



# Observations on Support Coalitions and Next Steps

Erik Arnold

15 July 2020



## What do we have? What's missing?

### Governance

Many choices  
Planning  
Scale  
Ideas about 'horses for courses'

### Demand

Public demand

- Procurement
- Role of the state as innovator?

Private demand

- Where is it?

### Supply

Private supply

- Where is it?

### Visioning

Directionality  
Qualitative approaches  
Modelling

### Grassroots

Connecting to governance  
With government in it?



## Modelling

- ↗ Important component is envisioning and optimizing transitions ideas
- ↗ Long energy and transport modelling traditions – more opportunities (eg logistics, health systems)?
- ↗ Data availability an issue outside mainstream modelling themes
- ↗ Puts the ‘technical’ into socio-technical traditions – needs to be accompanied by the ‘social’



## Industrial policy

- ↗ Long traditions in practice and research here – only beginning to deal with transitions
- ↗ Centre-periphery – how do we choose the right scale for intervention? Will existing spatial definitions allow us to get this right?
- ↗ Needs more thinking about Multi-Level Governance
- ↗ How to ensure a ‘green turn’ post-COVID, rather than a return to business as usual?



## Grassroots

- ↗ Grassroots level poses a big political challenge
- ↗ Tension between grassroots level and governance with government in it
- ↗ How to connect grassroots level with recent positive developments in policy, SDGs, Green Deal, COP, etc



## Public sector

- Research community fascinated by procurement and sees it as under-used
- Difficult to do in general and especially at the regional level and in places with low governance capacity
- Missing a discussion about the state as innovator and 'development pairs' (\*Erik Dahmén, etc)



## Governance

- ↗ Largely a discussion about how to manage industrial renewal at the regional level
- ↗ Key issue of building capacity for local governance – enabling entrepreneurial discovery/ Some action-research involved?
- ↗ How to make sure we get beyond experiments?
- ↗ Important issue of the psycho-social effects of restructuring
  - ↗ Effects on individuals and social capital
  - ↗ Political consequences (populism)



## An analogy: Goal-Oriented Project Planning (GOPP) process


- ❏ GOPP is a participative project planning process, originally developed for development aid – similar processes can be adopted by funders to support R&I programmes
- ❏ GOPP process (modified)
  - ❏ Problem tree
  - ❏ Solutions tree
  - ❏ Logical framework / intervention logic / programme theory
  - ❏ Identify and test your assumptions
  - ❏ Use Occam's razor to minimize the work you have to do in order to achieve your objectives





**“The philosophers have only *interpreted* the world, in various ways. The point, however, is to *change* it.”**

Studying	versus	Doing
<p>Defining the theme Mapping the system Desired state of the system How to accelerate the transition</p>		<p>Boundary-setting System analysis Directionality; boundary-setting Planning; instrument choice; governance and legitimacy; reflexivity and re-planning</p>

Generality		Specificity
<p>Who does this transformation? What's inside, what's outside POINT? Principle of <b>non</b>-inclusiveness: split the mission or set priorities Business strategy: How to make money out of this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What assets / endowments do we bring to the party?</li> <li>• Where could we build competitive advantages?</li> <li>• How do we connect to demand?</li> </ul>		



**Thank you.**

Abidjan • Amsterdam • Berlin • Bogotá • Brighton • Brussels • Frankfurt/Main •  
London • Paris • Stockholm • Tallinn • Vienna