

## Beyond the single narrative: Transforming the preconceptions of circularity for inclusive urban food systems through experiential learning

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Circularity cannot be an exclusive practice in the urban context. Circularity depends on drastically reconfiguring the practices and processes of production and consumption by rethinking how people make use of and relate to environmental resources (e.g. food, water, energy) in their daily practices. However, the access to resources and daily practices of people who make up an urban space are not uniform. When it comes to food, the inclusion of society is especially pertinent as it is not only attached to everyone's biophysical needs, but also their individual and social identities. Needs and identities make access to food critical while at the same time, making changes to consumption practices difficult. Thus, to achieve a 'waste-free economy,' as the Dutch government committed to in the National Agreement on the Circular Economy, while addressing people needs, all levels of society need to be considered in the transformative processes. How do we then involve the narratives of different people in the city when it comes to making food practices more circular? How do we ensure that urban planners, technical designers, and urban decision-makers striving for circularity account for the needs and obstacles experienced by marginalized members of society?

Through an EWUU seed fund, researchers from Wageningen University & Research, the Technical University of Eindhoven and Utrecht University worked together to unpack these narratives through tapping into the experiences of different society members using bread as a boundary object. In this session, they will give a taste of how they developed and shared narratives through interactive experiential settings around the topic of bread. The goal of these interactive settings was to make the different obstacles and needs faced by members of society more tangible as cities attempt to transition to more circular and sustainable urban food practices. These combined approaches provided new and creative ways to understand where sustainability goals for circularity are incongruent with the heterogenous needs of the people that make up the urban context. As such, this research can contribute to more inclusive circular urban food practices and policies.