The Transition Movement – How can we reimagine our economy?

Nachhaltigkeitswochen Hochschulen Ba-Wü
Frank Braun
Ko-Kreis Transition Deutschland und Mitglied im global Hubs-Heart-Circle

May 13th, 2021
Transition Towns – A global network without hierarchy

What is the impact for us?

PEAK OIL

How can we prepare?

Climate Change

Economic Crisis
A brief history . . .

Transition Towns launched in Totnes in September 2006

• if we wait for the governments, it'll be too little, too late

• if we act as individuals, it'll be too little

• but if we act as communities, it might just be enough, just in time
Who we are

Tran • si • tion [tran – zish – uhn]

n. 1. passage from one form, state, style or place to another
2. a period of transformation.

- Today Transition is a movement of around 2000 communities coming together to reimagine and rebuild our world.

- It is about communities stepping up to address the big challenges they face by starting local. By coming together, they are able to crowd-source solutions. They seek to nurture a caring culture, one focused on supporting each other, both as groups or as wider communities.
Three key concepts

- **Resilience**: ‘the property of a material to absorb energy when it is deformed elastically and then, upon unloading to have this energy recovered.’ and or ‘the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.’

- **Ecological citizenship**: intrinsic and ethical motivations towards protecting the environment

- **Critique**: the importance of political economy
Finding a balance between these:

- **The Head**: we act on the basis of the best information and evidence available and apply our collective intelligence to find better ways of living.

- **The Heart**: we work with compassion, valuing and paying attention to the emotional, psychological, relational and social aspects of the work we do.

- **The Hands**: we turn our vision and ideas into a tangible reality, initiating practical projects in the place we live.
Transition in Practice: Inner Transition

The changes we need to make within ourselves to transition to the more caring, equitable, beautiful, sustainable and resilient world our hearts are longing for

- We need to recognize that we live in a failing system to embrace the necessary change
- How do we define wealth for ourselves?
- Focus on culture, processes, structures and relationships
Transition International
Shared governance in a global network

- We build our organization on Sociocracy, a free social technology for growing agile and resilient organizations (see https://sociocracy30.org)
- We work through self-organized, connected circles
- We use consent decision-making and elections-by-consent
Transition in Practice: REconomy
Exploring the potential of community-led economic change

Key question: How can we help ensure that our local economies support the changes we want to see in the world?

- Foundation of new enterprises i.e. community owned energy companies and food businesses
- Food councils
- Developing local currency projects to support local enterprises
- Setting up ‘buy local’ campaigns
- Gift economy

See [http://reconomy.org](http://reconomy.org)
Make good things visible: Mapping for Good
Make good things visible: Mapping for Good

The Transition Group Bluepingu e.V. in Nürnberg also published a book about the map with great success. To date there is the third edition of the book.
Share, exchange, give
Transform economy

Do we want to use things................. Or do we want to own things?
Deposit systems for coffee cups, car sharing, refill ....
Zerowaste Groups
Transform economy
Gift economy: LeihBu

The LeihBu is a Guide for the Share Economy

Over 80 projects and NGO are listed, who all have in common to promote sharing and/or elements of a gift economy.
Cargobike for all

Rethink mobility:
Use a cargo bike instead of a car!

The vision is to have cargo bikes available for rent free of charge
Transition in Practice: Municipalities in Transition

Create a clear framework for how Transition groups and municipalities can create sustainable change together

1. Research existing examples to collaboration between civil society and public administrations

2. Co-design a framework and set of tools based on existing experience that can support the transition process at the municipal level (to be tested in several pilot case studies)

3. Create a thriving community of practice to share learnings and reach out to decision-makers

See: https://municipalitiesintransition.org
People build their local SDG Transformation agenda: [https://sdgsgolocal.de](https://sdgsgolocal.de)
Transform communities: Nürnberg Metropolitan Area with 3 Million people became first Fairtrade Region
Work beyond organizational boundaries: Cities for Future i.e. Nürnberg

A network of 26 NGO‘s collaborating to create change: https://nuernbergforfuture.de
Transform the public space: Upzigle

Raising awareness how toxic cigarette buds are: [http://www.upzigle.de](http://www.upzigle.de)
People democracy:
Creation of a food policy council
and eatable city project

Reclaiming the local food economy

https://ernaehrungsraete.org
Urban gardening: Urban gardens connect heart, mind and hand

alles weitere unter: http://www.stadtgarten-nuernberg.de
Interesting Links

- The Transition Network Website: [https://transitionnetwork.org/about-the-movement/](https://transitionnetwork.org/about-the-movement/)
- Transition Germany: [https://www.transition-initiativen.org/standorte](https://www.transition-initiativen.org/standorte)
- Mapping for good: [https://kartevonmorgen.org/#](https://kartevonmorgen.org/#)
- Refill: [https://www.refill.org.uk/about/](https://www.refill.org.uk/about/)
- Free cargo-bike rental: [https://lastenradfueralle.de](https://lastenradfueralle.de)
- Sociocracy (free social technology for growing agile and resilient organizations): [https://sociocracy30.org](https://sociocracy30.org)
- Liberating Structures (Methods for including and unleashing everyone): [http://www.liberatingstructures.com](http://www.liberatingstructures.com)
- Open source collaboration without Google: [https://wechange.de](https://wechange.de)
- WIR-tschacht: [https://wir-tschacht.jetzt](https://wir-tschacht.jetzt)
- Commons Institut: [https://commons-institut.org](https://commons-institut.org)
Fragen?
Frank Braun
Mitglied im Ko-Kreis Transition Deutschland e.V.

Herrnhüttestr. 21
90411 Nürnberg
Email: Frank@thebrauns.com
Tele: (0171) 4993272