



Co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

Stocktaking and assessment of typologies of Urban Circular Collaborative Economy initiatives

ESPONSHARING

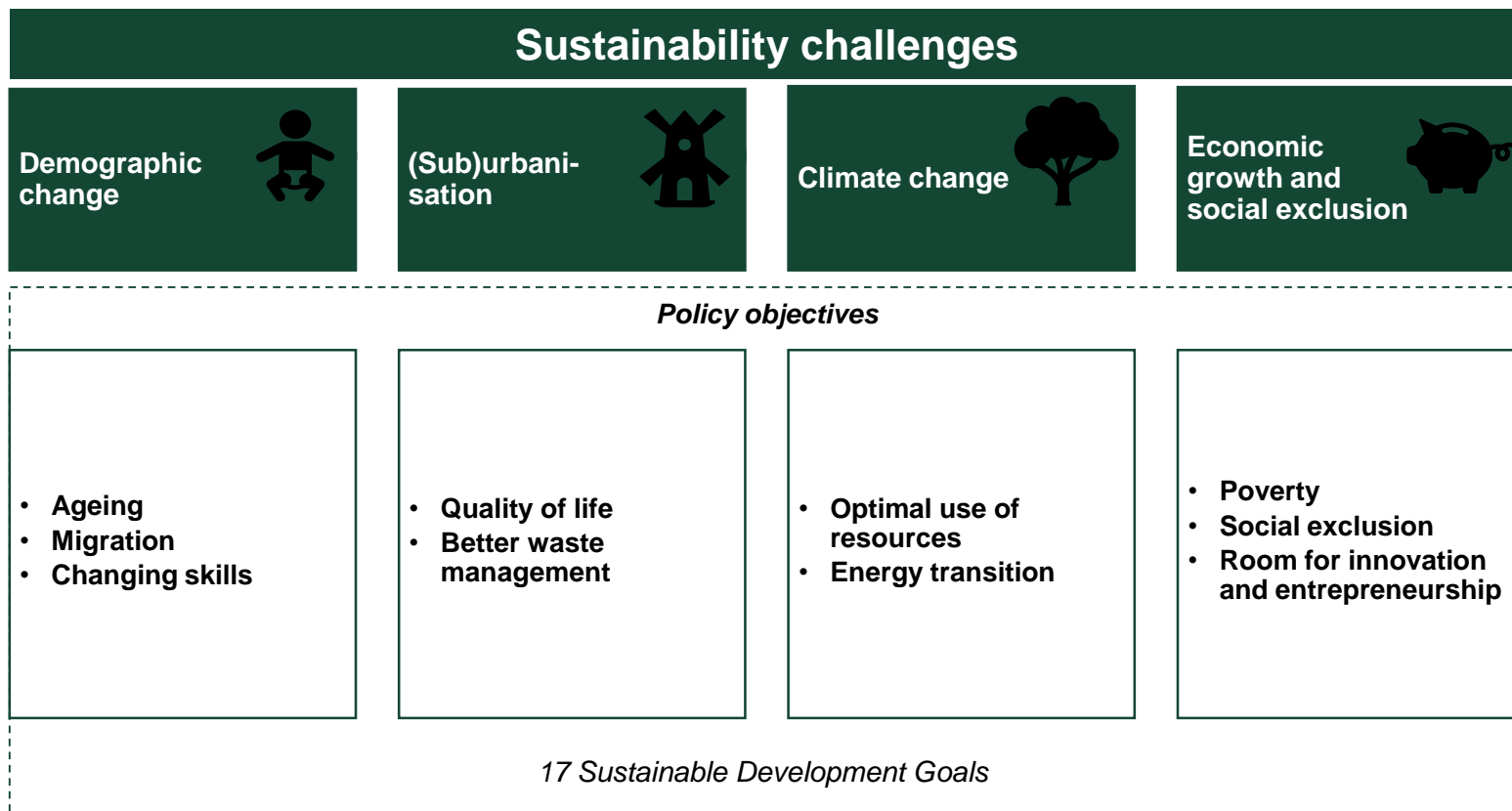
ESPON Seminar

Helsinki, 26th November 2019

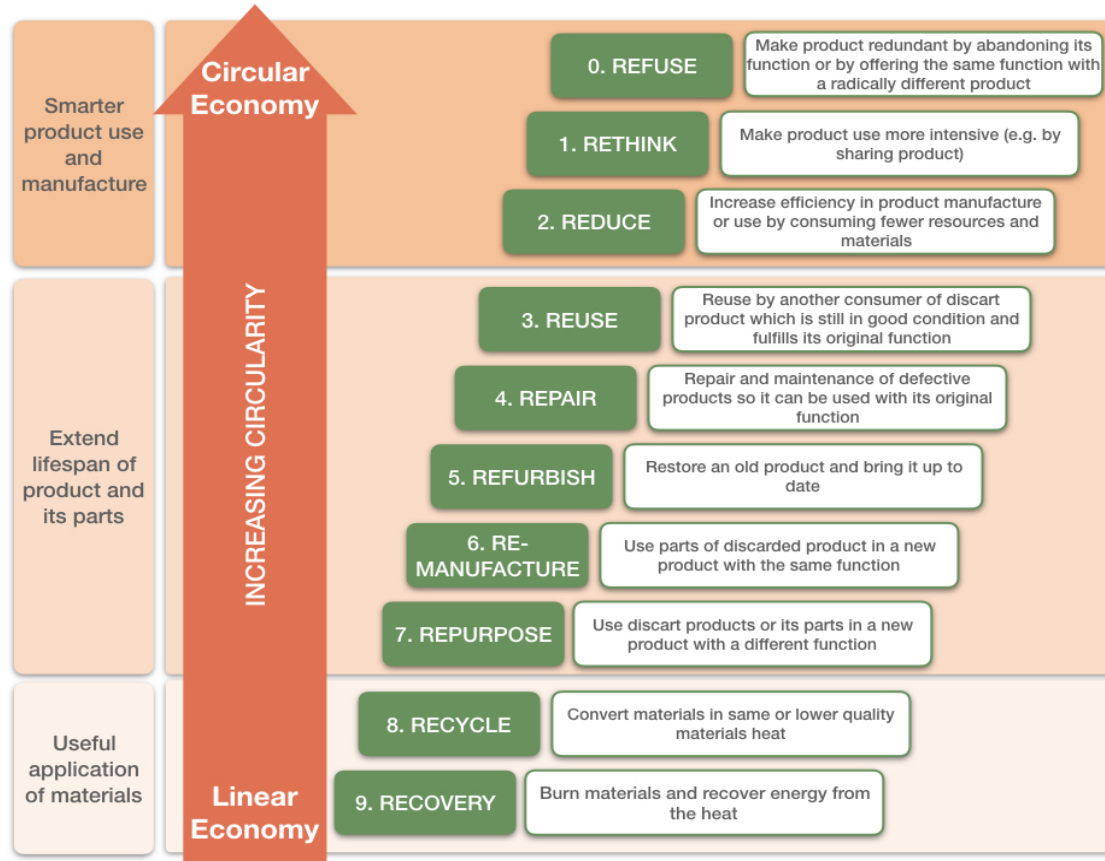
Outline

1. Objectives
2. Circular Economy and Collaborative Economy
3. Added value of the study
4. Impacts of Urban Circular Collaborative Economy Initiatives
5. First recommendations

Why? Objectives of the study

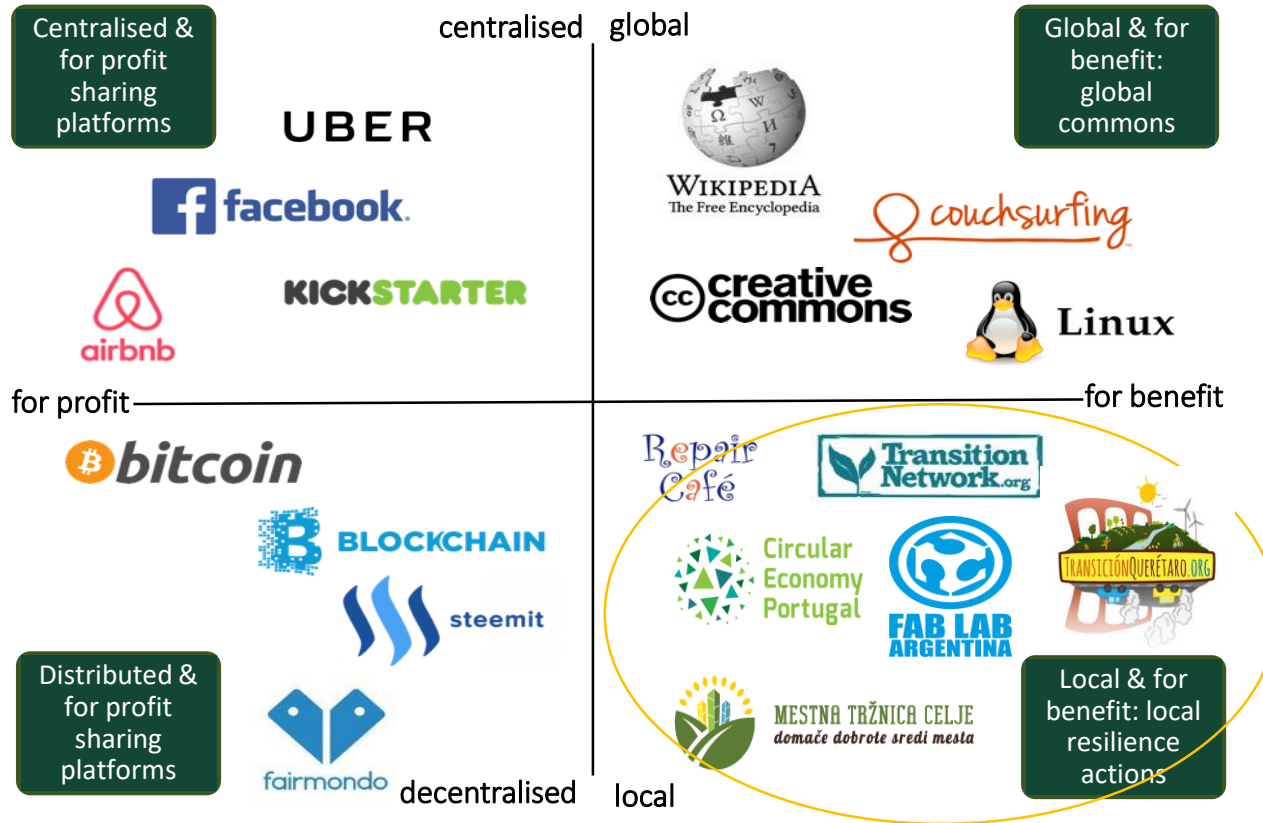


What? The circular economy



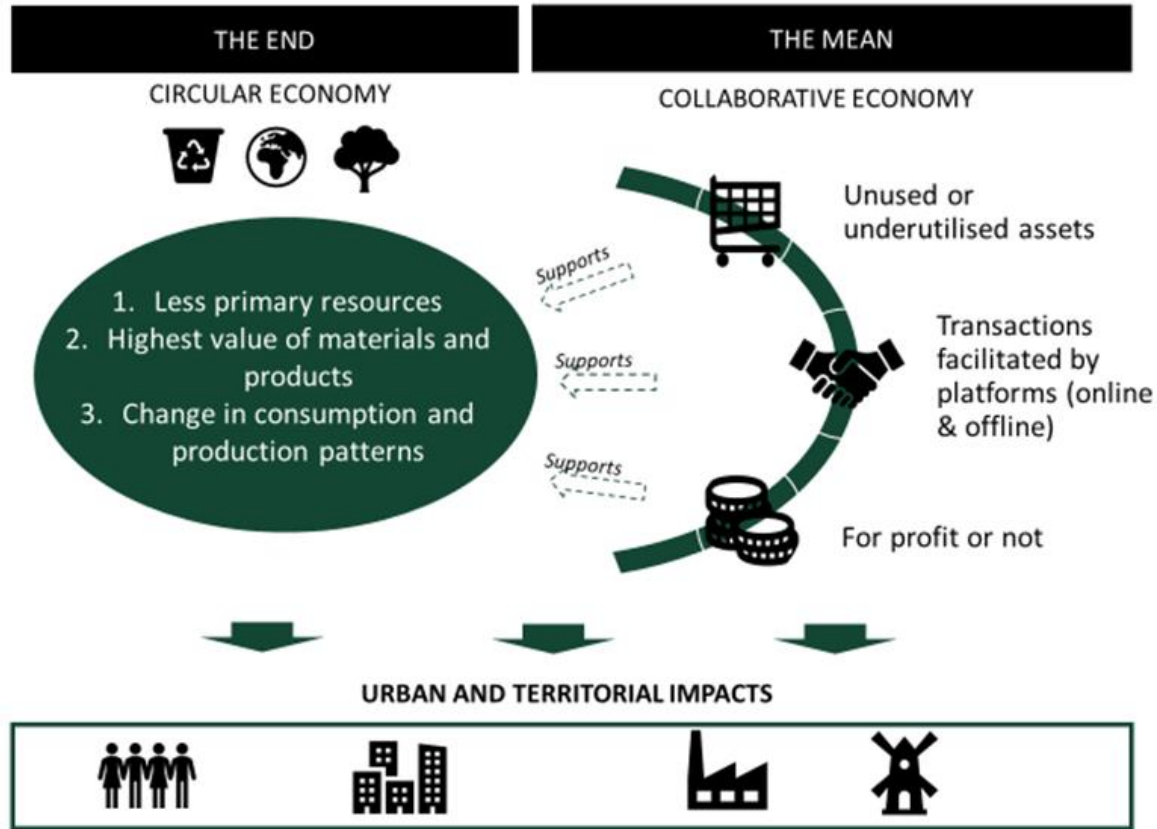
Source: Changing Gears

What? The collaborative economy



Source: Jay Navarro Oviedo, Municipality of The Hague

What? The Urban Circular Collaborative Economy (UCCE)



For whom?

- **Six territories:**

- Flanders (BE)
- Greece
- Maribor (SI)
- Porto (PT)
- Prato (IT)
- The Hague (NL)

- **Urban Agenda Partnership on the Circular Economy**

- **ESPON EGTC**

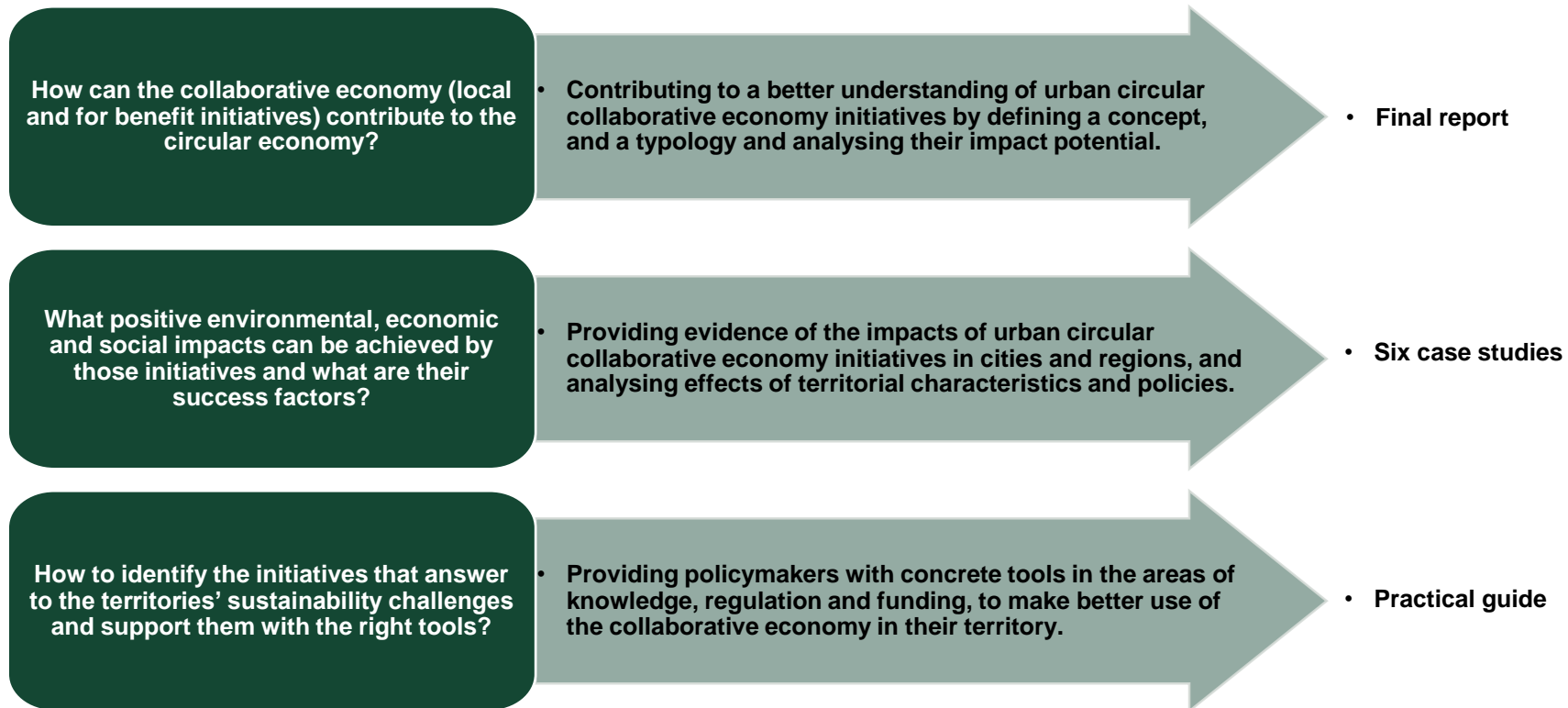


The starting point – different sustainability challenges and policy priorities

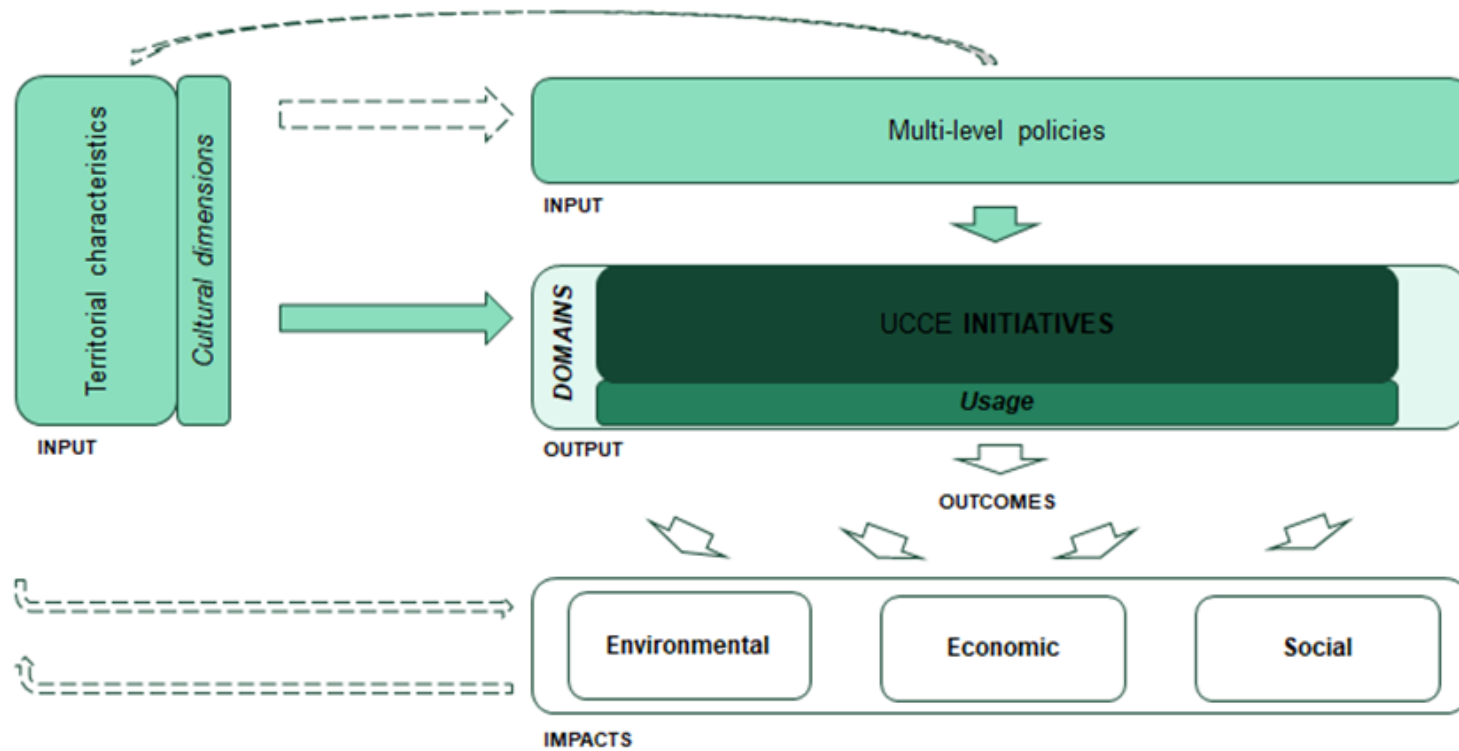
Territories have different problems/issues, leading to different priorities.

- **Flanders:** "Making links between the Commons" – willingness to foster social connections and improve accessibility of different areas in a sustainable way.
- **Greece:** Poverty reduction and transition towards green energy.
- **Maribor:** Increase the city's circularity by promoting of "cooperative economy networks".
- **Porto:** Promotion of circular and collaborative lifestyles in an urban environment.
- **Prato:** Regenerating urban spaces left behind with deindustrialisation & inclusion of population from cultural backgrounds.
- **The Hague:** Poverty reduction & promotion of social entrepreneurship.

Added value of the study



Methodology - Impacts of UCCE



Example of initiative – Made in Moerwijk (The Hague)



Possible and realised impacts - Made in Moerwijk (The Hague)

Environmental

- Resource savings: manufacturing from plastic waste;
- Fostering environmental awareness by creating green gardens;

Economic

- Job creation (20 jobs created over a year, whilst 100 envisaged);
- Fostering entrepreneurial approach among young people;

Social

- Hiring former unemployed and socially excluded people;
- Reinsertion of excluded people back to the labor market;
- Reduction of social poverty and exclusion in one of the poorest district of the Hague;
- Increased social cohesion, more exchanges between people.

Example of initiative – Robin Food (Maribor)



Possible and realised impacts - Robin Food

Environmental

- Resource savings: since the creation of the food cooperative in 2017, 1000 tones of food waste or 1 million products have been saved from being wasted

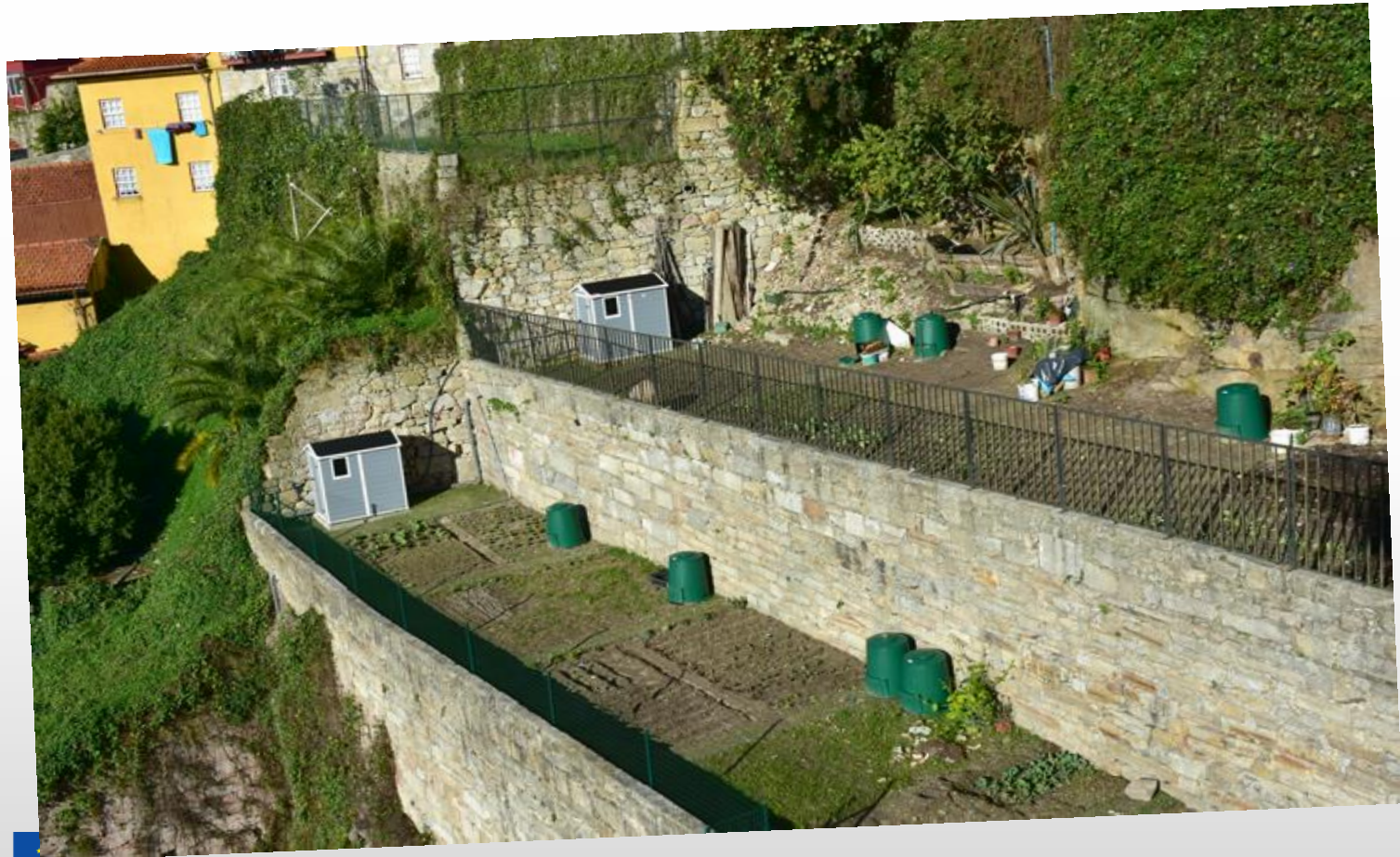
Economic

- Employment creation: 3 full-time employees

Social

- Savings for consumers (because of cheaper prices): estimated savings from shopping in Robin Food Maribor of around EUR 100 per person per month

Example of initiative – Horta à Porta (Porto)



Possible and realised impacts - Horta à Porta (Porto)

Environmental

- More green spaces: 54 gardens are available for cultivation in Porto (1800 plots of 25 m2 each)
- Increased awareness on environmental issues: citizens that use the initiative are more concerned about environmental quality and public health
- Sustainable gardening has environmental benefits related to groundwater quality, soil and air quality

Economic

- Savings for the Municipality: the costs of waste processing are reduced

Social

- Quality of life: horticulture can induce significant behavioural changes driven by more physical activity, less smoking, etc.
- Savings for users: self-production of vegetables implies a reduction of grocery expenses, which amounts to 200€ of savings per year

Recommendations I – Better Knowledge

Local level

- Formulate clearly the policy objectives to guide circular and collaborative economy initiatives in their efforts
- Develop better knowledge on present/potential initiatives, their potential impacts, and policy needs to achieve those impacts
- Foster peer learning by bringing initiatives into contact so they can learn from each other
- Provide information and guidance on administrative procedures to new initiatives
- Set up a monitoring and data collection system focused on the achievement of the stated objectives
- Cooperation with social entrepreneurs and innovators at the local level

European level

- Improve the exchange of knowledge and good practices across Member States (currently done through ad-hoc some EU events but could be made more systematic)
- Strengthen impact research on the collaborative economy

Recommendations II – Better Regulation

Local level

- Identify the best suited actors and types of initiatives to support the policy objectives stated
- Review application procedures and adjust to the needs of the relevant actors (public private partnerships?)
- Provision of guidance and active support on administrative procedures to the initiatives
- Use of experimentation and more flexible approach to address the main existing regulatory bottlenecks
- Dedicated interdepartmental body at a local level

European level

- Follow up and monitor the implementation of collaborative economy regulations (Collaborative Economy Scoreboard 2020?)

Recommendations III – Better Funding

Local level

- Clarify the time limits of funding needs and put long-term funding schemes into place if needed
- Provide other types of resources to initiatives (e.g. not only grants, but also assistance for applying to funding, provision of accommodation for initiatives, etc.)
- Better use of existing networks and bodies (Universities, existing municipality departments, chambers of commerce)
- Funding as an incentive for cooperation between various individual initiatives

European level

- Focus existing funding opportunities (e.g. COSME, Horizon 2020) on specific circular and collaborative dimensions
- Analyse and implement potential after-project funding schemes for successful initiatives with limited self-funding opportunities



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