

ERSCP 2012: Workshop Design Sheet

Title of Workshop *

Foresight as an Instrument to enhance sustainable development

Subtitle

New Innovation Models enabling sustainable development: Findings from a European Foresight project Objectives.

A presentation regarding the outcomes of an EU foresight project focusing the topic of city driven innovation will be widened by the illustration of a smart city foresight process in Austria and its impact on sustainable urban development.

Short Description of Workshop Outline (max. 2000 characters) *

New Innovation Models enabling sustainable development: Findings from a European Foresight project: The Innovation Futures (INFU) project is a foresight exercise which deals with the emergence of new innovation patterns such as open innovation, user innovation, and community innovation. While these and similar forms of innovation have been discussed intensively in recent years, there is little systematic exploration about possible future innovation landscapes and implications for economy, society and environment. The INFU project shows that many new collaborative and participative forms of innovation are triggered by the aim to achieve a more sustainable development. We present findings from the INFU project and investigate under which conditions new forms of innovation enable to realise more sustainable production and consumption patterns.

„Smart City“ foresight processes enable prospective as well as sustainable urban development: In 2011 about five participative *smart city foresight processes* were carried out by the author. AMSTETTEN 2020+ project exemplarily will point out the high potential of participative foresight approach. It will illustrate how conflicting interests of enterprises, municipalities, NPOs and R&D organizations can be utilized for joint strategy building and a mutual learning process. Focusing on the regional energy system the *smart city* foresight process integrates experts and decision makers from all stakeholders concerned. This allows on the one hand to question current patterns of energy consumption and production and on the other hand to conceptualize a desirable future for our grandchildren in 2050. The last step of *smart city* process challenged the stakeholders to define concrete actions in order to reach accepted targets of 2050 and 2020 via coordinated actions up till 2015. The specific approach of overall foresight process is based on the insight that conceptualization and implementation of complex urban strategies and concepts gain a lot from a user innovation approach. This means that a successful implementation of actions and thereby sustainable urban and regional development depends on the ability of municipalities to engage all stakeholders concerned to take responsibility for solving grand challenges.

Expected Outcomes and Results

Overview of future forms of innovation realizing more sustainable production and consumption patterns. Knowledge about benefit and key success factors for user innovation within urban foresight processes.

Input 1

Title: New Innovation Models enabling sustainable development

Presenter: Univ. Doz., Karl-Heinz Leitner PhD; Austrian Institute of Technology

Input 2

Title: „Smart City“ foresight processes enable prospective as well as sustainable urban development.

Presenter: Doris Wilhelmer PhD, MAS; Austrian Institute of Technology