# Let me tell you a (horror) story: Mega projects

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for

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What is happening?

How are we doing?

Horror or happy story?





Merdeka 118, World 2<sup>nd</sup> tallest Est.Cost: \$1,700,000,000, Kuala Lumpur, Mayalsia



The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam Est.Cost: \$5,000,000,000, Bameza, Ethiopia

## What is happening?

More mega projects

California High Speed Rail Est.Cost: \$98,000,000,000, California, USA



Dubailand Est.Cost: \$76, 000,000,000, Dubai (United Arab Emirates)





La Défense

Est.Cost: \$1,000,000,000, Paris, France



Energy Islands of Denmark Est.Cost: \$210,000,000,000, Denmark

What is happening?

More mega projects

Belgrade Waterfront Est.Cost: \$3,500,000,000, Serbia



Blanka tunnel complex Est.Cost: \$1,970,000,000, Prague, Czech Republic



Giza pyramid

Estimated Cost today: \$1,2bln. - \$5bln.



What is happening?

Diverse mega projects

Improving Kansas' public schools could cost the state as much as \$2 billion more a year, depending on its ambitions for boosting student performance, according to a new report

#### My First Megaproject: 20,000 Schools in Nepal

Published on May 13, 2021



The Human Costs of Education Reform: The Case of School Reconstitution

Jennifer King Rice Betty Malen

### What is happening?

Mega mega projects: Giga & Terra

#### Vision 2030: All you need to know about Saudi Arabia's gigaprojects



The Qiddiya project aims to be a destination where Saudis can find excitement, inspiration, creative

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- Huge developments aim to put Kingdom on global tourism map
- Work on first development in \$500bn NEOM zone set to complete in 2020



How are we doing?



# Project success: change

The Ciudad Real Central Airport in Spain, \$1.3 billion

An abandoned airport sold for a €10,000



Project management success: the triangle

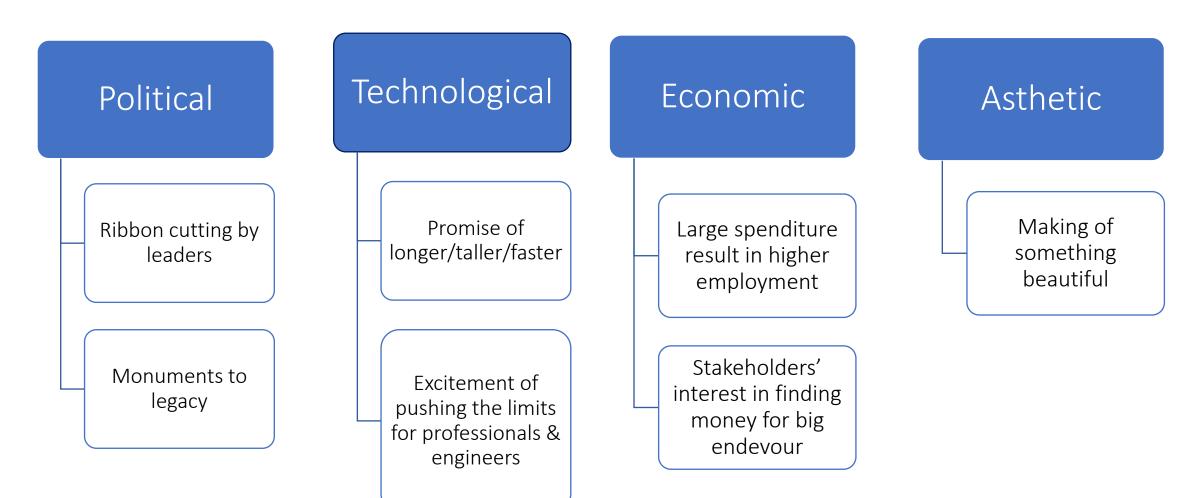
The Sydney Opera House: 1357% over budget and ten years late



Horror or happy story?

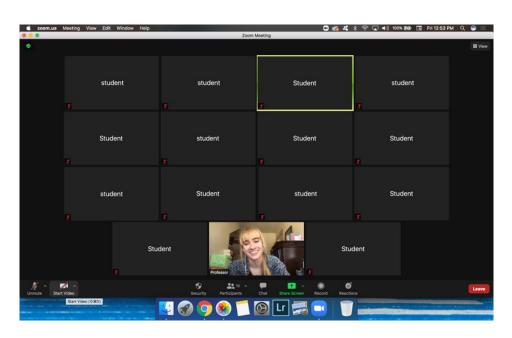


#### Four sublimes of mega projects: Top down story



Flyvberg, 2014; 2021

#### Covid, Migration: Accidental story

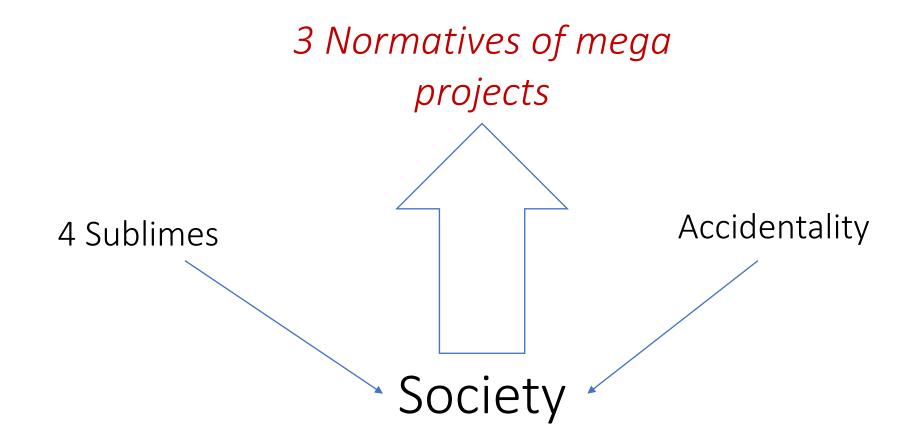




Globally, over 1.2 billion children were out of the classroom. Education has changed forever

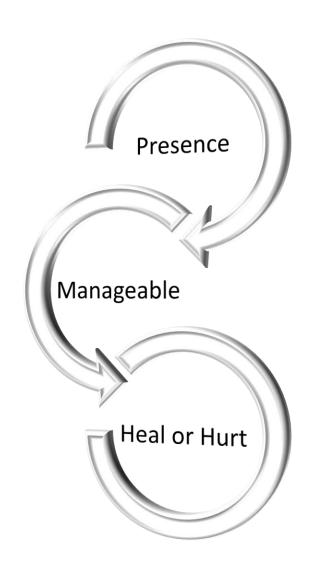
Since February 24, 2022 more than 5.9 million refugees from Ukraine have crossed the Polish border

#### New (better be good!) normal: Bottom up story

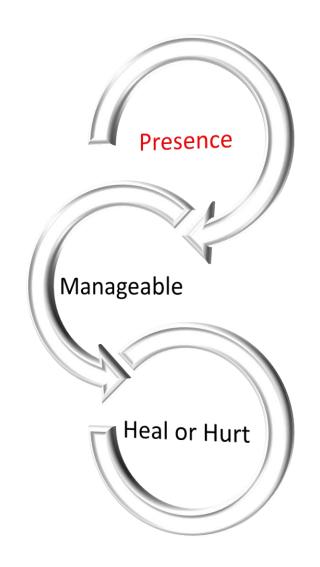


#### Normative

what we perceive as normal, or what we think should be normal

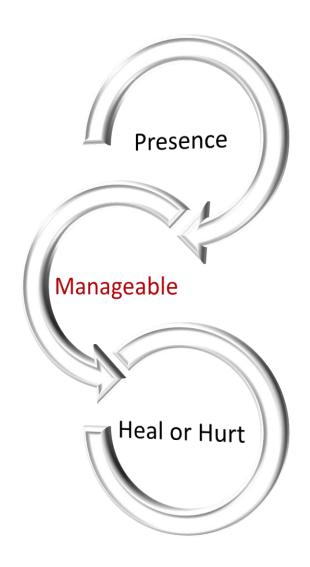


People have never paid so much attention to megaprojects as in the contemporary era and the construction density of mega project also hit the highest point in history



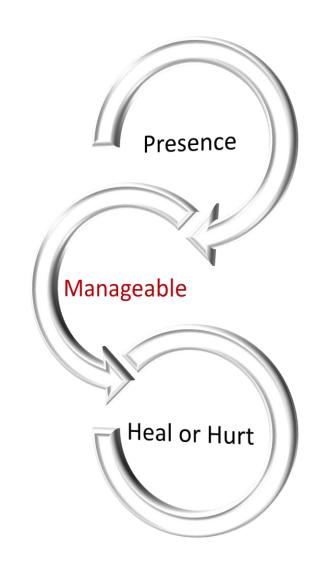
Expectation for better management

Unless the explosion in megaprojects is carefully redirected and managed, the effort is likely to be counterproductive and unsustainable



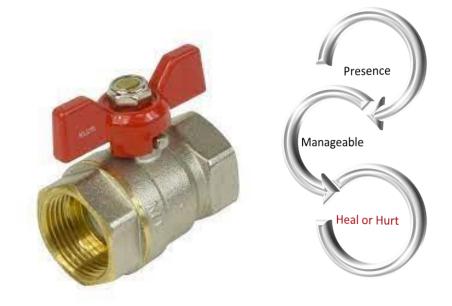
#### How to manage better

- Consider the "second important factor"
- Using failure science
- Implementation: Modularity, Replicability & Speed



#### Mega project & social conflict

- Mega projects emerge from social conflict
- Mega projects cause social conflict
- Social conflict is needed
- Mega project functions as a safety valve in society



#### Never ending story? It is not over, when it is over

Megaproject cause a lot of disputes, although it has been finished for along time



Motivated?



Thank you!