

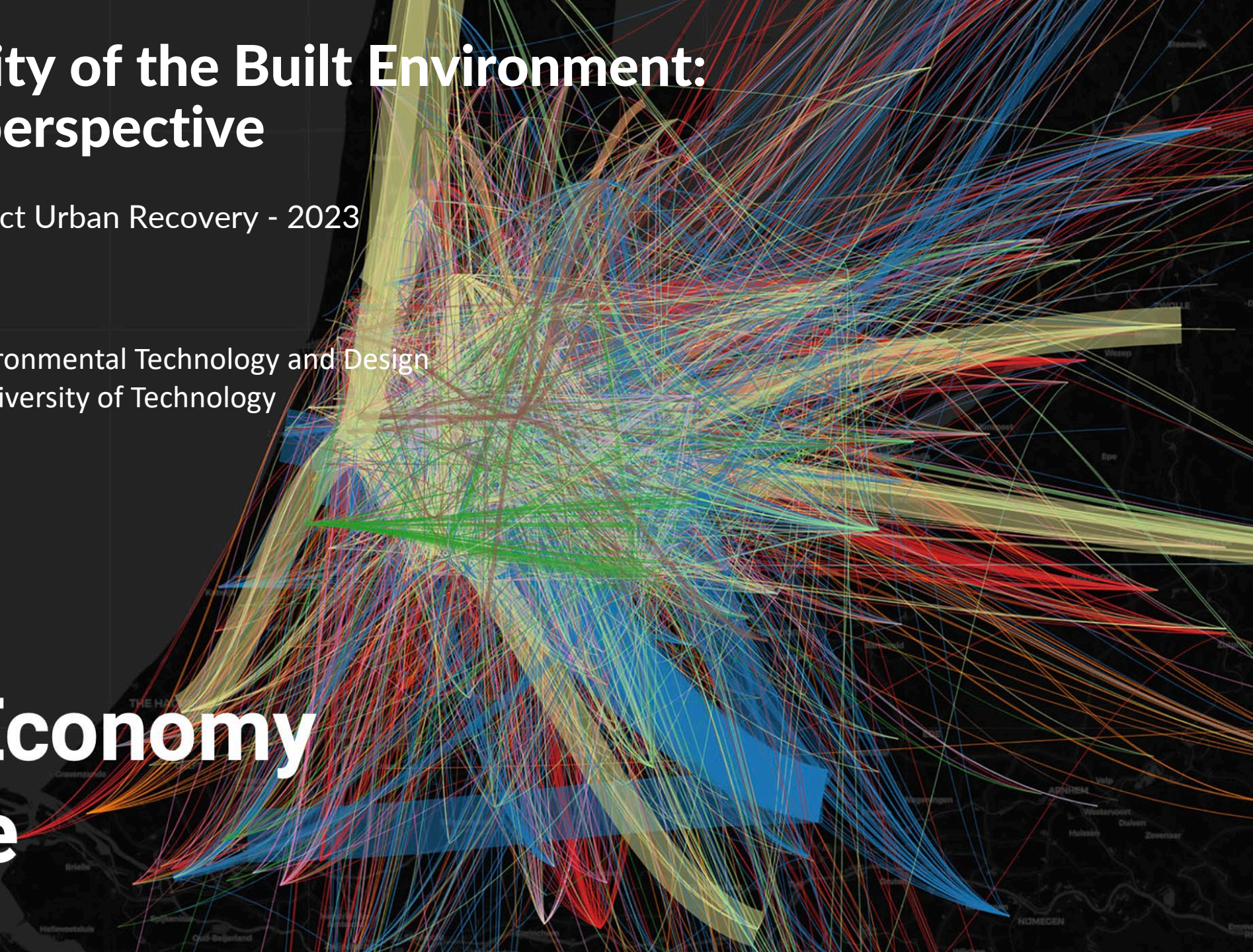
The Circularity of the Built Environment: A systemic perspective

@Tools for Post-Conflict Urban Recovery - 2023

Alexander Wandl

Associate Professor Environmental Technology and Design
Dep. Urbanism, Delft University of Technology
a.wandl@tudelft.nl

Circular Economy Challenge



The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface. It features a dense, chaotic network of thin, orange-brown lines that resemble a complex web or a stylized map. On the right side, there is a faint, light-colored map of the Netherlands, showing its characteristic shape and internal regional divisions. The overall aesthetic is modern and technical, with a focus on connectivity and spatial organization.

Alexander Wandl

Urbanist and Landscape Ecologist

Associate Professor Environmental Technology and Design

Dep. Urbanism, Delft University of Technology

a.wandl@tudelft.nl

Head of the Section Environmental Technology and Design

Steering Member of the Circular Built Environment Hub

Key Words:

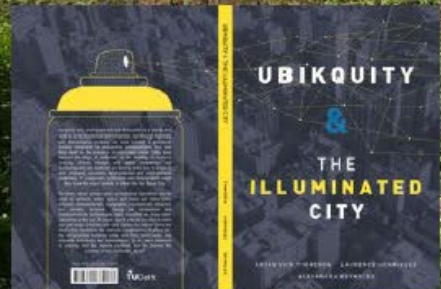
Multiple and Interrelated Sustainability Transitions, Territorial Metabolism, Spatial Dimension of the Circular Economy, Systemic Design, Situated Learning Environments.

Publications - Life Long Learning

Section Environmental Technology and Design



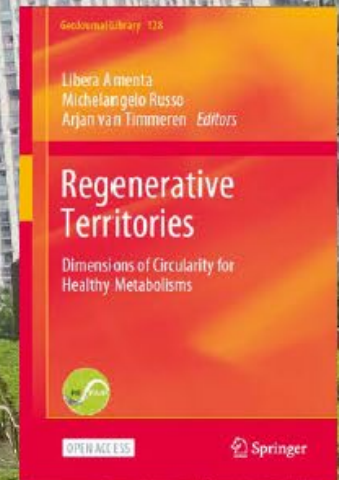
URBAN CLIMATE



PEOPLE & BEHAVIOR



TERRITORIAL METABOLISM



A Systemic Approach

Opening up the Black-Box of Urban Metabolism to facilitate the Transition towards more Circularity

Selected Research Projects

REPAiR – REsource Management in Peri-urban Areas

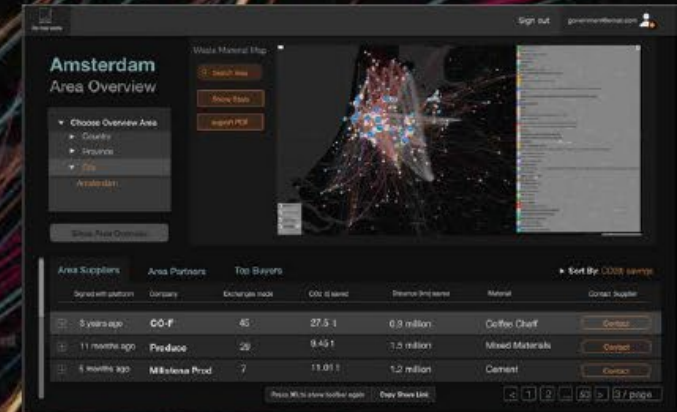
<http://h2020repair.eu/>



New Circular Economy Business Model for More Sustainable Urban Construction



2 Start ups: the New Raw / geoFluxus



Complete nutrient recovery



+

- **Nitrogen & micronutrients** are recovered along with P
- Full waste stream is treated
- Distilled water as a byproduct
- Product is free of pathogens & pharmaceuticals
- Liquid fertilizer can be used for **hydroponics** in urban environment

The Phosphorus (& other nutrients) recovery demo



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation Programme under grant agreement 101017751

What to Expect

Intro to Circularity (Economy)

A Circular Built Environment

Circularity and Spatial Co-Design

Some mentimeter interaction:

<https://www.menti.com/>
voting code **3762 8640**



Join at menti.com use code 71 41 71 3

 Mentimeter



Where are you from and
what 's your profession?
Country/City/Profession

Waiting for answers

Results

Where are you from and what 's your profession?
Country/City/Profession



Go to www.menti.com and use the code 3762 8640

What are your association with Circular Economy?

 Mentimeter



Results

What are your associations with Circular Economy?



A Quick Recap of the Key Concepts of Circular Economy

Towards – A Circular Economy

REGENERATE



- Shift to renewable energy and materials
- Reclaim, retain, and restore health of ecosystems
- Return recovered biological resources to the biosphere

SHARE



- Share assets (e.g. cars, rooms, appliances)
- Reuse/secondhand
- Prolong life through maintenance, design for durability, upgradability, etc.

OPTIMISE



- Increase performance/efficiency of product
- Remove waste in production and supply chain
- Leverage big data, automation, remote sensing and steering

LOOP



- Remanufacture products or components
- Recycle materials
- Digest anaerobically
- Extract biochemicals from organic waste

VIRTUALISE

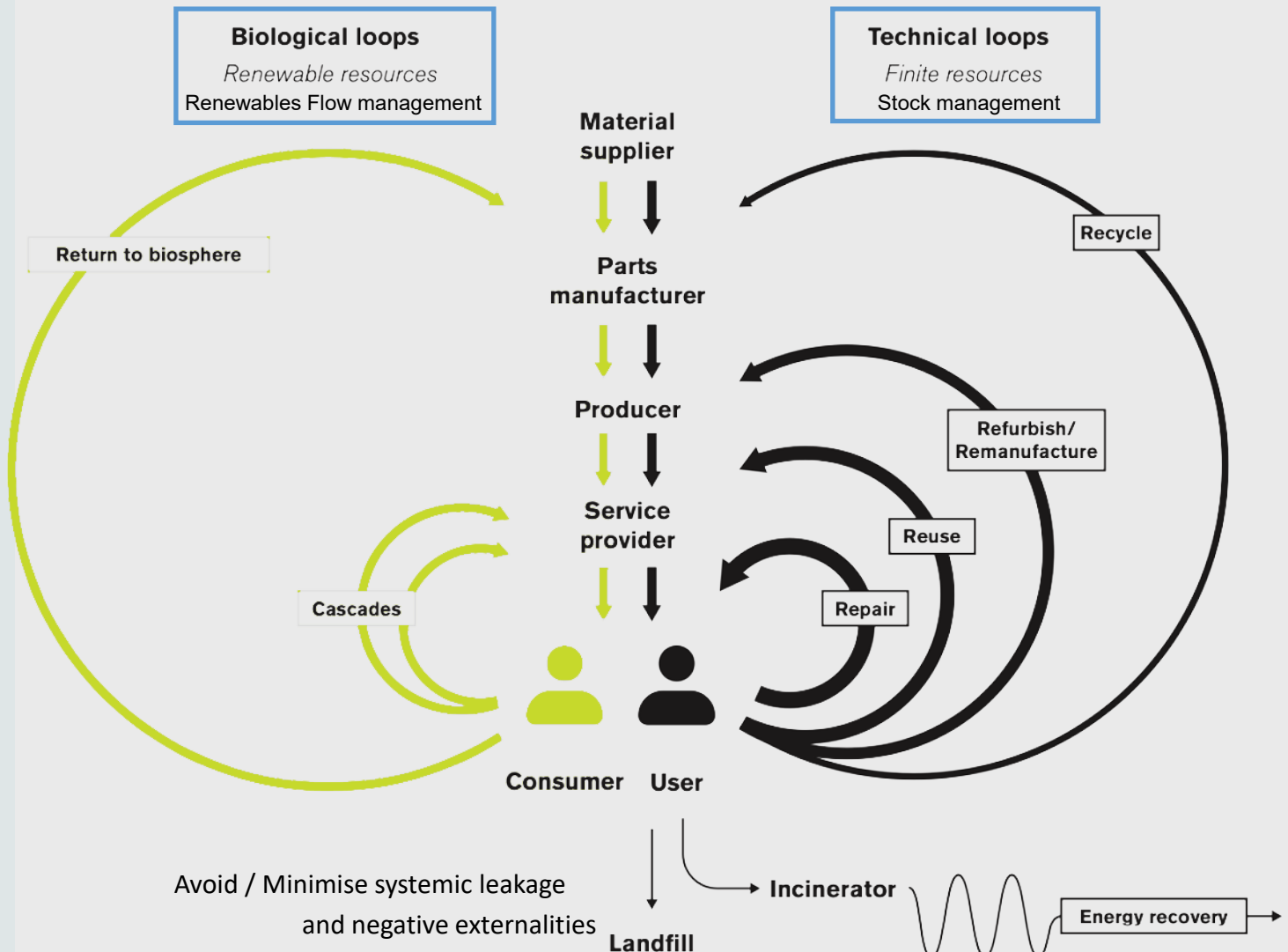


- Dematerialise directly (e.g. books, CDs, DVDs, travel)
- Dematerialise indirectly (e.g. online shopping)

EXCHANGE



- Replace old with advanced non-renewable materials
- Apply new technologies (e.g. 3D printing)
- Choose new product/service (e.g. multimodal transport)

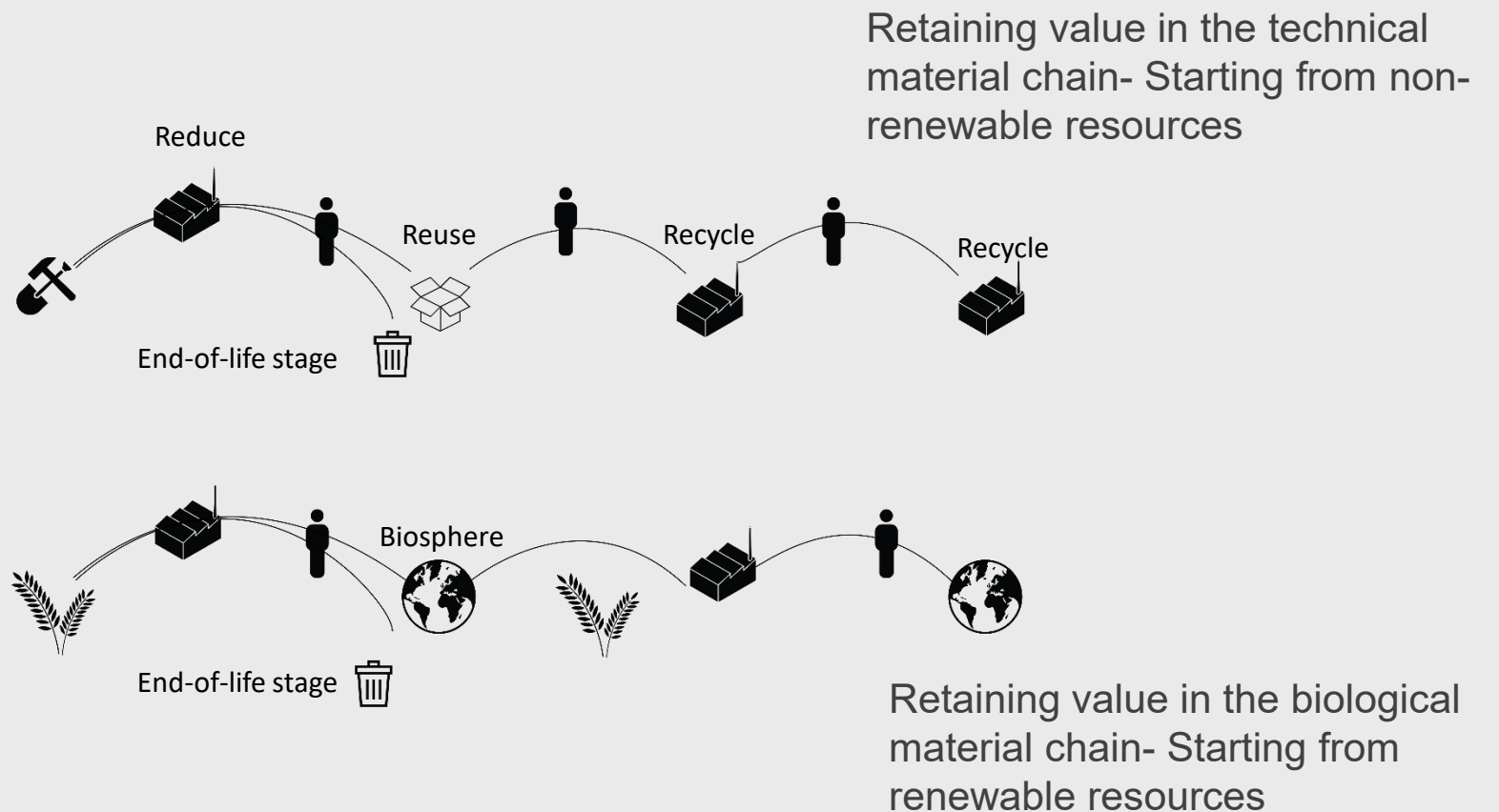


a.wandl@tudelft.nl

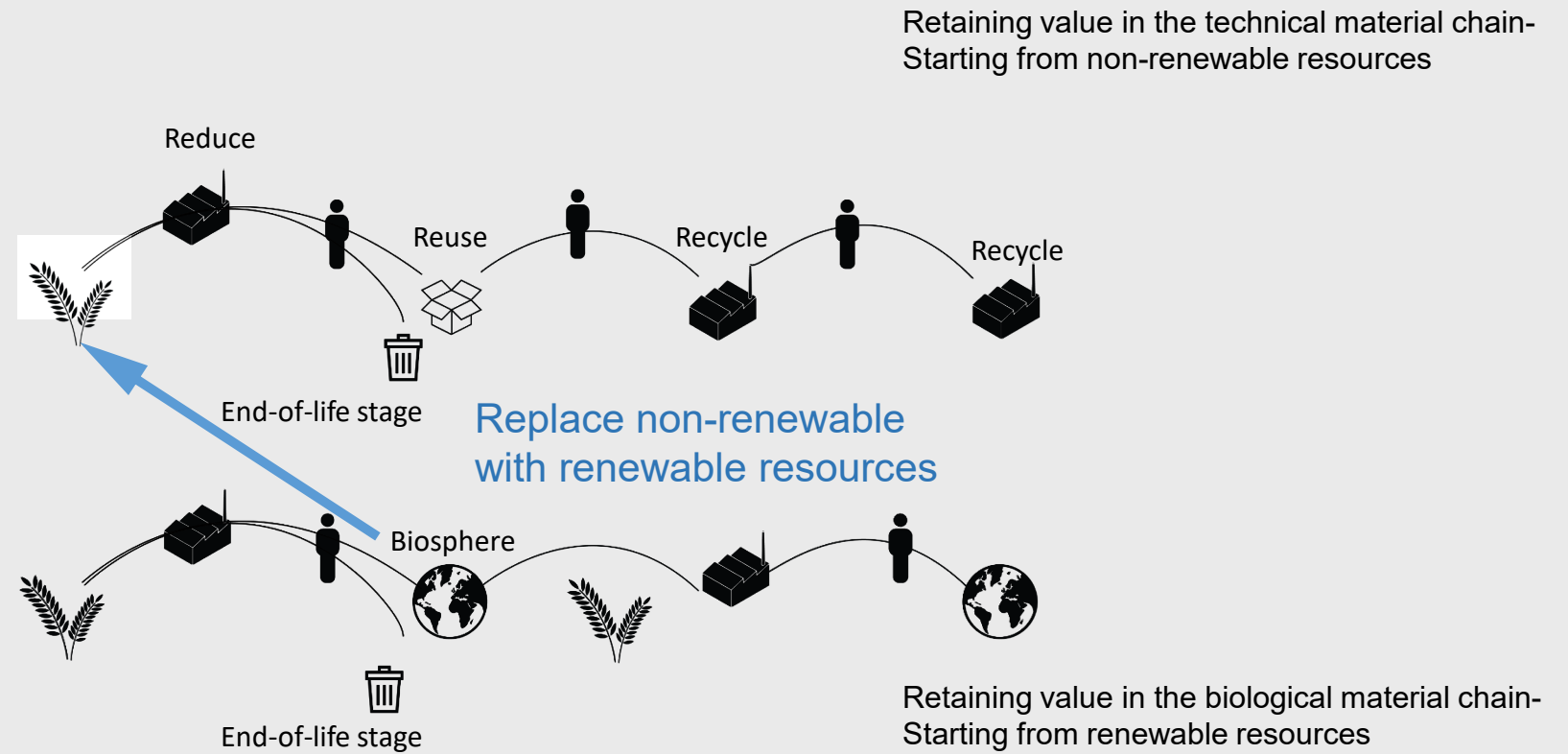
The Circular Built Environment Hub



Circularity & the Two Value Chains

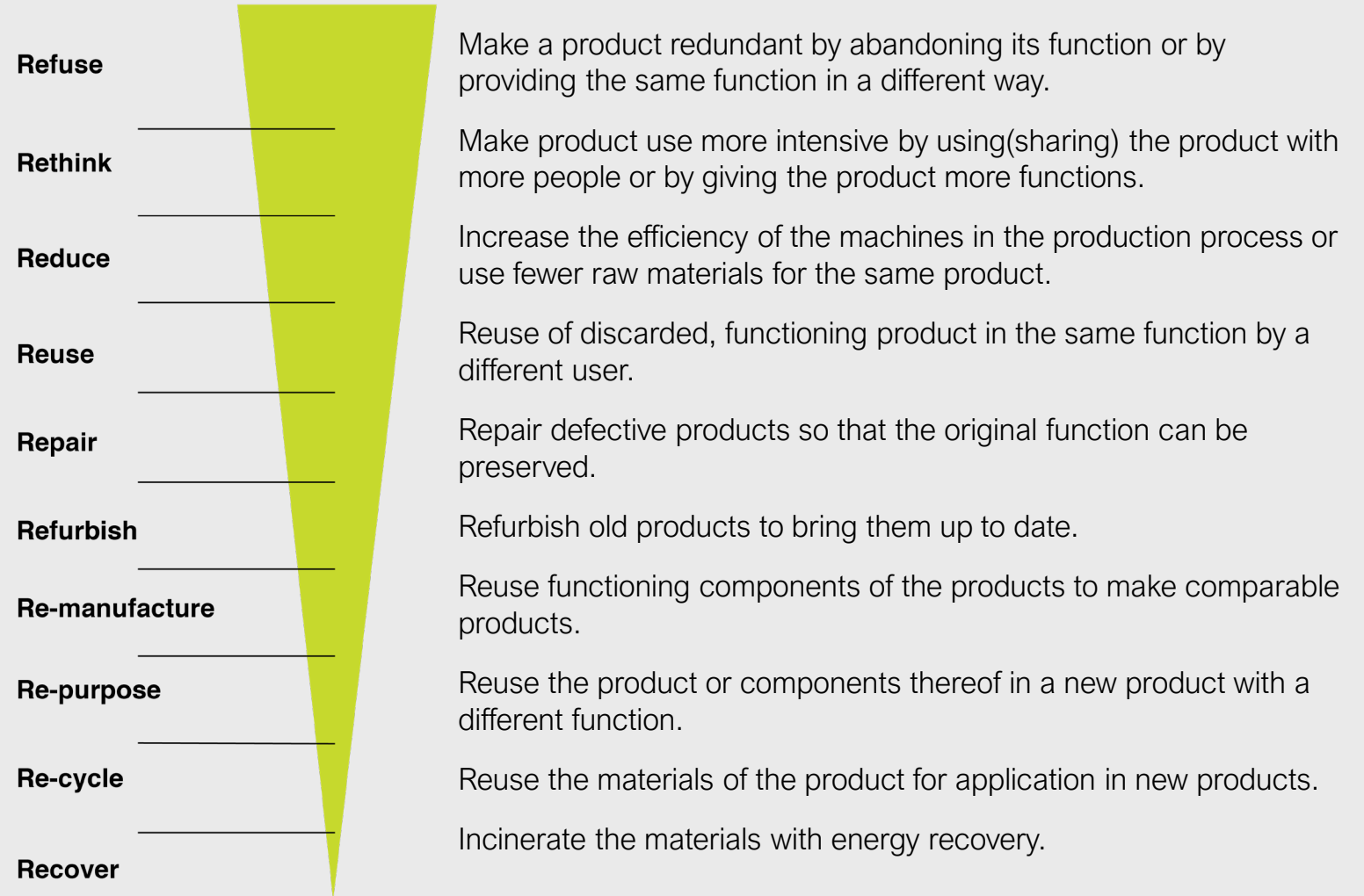


From a linear towards a Circular Economy

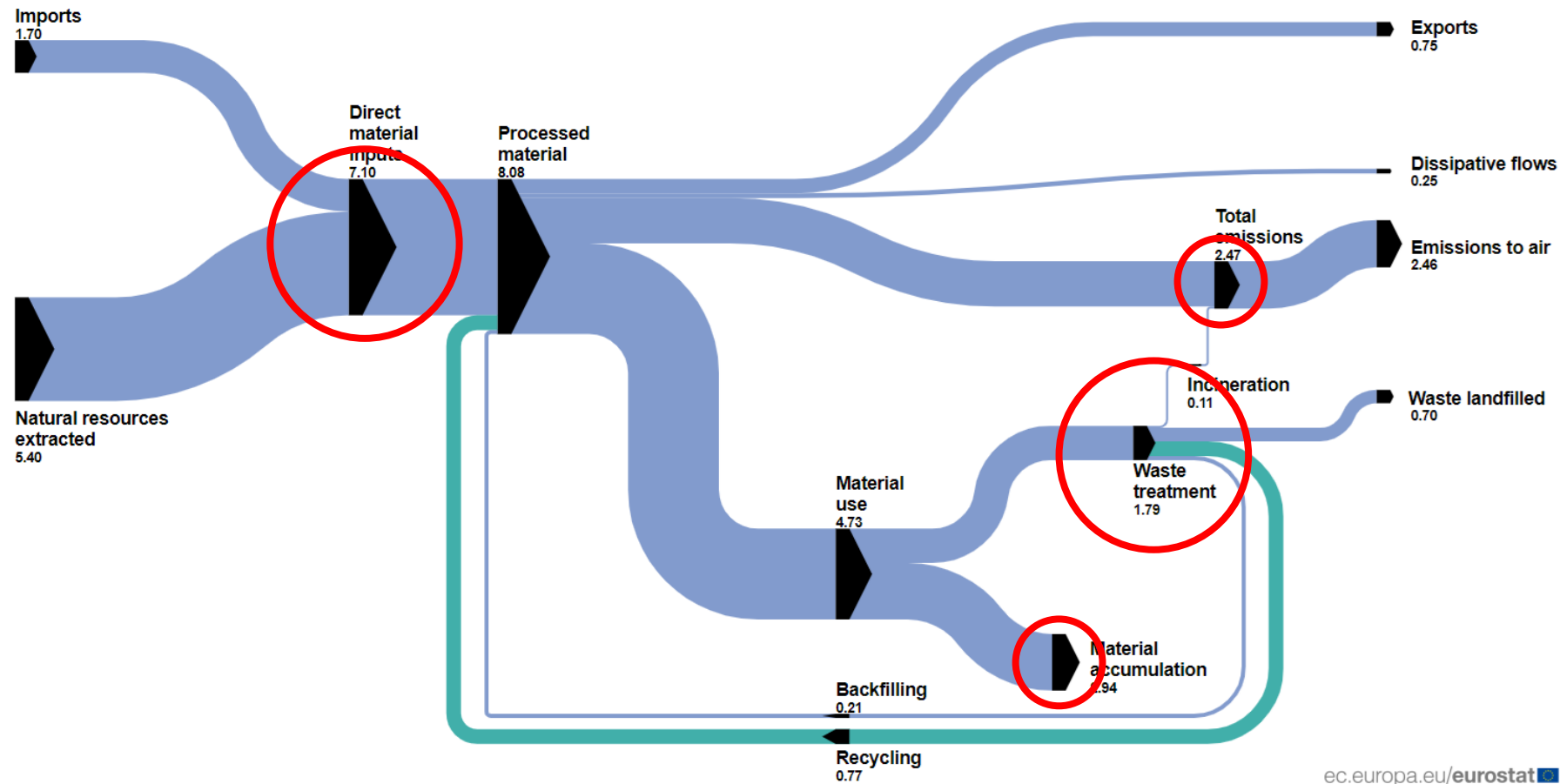


Graphic: Twan Cortenraede based on Murray et al, 2017

'R'-ladder' with 10 Strategies from Linear to Circular



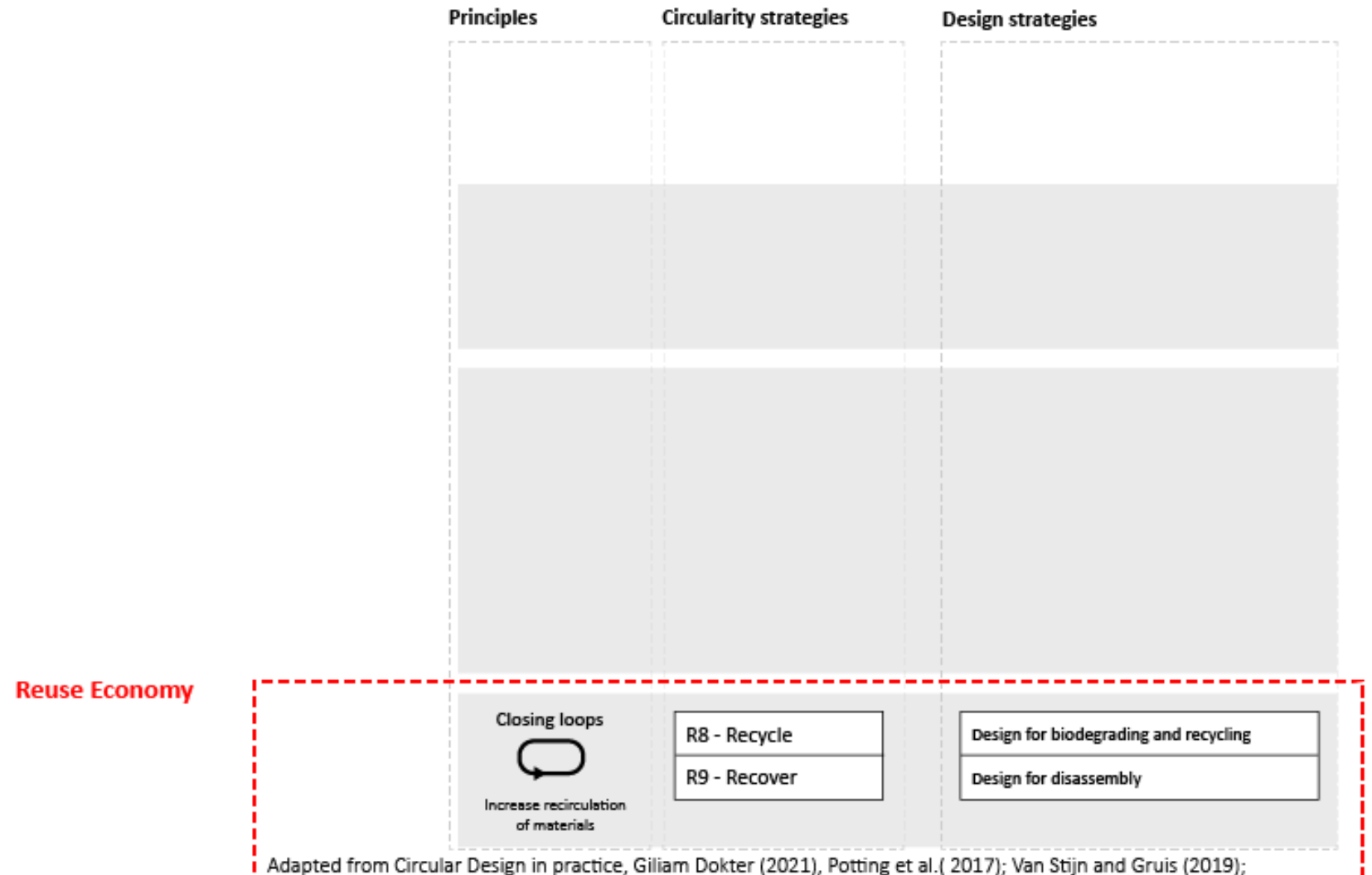
THERE IS NOT ENOUGH WASTE FOR THE CE



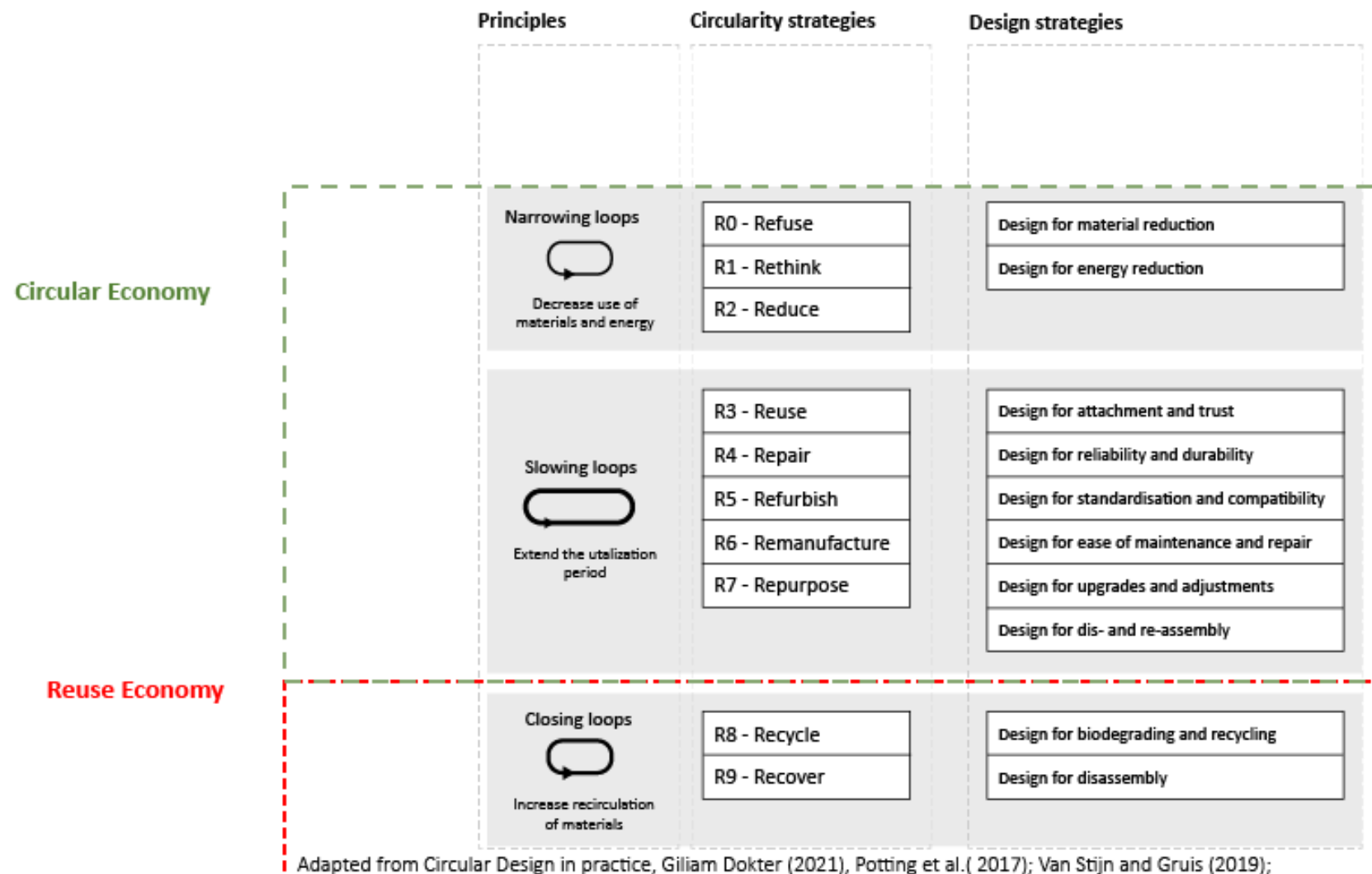
ec.europa.eu/eurostat

Material flows true scale in Gt/year (billion tonnes per year)
in 2019, EU27. Source: Eurostat

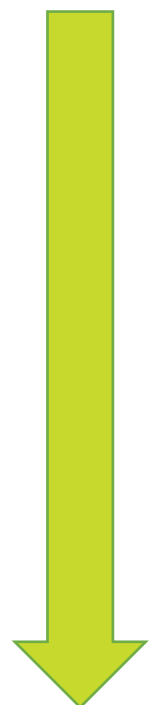
FROM PRINCIPLES TO DESIGN



FROM PRINCIPLES TO DESIGN



FROM PRINCIPLES TO DESIGN



Regenerative Economy

Principles



Regenerate the biosphere

Circularity strategies

R+ - Restore
R+ - Renew
R+ - Revitalise

Design strategies

Regenerate water and soil systems
Shift towards renewable energy
Revitalise ecosystems

Circular Economy

Narrowing loops

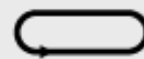


Decrease use of materials and energy

R0 - Refuse
R1 - Rethink
R2 - Reduce

Design for material reduction
Design for energy reduction

Slowing loops



Extend the utilization period

R3 - Reuse
R4 - Repair
R5 - Refurbish
R6 - Remanufacture
R7 - Repurpose

Design for attachment and trust
Design for reliability and durability
Design for standardisation and compatibility
Design for ease of maintenance and repair
Design for upgrades and adjustments
Design for dis- and re-assembly

Reuse Economy

Closing loops



Increase recirculation of materials

R8 - Recycle
R9 - Recover

Design for biodegrading and recycling
Design for disassembly

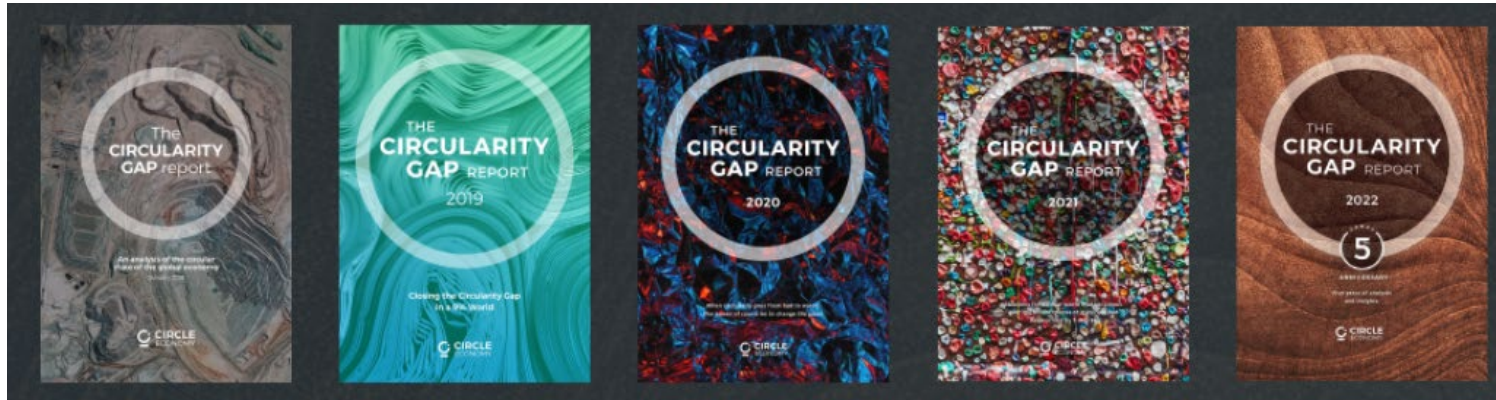
Adapted from Circular Design in practice, Gilliam Dokter (2021), Potting et al. (2017); Van Stijn and Gruis (2019);

QUESTIONS?

How are we doing in the CE transition?

THE CIRCULARITY GAP – HIGH AMBITIONS NO PROGRESS

World -Only 8,7% of mined material per year are cycled in the global economy in 2021 and it reduced from 9% in 2019?



<https://www.circularity-gap.world/2023>

Netherlands not reaching CE-Goals

Home Publications subjects News Agenda Blogs About the PBL

Home / Topics / Circular economy / News / 2023 / ICER 2023: Circular goals are still far from reach

ICER 2023: Circular targets are still far out of reach

26-01-2023 | News item

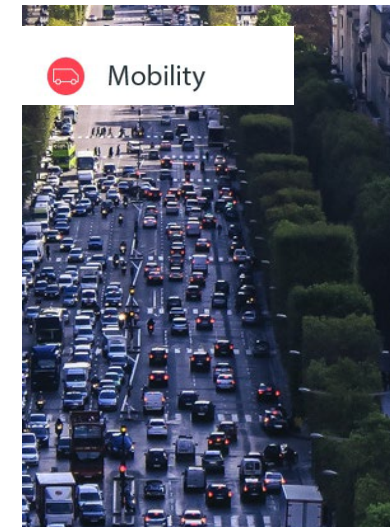
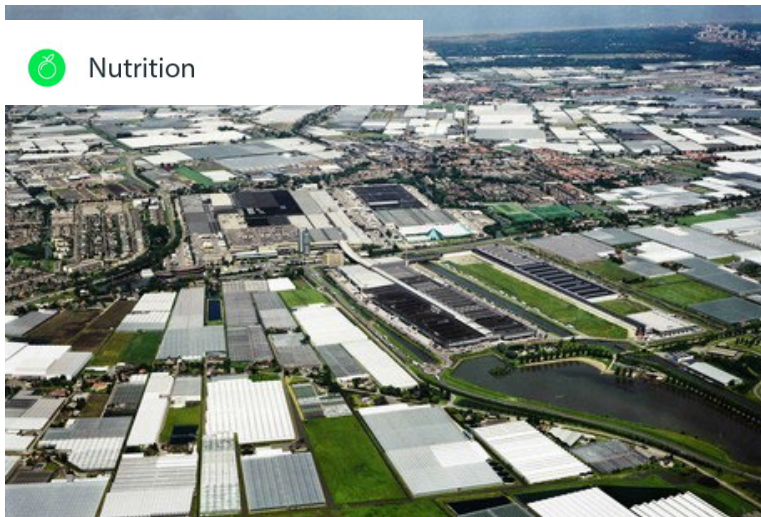
In recent years, hardly any progress has been made towards achieving a fully circular economy in 2050 and halving the use of abiotic raw materials in 2030. The use of most raw materials has not decreased. Only the use of fossil fuels decreased, but this decrease was incidental due to the corona lockdown.




<https://www.pbl.nl/nieuws/2023/icer-2023-circulaire-doelen-liggen-nog-ver-buiten-bereik>

What has CE to do with the Built Environment

Key societal needs and extracted resources

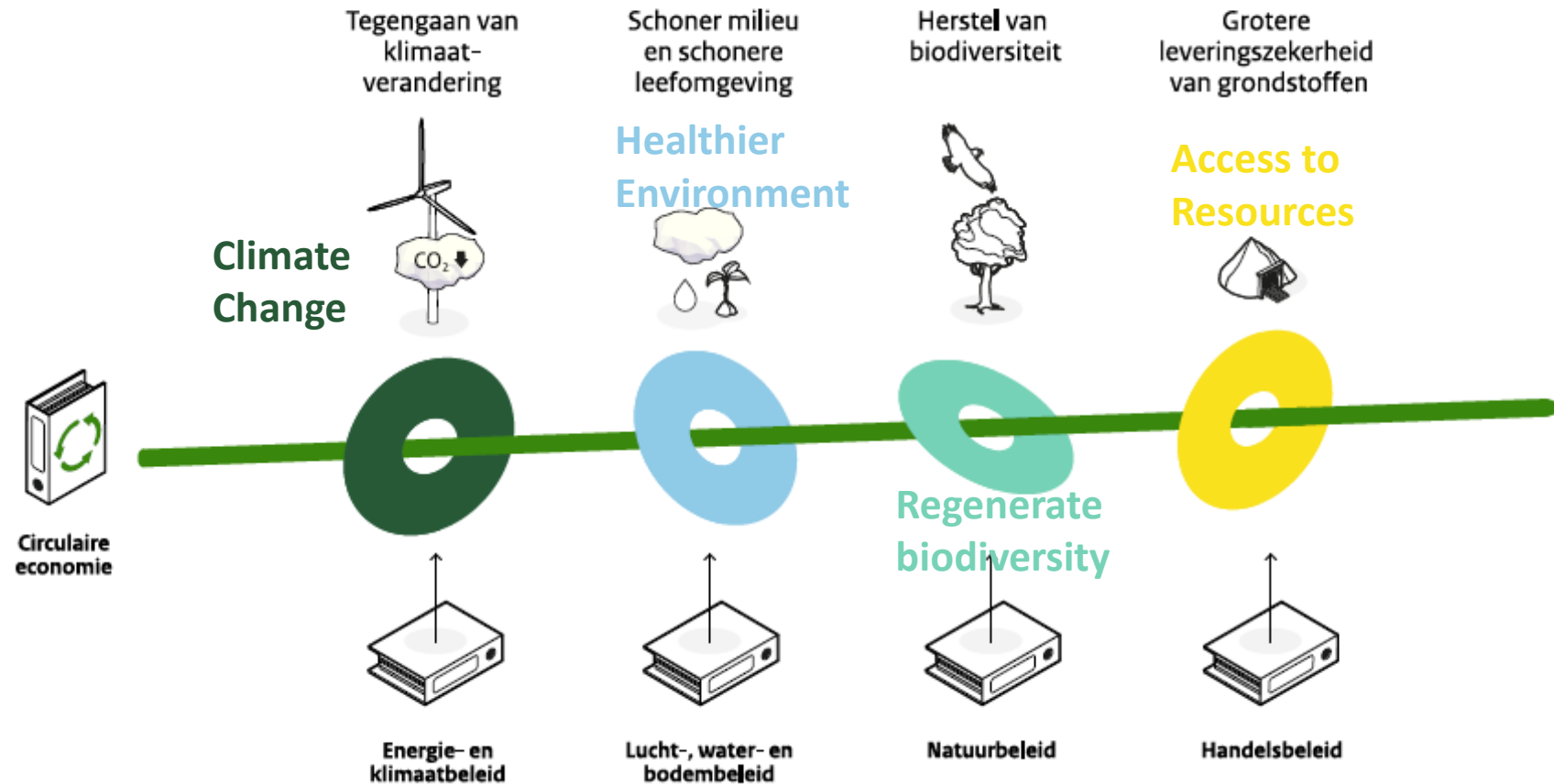
Extracted
resources
84.4 Gt



-  Consumables
-  Services
-  Healthcare
-  Communication

Circularity as “solution” for multiple challenges?

Figuur 2: Positionering circulaire economie ten opzichte van maatschappelijke opgaven en andere beleidsthema's





In times of uncertainty, we seek a future that people aspire to.



Circular Built Environment – A draft Definition

"The Circular Built Environment (CBE) is a system designed for **narrowing, slowing and closing** resource loops at **different spatial-temporal levels** by **transitioning** cultural, environmental, economic & social **values** towards a sustainable way of living (thus enabling society to live within the planetary boundaries)".



How Can the Built Environment Facilitate the Transition to Circularity?

Four integral starting points

The **physical built environment**

The **flows** in a city/region

The circular **behaviour** of citizens

Economic activities to become circular

**Interdisciplinary
(student) projects**

“Unexpected” scarcities

Critical (raw) materials

Knowledge

Collaboration

Physical Built and Unbuilt Environment

Buildings

Mobility infrastructure

Water infrastructure

Energy facilities

Public spaces

Design strategies

Shift towards Renewable/biobased materials

Regenerate water and soil systems

Design for material reduction

Design for emotional bonding and trust

Design for reliability and durability

Design for resilience and redundancy

Design for disassembly and re-assembly

Design for upgrades and modifications

Design for ease of maintenance and repair

Design for standardisation and compatibility

The top-up modules are the energy producers of the building.

Photovoltaic envelope and roof. The square shaped building-integrated PV panels use a new technology so they can be produced in a wide colour range.

The wooden facade assembly of the top-up features a bio-based insulation that is produced from paper pulp, achieving a light-weight and carbon neutral facade that reaches passive house standards.



Sources: <https://www.delftsolardecathlon.com/en/prototype>

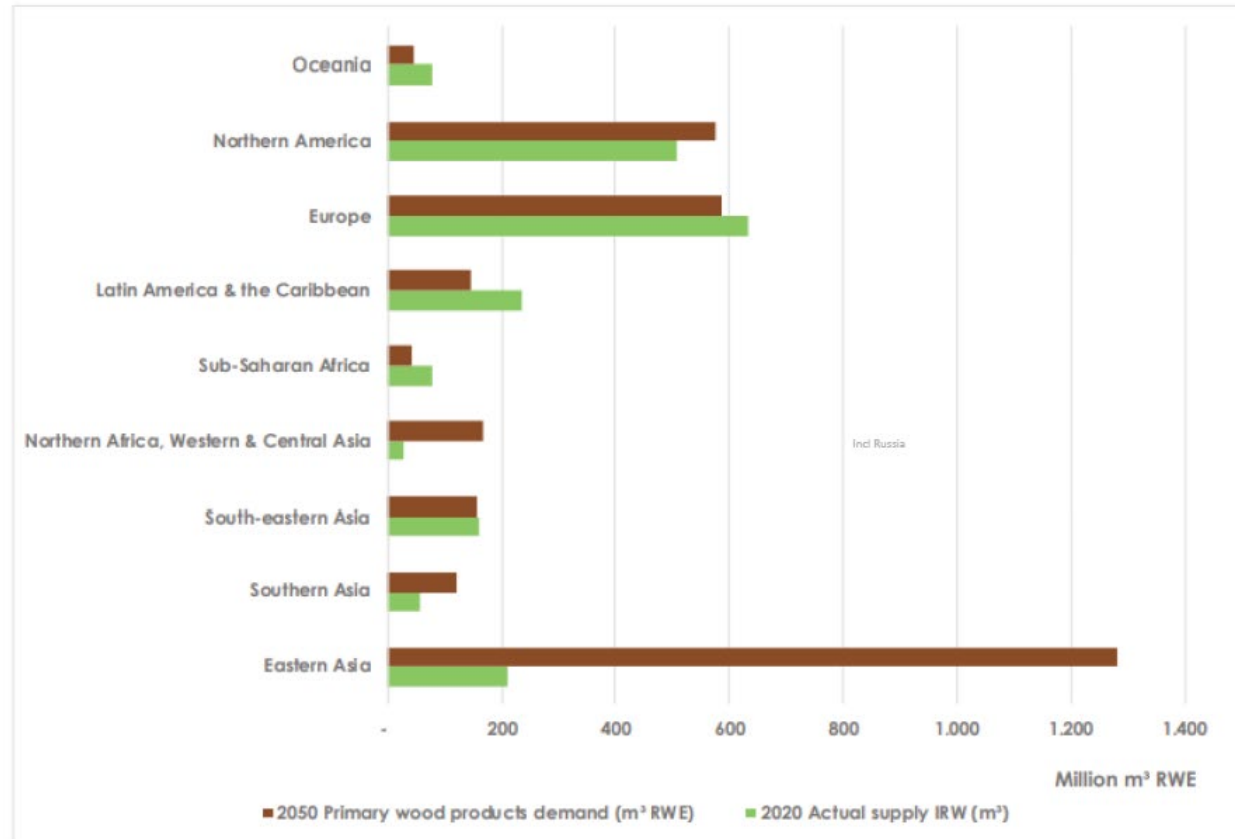
TU Delft Student Project for Solar Decathlon Europe Competition



Sources: <https://www.delftsolardecathlon.com/en/prototype>

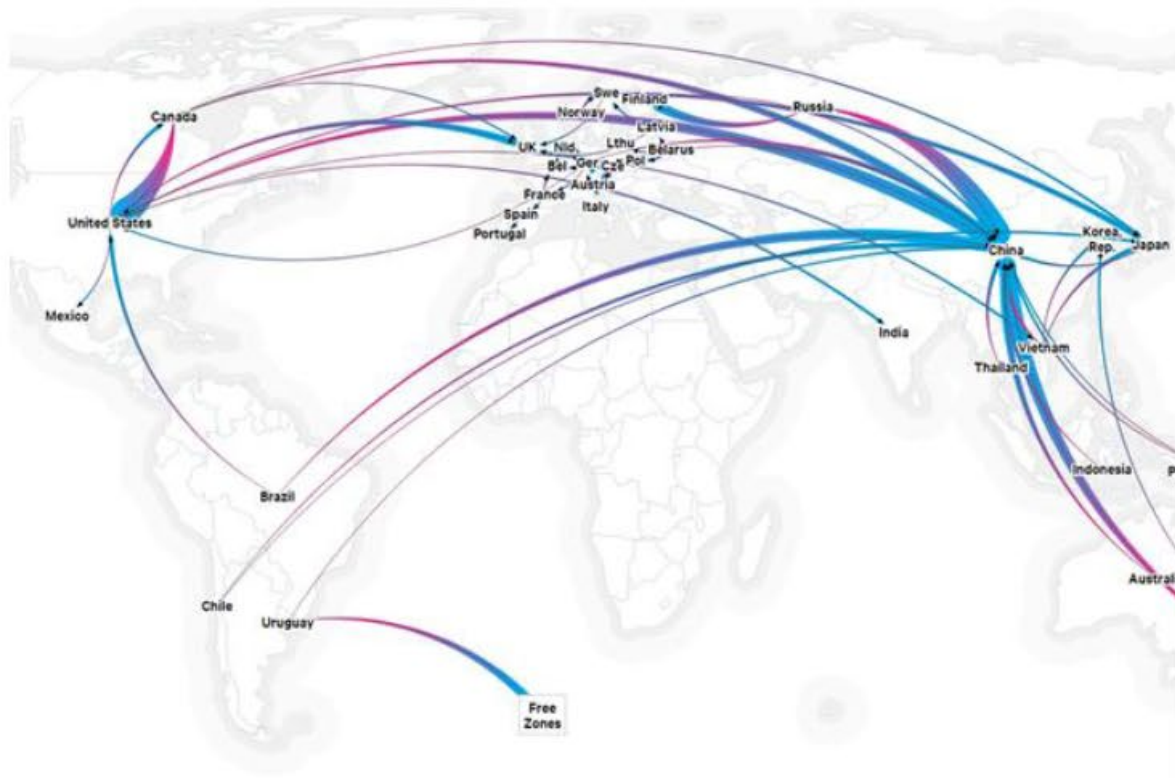


BIO BASE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS – GEOPOLITICS

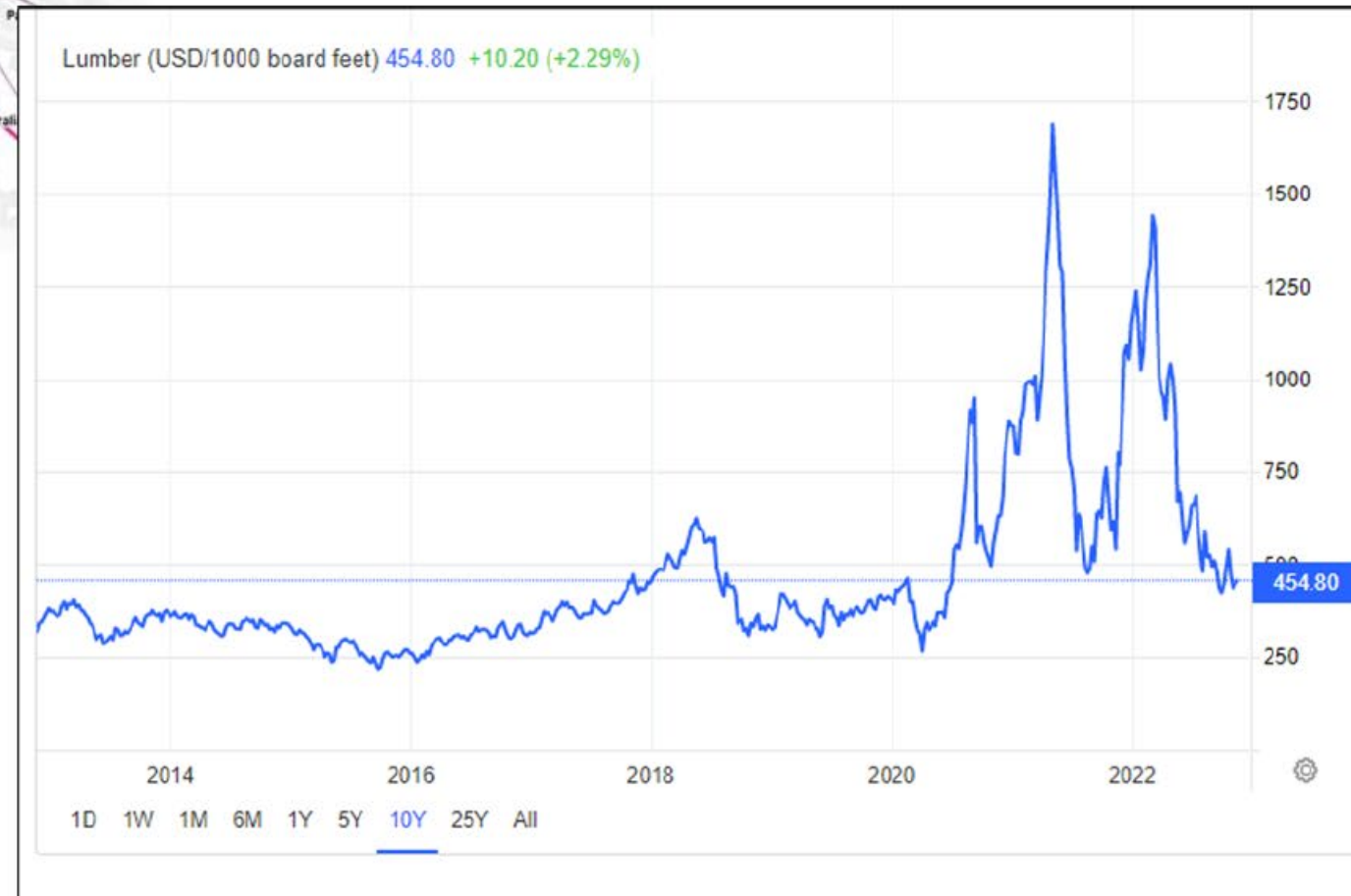


Sources: FAOSTAT Forestry for IRW 2020 (Annex 8.7) and GFPM (Annex 8.5).

TIMBER AND OTHER FOREST PRODUCTS



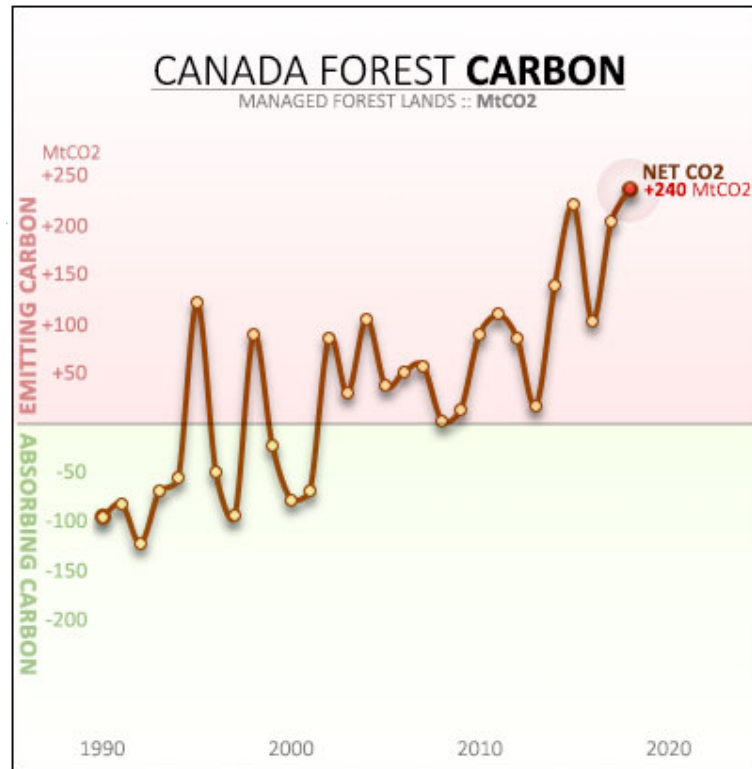
CURRENT TRADE AND PRICE VOLATILITY



Without Sustainable Forestry and Agriculture, there are no Sustainable Biobased Materials.

Canada's managed forests have turned into super-emitters, and 2018 set a record

By Barry Saxifrage | Opinion | June 5th 2020



CANADA FOREST CARBON -- Emissions from Canada's managed forest lands. Data from National Inventory Reports 2019 & 2020, with full time series for some tables provided to author by Environment Canada. Black line is net forest flux (table 6-5). Yellow area is HWP (table 10s1). Brown top line is sum of two. CHART by Barry Saxifrage at VisualCarbon.org & NationalObserver.com. May 2020

Europe rapidly losing its forest carbon sink, study shows

By Frédéric Simon | EURACTIV.com | Nov 7, 2022



"There is a clear link between biomass harvesting and land sink loss in some member states," the report said. [Sergey Nemirovsky / Shutterstock]

Supporter



Funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union

Flows: production, transport, storage and use

Water

Food

Data and information

Energy (electricity, fuels, heat)

Traffic (people and goods, animals)

Waste

New forms of mining

Design strategies

design for reduced energy, water and material consumption

transition to sustainable energy production

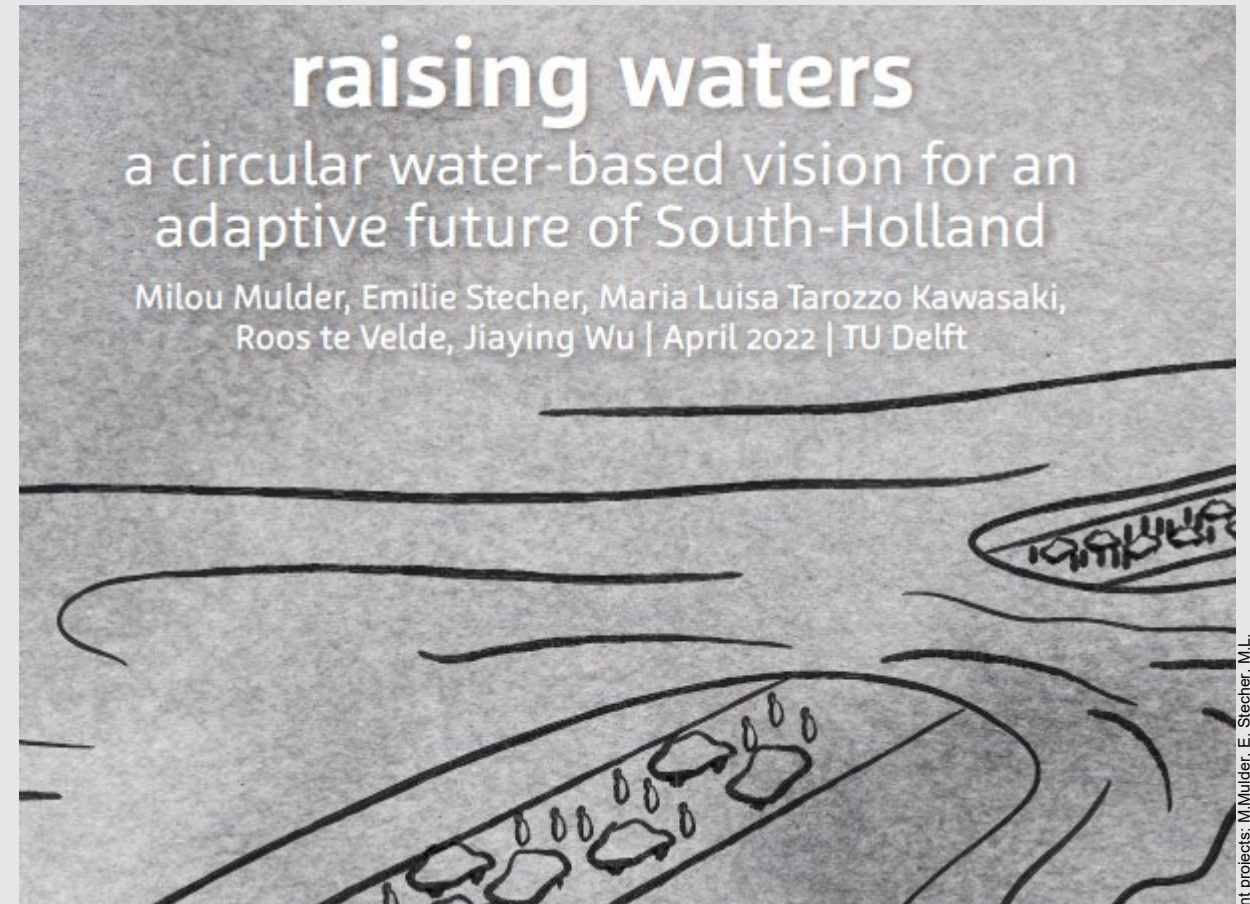
Design for synergies (electricity, heat, cold, materials) between different functions

Cascade flows beyond industrial symbiosis

Regenerate water and soil systems to be part of cascading systems.

Urban and regional design promoting walking, cycling and public transport;

+3m Sea Level Rise



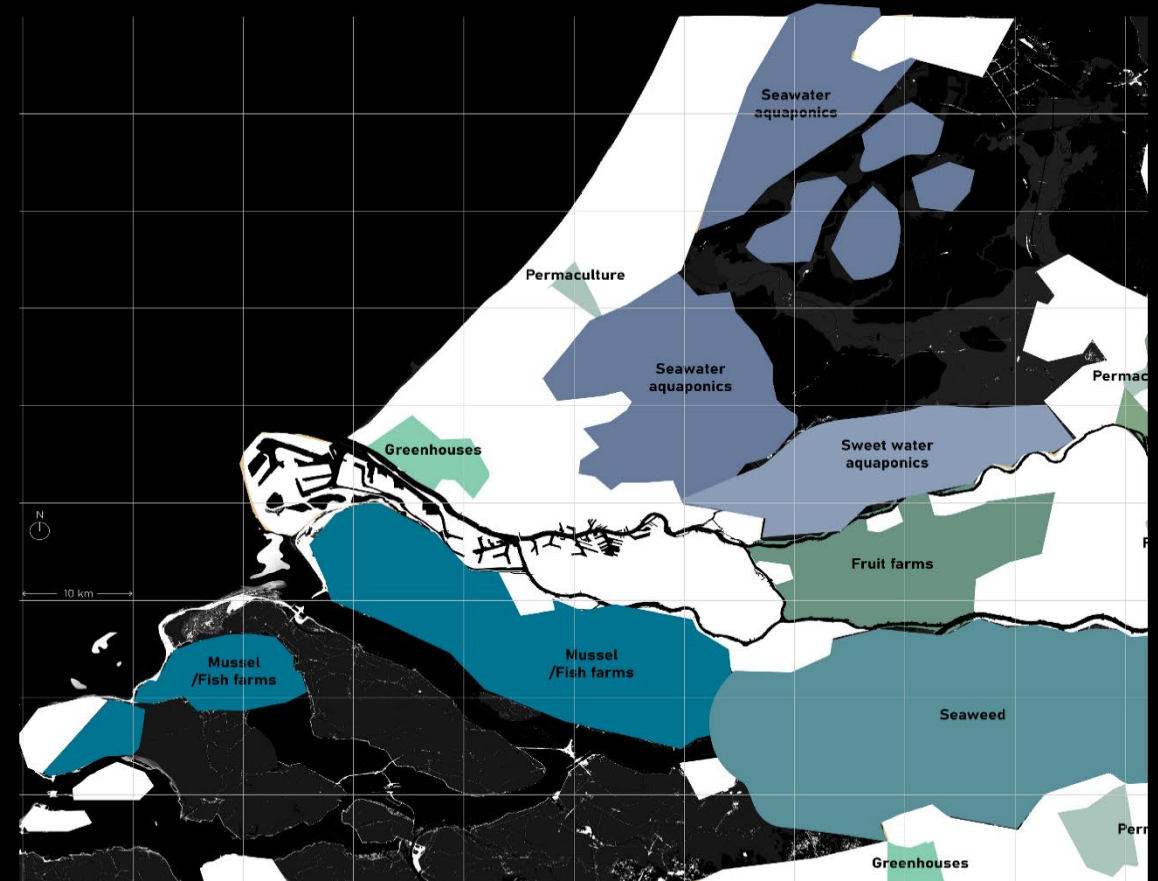
Raising water student projects: M. Mulder, E. Stecher, M.L. Tarozzo Kawasaki, R. te Velde, J. Wu.
Mentors: B. Hausleiter, M. Dabrowski

landscape as potential

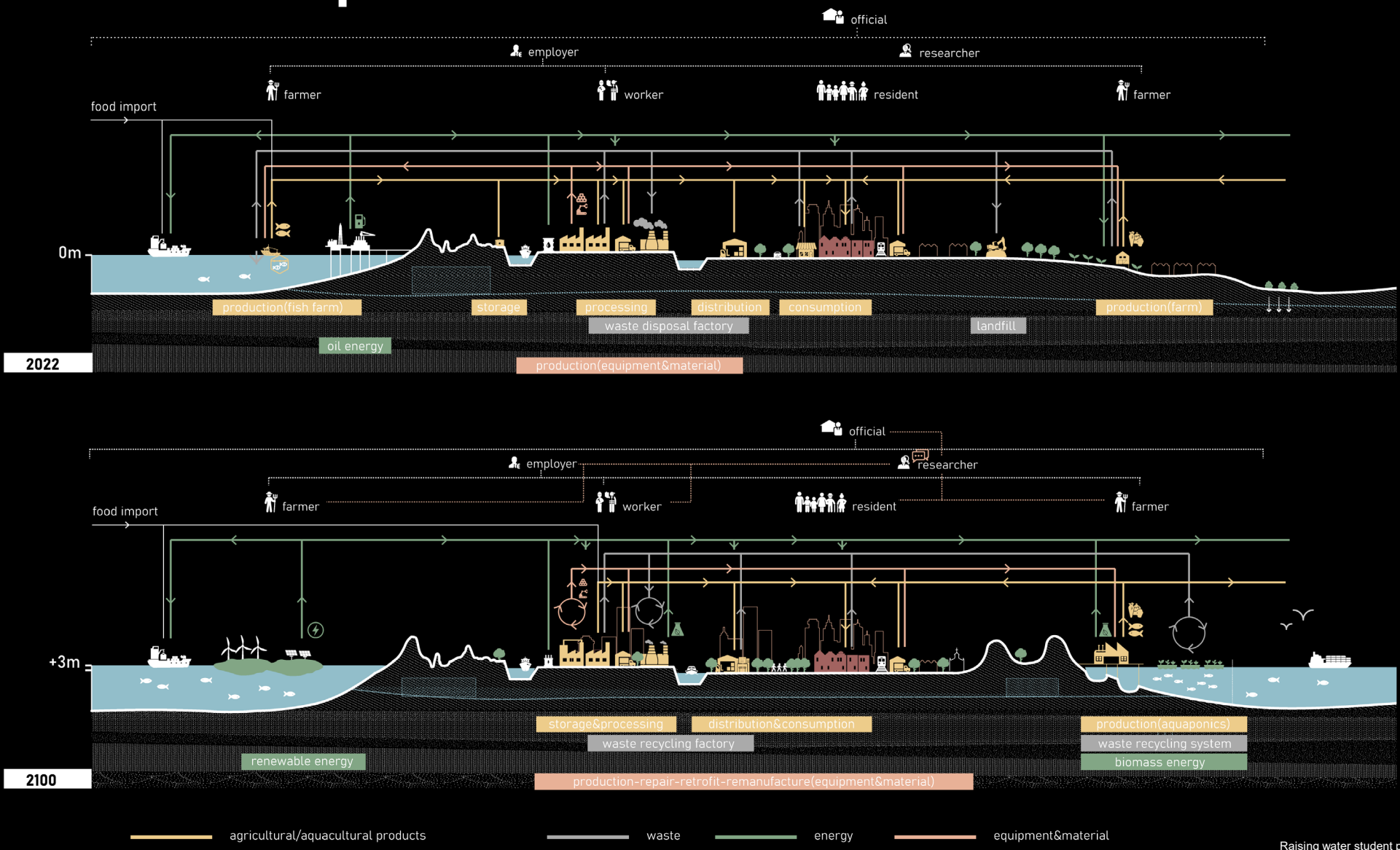
analysis

vision

strategy



agriculture and aquaculture



analysis

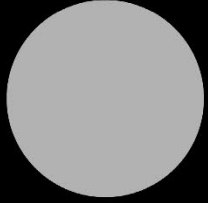
retreiving materials



vision



strategy



GDP the Netherlands
912 billion euros



Economic loss
without the project
493 billion euros

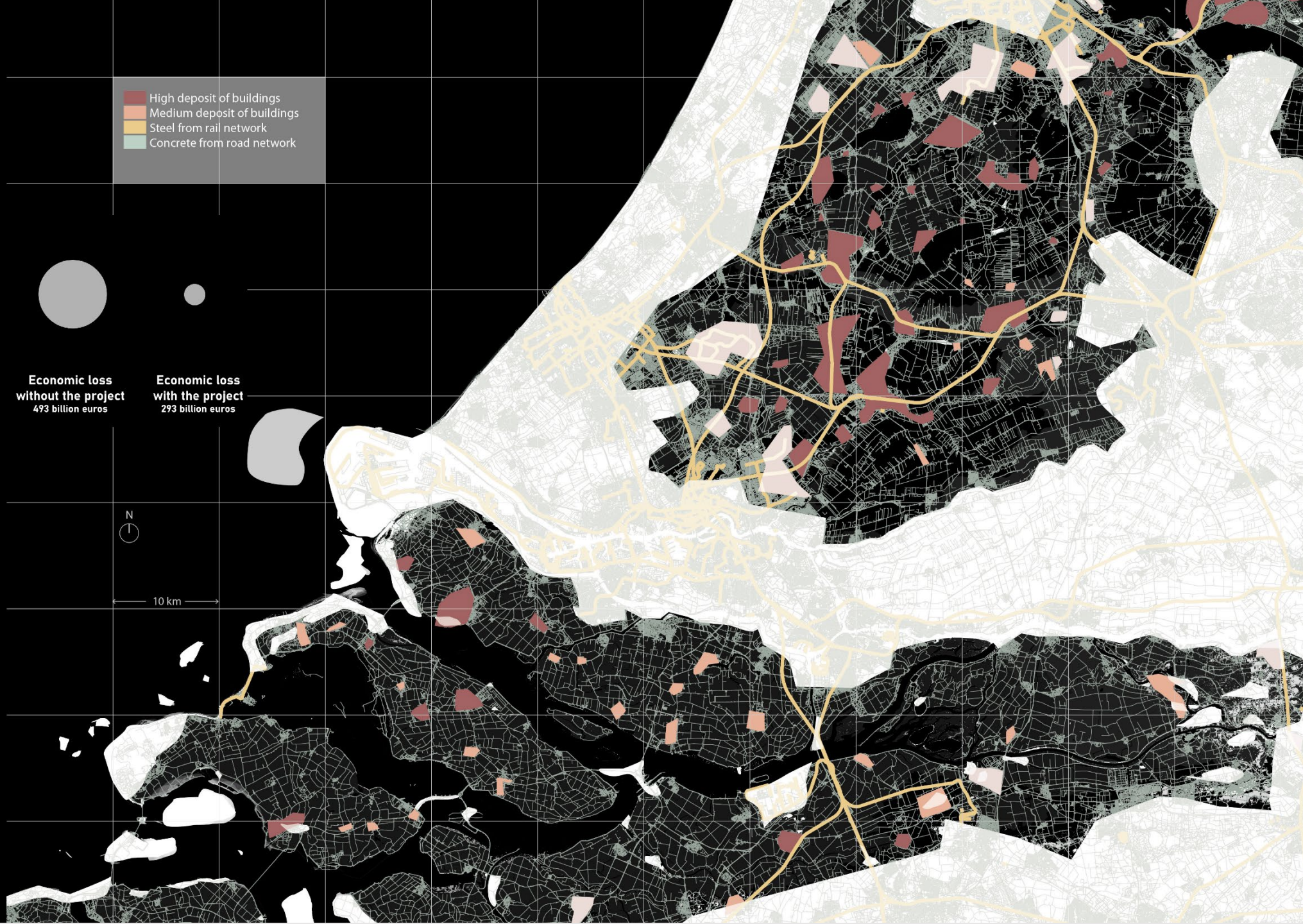


Economic loss
with the project
293 billion euros

- High deposit of buildings
- Medium deposit of buildings
- Steel from rail network
- Concrete from road network



10 km



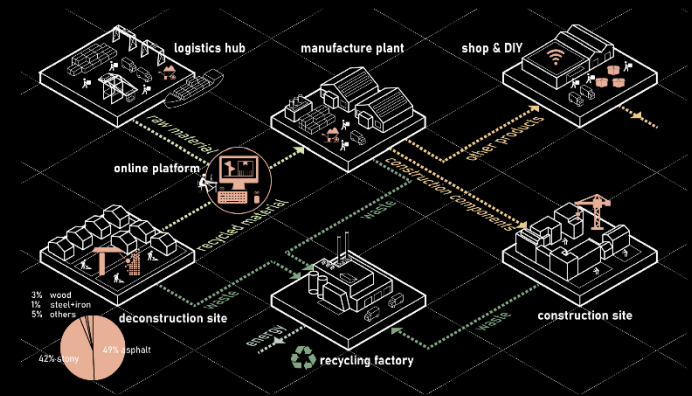
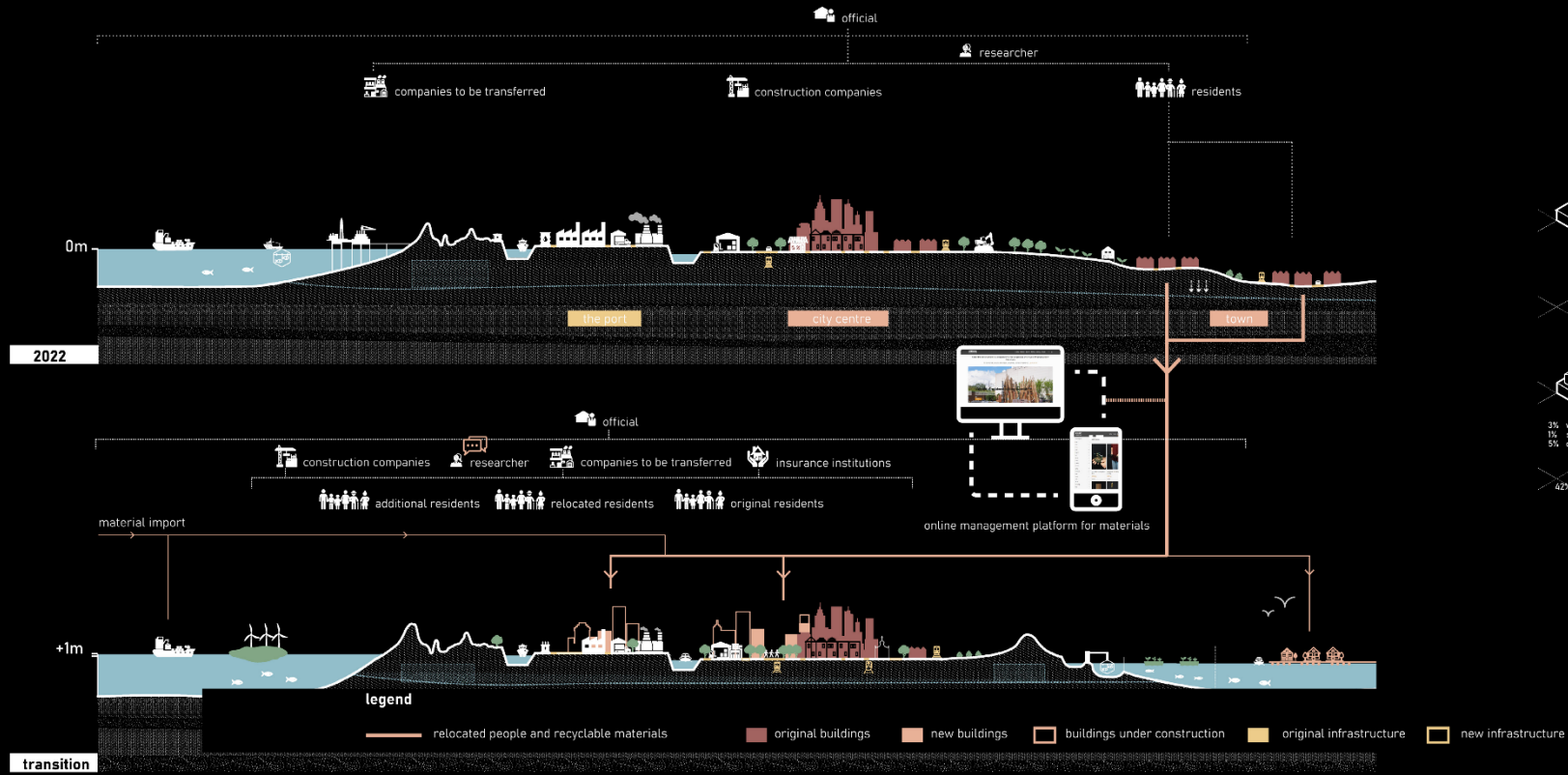
analysis



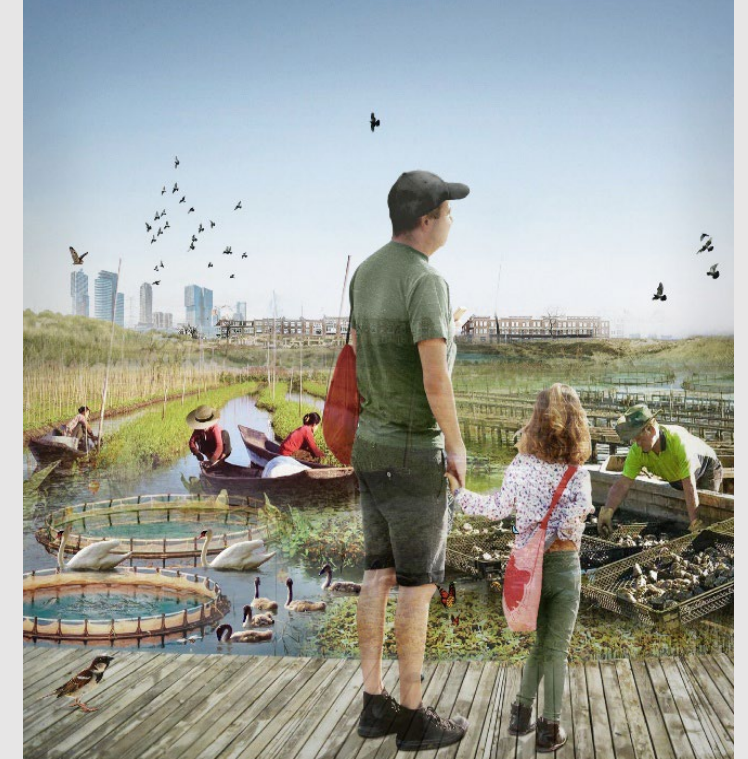
vision



strategy



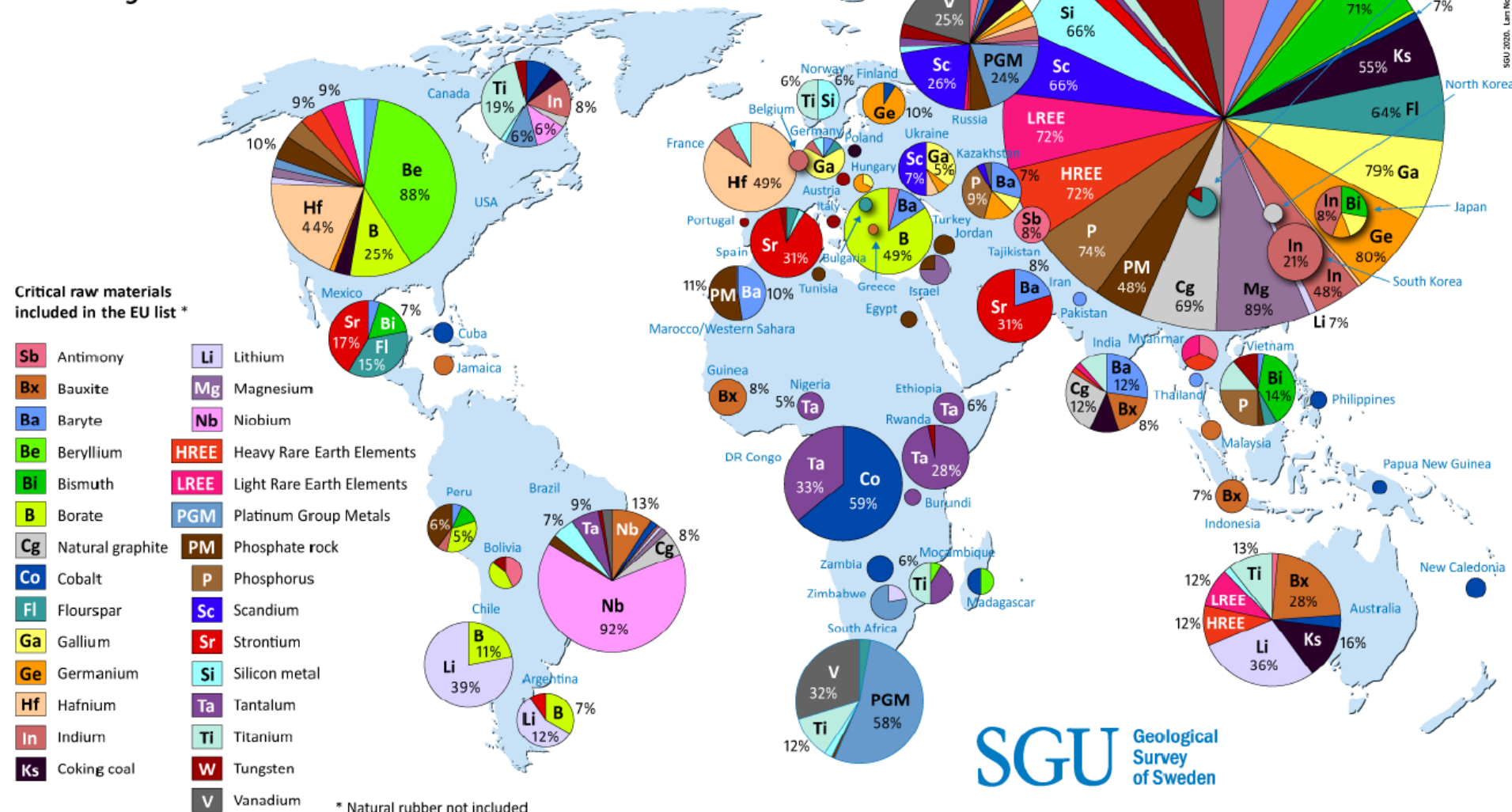
Transition to Circularity => Systemic Changes <=> Different Built Environment



Critical raw materials are often closer than we think

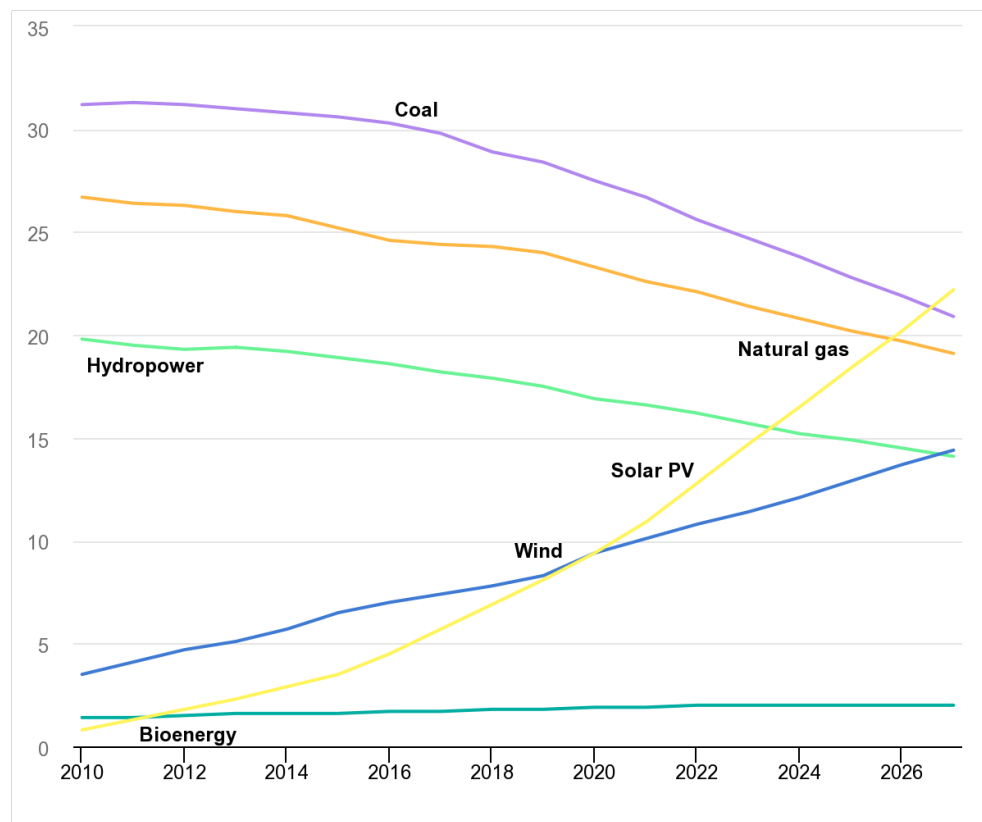
Global production of critical raw materials (CRM) according to EU definition

according to EU definition

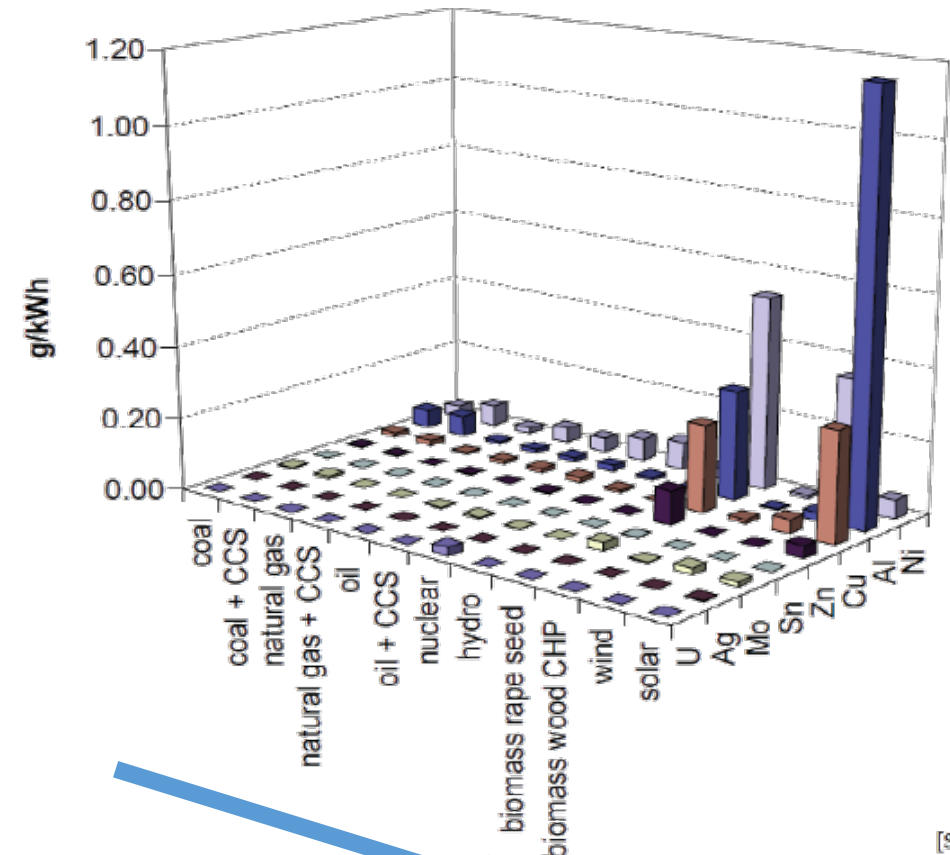
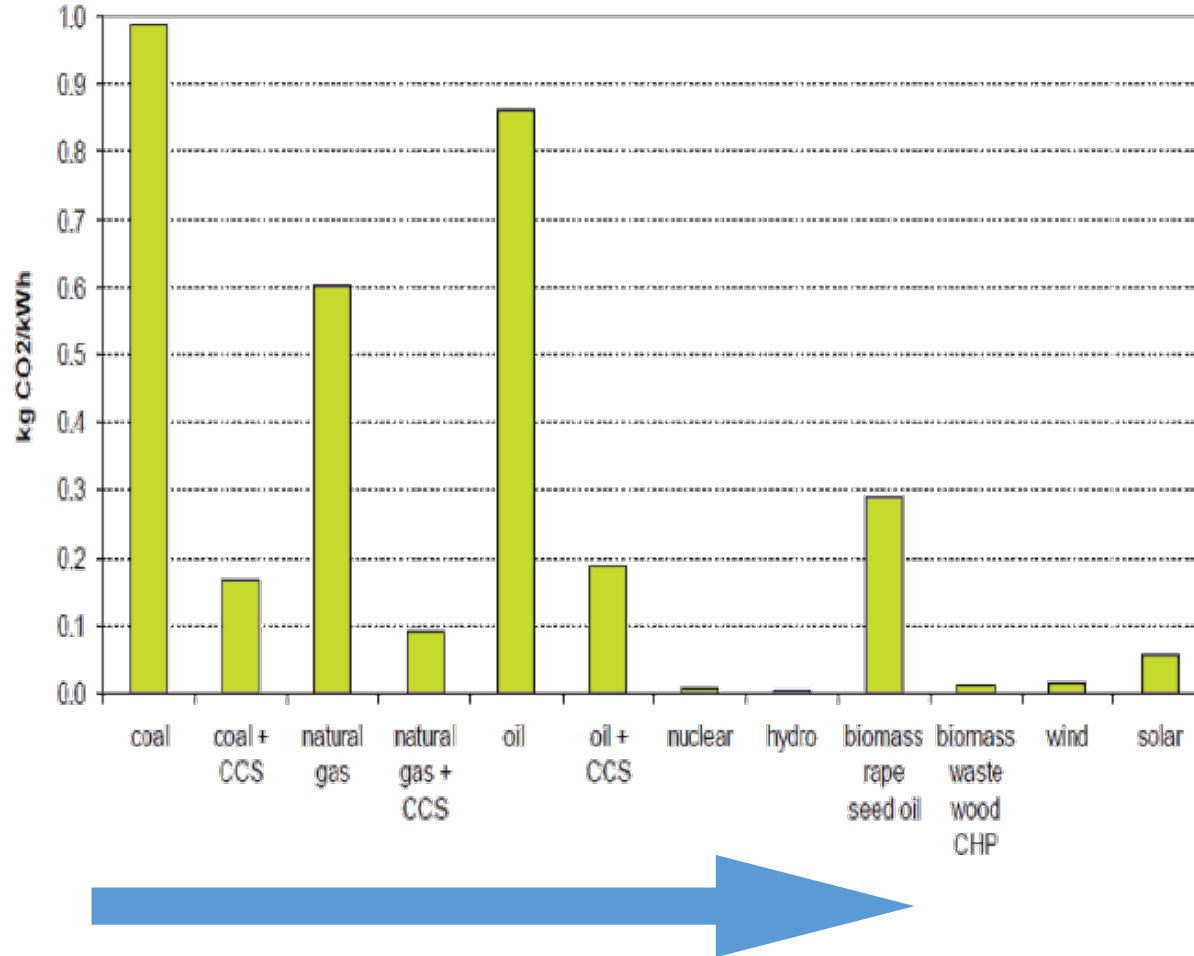


SGU Geological Survey of Sweden

WHERE WILL RENEWABLE ENERGY BE PLACED?



ENERGY TRANSITION - CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS



CLIMATE CHANGE - ENERGY TRANSITION – MATERIAL SCARCITY

On EU and global scales there are plans to move towards renewable sources and green energy.



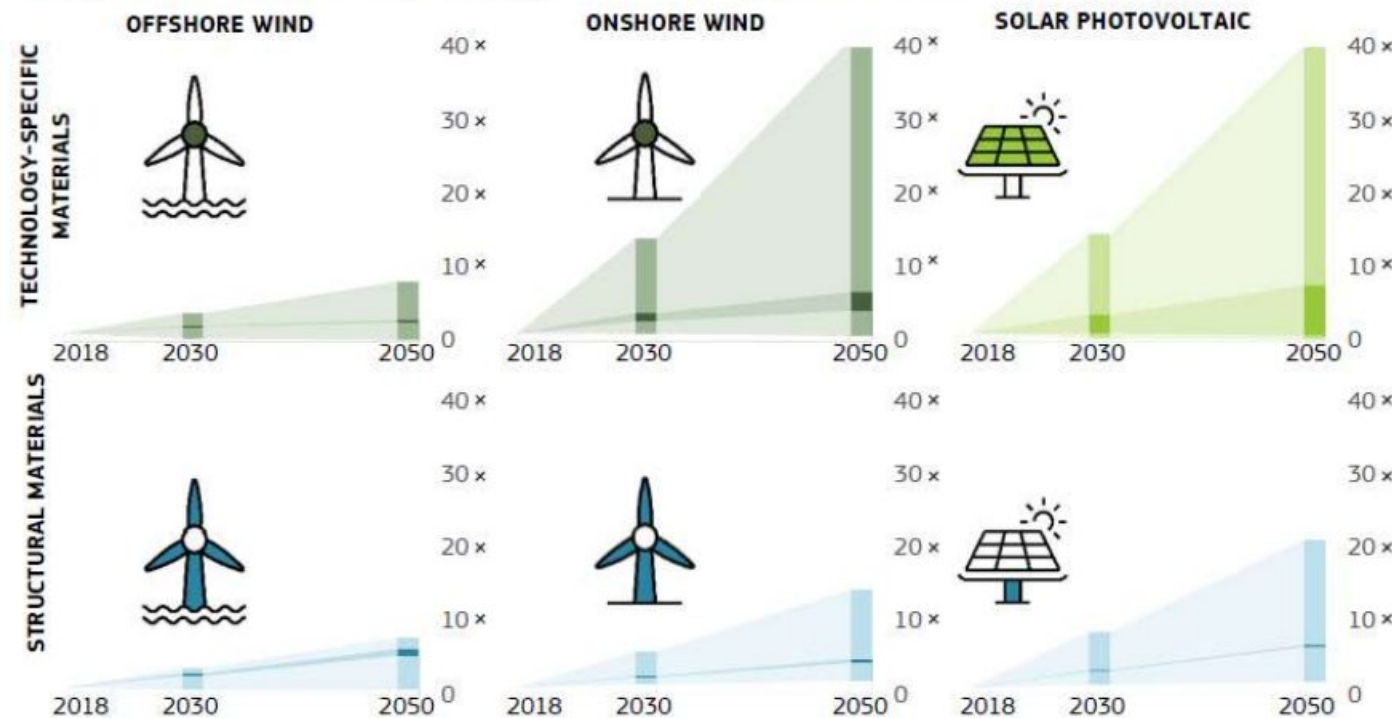
4 factors assessed in high, medium and low demand scenarios



CLIMATE CHANGE - ENERGY TRANSITION – MATERIAL SCARCITY

Raw materials demand forecast for structural and technology-specific materials for offshore wind, onshore wind and solar photovoltaic (relative to 2018)

Materials have been grouped according to the technology (offshore wind, onshore wind, solar) and whether they are **structural** or **technology-specific**. The darker area of each vertical bar represents the demand range in a medium demand scenario. The lighter area represents the demand variability considering low demand and high demand scenarios.



Source: JRC analysis.

QUESTIONS?

Supporting citizens' circular behaviour

Design for material reduction

Design for emotional bonding and trust

Design for reliability and durability

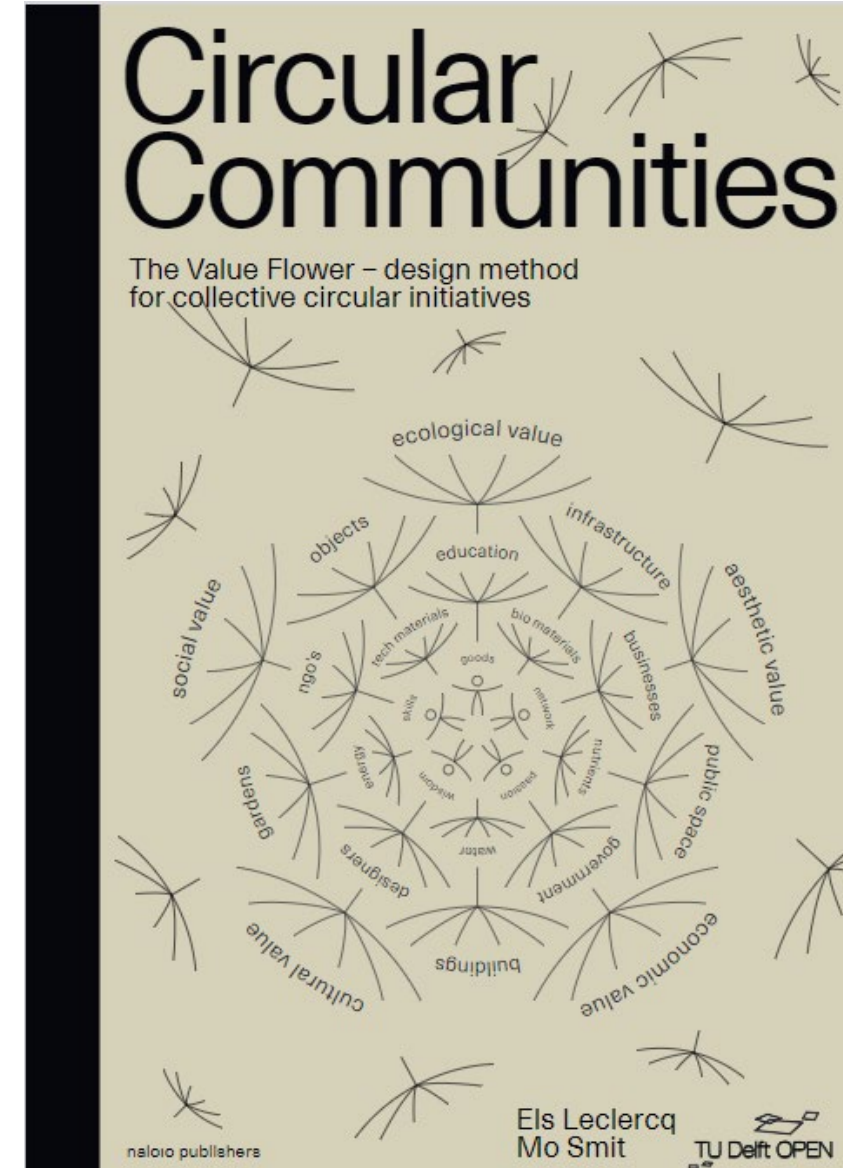
Provide infrastructure for sharing: tools, equipment, vehicles, spaces, and flows.

Facilitate a collaborative production and consumption and sharing economy.

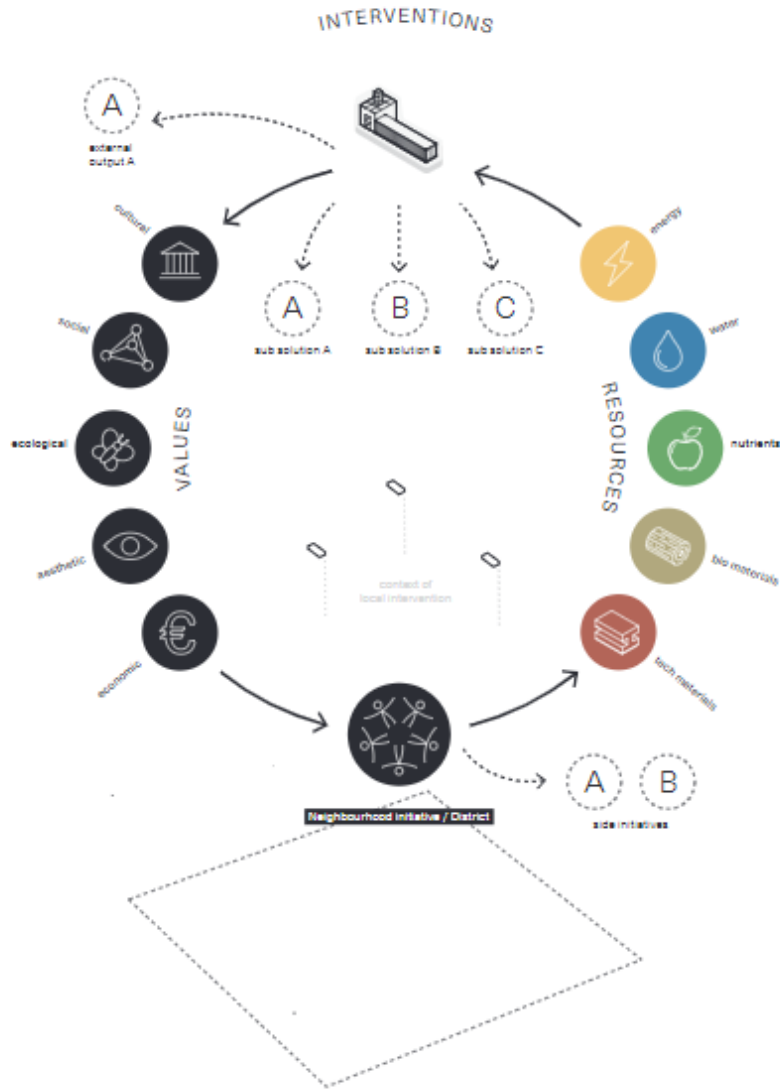
Provide space for reuse and knowledge sharing.

Supporting regenerative practices

urban design, promoting walking and cycling;

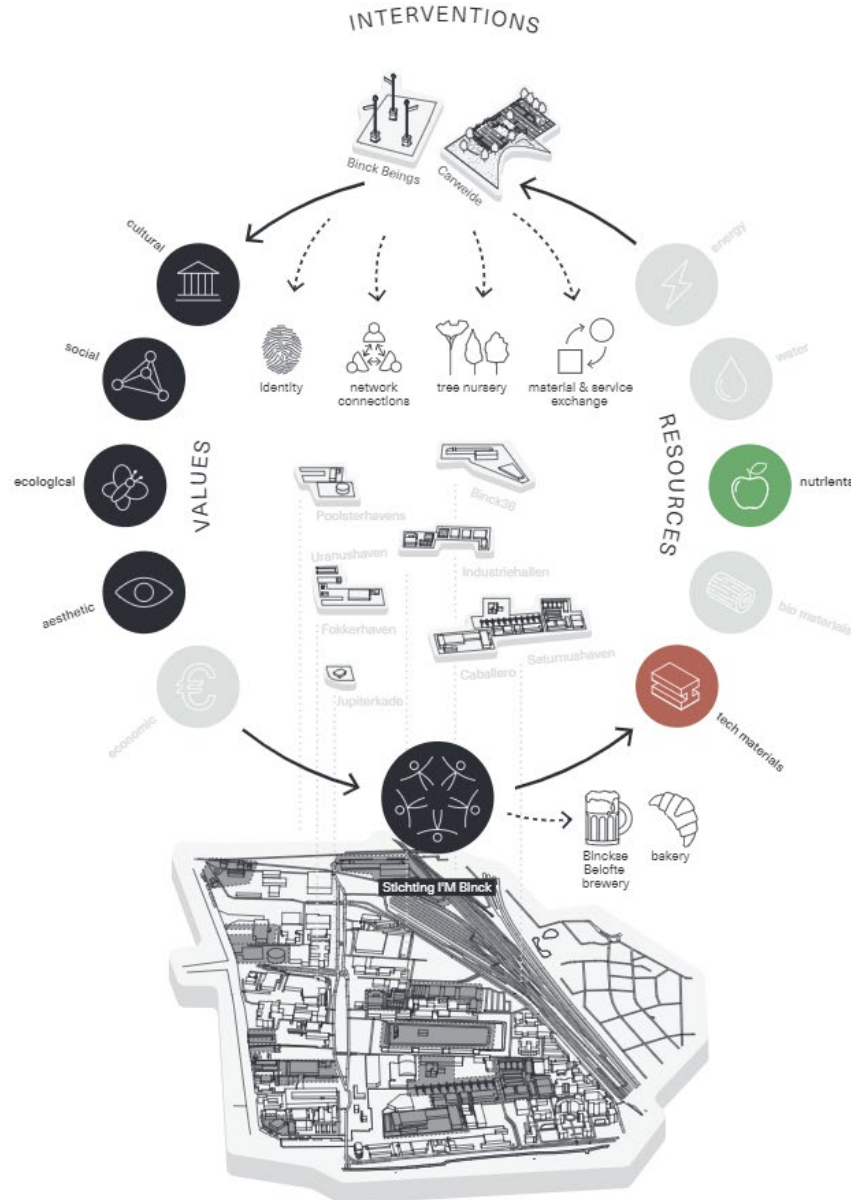


Relating Values, Flows, People, Spaces - Livability



1. Physical and economic security;
2. Basic services (schools, houses et etcetera);
3. Leadership;
4. Openness (tolerance, inclusiveness between different groups of residents); and
5. Aesthetics (physical beauty, culture, and so on).

I'M Binck



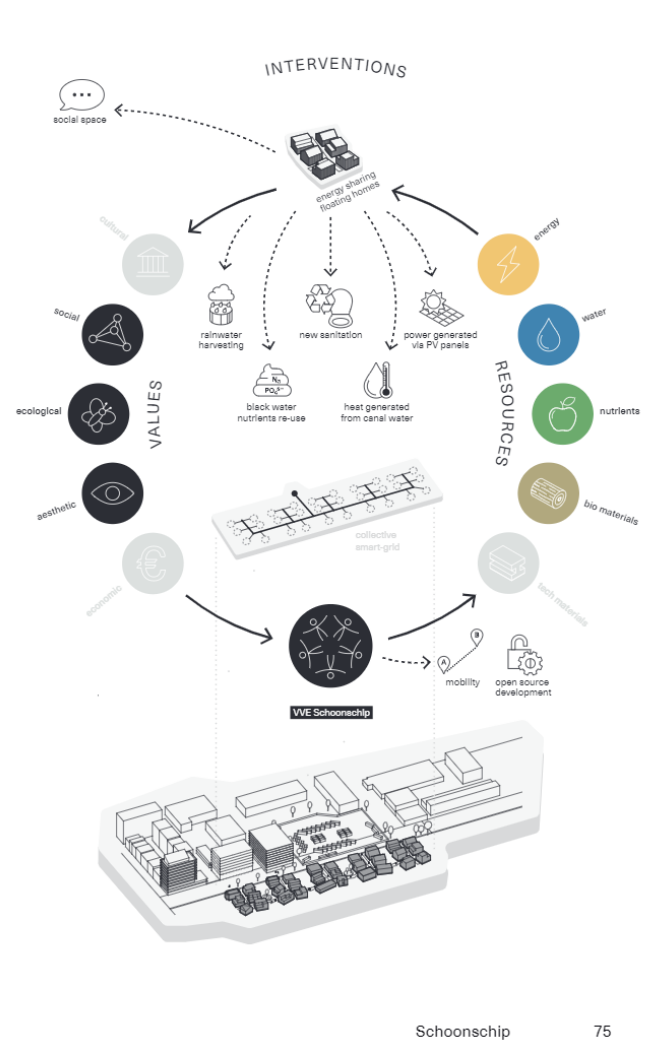
|| - a.wandl@tudelft.nl

The Circular Built Environment Hub



Circular Communities: The circular value flow as a design method for collectively closing resource flows
Authors Els Leclercq, Mo Smit; <https://books.open.tudelft.nl/home/catalog/book/62>

Schoon Ship

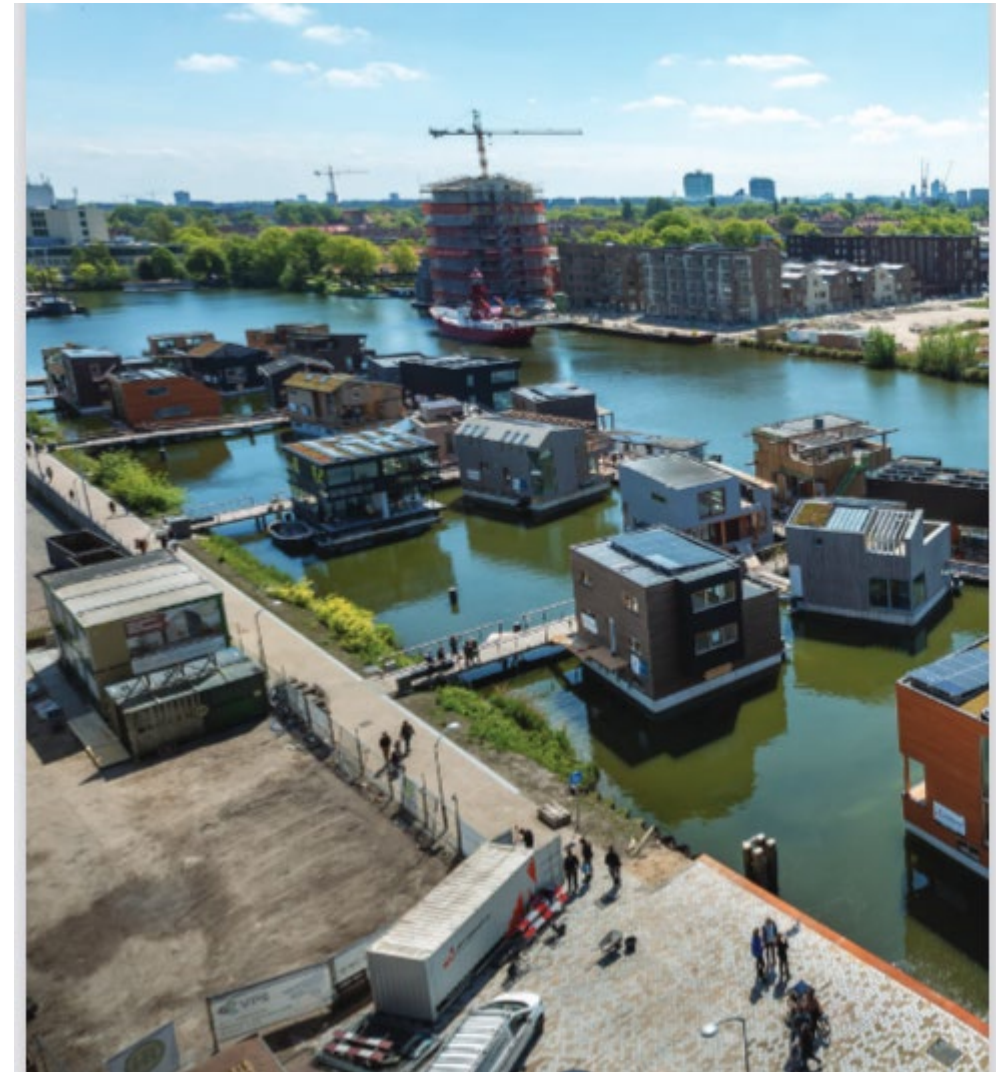
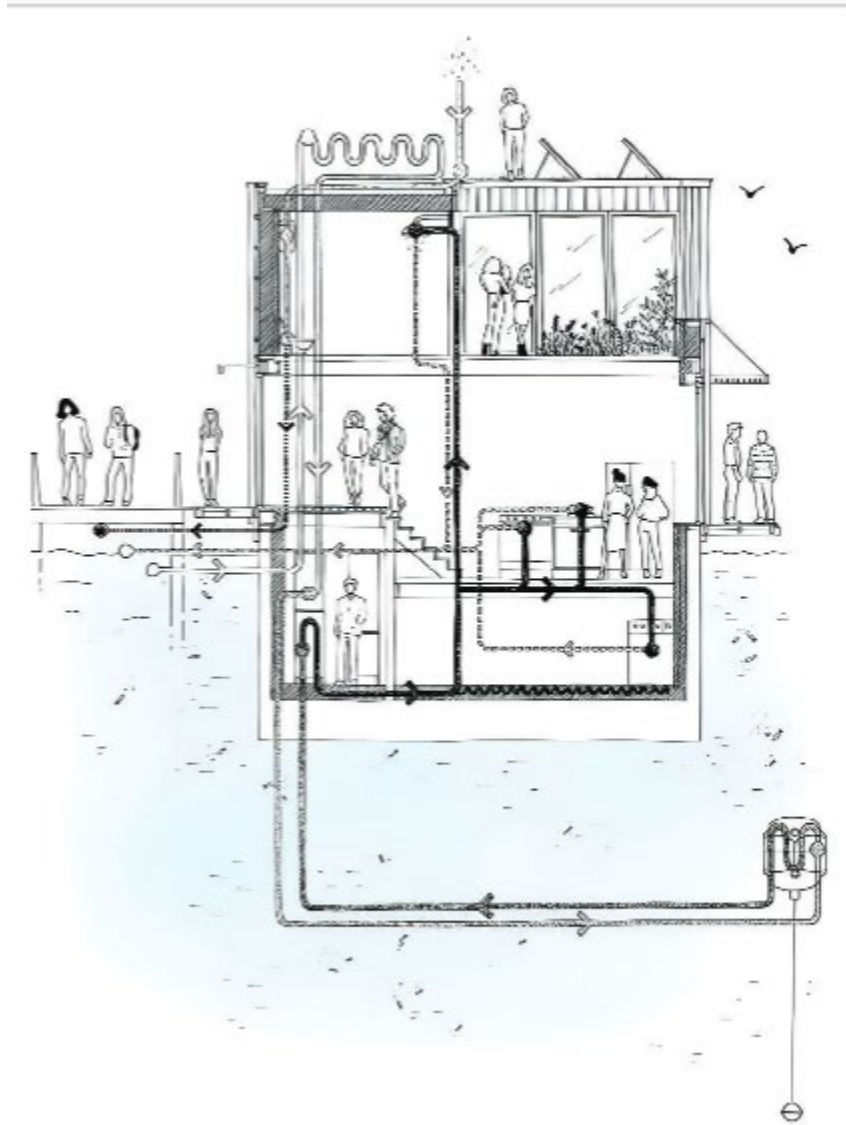


Schoonschip

75

- Affordable for households from diverse backgrounds across five income categories, including social renting
- An urban design that encourages a social living environment
- 100% renewable heating and hot-water supply
- 50-70% reduction in electricity requirements
- 100% renewable electricity
- 100% treatment of waste water and organic waste
- 100% own drinking-water supply
- 60-80% food production (fruits and vegetables) on own plot, using locally obtained nutrients
- Collective facilities such as shared cars, laundries, jetties and floating gardens.

Schoon Ship



Facilitating circular businesses

Space for transport

Scope for re-shoring of production

Space for storage

Space for the production of bio-based materials

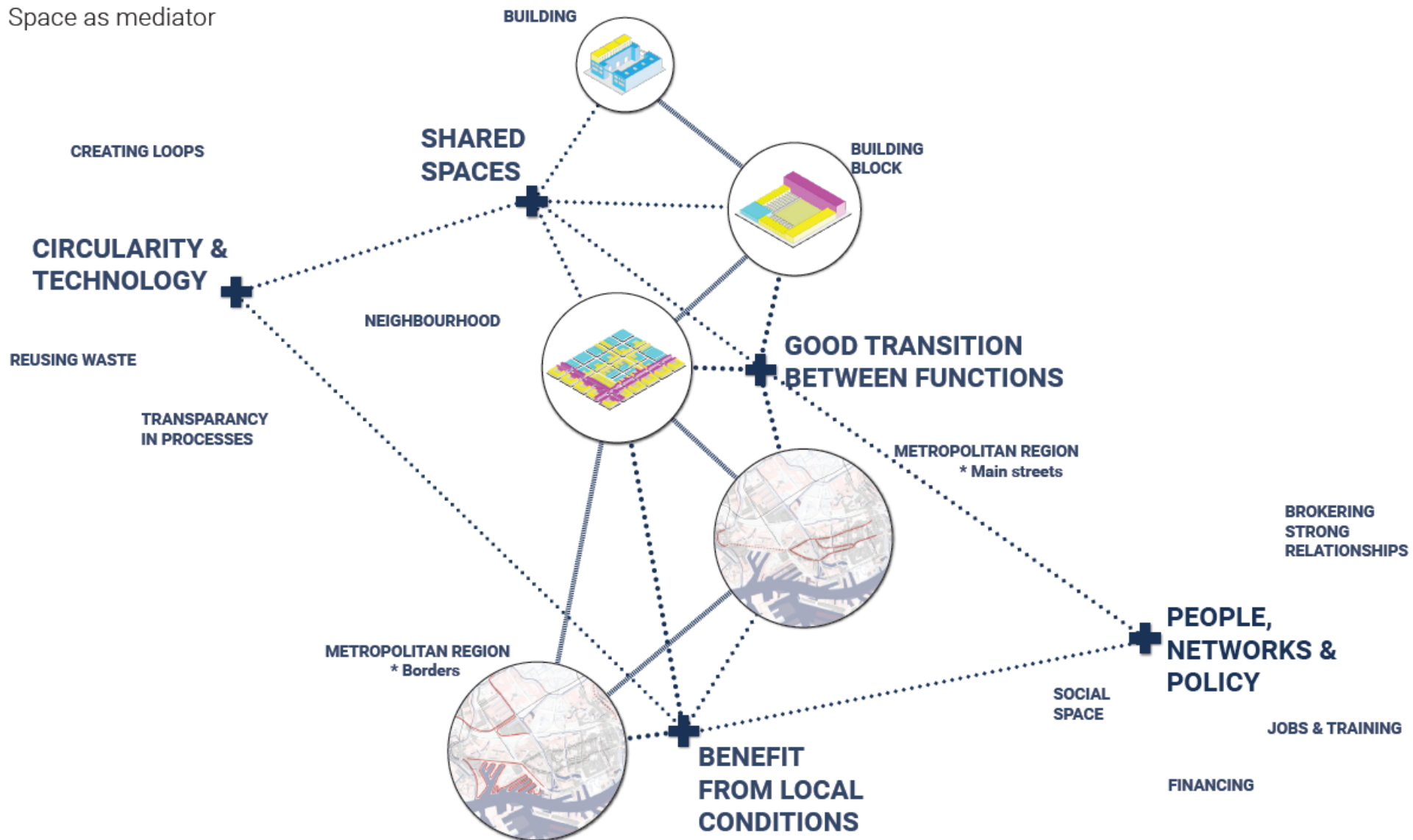
Space for renewable energy

Facilitate space negotiation



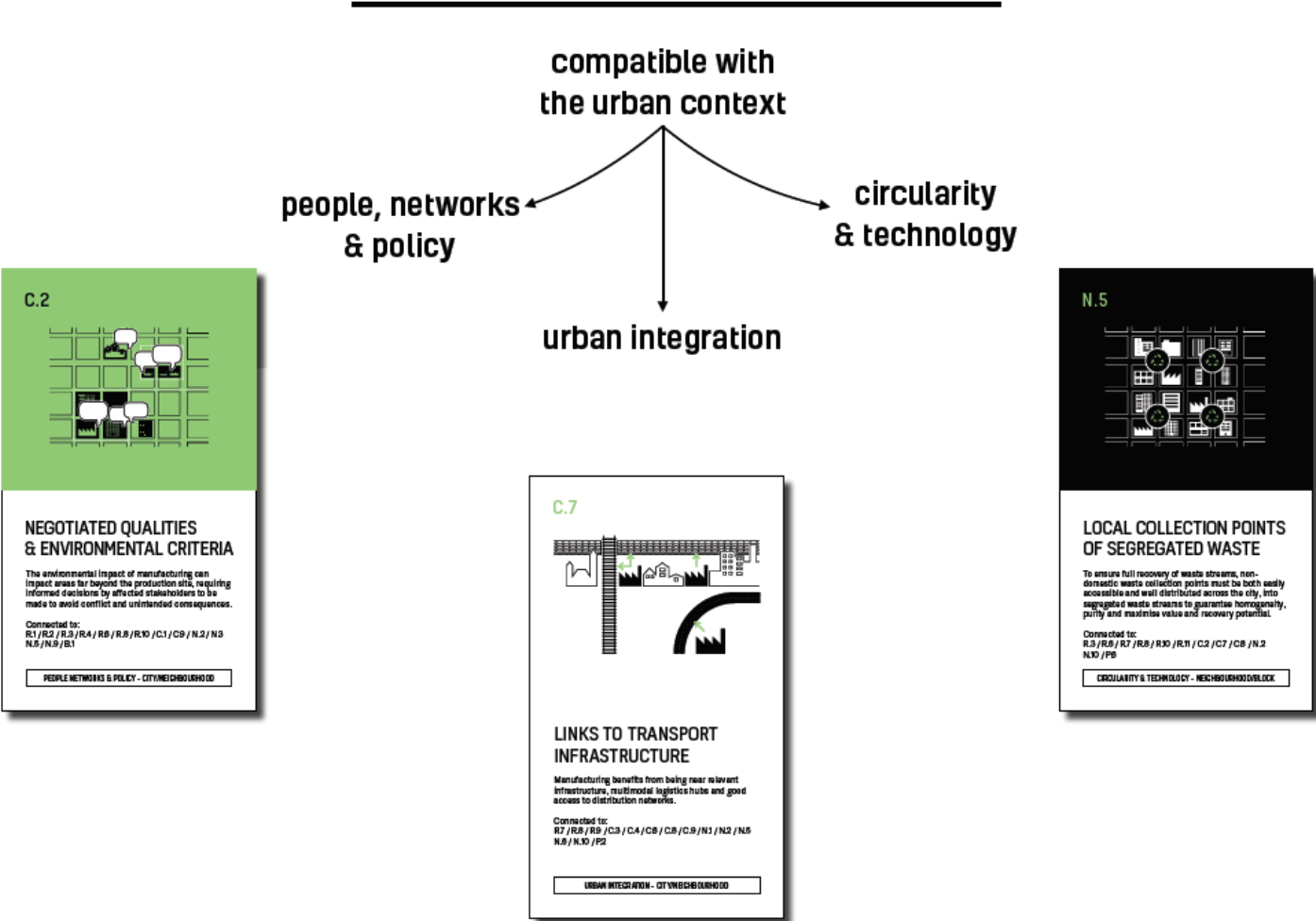
Rethinking urban development

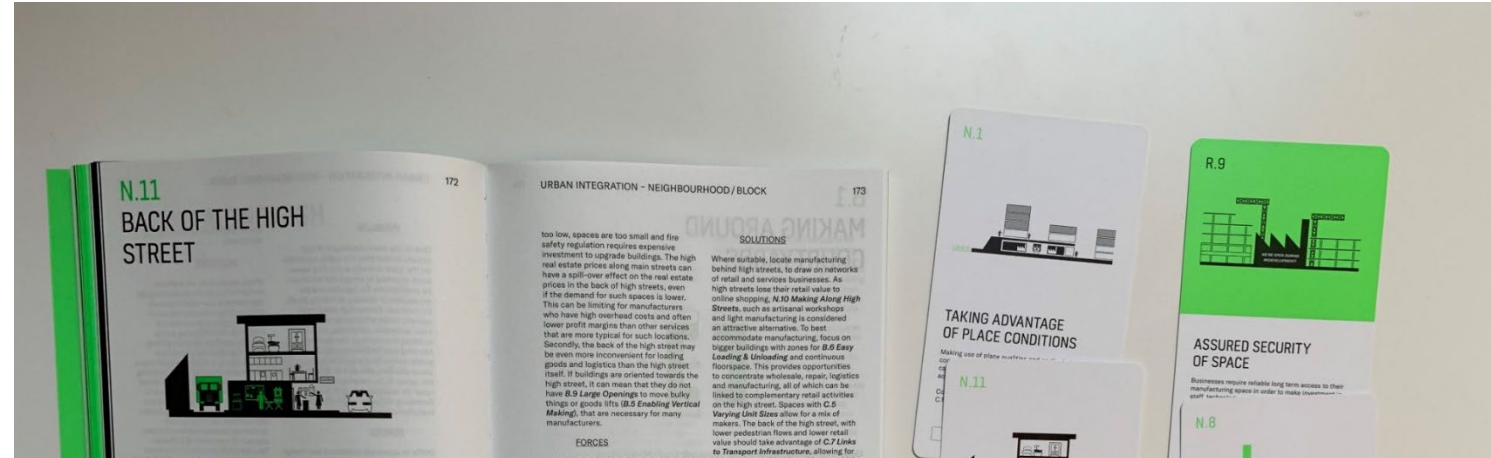
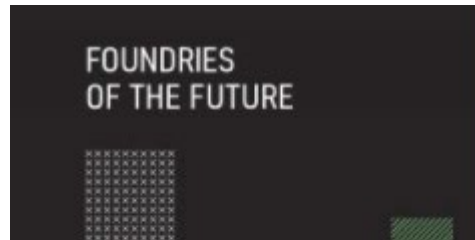
Integrating urban manufacturing
Space as mediator



Een patroontaal als ontwerp instrument

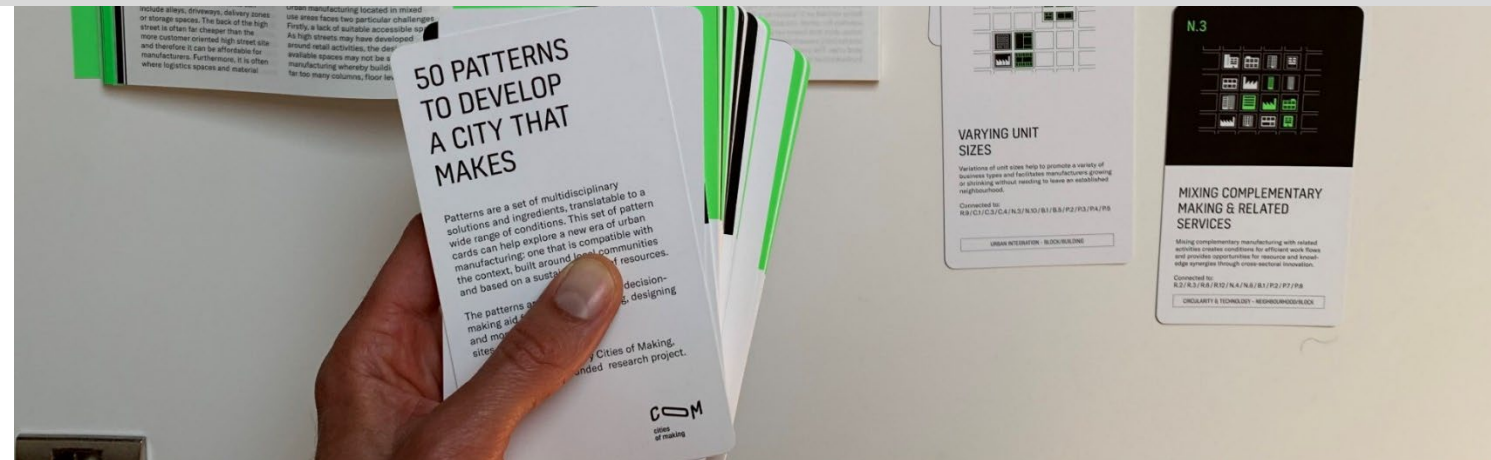
CO-CREATION OF THE PATTERN LANGUAGE
Solutions from three different aspects





https://books.bk.tudelft.nl/press/catalog/book/ISBN_9789463662475

<https://data.4tu.nl/articles/dataset/Cities of Making pattern language cards testing set/12721397>



50 patronen voor co-creatie

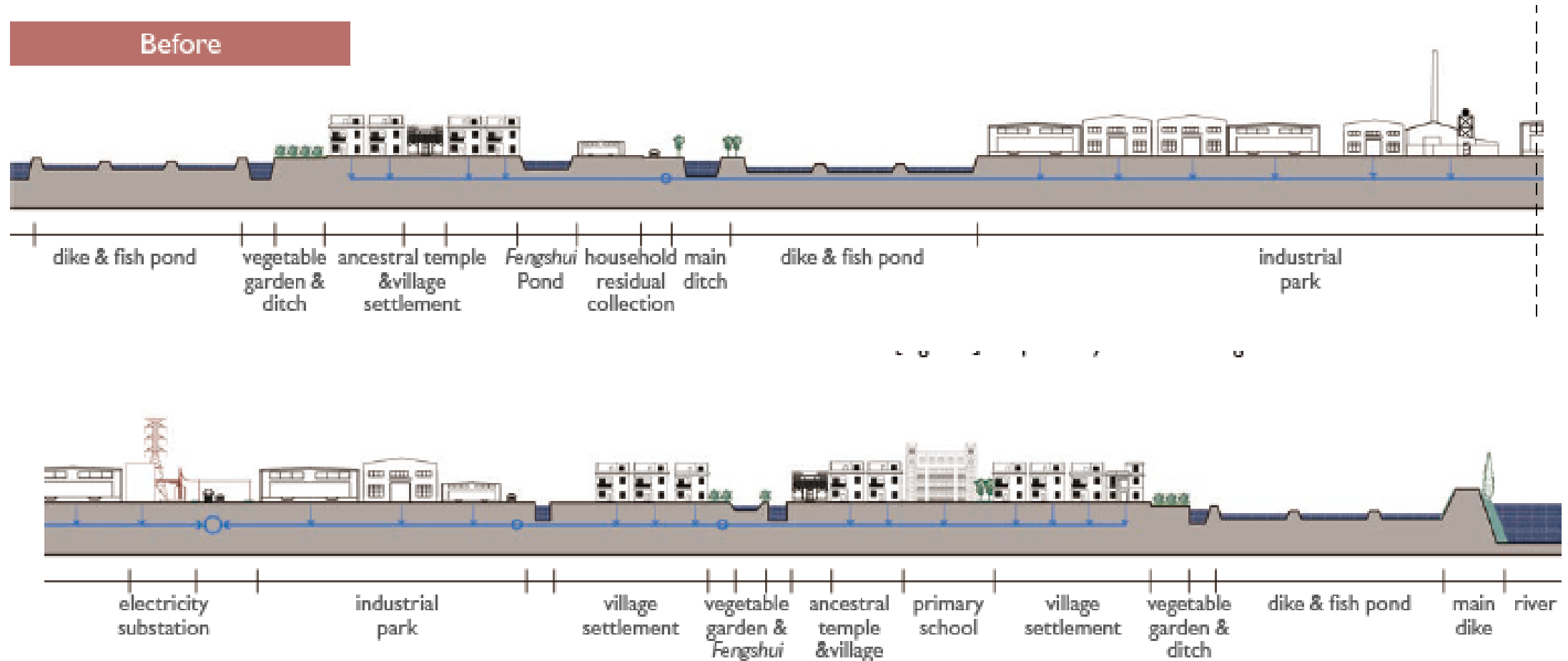
Towards a Sustainable and Livable Desakota:

Designing for sustainable industry transition in the peri-urban territory of the Greater Bay Area

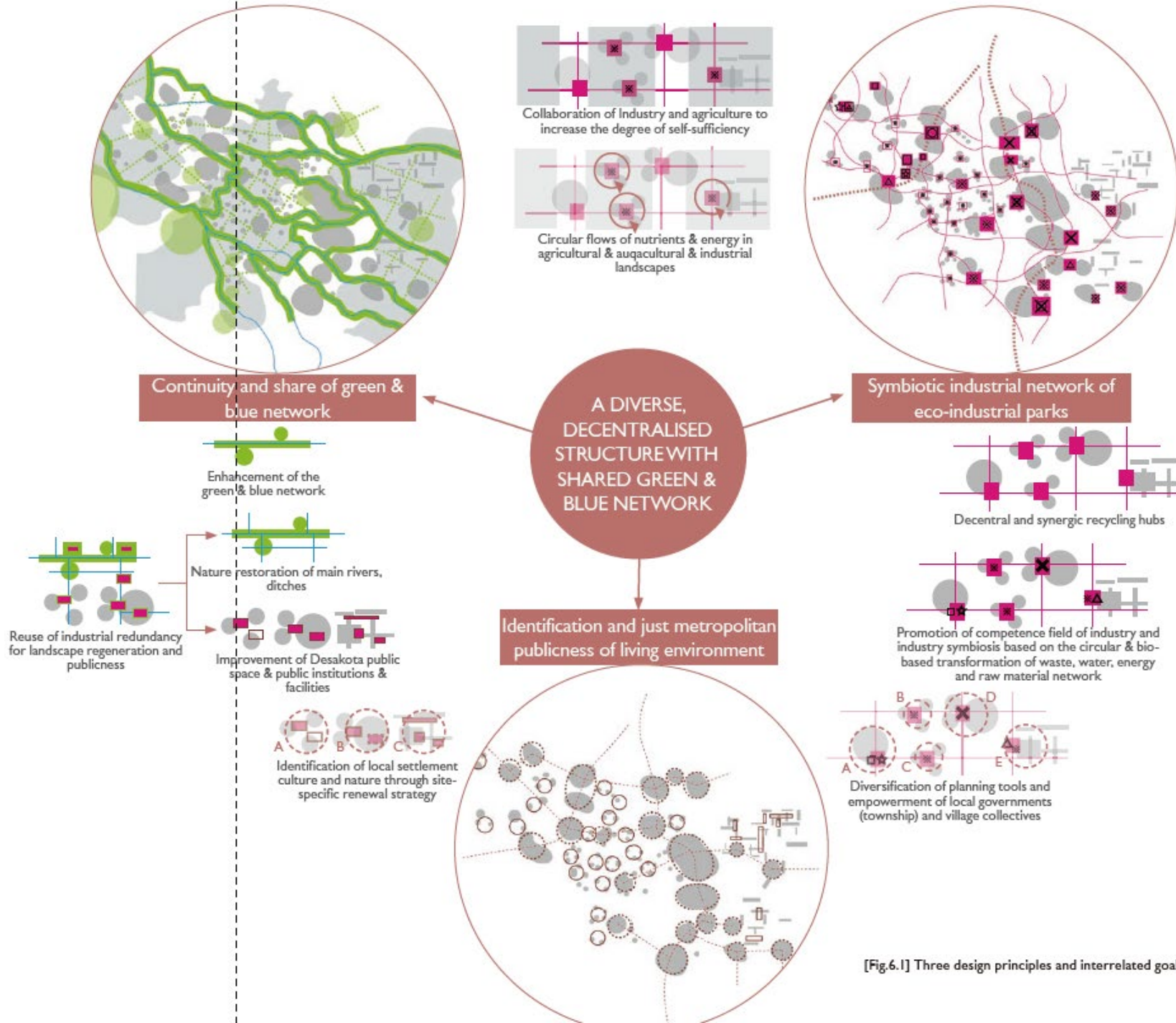


Source: Graduation Project: Shiru Liu

Starting from linear Industry and degenerated landscape ...



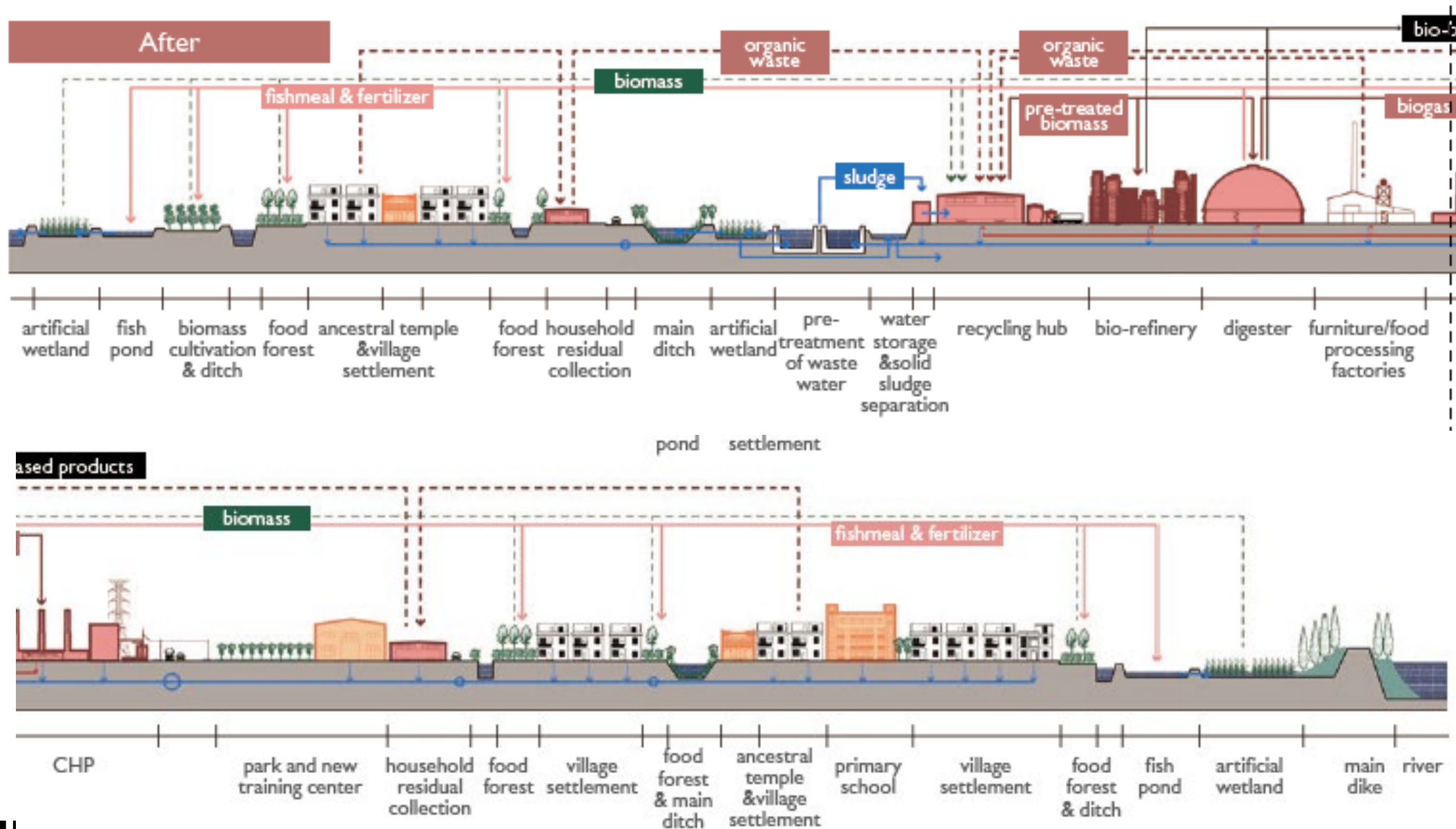
Source: Graduation Project: Shiru Liu



[Fig.6.1] Three design principles and interrelated goals



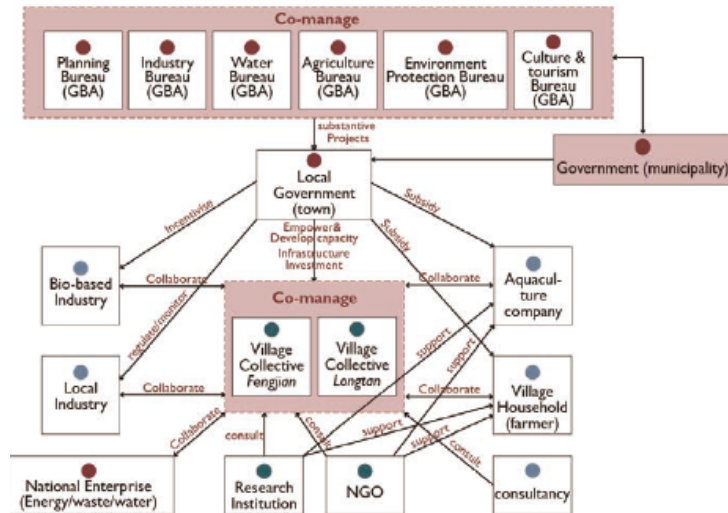
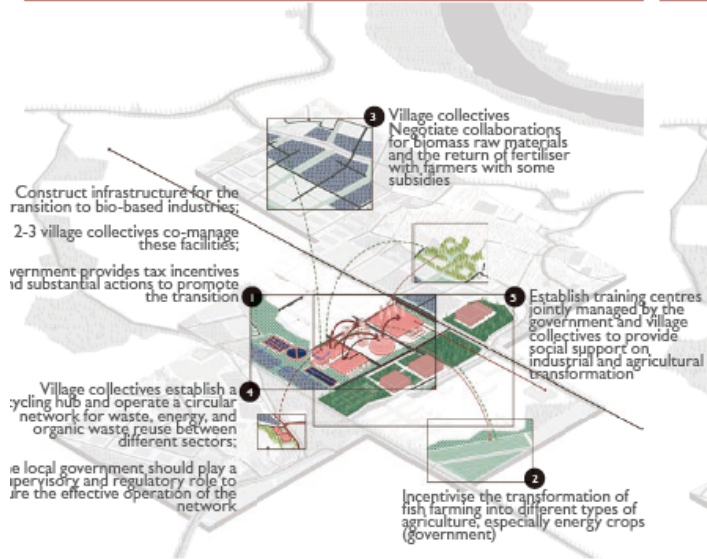
Using Industrial Symbioses and the introduction of bio-based industries as a starter for



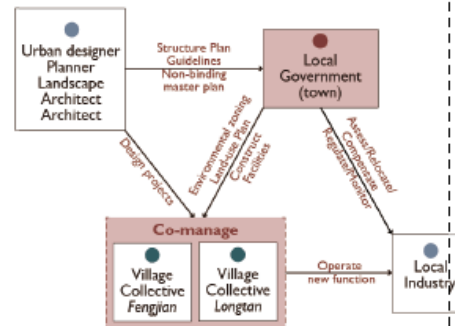
Source: Graduation Project: Shiru Liu

Integrated, systemic but context specific regional design

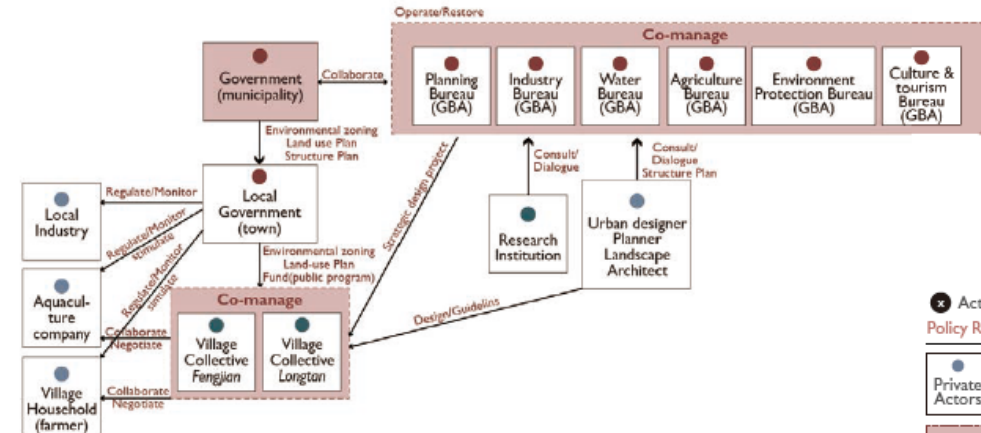
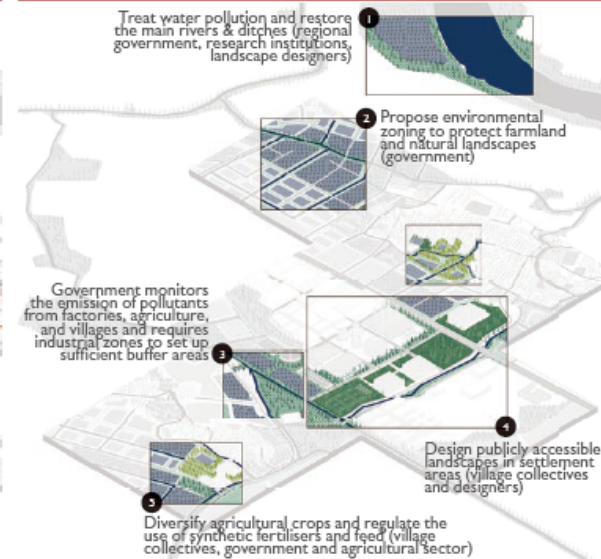
Goal 01: Symbiotic industrial development



Goal 02: Improvement of public facilities and public spaces



Goal 03: Enhancement of green & blue network



6.13 Policy Strategies

The specific actions and actors corresponding to each strategy are depicted in the diagram. The core planning strategy to drive these actions includes:

- 1) Empower village collectives to operate the centralised industrial node and develop their collective management capabilities.
- 2) Establish circular networks that should be led by village collectives and negotiated in collaboration with residents (farmers). The role of the local government is to assist and regulate, primarily focusing on developing the capabilities of village collectives, such as infrastructure investment, network establishment, and providing training support. Incentive measures can also be implemented to promote agricultural and industrial transformation and regulate unsustainable activities.
- 3) Localised morphological, physiological, and governance strategic planning can be incorporated into the procedures of the planning system.

A Circular Built Environment relies on Co-Creation



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN PERI-URBAN AREAS: GOING BEYOND URBAN

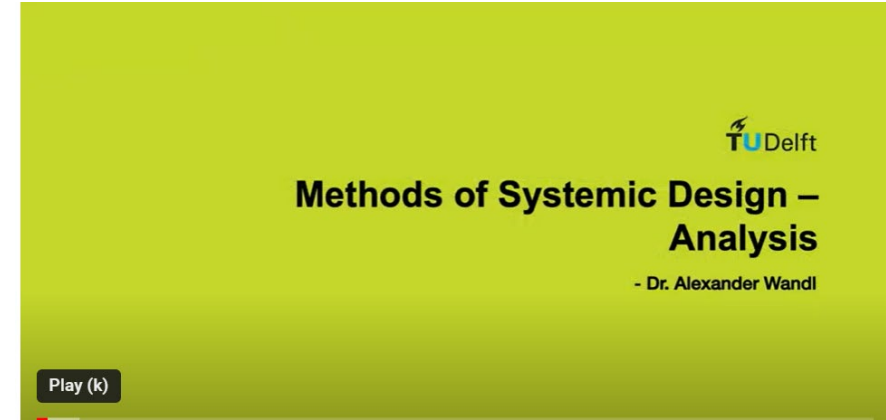
<http://h2020repair.eu/virtual-exhibition/>



Three Videos to Guide the How



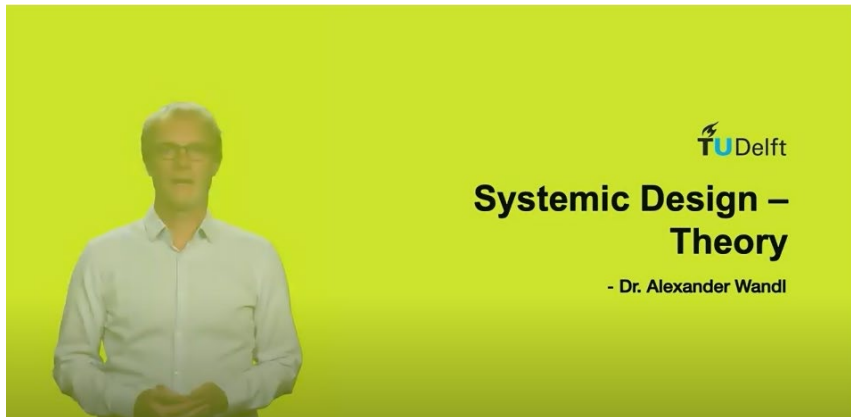
**Spatial Circularity Strategies for
Sustainable Regional Development**



**Methods of Systemic Design –
Analysis**

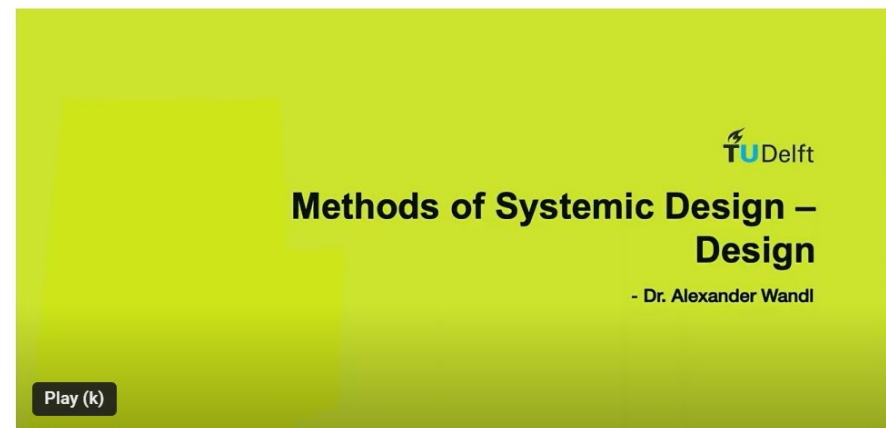
- Dr. Alexander Wandl

Play (k)



**Systemic Design –
Theory**

- Dr. Alexander Wandl



**Methods of Systemic Design –
Design**

- Dr. Alexander Wandl

Play (k)

<https://online-learning.tudelft.nl/courses/spatial-circularity-strategies-for-sustainable-regional-development/>

Circular Economy (CE)

What are your association with CE, now?

Some mentimeter interaction:
<https://www.menti.com/zxh8oxzwt3>
voting code **3762 8640**

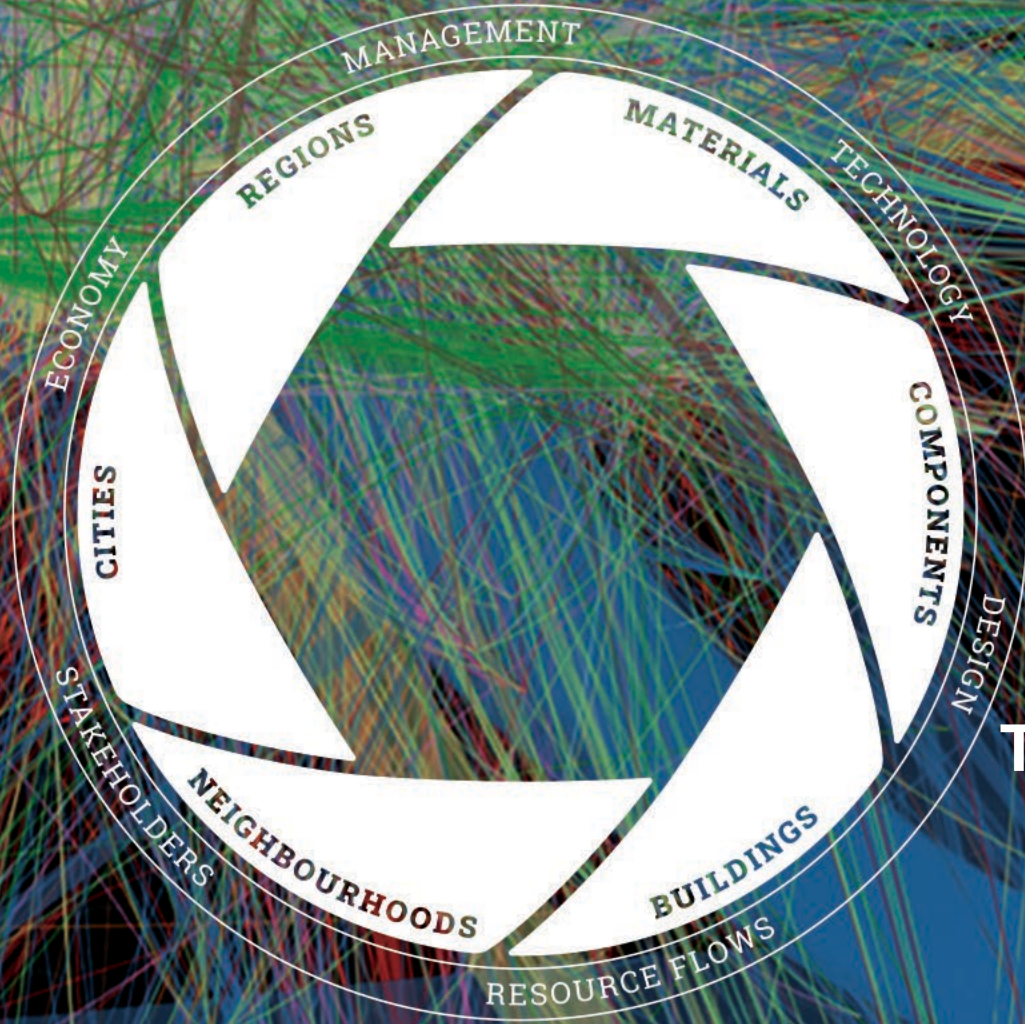


Results

What are your associations with Circular Economy now ?



QUESTIONS?



THE CIRCULAR BUILT ENVIRONMENT HUB

Circular Built Environment Hub

Who we are



Research projects portfolio



Biobased, Inclusive & Circular



CARED

Catalyse Remanufacturing through Design Bootcamp

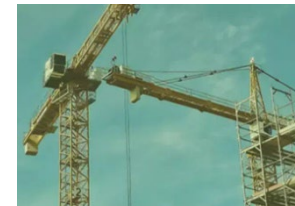


CHARM

Circular Housing Asset Renovation & Management - No More Downcycling



CIK: The Circular Kitchen



CINDERELA

New Circular Economy Business Model for More Sustainable Urban Construction



CIRCLETECH

Twinning partnership to develop a European Sustainable Circular Economy Research Hub

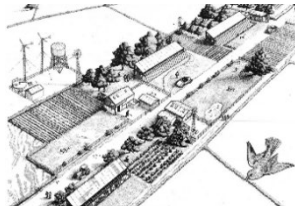


Circu-MAT

Circular city and Industry park Materials metabolism Learning package and assessment tool

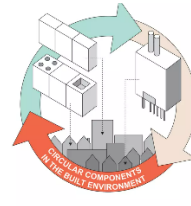


Circular Area Development Binckhorst – The Hague



Circular City

Exploring the roles of contemporary Dutch architects regarding the circular economy in the built environment.



Circular Components in the Built Environment



Circular and Prefabricated High Rise



Doughnut Architecture

The Doughnut Economic approach in Architecture



FacadeReLog

Reverse logistics for the recovery of metals in the facade industry



Façade Leasing

A circular business model based on the use of multifunctional façades.

Research projects portfolio



IRTC

International Round Table on Materials Criticality



Intrinsically Circular

A service for integrated disassembly and design of buildings.



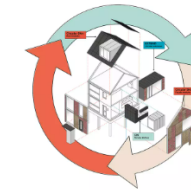
Pop-Machina

Understanding the spatial and social consequences of circular collaborative production in urban areas.



Product Development Test Lab

Testing innovations in an innovative building



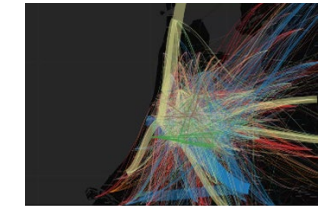
REHAB

Developing circular components for housing renovation



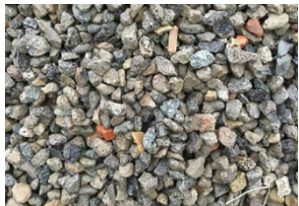
REMANPATH

Building Lifelong Education Through Finding Company Path to Remanufacturing



REPAiR

REsource Management in Peri-urban Areas: Going Beyond Urban Metabolism



SeRaMCo

Secondary Raw Materials for Concrete Precast Products



SusCritMat

Sustainable Management of Critical Raw Materials



Trancibo

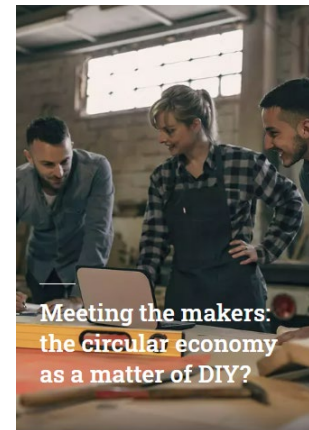
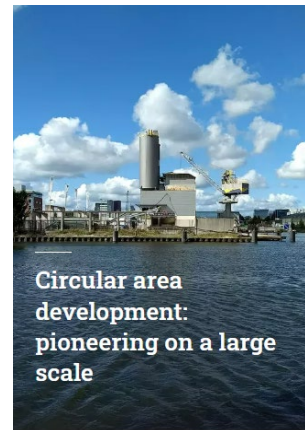
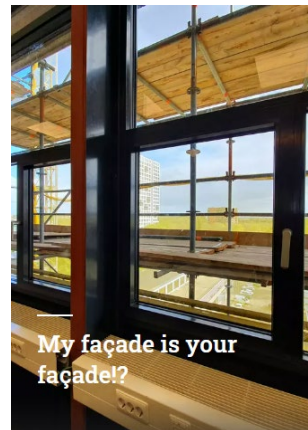
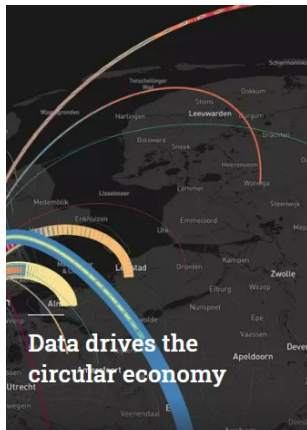
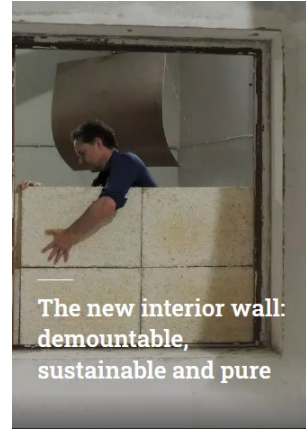
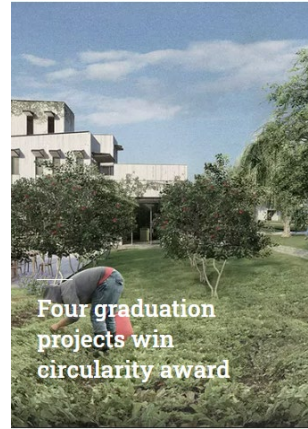
Changing inter-organizational collaborative behaviour in circular construction projects



Urban Waste

Urban strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities

Stories



Summer School on Circularity in the Built Environment

5 - 7 July 2023

From “circuits of capital” to “circuits of value”: addressing the barriers of circularity implementation

The Circular Built Environment Hub of the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment will host the second Summer School on Circularity in the Built Environment from 5 to 7 July 2023.

Register now

Summer School on Circularity
in the Built Environment

[Register here](#)

<https://www.tudelft.nl/bk/studeren/summerschools/summer-school-on-circularity-in-the-built-environment>

The Circularity of the Built Environment: A systemic perspective

@Tools for Post-Conflict Urban Recovery - 2023

Alexander Wandl

Associate Professor Environmental Technology and Design
Dep. Urbanism, Delft University of Technology
a.wandl@tudelft.nl

Thank you

Circular Economy
Challenge