

Bringing Up New Economy to Provide Climate Care

Diet for the man-made world – recovery for the planet

(A dialogue between friends)

All has become very heavy and very big: the cars, the busses, the lorries, the roads, the containers, the ships, the ports, the airplanes, the airports, the hangars, the buildings, the tools, the machines, the pipelines, the reservoirs, the power stations, the caterpillars, the cranes, the combined harvesters, the warehouses, the logistic centres, the supermarkets, everything.

Hm.

The bricks, the pre-fabrics, the window-glasses, the garage-doors, the tubes, the valves, the panels, too - all very big and very heavy.

How come?

Because of everything getting bigger and heavier over time as such: The heavy goods require heavy tools, they require heavy means to transport them, the means again require heavy infrastructure, the heavy infrastructure requires heavy tools and means to build them. Such upscaling stimulation is one reason.

And the other?

Because of the *economy of scale* things have become bigger and heavier, too: the containers from overseas, the ports to move them, the ships to load them, the lorries to bring them, the spaces to hold them, the warehouses, shopping centres, car parks, roads, ... you already know.

Yes, I remember.

This all has become far too big and far too heavy. This all needs far too much material and consumes far too much energy – in the sourcing, in the construction, in the use, in the deconstruction and the subsequent waste management.

It's impressive, it's amazing, not to say: it's also shocking!

Honestly, we and the world cannot afford it any longer. Particularly not when facing the recent costs of energy.

We must do something about it. I see, right away and with good effects on a longer term.

How about diet? Yes, I say diet: Lose weight. Become light with each and everything. How would you do that?

Maybe by using less? This is not valid for everybody. Yet some people have very little and do not consume a lot.

What else?

Maybe by finding a different kind of setting? By finding a different way of how structures and processes are?

Maybe. Let's find out!

Okay. Go ahead!

If we had lighter construction materials, smaller tools to move and mount them would be enough. The means to transport them could be lighter and so the roads not that big.

If we had light weight vehicles also the production lines could be lean to produce them.

If we had many smaller manufactures instead of a big one for the entire world, the production would be distributed and the ways short.

If we had regionally sourced materials, the many distributed manufacturers could work with them. Same with the workers.

Sounds good. Hm, if everything becomes light weight, can it still stand the stress? I mean can light weight houses resist the hurricanes? Can light weight cars protect us enough in a crash?

Sure, stability and security are not the result of massive materials of heavy weight only. The way of construction, fixing and use can make it, too. By the way the forces in a crash of light weight cars will be less. And the hurricanes will be less, if the heat is less, because less fossil fuels are burnt. But that's a complex story.

Cool! Any idea how to achieve it? It doesn't look to be so easy.

Oh, don't give up before you even started to scratch it. Let's see. I do have some ideas to share with you.

Seriously? Tell me!

For instance: Initially the first cars were not made of steel, but of hemp. They were light and stable, and people knew how to process hemp to become car parts.

In earlier times houses were not made of concrete, but of local stones, clay, lime, wood, and straw. Cranes, tools, and transportation means were made of these local materials, too.

Come on, that's crap! You are nostalgic. That's a long time ago. In what kind of world do you live?

Ask yourself! What kind of world is it now and how long will we make it this way?

Okay, okay, let's get back to what you wanted to tell me.

Fine, thank you. Right - light weight. And yes, how to achieve it. You are right: I read some old books. They are full of former principles. Of course, they need adoption to modern times and then they can make it again.

Wow, that surprises me. I guess that's smart.

Smart! Yes, indeed, some people call such technology SMART: small, light, pure, little demanding, clean, silent, peaceful, sustainable, renewable, degradable, bionic, well in sync with the elements, nature, and creation.

Okay, okay, you make me nervous. Finally, will you make it concrete, please?

Great, in this case we shall start from the other end, namely with farming and industrial hemp as renewable resource. Hemp is a pioneering plant, grows everywhere even under harsh conditions and can with hundreds of species provide the raw material for any everyday use case. Believe it or not, hemp goes for food, construction, textiles, synthetics, even energy – of course using the appropriate kind of future smart technology. Since this takes place regionally and carefully, health prevention, actual health and fast recovery from current stress and damages come with it.

Serious?

Sure! Very sure!

Any samples?

Well, I find www.hempner.net and “hemp solutions” on www.glaernischtexil.ch very authentic and practical. They tell the story of a radical change although they do not cause any pain. In my opinion they have the power to reform economics and society fundamentally and globally. And the prospects are anything else than poor.

Globally? Really? Imagine how massive the industrial need for renewable resources is!

That’s exactly the USP of the approach these sites show. The only way to provide the enormous volumes of renewables and semi-products to the further processing industries is the same as food is being provided: By the distributed power of the connected farmers who act in local cooperatives as they do today for instance for cheese and wine. No factory compares to their power at the basis.

Perfect! What are you waiting for then?! I understand all designs for technology and organisation are ready.

Yes, indeed. What is needed now are the investors to turn the key and get it all take place. They are key now, everything else is ready.

Possibly they are afraid to lose a lot of money.

They don’t need to be afraid: it all takes place step by step to access to multibillion business. Investors may participate for a certain period and take out an extraordinary profit or - as they like - stay in the business and take part in doing new economy.

Great. Let me get back to the hurricanes. Before you said: That’s a complex story. I am curious.

Right, yes, that’s like this: The heavier things are, the more energy they need, the more carbon-dioxide is emitted these days, the more the climate warms up, the more the global water streams and winds change and become intense, the heavier and more frequent storms, floods, droughts occur.

Ah, that’s clear to me now.

And you know what’s best?

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Since hemp is resistant, resilient, and durable it can help to green the deserts. Not only that deserts can be turned into additional space for life and civilisation. Greening the deserts means making them less hot and dry and by that their effects on the global climate can be tuned into supporting climate care. It’s probably better than any mission to the Mars.

I see, that’s cool indeed. Thank you so much.

Martin Klöti, 15th September 2022