Seeds of change

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Means to enhance transformative change

- **Bring people into a broad societal transformative alliance**
  - out of your comfort zone
  - talk with people who
    - do not share the same interests and values
    - BUT do share the same narrative: we need to do things differently
- **Establish projects that can show transformative change works and benefits society**
  - success stories are needed to give credibility to the narrative of change.

Storytelling and learning: Seeds of change

Current initiatives with the potential to engender transformative change. Going beyond mapping, measuring and modeling elements and qualities of ecosystems, these initiatives actively challenge existing social, economic, political and technological systems. Not through optimization or efficiency measures, but by changing course.

Currently ongoing

- **MAIN OUTCOMES:**
  - 146 potential Seeds of change were collected but not in alle member states
  - Checklist with 10 questions to support reflection and creative thinking on the key items that can "transitionise" project ideas

- **RESULTS:**

Sector

- hybrid (public-private)
- private
- public

26%

56%

18%

Geographical scale

- multiple scales
- inter/transnational
- local
- national
- regional

15%

23%

20%

16%

26%
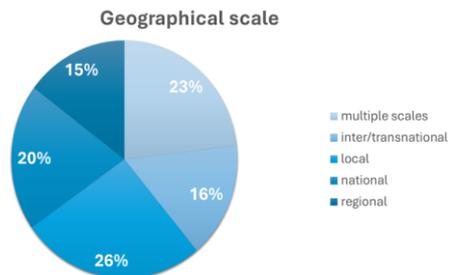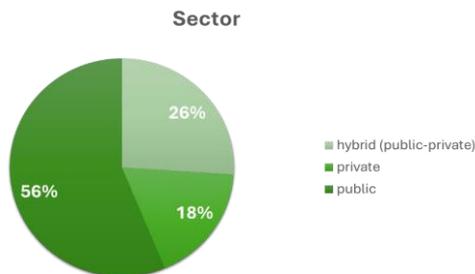
Average score per quality

|	
The initiative is guided by a collective and inspiring long-term vision on the sustainable use or functioning of ecosystems.	4,11 — Langsigtet vision
It generates diverse co-benefits for different stakeholders.	3,83 — Fælles fordele
The initiative goes beyond informing stakeholders, towards actual/deep involvement of stakeholders in co-defining problems and co-creating sustainable solutions.	3,80 — Co-creation
The initiative involves a wide range of stakeholders in society who bring (very) different values, perspectives and/or knowledge to the table.	3,65 — Forskellige stakeholders
The initiative promotes and experiments with a diversity of solutions, strategies or pathways to improve ecosystem services and conditions, including unconventional/radically different solutions.	3,58 — Afsøger forskellige løsninger

The initiative stimulates joint reflection on the root causes of the problem, and dedicates a significant amount of time and effort to the collective learning process.

The initiative challenges established 'mental models' (any sort of concept, framework, or worldview that people have to explain life).

To create leverage for structural change (in policy, markets, culture etc.) the initiative actively connects to other projects and/or broader coalitions of actors.

The initiative actively supports (other) policy makers, companies, communities etc, who are not directly involved in the initiative, in adopting/developing new approaches and revising existing policies

Next to more established parameters for measuring biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, the initiative also assesses less tangible, qualitative aspects such as perception shifts, changing behavior

3,36

3,22

3,12

3,10

2,96

Fælles lære proces

Ny 'mental model'

Samarbejde andre projekter & aktører

Støtter beslutningstagere

Ændrede opfattelser og adfærd

6

Some examples

Slovenia/Sweden/Greece | Study circles

"Study circles has this role (seed of change) ever since. The focus of change has been changing itself - e.g. they started with the focus of democratisation of society, later focused to foster learning in all life-stages and empowering marginal target groups, now stimulating participation and green transition - but still keeping past accents."

Belgium | : 6-Week program Nature Connectedness

"in mental well-being, nature connectedness appears to provide health benefits that exceed the (already well documented) benefits of contact with nature. The program combines individual nature exercises with weekly group meetings in a green environment to exchange experiences and be motivated to keep up the program

Latvia | Removing obstacles from rivers

"Public interest wins over narrow economic interests" + "Seed to other new seeds - the success story of Lielā Jugla river as an inspiration for others to free their nearby rivers from obstacles"

Albania | Save the blue heart of Europe

"A special case of successful bottom-up process, where science-based knowledge about the biodiverse river network is becoming legally binding, under the large involvement of the local and international public"

Norway | Tree crown project

"Open source data and applications making this non-proprietary technology that is designed to be adopted by municipal agencies without the need for private consulting services."

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Next steps

- Selection of 27-30 projects for in depth analysis
  - What are the important qualities?
  - Role of the context (growing environment of the seeds)
    - Leverages and barriers

Demonstration projects

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DP01 Spain
Spanish National Strategy for Green Infrastructure and Ecosystem Restoration
Read more →

DP02 Lithuania
Supporting sustainable agricultural practices in the Comprehensive Plan of Lithuania
Read more →   Watch video →

DP03 Italy
Urban Greening Management Plan for the city of Trento
Read more →   Watch video →

DP04 Belgium
The Bosland Forest Project
Read more →

DP05 Belgium
Integration of ecosystem services information on marine and terrestrial spatial planning
Read more →
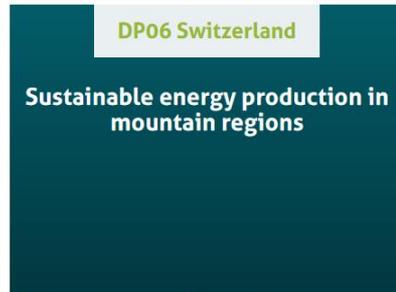
DP06 Switzerland
Sustainable energy production in mountain regions
Read more →   Watch video →

DP07 Latvia
Maritime spatial planning and thematic planning of coastal public infrastructure
Read more →   Watch video →

DP08 Bulgaria
Integration of Urban Heat Islands and ecosystem services in urban and spatial planning
Read more →

Demonstration projects

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DP09 Norway

Integration of public-private ecosystem services knowledge (MAES) in urban planning & design using 'digital twins'

Read more →

DP10 Malta

Integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services to develop nature-based tourism approaches and a tool that supports these approaches

Read more →   Watch video →

DP11 Finland

Integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services to develop nature-based tourism approaches

Read more →

DP12 Norway

Nature risk screening tools in finance: a review of knowledge gaps in biodiversity metric

Read more →

DP13 Italy

Improved management by increasing synergies between farming activities and ecosystem services provided by agroecosystems to foster biodiversity-based agricultural practices

Read more →

DP14 Europe

Guiding future investment in water replenishment and making the business case of biodiversity and ecosystem services strategies to local business

Read more →

DP15 Netherlands

Decision support aimed at balancing natural capital values for a drinking water company managing a dune ecosystem

Read more →   Watch video →

Demonstration projects

- https://project-selina.eu/dps

- Contacts through eran@ign.ku.dk

References

- Davelaar, D. (2021). Transformation for sustainability: a deep leverage points approach. Sustain Sci 16, 727–747. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00872-0

- Grin, J. (2020). 'Doing' system innovations from within the heart of the regime. Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning, 22(5), 691. https://doi.org/10.1080/1523908X.2020.1776099

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