



Creating Utopia & Correcting Dystopia: Innovative Transdisciplinary Contributions



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Plan

1. Introduction: Who's Who
2. Our Habitat: Utopia - Arcadia - Broadacre City -
The Case of Singapore
3. Our Habitat: Dystopia - Urban health risks -
The case of Antwerp
4. Lessons Learned from Utopia and Dystopia
5. Transdisciplinary Contributions
6. Synthesis & Conclusion.



WHO'S WHO

B. Arch (1st class honours)
University of Adelaide, Australia

MA.
University of Cambridge, UK

D.Sc. EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

UNECE, Environment & Planning
Palais des Nations, Geneva

Human Ecology & Environmental Sciences
University of Geneva, Switzerland

- Interdisciplinary & transdisciplinary inquiry
- Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development
- Global Environmental Policy Program (GEPP).

Swiss Academies of Arts & Sciences (2009 -





Creating Utopia & Correcting Dystopia: Lessons from Urban History



“We are called to be architects of the future, not its victims.”

Buckminster Fuller



Creating Utopia & Correcting Dystopia: Lessons from Urban History

Two Main Approaches for Urban Planning

Idealism & Utopianism

Brasilia, Canberra ...

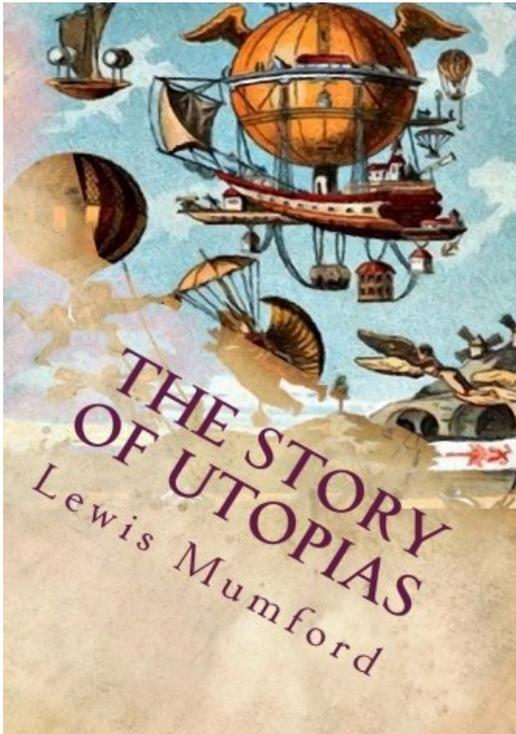
Case: Singapore.

Remedial Measures

19thc. Public Health Movement

Case: Antwerp, Belgium.

... and Tomorrow





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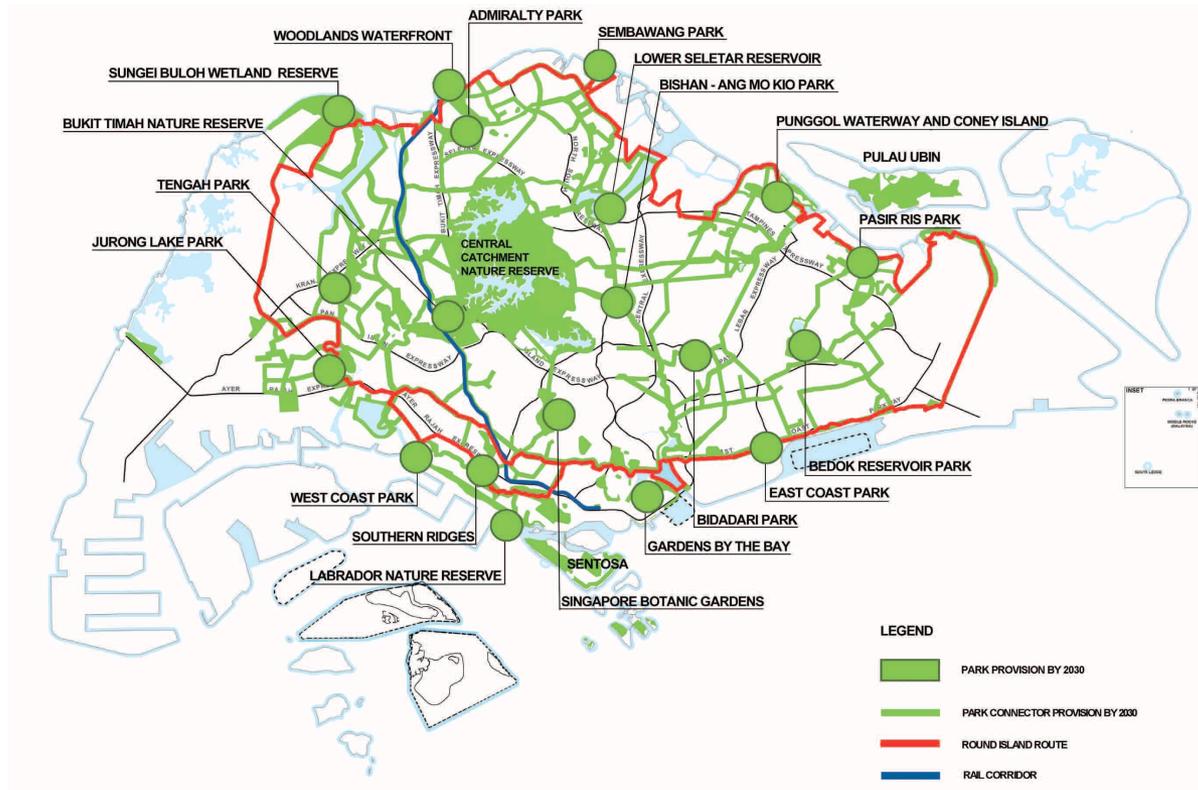


SINGAPORE LANDSCAPE

Source: Photo by Rob Bonner



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Plan of Singapore showing the existing and future provision of public green spaces as a Park Connectors Map for multiple purposes until 2030.

(Source: High Quality Living Environment for All Singaporeans: Land Use Plan to Support Singapore's Future Population. Singapore: Ministry of National Development, p.29) © Urban Redevelopment Authority. All rights reserved).



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SINGAPORE BY NIGHT

Source: Photo by Rob Bonner

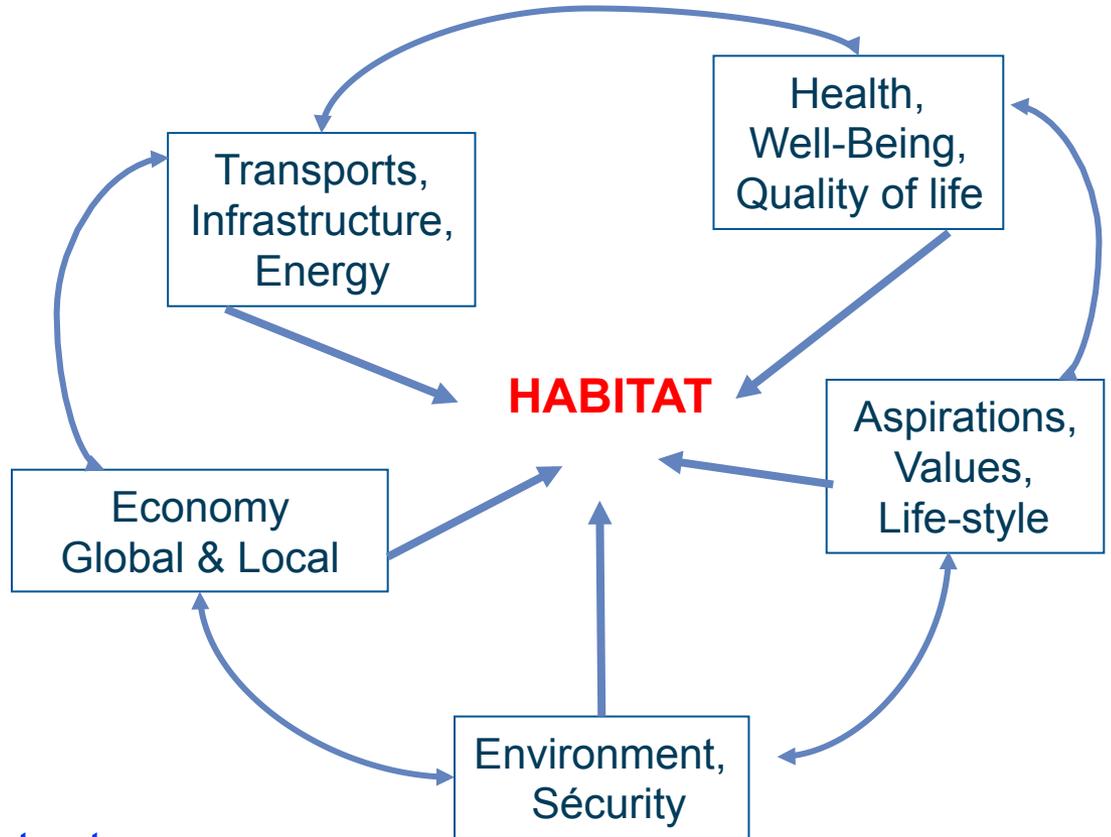


Relational Thinking for Urban Complexity

1. Geo-political level

2. Temporal dimension

3. Cultural & Institutional context





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RINGLAND
PROJECT,
Antwerp,
Belgium.



(Source:
Overview and visual representation of
the 'Ringland' project. Reprinted from
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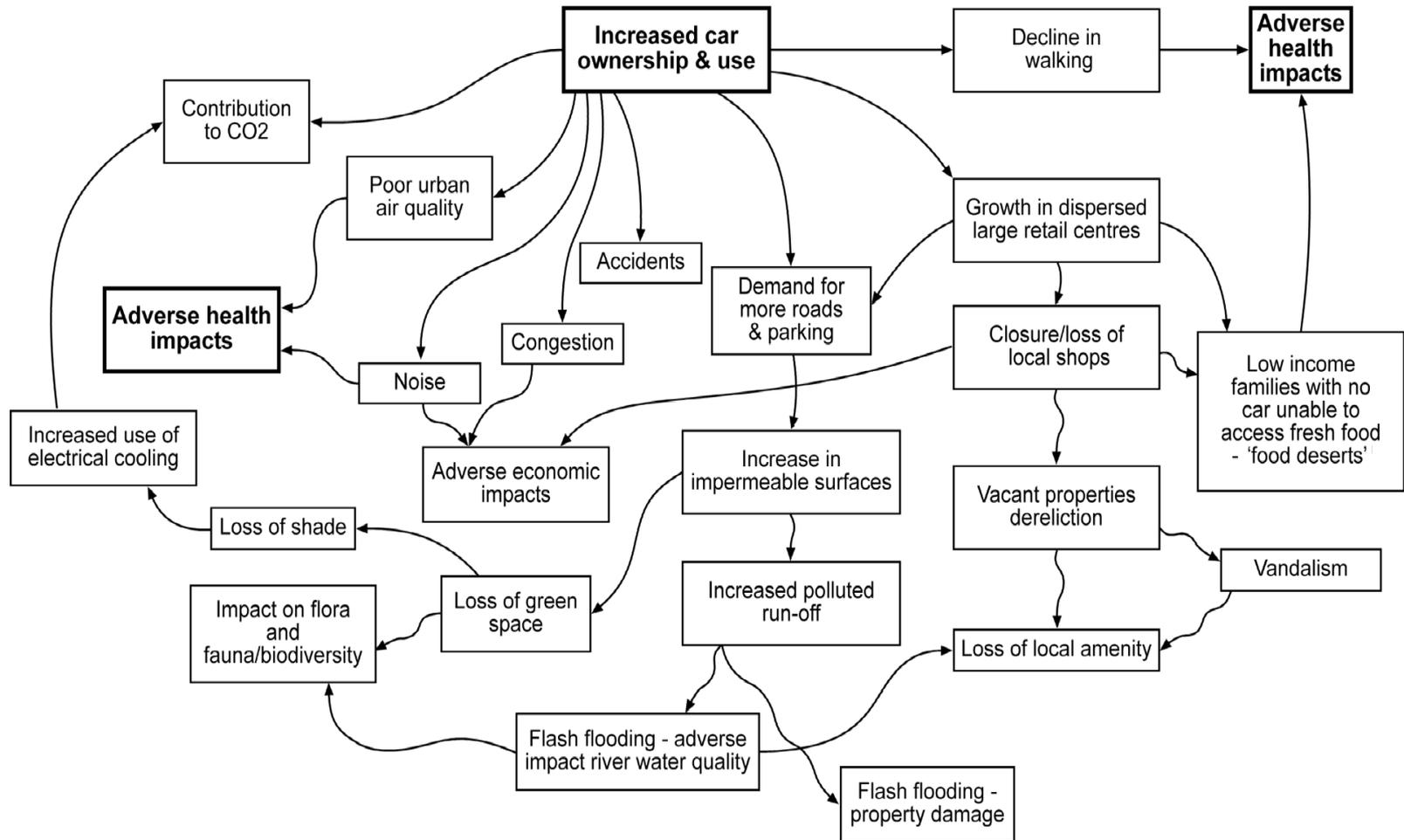
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RINGLAND Project
Antwerp, Belgium

(Source: Overview and visual representation of the 'Ringland' project. Reprinted from 'Ringland' under a CC BY license, with permission from Peter Vermeulen, original copyright 2015).

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‘THE WEB OF CONNECTIONS’

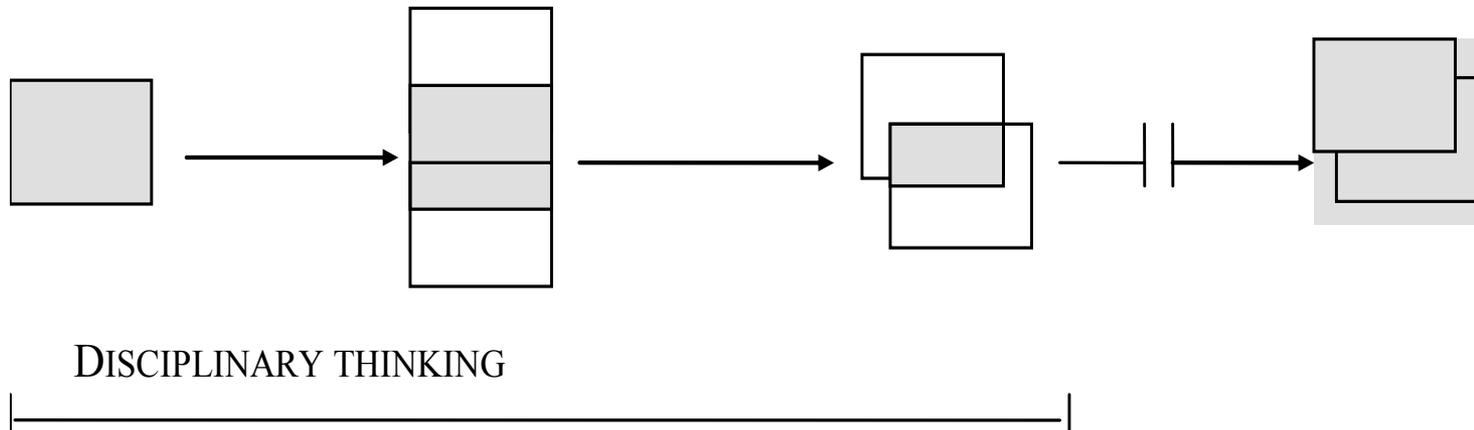


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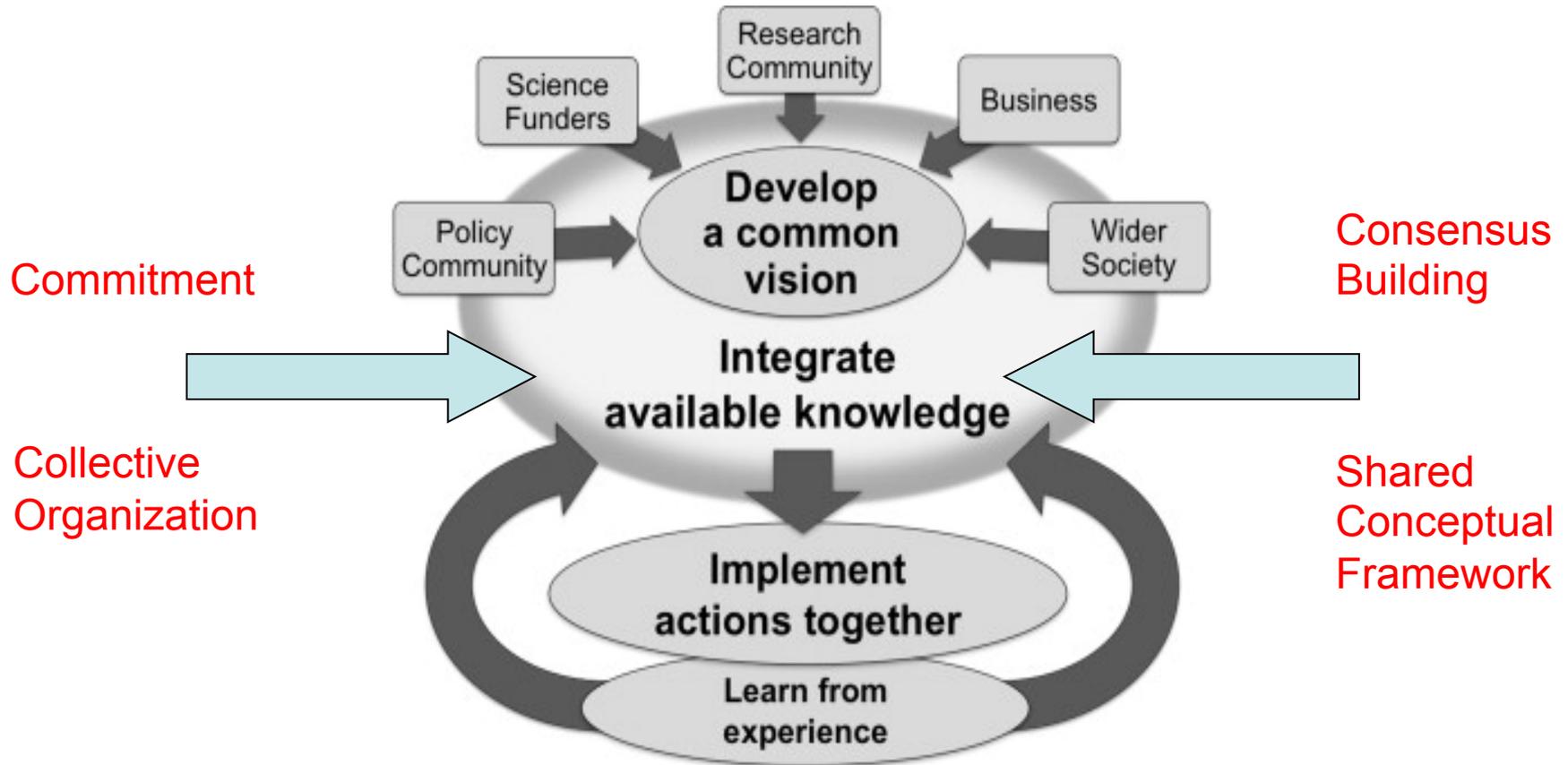
FROM DISCIPLINE TO TRANSDISCIPLINARITY

(BY COURTESY OF THIERRY RAMADIER)

DISCIPLINE MULTIDISCIPLINARITY INTERDISCIPLINARITY TRANSDISCIPLINARITY



Transdisciplinary Contributions



(Source: S. Cornell et al. (2013). Opening up knowledge systems for better responses to global environmental change. *Environmental Science & Policy*, vol. 28: pp.60-70).



Healthy City Design

5 Key Domains: Innovative Responses

- 1. Housing** that promotes well-being for diverse households
- 2. Urban Agriculture** for local food production and consumption
- 3. Inclusive Public Spaces** for healthier lifestyles
- 4. Shifting from Transport Planning to Mobility** for more active living
- 5. Rethinking Connections between Built & Natural environments**
for planetary and human health.



Reference

Swiss Academies of Arts & Sciences

Td-net (<http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch>)

The network was launched in 2000 by the *Swiss Academic Society for Environmental Research and Ecology* ([SAGUF](#)) and taken over by the *Swiss Academy of Sciences* ([SCNAT](#)) in 2003. Since 2008 the *td-net for transdisciplinary research* has been a project of the [Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences](#).

Forthcoming book

Lawrence, R.J. (in press) “*Creating Built Environments: Bridging Knowledge and Practice Divides.*” Routledge: London & New York.



