RECHARGE ROTTERDAM

CREATING THE CONDITIONS FOR TOMORROW'S INDUSTRY

Recharge Rotterdam is an action programme to preserve our critical industry and drive investments in innovation and sustainability. This will enable the port of Rotterdam to remain at the beating heart of industry and logistics in Europe.

Investment climate under pressure

With Europe's largest port, world-class transport networks and a strong industrial cluster for fuels and chemicals, Rotterdam forms the basis for the earning capacity of the Netherlands and Northwest Europe. The port and industry cluster comprises around 3,000 companies, generates €23.3 billion in added value and processes approximately 85% of European imports via the Antwerp-Rotterdam-Rhine-Ruhr area. With the expansion and landing of offshore wind, green hydrogen plants and biofuels, among other things, the port also plays a leading role in the energy transition.

This strong starting position and the investment climate are now under pressure due to higher energy costs compared to neighbouring countries, grid congestion and regulatory and permitting bottlenecks, partly due to an as yet unsolved nitrogen problem. Several companies have closed their doors in recent years. Moreover, especially now, large investments are needed in new, sustainable technologies that are at risk of slowing down. This jeopardises the competitiveness, sustainability and resilience of the Netherlands.

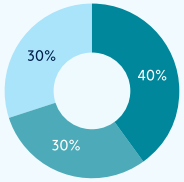
That is why the central government has proposed an area-specific, customised cluster approach to address the increasing challenges facing the Dutch economy and sustainability. We aim to ensure that critical industry remains in the Netherlands and that we become less dependent on imports of, for example, fuels and raw materials for medicines, fibres and plastics. The Netherlands must also expand its position in crucial new value chains such as hydrogen and circular chemistry. To achieve this, within Recharge Rotterdam, the Port of Rotterdam Authority and Deltalinqs are collaborating with companies and public authorities on specific projects that remove obstacles and lead to actual investments.

Port of Rotterdam

Deltalinqs

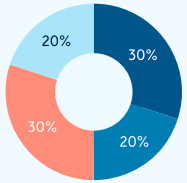
More than €20 billion in potential investment

An analysis of 65 investment plans from industrial companies in the cluster shows that more than €20 billion in investments in the energy and raw materials transition is possible, but the investments are at risk of stalling due to an increasing number of bottlenecks. Recharge Rotterdam is working to improve the investment climate by removing these bottlenecks. The most important obstacles and the corresponding approaches for each cluster are explained below.



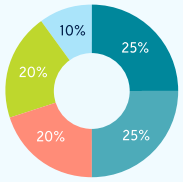
Salt chemistry

This cluster is important for the production of basic chemicals for plastics and medicines, among other things. Salt chemistry is under increasing pressure due to higher electricity costs compared to neighbouring countries● and imports below cost price from Asia●. We are therefore working with the government on measures to reduce electricity costs and strengthen competitiveness.



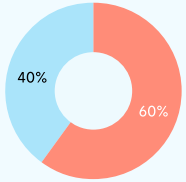
Circular industry

Scaling up of recycling and circular chemistry is hindered by a lack of electricity and steam infrastructure●, insufficient demand for circular products●, and complex regulations regarding waste status and permitting●. For example, work is underway on a plastic recycling hub, circular feedstock for the chemical industry and low CO_2 building materials.



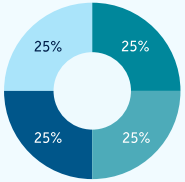
Sustainable fuels

For the production of sustainable fuels, the main obstacles are market and demand uncertainty●●, access to CO_2 and hydrogen● infrastructure, and sufficient electricity and steam capacity●. Removing these bottlenecks enables CO_2 capture from residual gases, low-carbon hydrogen production and other sustainable fuels.



Power plants

For electrons and heat, the availability and pricing of electricity and steam● play a significant role. Therefore, progress is being made on converting existing power plants to use alternative raw materials such as hydrogen or biomass.



Infrastructure & new growth sectors

Many sustainability projects depend on the timely construction of hydrogen and CO_2 infrastructure●, sufficient commitment and financial feasibility●, and clarity regarding nitrogen space and permitting●. At the same time, investing in new growth sectors such as green hydrogen is essential to remain internationally competitive in the long term.

Legend

- Marktet: Level playing field (LPF), demand certainty
- Availability of electricity and steam
- Regulations and permitting
- Access H_2 / CO_2 infrastructure
- Other

More information
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Port of Rotterdam

Deltalinqs