21st

European Week of Regions and Cities

Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

Adapting Living Lab methodologies for sustainability transitions at regional scale

Virtual Side Event

17 October 2023
14:00-16:00

#EURegionsWeek

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AGENDA

21st European Week of Regions and Cities
Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

1. **Introductory words by Prof Dr Matthias Kiese** (5 min)
2. **Presentation by Dr Georgia Ayfantopoulou** (15 min): The need for Cross sectorial LL approach to support transition to climate neutrality
3. **Presentation by Linda Maiwald**: Climate Neutral Görlitz 2030 - Project TRUST (10 min)
4. **Presentation by Dr Artur Serra**: "Empowering everyone to innovate", but how? - INTEGER Project (10 min)
5. **Panel Discussion** (30 min)
6. **Q&A** (20 min)

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

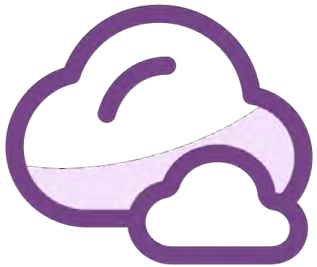
21st European Week of Regions and Cities
Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

Dr Georgia Ayfantopoulou
Research Director at CERTH
Deputy Director at HIT
Thessaloniki Smart Mobility LL Leader
TRANSFORMER Project

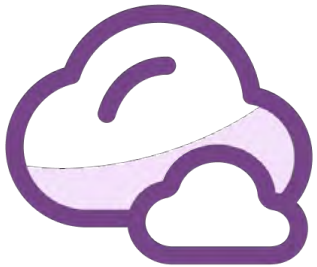
Linda Maiwald
Coordinator for Climate Neutral Görlitz 2030 at TRUST

Dr Artur Serra
i2CAT deputy Director, lead of the ENoLL Working Group on Social Innovation & Digital Rights, Member of the ENoLL Executive Board

Do you know what a Transition Super-Lab is?



What comes to your mind when thinking about "Living Labs"? Use one word.



What comes to your mind when thinking about "Transition Super-Labs"? Use one word.

PRESENTATIONS

21st European Week of Regions and Cities
Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

Dr Georgia Ayfantopoulou

Research Director at CERTH
Deputy Director at HIT
Thessaloniki Smart Mobility LL Leader
TRANSFORMER Project

21st European Week of Regions and Cities
Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

The need for Cross sectorial LL approach to support transition to climate neutrality

Session: Adapting Living Lab methodologies for sustainability transitions at regional scale

Dr. Georgia Ayfantopoulou

Research Director at Centre of Research & Technology Hellas – CERTH
Deputy Director Hellenic Institute of Transport – HIT
Thessaloniki Smart Mobility LL Leader

Email: **gea@certh.gr**

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Structure of the presentation

1. Improve ecosystem transition readiness through innovation
2. Similarities and differences between Living Labs and Transition Super-Labs
3. Transition Super-Lab concept and process
4. Overview of TRANSFORMER TSL activities and first results

1.Region/City Led Innovation what is it?

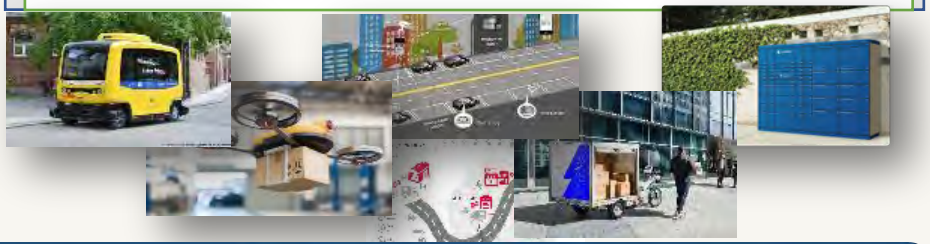
Goal: Cities need to become SMART, CLIMATE NEUTRAL, ZERO POLLUTED until 2030 / 2050 > Innovative solutions are currently taking place in Europe

- **Current situation:**

Industry-led *innovation* is speedy and when is adopted might have side effects that city/regions authorities do not expect and are not prepared to manage

- **Solution:**

- ***City/regions-led*** *innovation* aims at empowering leaders (authorities and policy-makers) to develop policies steering the introduction of innovative solutions



City/regions-led innovation → How to enhance the **transformation to digital** and to accelerate their transition to climate neutrality embracing innovation → **Innovative Cross sectorial Policy Response**

1. Improve ecosystem transition readiness through innovation

Goal: Cities need to become SMART, CLIMATE NEUTRAL, ZERO POLLUTED until 2030 / 2050 > Innovative solutions are currently taking place in Europe

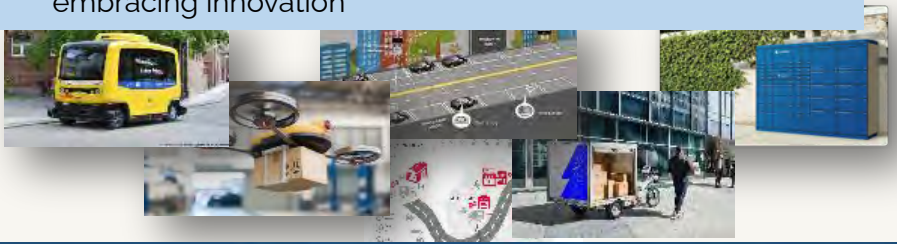
- **Current situation:**

Industry-led *innovation* is speedy and when is adopted might have side effects that city/regions authorities do not expect and are not prepared to manage

- **Solution:**

An ecosystem approach (LLs) is needed to provide cities/regions with the :

- **the capacity** for developing the policies that will stimulate & generalize cross sectorial innovative solutions taken up for maximizing the impact of innovation.
- **the knowledge** to prepare the right conditions for embracing innovation



City/regions-led innovation → How to enhance the **transformation to digital** and to accelerate their transition to climate neutrality embracing innovation → **Innovative Cross sectorial Policy Response**

Example of The Innovative Urban Mobility ecosystem approach

Mobility systems elements the entities that represent city's main characteristics & the domain for innovation implementation

Legend
Innovation
Readiness
Liveability

Smart and Easily Accessible
- Transparency & Accountability
- Accessibility
- Affordability
- Availability

Climate and City Typology
- Openness
- Science & Education
- Sustainability

Innovative Governance & Growth
- Inter-departmental coordination
- Mobility Planning
- Liaise
- Public Investments
- Planning Investments

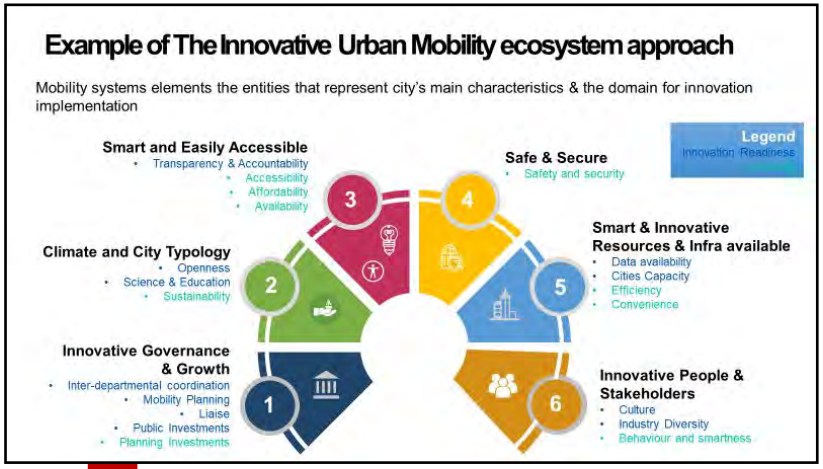
Safe & Secure
- Safety and security

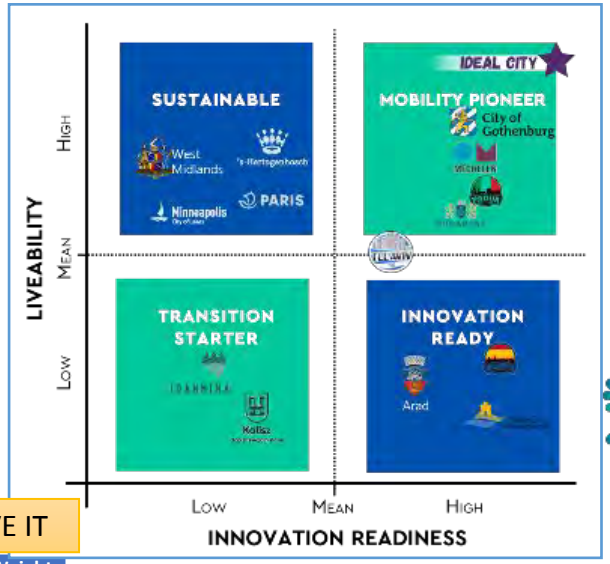
Smart & Innovative Resources & Infra available
- Data availability
- Cities Capacity
- Efficiency
- Convenience

Innovative People & Stakeholders
- Culture
- Industry Diversity
- Behaviour and smartness

1. City led innovation & readiness of mobility ecosystems to adopt innovation

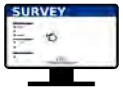
- Assess the Innovation Readiness score and the liveability level of a region/city



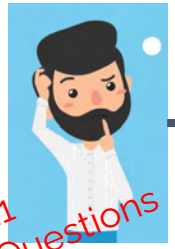


SPROUT H2020 project

Scan to try it for your city



Ask cities to fill the survey



YOU NEED TO MEASURE IT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE IT

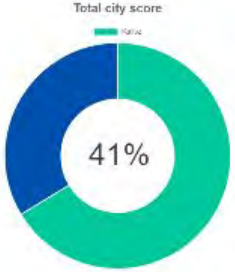
Sub-element	Question	Weight
Inter-departmental coordination	Q1	5.7%
Mobility Planning	Q2	11.7%
Liaise	Q3	6.0%
Public Investments	Q4	16.5%
Openness	Q5	4.6%
Science & Education	Q6, Q7	6.28%
Transparency & Accountability	Q8, Q9	9.5%
Data availability	Q10, Q11	12.2%
Cities Capacity	Q12, Q13, Q14, Q15, Q16, Q17	13.7%
Culture	Q18, Q19, Q20	7.5%
Industry Diversity	Q21	6.3%

Calculate the Innovation Readiness Score and Liveability level of the city

1. City led innovation & readiness of mobility ecosystems to adopt innovation

– Support city ecosystem common understanding on needs & priorities

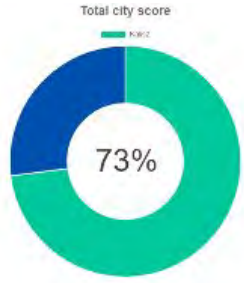
Use Case: Real-time dynamic management of unloading operations including planning and booking



City is 41% Ready for Innovation

Room for improvement

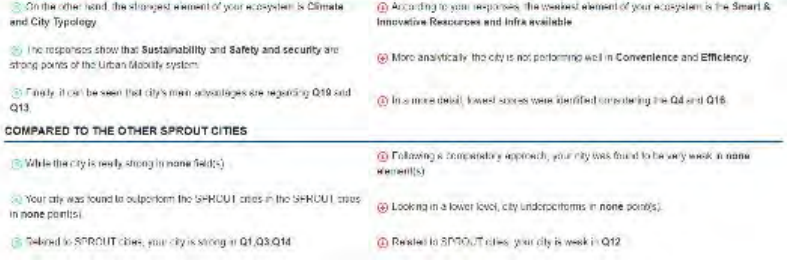
Element	How is the transition pioneer city?	Where the city stands now?
Mobility Planning	• Public Participation to SUMP and SULP • Linked with finance and political support • Solutions are part of the planning	• SUMP is under development • **SULP is not advanced** Score 2/5
Liaise	• Freight partnerships • Citizen engagement platforms	• Existence of multistakeholder platform (**no regular operation**) • **No support in emerging innovative solutions** Score 2/5
Data Availability	• City as LL using technologies such as Digital Twins	• **Has no data collection or surveys** Score 1/5



City is 73% Liveable

Conclusions for your city

SPROUT H2020 project



2. Similarities and differences between Living Labs and Transition Super-Labs

-Are LL different from Transition Super-Labs?

According to their definitions, Living Labs and TSLs exhibit three key differences:

Living Labs:

Scope and focus: Living Lab scope is not limited as it operates as an intermediary in a real-life environment in specific domain.

Terminology and approach: Living Lab uses iterative feedback processes throughout a lifecycle approach in a specialized domain.

Objectives: To create sustainable impact and provide joint value to the involved stakeholders, without specifying particular objectives related to climate neutrality or sustainability.

Need of new coalition category of Living Labs Super Labs dedicated to transition support.

Transition Super-Labs:

Scope and focus: TSL operates as an ecosystem of actors from different domains aiming at **cross sectorial transformation towards climate neutrality** (mainly focused on **regional scale** challenges but cross-regional and cross border cooperation is suggested)

Terminology and approach: TSL benefits from a **collaborative governance** with the goal of including all relevant stakeholders from the quadruple helix for creating political legitimacy and acceptance for **long-term and fundamental systemic changes.**

Objectives: To create added value to cross-sectorial initiatives for **social and economic transformation** and provide *feasible solutions to complex regional transformation challenges*, with a focus on **climate neutrality and sustainability.**

2. Similarities and differences between Living Labs and Transition Super-Labs

- How can adapted Living Labs methodologies contribute to Climate Neutrality?

Living Labs methodologies and converging community-based action-oriented participatory trans-disciplinary research structures are a key component of **open science** for **sustainable development**.

Bring together **citizens, institutions, industry, and research**, **engaging citizens** in social practices and connecting the big picture to local action.

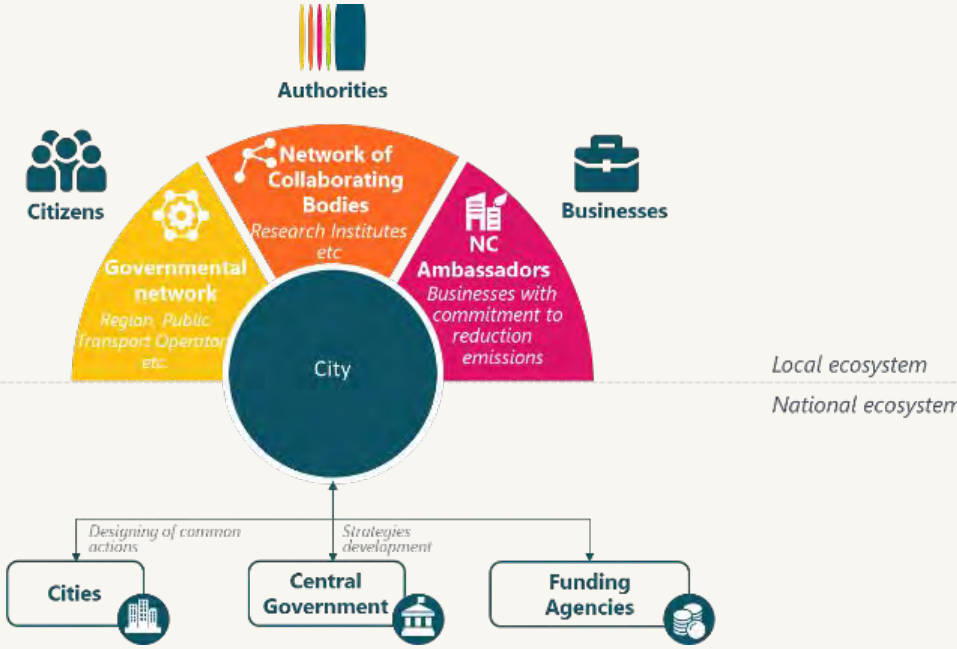
Facilitate **visibility** and **access** to open **knowledge**, supporting open data and open-source initiatives and the European Data Spaces.

Promote **innovation**, **sustainability**, and **digitalization**, bridging the gap between citizens, industry, public administration, and research.

Test and demonstrate digital solutions for reducing pollution and achieving environmental sustainability.

Speed up the transition process to zero pollution and climate neutrality.

- ✔ Bridge local and national ecosystems
- ✔ Propose solutions
- ✔ Build capacity



3. Transition Super-Lab concept and process

- Transition Super-Lab

A Transition Super-Lab is an ecosystem of actors organized to accelerate the transformation towards climate neutrality through **innovation and cross sectorial synergies** on a regional scale. It benefits from a **collaborative governance**, operates in accordance to **systemic transformation** principles and utilizes **transition enabling methods and tools** in order to create added value to cross-sectorial initiatives for economic transformation and to provide feasible solutions to complex regional transformation challenges.

What are the main elements of a Transition Super-Lab?

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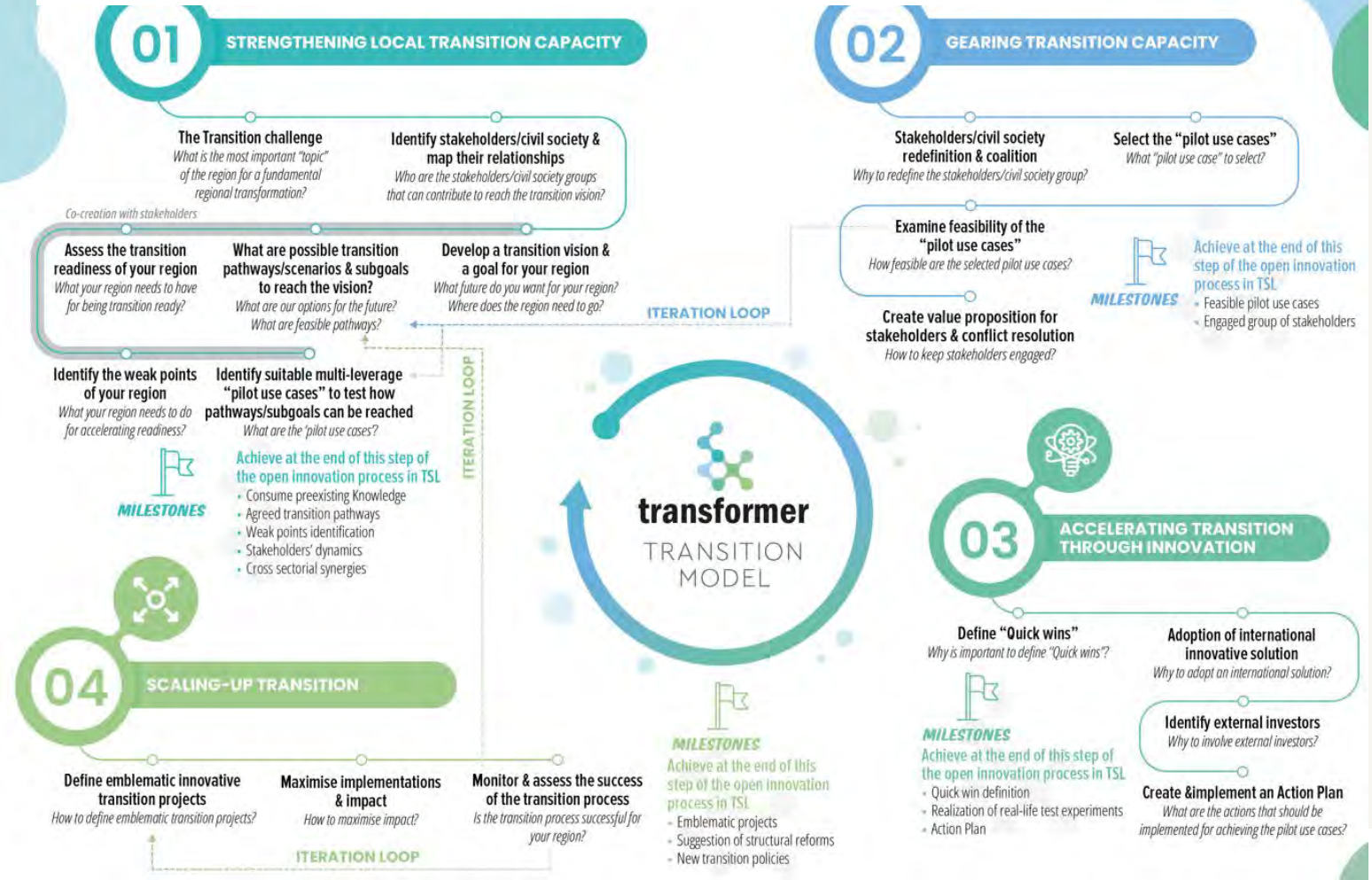
Adaptation and application of enriched Living Lab methodologies

Aiming at large-scale systemic solutions for a rapid sustainable transformation

Applying a portfolio approach of measures (experiments) and using multiple leverage points for systemic change simultaneously

3. Transition Super-Lab concept and process



Cross sectorial Transition model towards climate neutrality

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4. Overview of TRANSFORMER TSL activities and first results

- Paradigm of regional ecosystems in driving position

Vision: *Transformation to one the greenest industrial regions in Europe*

Vision: *Implement of zero-emission transport in the Legnica-Glogow Copper Belt area*

Vision: *Harmonization of existing mobility and energy initiatives*

Vision: *Diversification of the economy through climate-neutral energy*

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4. Overview of TRANSFORMER TSL activities and first results

- Challenges identified during the first activities

Defining the challenge & most important 'topic' for the region

Stakeholder coalition building

- ✔ *Ensuring a balanced representation and participation of different societal groups (including marginalized groups)*
- ✔ *Creating value proposition for each group of stakeholders ensuring their motivation to participate over the long time of a systemic transformation*
- ✔ *Dealing with individual interests and conflicting ideas among the stakeholders*

Vision development (incl. scenario & pathways)

- ✔ *Creating a common vision for a transformation on a regional scale among the variety of different stakeholders*
- ✔ *Integrating existing economic and political context (top-down approach) with a bottom-up perspective to keep the process open, participatory, and interactive*

Pilot use-case definition

- ✔ *Contribution to the goal of climate neutrality Potential for systemic transformation*
- ✔ *Regional character beyond merely local solutions and expected value for the region*
- ✔ *Experimental and innovative approach*
- ✔ *Potential for co-creation during the development phase*
- ✔ *Cross-sectorial approach*

Action Plan Development

- ✔ *Developing concrete actions through pilot use cases*
- ✔ *Identifying additional solutions for transforming multiple socio-technical regimes simultaneously*
- ✔ *Laying foundations for long-term implementation and establishment of a TSL incl. governance arrangements and financing and funding options)*

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4. Overview of TRANSFORMER TSL activities and first results

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- How does TRANSFORMER support the cross sectorial transition to climate neutrality?

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Regional Transition Roadmap

Blueprint for a Transition Super-Lab Roadmap process

Innovated & millennial minded toolkit

Toolkit

Knowledge Hub

Transfer knowledge on Transition Super-Labs, solutions, best practices, assessment methodologies/tools, etc.

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Thank you for your time!

Dr. Georgia Ayfantopoulou

Research Director at Centre of Research & Technology Hellas – CERTH
Deputy Director Hellenic Institute of Transport – HIT
Thessaloniki Smart Mobility LL Leader

Email: gea@certh.gr

CERTH CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY HELLAS

PRESENTATIONS

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Linda Maiwald

Coordinator for Climate Neutral Görlitz 2030 at TRUST

TRUST – On the way to a climate-neutral city of Görlitz

A local living lab approach

Behind Project TRUST

Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development

IZS Interdisciplinary Centre for Transformative Urban Regeneration

Interdisciplinary Centre for Transformative Urban Regeneration (IZS Görlitz)

- Branch office of Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development & Dresden University (TU Dresden)
- Focus on peripheralised small and medium-sized cities and regions facing transformation dynamics
- Implementing living lab approaches

Source: IOR Media

Source: IOR Media

Source: IOR Media

Complex challenge of local climate neutrality

Cities are setting themselves increasingly ambitious climate protection targets

Challenges:

- **(Especially smaller) cities have limited capacities to develop and implement the necessary technical and social innovations**
- **Cities and regions feature specific geographic and economic characteristics**

Learning:

➔ ***There is no master plan for local climate neutrality!***

➔ ***Top-down approaches are not sufficient!***

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Leibniz-Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung

A local living lab approach to face local climate transition

TRUST working hypothesis:

➔ **Climate transition requires the engagement of all local sectors and their stakeholders.**

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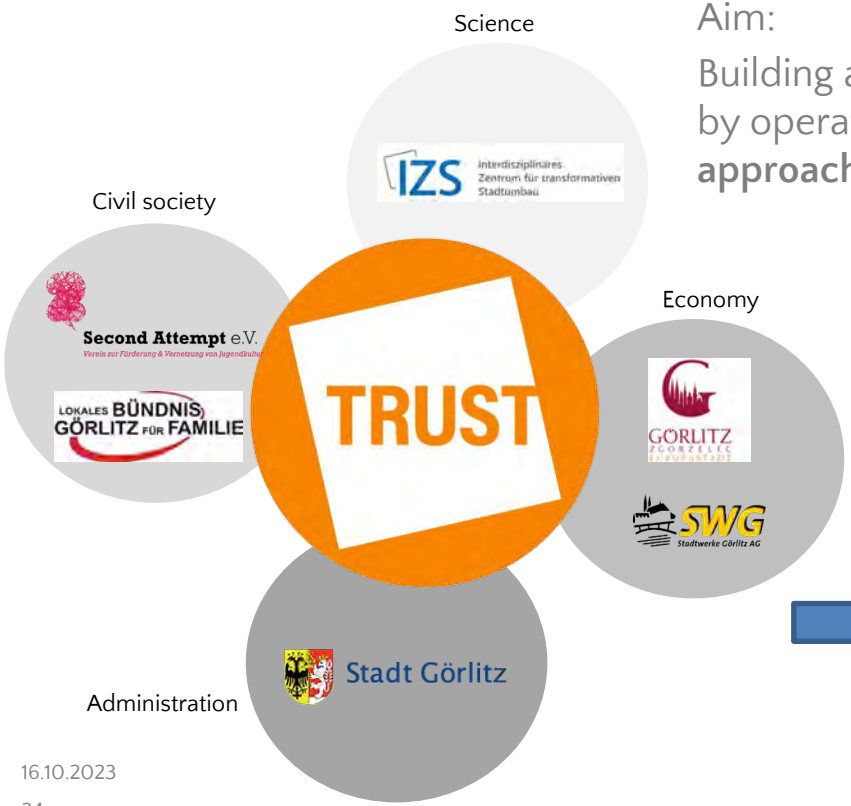
Transfer of Urban Sustainability Transition Knowledge: Towards Climate-Neutral Cities 2030 – The City of Görlitz as a Pilot



Aim:

Building a transdisciplinary transformative innovation system by operationalising **"Transition Management" in a living lab approach**

Transition Team for Görlitz

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Leibniz-Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung

A local living lab approach to face local climate transition

Forming a local living lab utilising transition management is useful for:

1. **Transforming local knowledge** on contextual realities and challenges into appropriate solutions.
2. **Integration of stakeholders** in climate action process
3. **Open opportunity** for innovation & local value creation

Source: IÖR Media

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Preliminary results

On TRUST as living lab approach

- ✔ **Transition team** formed (working on a weekly basis)
- ✔ Publicly accessible **system analysis** jointly compiled
- ✔ **Successful implementation of a kick-off event as well as 4 transition arenas** so far, each with approx. 45 participants from the fields of politics, business, civil society, administration and science
- ✔ **Contact & support panel for local development relevant processes**, e.g. local energy planning
- ✔ **Communicator** between different urban processes and initiatives

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A critical reflexion

On TRUST as living lab approach

- **Broad interest in the project**, as challenges around climate change mitigation are immanent & coordination lacks so far.
- **Collaboration between local sectors needs to be learned:** Finding a common language is key challenge
- **Key step: Recognize & understand different thinking logics and patterns**
- **Controversies about legitimacy project and its results**
- **(Peripheral) setting of the project as a special condition**

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Thank you for your attention!

Linda Maiwald –
l.maiwald@ioer.de

For more information on project TRUST, please visit
https://izs-goerlitz.ioer.de/en/research/current-projects/trust

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PRESENTATIONS

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Dr Artur Serra

i2CAT deputy Director, lead of the ENoLL Working Group on Social Innovation & Digital Rights, Member of the ENoLL Executive Board

“Empowering everyone to innovate”, but how?

Artur Serra
i2cat Foundation

Adapting Living Lab methodologies for sustainability transitions at regional scale

European Week of Regions and Cities 2023

"Towards new innovation ecosystems" (2006)

"Empowering ***everyone*** to innovate"

http://openlivinglabs.eu

We are living in an “era of labs”

2003

2007

The Lab: Moedas' Vision for 2030.

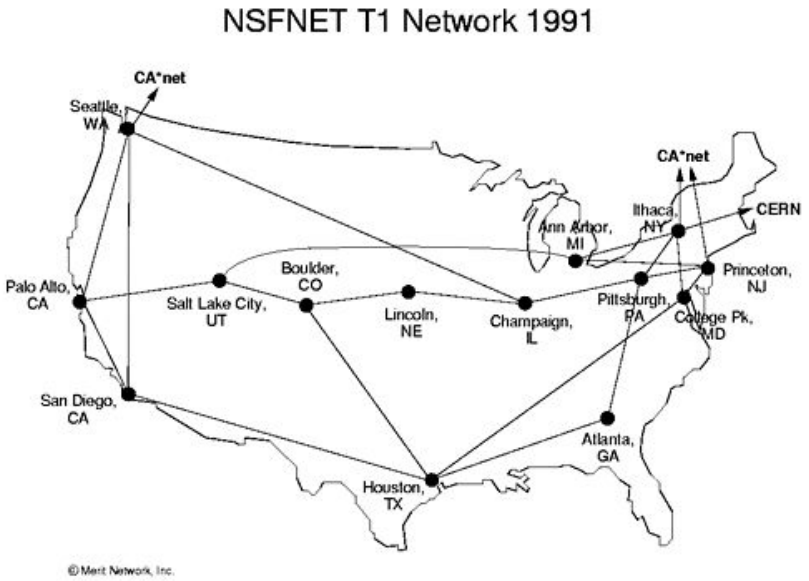
"The year is 2030. Open Science has become a reality and is offering a whole range of new, unlimited opportunities for research and Discovery worldwide. Scientists, citizens, publishers, research institutions, public and private research funders, students and education professionals as well as companies from around the globe are sharing an open, virtual environment called The Lab".

(Carlos Moedas, Open Innovation, Open Science and Open to the World. 2016 : 22.)

“The National Collaboratory”

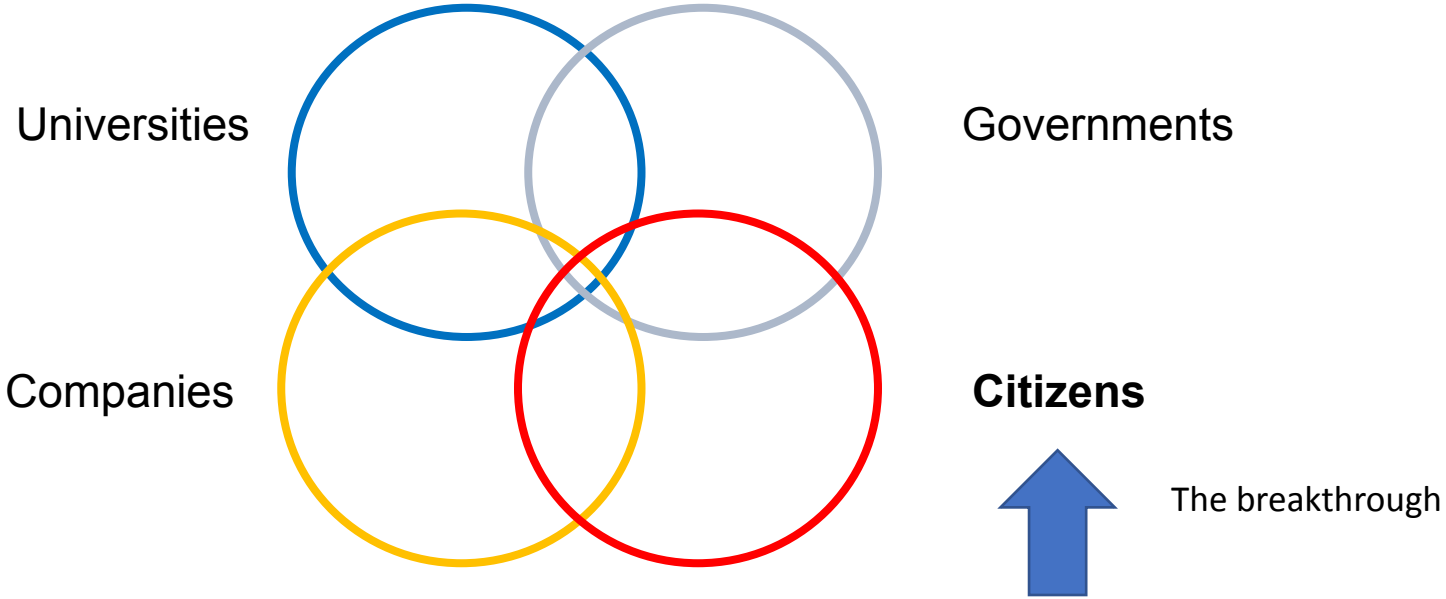
- “A center without walls, in which the nation’s researchers can perform their research without regard to physical location, interacting with colleagues, accessing instrumentation,
- sharing data and computational resources, [and] accessing information in digital libraries”.

- William A. Wulf (1989)
  https://awards.acm.org/award-recipients/wulf_1025840



Quadruple Helix model,

opening the innovation systems

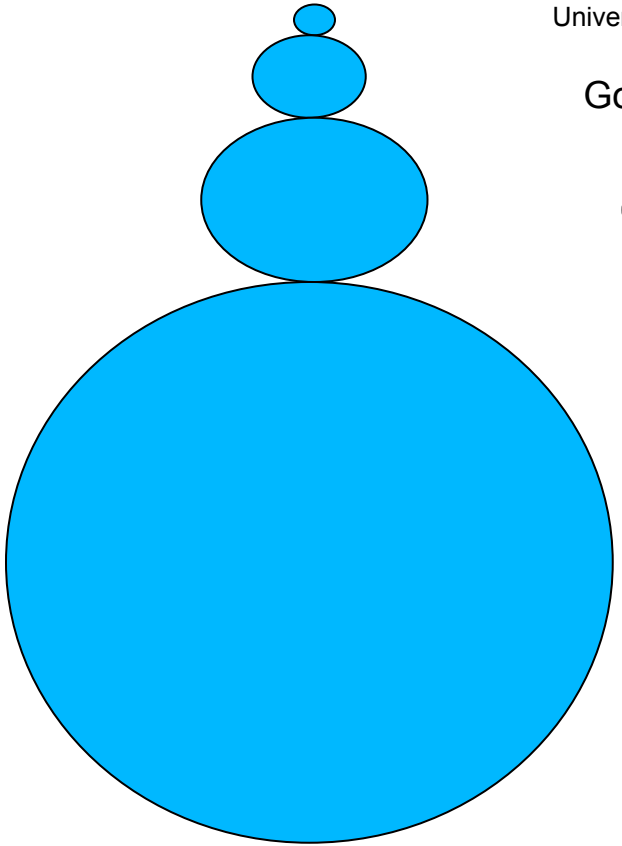


(Arnkil et al.,Exploring Quadruple Helix 2010)

The real dimension of the Quadruple Helix

Member of European Network of Living Labs

How to generate a tipping point for empowering everyone to innovate?.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Tipping_Point



Universities

Governments

Companies

Citizens

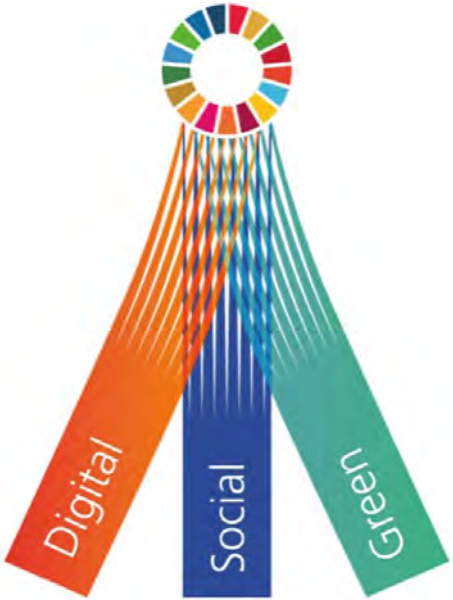
Feb 2020.

The **green and digital transitions are EU's *innovation* challenges.**

Then the COVID exploded...

march 2020

- A real challenge for everyone.
- A unique “social” challenge.
- A challenge putting in danger the main EU welfare state system.
- With a sense of urgency.



MUSKEUTEERS
4 a JUST Triple Transition

Paving the way for pushing and pursuing a “one for all, all for one” triple transition: social, green, and digital: The Three MuskEUteers, Caro,T, Serra, A. et alt.
https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-11065-8_1

i2cat

Generalitat de Catalunya

Col·laboratori Catalunya

2019-2030

Member of European Network of Living Labs

Towards universal innovation ecosystems

Company-driven innovation

DIH4CAT Digital Innovation Hub de Catalunya

DCA Digital Catalonia Alliance

Àrees 5G

Barcelona City Wide Field and Lab Trials

+

Social-driven innovation

Member of European Network of Living Labs

citilab

punt Tic

FAB LAB BARCELONA

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biblioLab

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coboi

COEbreLAB

IrsiCaixa

Living Lab de Salud

i2cat

innovafp

smartcentre

HEALTHCARE LIVING LAB CATALONIA

CVC

Collaboratory Catalunya 2019-2023

Territorial Socio-Digital Estrategy.

Member of European Network of Living Labs

- **3 new territorial** collaboratories
- + **2 thematic** collaboratories
  - ***Health and Wellbeing***
  - Education

Collaboratories as labs of labs

Networks of active people who have created trusting relationships and who periodically update, inspire & and coordinate to promote collaborative innovation projects on transitional challenges

International partners:

- **European Network of Living Labs, since 2006**
- **ESSI,** European School of Social Innovation since 2021
- **Horizon Europe**: INTEGER project since 2023.

European Innovation Ecosystems: CONNECT program

integercollab.eu

INTEGER

Home | What is INTEGER | Who we are | Where we are | Resources | What's new | Our platform

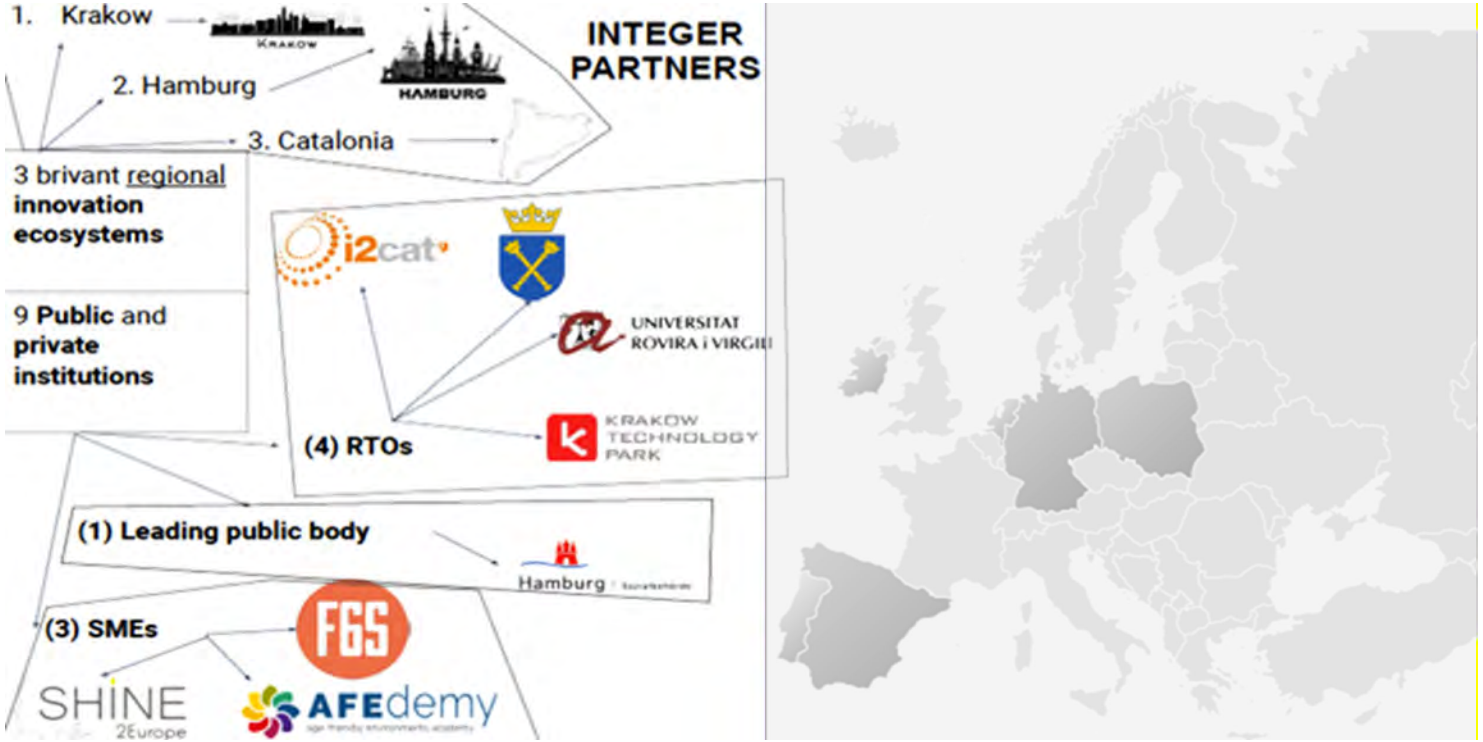
WELCOME TO INTEGER

The innovative potential of INTEGER is to offer a tested innovation model for accelerating the integration of social innovation actors and digital business entrepreneurial hubs in three EU regions. Another field of application is a testbed for scaling and replicability in other regions, fields and uptake in policy actions.

Learn More >

HORIZON-EIE-2022-CONNECT-01, 01/02/23 - 31/01/25

Building a first European Collaboratory on Health and Wellbeing



Celebrating a Milestone Moment: The EU INTEGER Collaboratory on Health and Wellbeing #OpenLivingLab

By Frederico / October 4, 2023

3. How can we best drive systemic transformation towards climate neutrality?

How about integrating systemic transformations?

transformer + INTEGER = **EU as an integrated transition lab.**

Transition Super-LABs for Climate neutral transition

Collaboratories for social and digital transitions

EU Regions as first prototypes labs of such integrated systemic transitions (green, digital, social,...)

Thanks a lot, ☺️

artur.serra@i2cat.net

PANEL DISCUSSION

21st European Week of Regions and Cities

Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

#EURegionsWeek

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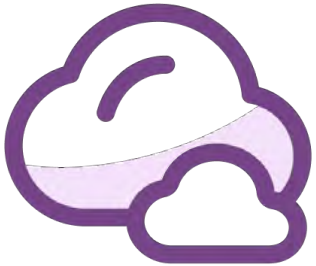

What is the biggest challenge that regions are facing in their efforts to achieve sustainability transitions?

ⓘ Click **Present with Slido** or install our Chrome extension to activate this poll while presenting.

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Thriving Regions, Stronger Europe

Core to Living Labs and Transition Super-Labs is multi-stakeholder participation, or the involvement of academia, government, business, and civil society.

How do you ensure that all stakeholder groups are well represented? What is the biggest challenge in this approach?

How can social innovation ecosystems enable or inhibit the development of social innovations?

What is the biggest weakness of the Living Lab methodology for accelerating sustainability transitions?

Do you think your region would need a Super-Lab?

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Join the TRANSFORMER User Forum!

Deadline is EXTENDED until 23 OCT 2023:
transformer-project.eu/user-forum

#EURegionsWeek

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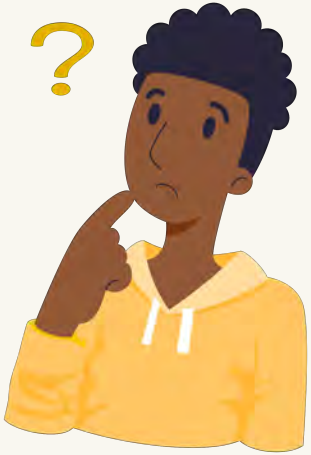
Q&A



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If you would like to ask a question:
Please raise your hand and introduce yourself by name and organisation

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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