

PHASE IV

Strategies and interventions

Session 10

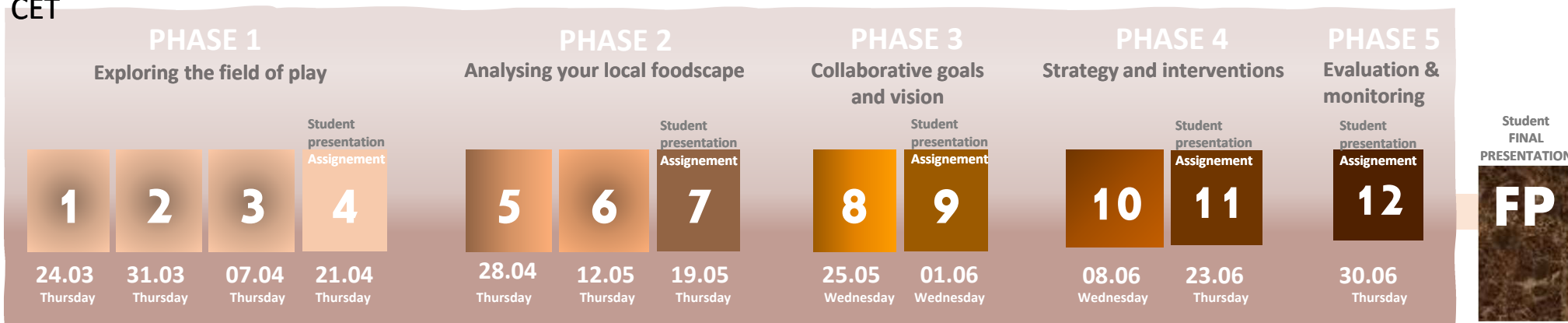
June 08, 2022

COURSE SCHEDULE

March 24 - June 30, 2022

Thursday or Wednesday / 17:00 to 18:30

CET



ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment 1 - Exploring the field of play

Assignment 2 - Analysing your local foodscape

Assignment 3 - Collaborative goals and vision

Assignment 4 - Strategy and interventions

Assignment 5 - Evaluation & monitoring

Phase IV: Strategie & Interventions

Learning objectives (slightly revised)

- Can develop a strategy based on a joint vision reflecting on concepts of change and change agency
- Can select and apply methods and tools for prototyping possible interventions
- Can develop a prototype to connect strategies and interventions/ discuss prototypical interventions with others as a way of testing a strategy

Phase IV: Strategie & Interventions

Session Wednesday June 8th, 2022

Introduction Michiel Dehaene 17h00 – 17h30

1. *Transition paths and the Politics of Green Transformation (Scoones)*
2. *Analytical framework to assess the transformative dimension of ‘niche initiatives’*
3. *Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet*

Setting up the strategizing/prototyping exercise 17h30-17h40

Breakout Rooms 17h40-17h20

Plenary wrap up

Food Systems perspective

holistic, diagnostically strong

blackboxes agency, focussed on the system as it functions today...

VS.

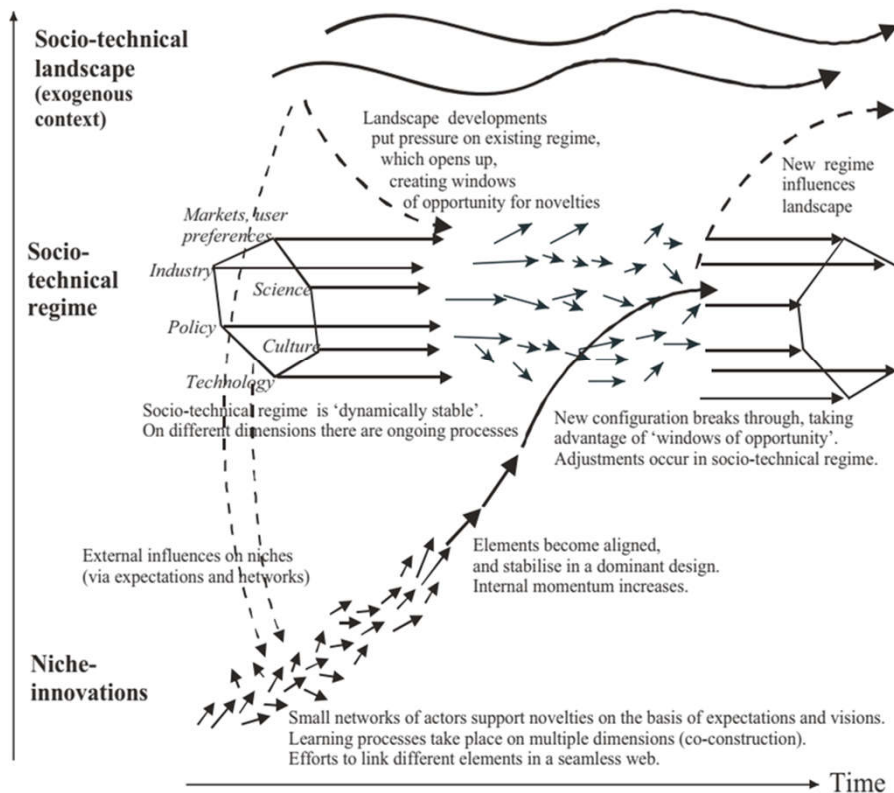
A living lab working on concrete experiments and actions grounded in concrete places

tangible, related to concrete actors, grounded

myopic, self sufficient, short term, isolated...

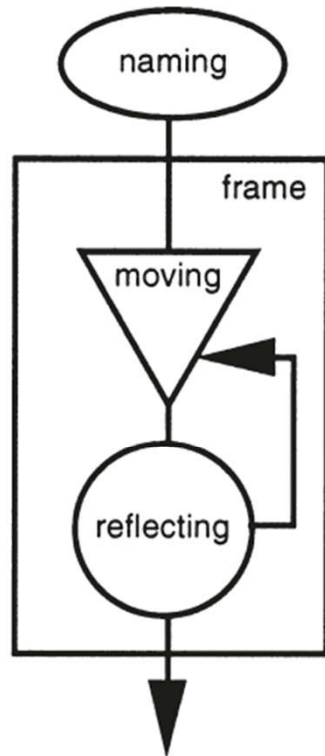
Multi-level perspective on transitions

Increasing structuration
of activities in local practices



Source: F.W Geels, Environmental Innovation and Societal Transition 1 (2011) 24-40

Role of Design



Design:

Reflective conversation with a situation (Schön 1983)

Naming: the identification of relevant factors in a situation

Framing: approaching a problem in a certain way

Making Moves: tentative movement towards a problem-solution combination
the simultaneous reflection about problems and solutions

+ reflection

source: Valkenburg & Dorst 1998

1. *Transition paths and the Politics of Green Transformation (Scoones)*

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Planning is plagued by the desire to be a normal science

the desire to move in a linear way from diagnosis to therapy, from problems to solutions, from means to ends...

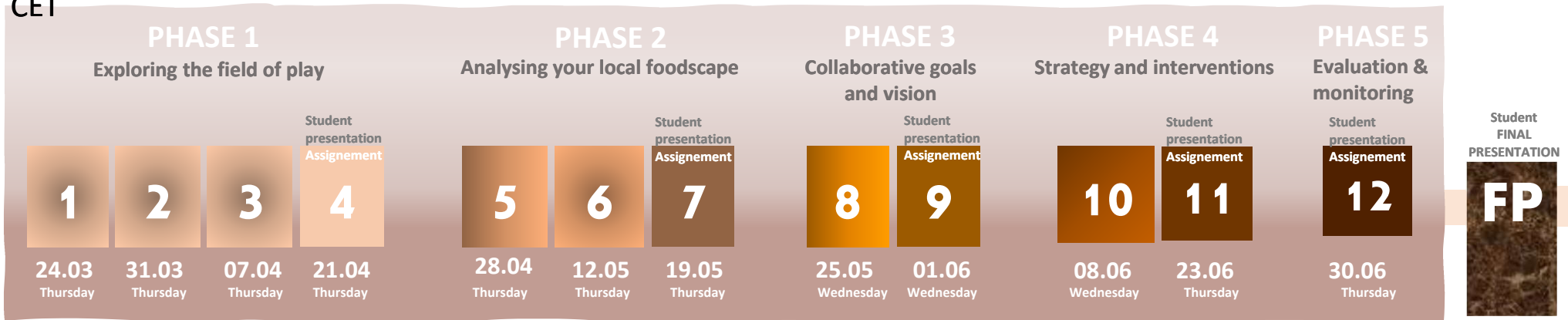
1. Transition paths and the Politics of Green Transformation (Scoones)

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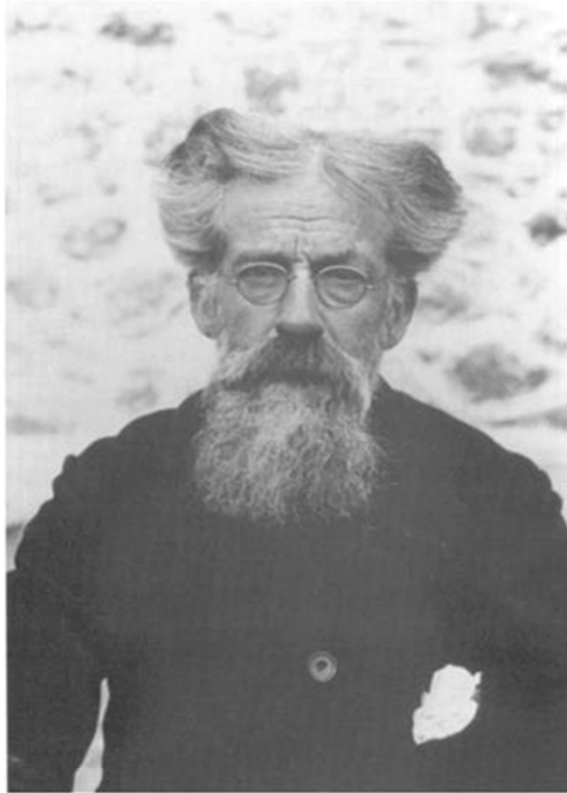
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SURVEY BEFORE PLAN ?

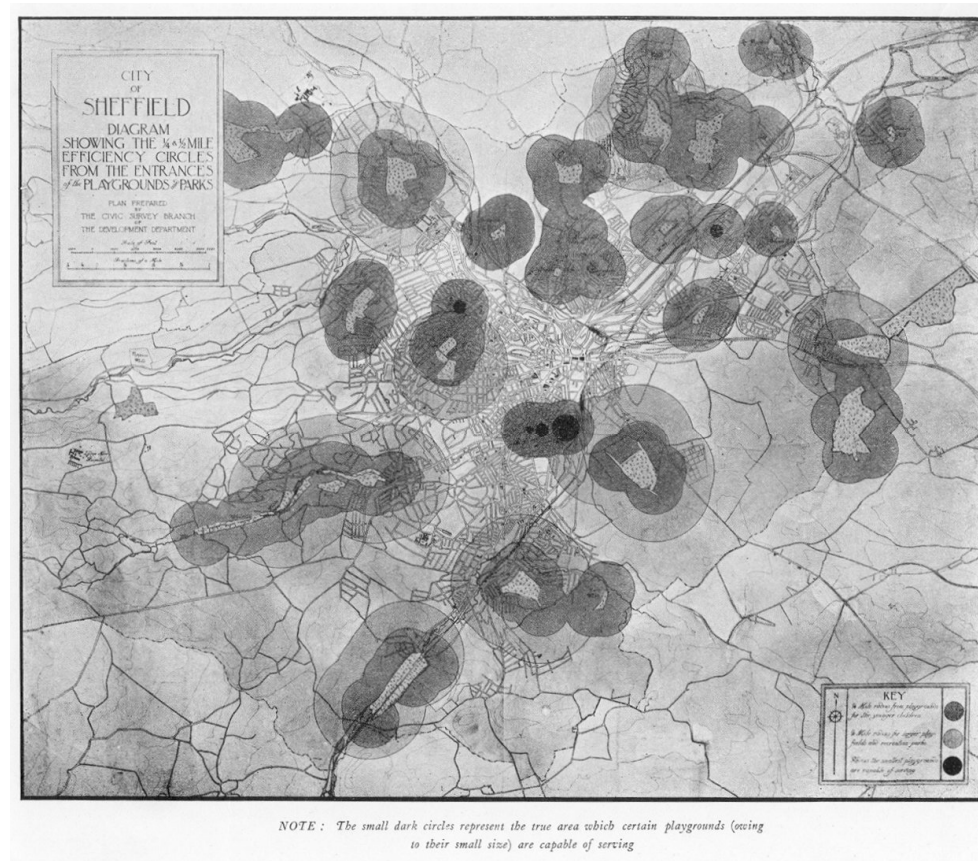


Patrick Geddes (1854-1932)

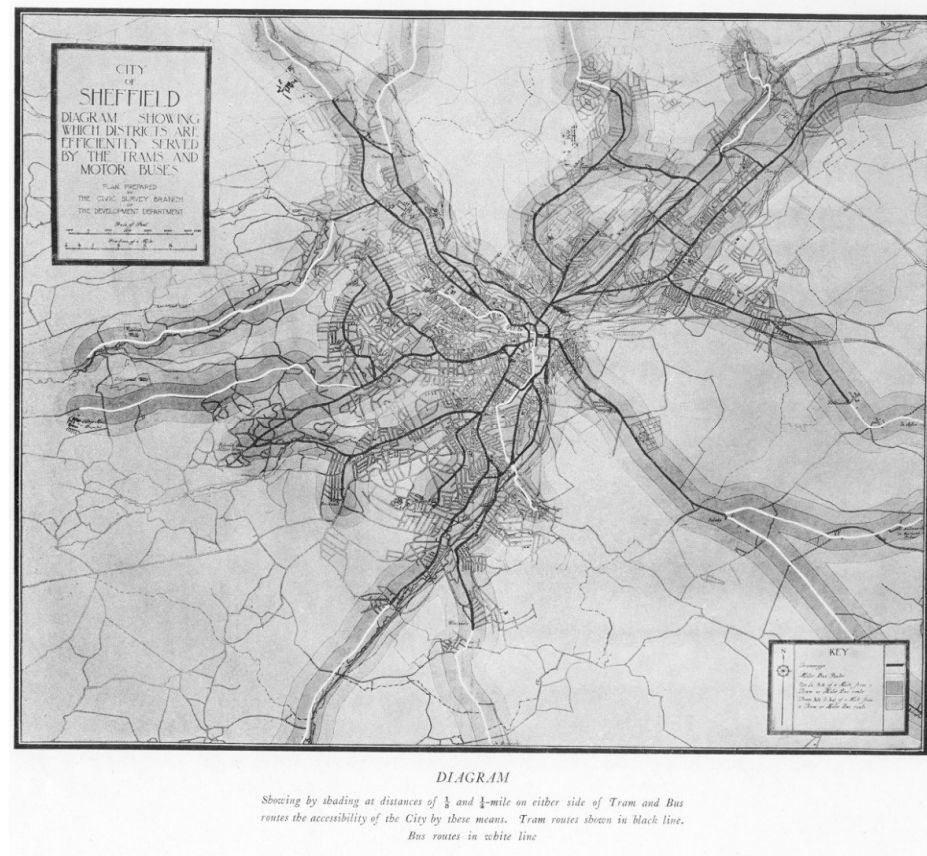


Patrick Abercrombie (1879-1957)

Patrick Abercrombie, *Sheffield Civic Survey*, 1925

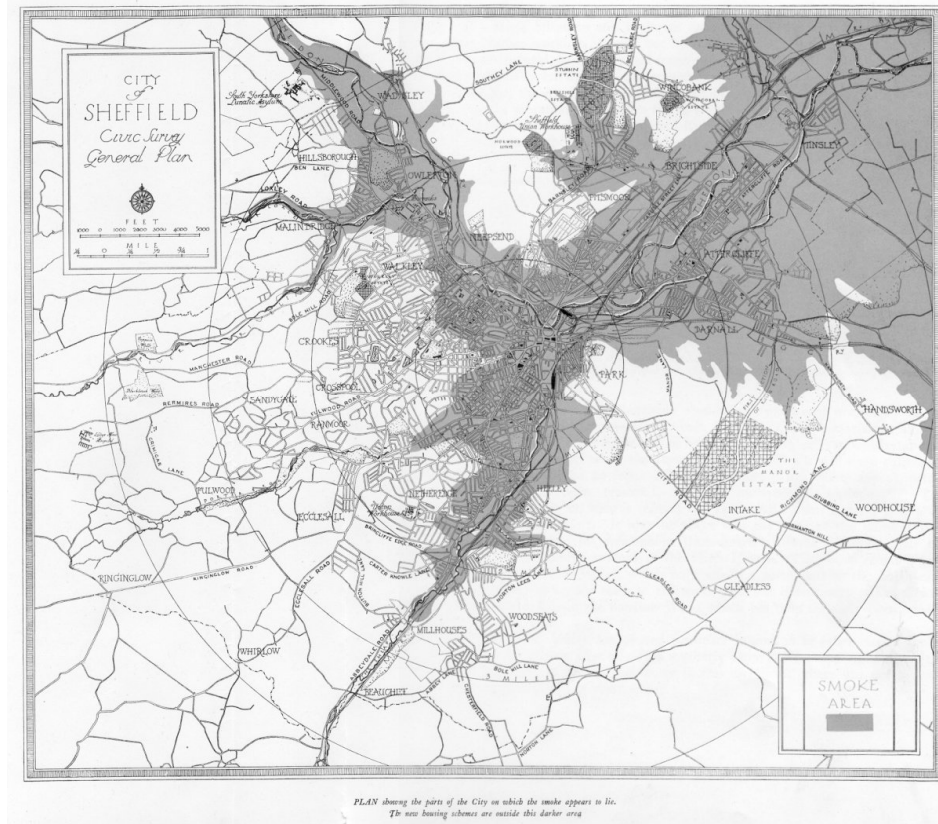


Patrick Abercrombie, *Sheffield Civic Survey*, 1925

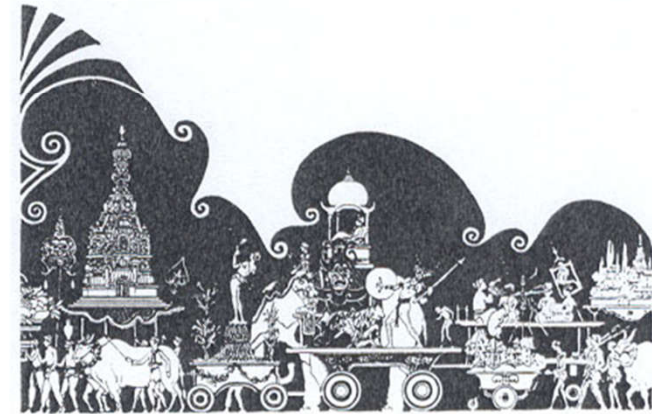
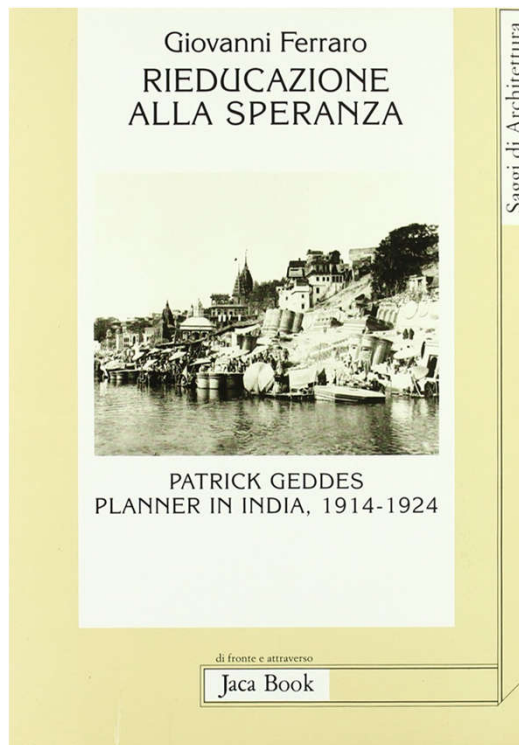


Patrick Abercrombie, *Sheffield Civic Survey*, 1925

Plate IV



CONCEPTS OF CHANGE ? i.e. 'Planning as a civic pedagogy'

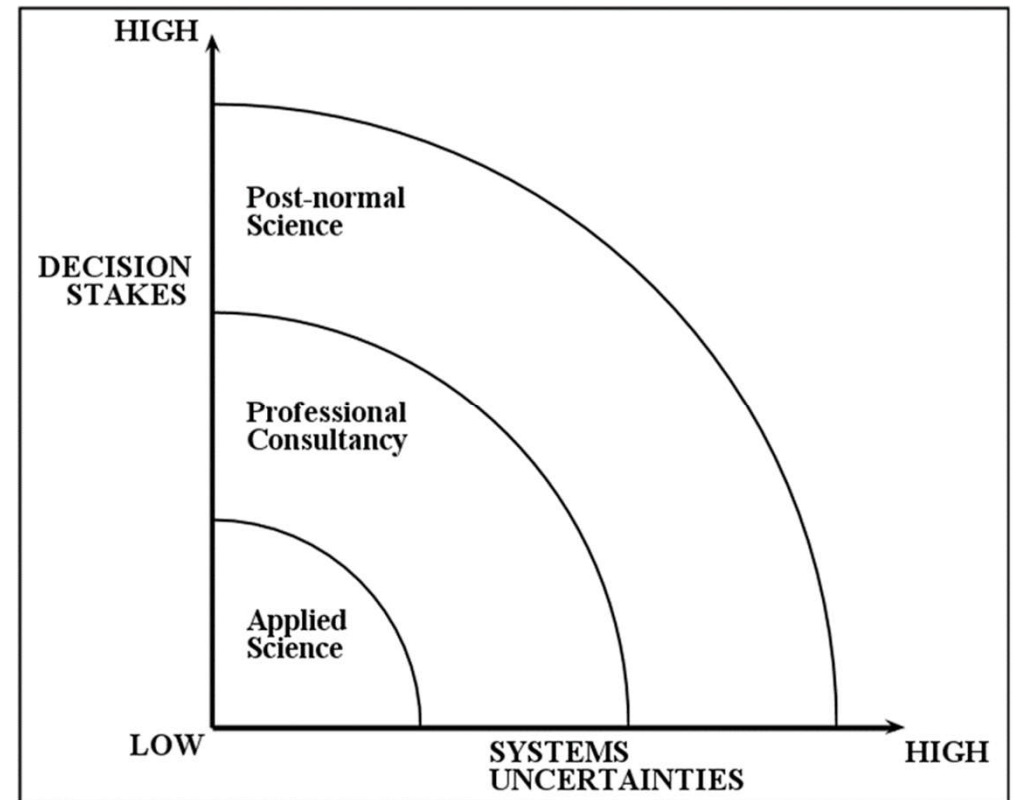


Patrick Geddes, *Diwali Procession Indore 1915, 'Maharaja for one day'.*

1. Transition paths and the Politics of Green Transformation (Scoones)

Post-normal science?

High levels of uncertainty
High stakes



Funtowicz, S.O., Ravetz, J.R., 1993.

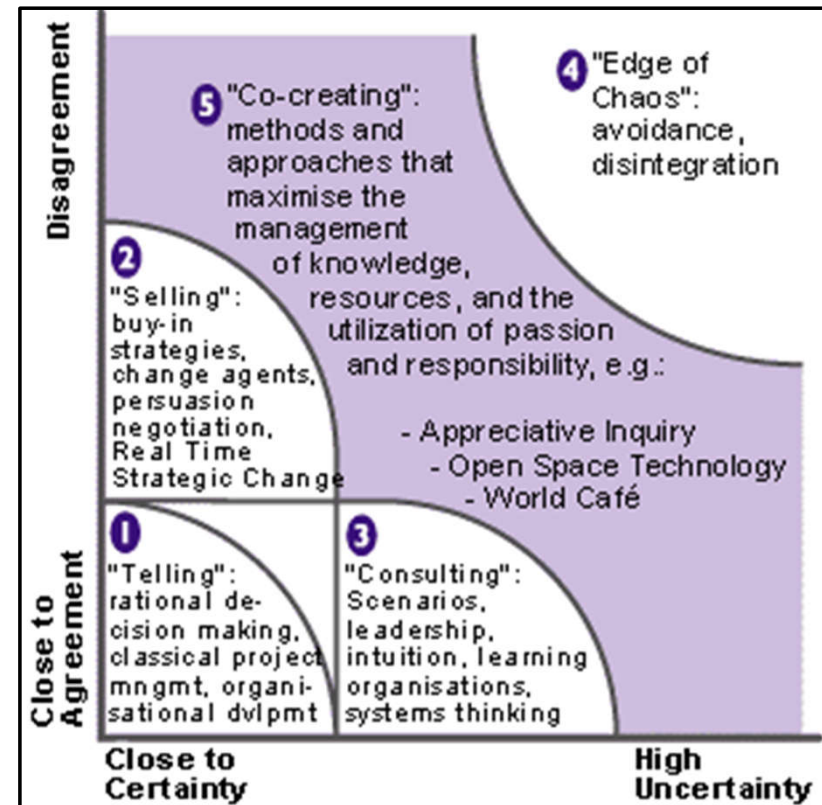
1. Transition paths and the Politics of Green Transformation (Scoones)

Post-normal science?

Uncertainty
(to what extent do we know the facts)

vs

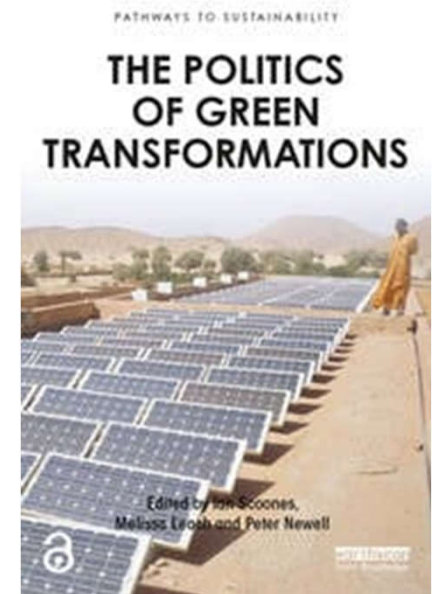
Disagreements
(what values do we attach to these facts)



Ralph Stacey's Agreement & (un)Certainty Matrix

Reading

Scoones et al. (2015) *The politics of Green Transformation* (Chapter 1). New York: Routledge.



SCOONES et al.

There is growing acknowledgement of the multiple environmental stresses the world faces - from climate change, air and water pollution, and biodiversity loss to land use change, for example. There is growing consensus that these will prove deeply damaging to human well-being and futures unless they are addressed. [...]

But how these are to be tackled remains much disputed, and a clear vision of what green transformations are required, **for what and for whom** remains elusive. This is, of course, due to **political contention**. There is intense competition around framings of how to read and react to the observed trends: what diagnosis they allegedly provide of the origins of the crisis and the sources of the remedies. There is much at stake in the construction of **what drives unsustainability** (who is to blame for what) and of **what forces can be aligned to rebalance socionatures**.

TABLE 1.1 Narratives of green transformations: diagnoses and solutions

<i>Narratives of green transformations/ diagnoses</i>	<i>Solutions</i>
Technocentric <p>Either about to or already exceed many planetary limits; urgency and crisis</p> <p>Emphasis on population; Malthusian models of scarcity and conflict</p> <p>Highlighting the role of technology as magic bullets . . .</p> <p>. . . but also potentials of alternative technologies</p>	<p>Technologies as global public goods to tackle environmental crisis</p> <p>Low-carbon transitions: new energy technologies</p> <p>Including ‘technical fixes’, from geoengineering to genetically modified crops, but also bottom-up, grassroots innovation</p> <p>Top-down governance arrangements in favour of ‘the planet’</p>
Marketized <p>Crisis results from market failures, externalities</p> <p>Primacy of (green) growth</p> <p>Corporations as agents of change</p>	<p>Technological entrepreneurs, green capitalists and consumers to lead</p> <p>Prices will reflect scarcity of resources and demand to protect them, and reward ecosystem service providers</p> <p>Need to allocate and enforce property rights and use institutions to this end</p> <p>Economic investments and market incentives to achieve green growth and a green economy</p>

State-led

Need for state involvement in steering transformation and re-embedding markets

State-backed R&D and wider finance central to a ‘developmental state’

Crisis of governance at national and global levels; importance of institutions, agreements, international architectures

Citizen-led

Change comes from below, cumulative actions of multiple, networked initiatives

Linking niches, experiments and demonstrations through movements

Behaviour change, advocacy and demonstrating alternatives central: ‘another world is possible’

At the national level, need for a green state, adopting green Keynesian industrial policies of stimulus, infrastructural projects, creating green jobs

At the international level, modifying and reforming existing institutions or creating new ones (World Environment Organisation)

Strengthening global architectures (Earth System Governance)

Power from below, involving connected social movements (e.g. green consumers, green living/transition towns; food, water, energy-sovereignty movements)

Radical system change required (e.g. arguments for eco-socialism, eco-feminism, Third World environmentalism, post-developmentalism)

Bio-communities; self-sufficiency; dematerialization; degrowth

Multiple transformations: strategies for change

Shaping and resisting structures:

the possibility to contribute to change is distributed unevenly within existing structures

e.g. existing investment in monocrop farming and highly commodified food supply chains

e.g. existing regulation on waste management preventing the use of organic (waste) streams for on farm composting

Reframing knowledge

Existing discursive structures place a limit on how we see and imagine problems and solutions, and how we define, know and frame futures (p. 22)

e.g. the focus on food miles (rather than food sovereignty)

e.g. the lack of knowledge regarding the role of living soils in farming

Realigning institutions and incentives

state is both necessary and institutionally poorly placed to contribute to emerging possibilities

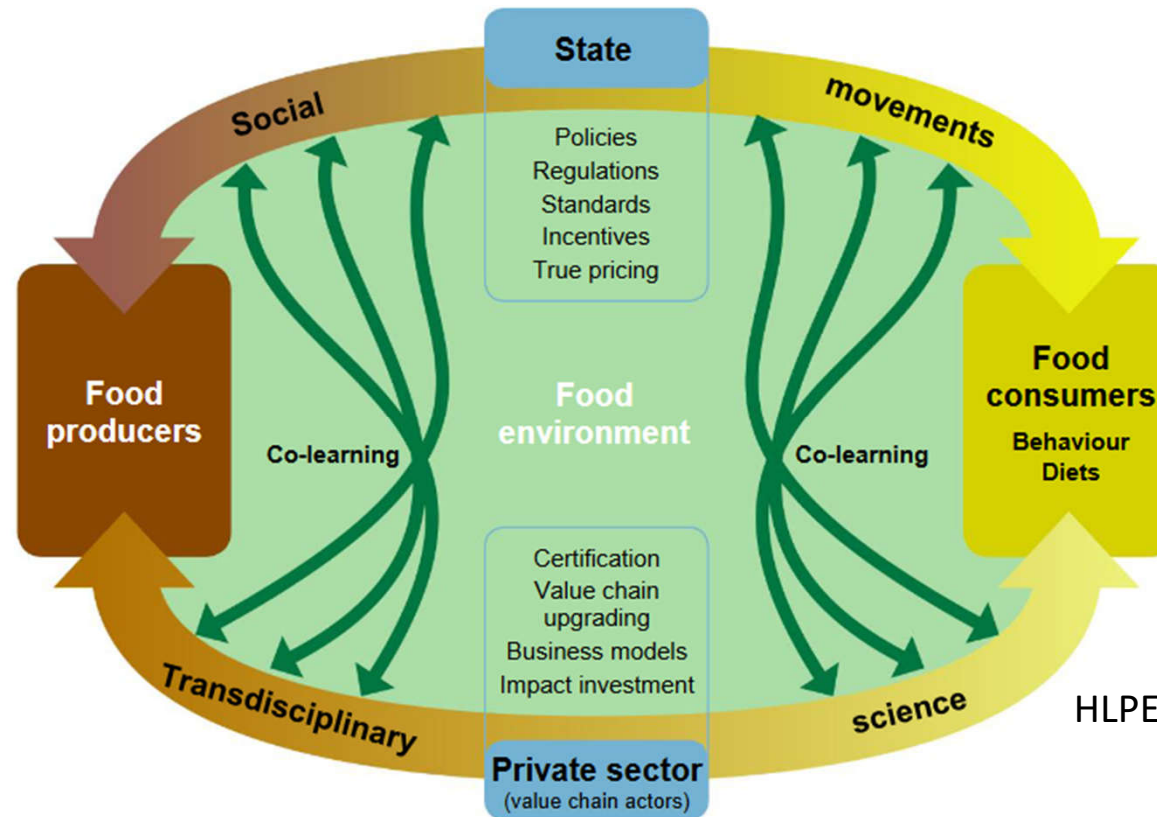
e.g. framing agroecology as niche and 'alternative' (outside of the mainstream of current policy making)

Mobilizing and networking

the potential of place-based struggles to resonate and 'globalize' through transnational advocacy networks

e.g. via campesina, new municipalism...

Stakeholders integration



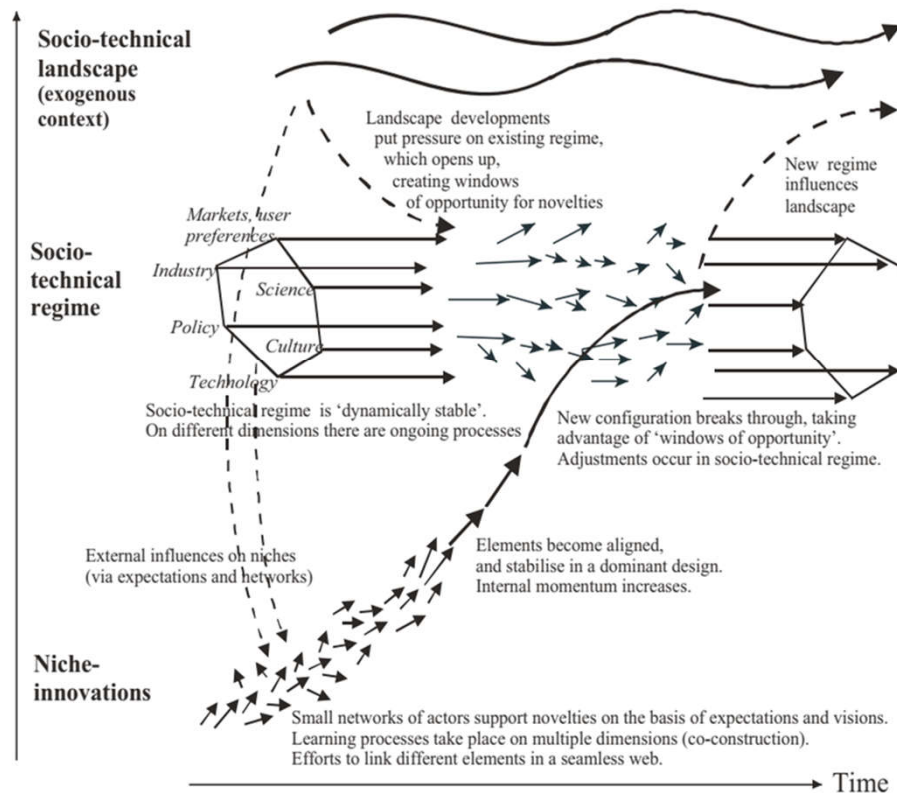
HLPE, 2019

2. Analytical framework to assess the transformative dimension of 'niche initiatives'

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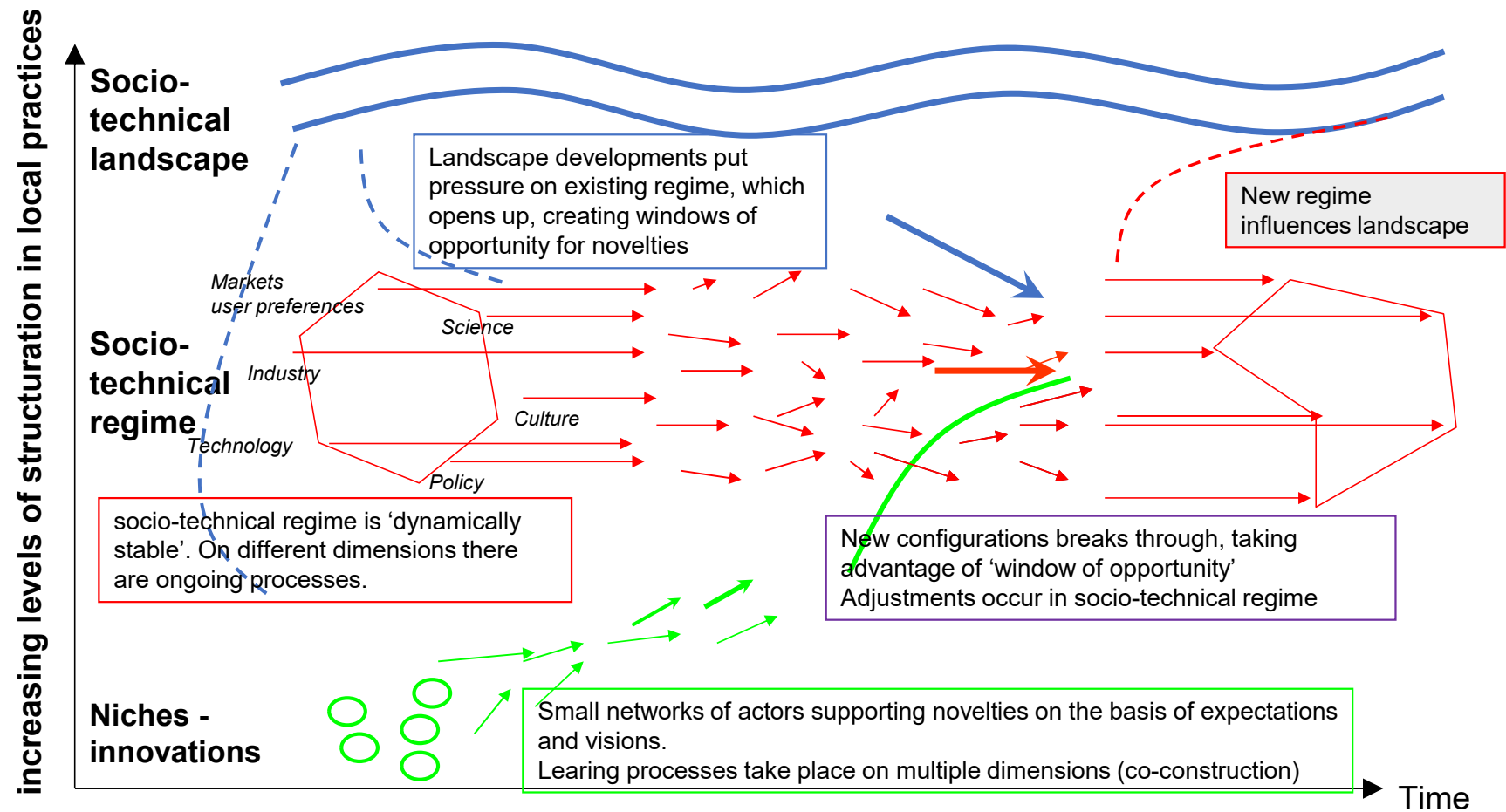
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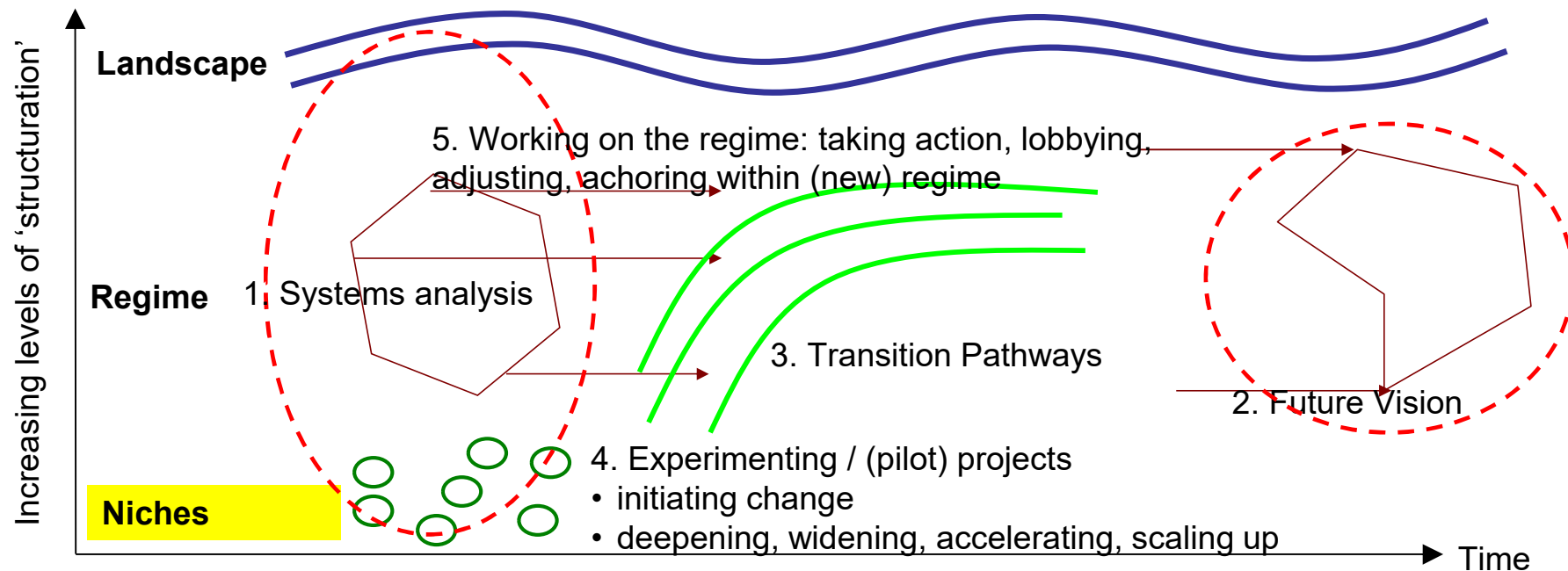
Source: F.W Geels, Environmental Innovation and Societal Transition 1 (2011) 24-40

2. Analytical framework to assess the transformative dimension of 'niche initiatives'



Transition Management / Niche Management?

- working with frontrunners
- long term strategy in the shadow of existing policy context (policy entrepreneurs/ policy whispering)
- development of a common agenda
- short term actions (quick wins)



3. *Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet*

<https://www.foodsystemchange.org/networking/niche-innovations>



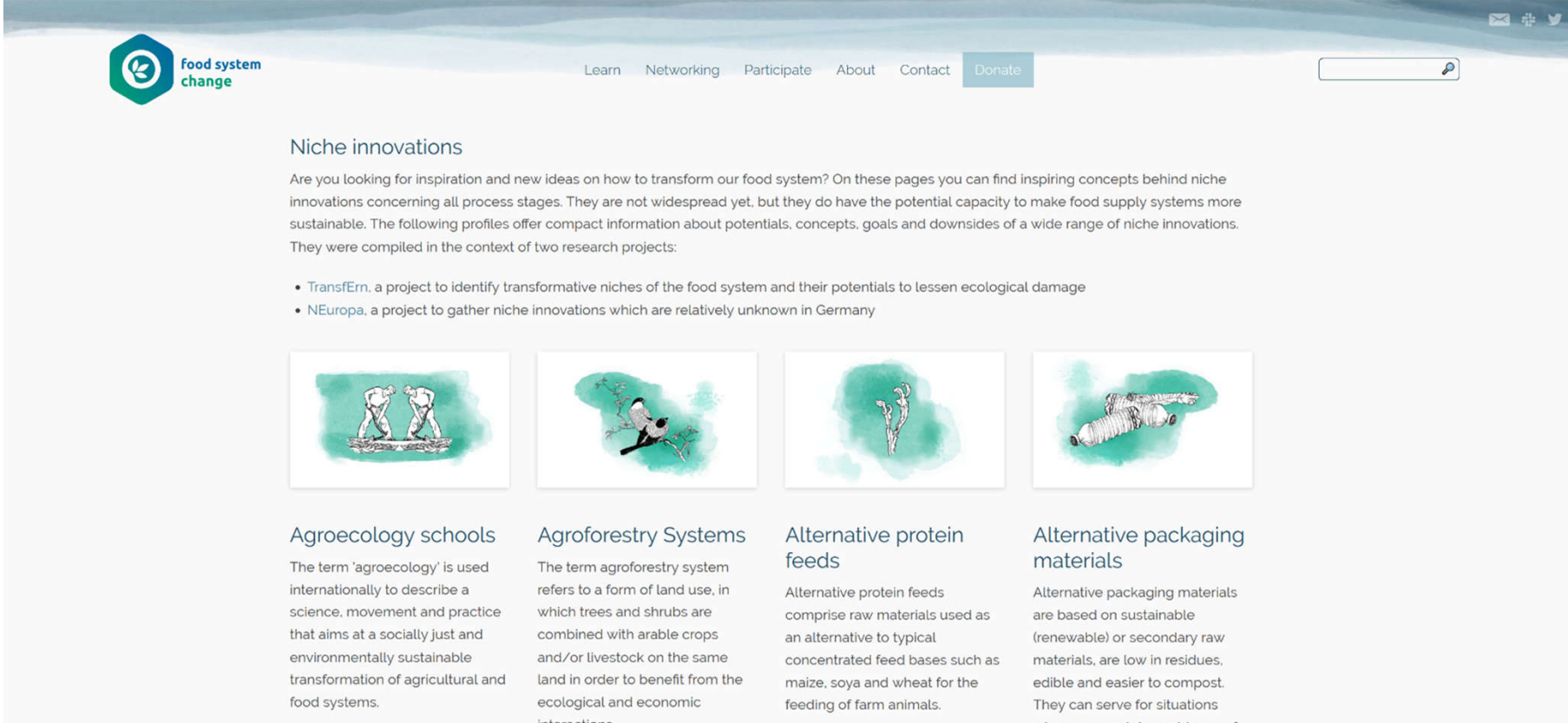
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LA AGROECOLOGÍA



3. Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet



The screenshot shows the 'Niche innovations' section of the Food System Change website. The header includes the 'food system change' logo, navigation links (Learn, Networking, Participate, About, Contact, Donate), and a search bar. The main content area is titled 'Niche innovations' and contains a paragraph explaining the purpose of the section. Below this, there are two bullet points listing projects: 'TransfErn' and 'NEuropa'. Further down, there are four columns, each with an illustration and a title: 'Agroecology schools', 'Agroforestry Systems', 'Alternative protein feeds', and 'Alternative packaging materials'. Each column has a brief description of the concept.


food system change

Learn Networking Participate About Contact Donate

Niche innovations


Are you looking for inspiration and new ideas on how to transform our food system? On these pages you can find inspiring concepts behind niche innovations concerning all process stages. They are not widespread yet, but they do have the potential capacity to make food supply systems more sustainable. The following profiles offer compact information about potentials, concepts, goals and downsides of a wide range of niche innovations. They were compiled in the context of two research projects:

- **TransfErn**, a project to identify transformative niches of the food system and their potentials to lessen ecological damage
- **NEuropa**, a project to gather niche innovations which are relatively unknown in Germany




Agroecology schools

The term 'agroecology' is used internationally to describe a science, movement and practice that aims at a socially just and environmentally sustainable transformation of agricultural and food systems.




Agroforestry Systems

The term agroforestry system refers to a form of land use, in which trees and shrubs are combined with arable crops and/or livestock on the same land in order to benefit from the ecological and economic interactions.



Alternative protein feeds

Alternative protein feeds comprise raw materials used as an alternative to typical concentrated feed bases such as maize, soya and wheat for the feeding of farm animals.

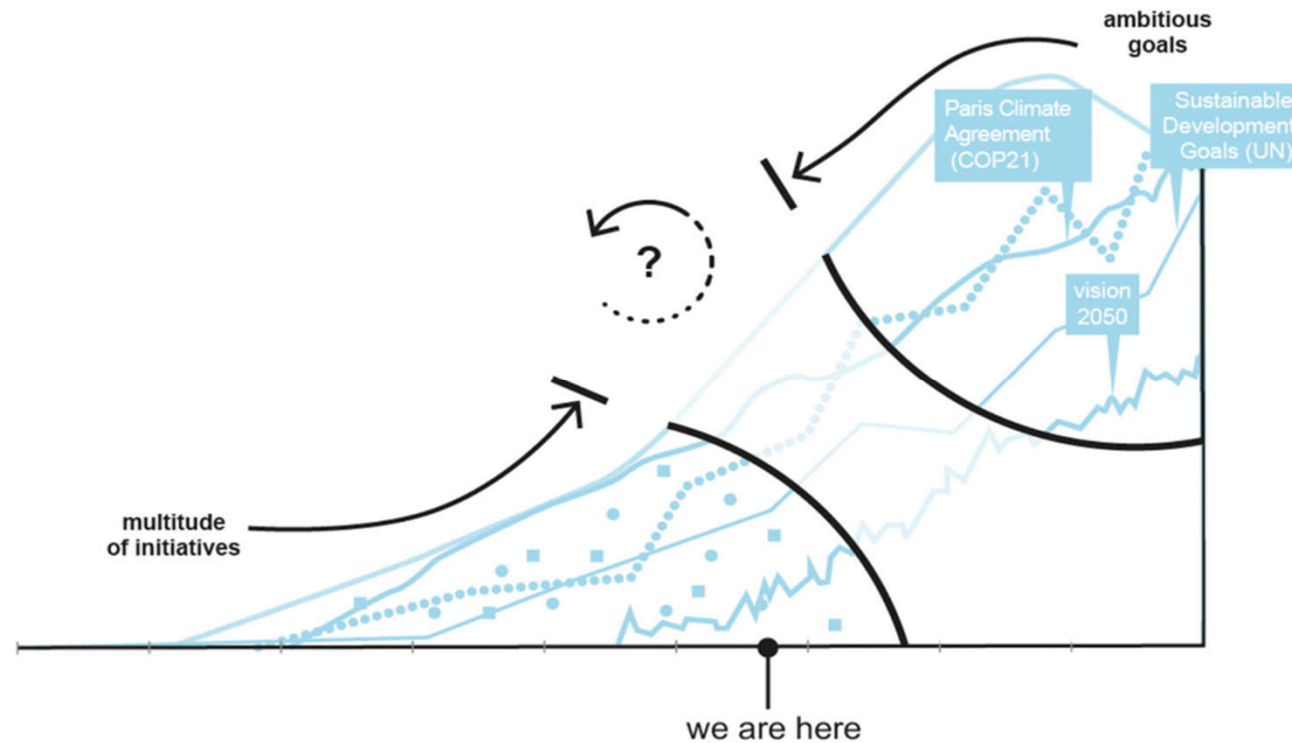


Alternative packaging materials

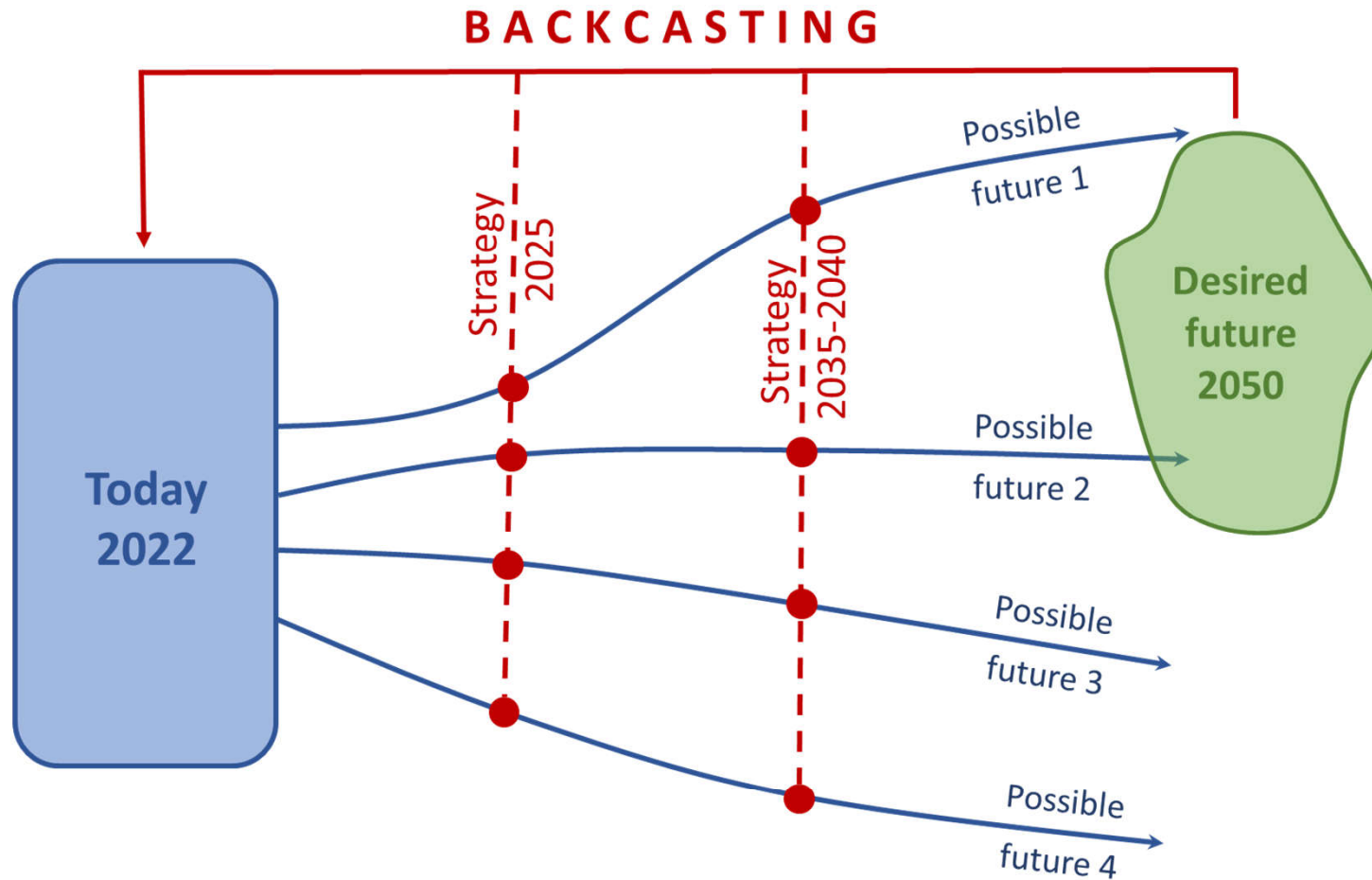
Alternative packaging materials are based on sustainable (renewable) or secondary raw materials, are low in residues, edible and easier to compost. They can serve for situations where a complete avoidance of...

<https://www.foodsystemchange.org/networking/niche-innovations>

3. Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet



3. Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet



3. *Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet*



Assemblage art

What do we put in the box

What needs to be articulated for an intervention to have the potential to be transformative

Joseph Cornell
Soapbubble set
1936

3. Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet

Pathways to an agroecological urbanism

8 Building Blocks (BB)

	Building Blocks				
Interrupt logics of substitution	Agroecological Park		Farming the Fragmented Land		Political Pedagogies for Urban Agroecology
Embodying an ecology of care and more-than-human solidarities	Territorial Food Hub	Healthy Soil Scape		Community Kitchen	
Building resourceful communities through empowering infrastructure	Land and Market Access Incubator		Productive Housing Estate		

3. *Prototyping: working towards what does not exist yet*

EXAMPLE: Agroecology-based community kitchen BB:

- A kitchen in every neighbourhood!
- Buy local food from peri-urban farmers
- Also growing locally
- Local composting
- Time-bank to integrate alternative currencies
- Involve schools and old people
- Run café, catering and take away meals
- Host a CSA
- Political kitchen talks (post-capitalist, decolonial, feminist approaches to food as a common)



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ASSIGNMENT

- #1** **what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?**
- #2.** **what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)**
- #3.** **what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?**
- '#4.** ***what may follow? In 1 year, in 5, in 10? When will you consider this action to be successful? What should it yield? How may it affect the food system?'***



ASSIGNMENT

#1 what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?

eg.

the current waste levels in commodified food regimes

the dominance of a highly commodified food regime

the precarity of farmers

the loss of skills

the destruction of fertile soils

urban food poverty

the high environmental footprint of urban diets

the climate impact of the current food system

...

ASSIGNMENT

#2. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)

eg.

Technology driven

state led

market led

citizen led

combinations thereof

ASSIGNMENT

#3. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?

eg.

Connecting an existing community kitchen with community garden

Diminishing the reliance of an existing food poverty/food bank initiative on surplus food

Reinforcing the water harvesting capacity of an existing community garden by mobilizing neighboring properties

ASSIGNMENT

'#4. what may follow? In 1 year, in 5, in 10? When will you consider this action to be successful? What should it yield? How may it affect the food system?'

eg.

It puts pressure on the current system because...

it constitutes a niche but may be mainstreamed because...

it raises awareness regarding...

It leads to behavioral change...


it demonstrates a concrete possibility which may be replicated...

it builds new alliances...

it builds necessary solidarities between groups previously marginalized...

it empowers specific groups to take action...

it removes specific obstacles...

 Jeroen de Vries · 20h
AESOP4FOOD Starting up exercise Strategy and Prototyping
 Get ready for transformative action

WARSAW 1 - POZNAN	WARSAW 2	WARSAW3	MADRID	WIEN - VIENNA LAB	FRENCH HUB
<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>a. what aspect of the food system is the action trying to address and transform?</p> <p>1</p> <p>Jeroen de Vries 20h you can type your answers as a remark</p> <p>Add comment</p>
<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. -hat is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>b. what is driving that change? How is it shaped? (cf. Scoones)</p> <p>Add comment</p>
<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>	<p>Jeroen de Vries 20h</p> <p>c. what is already in place? How are you building on this? What is missing? What is key (and cannot be left out)?</p> <p>Add comment</p>

<https://padlet.com/geronimo2/vsmrb3jg3hkdiakp>

For the presentation

try to build a strong narrative regarding the transformation your proposed action is trying to produce by connecting the four questions.

Start from question #3