
ACCELERATING THE BREAKTHROUGH OF CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES

**DRIVING EXPONENTIAL GROWTH IN CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES
WITH POSITIVE TIPPING POINTS**

Brochure

Systemiq, June 2025

ACCELERATING THE BREAKTHROUGH OF CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES

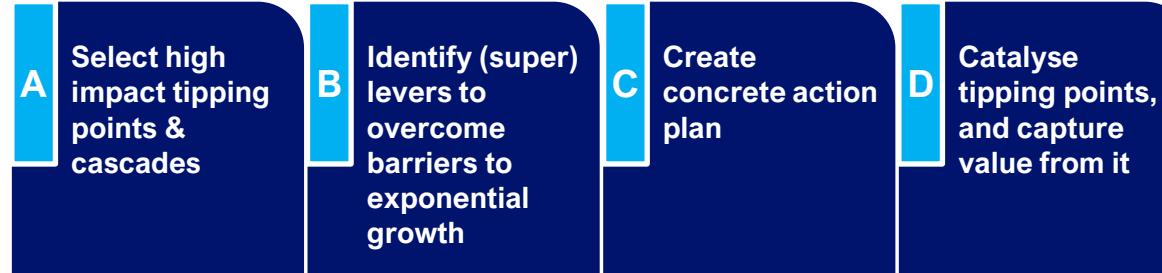
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

History suggests that the adoption of a new technology can switch from a linear to an exponential pace when a tipping point is reached

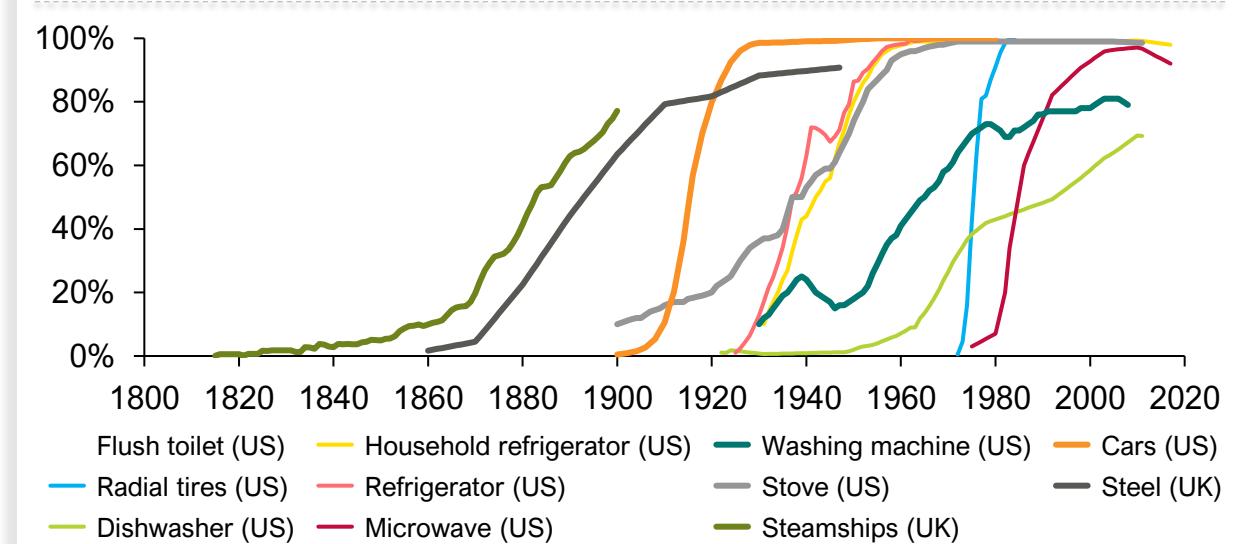
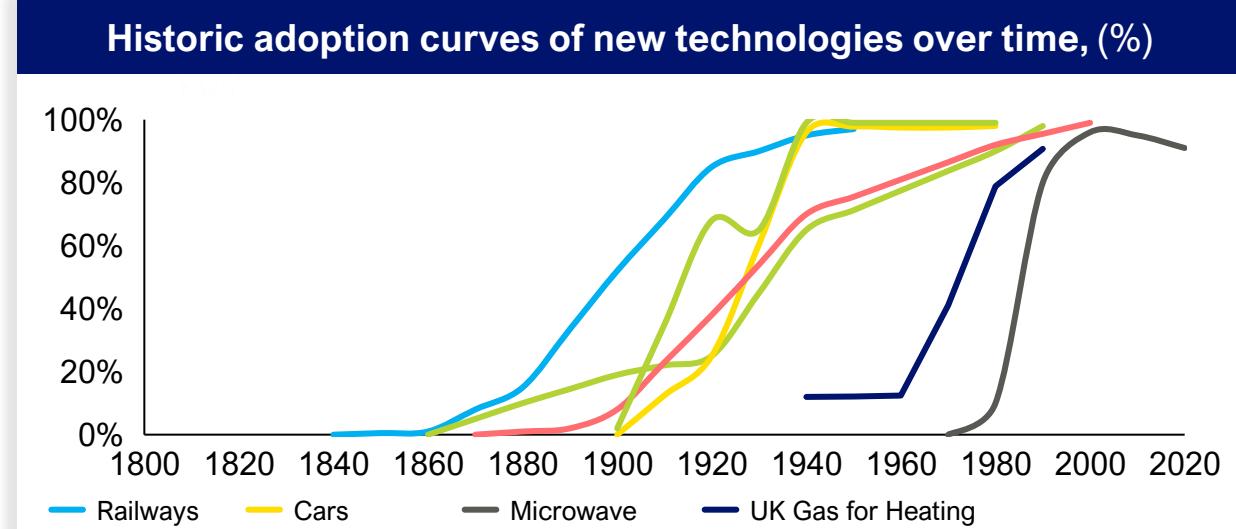
A tipping point is a moment in time when a new technology becomes more competitive than incumbent technologies across three A's and Reinforcing Feedback Loops are in place



Systemiq's four step tipping point methodology to accelerate the breakthrough of climate technologies



Example clients:



ABOUT SYSTEMIQ: OUR PURPOSE IS TO ACCELERATE SYSTEMIC CHANGE FOR A PROSPEROUS WORLD

Who we are

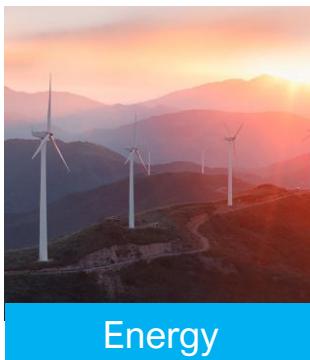
Founded in 2016, Systemiq is the world's first pure play **"systems-change" company** accelerating the transition to a net-zero, nature positive, and inclusive economy.

What we do

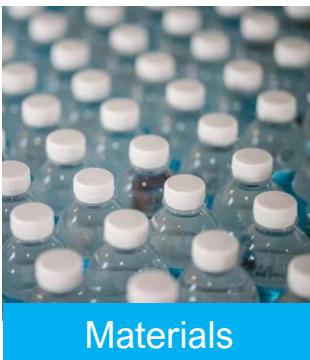
Systemiq **builds** ambitious coalitions to reshape our economy, **advises** leading companies on how to win the transition, **supports** governments and policy-makers drive change, **catalyzes** large-scale capital to accelerate action, and **incubates and invests** in innovative businesses.

How we work

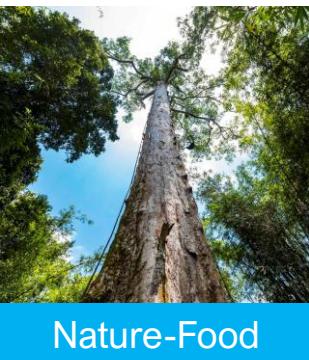
We take a **diagnose – design – disrupt** approach to identify the root causes of inaction, design new approaches, expand the solution set, and work with all stakeholders to identify tipping points and scale solutions that tip the system. We work across **five platforms**:



Energy



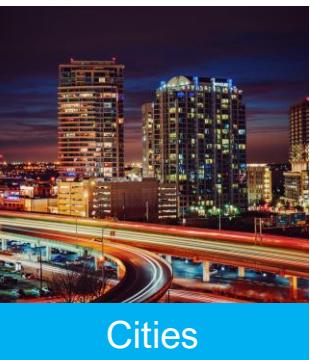
Materials



Nature-Food



Finance



Cities

Quick facts:

- ~380 employees, ~20 partners
- HQ in London with 7 offices across Europe, Asia, and South America and a growing presence in North America
- Certified BCorp
- Diverse talent pool drawing from industry, consulting, banking, the public sector, non-profits, and academia
- 160 advisory and science-based thought leadership projects in 2023
- Coalition founder and leader, including:



The
Food and Land Use
Coalition



Circular
Economy
Initiative



Energy
Transitions
Commission



MISSION
POSSIBLE
PARTNERSHIP



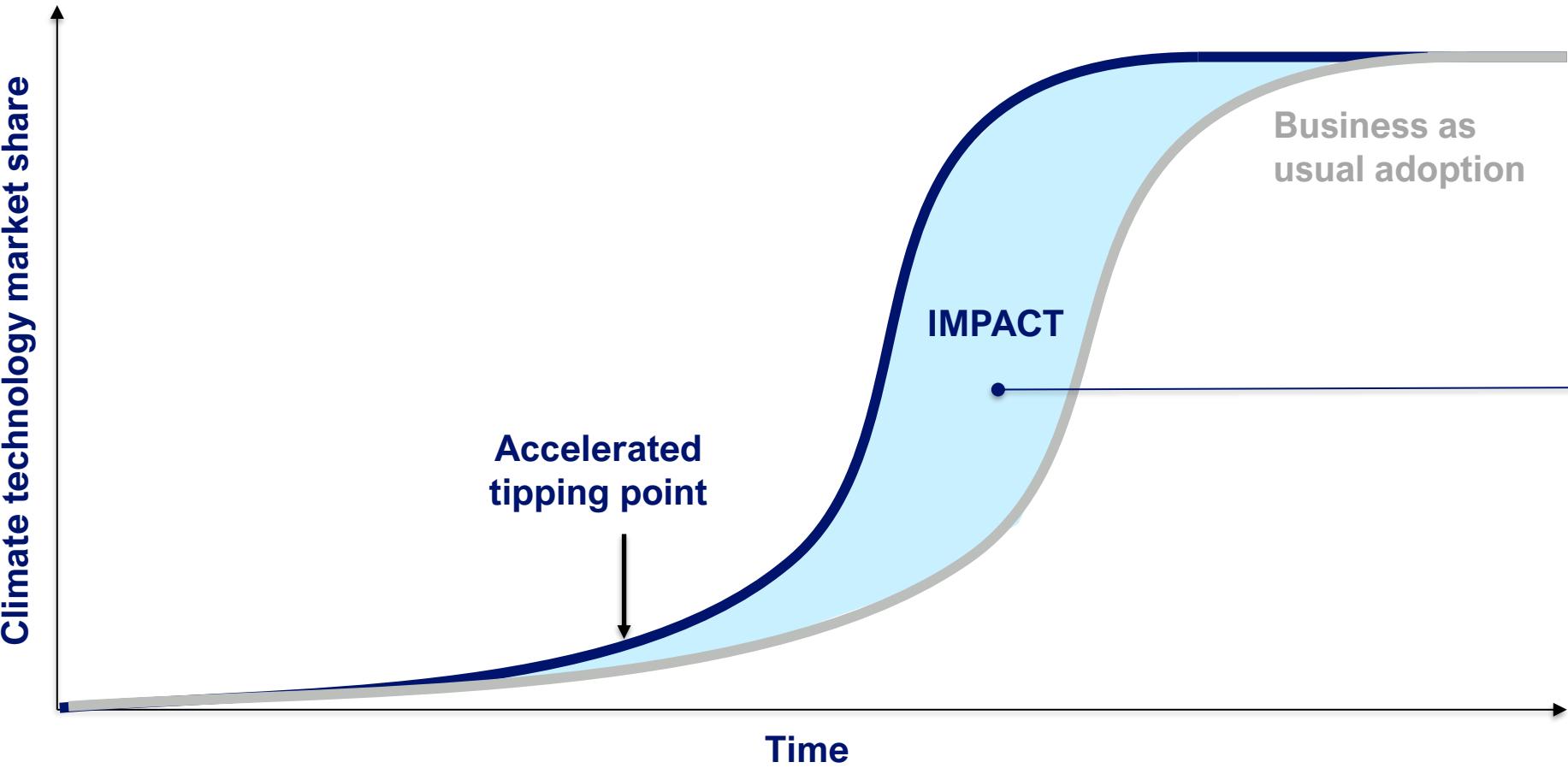
BLENDED
FINANCE
TASKFORCE

CONTENTS

- **Climate technologies breaking through**
- Tipping point methodology
- Resources and contact

ACCELERATING TIPPING POINTS FOR CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES FAST-TRACKS ECONOMIC IMPACT AND HELPS REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE

Illustrative impact of accelerating a tipping point for a climate technology



Accelerating tipping points leads to impact:

- **Climate** from emission reductions and removals
- **Economic** from earlier, competitive, exponential uptake
- **Other** depending on the technology such as public health benefits, energy independence, biodiversity, material extraction etc.

A TIPPING POINT TOWARDS EXPONENTIAL GROWTH REQUIRES TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS AND REINFORCING FEEDBACK LOOPS

A tipping point is a moment in time when a new technology becomes **more competitive** than incumbent technologies across the **three A's**



AFFORDABILITY



ATTRACTIVENESS



ACCESSIBILITY



and **reinforcing feedback** loops are in place, such as

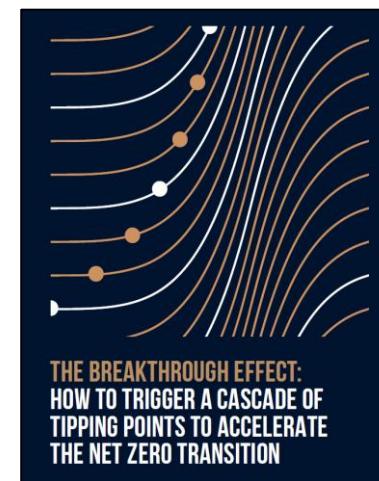
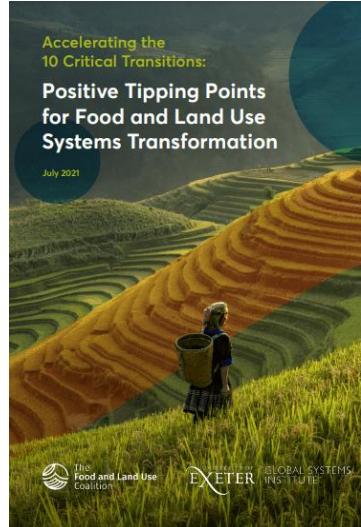
Social contagion

Increasing returns to adoption

Information cascades

(Social-) Ecological positive feedbacks

History suggests that the **adoption of a new technology** can **switch** from a **linear to an exponential pace** when a tipping point is reached



2021 Report on positive tipping points for food and land use by:

SYSTEMIQ



University of Exeter

2023 Report on the breakthrough effect of tipping points by:

SYSTEMIQ



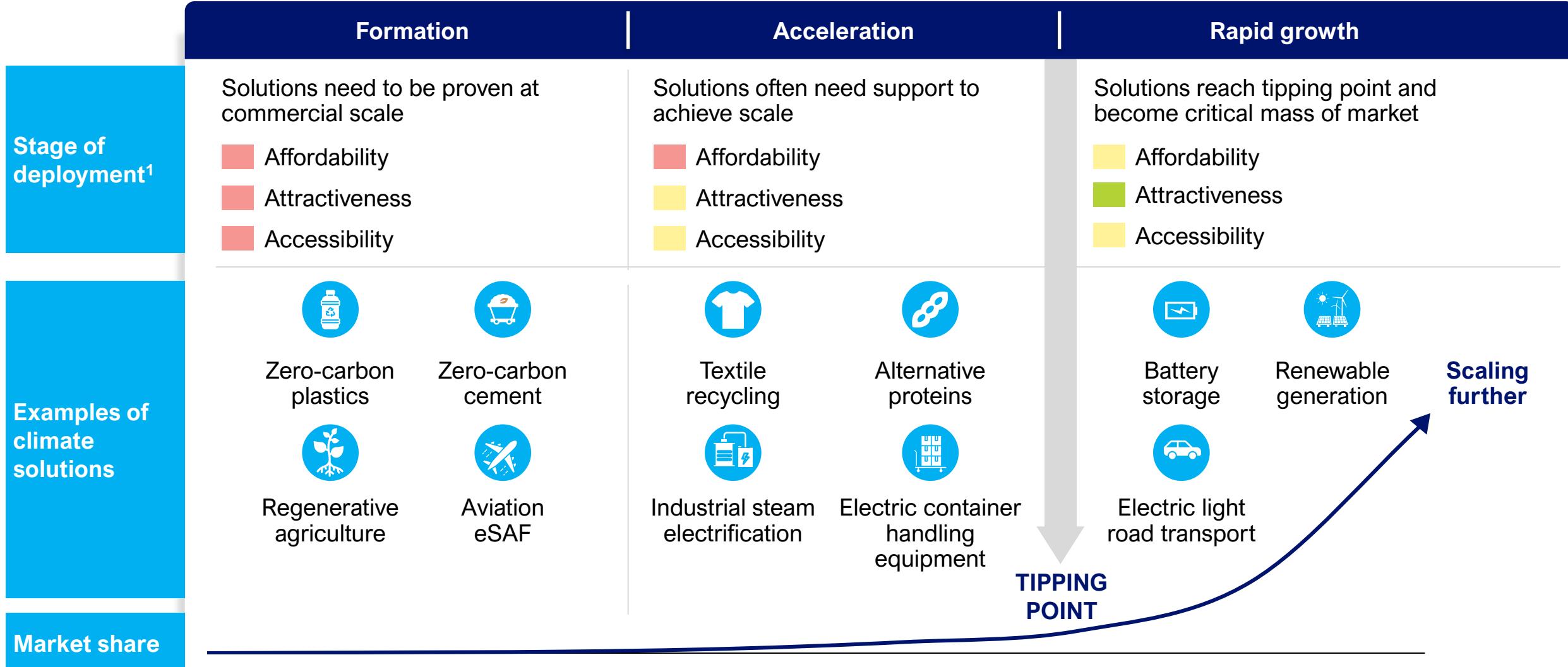
University of Exeter

(Link embedded in image)

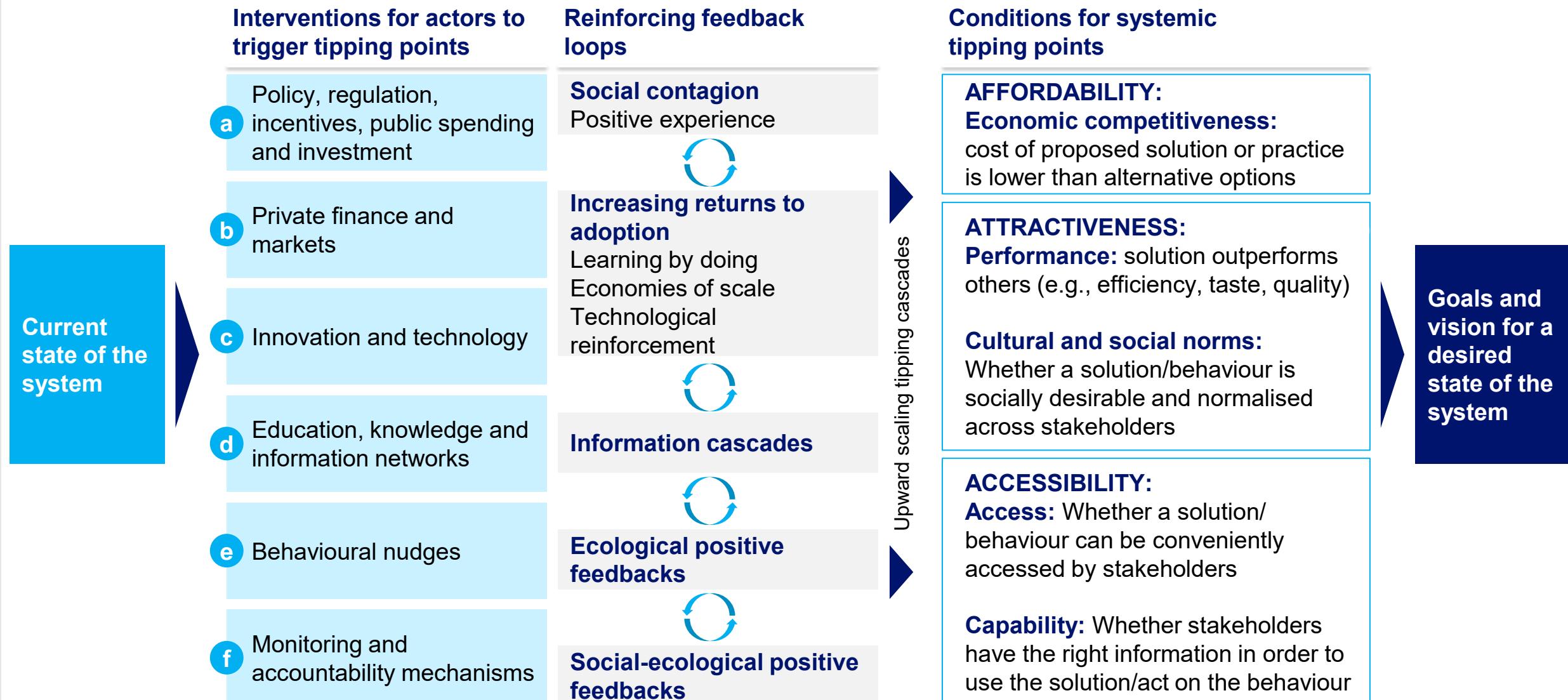
SYSTEMIQ

CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES NEED TO MOVE PAST A TIPPING POINT TO REACH EXPONENTIAL GROWTH

Illustrative overview, not exhaustive

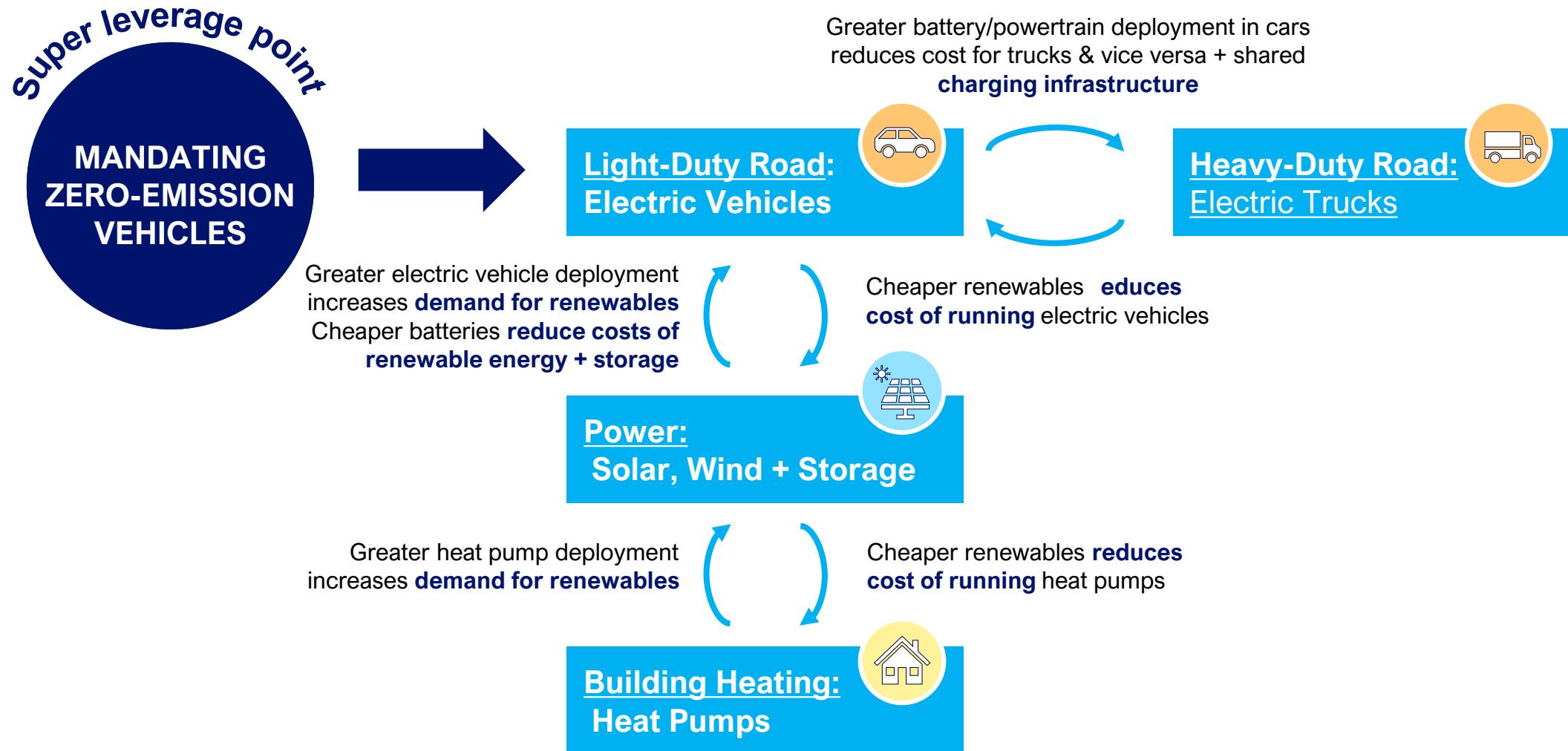


TARGETTED INTERVENTIONS CAN TRIGGER TIPPING POINTS

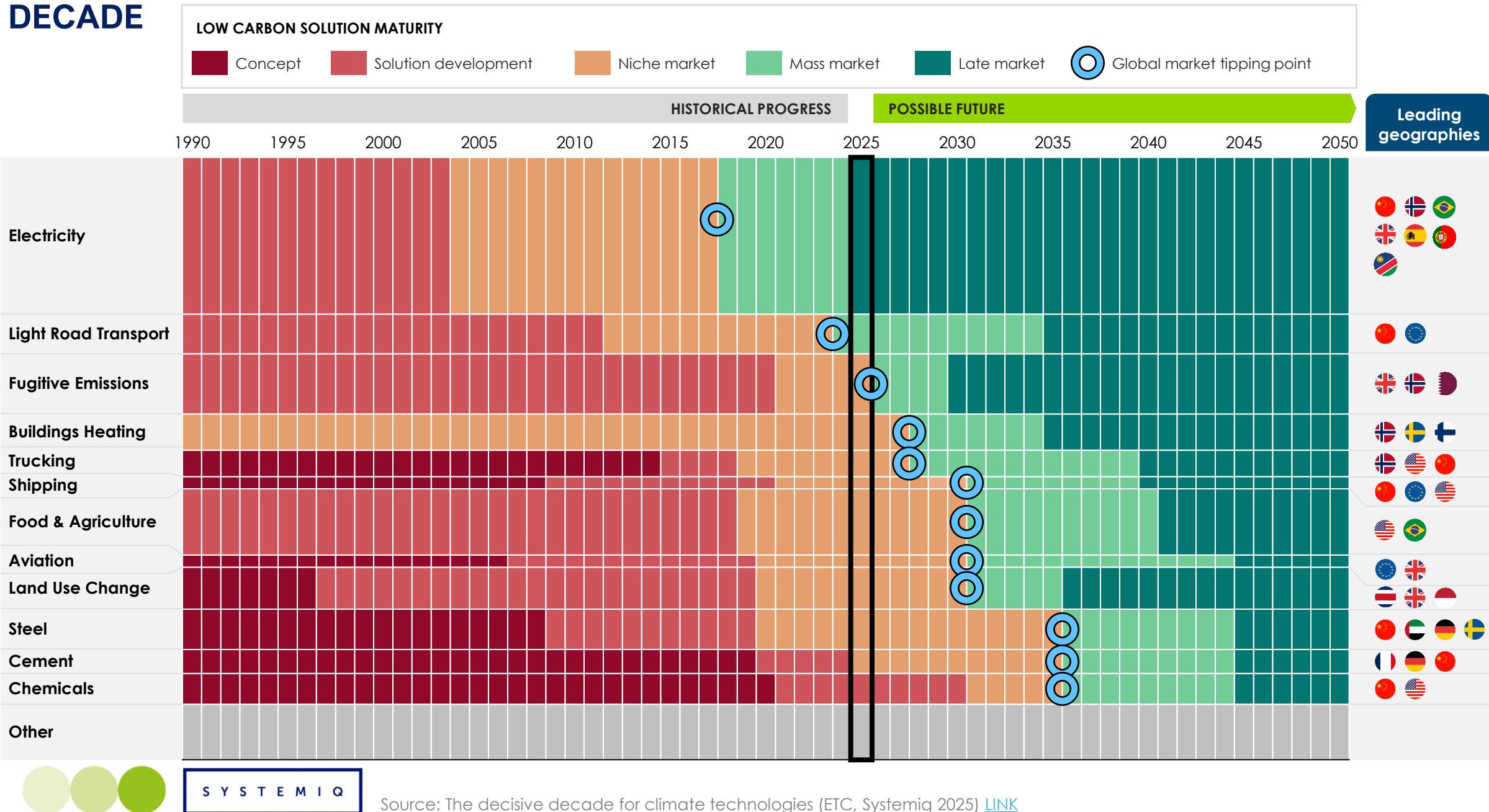


SUPER LEVERAGE POINTS CAN TRIGGER A CASCADE OF TIPPING POINTS

Example of a tipping point cascade



TECHNOLOGIES FOR ABOUT 45% OF EMISSIONS EXPECTED TO REACH A TIPPING POINT THIS DECADE



CONTENTS

- Climate technologies breaking through
- **Tipping point methodology**
- Resources and contact

SYSTEMIQ'S FOUR STEP TIPPING POINT METHODOLOGY TO ACCELERATE THE BREAKTHROUGH OF CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES

A Select high impact tipping points & cascades

Ordering of technologies that are closest or furthest away from exponential growth. Identification of **tipping point cascades**

Example outcome

- Selection of high-impact tipping points
- Identification of tipping point cascades

B Identify (super) levers to overcome barriers to exponential growth

Identification of levers with an outsized impact on accelerating technology uptake

Example outcome

- Barriers towards a tipping point and levers to overcome these
- Necessary conditions for the exponential scale up of a climate technology

C Create concrete action plan

Implementation plan based on **high-impact, concrete actions**

Example outcome

- Concrete actions to trigger tipping points, by actor or group of actors
- Roadmap where and how actions can be implemented

D Catalyse tipping points, and capture value from it

Roll out of priority actions to catalyse exponential growth

Example outcome

- Policy influencing
- Corporate strategy roadmaps
- Coalition building

EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK BASED ON THE METHODOLOGY

Example organizations



What we have done

Corporate strategy

- Company decarbonization roadmap
- Market entry strategy

Investment strategy

- Portfolio alignment towards capturing value from exponential growth
- Investment strategy for outsized impact on triggering tipping points

Unlocking new market

- New market sizing
- Action planning to overcome new market failures
- Market making conditions and mechanisms
- Scenarios for market adoption of new technologies

Policy and regulation

- Policy & regulation framework for a technology tipping point
- Gap assessment of existing local policy & regulation

Collective action (corporates/others)

- Case for collective action
- Convening of stakeholders
- Consortium work programme development and execution

CASE EXAMPLE: BATTERY-ELECTRIC CONTAINER HANDLING EQUIPMENT (BE-CHE) IS THE MOST COMPETITIVE TECHNOLOGY TO DECARBONIZE CONTAINER TERMINAL OPERATIONS

Container handling equipment (CHE) is currently diesel-powered – providing a 10-15 Mt decarbonization opportunity

Global fleet: 100,000- 120,000 units across 940 container ports	
	
Annual emissions ¹ : 10-15 MtCO ₂ e	
	
Rubber tyre gantry	

Terminal tractors	~52,000 units ~3-4 MtCO ₂ e
Straddle carriers	~7,500 units ~1-2 MtCO ₂ e
Reach stackers	~9,300 units ~1-2 MtCO ₂ e
Ship-to-shore	~7,800 units ~2-3 MtCO ₂ e
Rubber tyre gantry	~21,300 units ~3-4 MtCO ₂ e

A SELECT HIGH IMPACT TIPPING POINTS: Battery-electric CHE is more competitive than hydrogen-electric CHE			
Potential clean CHE solutions		Status on tipping point dimensions ²	
Solutions	Affordability	Attractiveness	Accessibility
Battery- Electric CHE (BE-CHE)	Estimated total costs of ownership (TCO) higher than Diesel-CHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No scope 1 emissions (and lower scope 2) Quiet Low vibration levels 	Electricity infrastructure not in place, and operators / OEMs unsure which designs to invest in
Hydrogen- Electric CHE (HE-CHE)	Estimated average TCO higher than BE-CHE; expected to remain as technology develops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No scope 1 emissions (and lower scope 2) Quiet Low vibration levels 	Not accessible in next few years: prototypes not available yet, and projected green H2 volume far too low

Legend:  Better than current  Several barriers  High barriers

**BE-CHE is
more
competitive
than HE-CHE
in vast
majority of
use cases**

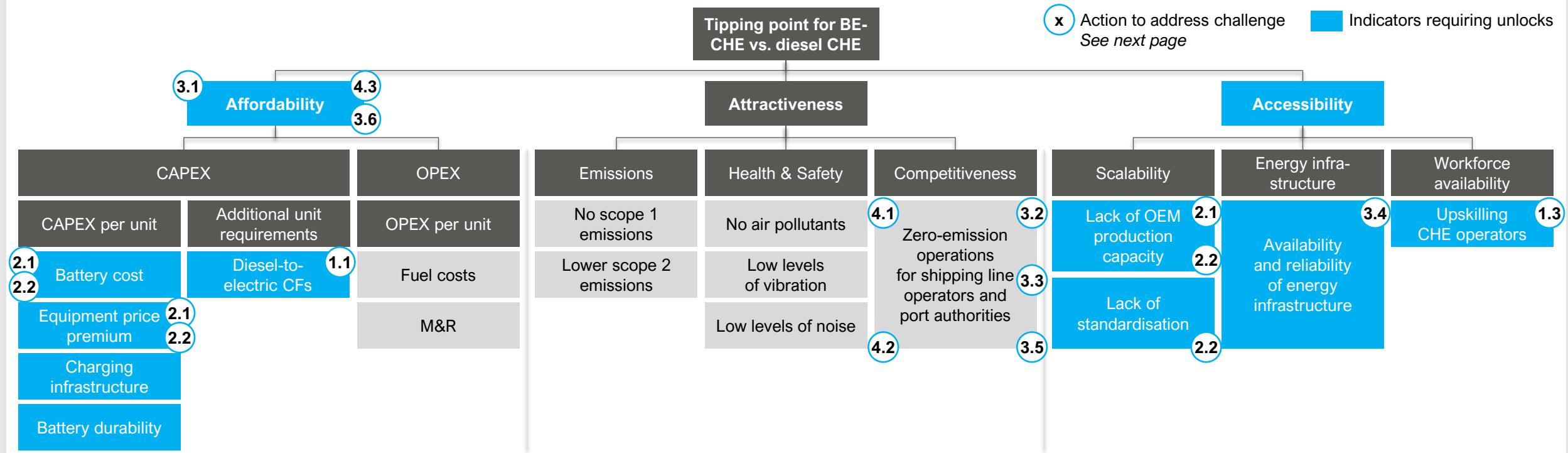
(1) Scope 1 and 2; (2) This can be high-level or granular and can be combined with step B

Source: Reaching a tipping point in container handling equipment ([link](#))

More information available on www.zepalliance.com

CASE EXAMPLE: AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS LEAD TO KEY LEVERS TO REACH A TIPPING POINT IN BE-CHE

B IDENTIFY HIGH IMPACT LEVERS: Tipping point 'tree' based on extensive stakeholder engagement and quantitative modelling



Levers 	Technology learning effects	Port authorities' concession renewal or extension practices	Standardisation & decoupling
	Reduced charging downtime	Establishment of green shipping corridors by shipping line operators	Power purchase agreements (PPAs)
	Standardisation & decoupling	Demand signals	Workforce training

CASE EXAMPLE: COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACTORS IS CRUCIAL FOR THIS TECHNOLOGY TO START SCALING EXPONENTIALLY

 Actions requiring stakeholder collaboration

C CREATE CONCRETE ACTION PLAN: High level overview per stakeholder



Terminal operators

- 1.1 Re-invent operations to enable electrification
- 1.2 Develop terminal-level electrification roadmaps
- 1.3 Plan work-force training



Terminal operators & OEMs

- 2.1 Send strong demand signals
- 2.2 Develop technology standards



Port authorities & affiliated government entities

- 3.1 Introduce financial benefits for decarbonized concession bids
- 3.2 Require that bids for new concessions rely on decarbonised fleets
- 3.3 Extend concession durations for operators decarbonising their fleet
- 3.4 Enable infrastructure adjustments for decarbonisation
- 3.5 Introduce, or extend existing, clean air mandates for CHE
- 3.6 Provide direct financial support to secure first investments



Shipping line operators

- 4.1 Engage with customers to identify requirements for end-to-end zero-emission supply chains
- 4.2 Include zero-emission CHE in green shipping corridor requirements
- 4.3 Financially compensate terminal operators for value-add of zero-emission CHE

CASE EXAMPLE: THE ZERO EMISSION PORT ALLIANCE (ZEPA) COLLABORATES TO RESOLVE CORE BARRIERS TO AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF BE-CHE

D CATALYSE TIPPING POINTS: Convene action-oriented coalition

ZEPA launched in 2024 with 12 members, from across the value chain

PATRICK

+ KEMPOWER

AARHUS HAVN

APM TERMINALS
Lifting Global Trade



DP WORLD

Port of Rotterdam



SSA Marine
A Carrix Enterprise



SANY

INDUCTEV

ROCSYS
Autonomous charging



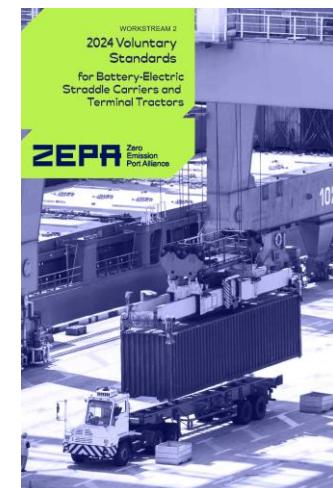
CATL

Results end of 2024

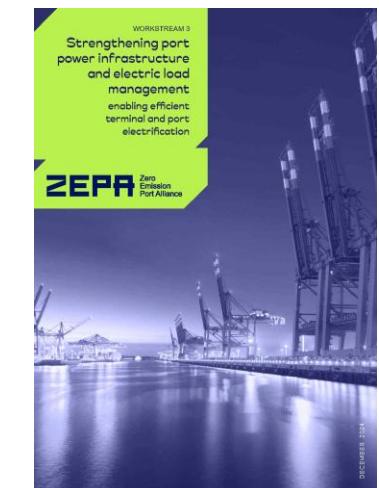
Projected Demand



Voluntary Design Standards



Power Infrastructure Roll-out

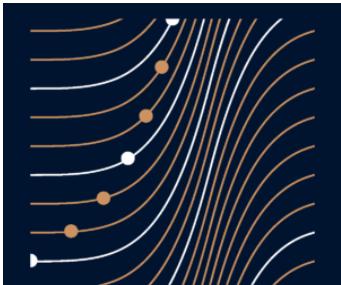


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EXPLORE OUR WORK ON TIPPING POINTS SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Tipping point framework



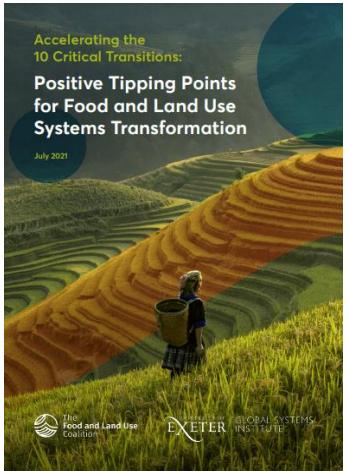
The Breakthrough Effect (2023)

Defines three “super-leverage points” that could trigger a cascade of tipping points for zero-carbon solutions in sectors covering 70% of global greenhouse gas emission

THE BREAKTHROUGH EFFECT:
HOW TO TRIGGER A CASCADE OF
TIPPING POINTS TO ACCELERATE
THE NET ZERO TRANSITION

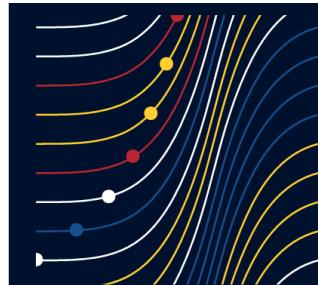
SYSTEMIQ University of Exeter EARTH 2030 January 2023

Sectors and regions



Positive Tipping Points for Food and Land Use Systems Transformation (2021)

Finds that small, targeted changes in food and land use systems can trigger large, often irreversible, positive responses for people and the planet.



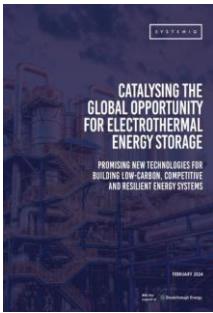
THE BREAKTHROUGH EFFECT IN ASEAN: HOW TO TRIGGER A CASCADE OF TIPPING POINTS TO ACCELERATE ASEAN'S GREEN GROWTH

BEIJING EARTH SYSTEMIQ KADIN

The Breakthrough Effect in ASEAN (2023)

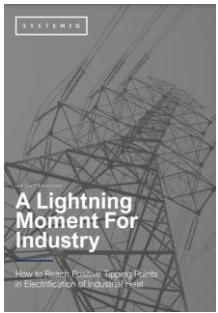
A regional follow up of the global Breakthrough Effect. Identifies two super-leverage points that could trigger a cascade of tipping points across a total of eight sectors that represent 50% of ASEAN's emissions

Technologies



Catalysing The Global Opportunity For Electrothermal Energy Storage (2024)

Lays out how a tipping point in the electrification of industrial heat could be achieved with electrothermal energy storage



A Lightning Moment for Industry (2024)

Lays out how industrial companies using under 400°C heat can find the right pathway to switch to electrification ahead of the curve – thereby avoiding future infrastructure bottlenecks.



Reaching a tipping point in battery-electric container handling equipment (2023)

Describes how the electrification of port operations could be accelerated by deploying battery-electric container handling equipment



Zero Emission Port Alliance

The zero-emission port alliance (2024)

An industry-wide strategic alliance, dedicated to making battery-electric container handling equipment affordable and accessible. Systemiq holds the secretariat



The Textile Recycling Breakthrough (2025)

Showcases how polyester textile recycling technologies can breakthrough, with policy and other stakeholder action

Note: click on image to follow link.

Source: <https://www.systemiq.earth/tipping-points-technology-breakthrough/>

SYSTEMIQ

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