Circular transition in cities. Systemic factors and tools



General Assembly 1 June 2022

Ir. Carmen Aalbers, PhD Wageningen University and Research









Content



- 1 Ongoing Research on Systemic factors
- 2 Transition and tools





Part One: Ongoing research systemic factors

Research questions (& methods) CITYLOOPS

- 1. What are the systemic factors that the CityLoops cities encounter and that influence the progress towards becoming a circular city? (interviews, document study, analysis and group discussion)
- 2. What are the main categorizations of these systemic factors that we can identify, how are they divided over the CityLoops cities and the replication cities? Are their coherences between the factors, and can they be explained? (analysis and group discussion)
- Which factors are specifically relevant for which actions/demonstrations or CityLoops tools and lessons? (group discussion and documentation with examples)



Workplanning

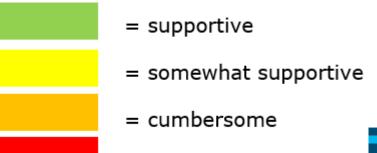


February 2022 - June 2022	August 2022 - January 2023	February 2023- September 2023
 Develop main research questions; Writing interview guideline, Finalize guideline with demo cities during joint session; Profile best respondents. Execute interviews per city o ask them about factors of success and failure in realizing the demonstration actions. 	 Find similarities and critical differences between demo cities and replication cities, in consultation with a few subgroups of cities. Do the cities recognize the insights and language and can they contribute further? 	 Co-author with the demo cities the review of insights on factors of success and failure. Formulate these insights in terms of conditions for regional upscaling and for successful tools. Which of the existing tools or 'business' activities can help leveraging progress towards CE? How should they be tailored to use in a specific city context? Too ambitious?

Quick scan 2021



	Apeldoorn	Bodo	Hoje-	Mikkeli	Porto	Roskilde	Sevilla
			Taastrup				
Physical							
city							
Politics and							
policy							
Culture							
Economy							





First interviews 2022

- no cooperation between officers and politicians: distant relation over numerous admin. layers
- no strategic vision at city level on Circular Economy and how to get there
- no common understanding and language between departments





What came up during discussions!

- 1. Communication to influence others, eg city council, companies in your area, the public and the culture
- 2. Cooperation (has very much to do with communication, but also with strategically choosing your partners within and outside the city offices)
- 3. Rules and regulations: formalizing what are important objectives and ways to get there (policy);
 - National legislation
 - Local policies and legislation
 - How to link to EU, use international cooperation?
- 4. Tools and methods that help becoming a circular city, specifically for BioWaste: different types of challenges

Role Apeldoorn according local parties

Mediator or first contact for marketing local, not new substances, materials and products, to raise their availability

Mapping local production chains to make clever links between demand and offer

Establishing a local circular network for exchange of knowledge and information

Launching customer for struvite, restwarmth, woodbuilding, wooden streetfurniture like signposts and guardrails

For local scale business cases a role in organising and cooperating in the chain

Financing research and pilots

As 'owner' of various waste streams cooperate in pilots and business cases.

Organize information campagns and raise awareness among inhabitants of short chains, circular economy and better sorting of waste (also direct feedback towards individual households),

The previous combined with local branding and showing good examples.

Involving youth and schools with circular economy

Study effects of circular economy on waste tax.

Facilitating attitude and possibly use the possibilities of the new Environment Code

A "Yes, provided that"- attitude.



Part two: transition and tools



Theory

The concept of systems

- Your city organization
- Your company

Your novel circular demonstrations

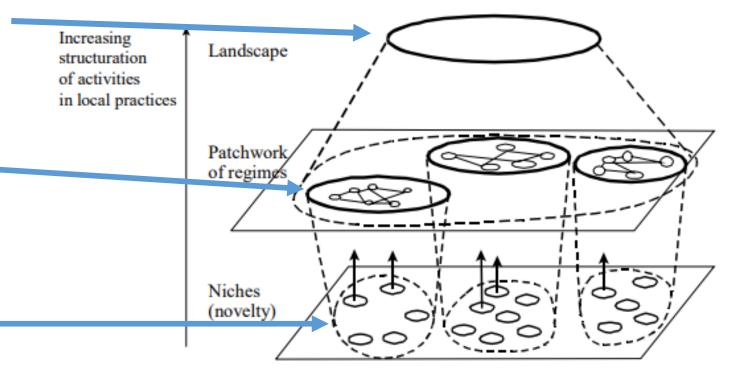


Fig. 3. Multiple levels as a nested hierarchy [22, p. 1261].

More from the literature



- Demand the impossible! (Smith et al. 2015). Because that is where things have to get moving!
- 'Critical niche' is about upscaling in the sense of a regime transformation. Critical niches '... open up debate about more <u>socially transformative pathways</u> to sustainability' (Smith et al., 2015, p1).
- When groups demand 'the impossible' it can be interpreted as the actual regime not being able to respond to the demand, because it is organized on the basis of other knowledge or values (Aalbers and Sehested, 2019)
- Do not focus on what is imposible, but on what can be done to make things happen?
 (Aalbers, Kamphorst & Langers, 2019)

CITYLOOPS

About instruments

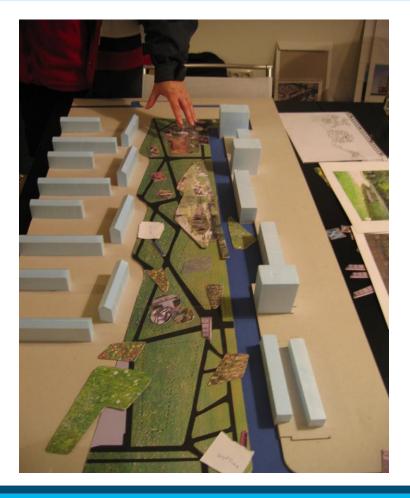
3 types (Chalmers University, 2002)

- Tools in action, you use in your own process
- Tools in interaction, you use to communicate
- Tools in and for transition? Connecting practices, multiple users and shapers/creators.

In a process; for a specific challenge; a timing; a user (skills, attitude, knowledge)



Tool for Transition: amidst parties, accessible, changing





Is there more potential in the CityLoops tools?



Are they designed to contribute to the change of lifestyles, work practices, arrangements?

Can MoC data be used for or turned into a tool for interaction, or even transition

Can the Evaluation criteria and indicators from the Evaluation Plan be used in interaction, or even for transition? i.e. shape it together with the users for their active use in steering towards CE?

What is needed for this?

List of instruments CityLoops	CityLab stakeholder platform	CITYLOOPS			
Pre-demolition screening procedure	City simulation platform				
Selective demolition procedure	Co-design process for public space	Which are designed for use			
CO2 calculator (LCA tool) for concrete, soil,	- Co design process for public space	□in action			
mixed CDW	Wellbeing monitoring tool	□in interaction			
3D modelling to track onsite CDW flows	Framework for circular soil handling	which for in transition?			
3D GIS Visualisation	Instrument for predicting future excavated	Digital tools citizens and city managers data driven			
3D Visualisation/Street-scanning (?)	soil Circular construction procurement	decisionmaking			
Tool for assessing soil reuse potential	guidelines	Valorisation decision support tool GA			
CDW Materials passport, databank and digital marketplace	Planning & decision making guidelines	Triple layer business model canvas GA			
CDW flow optimisation	CDW awareness campaign	Co-design with citizens of collection and sorting demo Mikkeli. Service design.			
Quality assessment for CDW use in water infrastructure	Business cases				
Methodology for assessment of projects fit for	Challah alidan an an annuant	Treatment stakeholdergroups			
soil reuse	Stakeholder engagement	source: tracker and OIPs			

To distinguish between



In action, in interaction	In transition (two or multi-directional and embedded in the tool or materialized)
communication towards	dialogue
instruction	co-design
awareness raising	co-development
monitoring and evaluation	joint monitoring and joint evaluation
interview	
study of composition municipal waste	joint study of composition municipal waste

Might be a strong tool, inducing co-ownership or appropriation. Know where the city wants to be at the background, and where the city remains the authority!



Thank you for your attention, participation!

Contact: carmen.aalbers@wur.nl