SDG VISION PATH
Exploring and shaping paths to a sustainable future

sdg.visionpath.at

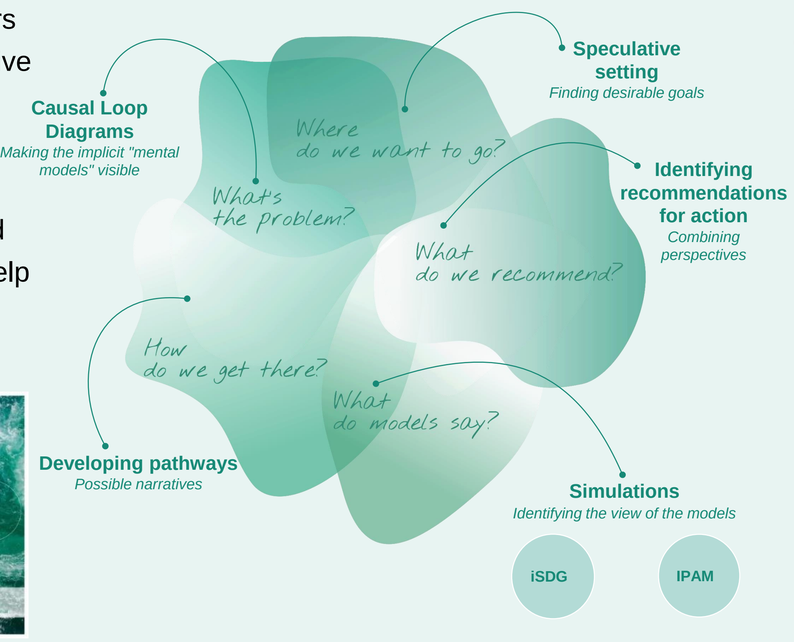
The project

We develop transformation paths for future visions to achieve the SDG goals:

Methods: we apply different processes of knowledge integration with stakeholders and experts and link them with qualitative and quantitative modeling approaches (iSDG & IPAM)

Goal: identify transformation paths and recommendations for action with the help of systems thinking

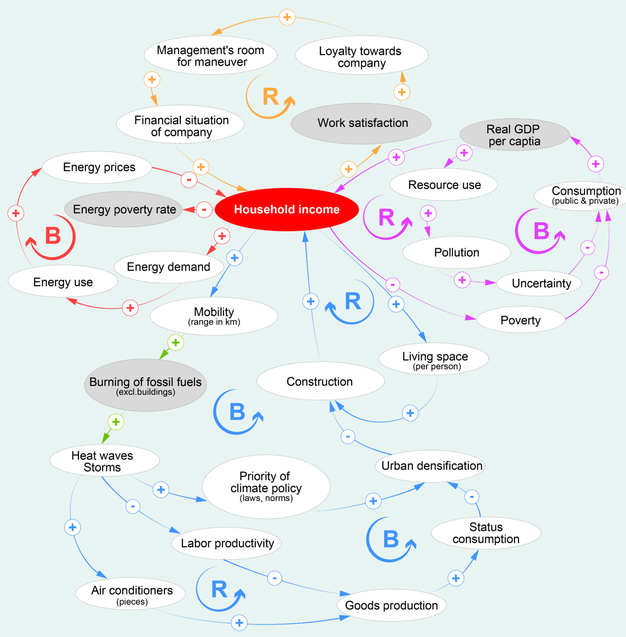
Community of Practice: process-accompanying cocreation: various exchange formats and handouts



Workshop 1:
What's the problem?
Causal Loop Diagrams (CLDs)

Making the implicit "mental models" of stakeholders and experts visible

Overall CLD



Legend for the overall CLD figure

Symbols
+ Variable A and variable B change together in the same direction: if A becomes more, B becomes more or if A becomes less, B becomes less
- The change in variable A and variable B go in opposite directions: if A falls, B rises or if A rises, B falls.

Feedback Loops: R - reinforcing loop B - balancing loop

Color of the arrows symbolize impact chains from the individual SDGs:
Red: SDG1 (energy poverty) **Blue:** SDG13 (GHG buildings) **Green:** SDG13 (GHG total)
Pink: SDG8 (real GDP/capita) **Orange:** SDG8 (work satisfaction)

Main conclusions

The CLDs reflect the experts' understanding of the system

Household income: links all individual CLDs together → decisive variable

Synergies: between real GDP/capita (SDG8), job satisfaction (SDG8) and reduction of the energy poverty rate (SDG1/10)

Trade-offs: between climate protection (SDG13) and all other SDGs

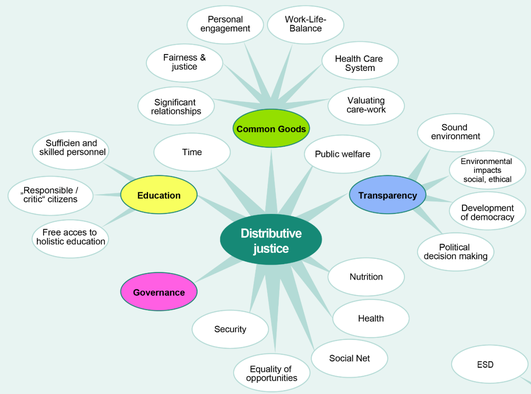
Possible tendency towards **"Limits to Growth"** in the system picture due to environmental pollution

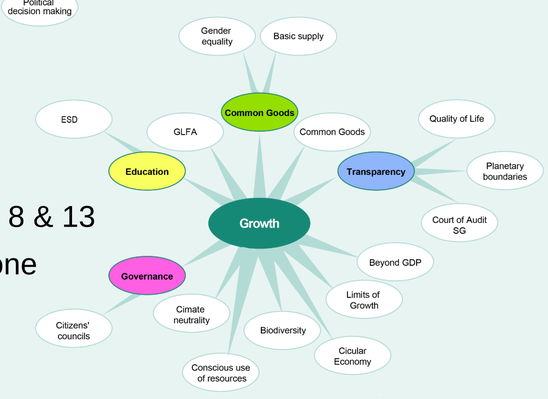
Figure above: CLD developed during the stakeholder workshop

Workshop 2:
Where do we want to go?
Speculative setting

Finding desirable goals

Speculative setting: with the help of gamification and fictitious "future panels", visions and goals for a desirable future were developed and formulated in the form of collages for newspaper articles.





A sustainable future ("in a nutshell")…

- fulfills and considers the interactions of SDGs 1/10, 8 & 13
- provides an adequate "work life balance" for everyone
- ensures "gender equality"
- preserves "biodiversity"
- conserves "resources via a circular economy"
- ensures that institutional measures are provided to support the transition, e.g., education, transparency, governance

Workshop 3:
How do we get there?
Developing pathways

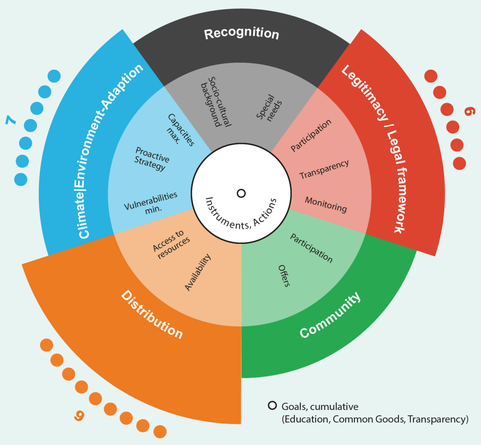
Possible narratives of transformation paths to achieve the vision

Creation of **narratives:**

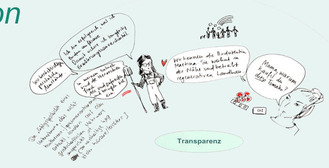
(1) **Creating** stories: Why were the goals not achieved?

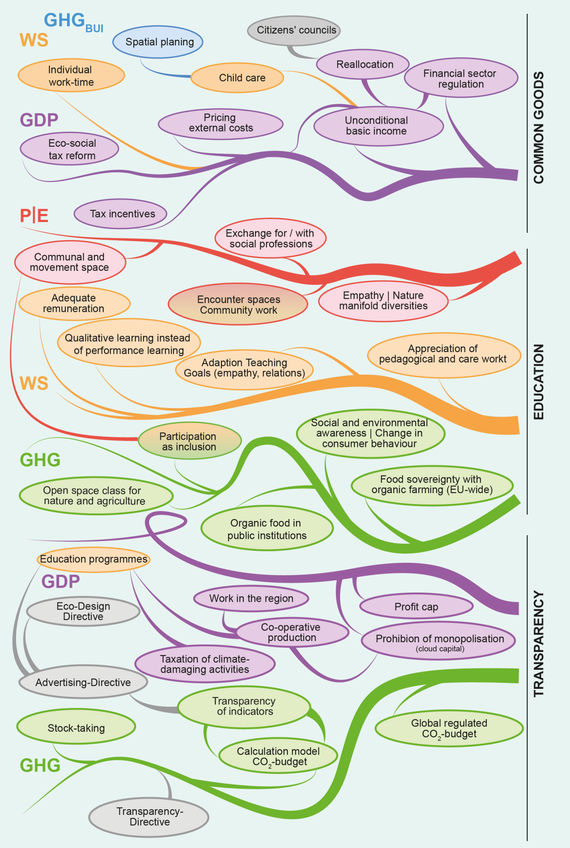
(2) **Inverting** stories: How was the path achieved from a retrospective perspective?

(3) Identification of **conflict and positive potentials** with IPAM (see figure below)



(4) Creation of a **timeline of measures** along the visions and SDG indicators (see figure on the right)





Legend for timeline of measures figure:
Red (P|E): SDG1 (energy poverty); **Blue (GHG_{Bui}):** SDG13 (GHG buildings);
Green (GHG): SDG13 (GHG total); **Pink (GDP):** SDG8 (real GDP/capita);
Orange (WS): SDG8 (work satisfaction)

Workshop 4:
What do we recommend?
Identifying recommendations for action

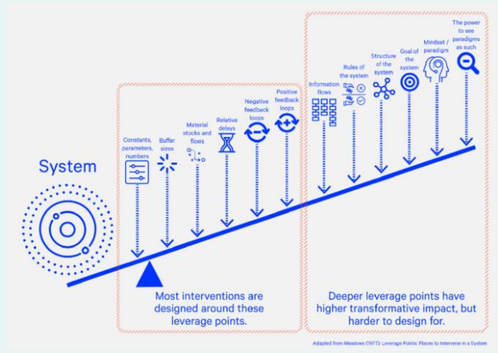
Combining the perspectives of stakeholders, experts and models

In a final workshop, we will compare the measures recommended by the stakeholders and experts with those of the models (iSDG, IPAM):

- Where are they similar? Where are the biggest differences?
- Are there any blind spots that the models have overlooked or that they cannot capture?

We will work on this in an interactive setting:

- identify a consensus for **recommendations for action and leverage points**
- highlight where there is **potential for conflict and improvement**



What do the models say?
Simulation and analysis

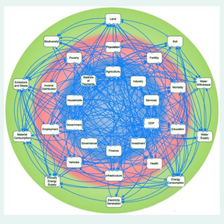
Identifying the view of the models

iSDG-AT – quantitative modelling

iSDG-AT is a quantitative simulation model for Austria based on **system dynamics**

It can simulate **political measures** and their impact on **SDG interactions**

Results can be presented in a stakeholder-friendly way using an **interactive tool**



IPAM – qualitative modelling

The Inequality and Poverty Assessment Model (IPAM) is used to **evaluate implementation measures**

Its purpose is to find **socio-ecological solutions and potential for improvement** to avoid conflicts - "Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)"

IPAM is based on the **SDGs** and their targets for achieving the necessary turnarounds

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