

# How Rotterdam The Hague Airport is Addressing the Challenge of Reducing Aviation's Environmental Impact

**Koen Pouw**  
Sustainability Advisor

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# Content

- 1. Introduction of RTHA**
- 2. Need for climate action**
- 3. Sustainability & Innovation strategy**



# 01

## Rotterdam The Hague Airport

ROTTER





# Part of Royal Schiphol Group



Amsterdam Airport Schiphol



Regional airports

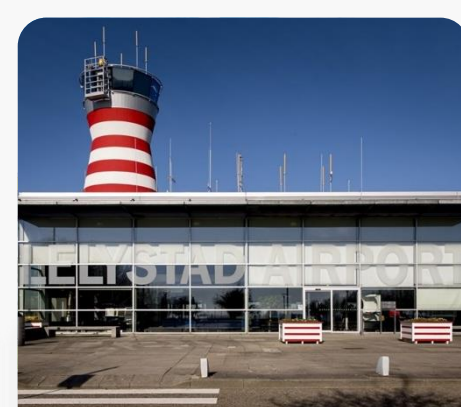
International airports



Rotterdam The Hague Airport



Eindhoven Airport



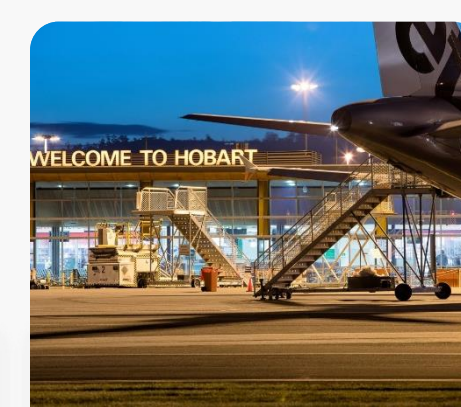
Lelystad Airport



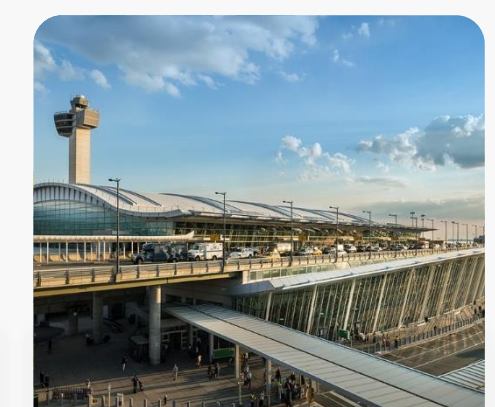
Maastricht Aachen Airport



Brisbane Airport



Hobart Airport



JFK (T4) New York



# Rotterdam The Hague Airport

## 2023 numbers

Passengers ▲ 5,3%

**2.224.278**  
Per year

**81,7%**  
Occupancy

Air traffic movements

**56.480**

☀️ **55.213** **98%**  
🌙 **1.267** **2%**



**Commercial Aviation**  
Leisure, Business and VFR

**16.530**

Air traffic movements

**75% Noise contour**



**General Aviation**  
Flight lessons and other purposes

**27.860**

Air traffic movements

**1% Noise contour**



**Business aviation**  
Privet jets and business

**6.310**

Air traffic movements

**5% Noise contour**



**Helicopter flights**  
Medical air assistance and police flights

**5.780**

Air traffic movements

**19% Noise contour**



# Ready for take-off?

## >50 European destinations

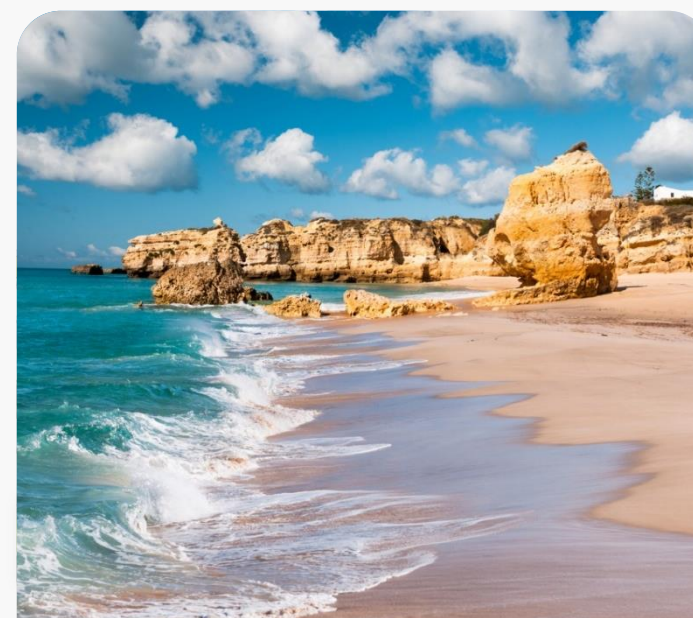
Our top-5



1. Málaga



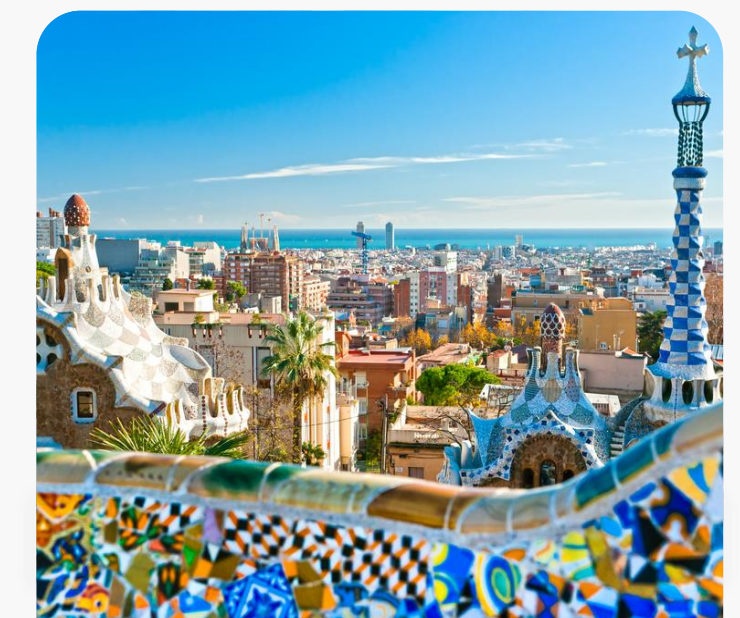
2. Alicante



3. Faro

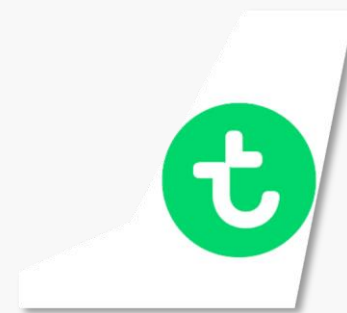


4. London City



5. Barcelona

RTM-based



Transavia



TUI

Non-based



British Airways



Pegasus



Corendon



Sun Express



Freebird



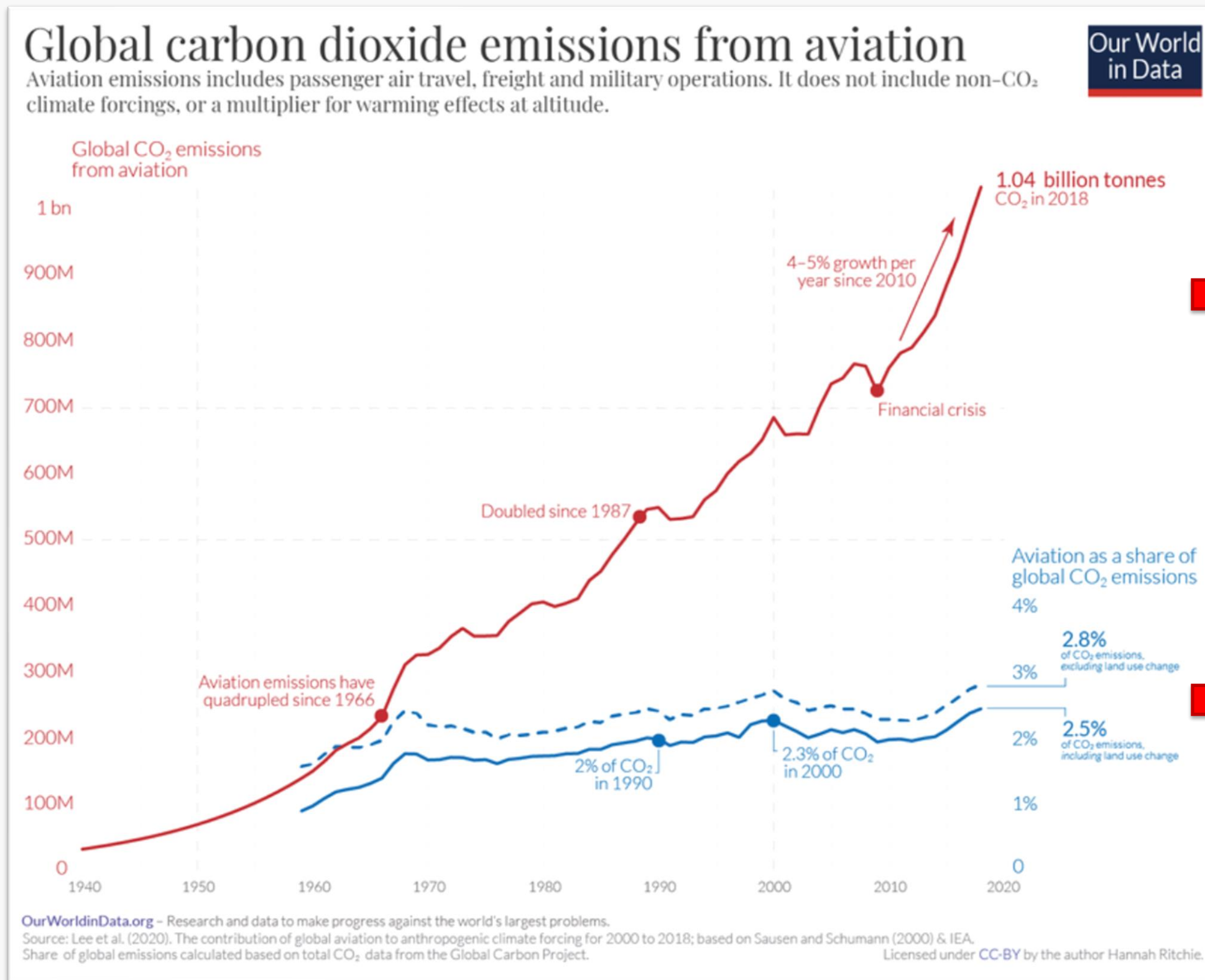
# 02

## Need for climate action





# Global aviation emissions



**Absolute aviation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are rising strongly**

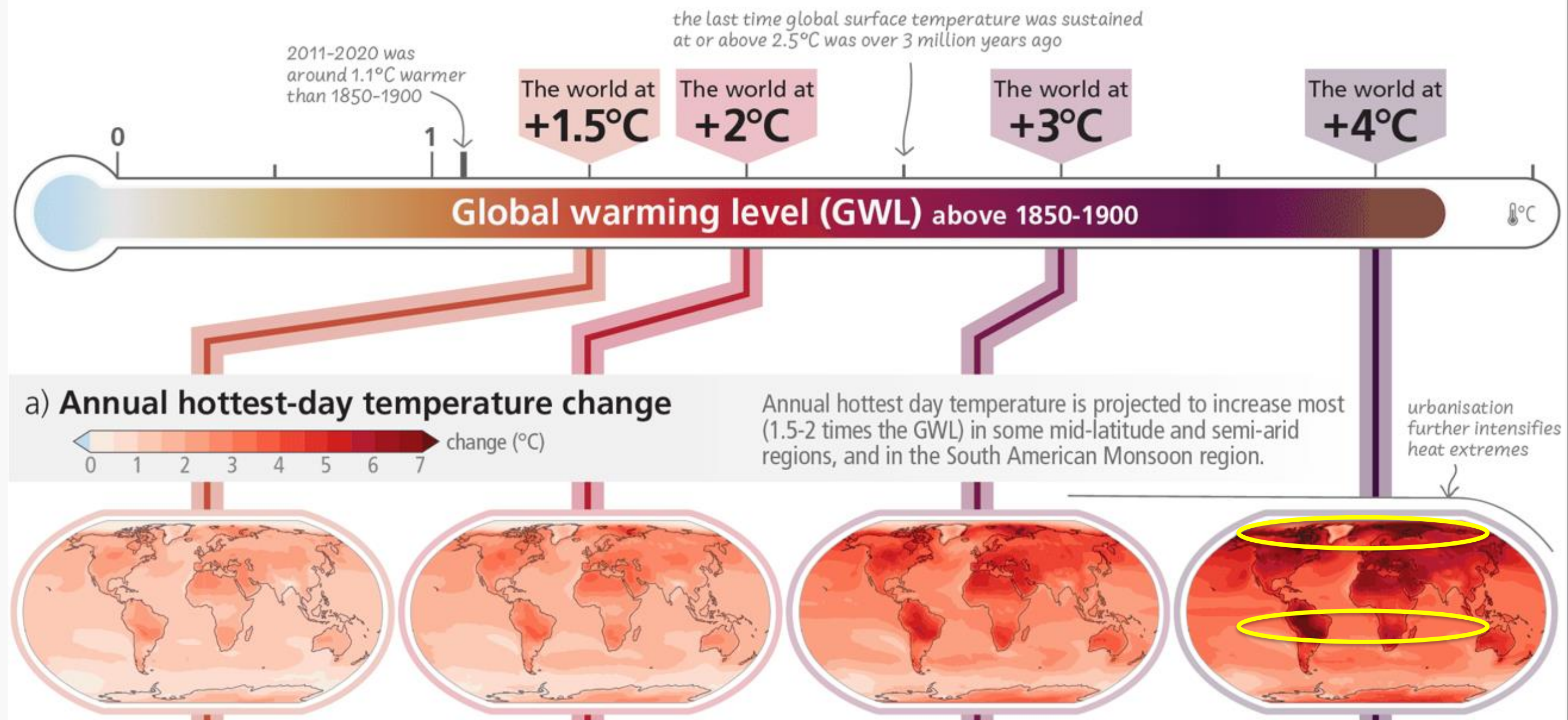


**Aviation = 2-3% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**



# Climate change

With every increment of global warming, regional changes in mean climate and extremes become more widespread and pronounced



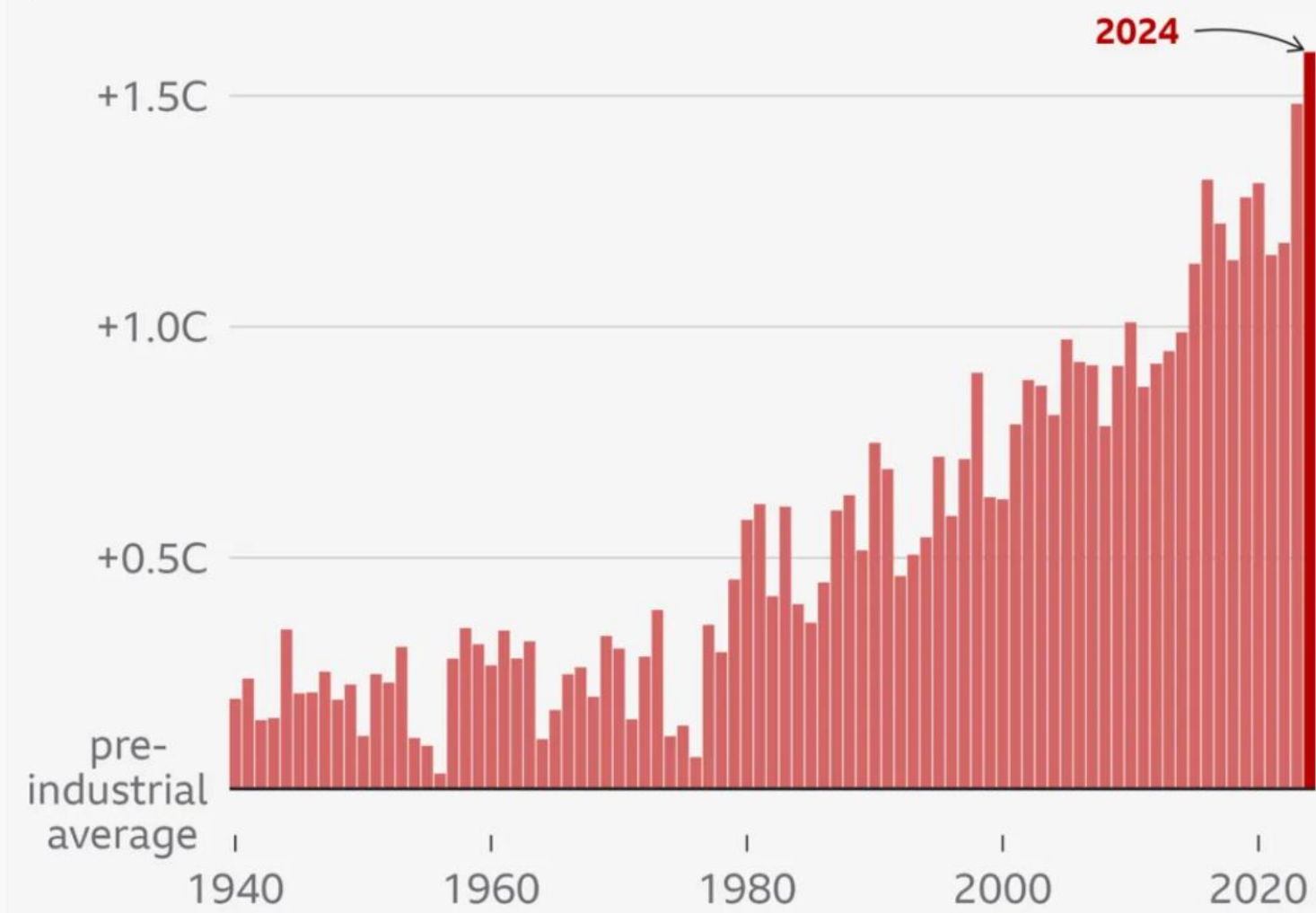
Source: IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report (2023)



# Climate change

## 2024 set to be hottest year on record

Global average temperature by year, compared with the pre-industrial average, 1850-1900



Provisional estimate for 2024, based on January to October temperatures

Source: ERA5, C3S/ECMWF





**In other words...**

**We need to drastically reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to limit global warming!**



# 02

## Sustainability & Innovation Strategy





# Roadmap Sustainability Strategy



## Milestones

- Sustainable Airport**
- 2030** Zero Emission  
Zero Waste
- Fossil-free Aviation**
- 2030** Emissions 2030  
= level 2005
- Communities**
- Improved relationship with local community**



# At the airport: **energy positive and zero emissions in 2030**



## **Renewable energy 14 MWp**

- 37.000 panels in 7,7 ha along runway
- 3x energy demand of airport



## **Electric ground equipment**

- 45% in 2024 up to 100% in 2030



## **Fossil free fuel HVO100**

- Exclusively available for non-electric GSE and heavy duty equipment
- Reduction of 89% CO<sub>2</sub>



## **Electric taxi**

- 100% electric taxi from RTHA



# Towards a circular economy, **zero waste in 2030**



## **Sustainable materials**

- Wooden construction
- Measuring embodied carbon



## **Reuse of materials**

- Taxiway renovation
- Recycled asphalt (50% smaller footprint)



## **In the terminal**

- Waste separation
- Data-driven material flow management



## **Food & Beverage**

- Buy locally & offer biological and plant-based food options



# Airport Carbon Accreditation

✓ **RTHA is among first 10 airports worldwide to be accredited at the highest Level 5**

## Rotterdam The Hague Airport has:

- Reduced scope 1 and 2 emissions by more than 90% since 2010
- Fully aligned its carbon footprint with GHG Protocol guidelines – including scope 3 (upstream & downstream)
- A sustainability & innovation strategy which is considered as sufficient to reduce absolute CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, including aviation emissions. This aligns with the Paris Agreement, Net Zero target of Destination 2050 and Dutch national ambitions
- Committed to absolute emission reduction



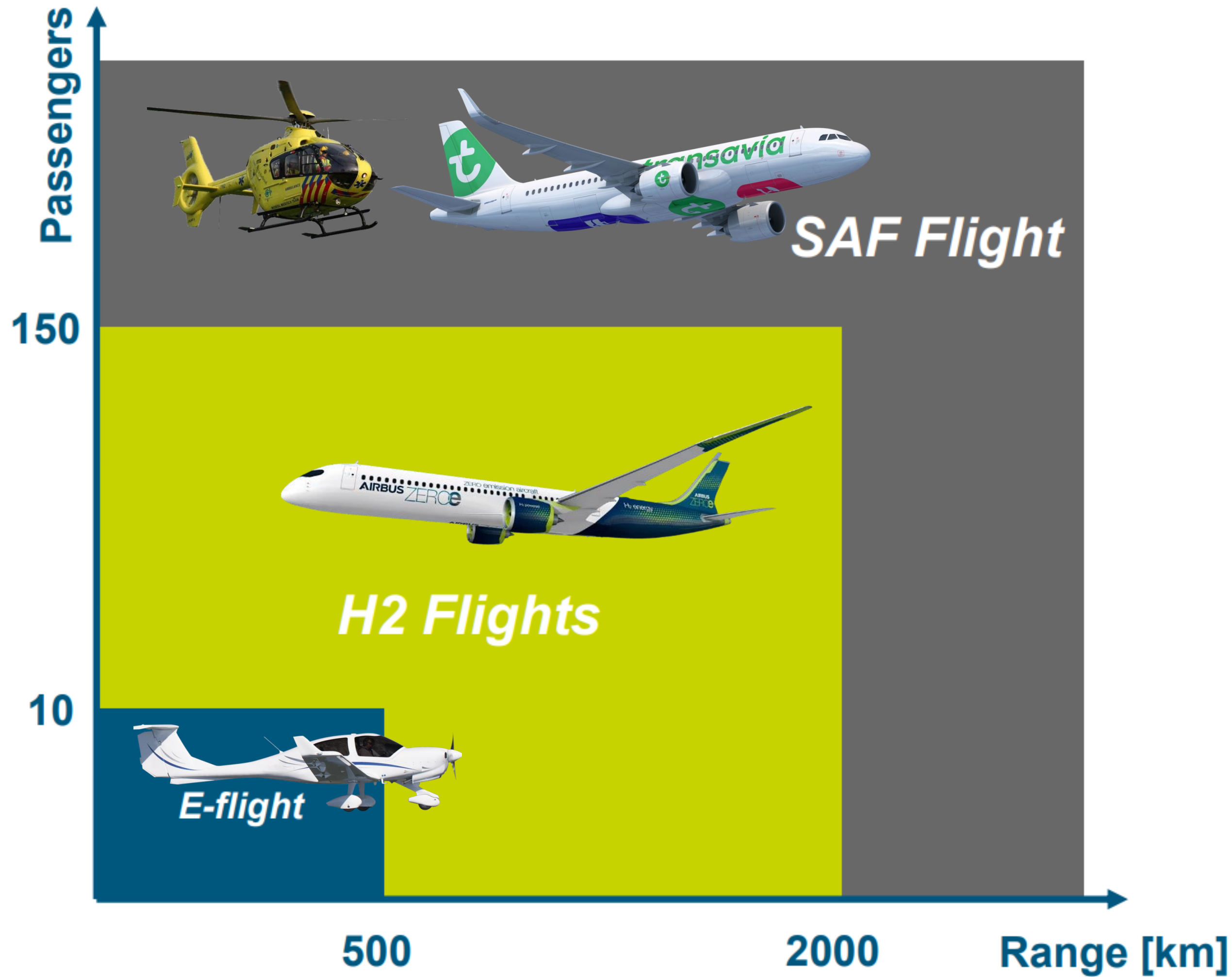


**Addressing the elephant in the room...**

**90% of RTHA's carbon footprint is from kerosene combustion**

**Besides our efforts to make the **airport** more sustainable, most impact can be made by decarbonizing the **flying** itself!**





**Sustainable aviation  
fuels, battery-electric &  
Hydrogen aviation**

**All needed and present at  
Rotterdam The Hague  
Airport**



# Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)

## Decarbonizing today's aircraft

- ReFuelEU Aviation has been adopted, meaning fuel suppliers will start blending a minimum of 2% SAF in 2025 towards 6% in 2030
- At RTHA, airlines have committed to already blend 2% SAF on a voluntary basis in 2024
- Dutch Aviation Industry has set itself a target of 14% SAF in 2030, instead of 6% (ReFuelEU) – getting to 14% remains a tough challenge. More airline commitment is needed.

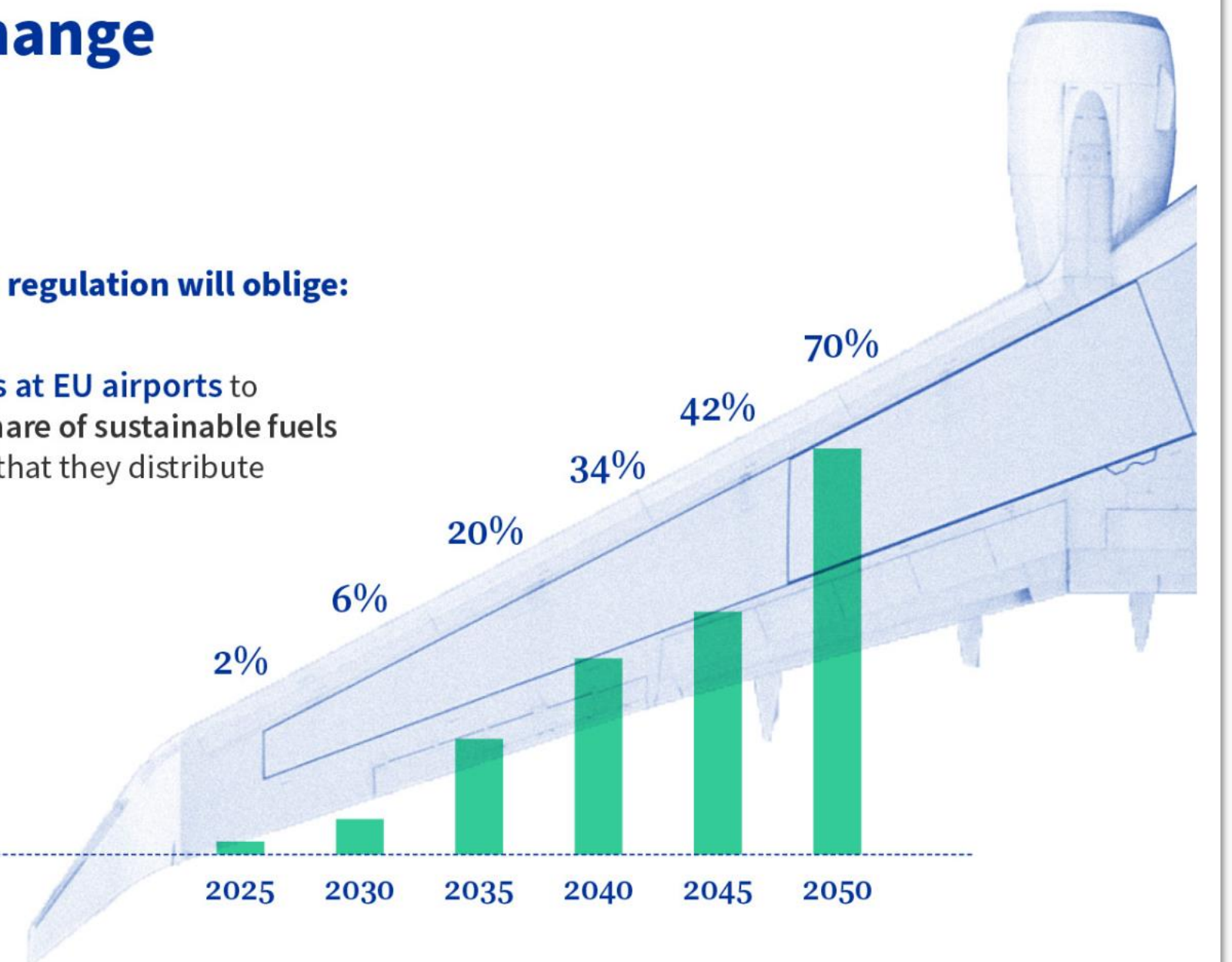
### What will change



The ReFuelEU aviation regulation will oblige:

1. aircraft fuel suppliers at EU airports to gradually increase the share of sustainable fuels (notably synthetic fuels) that they distribute

Minimum share of supply of sustainable aviation fuels (in %)





# Battery-electric aviation

## Introducing electric aircraft at RTHA

- RTHA is involved in the TULIPS project, focusing on battery-electric aviation
- We have installed an EASA-certified charging facility
- We have performed a demonstration for unattended charging
- NLR's Pipistrel Velis Electro aircraft has been made available to our local flight club to gain experience with electric aviation
- Electric aircraft are exempted from airport fees until 2025
- 50% of general aviation movements could be electric in 2030









**Our backyard:**  
**Port, university & hub airport**



 **Port of Rotterdam**

 **TU Delft**

**Rotterdam  
The Hague  
Airport** 

**Schiphol** 



# HYDROGEN CONNECTION TO ROTTERDAM THE HAGUE AIRPORT





# Port of Rotterdam, 'Europe's H<sub>2</sub> Hub'

Rotterdam hosts Europe's largest port and introduces a large-scale H<sub>2</sub> network. This network is based on:

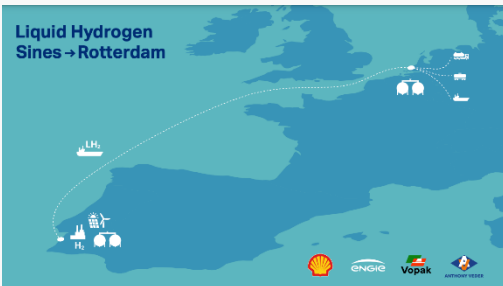
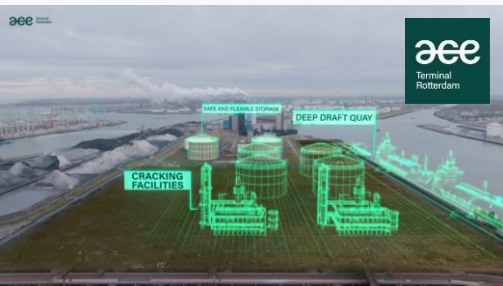
## 1. H<sub>2</sub> production (wind energy)

5%  
in  
2050



## 2. H<sub>2</sub> import and storage

95%  
in  
2050



## 3. H<sub>2</sub> transport (pipeline, road, rail and barge)



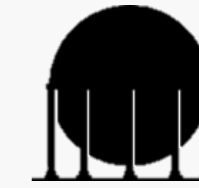


# Our innovation areas **with the focus on H<sub>2</sub> developments at airports**

...are key for hydrogen to be successful



H<sub>2</sub> airport operations



H<sub>2</sub> storage at airports



H<sub>2</sub> supply to airports



H<sub>2</sub> refueling



H<sub>2</sub> fire safety (training)



H<sub>2</sub> ground operation tests



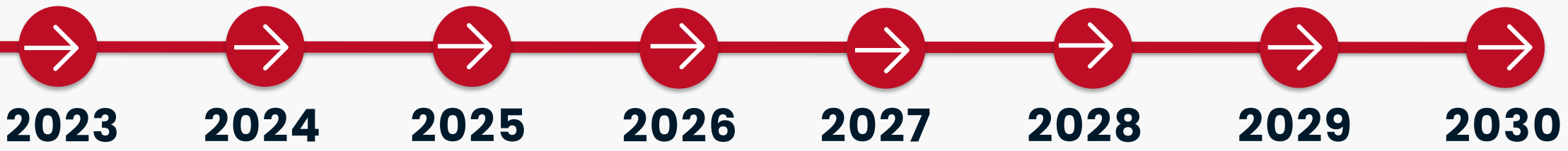
H<sub>2</sub> safety studies



H<sub>2</sub> commercialization



# Projected H<sub>2</sub> aircraft at our airport



-  TULIPS
-  AeroDelft
-  nlr
-  TU Delft
-  ZEROAVIA
-  H2FLY
-  CONSCIOUS AEROSPACE

- NLR Hydra 2 drone
- LH<sub>2</sub> turnaround



- Sling 4 aircraft
- GH<sub>2</sub> and LH<sub>2</sub>



- NLR Living Lab Electric Flight
- Range extenders under wings



- Cessna Skymaster
- Retrofitted with a H<sub>2</sub> combustion engine



- Zeroavia ZA600 powertrain on Cessna Grand Caravan
- Mobile refuelling and demonstration flights



- LH<sub>2</sub> aircraft and mobile LH<sub>2</sub> refuelling demonstration
- Testbed for LH<sub>2</sub> developments



- Dutch national programme - powertrain conversion to LH<sub>2</sub>
- Retrofit of a DeHavilland Dash 8



## Needed H<sub>2</sub> infrastructure



≈ 10 kg



≈ 350 kg



> 3500 kg



# Concluding

## Significant challenges ahead

- Climate change is causing increased global warming, with the 1.5 degree Paris limit starting to disappear on the horizon
- Extreme climate impacts are already happening today, affecting vulnerable communities the most – climate action is more urgent than ever
- Rotterdam The Hague Airport is taking action to eliminate its own emissions (scope 1 and 2)
- Together with our partners we continue the work to reduce scope 3 emissions and – most importantly – decarbonize aviation to ensure a more sustainable future of worldwide connectivity
- This poses significant challenges and requires deep and bold commitment from all players in the aviation industry

**We know what we need to do, **let's walk the talk!****



# Thank you.

Contact

**Koen Pouw | Sustainability Advisor**

 [koen.pouw@rtha.com](mailto:koen.pouw@rtha.com)

 [www.linkedin.com/in/koen-pouw-494786190](https://www.linkedin.com/in/koen-pouw-494786190)

