Visions for Post Carbon Cities

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The Role of cities for post carbon transitions

Cities are
“… responsible for 75 per cent of global energy consumption and 80 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions …” (United Nations (2007), “City planning will determine pace of global warming”)
The Role of Visions for Post Carbon Transitions

Transitions require new orientations; new images of the city provide the necessary orientation for informing directions of short and medium term decisions.
Visions, Foresight, Scenarios

“systematic, participatory, future-intelligence-gathering, and medium-to-long-term vision-building process ... enabling present-day decisions and mobilizing joint actions” (EFP 2001)

Foresight activities intend to create a platform to think about, debate, and shape the future with stakeholders, not to predict the future.

Scenarios are a means for examining the factors and trends that form future developments.
Pocacito (POst CArbon CIties for TOmorrow)
POCACITO Vision Workshops

Initial Assessment
• presenting the results of initial assessment
• stakeholders decide on key challenges
• key challenges can then be presented in the visioning WS

Visioning
• presenting the key challenges
• presenting a European context scenario
• stakeholders develop a local post-carbon vision for 2050

Backcasting
• presenting the local post-carbon vision as end-point
• stakeholders identify obstacles and opportunities
• stakeholders define milestones
• stakeholders agree on actions
• optional: test of robustness of recommendations under variation of context scenario
Visions: Focus and Complexity
Methods: participatory Backcasting

1. Define a normative “desired” end point (the vision from the previous visioning workshop)

2. Consider potential obstacles and opportunities in reaching the end point
Results: Scenarios: Actions planned
Examples of actions by sector & type

Transport

- Rules
- Plans
- Emission Reduction
- Energy Efficiency
- Carbon Free Transport
Examples of actions by sector & type

Energy

- Generation
- Transport
- Industry
- Building
- Public use
- Plans/Performance
- Incentives

[Image of solar panels and green buildings]
Examples of actions by sector & type

**Land**

- Planning
- Re-use
- Building
- Quality/efficiency

Reuse and transform
Examples of actions by sector & type

Food Production

- Self Sufficiency
- Energy Consumption
- Education
Conclusions

Conceiving decarbonization as a complex issue for urban transformation, many sectors become prominent:

• Transport and mobility,
• Economic development
• Urban form and infrastructure
• Energy production and efficiency
• Social justice
Thank you