

Futuring Food & Transitioning to Sustainability

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www.sharecity.ie

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Context & SHARECITY Project

- SHARECITY ERC-funded 5 year project
- Practices and sustainability potential of ICT-mediated *food sharing* in urban contexts
- Food sharing: sharing practices around food including collective cooking and eating practices, community gardening and redistributing surplus food, seed sharing, community composting - sharing skills, tools and knowledge around food.
- Cities & food systems in sustainability transitions



SHARECITY Research

- Food sharing addresses many social & sustainability issues of current food system
- Workshops such as SHARING FUTURES & research: governance challenges faced by food sharers
- Challenges in engaging with policy makers on issues of food sharing faced by food sharers and researchers
- Futuring: visualising future scenarios of food sharing as an additional means to engage policy makers on issues of just and sustainable urban food sharing



Approach to Futuring

- Using Three Horizons scanning approach to identify possible futures already existing in the present
- Draw on SHARECITY research to date, and current debates on food futures, develop three possible future scenarios of urban food sharing.
- Work in collaboration with an artist to illustrate each scenario, including development of initial sketches, mood board images and rounds of illustrations.
- Transformative scenarios development, inclusion of marginalised perspectives.



Overview of Scenarios & Characteristics

- Each scenario output mediated by different priorities and choices within urban governance & sustainability

Three possible scenarios:

1. Extension of Business as Usual (some food sharing, but facing challenges, lack of support and resources)
2. 'Desirable Future': Just and Inclusive Sustainability (sustainability within social & environmental aspects)
3. Ecological Modernisation ("greening" growth, but no social justice lens)



Next Steps

- Public Outreach: Youth Writing Competition, “Day in the Life” in Desirable Future scenario
- Policy maker engagement including surveying on the three scenarios
- Academic papers on scenarios development process and engagement with policy makers
- Manifesto for sustainable food sharing
- Further information & updates: www.sharecity.ie



Thank you!

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SHARECITY100

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