

Transformative Research in Cities – Online-Workshop

Schedule (GMT+1)

- 12.00–12.30 pm **Welcome & Introduction to the workshop**
Urban System Group, Essen
- 12.30 –13.00 pm **Transition Research & Complexity Science (WT)**
Prof. Dr. Derk Loorbach DRIFT, Rotterdam
- 13.00 – 13.30 **Transition Perspectives South & North**
Sustainability Transitions Research Network (WT)
Katharina J.F. Schiller Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research
ISI, Karlsruhe/ Sustainability Transitions in the Global South (STRN)
- 13.30 – 14.00 **Assessment of the transformative capacity of nature based solutions to
climate change adaptation**
Sean Goodwin, BC3 Basque Centre for Climate Change, University of Almería
- 14.00 – 14. 20 **Discussion**
- 14.20 – 14. 40 **Break**
- Transition Methods**
- 14.40 – 15.10 **Participative Modeling: Decision Theater (WT)**
Dr. Sarah Wolf, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,
FU Berlin
- 15.10 – 15.30 **Merging the digital and the analogue: Transformative research in digital
urban twins**
Rico Herzog, City Science Lab, HafenCity Universität Hamburg
- 15.30 – 15.50 **Discussion**

Transition researchers

15.50 – 16.10	Tensions of transition research (WT) Ass. Prof. Kristina Bogner, Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University
16.10 – 16.30	Discussion
16.30	Wrap-up & next steps Urban Systems Group

Format & Date: Online-Workshop, November 29th, 2022, from noon to 5:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION: To register, please email metropolenforschung@uaruhr.de. Please include the following information: Title / First name / Last name / Institution / Email. You will receive the access data via email a few days before the workshop.

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Background

Globally, cities can be the drivers of sustainabilization. They are dynamic and diverse. Interactions between groups and individuals condense in them, and cities offer an enormous density of cultural and creative capital to shape them. Yet their material and social infrastructures are often rigid and routinised, increasing their vulnerability to the growing impacts of climate change. At the same time, cities are massive contributors to climate change. There is pressure on cities to act to counteract and change in order to avert the life-threatening impacts of climate change. This is being dealt with in different ways around the world, depending on material (e.g. finances, personnel), civil capacities and experience. Nor are the challenges of restructuring and transforming cities towards sustainability any less conflictual. For example, they require not only breaking up routine practices of action, but also new forms of cooperation across all sectors that overcome social disparities with initiatives that push us together towards systemic self-organisation. Scientists, but also academic institutions such as universities are becoming increasingly involved in these issues, as they no longer just observe and diagnose, but also want to actively shape (e.g. in forms of urban transition management, action research, transdisciplinary work). They want to lead the way as beacons and see themselves as "change agents" in cities, but are they? How does this affect the previous understanding of research and the practice that goes with it? How political can, may and should science be? The aim of the workshop is (1) to look at the role of transformative research in cities and its self-image and (2) to discuss existing methods like the simulation and visualization of data, their advantages and disadvantages, as well as (3) new approaches through experiences from the Global South and North. The results will be presented at the 4.KoMet-Day.