6_Community-based planning and social innovation

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Looking to transition puts community-based practices and social innovation at the center of the debate. Both as an answer to direct local needs and as a possible start for more structural transformations.
However, the idea that local processes of collective learning and action may lead to structural transformations cannot be taken for granted.
Community-based practices and social innovation is a challenging field. In terms of institutional analysis, it is concerned with new ways of collaboration between governance levels, managing diversity, understanding power differences and creatively organizing such collaboration in order to successfully support the political significance of collective action.
Dealing with this complexity often results in a structural ambivalence of local planning initiatives, leading to discussions on the democratic character of community-based planning, the possible regressive outcomes of collaborative approaches, the unclarity of what kind of processes generate a 'community', or the possibilities that local socially innovative trajectories get hijacked by dominant institutional forces.

In this track we'll try to critically understand the relevance of community-based planning and social innovation for planning practice. More specifically, we're interested in research papers that engage with one or more of the following topics:

● Research approaches, methods and cases that generate actionable knowledge aimed at challenging structural transformations from a community-based planning perspective
● Ways to further operationalize a bottom-linked-governance approach in social innovation research
● A further operationalization of collective learning as an important concept to deal with the political significance of complexity
● The role of planning in supporting socially innovative practices and the importance of a reflexive positionality
● Critical understanding of the ideas behind 'transition' for planning practice and research
● Discussion on the epistemological challenges of community-based practices and social innovation research

Keywords: social innovation, conflict, inclusive capacity, space of autonomy, diversity, neighbourhoods, participation, bottom-up processes, actionable knowledge.