

Invited talk by William van Niekerk, Liandon BV, The Netherlands

## **The relation between sustainability and technology**

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### ABSTRACT

Sustainable development and technological advancements go hand in hand. Often the societal impact of technological innovation proceeds financial impact for it's creators. Nonetheless there are specific benefits in technological innovation and investments should be encouraged to do so. First mover advantages, experimentations and scaling issues are discussed to have a better understanding of the relevant mechanisms for sustainable development, based on technology.

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William van Niekerk MSc is managing director of Liandon which employs 1200 employees and is the innovation, design and construct company of Dutch network operator Alliander NV. Mr Van Niekerk is graduated in offshore engineering at Delft University of Technology and has held several management positions in design, construction and corporate social responsibility. He is also supervisory board member at Alliander AG and development organization SNV World. He also chairs the foundation Bewuste Bouwers (Considerate Contractors). He published multiple scientific and popular articles in the field of engineering, sustainability and construction contracts.

