

Real-world laboratories and Sustainable Development Goals



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Some thoughts

– What are Real World Laboratories (RWL)? Some proposals:

- „Research infrastructures“ (WGBU 2014)
- „Test areas of society“ (Selke 2013)
- „Research setting“ (Schäpke et al. 2016)
- ...

– Real world laboratories (RWL) and other approaches, e.g.

- Living labs
- Neighborhood transition labs
- (Urban) transition labs
- Real experiments
- Nice experiments
- ...

– Some characteristics:

- Dual orientation towards research and societal problems
- Normative & long term character
- Transdisciplinarity (esp. participation of society/practioners)
- Laboratory approach (experiments)
- Transferable solutions to societal problems
- ...



Structure of the session

- **“Real-world laboratories and the role of the researchers”**
(Dr. Konrad Götz, ISOE, Frankfurt/DE)
- **“Doing a New Urban Agenda: the Transversal City - Reflecting Concepts, Narratives and Research Agendas of Sustainability and Social Justice in Urban Development“**
(Dr. Christina West, University Heidelberg/DE)
- ~~– **“Space sharing by a real world laboratory approach”**
(Prof. Mark Blaschitz, State Academy of Art and Design, Stuttgart /DE)~~
- **“Real-world laboratories to transform the out -of-home catering sector in the direction of sustainability”**
(Prof. Nina Langen, Technische Universität Berlin/DE)



Questions

- **What are the challenges of real-world labs (RWL) and how to overcome them?**
 - What **roles** do researchers and practice partners should adopt in real-world labs and at which stage? How to conceptualize and plan the **process**?
 - How to create and maintain **problem ownership**?
 - How to deal with **unforeseen situations**?
 - How to **systemize and generalize** the RWL outcomes for practitioners, research community and “second movers”?
- **How do RWL generate transformative results and conduct transformative research towards sustainability (“Upscaling”)?**
- **How do RWL contribute to SDG’s?**

Thank you for your attention.

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