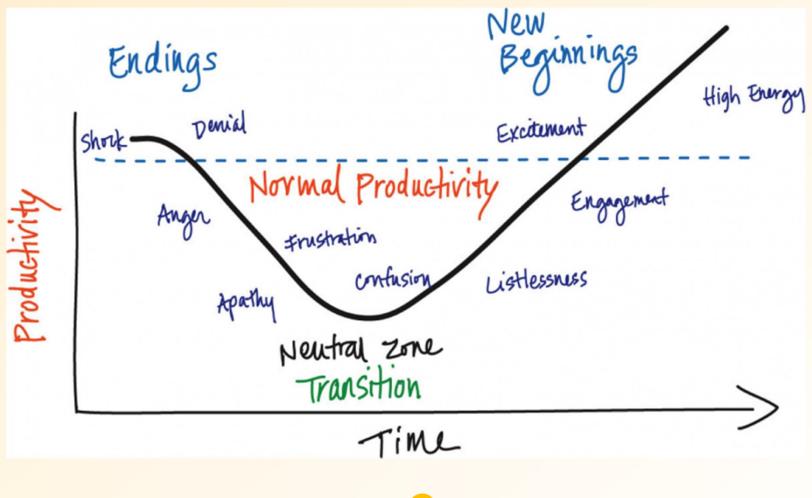




### Chaos?



### Visualization of transition





### **Essential factors of succes**

- Governmental support, direction and supervision
- In cooperation with the private sector
- In cooperation with the public and private sector in other countries
- In cooperation with NGOs
- With and by the scientific society
- With financial support of all parties
- In close contact with society

The transition to fully renewable energy will be successful once various paths and approaches are combined.

Similary, the transition to scientific research without experimental animals will be achieved by following and combining all promising pathways

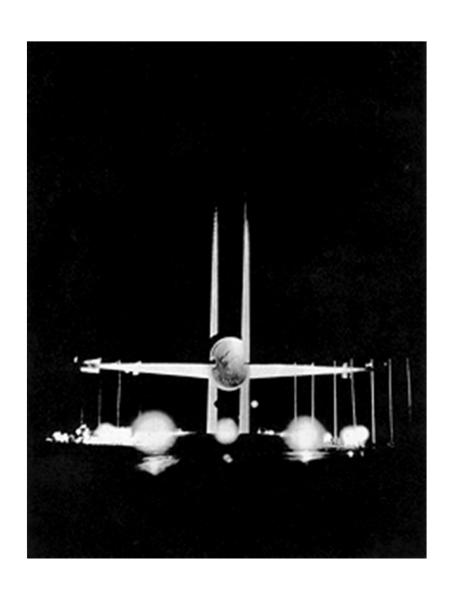
### **Today**



### **Tomorrow**







# "Aim higher and wider"

Motto of the 11th World Scouts Jamboree, Marathon, Greece, 1963

### Paving the road towards transition

- Work together with colleague scientists as it will strengthen support
- Openness and transparency are key as they bring trust
- Roadmaps aiming at animal free research will never fail: whatever the outcome it always will be a learning process and the starting point of the next attempt

### Development of transition targets (road maps)

- List current key research issues and objectives of the respective scientific (sub)domains
- Define the strength and weaknesses of the traditional methodologies, contributing to the achievement of the original goal
- Collect available 3R activities in the selected (sub)domain (investment in creative and promising animal-free innovations)
- Define specific research targets for a set time period (e.g. 10 year)

### **Development of transition targets (road maps)**

- Apply animal-free approaches and innovations that are currently available or expected to become available in the forseeable future: include innovations that are used in related domains
- Provide indications of the successfulness (trends) in finding animal-free transition targets
- Document yearly capacity and resources invested in 3R activities as a percentage of the total capacity and resources (to be used to contribute to the ranking of the (sub)domain with respect to animal welfare
- Document progress.

### **Development of transition targets (road maps)**

- Don't lose sight of the original research goal(s),
- Introduce regularly focussed brainstorm sessions, involving experts from unrelated research domains,
- Involve young scientists with a clean slate and an unprejudiced, open mind,
- Seek national and international cooperation
- Teach as well as learn to think outside your own comfort zone.