

MAR-E1006 PART 1

Final thoughts

Elina Kalliala 12.03.2109

Background: 5 key words of my dissertation

URBAN METABOLISM

SYSTEMS THINKING

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

TRANSFORMATION

OBJECTIVE

How are the topics and discussions related to my research topic?

- What's my approach to definitions we have heard and discussed?
- What's the scope of my research?

What's relevant

...in terms of urban sustainability?

...to dig deeper in terms of my dissertation?

...question(s) in my dissertation?

Some thoughts on the connection between environmental activism and weak sustainability

Environmental activism as a balancing function between weak and strong sustainability.

Can there be too many forms of environmental activism? do they lose their power or result in a wider impact when the range of movements is wider?

The large variety of different forms of Environmental Social Movements can probably balance the situation better than few stronger ones.

Horizontal balancing (Different movements) and vertical actions (top down + bottom up) are both needed in achieving the strong sustainability.

Although the social, cultural and political aspects are relevant in the sustainable cities and communities, these aspects are (probably) not included in my scope.

My aim is to produce objective and transparent information to better understand how cities function to be able to adjust them to be more sustainable.

Some thoughts on the connection between ecological economics and urban metabolism?

As discussed during the session, the economical flows are not included in urban metabolism analyses. However ecological economics is integral to the project of urban metabolism (Ferrao and Ferdinand).

Is it possible that we define the flows that are analyzed in a system and it limits through the knowledge that are or can be influenced by the ecological economic aspects?

And how relevant is urban economy when we try to understand and especially adjust the city's urban metabolism?

Need to read more about ecological economy and urban ecology to be able to define how it is taken into account in my scope.

Some thoughts on the connection between city's social systems / city functions and it's urban metabolism

How relevant are the functions and social systems in city's metabolism? How are they and how should they be taken into account when mapping and defining urban metabolism?

Through urban metabolism we can analyse city system's function and its impacts to the environment rather comprehensively.

To be able to adjust the city as a system we need to understand it's metabolism and how the city functions.

How relevant are social sciences? Fisher-Kowalski & Hütter (1998) argue that we should take the social sciences into account to be able to get a more comprehensive view.

How relevant are the stocks in terms of urban metabolism? (Kennedy 2007) argued them to be relevant. This has been my personal interpretation so I was happy that I found this finding.

As my aim for my research is to find out what is relevant I find these questions very interesting to be explored a bit deeper.

Thank you!