



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

# Transition to non-animal research

*Henriëtte Bout, vice chair and  
member of the NCad*



3R-Conferens  
-Swetox, FORMAS  
Stockholm, Sweden  
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# Program

1. The advice
2. The method
3. The (main) conclusions
4. The follow up

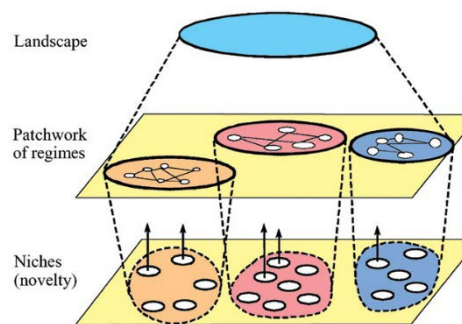


Figure 1: The multi-level perspective



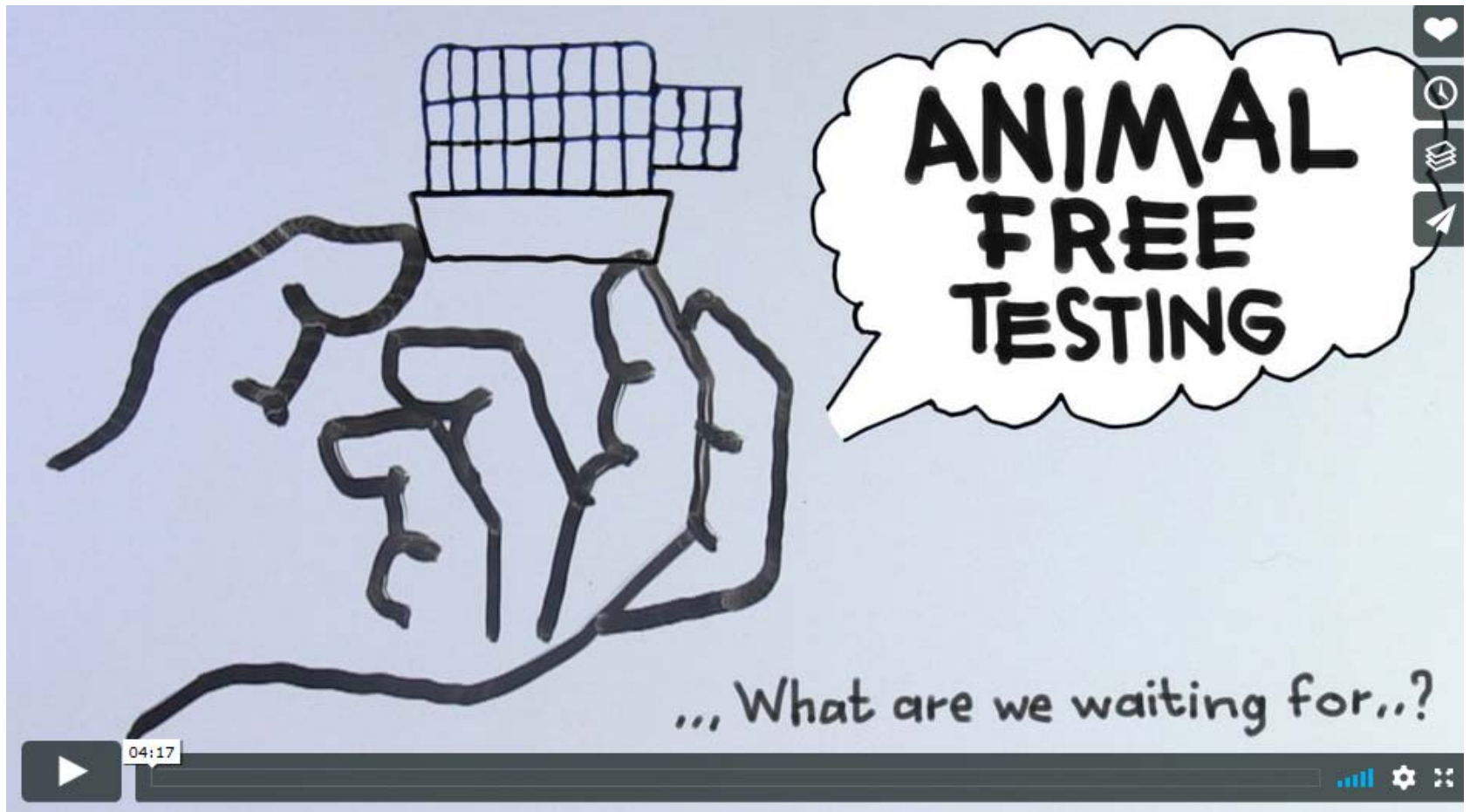


In 2025 the Netherlands  
should be a world leader  
in animal-free innovations!

*“NCad, I urge you to develop a  
roadmap for the phasing out of the  
use of animals in scientific research”*









Netherlands National Committee  
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# Transition to non-animal research

*on opportunities for the phasing out of  
animal procedures and the stimulation  
of innovation without laboratory  
animals*

Opinion of the Netherlands National Committee for the  
protection of animals used for scientific purposes (NCad)



[https://www.ncadierproevenbeleid.nl/documenten/rapport/2016/12/15/  
ncad-opinion-transition-to-non-animal-research](https://www.ncadierproevenbeleid.nl/documenten/rapport/2016/12/15/ncad-opinion-transition-to-non-animal-research)



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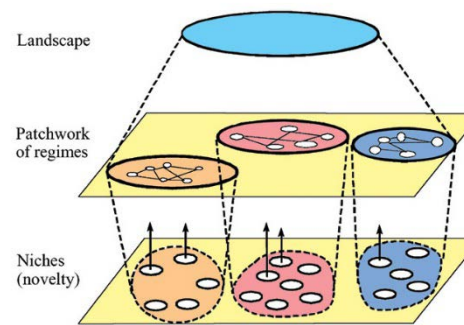


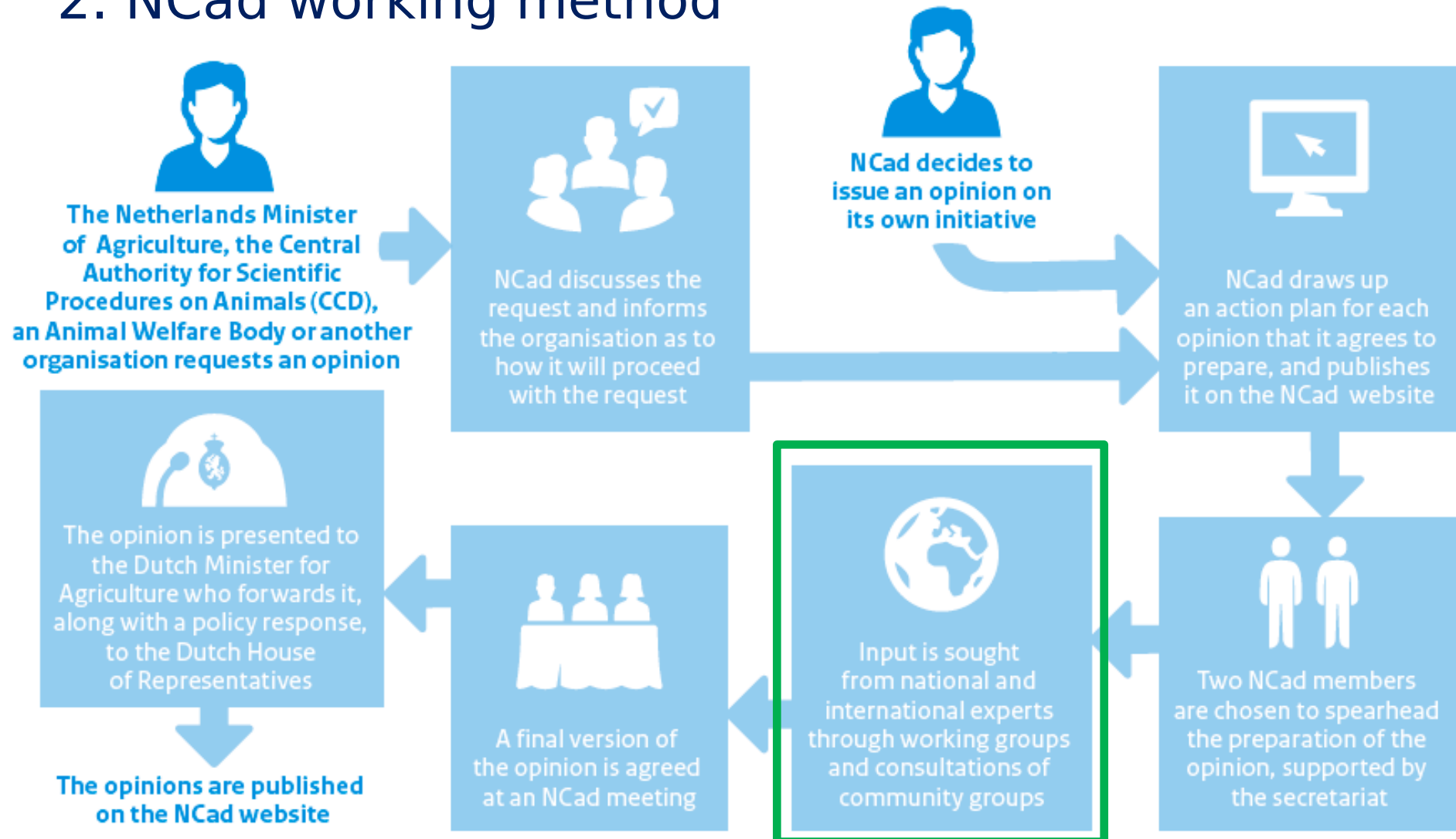
Figure 1: The multi-level perspective







## 2. NCad working method







## 2. Transition advice working method

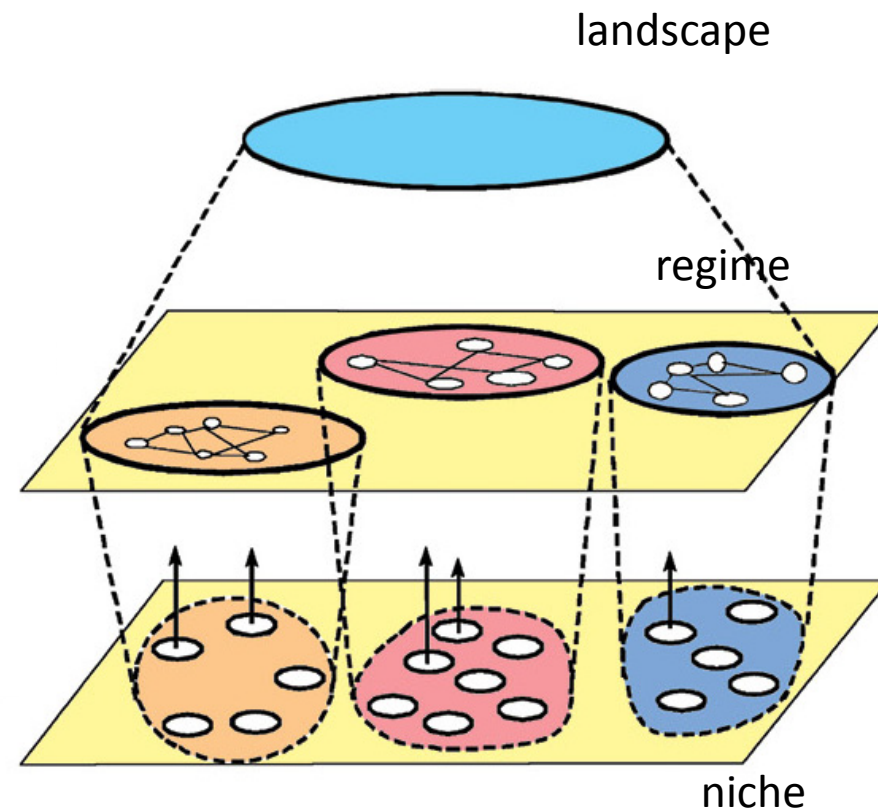
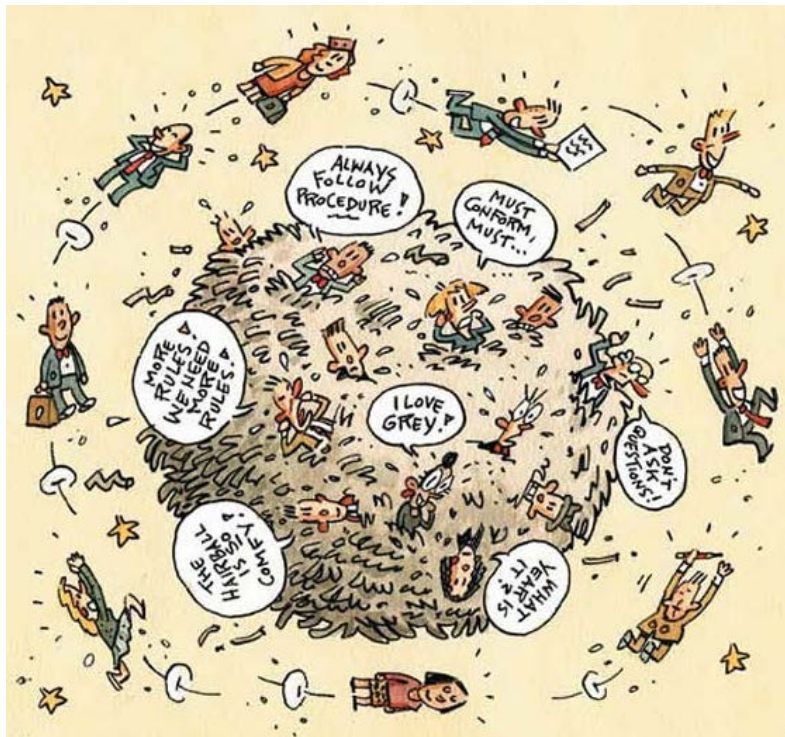


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## Transition to non-animal research > pressure cooker

- assisted by expert in transition management
- 2 highly interactive multidisciplinary workshops, led by NCad
- narrative review of literature, opinion papers, news journals
- consultation of experts
- online discussion group on LinkedIn
- student project
- consultation of 16 community groups (5 animal welfare + 2 NGO/patients + 1 government + 5 research + 3 industry)

NCad formulates own opinion



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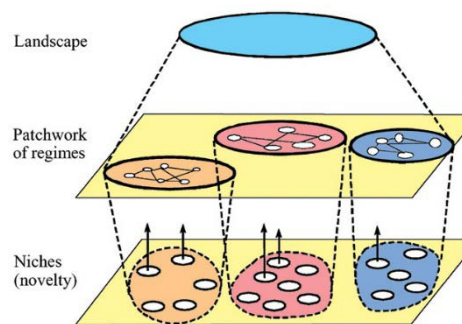


Figure 1: The multi-level perspective





### 3. The (main) conclusions

1. A paradigm shift from ‘animals as golden standard’ to ‘animal free innovation’ is necessary.
2. Formulate transition goals and targets: phasing out all animal testing for regulatory purposes is possible before 2025.
3. Strong management of the transition, based on a clear transition strategy is essential.

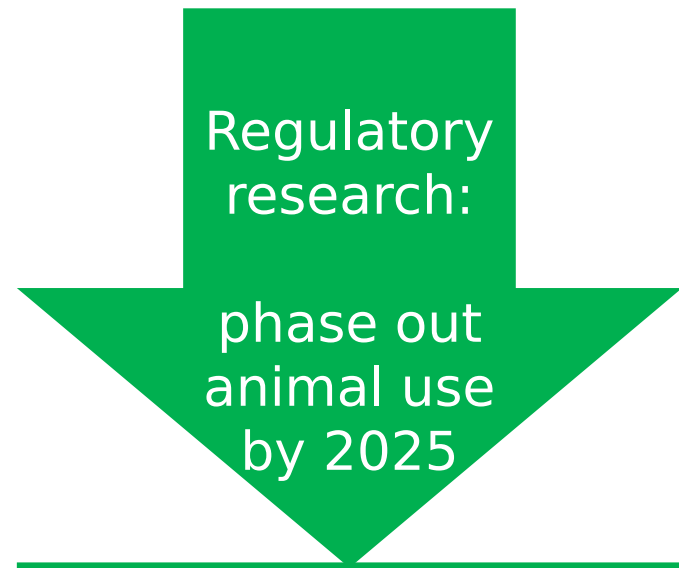






# Transition targets

- Regulatory required safety testing of **chemical substances**  
including food additives, pesticides and medical products
- Regulatory required testing for the release of pre-clinically assessed **biological products**  
such as vaccines





(following)

- Each (sub)domain in fields of fundamental research, translational research, applied research and education



define  
transition  
targets for  
coming 10  
years

*Vision, including:*

Main scientific questions of the research field, animal models used in this domain (incl welfare), biomedical dilemmas, context (including drivers, barriers and stakeholder interests), targets for animal free innovations, strategy and monitoring



## Transition strategy

- Initiate **international discussion** on drastic revision of current regulatory risk assessment process
- Adjust current government innovation policy to a more chain-oriented approach encouraging **multidisciplinary collaboration**
- Invest in valorisation and **acceptance** of animal-free research methods
- Stimulate ethical use of **human subjects** for scientific data collection



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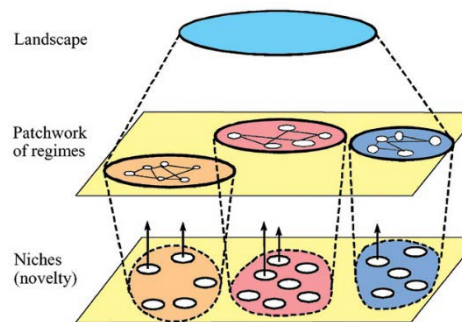


Figure 1: The multi-level perspective







## 4. Follow up

- 'Have the completely lost their minds there in the Netherlands????'
- 'Finally a country with the guts to do something'
- 'Naive', 'Denying the progress and benefits of science', 'Ambitious', 'Courageous'
- Etc.



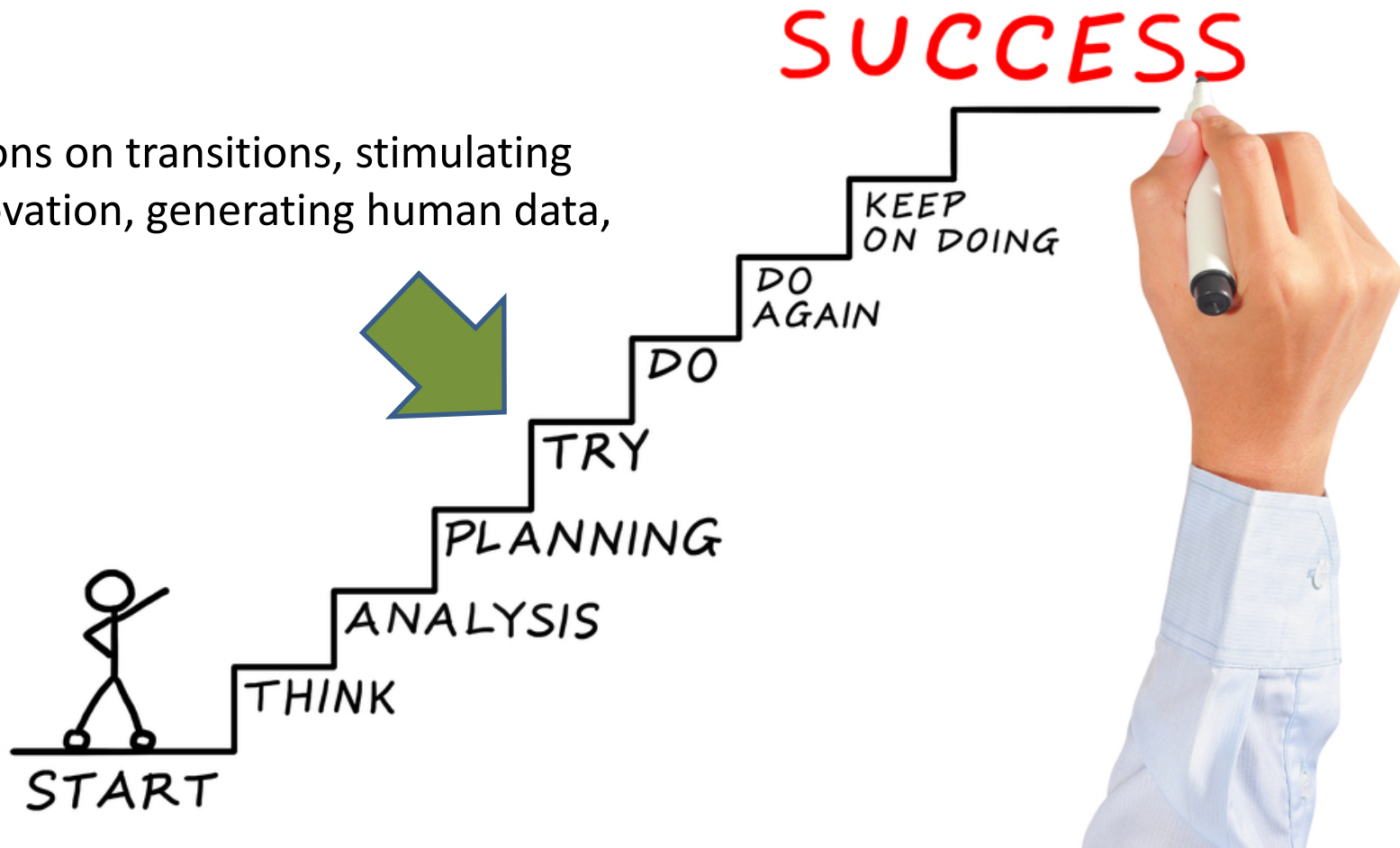


## 4. Follow up

- RIVM (national institute for public health and the environment): strategy to phasing out in the regulatory field before 2025
- Science stakeholders like the Royal academy of Sciences: stimulate formulating transition vision in fundamental research.
- Interdepartmental steering group (high end)
- June 27th: Dutch conference on transition targets in the domains  
Pilots 'vision on transition target' in the domains of
  - › research on the central nervous system
  - › cardio sciences
  - › education
- International lectures: o.a. Seattle, Ontario, Rome, Pisa, Sweden 😊



Visions on transitions, stimulating innovation, generating human data, etc





# Lessons learned

- Selective reading is a threat
- Beware of weakening of the ambition: from 'transition' to 'more 3R effort'
- No management, no progress
- Political changes (NL, EU) are a risk for perseverance

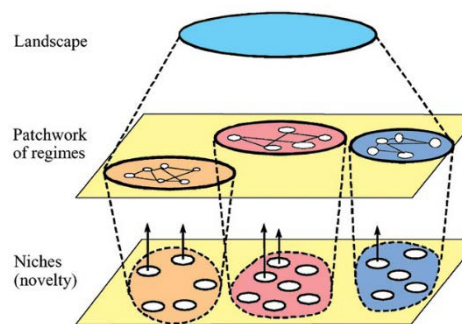


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Start / Dokument & lagar / Strategi för att fasa ut djurförsök

# Strategi för att fasa ut djurförsök

## Motion 2017/18:3768

av Betty Malmberg m.fl. (M)

Förslag till riksdagsbeslut

1. Riksdagen ställer sig bakom det som anförs i motionen om att Sverige behöver en strategi för att fasa ut försök på levande djur då så är möjligt och tillkännager detta för regeringen.
2. Riksdagen ställer sig bakom det som anförs i motionen om att Sverige behöver en strategi med målet att lansera fler innovativa modeller för alternativ till djurförsök och tillkännager detta för regeringen.

## Motivering

År 2010 antog Europaparlamentet det så kallade Djurförsöksdirektivet (2010/63/EU)

### Motionen är inlämnad

**Motionskategori:** Fristående motion

**Tilldelat:** Miljö- och jordbruksutskottet

### Händelser

**Inlämnad:** 2017-10-05

**Granskad:** 2017-10-05



# Tips

- Make use of the knowledge of transition management
- Cooperate! With stakeholders, with us
- Make it European (harmonization of legislation)
- Do not focus on 3R but on innovation
- Educate students on animal free innovation (in stead of 3R's)





# Thank you!



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