Flourishing Foodvalley

Pattern language as a co-design method to approach the transition towards circular agricultural systems in a hybrid landscape.







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0 25 km

N

National government

Provinces of Utrecht & Gelderland

Water authority Valley & Veluwe

Municipalities (8)

Knowlegde institutes (e.g. WUR)

Agri-food businesses (e.g. Arla & Campina)



Stikstof dwarsboomt bouw van duizenden huizen in Gelderland

ARNHEM - Een derde van de geplande nieuwe woningen in Gelderland kan nu niet worden gebouwd als gevolg van de stikstofcrisis. Ondanks maatregelen als snelheidsverlaging op snelwegen, is de uitstoot van stikstof nog niet genoeg ingeperkt om de bouw van 3000 huizen door te laten gaan.

Boeren demonstreren 'om gehoord te worden'

Nieuwe ministers bekendgemaakt,

Politiek () 17 december 2021, 18:18 uur

urban development



Veluwe



Natura 2000

0

25 km

A network of protected areas covering Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.



II. problem







Causes

Continuous cost reductions & focus on efficiency: scaling up, intensive (monocultural) land – use and the use of artificial fertilization



(Melkvee, 2018)



(Siebe Swart, 2020)



Artificial fertilizer & pesticides



Resource depletion and scarcity, overexploitation of land, and fragmentation and degradation of ecosystems. Exacerbated by climate change (extreme drought and flooding).



(de Eemskrant, 2020)

0

10 km



II. problem

Spatial concentration climate change

0

10 km





0

' Circularity refers to an alternative production, distribution, and consumption model '



linear









circularity

ReSOLVE framework



(Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2015)

Focus on businesses (industrial and commercial) rather than more comprehensive strategies to manage resources.



The knowledge gap concerns insufficient (theoretical) knowledge on a territorial approach regarding circularity. Making it difficult to incorporate circular goals in large-scale regional strategies and designs.



The territory can be used to connect circular development strategies to ecosystem, landscape or territorial assets, in order to improve the region regenerative capacity.





Socio - ecological metabolism

'methaphor that compares the built environment to a cell'

A way to examine the current material and energy flows in territory, and how this is shaped by various social and economic forces.



(reprinted from Molina & Toledo, 2018, p.64)

Participatory transition management

(Roorda et al., 2014; Rotmans et al., 2010)

A way to manage the transition to circular agricultural systems that facilitates collaborative visioning, learning & experimenting

Territorial circularity approach

«-----*»*

Regenerative territory Foodvalley



Z ONDER JONGE BOER IN DIT LAND GEEN BOODSCHAPPEN IN UW MAND #NO FARMERS NO FOOD

(De Gelderlander, 2021)



(De Gelderlander, 2021)

How to reconfigure the territory of the Foodvalley region, to facilitate regenerative circular developments, using a co - creation method?

1. What possible synergies and closed loops can be identified in the current socioecological metabolism to increase the Foodvalley region's regenerative capacity?

2. Which circular agriculture patterns are necessary to harvest the possible synergies and closed cycles in the socio - ecological metabolism of the region?

3. What strategy can be used to facilitate co-creation in circular developments, in the agricultural sector of the Foodvalley region?

4. How can the implementation of the circular approach in the Foodvalley region be evaluated in order to formulate policy recommendation as well as further theoretical studies?





(Ospina, 2015)

Quantification, not their relation with the territory (spatial, social & ecological context)



(based on: KPMG, 2019; Metabolic, 2017)













А

В

Dynamics









(Christelijke Hogeschool Ede, 2020; Foodvalley, 2019)



Understand how environmental impact of resource use mechanisms is shaped by social & economic forces (e.g. actors and governance).

And the relation between resource use and their spatial dimension / underlying infrastructures.





(Ospina, 2015)

Leverage point

(Meadows, 1999)

A place in the system where a finely tuned, strategic intervention is capable of creating lasting change, creating positive ripple effects that spread.



Constant, parameters, number



Buffer sizes



Negative feedback loops



Information flows



Structure of the system



Mindset / paradigm



Material stock & flows



Relative delays



Positive feedback loops



Rules of the system



Goals of the system



Power to see the paradigm

Leverage impact

(Ehrlichman, 2021; Meadows, 1999)



Most design interventions are based on these leverage points

These leverage points have a higher transformative capacity, but these are harder to design for

RQ1: Possible synergies and closed loops to increase regenerative capacity

- I Current system has certain leverage points, where strategic interventions can help to increase the regenerative capacity of the region.
- Leverage points have different order of effectiveness, and therefore a differing transformative impact
- III Territorial approach (socio ecological metabolism) helps to determine suitability for strategic intervention (where, which actors)

× × Use substitute for artificial fertilizer



Main land-use type

- arable farming
- extensive livestock farming
- intensive livestock farming





Suitability strategic intervention


(Ospina, 2015)

Circular agriculture...

	Uses (raw) materials and resources efficiently and carefully. Renewables are preferred.	Current system
0	Has a closed balance (no waste). Priority to localizing and shortening chains (reduce, re-use, recycle).	↓ Leverage points
6	Operates on the basis of renewable energy and is CO2 neutral.	
	Handles the available land/water available with care. Preserves and protects biodiversity	Design solutions
	Is resilient and adaptive to changing conditions	
(s)	Offers fair value creation and working conditions.	¦ ↓ Goals
0	Protects human well-being and health, and is accessible to all.	Desired system



(Ospina, 2015)

Pattern language

'Patterns involve a generic set of ingredients and possible solutions, translatable to a wide range of conditions.' (Alexander et al., 1976)

Breaks down complexity into easily understood 'blocks of knowledge'.



A set of requirements - organised hierarchically

Represented in a network of solutions you can start anywhere!

(adapted from: Hausleitner, 2021)

agro - industrial optimize system, diminish externalities





agro - ecological transform system, avoid externalities







1. Five scales of actions

() N	T = transcalar		
$\oplus \oplus$	P = program / principle		
0	F = farm		micro
<u></u> ○●	N = network		meso
\bigcirc	R = region		macro

2. Title of pattern

3. The colors refer to the three different types of actions defined to achieve circulairty.

- Blue = systemic circularity
- Green = territorial circularity
- Red = promoting circularity
- 4. Hypothesis of what patterns implies
- 5. Representative image

6. Related patterns, indicates connection to other patterns.

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Scales of action



VI. systemic design - prototype solutions

ł۶ ł4

13

12

0-0

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Higher level pattern (reprinted from Salingaros, 2000, p.156)





VI. systemic design - prototype solutions







Hierarchical connections patterns (reprinted from Salingaros, 2000, p.156)



RQ2:

Circular agriculture patterns that harvest the synergies & closed cycles

- I Consist of several scales of actions
- II Consist of higher level and lower level patterns
- III Build one connected framework (language), connections exist both on the same levels, and across levels
- IV Help to render facets of circularity (e.q. social & systemic) to the territory by addressing required spatial conditions







Two groups of patterns are too far apart in scale (reprinted from Salingaros, 2000, p.156) Higher level pattern (reprinted from Salingaros, 2000, p.156) Hierarchical connections patterns (reprinted from Salingaros, 2000, p.156)



(Ospina, 2015)

Collaboratively



Individually





Collaboratively



Individually







0

VI. systemic design - test solutions

Vision Foodvalley (policy documents)

- circular, healthy & connected



Agriculture transition & short chains











Priortize patterns > common goals or vision









P.4 DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

RELATED PATTERNS T1, T3, R1, R2, R7, N1, F2, F3 N.1 BLURRING BOUNDARY





N.3 PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES

Circular agri







Collaboratively



Individually



Vision

Design > with selected patterns



Design



Detailing > with additional patterns





Adding patterns


Small scale design













Depending on the selection of the patterns, regenerative circular developments can look like this...



F.7 P.7



RQ3: Strategy to facilitate co - creation circular developments

- I Consists of co -creation workshop that use patterns to enable solution oriented dialogue between private & public parties
- II Prioritizes certain patterns, according to (common) goals
- III Connects patterns to existing spatial conditions / structures
- IV Adds detail by incorporating related patterns
- V The designer can use the results as input to create a design for the area.









(Ospina, 2015)

RQ4: Evaluation circular approach -- qualitative



Design conclusions:

1. Outline various options in a co-creative process, allowing discussion of future development options.

2. Take advantage of the location's existing conditions.

3. Connect different scales. Assign each stakeholder the appropriate level of action.

4. Connect different functions in a spatial and social way.

5. Enhance spatial diversity to create synergies.

RQ4: Evaluation circular approach quantitative



Operates on the basis of renewable energy and is CO2 neutral.

PRODUCTIVE **N.3 LANDSCAPES HYPOTHESIS** Circular agricultural production in the Foodvalley region necessitates the generation of renewable energy on a local / regional scale.

Indicator



1 wind turbine $(400 \times 450 \text{ m}) = 5.3 \text{ GWh} / \text{year}$ = 3000 households per year



1 wind turbine = 28.000 solar panels (9 ha) = 20 soccer fields



1 wind turbine = manure from 2.354 cows





ecological impact

economical impact

- The framework and associated methods can be used to incorporate circularity into spatial plans for the territory (adressing social, ecological & spatial context).

- Using circular agriculture patterns, which represent strategic design solutions, that increase the regenerative capacity of the socio - ecological metabolism.

- Provide space for solution oriented dialogue between stakeholders. By employing these patterns in a co - creation strategy, that enables patterns to be embedded in the context of the Foodvalley region.

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Usable for other territories facing similar societal challenges, as patterns identify a solution to recurring problems, transferable to a wide range of conditions.

Urban designer becomes mediator in the process. When actors are engaged, the design becomes significantly more valuable.

Designing 'with' circularity vs. designing circularity. How can circularity improve both resource efficiency as well as environmental, spatial and social quality.

Thank you. Are there any questions?

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