



Cities, climate change and technological innovation



Pontus Westerberg, 21 October 2021



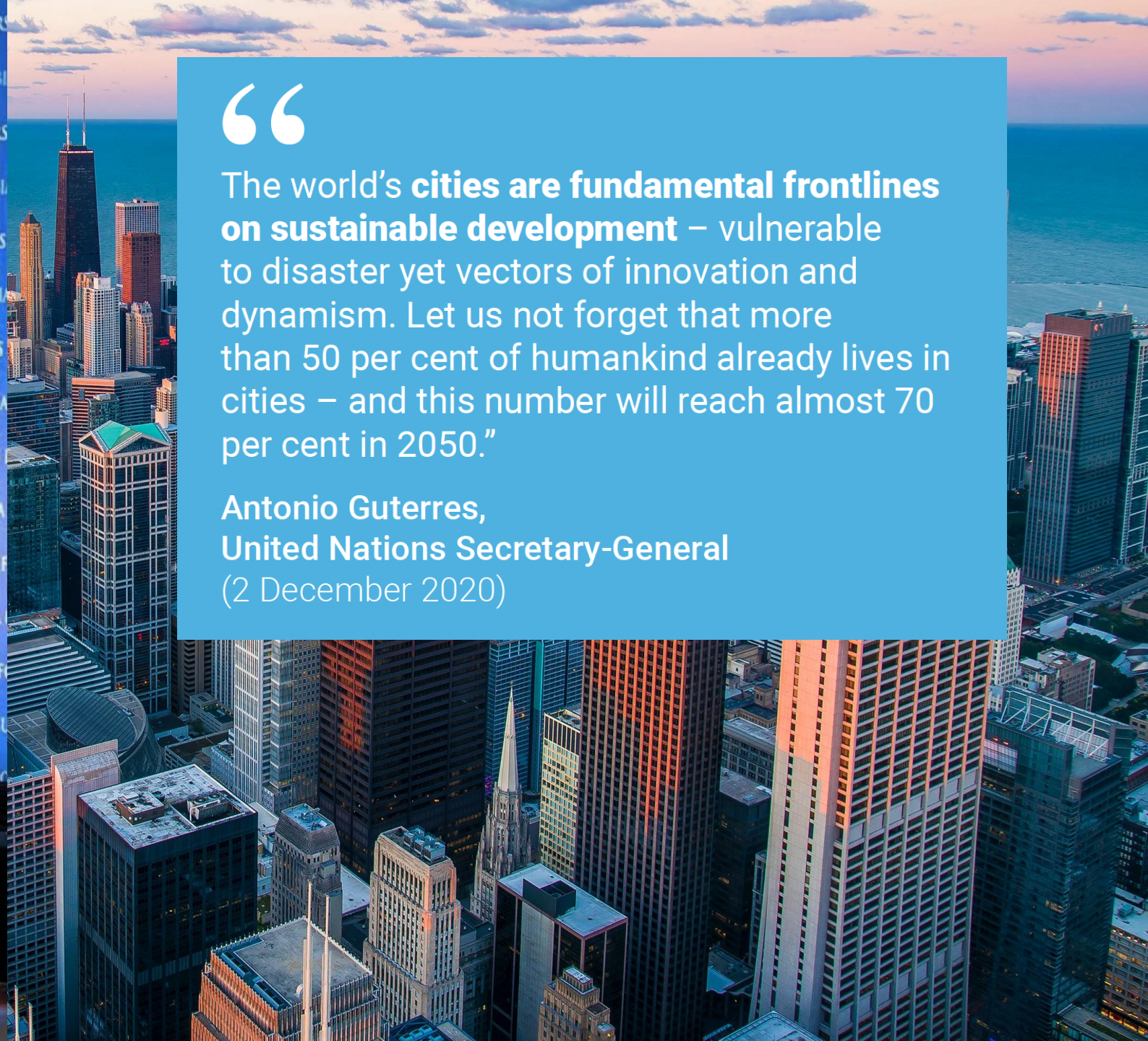
Secretary-General António Guterres discusses the State of the Planet at Columbia University in New York City. UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe



“

The world's **cities are fundamental frontlines on sustainable development** – vulnerable to disaster yet vectors of innovation and dynamism. Let us not forget that more than 50 per cent of humankind already lives in cities – and this number will reach almost 70 per cent in 2050.”

Antonio Guterres,
United Nations Secretary-General
(2 December 2020)



Cities and Carbon Neutrality

City-level and sectoral action plan development is critical in line with the 1.5°C goal. Urban sustainability, air pollution, economic co-benefits of low-emission approaches help build larger coalitions; the implementation of such plans needs to be reported, monitored and verified.


Cities are at the **FRONTLINE** of climate change and the biggest **CONTRIBUTORS** of harmful emissions.

Cities are responsible for
75%
of global CO₂ emissions

DECARBONIZING urban energy, transport, buildings, materials use and waste by 90% in 2050 results in: +87M jobs (2030) and savings of USD 24T.

CITIES are where the **CLIMATE BATTLE** will largely be won or lost

National Urban Commitments are critical



“Nationally Determined Contributions embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.” UNFCCC

National-local feedback loops can enhance the policy environment and local ambition.

New NDCs: “some efforts are focused on adaptation of cities, including through planning, risk assessment and slum upgrading.

National Urban Policies that explicitly focus on Climate Change

14%

**IPCC 1.5°C: annual emission reductions needed:
7.6%
Even with COVID:
year on year reduction only
8.5%**

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND CITIES
Needs to be addressed in Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and National Urban Plans.**

Climate finance does not reach cities

Even at early stages of planning, having an eye on finance is critical. Finance opportunities increase –but “bankable” projects remain scarce.

Total Adaptation
Finance:
USD 30B
City Adaptation
Finance:
<USD 4B

75%

of infrastructure to be
in place by 2050 has
not yet been built

Urban Infrastructure
Investment needed
(2015-30)
\$65T
Currently
<\$3T/year

Finance for climate
change adaptation
in cities needs to be
increased,
particularly for pro-
poor adaptation

Net Zero by 2050

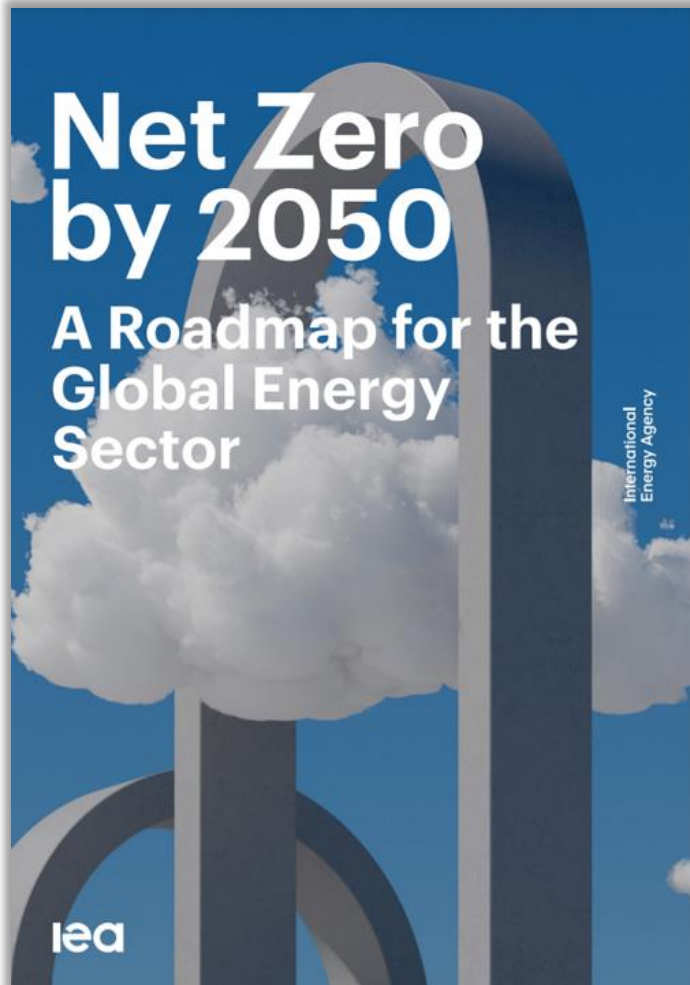
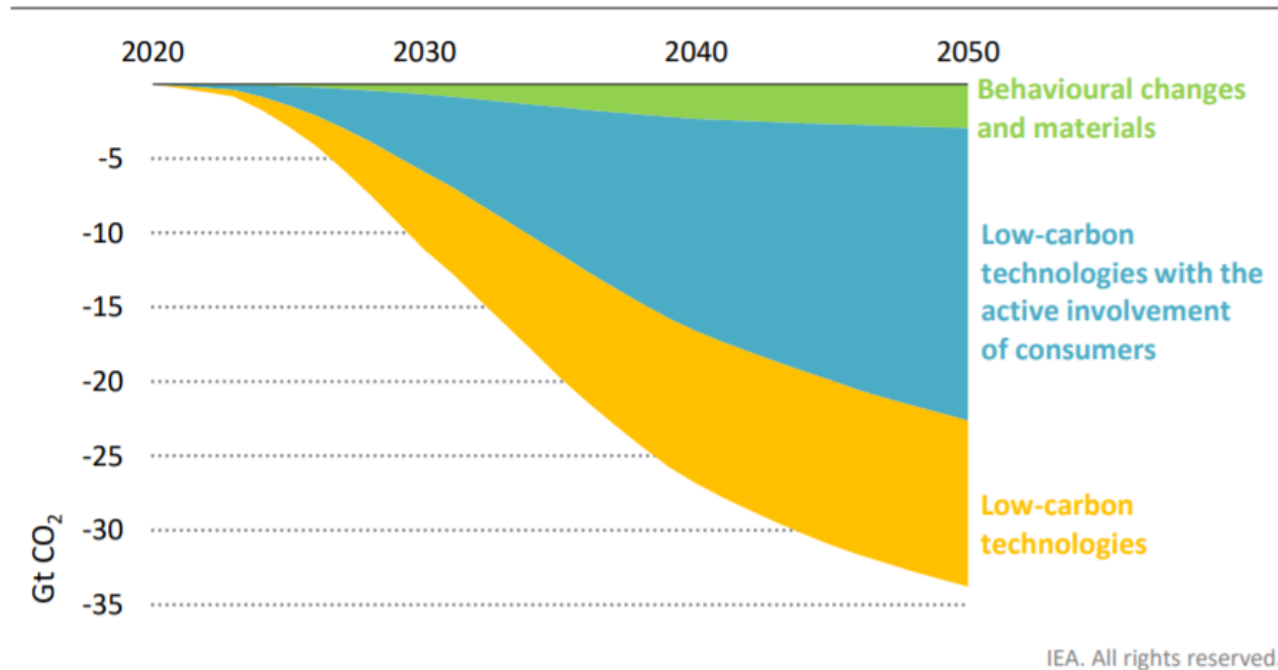
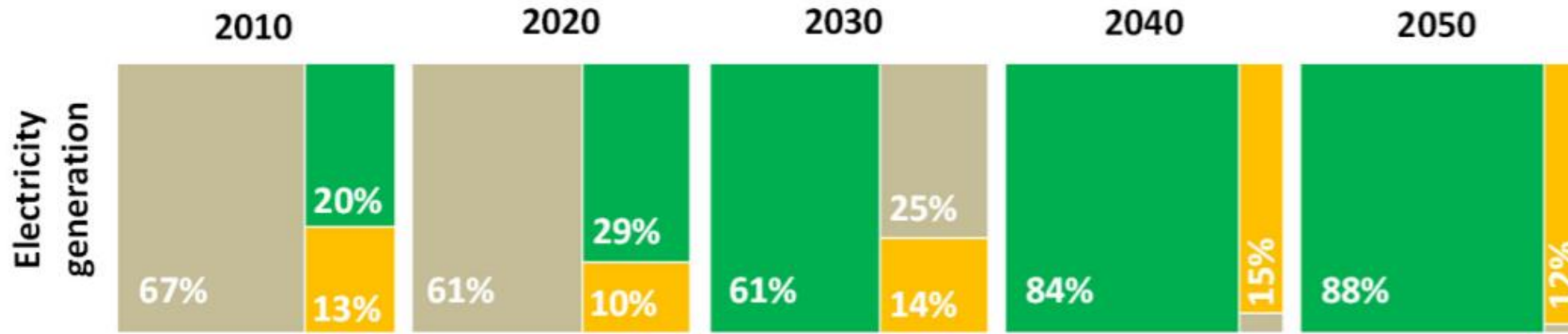


Figure 2.14 ▶ Role of technology and behavioural change in emissions reductions in the NZE

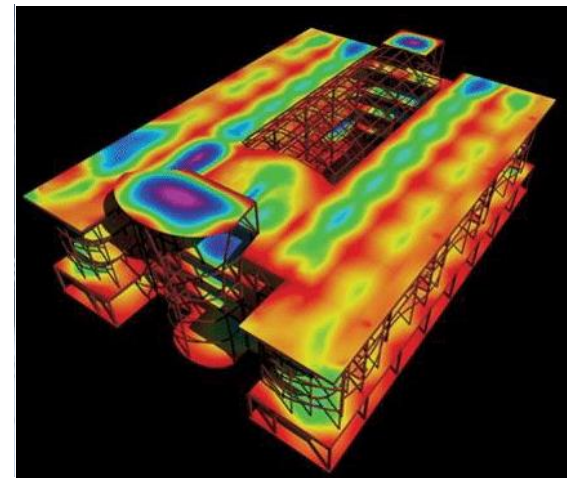
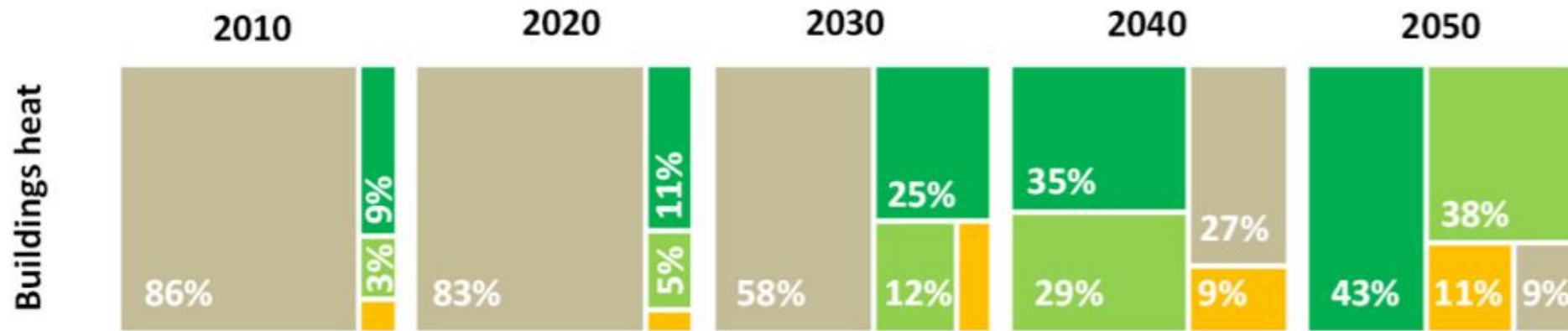


“The global pathway to net-zero emissions by 2050 detailed in this report requires all governments to significantly strengthen and then successfully implement their energy and climate policies. Commitments made to date fall far short of what is required.”

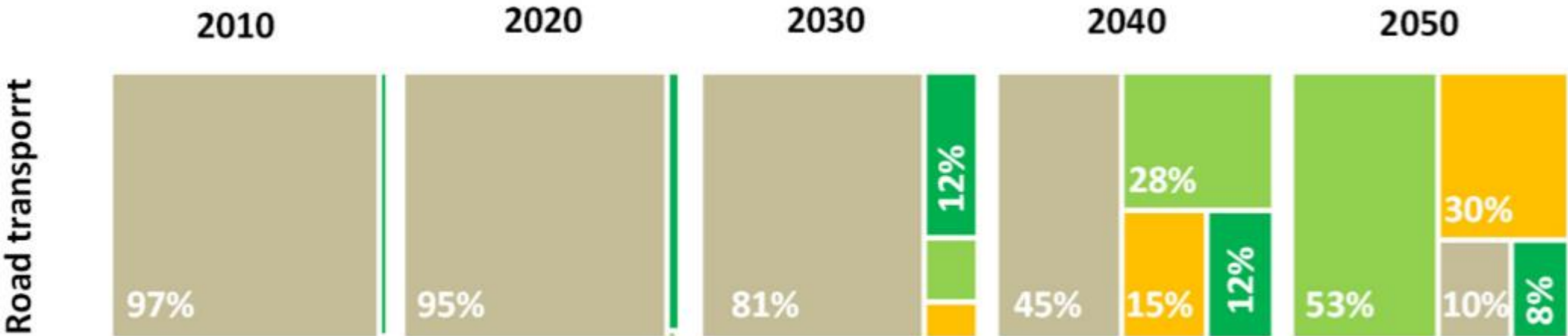
1. Massive clean energy expansion



2. Building efficiency, materials and technologies



3. Transport and mobility



#ClimateAction4Cities

The CA4C Campaign calls for urgent action and aims to inspire and mobilize multiple actors in cities and communities, engage partners and promote climate solutions.

CLIMATE
ACTION
4CITIES



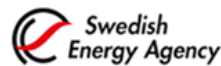
CLIMATE SMART CITIES CHALLENGE

A city-based open innovation initiative to match climate smart solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in cities and create a better future for all.

Bogota

BristolCuritiba

Makindye Ssabagabo





The global ICT industry accounts for around 2% of global carbon emissions – about the same as the aviation industry





Thank you

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE