

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING ASSESSMENT: A STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT CONCEPTUAL MODEL

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Aim

- To investigate contemporary housing governance structures for the approaches involving stakeholders in decision making process.

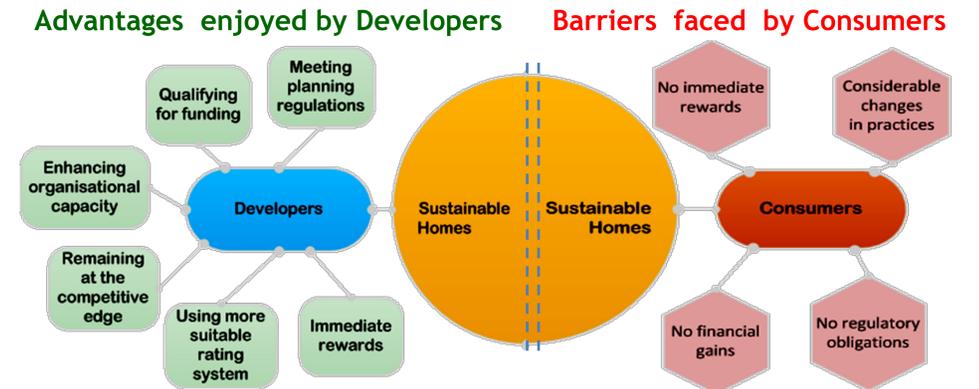
Objectives

- To identify underlying principles and concepts for stakeholder involvement in the governance structure;
- To understand challenges faced by the industry and stakeholders;
- To investigate resources, tools and techniques available for stakeholders to contribute towards the decision-making process.

Methodology

- Extant literature review:
 - UK social housing sector;
 - Socio-technical transitions theory;
 - Strategies for decision-making.

Findings: Fragmentation



Imbalanced articulation of selected pressures and inability of stakeholders to adapt the change.

The challenge is to identify the best course of action for stakeholders and empower them by providing appropriate infrastructure.

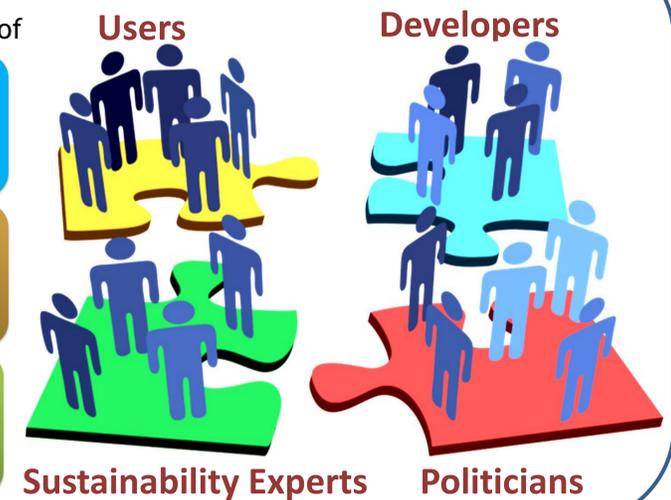
Suggested way forward : Engagement

To increase understanding of

Level of housing sustainability in real time context of societal sustainability

Role of intervention activities at various levels for proposed sustainability targets

Greater involvement of all stakeholders as a collegiate group



Background: Socio-technical regime in HOUSING needs change

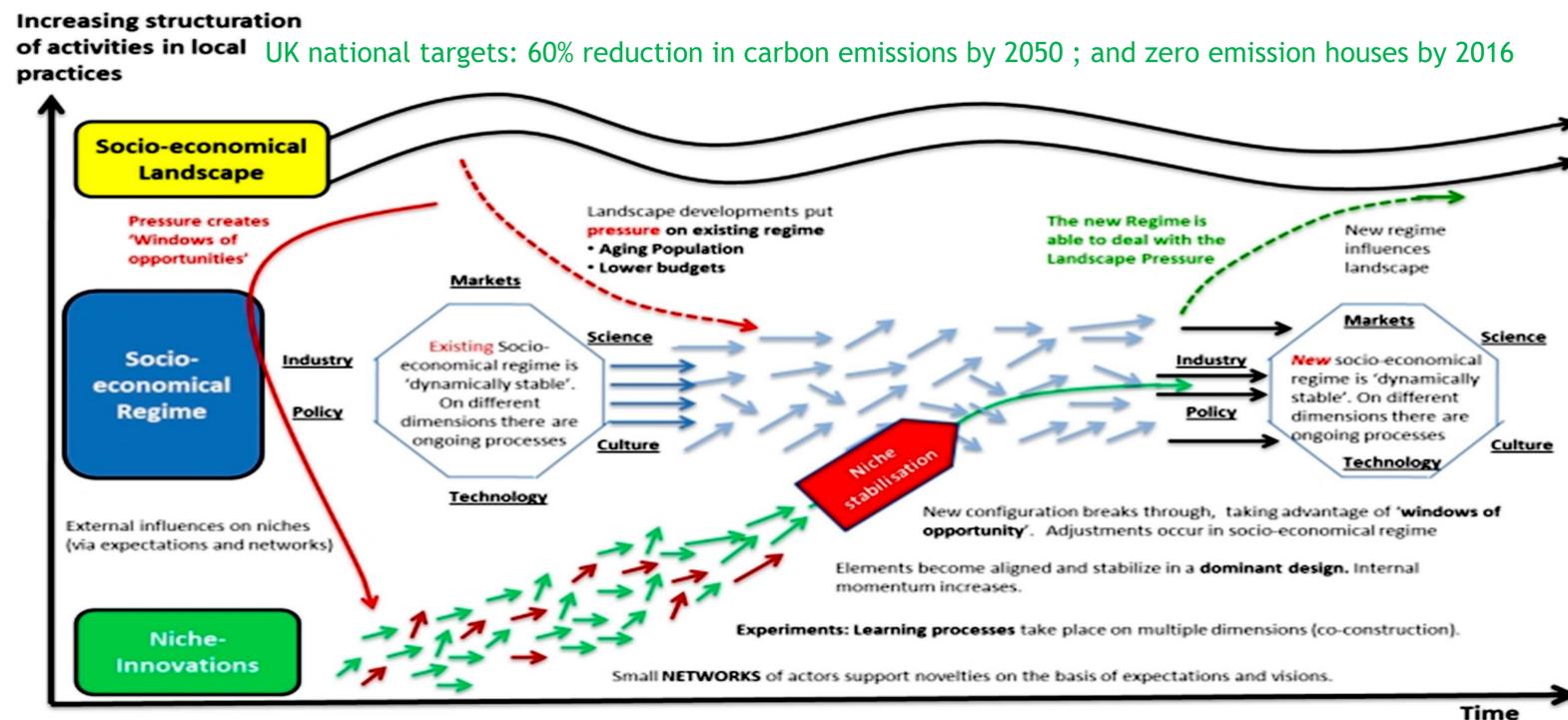


Figure: Based on Geels and Schot (2007)

What are Socio-technical regimes?
They support societal needs such as Housing, Food and Transport (Geels, 2002);
Multi-layered and involve multi-actors in nested hierarchical order (Kemp, 1994; Kemp et al., 1998; Geels, 2004);
Need transition to more sustainable ones (Loorbach and Rotmans 2006).

What is the current situation?
Locked in systems (Rip and Kemp, 1998);
Regime is threatened from landscape and niche level and misalignment amongst regime actors (Geels 2005a)
Radical changes are required in this complex structure (Schot, 1998);

What is needed?
Analytical challenges need to be understood further;
More structured and associated sustainable practices are needed from all stakeholders (Loorbach and Rotmans, 2006).

References

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Loorbach, D. and Rotmans, J. (2006) 'Managing transitions for sustainable development', *Understanding Industrial Transformation*, Springer.

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Conclusion

- Need for a stakeholder engagement conceptual model
- Use system dynamics approach;
- Facilitate learning process;
- Increase responsiveness
- Govern stakeholder activities towards a common sustainability goal.

